

# South Jubilee News

New website: <http://www.southjubilee.ca>

October 30, 2009



**South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association Meeting:  
Monday, November 9, 2009  
7:30pm  
Victoria College of Art and Design, Bank & Leighton**

## Meeting Agenda:

Dream up some fun/interesting neighbourhood events for the coming rainy months – especially ones that require little prep and planning (e.g. rainy November potluck, Sunday parent/kid soccer games, etc.)

Set SJNA meeting and newsletter publication dates for 2010

Any item brought forward by a community member.

Leaf pick-up will begin in our neighbourhood on November 24th.

*Monday November 16 at 7pm*

*at the Victoria College of Art and Design  
(Bank and Leighton)*

*The South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association in collaboration with the Victoria Region Transition Initiative will be screening the film **Power of Community: how Cuba survived Peak Oil.***

*Please join us for this excellent documentary and post-film discussion*

## STREETFEST 2009

As many of you already know we held our annual South Jubilee Streetfest on Saturday, September 12th. It was a sunny day of great music, dance, and free community and family fun.

We enjoyed the garden produce exchange Cornucopia table (those incredible little green grapes – a whole laundry basket full! Yum!) locally-made soda pop (when I say local, I mean made-on-Bank-St. local!), beautiful music, African dancers/dynamic drumming, storytelling, street hockey, soccer, chatting, dancing, sprawling in the sun and the very first appearance of the Shufflebus (think: Flintstones vehicle - no emissions! – see photo above. A great time was had by all. I would like to recognize the contribution of our many volunteers who literally make this day happen – as well as the bold and generous support of local businesses and organizations who sponsored the event. These groups include:

The Victoria College of Art and Design  
Blighty's Bistro  
SPUD Organics  
Safeway  
Pomodoris (thank you Steve, we are missing you)  
Moondance Dynamic Arts  
Oak Bay Bikes  
City of Victoria  
plus

The many local musicians who filled the air with lovely tunes and melodies. The dancers, storyteller Jennifer Ferris, the shufflebus drivers and passengers, the providers of the Cornucopia, the Streetfest planning team and all the other performers, volunteers and neighbours who contributed to a delightful, local, low waste and free afternoon of fun. To quote Mr. Rogers "It was a beautiful day in the neighbourhood."

Thanks neighbours

At the October 16 Plastic Recycling we filled a 2 Ton cube van twice over in two hours!!!



Thank you Sustainable Ballard and Feetbus (Australia) for the inspiration to build and enjoy a Shufflebus.

## PLASTIC RECYCLING Phase Two

Over the past 12 years many of us neighbourhood folks have become what we could describe as professional plastic, in all its manifestations, recyclers. It is suggested that it is now time for **PHASE TWO** of the initiative - and it's very simple - we begin by bringing **LESS PLASTIC** to the collection depot.

How we might do that is challenging but it does come down to the choices we make when shopping. Do our food purchases have to remain the same? Granted that apart from meat and veggies, everything else the market has to offer is packaged. For most staples this is necessary but packaging in paper or card is usually less

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## A Walk with Chris Coleman

problematic. For other items, are there any of the wonderfully packaged foodstuffs we would be willing to give up or exchange for the raw ingredients in the bulk food section.

It's all about packaging - plastic and plasticized paper constitute roughly 45% of the landfills. However it is not suggested that we could make a significant reduction in this component or change the packaging practices that result in a currently endemic situation. Oh well, as a beginning we can respond to this enigma and keep in mind that other fundamental - **REDUCE**.

P.S. **WARNING** - Make sure that your electronics **DO NOT** go to China for processing. Chinese used as processors are dying of toxic poisoning.

### New business in the neighbourhood.

*Discovery Coffee* has opened a new branch at 1964 Oak Bay Avenue. I have heard they serve the highest quality coffee and are very environmentally conscious. The company recently won the approval and business of the *Carrot Mob* for dedicating 100% of the earnings from a recent event to environmental upgrades. To find out more about *Carrot Mobs* go to <http://www.350.org/node/7099>

### A message from the novice editor

*As you can see we have several interesting articles this month and I cannot squeeze in any more. Please go to our new website to read T. Sellgren's excellent, informative article on Managing Graffiti in South Jubilee. Hopefully we will be able to publish his article in the next newsletter.*

*Apologies Tom.*

*Denise Dunn (October editor)*

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> South Jubilee residents took the opportunity to walk parts of the neighbourhood with Chris Coleman, the City of Victoria councillor responsible for South Jubilee to show him our issues and ideas.

First stop was the Safeway land behind the store, facing on Bouchier. This is an area we all would like to see improved in some way. Ideas ranged from community gardens to murals and artwork to tiny houses. Chris observed a survey stick that might mean part of the land might be City property. More investigation is required on that one.

We moved on to Amphion between Leighton and Oak Bay Avenue. We talked about the ongoing desire of the street's residents to improve the appearance and safety of the street. Bump outs, large pots for trees and other ways of slowing traffic were discussed. No Amphion Street residents were on the walk so we couldn't comment on current efforts. If there is still an active movement to upgrade the street, residents should contact Chris.

From Amphion we moved on to Redfern park where we admired the new playground equipment then talked about graffiti in the neighbourhood. Looking around the park we saw a number of tagged fences and poles. Removing graffiti quickly was seen as the most effective tool. Other ideas like planting blackberry bushes or vines along fences facing the park or decorating BC Hydro poles were suggested by residents as ways to deter graffiti vandals.

Next stop was the empty lot on Bank Street and Leighton, sometimes call Kasapi Park. There was discussion of possible funding for pocket parks as a way to keep this as green space. Again more investigation is required on that.

From there, Oak Bay Avenue was the next stop. The general look of the Victoria side of Oak Bay Avenue was compared to the Oak Bay side (not favourably!). Chris stopped to talk to Elizabeth Cull, owner of Dig This. She commented on the lack of a business association for the Victoria side of Oak Bay Avenue.

We decided this walk might be a good thing to repeat on an annual basis. Hopefully by next year, we might have some new initiatives to discuss.

### ☀ Wear Sunshine ☀

Nothing beats the smell and feel of clothes dried on the Clothesline. So why do people still overuse their dryers, one of the biggest energy users in your home? Also, chances are the people who use common commercial detergents, fabric softeners, bleaches, and stain removers would think twice if they knew they contained chemicals that could cause cancer and brain damage. Fabric softener and dryer sheets are some of the most toxic products around. The reason fabric softeners were created in the first place was to mask the poisonous smell of synthetic fabrics. They do not smell good either when heated in a dryer or heated by our bodies. Fabric softeners are made to stay in your clothing for long periods of time. As such, chemicals are slowly released either into the air for you to inhale or onto your skin for you to absorb. Dryer sheets are particularly noxious because they are heated in the dryer and the chemicals are released through dryer vents and out into our shared environment. During winter months when clothes can't be hung outside, hang them on a rack or even in the shower. There are many simple, innovative, air drying devices for use inside or outside of the home. By eliminating the household tumble dryer you save on your energy bills and reduce your carbon footprint. By eliminating the use of fabric softeners we can all live in a cleaner, less toxic environment.