

South Jubilee News

Fort
Oak Bay
Foul Bay

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February 2, 2010

Next meeting of the South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association

Monday, February 8th at 7:30pm
Victoria College of Art
Bank and Leighton
ALL WELCOME!

If you live here, this meeting is for you!

Agenda

1. Update on CAN meeting (that is, the Community Association Network)
2. Volunteers for Sundance Mosaic Project
3. Discuss possibility of spring Streetfest this year (or similar 'bigger event' - could involve more schools, art school, students, etc. if had in June...early Sept. annual date means this can't happen)
4. Fun ideas for neighbourhood events this year? (ideas on the table: gardening workshops, neighbourhood garage sale, spring picnic/potluck, or ?? bring your creative/simple/fun ideas)
5. Any items brought forward by a community member

2010 Meetings – Mark Your Calendars!!

February 8; April 12; June 14 (AGM);
Sept. 13; Nov. 8;

As we enter a new year, the SJNA would like to recognize the ongoing support of the Victoria College of Art. VCA President, Peter Such, allows us to use their space, free of charge, for neighbourhood meetings and many other local events. Peter Such and all the artists and staff at VCA are great neighbours and supporters of community here in South Jubilee and we thank you. Check out their fabulous programs at: www.vca.ca

I LOVE MY FAMILY MORE THAN MY LAWN !!

Cosmetic pesticide use is a public health issue, particularly for our children and pets. Alternatives are available and good for business as well as the environment. More than 25 BC municipalities have already adopted bylaws restricting the cosmetic use of pesticides. Now we need to make this ban province wide. Let's keep our shared environment safe.

Sign the Petition for a Provincial Ban on Cosmetic Pesticides. BC's Liberal government wants to know "how we can encourage all British Columbians to reduce unnecessary pesticide use." Public consultation began Dec. 16, 2009 and ends Monday, Feb. 15, 2010. Take action now by making your views known to the Ministry of Environment. Both Ontario (2009) and Quebec (2003) have banned the sale and use of cosmetic pesticides. The following two websites give you links to all of the information you need to be informed about the effects of pesticide use and to then let the powers that be know what you think.

www.pesticidefreebc.org

www.cancer.ca/bc/advocate

Hummingbird Nest

This Anna's Hummingbird is currently nesting in our neighbourhood. Hummingbirds are year round residents of Victoria because of the warming climate and the fact that people keep feeders in the winter. This nest is in an evergreen clematis. The nest is so light that it can be supported on a light branch which keeps the eggs safe from squirrels and crows.

Photo by Brad Yahemech



Residential Branch Pick-up

This year, Victoria residents are asked to set out their branch piles at the curb by **7 a.m. on Monday, February 15** for pick up by City Parks crews. Only residential tree and shrub branches will be picked up at the curb.

- Each residence is allowed **one branch pile** limited to 1.2 metres x 1.2 metres x 1.8 metres (4 feet x 4 feet x 6 feet.) This is the approximate amount that a half-ton pick-up truck will hold. Branches in excess of this volume will be left for the resident to remove.
- Branches should be no shorter than 1.2 metres (4 feet).
- Branches should be loosely stacked with their cut ends facing the street.
- Branches should not be placed in bags, boxes, or tied with string or wire.

Items Not Accepted

Items not accepted include: ivy clippings, blackberry canes, morning glory, garden refuse, compost, lawn clippings, loose leaves, soil, rocks, roots, stumps, construction lumber or branch material more than 50 millimetres (2 inches) in diameter, or material from commercial tree contractors

For more information, contact:

Parks Division
Parks, Recreation and Culture Department
250.361.0600
[E-mail the Parks Division](#)

TRASH OR TREASURE?

I admit it. I love to find a treasure sitting on someone's boulevard with a 'Free' sign attached. I've scored mirrors, tables, picture frames, a shelving unit and a vintage chair (the chair turned out to be a mouldy mistake that had to go to the dump). This is a great way to move things on from our homes to a home where the item can be used. But what about the things nobody wants that sit on the boulevard, in the rain and damp? Before you put items like mattresses, stuffed furniture, TVs, electronic equipment, books, etc. that are in good condition out on the boulevard, try listing your items on <http://usedvictoria.com> (they have a free category) or craigslist (<http://victoria.en.craigslist.ca/>) or Victoria freecycle (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/victoriafreecycle/>).

For electronics you can't get rid of or that no longer work, bring them to our neighbourhood recycling at Bank Street where for a small fee you can recycle them or go to <http://encorp.ca> for electronics recycling drop-off depots. Other junk should go to the Ellice Street recycle – 524 David street or the Public Works Yard, 417 Garbally Road.

REDUCING ENERGY USE AT HOME

You may have heard of the "Transitions Initiative". Rather than arguing about climate change and peak oil, it proposes a deliberate reduction of total energy consumption and a shift to renewable resources. This could mean all of us.

We might immediately want to see actions on the scale of the tar sands or EXXON, but there are also things we could do in our homes to reduce our energy needs. Following are some suggestions:

- ✓ Turn down your heat and wear another sweater
- ✓ Install and use a clothes line
- ✓ Make compost and grow some of your own food
- ✓ Buy a bus pass and use it regularly
- ✓ Add larger south facing windows
- ✓ Get a Home Energy Assessment: www.citygreen.ca
- ✓ Turn on only lights needed at the time
- ✓ Sell a car and join a car-share initiative
- ✓ Begin to walk regular routes
- ✓ Install efficient low-water shower heads
- ✓ Buy fewer packaged foods – shift to bulk
- ✓ Increase the number of materials recycled
- ✓ Move towards No Garbage
- ✓ Ask your market to carry more local food
- ✓ Start or join a neighbourhood skills learning group to become more self-sufficient and resilient, e.g. canning, knitting, tap washer replacement, recipes, carpentry and wood-working, organic gardening
- ✓ Too far to walk? Get to know your bike again
- ✓ Install rain barrels to water garden
- ✓ Share tools with others
- ✓ Share your garden with neighbours without one
- ✓ Enjoy the arguments that counter the saying "Can't do it!"

And if you want to go even further, check out Guy Dauncy's *The Climate Challenge*.