



Connect Program 2024 and World Wetlands Day

by Carmen Rosen, Ada Dragomir

Registration is now open for the 2024 season of Still Moon Arts Society's Youth Connect Program—a six-week series of workshops and activities designed for underserved youth aged 17 to 25 to connect with their environment, their creativity, and each other.



Renfrew-Collingwood's Still Creek drains into Burnaby Lake and the wetlands that surround it – where this beaver was spotted. Photo by Carmen Rosen

Youth can register now for the Winter Connect series which begins on February 20th, or pre-register for the Spring, Summer or Fall series.

Each series includes a variety of interesting activities. For example, participants will visit

Continued on page 2

Speaking of wetlands, here are more beautiful photos from Penny to help brighten our Winter. Thank you Penny Lim! Do you have a cool photo or two that we could help you to share with our dear community? Simply email it to rccnews-editorial@cnh.bc.ca 🙌

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Connect Program 2024 and World Wetlands Day...Continued from page 1

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the Colour Me Local Dye Garden in Renfrew Ravine where together they will explore basic gardening techniques and get their hands in some dirt! They will weed, water, and harvest natural dye plants and use them to dye something to take home, such as a handkerchief. Participants will also learn to plaster a cob building made of sand, straw and clay, and learn from Indigenous neighbours to prepare a healing salve with plants from our garden. There will be an opportunity to witness or join a Celtic Imbolc celebration, which marks the midpoint between Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox. Participants will also spend time restoring the banks of Still Creek and learning about local ecology.

suggesting that the seeds of spring are beginning to stir in the belly of Mother Earth. Imbolc marks the halfway point between Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox.

When: 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm on Friday, February 2, 2024. There will be a special ceremony at 2:00 pm.

Where: At the Beaver Ponder(ing) Lodging sculpture, kitty-corner from the Rupert Skytrain Station, next to the Superstore at 3185 Grandview Hwy.

What: Honouring the earth and the water, raising wetland awareness, and art activities for all ages including willow-weaving. The Imbolc ceremony at 2:00 pm will be led by Marina Szijarto who is a visual artist, animist shrine maker, and ritualist.

Hot beverages and snacks will be served.



One last beauty from Penny Lim

This program is free, and participants will receive snacks, one-zone bus tickets, and an honorarium. Learn more about the Connect Program and register at StillMoonArts.ca/connect.

World Wetlands Day
Join Still Moon Arts at Beaver Pond(er)ing Lodging — a living willow sculpture located next to the Superstore — to celebrate World Wetlands Day and Imbolc. Imbolc is a Celtic word meaning “in the belly of the Mother”,

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The past, present and future of Earles @ Kingsway's NW corner



Above: Good ol' Harvey's Hardware graced the corner of Earles and Kingsway NW corner for 88 years. Left: The corner as it presently is with construction underway.

The plan is for two 10-storey residential towers connected by a podium, with ground floor retail. Designed by GBL Architects for Coromandel Properties, the 219 strata condominium units will include studios, one, two and three bedrooms and seven ground floor retail units. Source: urbanyvr.com



Housing crisis in Canada

by Robert F. Edwards



Today in certain regions of Canada we have a housing problem. It's in the larger communities such as Toronto and Vancouver that the housing accommodations have gone through the roof. A decade ago, a full house in Vancouver's greater area could be purchased for less than half of \$1 million. Today a one-bedroom apartment is over half a million, in most cases.

One of the solutions to this growing concern of lack of reasonable accommodations is as follows; Number one – the homeowner should be allowed to deduct the mortgage interest and taxes from their income.

Number two - high-rises should accommodate more than one purpose. The first two or three floors of a high-rise should be dedicated to retail outlets. Anything from grocery stores to restaurants and boutique shops.

Number three - the next three or four floors in the high-rise should be dedicated to office space. Anything from medical offices to legal or other necessities in business.

If the first and second accommodations were integrated into the system of a high-rise, these could be rented out to the appropriate occupants. This would help lower the maintenance fees for the homeowner. Along with these advantages, the homeowner would not necessarily venture out of the building to accommodate most of their needs. This would help them with communication to other parts of the city.

The apartments that are designed for homeowners could accommodate different levels of elevators. For example, if the high-rise was 40 to 50 stories high, the elevators could designate different levels to go directly to higher accommodations.

These suggestions can only be achieved if all three forms of government join to make it happen. The federal government, provincial and municipal.

*Thank you Robert!
If you would be so kind to share your knowledge, insights, skills, expertise, ideas, photos or other stuff with the Renfrew-Collingwood, please email them to rcnews-editorial@cnh.bc.ca.*

You can find the *RCC News* throughout Renfrew-Collingwood.

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COMMUNITY NEWS 社区新闻

Collingwood Corner: Tyne Apartments at 3437 Kingsway

by Loretta Houben

The mission of this non-profit publication is to provide the residents, businesses and organizations of Renfrew/Collingwood with a medium for community communication.

Paul Reid: editorial and layout coordinator
Lisa Symons: sales and distribution coordinator
Julie Cheng: web and social media coordinator

Contributors:
Loretta Houben, Carmen Rosen, Ada Dragomir, David Penny, Kristy Kassie, Tiffany Tse, Taya Lawton, Robert. F. Edwards

We want to hear from you!

Yes, You! Send comments, community events, press releases by regular post, fax or e-mail. Suggestions for improving the paper are welcome.

We welcome appropriate, unsolicited editorial submissions if accompanied by the author's real name, address and telephone number. The author should retain the original as we cannot return submissions without prior agreement nor does submission guarantee publication. We reserve the right to make editorial changes.

The Renfrew/Collingwood Community News does not necessarily support the views of its contributors.

Next submission deadline: Feb. 10

The Renfrew-Collingwood Community News is an initiative of the Collingwood Neighbourhood House (CNH).

You Can Find the RC Community News @

Libraries, Collingwood Neighbourhood House, Renfrew Park Community Centre, The Italian Cultural Centre, Collingwood Policing Office, other organizations, religious institutions, schools, laundromats, Starbucks, Rona, Superstore, Canadian Tire, Walmart, London Drugs and Safeway coffee shops, restaurants, markets, corner stores, other businesses, and coffee tables all over Renfrew-Collingwood.

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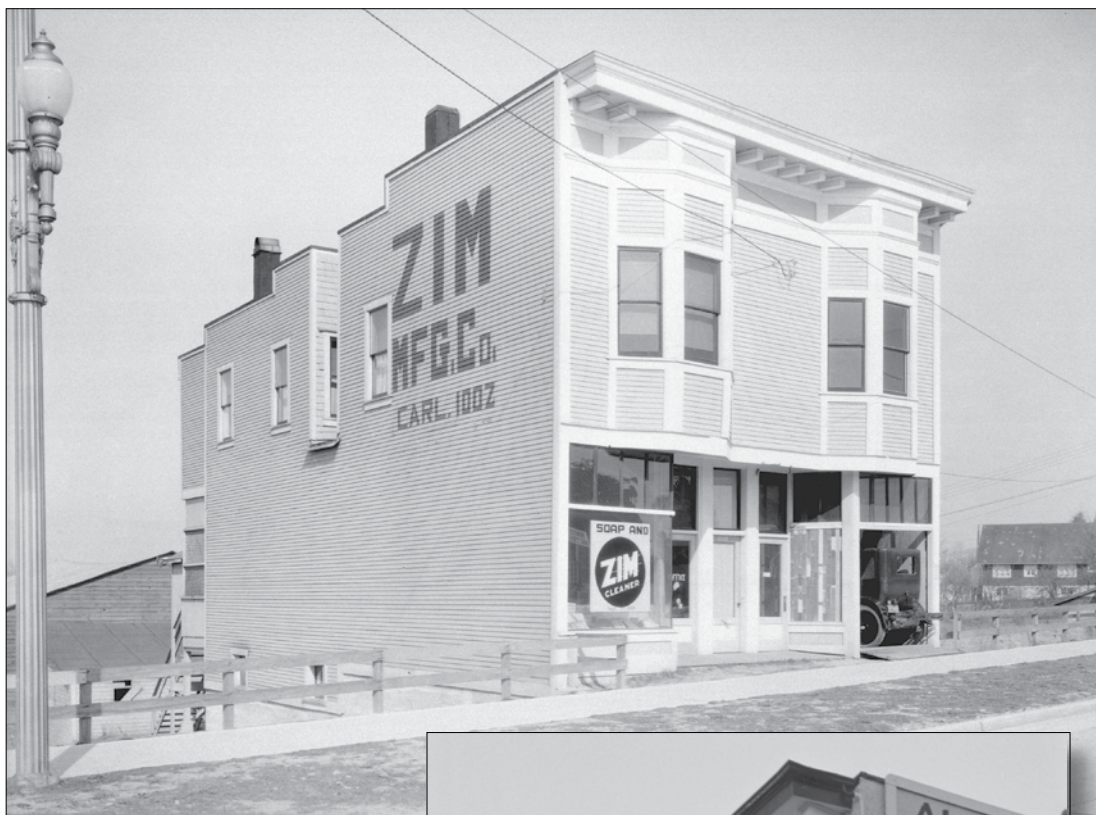
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I'm always on the hunt for old photos that reveal life as it was here in Collingwood in past decades. The Vancouver Archives website is a gold mine for such searches. However, it is difficult to locate the images as the search engine is tricky to use, and sometimes the photos are incorrectly labeled.

While browsing the archives website recently, I discovered Tyne Apartments in 1978, located at 3437 Kingsway, near the current Tim Horton's building. I didn't recognize it, so I turned to Google maps to see if it was still standing. I like to use Google maps to find out if a building has been torn down. Google maps is invaluable in my research, because sometimes the building is still standing, and then I can take a photo of it for my records. Otherwise, I save and keep a record of Google's image in my files.

I looked up Tyne Apartments in the BC Directories, to see how far I could trace it. This is the part of my research which takes many hours. I began with 1955, and worked my way back to 1935, when the building was owned by Isaac D. Chappell. In 1936 he was the manager of Zim Manufacturing and Soap Company. I typed that name into Google search and found another photo of this building at 3437 Kingsway in 1935 in the Vancouver Archives! You can clearly see the Zim name on the side of the building. (see attached photo) The building was vacant from 1930-1934. I'm not sure when it was built.

In 1938, the building shared another business; "Uphol (upholstery) and carpet cleaning", owned by G.W. Henderson.



April 1935; a fresh new business named Zim Manufacturing Co. Photo by Stuart Thompson, Vancouver Archives.



Tyne Apartments. Vancouver Archives photo, 1978; CVA 1093-04480.

By 1939, according to the directories, the Zim Company was gone. I wonder if Zim was a good cleaning agent. Today, in 2024, I use a cleaner named "Vim", but I don't think there is any relation to Zim! In 1940 the building was first listed as Tyne Apartments and had 8 units. It appears it lasted until the 1970s, as the second photo was taken in 1978. The building was gone by 2015 according to Google maps.



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Nurturing Mental Health and Addiction Recovery

by David Penny

Here are some practical ways to support someone's mental health during their recovery from addiction, providing insights into fostering resilience and well-being. Supporting someone through addiction recovery is a journey that demands compassion, patience, and a deep understanding of the complexities involved. Mental health, intricately intertwined with the recovery process, requires a thoughtful approach to ensure a positive environment for those on their journey to overcoming addiction.

Educate Yourself: A Foundation for Support

A crucial first step in supporting someone through addiction recovery is acquiring knowledge about addiction itself. Understanding the intricacies of the recovery process, potential challenges, and common mental health issues associated with substance abuse provides a foundation for practical support. At Together We Can, there is a free 'Family Education Group' open to ANY member of the public that offers four sessions on a variety of topics, including addiction, boundaries, and enabling vs helping.

Communicate Openly: Building Trust and Connection

Open and honest communication is the cornerstone of practical support. Create a safe space where individuals feel comfortable expressing their thoughts, emotions, and concerns without fear of judgment. Avoid making assumptions or providing unsolicited advice, and instead, focus on active listening and validating their experiences. Building trust and connection lays the groundwork for a supportive relationship essential for mental health during the recovery journey.

Encourage Professional Help: Guiding Towards Recovery Resources

While your support is crucial, professional help is pivotal in addiction recovery. Encourage the individual to seek guidance from therapists, counsellors, or support groups specialising in addiction and mental health. Professional intervention provides tailored strategies to address underlying issues, develop coping mechanisms, and establish a comprehensive treatment plan. Acknowledging the expertise of trained professionals reinforces the importance of a holistic approach to recovery. During addiction treatment, most individuals have access to counsellors and therapists, which continues into aftercare. During a mental health crisis, you can call 988 in Canada.

Attend Supportive Meetings Together: Shared Experiences, Strengthened Commitment

Consider attending support group meetings together, if appropriate. Group sessions, such as those offered by Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) or Narcotics Anonymous (NA), provide a sense of community and understanding. Attending these meetings together can strengthen the individual's commitment to recovery and offer a shared experience that fosters a sense of solidarity. Various meetings are open to people not in recovery, and these can be found on your local/regional 12-step websites.

Establish Healthy Boundaries: Balancing Support and Self-Care

Supporting someone through addiction recovery requires a delicate balance between offering assistance and maintaining healthy boundaries. Communicate expectations and limits to ensure your own well-being and avoid enabling destructive behaviours. Encourage responsibility and accountability, emphasising that your support fosters their independence and growth in the recovery process. Check out this video: [Enabling vs Helping](#)

Promote a Healthy Lifestyle: Physical Well-being and Mental Health

A healthy lifestyle significantly contributes to mental well-being during addiction recovery. Encourage the adoption of regular exercise, a balanced diet, and sufficient sleep. Physical well-being is intricately connected to mental health, and incorporating these habits can positively impact mood, energy levels, and overall resilience in the face of challenges.

Be Patient and Understanding: The Role of Empathy

Recovery is a gradual process, that can be accompanied by setbacks. Cultivate patience and understanding, avoiding judgment or criticism. Recognise that overcoming addiction involves navigating various challenges, and setbacks do not diminish the individual's commitment to recovery. Celebrate small victories and provide reassurance during difficult times, fostering a positive environment that supports mental well-being.

Provide Emotional Support: A Pillar of Stability

Emotional support is a fundamental aspect of aiding mental health during addiction recovery. Express your care, empathy, and understanding consistently. Knowing that someone is there for them emotionally can provide a significant source of comfort and motivation. Be attentive to their emotional needs, offering a non-judgmental space to express their feelings without fear of rejection or misunderstanding.

Help Identify Triggers: Navigating Challenges Together

Work collaboratively to identify potential triggers for substance use and mental health challenges. Understanding these triggers allows for developing proactive strategies to avoid or cope effectively. Identifying and addressing triggers is a vital component of preventing relapse and supporting sustained mental well-being throughout the recovery journey.

Encourage Healthy Coping Mechanisms: Building Resilience

Building resilience is a key factor in maintaining mental health during addiction recovery. Encourage the development of healthy coping mechanisms for stress, anxiety, and emotional challenges. Mindfulness practices, journaling, and hobbies effectively channel energy positively and strengthen emotional resilience. These coping mechanisms contribute to a well-rounded and sustainable recovery process.

Celebrate Milestones: Acknowledging Progress

Acknowledge and celebrate milestones in the individual's recovery journey. Recognising and celebrating achievements reinforces positive behaviour, whether it's a week, a month, or a year of sobriety. Celebrating milestones provides a sense of accomplishment and motivation to continue progressing in the recovery process.

Involve a Support Network: Strengthening Connections

Encourage the person in recovery to build a robust support network of friends, family, and peers who understand and respect their recovery goals. A robust support system is essential for navigating challenges, sharing experiences, and receiving diverse perspectives. A supportive network reinforces the individual's commitment to recovery and fosters a sense of community. One such supportive community is "Recovery Canada" on facebook, or the various alumni programs or groups for those who have completed an addiction treatment program.

Be Mindful of Language: Stigma and Supportive Communication

The language used in discussions about addiction and mental health significantly impacts an individual's self-perception. Be mindful of stigmatising language and avoid labels or judgmental terms that may contribute to feelings of shame or guilt. Adopting a supportive and non-judgmental communication style fosters a positive environment that encourages openness and vulnerability.

Encourage Self-Care: Prioritizing Personal Well-Being

Emphasise the importance of self-care in maintaining mental health during addiction recovery. Encourage activities that promote relaxation, stress reduction, and overall well-being. Whether it's taking walks, practising mindfulness, or engaging in creative pursuits, self-care activities contribute to a sense of balance and fulfilment, supporting mental health throughout the recovery process.

Seek Professional Guidance for Yourself: Navigating Your Role

Supporting someone through addiction recovery can be emotionally challenging. Consider seeking guidance from a therapist or participating in support groups designed for friends and family members of individuals in recovery. Taking care of your own mental health is essential for navigating the complexities of supporting someone else effectively. Many family-member-oriented programs exist, like Families Anonymous, or NarAnon and AIAnon. At the end of the article, there are a few suggested programs for loved ones.

Supporting someone's mental health during addiction recovery is a commitment that requires empathy, understanding, and adaptability. By educating yourself, fostering open communication, and encouraging professional help, you provide a strong foundation for positive support. Establishing healthy boundaries, promoting a healthy lifestyle, and offering emotional support contribute to a nurturing environment that aids recovery.

Identifying triggers, encouraging healthy coping mechanisms, and celebrating milestones reinforce positive behaviour and resilience. Involving a support network, being mindful of language, and prioritising self-care contribute to a holistic approach that acknowledges the interconnectedness of mental health and addiction recovery. Remember, your role is not to replace professional guidance but to complement it, offering steadfast support on their journey to recovery.

David Penny is the Digital Communications Coordinator for Together We Can Drug & Alcohol Education & Recovery Society, 2831 Kingsway Vancouver, BC.



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Eating out in RC by Paul Reid Sabor Mexicano



Roberto (and Lucia, elsewhere) own and operate the always sunny, Sabor Mexicano.



2665 Kingsway (across from Norquay Park)
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Greetings RC! I am authentically tickled pink to know that our dear community now has, since November 4, 2023, a real honest to goodness Mexicano restaurant to add to it's crown of multi-cultural delightfully delicious destinations.

Now, you may or may not know, that I appreciate Mexican food so much that I married a Mexican woman. Well, not *just* for her cooking skills I suppose, but subsequently, I actually learned something about what good Mexican cooking is all about and guess what...Sabor Mexicano does not disappoint.

Au contraire mi amigos. I can heavily recommend that you (and your loved ones) head swiftly and directly to Sabor Mexicano to taste what I'm trying to tell you about. Okay, look at this picture below. What do you see?



You should see two Gorditas (Order of 2) Served with lettuce, cheese, sour cream and home-made salsa (15.50). So delicious!



This is just the appetizer. I will be back to do more justice for Sabor Mexicano. Gracias Roberto and Lucia!



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Read On! A news section for Renfrew-Collingwood learners

Celebration Days and Public Holidays

by Kristy Kassie

There are two special days in February – Valentine's Day and Family Day. Both days are special for different reasons.

Valentine's Day is on February 14 every year. It is a day when people celebrate their love for each other. On this day, people give cards, chocolates and presents to people they love. Couples who are married or who are dating can go out to dinner. Many restaurants have special menus on Valentine's Day to celebrate love and romance. Young children sometimes make cards for their parents in their classes at school. You do not get a day off work for Valentine's Day. It is only a celebration day.

Family Day is on February 19 this year. It is usually on the third Monday of February every year. The difference between Valentine's Day and Family Day is that Family Day is a public holiday. Public holidays, sometimes called statutory holidays or stat days, are a variety of nationalistic, religious, and cultural holidays that are set by the provincial or federal government as days off for everyone. If you are working, you get the day off and you also get paid for that day.

If your employer asks you to work on a public holiday, you must get paid. Some employers pay extra if you work on a public holiday. If your employer offers to give you another day off instead of a public holiday, they must put this agreement in writing. Even if you are not a Canadian citizen, you have many of the same rights as Canadian employees. You can call 1-877-952-6914 if you have questions about your rights as an employee.



Questions

Level 1 ★

- When is Valentine's Day?
- What do people give others on Valentine's Day?
- What can you do with your husband or wife on Valentine's Day?

Level 2 ★★

- Is Family Day on the same date every year?
- What is a public holiday?
- Can you name another public holiday in BC?

Level 3 ★★★

- Do you have to work on a public holiday to get paid?
- What does an employer have to do if they want you to take another day off instead of a public holiday?
- Why is it important to know your rights as an employee?

Crossword Words and Definitions

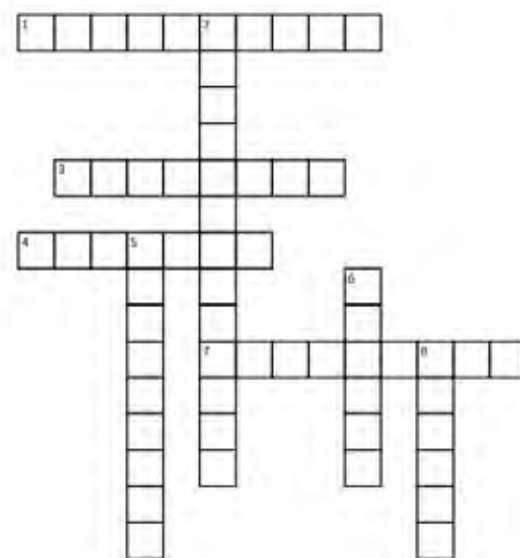
1. **special:** important
2. **celebrate:** do something special
3. **couple:** two people who are married or dating
4. **statutory:** another name for a public holiday
5. **nationalistic:** important to a country
6. **provincial:** something unique to a province, like laws
7. **offers:** asks
8. **employee:** someone who works for someone else

Reading levels on this page

Level 1 ★ Level 2 ★★ Level 3 ★★★



Celebration Days and Public Holidays



Down:

2. important to a country
5. do something special
6. Two people who are married or dating
8. asks

Across:

1. something unique to a province, like laws
3. someone who works for someone else
4. important
7. another name for a public holiday



What's happening at our libraries in February 2024

Renfrew Branch Library: 2969 E 22nd Ave. Contact: 604.257.8705



School Aged Children

Make It: Self-Portraits

Thursday, February 1 from 3:30-4:30pm

Flex your creative muscle in this pop-up maker space event! This session we will be creating self portraits using a variety of artistic methods.

For grades K-7.

Make It: Lunar New Year Calligraphy

Thursday, February 15 from 3:30-4:30pm

Flex your creative muscle in this pop-up maker space event! Happy Year of the Dragon! In celebration of Lunar New Year, we will explore how to write Chinese characters. For Grades K-7.

Squish: Grossology

Thursday, February 29 from 3:30-4:30pm

Join us for books, games and slimy creations as we explore their icky, sticky world. For Grades K-7.

Children & Families

Babytime

Weekly Mondays from February 5 – 26* at 11:00am and 1:30pm. Drop-in. Rhymes, songs, bounces, fingerplays and stories for parents and caregivers with their babies. Recommended for newborns to approximately 18 months.

Family Storytime

Weekly - Mondays from February 5 – 26* at 10:00am. Drop-in.

A program for parents and caregivers with young children. Songs, rhymes and stories are shared. Suitable for children of all ages and abilities to enjoy and learn together.

*No programs on Monday, February 19 for Family Day holiday library closure.

Lego Block Party

Thursday, February 8 and 22 from 3:30-4:30pm

Drop in for some LEGO® building fun at this block party! Connect with other kids and break out the bricks for a building bonanza at the library. Grades K-7. For children and their accompanying caregivers.

Teens

Teen Advisory Group

Thursday, February 8 and 22, 4:00pm – 5:00pm. Visit www.vpl.ca/teens to register.

TAG stands for Teen Advisory Group – a place where you can share your ideas about the library's teen programs, services and collections!

Adults

ESL Conversation Club

Thursday, Feb 8 and Feb 22 10:00-11:00am. Drop-in.

Meet new friends and practice your English conversation skills with other English language learners. This is a supportive and casual meet-up. For intermediate speakers.

Adult Colouring Club

Every Friday, 10:00-11:00am. Drop-in.

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EARLY YEARS PROGRAMS

Babytime (0-18 months)

Weekly on Thursdays until March 14

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Drop-in. Rhymes, songs, bounces, fingerplays and stories for parents and caregivers with their babies. Recommended for newborns to approximately 18 months.

Family Storytime

(All ages) Weekly on Fridays until March 15

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Drop-in. A program for parents and caregivers with young children. Songs, rhymes and stories are shared. Suitable for children of all ages and abilities to enjoy and learn together.

Baby Stay and Play

(0-18 months) Weekly on Thursdays until March 14

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Drop-in. Drop in for independent playtime

with your baby and a chance to connect with other families. Explore library books, blocks and other toys in this casual, self-led session.



Family Stay and Play

(0-5 years) Weekly on Fridays until March 15

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Drop-in. Drop in for independent playtime with your children aged 5 and under and a chance to connect with other families. Explore library books, blocks and other toys in this casual self-led session.

SCHOOL-AGE PROGRAMS

LEGO® Block Party (Grades K-7)

Weekly on Saturdays 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Drop-in. Come to the library for some LEGO® building fun at this block party! Connect with other kids and break out the bricks for a building bonanza at the library.

Makedo® Family Fun

(preK-Grade 3) Friday, February 16 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Drop-in. Drop in for some free-style family fun featuring Makedo® cardboard construction. Connect with other families as you build, play, and learn together!

VPL's Children's Services is working to make our programs accessible to all Vancouver kids. Please email us at childrens.teens@vpl.ca to let us know how our program facilitators can support you to participate fully and comfortably.

ADULT PROGRAMS

ESL Conversation Practice Tuesday, February 13 & 27 6 p.m.- 7 p.m. Drop-in. Meet new friends and practice your English conversation skills with other English language learners. This is a supportive and casual meet-up. For intermediate speakers.

The following is a paid advertisement by Adrian Dix, MLA for Vancouver/Kingsway

Dear Neighbours,



Gung Hey Fat Choy! Chúc Mừng Năm Mới! Happy Lunar New Year! I hope that the Year of the Dragon will bring you great health, happiness, and prosperity.

Vancouver Chinatown Spring Festival Celebration

Join me in supporting one of the largest Lunar New Year parades in Canada on Sunday February 11. The parade route begins at the Millennium Gate at Pender St at 11am. The celebration will feature cultural dance troupes, marching bands, martial arts performances, and many lion dance teams.

Camping Reservations now open

Visitors can book a campsite four months ahead of their desired arrival date to ensure they can enjoy some of British Columbia's best natural attractions.

The Notify Me feature can let people know when a previously booked campsite becomes available at a specific campground. People can create up to five different availability notifications for any dates for reservable campgrounds. If a campsite becomes available for the desired date and location, people will receive a notification email that the site can be reserved.

Spring Legislative Session

The spring session of the BC Legislature will begin on February 20th, with the Speech from the Throne, followed by the introduction of the government's 2024 Budget on February 22th. I am always happy to hear your thoughts and ideas for legislation and would welcome any suggestions you may have for the spring session.

As always, my community office, at 5022 Joyce St. Vancouver, is open to provide services for constituents in person with appointments and via phone and email. Please give us a call at 604-660-0314 or email us at adrian.dix.mla@leg.bc.ca, and we will get in touch with you as soon as we can. 聯絡本辦事處請電郵 adrian.dix.mla@leg.bc.ca 604-660-0314. 如欲親臨敬請預約。

Here's a list of some of the free services our office offers:

Advocacy – We will work hard to assist you with any issues you have that involve the provincial government departments, services, or ministries.

Information & Referral – Our office can find the right government contact or program. We can help you understand how program changes will affect you, your family, and your community. We also know the services available in our community and are happy to refer you to them.

Getting Connected – Free fax for government and community-related matters.

Thank you very much for all that you're doing and take care.

Sincerely,

Adrian Dix
MLA for Vancouver-Kingsway

For complete listings visit www.vpl.ca/events



Collingwood Neighbourhood House HIGHLIGHTS



Joyce Location: 5288 Joyce St. ; **Tel:** 604-435-0323 / **Annex Location:** 3690 Vanness Ave. ; **Tel:** 604-428-9142 / **Visit:** www.cnh.bc.ca

Walda Gorn: 25 years in child care at CNH

by Collingwood Neighbourhood House

Collingwood Neighbourhood House (CNH) proudly recognizes its long-serving staff members. At this year's Annual General Meeting (AGM), CNH staff and contractors who have reached the milestones of 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of service to the neighbourhood house were thanked by the Board of Directors.

This year, we recognize and celebrate Renuka Bhardwaj, Julie Cheng, Walda Gorn and Thomas Wong for 25 years of service.

Here's what Diana Taykandy, Operations Child Care Program Manager, had to say about Walda:

Walda began her journey at CNH just over 25 years ago. In 1997, she started as a practicum student in our preschool program. Once she completed her Early Childhood Educator (ECE) coursework, she returned to CNH to complete 500 hours of volunteer work to obtain her license to practice in childcare. At this time, Walda volunteered in both of our preschool and infant/toddler programs.

Eventually, a part-time position became available in our infant/toddler centre and Walda applied. With her experience at CNH, it was no surprise she was hired for the role. Shortly after, a full-time position opened with our childcare team and for years, Walda worked happily in the infant/toddler program, learning, growing and always caring for our under-threes. Over time, it became clear that Walda was continuously willing to learn, discover and improve her programs. She was also keen on honing her own skills and knowledge in the industry.

In 2013, Walda became a program coordinator at CNH and that's where we still find her. We are so fortunate that Walda did all her early learning with us. Today, Walda works with eight educators in the infant/toddler program, most of whom have been working together for many years. Needless to say, a team working together as long as they have share a special connection.



Walda Gorn

When asked what made Walda stay with us for so many years, her initial response was that she loves the team she works with. Ultimately, Walda says she felt (and still feels) that CNH is her place. Walda also lives nearby and has been a part of the local community for a long time. In fact, Walda's family has spent time helping in both our infant/toddler program and CNH as well. Walda's husband, for example, has supported our childcare centres by doing odd jobs, such as painting, pressure washing and building furniture. Additionally, he has always been a huge support to Walda, who in turn is always looking out for the very best in her programs.

Walda is dedicated and self-motivated, which is only part of what makes her the special person she is today. It has been a pleasure working with her all these years and we look forward to many more. (We are not kidding, Walda says her future plans are to continue working at CNH.)

Thank you, Walda, for all that you do every day. We are so fortunate to have had your entire career take place at CNH!

To learn about current career opportunities at CNH, visit www.cnh.bc.ca/about/careers.



February 2024

12 DAYS OF GIFTING December 11- 23, 2023 Correction

There was an additional business who joined in the 12 +1 Days of Gifting. Thank you, Jambo Grill, for donating 4 x \$25 gift cards that were won by two excited winners.

Who's Who in Collingwood

The CBIA will be launching a new social media feature called, "Who's Who in Collingwood". Some may remember the print form of Who's Who in this newspaper years ago. We have many small and medium businesses who we would like everyone to get to know. Our staff will come and interview, take photos and videos to share on our social media platforms. There is no cost to the businesses. Our goal is to bring the local businesses closer to the community. Look for a invitation to be featured in 2024. You can also contact our office at 604.639.4403 or email info@shopcollingwood.ca

Love Your City

There will be hearts all over the City of Vancouver this month. Business Improvement Association in Vancouver will be participating in the Love Your City campaign. Simple take a photo at any of the heart locations and post on Instagram, tag the BIA you are in i.e. #shopcollingwoodvancouver and #loveyourcity. Here in Collingwood the heart lights will be hanging from the trees at the Clock Tower at Kingsway and Joyce Street. There will be a grand prize of items donated from each participating BIA. CBIA is contributing a dinner for 10 catered by Yo-Bones BBQ at a value of \$375.00!!! Thank you, Yo-Bones BBQ, for the generous donation. For more information, on Instagram @loveyourcitycontest

Board of Directors News

We want you! We are looking for new board members and committee members to sit on the Safety, Marketing and Street Beautification and Expansion committees. We meet once a month.

If you interesting in helping create the future of Collingwood please contact, Angela at angela@shopcollingwood.ca

Happy Lunar New Year –

2024 Year of the Dragon Lion Dance – February 17th, 2024

11:30 am. – 1:30p.m. (see ad in this issue)

We invite you to join in the parade and celebrating the Year of the Dragon. For 14 years we have been partnering with the Hon Sing Athletic Club. Many of their members are residents of Renfrew/Collingwood.

To register your business, contact the office at info@shopcollingwood.ca

Businesses will need a head of lettuce and a red envelope with lucky money to hang at their front door. More information will be provided once you have registered.

Calendar of Events

February 2

Ground Hog Day

February 14

Valentine's Day



February 17

Lion Dance Celebration in Collingwood (see ad in this issue)




11:30 – 1:30 p.m.

February 19

Family Day



How to Reach Us:

-  @shopcollingwoodvancouver
-  @shopcollingwood
-  @shopcollingwood

Office:

#300 – 3665 Kingsway,
Vancouver, BC V5R 5W2
T: 604.639.4403

E: info@shopcollingwood.ca

W: shopcollingwood.ca

Sign up to receive the monthly e-Newsletter

Email info@shopcollingwood.ca

Shop Collingwood! It's good for business.



We are accepting Kindergarten applications for the 2023-24 school year



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