

MAY 2012

Community Report

celebrating
100 years!

West Vancouver in the summer of 1954.
photo from West Vancouver Archives: 2150.01.10.DWV

100 west vancouver

Dear West Vancouver Resident:

*The District of West Vancouver is continuously seeking to improve how we communicate and engage with the community. We know you're busy and don't always have the time to visit the website, attend open houses or Council meetings, or read lengthy reports. That's why we're coming to you. We are testing out the concept of a twice-annual **Community Update**. This update aims to provide you with key information on what's happening at the District and in your community. This first edition is loaded with information about our upcoming centennial event on June 2, the new Green Can Program and so much more. We hope you find it useful, but whether you do or do not, we want to know what you think. Please visit westvancouver.ca to take a quick survey.*

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West Vancouver's Centennial



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In 2012, West Vancouver turned one hundred years old. It's an important milestone and something to celebrate together, as a community. For thousands of years the Squamish and Burrard peoples called these shores home. They still do. In 1792, Captain George Vancouver sailed into the inlet and for years to follow, settlers made Vancouver their home. The North Shore's development was influenced by the railway, timber, and later, the cannery. The ethos of hard work and forging a new frontier is evident in the comparatively short history of West Vancouver.

In 1912, West Vancouver separated from North Vancouver. The split was amicable and re-focused the community on continuing to develop Marine Drive. Through the 1920s and 30s West Vancouver's development expanded from rustic cottages to a community with schools, churches, electricity, phone service, golf courses and a ski hill. Major change came again in 1939 with the official opening of the Lions Gate Bridge. At the time, the population of West Vancouver was 8,324.

While much has changed in West Vancouver in 100 years, a close look is all it takes to reveal the fruition of past leaders' thoughtful planning. You see undisturbed park land and an increasingly open, accessible and public waterfront. You see a community with unparalleled amenities: award-winning recreation complexes and aquatic centre, ice arena, all-weather turf sport fields, and services: a dedicated transit route, a robust municipal library, a curbside recycling, food scraps and garbage program. And you see volunteers, young and old, protecting our streams, helping others and ultimately building a stronger community. This is worth celebrating.

March 15, 2012, marked the official centennial as it was this day 100 years prior that the District of West Vancouver was incorporated. Commemorated by an old-fashioned birthday party complete with 2,012 cupcakes, music and activities for families, this event was the kick-off to the District's plans for a year-long celebration.

June 2 is West Vancouver's Centennial Community Day Celebration. It's a day you want to have jotted down, highlighted and underlined in your calendar. Plan to spend both day and night at our community celebration which will span the waterfront from Horseshoe Bay to Ambleside. Be sure to bring the whole family out to enjoy live musical performances, great food, a craft fair, water float tours and family-friendly fun.

Celebration sites include Horseshoe Bay, Dundarave, Argyle Avenue, John Lawson Park, Millennium Park, the Ferry Building Gallery, Hollyburn Elementary School and Ambleside Park. Flip the page for highlights. Full details available at westvan100.ca.



PRESENTING PARTNERS



BRITISH PACIFIC
PROPERTIES



PARK ROYAL

HORSESHOE BAY

- » Children's Fishing Derby
- » Horseshoe Bay Community Stage
- » Street Performers
- » Boat Tours
- » Community Musical Showcase
- » Experience Local Restaurants

SEAWALK

- » 100 Years Walk Interpretive Historical Panels

DUNDARAVE PARK

- » Community Concert Stage (Blues/Jazz)
- » Street Performers
- » Craft Fair

TRANSPORTATION

- The Blue Bus Horseshoe Bay to Ambleside Park
- Bus Stop

MILLENNIUM PARK

- » Community Picnic Area
- » Painters Landing

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HOSTS



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HORSESHOE BAY 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Soak up the views and festivities with a children's fishing derby, street party, local performers and boat tours to the Ferry Building Landing Pier. Special music performances by locals AJ Woodworth, Birth to Yew and a community musical showcase.

HOLLYBURN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Come down for a morning full of family-oriented festivities including vintage games, May Pole dancing, sack races, secondary school band performances, firefighters' tug o' war and more!

DUNDARAVE 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Enjoy the music from the Community Concert Stage with performances by local musicians. Peruse a craft fair with a *Christmas in the Summer* theme.

ARGYLE AVENUE 10:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Take a stroll through the Show & Shine showcasing antique and unusual automobiles.

FERRY BUILDING LANDING 12 a.m.-6 p.m.

Shamrock Tea and Wine Room, boat tours and more.

AMBLESIDE 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

We have a musical line-up designed to keep your toes tapping and your fingers snapping throughout the day and well into the night including:

▲ **COLIN JAMES**

- ▲ ODDS featuring Shaun Verreault
- ▲ Barney Bentall and The Legendary Hearts
- ▲ Tennessee Three
- ▲ Dal Richards Orchestra
- ▲ Children's performers Fred Penner and Norman Foote
- ▲ Plus much more!

For a one-stop centennial shop, visit westvan100.ca where you can reminisce with a timeline of West Vancouver, time travel with an interactive illustration of community neighbourhoods, vote for your favourite image in the centennial photo contest, keep up on your centennial-themed events and embrace the technological innovations of the past 100 years by following WestVan100 on Twitter and Facebook. We look forward to celebrating this centennial year with you.

HOLLYBURN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- » Family-orientated Fun
- » Old-fashioned Vintage Games
- » Performers Corner with School Bands, Choirs & Dancers
- » Living Timeline, School Displays and More!

ARGYLE AVENUE

- » Centennial Show & Shine *unique automobiles and civic vehicles*
- » Community Organization Showcase

AMBLESIDE PARK

- » Main Stage
- » Dance Stage
- » Local Bands
- » Children's Performers
- » Beer Garden
- » Children's Activities
- » Community Organization Showcase

FERRY BUILDING LANDING

- » Shamrock Tea and Wine Room
- » Live Entertainment
- » Boat Tours
- » Historical Displays

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SUPPORTERS



BRITISH COLUMBIA



Canadian Heritage

Patrimoine canadien



President of the West Vancouver Historical Society, Ann Brousson, says, **People who settled in West Vancouver originally faced the challenges of access. With the advent of the opening of the Lions Gate Bridge, purchasers of land were attracted by a new neighbourhood with properties of a larger size. Their homes were close to wooded hiking trails and the attractions of the mountain and the sea in close proximity. The life we enjoy today is a direct result of the earlier vision of men like John Lawson, H.H. Stevens and A.J.T. Taylor whose industry and tenacity in their time set the ground work for our present community. We must treat their legacy wisely.**

Harmony *Arts* Festival

AUGUST 3–12, 2012

What is 10 days long, free to attend and regarded as a summer treasure by West Vancouverites?

> The Harmony Arts Festival, of course!

Since 1990, community members and visitors alike have made the annual pilgrimage to West Vancouver's waterfront for a magical 10-day festival of art, performances, wine, culinary tastings, socializing and community. Achieving a two-fold purpose of celebrating our majestic waterfront through supporting local artists and artistry, the Harmony Arts Festival was originally born out of a Council directive to bring greater awareness to community art. While the festival has grown in scope, creativity and popularity, it continues to be an incredible showcase of visual and performing arts on the shores of Ambleside.

Highlights of the 22nd Harmony Arts Festival, presented by Odlum Brown Limited:

- Two weekends of the popular North Shore Tourism Art Market: *August 3–6 and 10–12*
- Over 100 musical and dance performances
- The return of the popular, and tasty, Best of the West wine and food pairing gala sponsored by Park Royal Shopping Centre: *August 8*
- The Grosvenor Waterfront Wine Garden will run for all 10 days
- Seniors' Concert Series sponsored by Hollyburn House fills the park and Community Centre Stage with great music and plenty of dancing
- For more programming information for children, youth and adults visit harmonyarts.ca

Whether it's catching an afternoon concert, strolling the Art Market, or enjoying a glass of wine at sunset, there's something for everyone.

Festival Fun Facts

- Approximately 80,000 people attended in 2011
- More than 200 volunteers proudly participate
- 85 artists will be showcased over both weekends at the Art Markets

Odlum Brown Limited is returning as Presenting Sponsor of the Harmony Arts Festival for the 11th consecutive year. Be sure to join us for a 10-day celebration of everything West Vancouver has to offer.

harmonyarts.ca



Evelyn Drive Update

On Friday April 20, 2012, the Evelyn by Onni project reached a major milestone by filing a subdivision plan for the property at the land title office. Onni Taylor Way Properties Ltd. (Onni) is now proceeding with the servicing of the new lots. Building Permit Applications for Lots 1, 2 and 5 are now being processed. Servicing and development will take place consistent with the Master Plan approved in 2007. For District updates on this project please visit westvancouver.ca/evelyn.



Secondary Suites Incentives End May 31

Only one month left! The incentive program that was created in 2010 for homeowners to register their existing secondary suites simply and affordably will expire May 31, 2012.

Since the program was launched, some changes were made to better meet the needs of residents. As these requirements changed, the deadline was extended. There will be no further extensions. Both homeowners and occupants receive a number of benefits when a suite is registered, including:

- Residents have certainty that life safety standards have been met.
- Emergency responders are aware of the presence of a suite in the event of an incident at the address.
- Homeowners realize an immediate increase in their property value for having a legal secondary suite.

Did you know more than 700 secondary suite applications have been received?

Homeowners who submit their applications by May 31, 2012 will benefit from the incentives offered. Unregistered suites after that date could face fines and will need to meet BC Building Code standards in order to remain in place, which could be significantly more costly than applying prior to the program's expiration.

For information please call 604-925-7152 or visit westvancouver.ca/secondarysuite.

Public Safety Building Update

The District will be moving forward with public engagement on the proposed Public Safety Building project in the coming weeks and months. Public safety is one of the most important services the District provides to residents. This project seeks to provide the West Vancouver Police Department and the West Vancouver Fire & Rescue Department with much needed up-to-date and seismic (earthquake proof) premises so they can continue to deliver the services that protect West Vancouver families.

The District will seek public input on the project proposal to build a post-disaster standard public safety building which will deliver operational efficiencies by co-locating fire and police service in one building on the municipal hall site.

How to learn more?

- Visit westvancouver.ca/psb and amblesidenow.ca
- Sign up for the eNewsletter at amblesidenow.ca
- Follow us on Facebook and Twitter
- Visit us at 1408 Marine Drive at the AmblesideNow office
- Email us at psb@westvancouver.ca



Community Awards

The pride that West Vancouver residents have in their community is evidenced in many ways: a commitment to green spaces, an investment in the youth demographic, a devotion to the seniors' population, ardent use and preservation of all that Mother Nature has lavished on this beautiful spot.

Community Awards provide residents the opportunity to recognize those who stand apart in terms of what they do to ensure that even when the sky is overcast and the water is gray, West Vancouver is always shining brightly.

Nominations for this award are accepted annually, with September 28 being this year's application deadline. Selected based on civic commitment, leadership and engagement, recipients of the West Vancouver Community Awards are honoured at a special ceremony for all selected nominees.

For more information on this initiative or to download an application form for a deserving resident, please visit westvancouver.ca/awards.



Parks Master Plan

The 2012 Parks Master Plan (PMP) represents a significant milestone in a major community effort to define the future of West Vancouver's parks and how they contribute to the District's quality of life. The Plan was created to set a clear direction for the management, protection, enhancement, and community engagement of West Vancouver's parks, trails, and natural areas, to meet both immediate and long term needs for the next decade. It is a companion to the 2006 policy document, Parks and Open Space Background Document, and a long-awaited update to West Vancouver's first Parks Master Plan, which was created in 1977.

The Parks Master Plan Working Group, comprised of nine community members, was instrumental in guiding the preparation of the PMP and in facilitating opportunities for significant consultation with the community. Since its initial meeting in July 2010, the PMP Working Group has hosted five community input forums, five workshops, a phone survey to more than 500 West Vancouver residents, and two open houses.

Guided by the input received through these engagements, and through the research and expertise of the working group, a value-based vision statement was created, which formed the structure for the plan's goals as well as the final recommendations:

The Parks Master Plan endows the community with a balanced approach to parks planning that will increase enjoyment of and pride in our natural spaces, and it:

- Protects, restores and defends the unique shores, parks and mountain lands of our community
- Encourages and enhances relevant and accessible active living
- Fosters community involvement and shared responsibility for stewardship, and
- Uses creativity, innovation and efficiency to manage resources

The final draft of West Vancouver's PMP will go before Council for approval in June, 2012. Please go to westvancouver.ca/parks for more information, including the latest public draft, survey results, park maps, and past Council reports on the Parks Master Plan.



Ambleside Streetscape

The Ambleside Streetscape Standards Project was initiated earlier this year, and is one of several initiatives the District is undertaking to revitalize Ambleside. The purpose of the project is to develop a cohesive and unified concept plan and detailed design drawings for the public realm of Ambleside Village: sidewalks, benches, garbage receptacles, street trees, pedestrian crossings and public art locations. This specific project is being carried out at this time in order to avoid band-aid repairs to sidewalks and ensure future development proposals are informed by consistent guidelines.

Preliminary concept plans are to be presented to the community for comment in late May. An Open House is being organized to provide the community with ample opportunity to view and comment on the concepts. Stay tuned for the dates and times. To learn more please visit westvancouver.ca/pp.

Smoke Alarms provide Precious Seconds to Escape

It is a proven fact that smoke alarms, also known as smoke detectors, save lives. But, they can only protect you if they are properly installed and maintained. With very few exceptions, most fire fatalities occur in homes without a working smoke alarm. It is truly the cheapest form of life insurance you can buy.

INSTALL We recommend that you install at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home. Even better is one in every bedroom. Smoke alarms are designed to wake you up if a fire starts while you are sleeping. Be sure to install smoke alarms near bedrooms and any other areas that are used for sleeping. Be sure to follow the instructions included with the alarm to insure proper placement.

TEST When was the last time you heard the alarm sound on your smoke alarm? Battery-operated alarms should be tested once a month to make certain they are working.

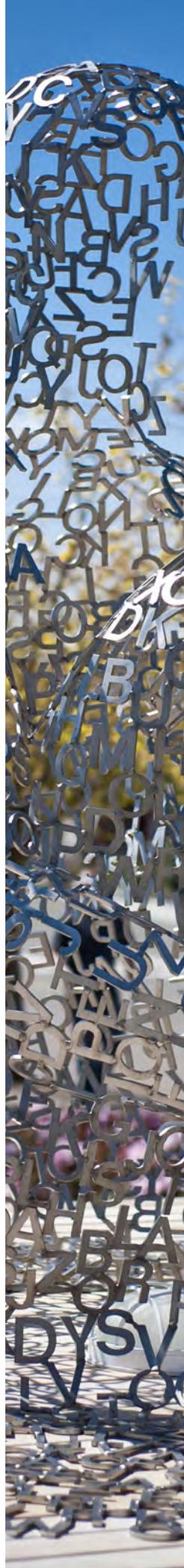
CHANGE BATTERY AND CLEAN UNIT You should replace the battery in each smoke alarm at least once a year. A good way to remember this is, "change your clocks—change your batteries." This slogan is used by the fire service nationally to provide an easy reminder to change the alarm battery each time you adjust your clocks for Daylight Savings Time.

The changing of the battery is also a perfect time to do a little maintenance on the unit. Just like other places in our homes, dust will collect over time on smoke alarms. Unfortunately, these dust particles may keep the unit from operating properly. To clean, just use the soft brush cleaning attachment that is part of most vacuum cleaners.

REPLACE It is now recommended that smoke alarms be replaced every 10 years. After 10 years a smoke alarm has worked continuously for over 87,000 hours. If you do not know how old your smoke alarm is, or if it is known to be at least ten years old, replace it with a new unit.

DO YOU RENT? Whether you live in a rented house or an apartment, your landlord is required to provide you with a working smoke alarm. However, once installed and/or verified that the alarm is working correctly, it then becomes the responsibility of the tenant for maintaining the unit in working order.

For more information, visit westvancouver.ca/fire.





Mayor and Council receiving their green cans.

Green Can Program

Beginning May 1, West Vancouver residents who receive municipal garbage and yard trimmings collection will be able to recycle food scraps with the new Green Can Program. The Green Can Program supports our region's goal of 70 per cent waste diversion, while protecting residents from increasing garbage fees. To make it easier for residents to participate, the District of West Vancouver is providing each household with a 46 litre wheeled green can for food scraps.

Why this program is so important?

We're running out of space to dispose of garbage in Metro Vancouver and we need your help to divert waste. West Vancouver's Council has endorsed Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Challenge and 70 per cent diversion target. West Vancouver is mostly residential, and food scraps and organic materials make up nearly half of residential waste, so the Green Can Program and backyard composting are the best way for West Vancouver to reach our diversion goal. Curbside food scraps recycling will help save limited landfill space, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create compost. Food scraps and other organics will soon be banned from the landfills, and every municipality in Metro Vancouver is at some stage in implementing a composting program.

How does it work? **Recycle food scraps in three easy steps**

- 1. Collect food scraps in a kitchen container of your choice.**
- 2. Empty your kitchen container into your green can.**
- 3. Place your green can curbside on collection day, not before 5 a.m. and no later than 7:30 a.m.**

What goes in the Green Can? All food scraps, food-soiled paper and yard trimmings

What stays out of the Green Can? All plastic, including biodegradable or compostable plastic and pet waste

For more information visit westvancouver.ca/greencan.