



21 Years of the Gorge Canada Day Picnic



The story goes that this major event was born over some scotch late in the evening on Inez Drive. In 1999, some of the new Gorge Tillicum Community

Association board members had gotten together and the conversation turned to what binds a community. Someone suggested a parade, someone suggested a music festival, someone thought perhaps they could convince Saanich to let them close Gorge Road West all day. Well, here we are 21 years later, and the Gorge Canada Day Picnic is going strong, drawing well over 10,000 people each year to the neighbourhood.

What does it take to put this event on? A committee of volunteers meets in the five months prior to Canada Day, but work starts in October and January to apply for the federal and municipal grants that help pay for the event. Surprisingly the committee consists of only around eight people. In March several team members build and open up registration for the Food Vendors, Market Vendors, and Community Engagement

participants. Sponsors are contacted to help fund the event. Bookings for chairs, tables, toilets, tents, stages, and recycling bins are done. In the last decade, a comprehensive binder with lists and maps has been compiled. A number of years ago we decided to formally create six zones. Each zone has been fully mapped and a package of maps and rules is created and sent to all participants in the zones. Each zone has a Zone Captain to make sure everything goes smoothly in the morning. Recycling and waste management has become more challenging as the event attendance has grown. In the past, a handful of logistics staff had to run along the entire two kilometer stretch, but over the last number of years, we have used school kids or soccer teams and assigned teams to each zone to keep it clean and running smoothly.

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We welcome comments—please let us know what you think of your newsletter!

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The deadline for submissions & advertising for the next issue is September 30, 2019.

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All 3,800 copies of this newsletter are delivered by volunteers, and we could always use more help. Please contact Scott Karpes at 778-679-3545.

GTCA Board Meetings

The Gorge Tillicum Community Association is a non-profit organization that advocates for the Gorge Tillicum community. The Board meets at 7pm the second Thursday of each month from September to June at Pearkes Recreation Centre.

Everyone is welcome to attend board meetings. If you want to put an item on the agenda please email our president one week in advance.

Agendas will be posted to the GTCA website a few days in advance of the meeting.

GTCA Board of Directors 2019/2020



(from left to right) Chris Kask, Gabe Epstein, Russ Godfrey, Lewis Rhodes, Paul Savinkoff, Arden Little, Irena Jazwinski, Scott Karpes, Katherine Brandt, Vera Wynn-Williams, Jon Rathbone and Chris Bullock. Not pictured: Phil Lancaster, Pam Loadman, Edward Pullman, Elise Cote and Evan Leeson

In April the GTCA held our Annual General Meeting in the Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club building. The view over the Gorge was beautiful, the “house” was packed, the snacks were delicious, and many conversations were had. Our revised and updated constitution was approved, and people in attendance received an update on the status of the GTCA’s finances. All returning directors were re-elected,

together with three new nominees; our Board now consists of 17 directors. The 5 executive members from the past year will continue in their same roles and will be joined by Phil Lancaster in the newly created Communication Coordinator role.

The full list of board members and their positions is listed below.

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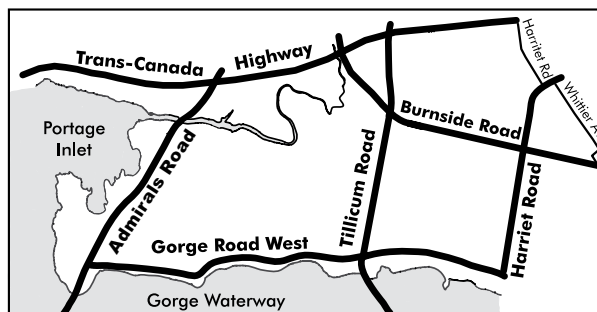
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The GTCA boundaries are the Gorge Waterway and Portage Inlet shorelines, the Trans-Canada highway to the north and Harriet/Whittier/Harriet to the east.

To learn more about Saanich Community Associations and view the boundaries, see <https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/community/community-associations.html>

an update from the GTCA

Spring is upon us, and the neighbourhood is bursting into colour -- with bees, birds and gardeners hard at work.

It was a perfect day for the Gorge Park Cleanup on Saturday, 27 April. Local volunteers, working with Saanich Parks staff and the Pulling Together park steward, removed garbage and truckloads of English ivy and other invasive plant matter from the park. A good job was done by all -- work that was accompanied by conversation and mouthfuls of doughnuts and coffee. Plants will grow, and garbage will (unfortunately) accumulate so we'll be back to work again in September.

We are, at the time of writing this update, in the process of replacing our old website with a new one -- one that will be contemporary in style, easy to navigate, and informative. We expect to have it up and running shortly, with information about the Board, GTCA activities, and community events as well as sources of information on a range of subjects.

The working document, the Gorge Tillicum Community Design Guidelines, was introduced at the AGM and will be available for viewing and commenting once the website is operational. This document will provide developers working in our neighbourhood with information about community preferences and will assist the new Buildings Working Group and the Board in its discussions with development proponents.

Speaking about multi-family

developments, here are a few current updates:

- The project at Gorge Road and Earl Grey Street has been stalled due to refinancing -- it hopes to proceed this spring
- The project on Albina Street (opposite Fairway Market) has been approved by Saanich council
- The former bingo hall site has been purchased by Cielo Properties. The developer will be attending the May Board meeting as part of the process of drawing up plans for the site.
- Other projects are in various stages of development, with proposals having been submitted to Saanich Planning Department or still to be submitted. These include proposed projects on Qu'Appelle St. near Gorge Road (rental units); one at Gorge and Tillicum (commercial spaces, condominiums, and rental units); and one at Harriet and Obed (rental units).

Directors and other community members have been volunteering to participate in our four new Working Groups -- ones addressing: Buildings; Mobility and Transportation; Green and Blue spaces; and the Arts. These groups will soon start meeting, planning and proposing actions to the Board. If you'd like to join a group or want more information, please send us an email at info@gorgetillicum.ca.

Gorge Park Community Gardens is up and running with its annual plant

sale on Sunday, 5 May. New allotment gardeners and other members are being welcomed and introduced to the site, perennial plants are being pruned, weeds are being pulled, and new plants are finding a home. Watch out for the giant pumpkins!

And, of course, the Gorge Canada Day Picnic is on its way and so is Music in The Park -- the latter takes place on Tuesday, 20 August with the band Arf the Dog keeping us dancing.

Finally, the warm weather will bring more people out into our parks. As we enjoy these public spaces, let's all work to keep them in good order. If you see anything that needs attention, please call Saanich Parks (250-475-5522) or Saanich police (the non-emergency number is 250-475-4321) -- whichever you consider is appropriate.

-Gabe Epstein
GTCA President

Want to See a Stronger Arts Presence in our Neighbourhood?

The GTCA is establishing an Arts Working Group to explore and promote all things artistic in the neighbourhood -- public art installations, performing arts events, art shows and tours, and more.

If you'd like join this group, or you want some more information, please contact us at info@gorgetillicum.ca.



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cont'd from cover

Music and entertainment has always been a part of Canada Day on the Gorge, and the event now has 4 "stages". For year 21, we have a major announcement! **The main stage has always been located in Craigflower-Kosapsom park, but we have decided to switch things up this year – it will now be in the natural grass amphitheater on the opposite end, down by Tillicum Road, across from Gorgeous Coffee.** The committee has been talking about using this space for several years. For those who are relatively new to the neighbourhood, you may not know that area actually had a few houses and an apartment building on it! Saanich bought properties along the Gorge for many decades and over time tore them down to create the beautiful Gorge Waterway Park that is enjoyed by so many walkers now.

The Busker's Corner area that has been located near the playground near the Tillicum end will be relocated to Craigflower-Kosapsom park to provide music near the Pancake Breakfast and the old Craigflower schoolhouse.

For many years, the committee members would drag tables around and set everything up, but we now use a supplier to do that. On the day, we have many more volunteers helping out at the Strawberry Tea and the Pancake Breakfast. It is so wonderful to see so many families and friends strolling Gorge Road on Canada Day, enjoying the many food trucks and carts, checking out the classic car show, and taking voyageur canoe rides with the Victoria Canoe and Kayak club. We are very appreciative that Saanich staff come to run the Kid's Zone and bouncy castles. They also run the Gorge on Art

2019 Mainstage Performances



12:00 pm - The Cliffee



1:00 pm - Kristina Bachand



2:15 pm - Daniel Cook & the Radiators

Zone for us. Gorge on Art used to be a separate stand-alone event before Saanich approached us about including the event on Canada Day, and so it did in 2013.

There will also be another new addition in 2019. Beside the car show, there will be a display of electric vehicles. In addition to seeing the cars you will be able to speak to their owners about what it's like to own an electric vehicle.

We look forward to welcoming you to the 21st annual Gorge Canada Day Picnic this coming July 1st! We have a great website now at gorgecanadaday.ca

which includes an interactive google map that you can use to find the First Aid tent, the location of your favorite food vendors, and exactly where everything and everybody is located! **We hope you'll come down to the new main stage area in the afternoon for some great headliners – bring a blanket, hats, and sunscreen!**

-Chris Kask
Chair, Gorge Canada Day Picnic

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Climate Action Update

After participating in several of Saanich's climate action discussions, a number of us questioned what we actively could do to move beyond waiting for our governments to save us. We found ourselves sitting in a living room talking with neighbours about the fate of our own little speck of this beautiful planet. We began tentatively to discuss what we could do to help prevent the total environmental collapse most authorities tell us is inevitable if we don't change our ways. This first wine-fuelled discussion led to more serious talks, with a consensus quickly reached that more energetic and focused engagement is needed by citizens if worst-case scenarios are to be avoided. We agreed that climate change is a major problem that requires urgent and sustained attention and that no level of government seems able to give it the critical focus needed. Indeed, the political and economic systems we need to change quickly to respond to escalating climate change concerns are so slow-moving and entrenched that those involved often appear completely

impervious to the warnings issued by an overwhelmingly convincing set of scientists.

*The time has come,
we decided, to begin a
neighbourhood grassroots
climate change initiative.*

Though there are some who feel that it is already too late, we believe that there is still time to act and to influence the future. To this end, a small committee of local residents has begun to explore what we can do by using our combined social and professional capacities. Many of us already are doing worthy climate change work, but what can we do, uniting as a supportive local community network, to address and influence the issues that climate change will bring to Gorge Tillicum?

We will be looking for input and assistance from anyone who shares our

concerns and who might be willing to work as part of an open and inclusive self-directing group. If interested, please look for some of our members at the Canada Day Picnic. We look forward to seeing you.

-Phil Lancaster and Laurie Jones



Want to Know More About Electric Cars?

This Canada Day, see a display of electric vehicles and speak with their owners.

Location: Along Gorge Road, in a parking inset bay near the Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club.

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Restoration Work Begins in Cuthbert Holmes Park & the Colquitz River Estuary

After months of collaboration and planning between Saanich Parks, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Friends of Cuthbert Holmes Park, World Fisheries Trust, Salmon in the City/ DFO, and voiced concerns from the community, some restorative work has begun in Cuthbert Holmes Park.

A cleared area at the end of Burke Ave, which is where the construction trailers are currently parked off Admirals, at the McKenzie loop, is a planned “turn around site” for parallel parking for the park in the future. Presently, it will be a storage area for large woody debris and rocks, for future use in that area of the park. There are some planned estuary and riparian improvements, and native plantings which will be included in this grassy area also.

Some fish and invertebrate surveys are being conducted in the Colquitz estuary, obtaining a better understanding of the different species that use/and are present in these brackish waters. If you see us there, please stop by for a chat about our findings!

The mudflats here are an important feeding/nesting area for our resident and migratory birds in this federally protected bird sanctuary. New educational signage has been installed at fencing in the park, about the estuary and the birds. Dogs and cats are prohibited from being at large in or near the river.

Tired migratory birds must be left



Photo: Cheryl Redhead

Great Blue Heron in the Colquitz River undisturbed to feed and then continue on their journeys. Any type of boat entering the Colquitz disturbs the birds, which again is prohibited in this federally protected area. The river is far too shallow and narrow to avoid birdlife disturbances, and constant interruptions of feeding, or egg setting in their nests, leaves them exhausted, and their nests unprotected to predators.

As the tides flood and ebb on the mudflats, biofilm is formed on the surface of the sediment. This is a carbohydrate-rich surface food which the visiting marine birds skim off with their beaks for fuel. Any disturbances from the entrance into the river, or

paddle usage, and the dragging of boats in the shallow waters disturbs the formation of the biofilm, reducing the food for the birds. Boats are not only a disruption to the bird life but also to staging salmon, at various times of their life in the shallow waters of the estuary.

The Great Blue Herons, a species of “special concern”, protected under the British Columbia Wildlife Act and by the Federal Migratory Birds Convention Act, are seen continuously standing knee-deep feeding in the centre of the shallow river.

We are incredibly fortunate to have this amazing area in our neighbourhood, and so many levels of government protection for our marine and wildlife that use the estuary. Conservation groups, in collaboration with government, need your help to encourage and offer protection to the species that visit and live here.

**-Dorothy Chambers,
Salmon In The City project,
Colquitz River, Cuthbert
Holmes Park advocate.**

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Great Horned Owllet Rescued After 60 ft Fall From Nest in Cuthbert Holmes Park

Saturday morning May 4, a baby Great Horned Owl was found on the ground at the bottom of the nesting tree in Cuthbert Holmes Park. A nest which volunteers had monitored for a month.

For two hours, the baby lay motionless, and observed by a wildlife photographer, who thought for sure it had died in the fall.

Then suddenly, it was on its feet! Making baby owl noises and moving about.

The owllet was then transferred to Wild Arc, wildlife rehab center in Metchosis (a branch of the SPCA). <https://spca.bc.ca/programs-services/wildlife-rehabilitation/about-wild-arc/>

The owllet was assessed, fed and found to be in good condition.

On Monday May 6, a tree climber

returned the baby owl to a nesting site very close to the original nest. Jeff Krieger, of Alternative Wildlife Solutions, <http://www.alternativewildlifesolutions.com/> who volunteers for Wild Arc, brought with him a wicker basket, lined with flora and fauna from the forest floor for the baby.

Great Horned Owls do not build their own nests, but rather take over abandoned existing ones. Often these nests are in disrepair which results in a chick or two falling out of the crumbling nest.

This was definitely the case with this nest, 60 feet up a Fir tree. It was so thinly woven together, you could see the sky through the nest branches.

Following the owllet return in its new basket nest, both owl parents were

seen close by and attentive.

This baby owl is ankle banded. If photos are taken of a banded bird, or the body of one is found, please contact me so we can follow up on the history.

The following evening, after the baby was returned, both parents remained near the new nest, and it is hoped they will feed and rear all three chicks from the two locations.

To learn more about Great Horned Owls, <http://hww.ca/en/wildlife/birds/great-horned-owl.html>

Please remember, Wild Arc has come to our Great Horned Owl rescue many times now, and they depend on donations to continue their important wildlife work.

-Dorothy Chambers



Photo: Brian Rundle

Baby owl after two day stay at Wild Arc



Photo: Cheryl Redhead

Dorothy Chambers with the owllet.



Photo: Dorothy Chambers

Saanich Police assist with the happy "re-nesting"

Vaisakhi Celebrations in Gorge Burnside

On the Friday following the horrendous massacre at a mosque in Christchurch, New Zealand, the Sikh Khalsa (community) of Victoria announced their intention to form a protective human chain around Victoria's main mosque. Their leadership attracted other Victorians from across the range of faiths and orientations who joined to make the chain extend around the whole mosque. So when the local Sikh community sent out an open invitation to join them at a Khalsa parade and celebration of Vaisakhi, it seemed the perfect opportunity to learn more about them, particularly since "yummy food" was promised.

Vaisakhi is an annual celebration of the establishment of Khalsa, or Sikh identity, which was initiated by their 10th Guru, Guru Gobind Singh. The event was held at the Gurdwara (Sikh Temple) on Cecilia Street, in the Gorge Burnside Community. It was a lively affair, featuring a parade with colourful floats, martial arts displays and music. The main reception area, from which the parade began and ended, contained displays and delicious traditional, free, snacks. We tried our best to sample everything but in the end were inadequate to the challenge – there was too much and all of it too good to allow selective sampling. The whole event highlighted the open, friendly and welcoming character of the Sikh community.

Sikhism emerged in the Punjab region of India in the late 1500s. Inspired by their first ten Gurus, some of their core tenets of belief include monotheism, gender equality, rejection of caste,



Photos Courtesy of the Saanich News (Black Press)



empathy and a strong sense of justice. Sikhism is open to all. The turban and distinctive clothing were initially intended to advertise Sikhs as people one could turn to for help. While the details of their history and belief system can be found easily on the web, one of the most interesting features is that Sikh temples generally offer free meals to anyone. There is no VIP seating. This egalitarianism links to a set of beliefs involving humble devotion to the divine.

The isolationism sweeping some parts of our world seems to want to push us back towards a darker time in which "we" circle our wagons and protect ourselves from anyone different. Sikhs show us another way. One hopes that we find it in ourselves to recognize the significance of the openness and warmth of their welcome. Vaisakhi is celebrated in mid-April and is well worth attending.

-Phil Lancaster



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GPCP UPDATE

A few weeks back I arrived at an empty Gardens for a meeting but something came up and the person I was

scheduled to meet didn't arrive. No one was about and the day was so bright, the bird song so continuous and beautiful, and the tulips such a stunningly vibrant red, however, that I decided to relax on a bench and take full advantage of my freed time to soak up the Gardens' peace and tranquility. But even as my meeting changed into something else, so too was my moment of serenity about to be pleasantly transformed. "No touching except with your eyes, stay on the paths and don't go into the beds, and no leaving the grounds." A tumble of preschoolers was about to invade.

The split rail fence blocked my view of the class as they walked with their caregivers down the upper path toward

the Gardens, but I heard the rules carefully repeated numerous times as they drew closer. When the class turned into the entrance and stood patiently to listen to final instructions, I melted to see a dozen three to five-year olds, coats covered by brightly coloured tunics, each with one hand on a rope. When the kids were released, it was like the mad-dash joy of puppies let off leash. They ran laughing along the paths then broke into areas of specialization – some hid behind the standing beds, small groups gathered to peer at plants, others squatted down to observe rocks – but always there was a return to gleefully running the paths.

All community gardens function at various levels. Their grounds provide growing space for those without access to land, but they are magnets



(Photo credit Laurie Jones, who was too busy to ask about taking pictures of the kids)

for children, spaces of play and curiosity, and places where your day can change when a bunch of three- to five-year olds notice you on a bench and they spill over each other to tell you about their day. I recommend escaping to the Gardens, if and when you can – you never know what you'll find, or who will find you.

-Laurie Jones

Plant and Bake Sale Raises \$1500 for the Gardens!

A nice crowd came down, with people asking questions, filling cardboard flats with plants, making selections from the baked goods table, and generously donating funds which we will gratefully transform into tools, soil, manure, wood for garden beds, signs, and more. So many people must be thanked, for without their donations — of plants and baked goods, labour, organizational skills, digital design savvy, and cheerful input — the Sale could not happen. Many hands coming together do indeed make lighter work, and new friends too.

One of my favourite moments from the afternoon was a young couple who wanted a small tomato plant but had



Photo: Laurie Jones

no English to understand the meaning of "prices by donation". Cutting past the language barrier, one of our volunteers reached into her pocket and held up a toonie. The two faces that had been concentrating to understand what was being said suddenly lighted and broke into smiles. They donated a toonie to the Gardens and happily walked away with their plant, turning back to ask "Sun, yes?". We nodded and smiled back.

To all those who came to the sale or donated time, plants, or baked goods to make it happen: thank you for being part of this story and others!

-Laurie Jones



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Gorge Tillicum Refugee Sponsorship Group Update

The GTRSG has held a series of fund raising events to meet federal government sponsorship conditions. As of mid-April, the Group had raised \$32,400 towards an interim goal of \$36,000, needed to start the formal government vetting process. Meanwhile, the Group has been advised that we have been assigned a quota, which basically serves as a place holding mechanism pending successful completion of the initial stages of approval and completion of fundraising. Our best estimation is that the family will have all the necessary background checks and approvals completed near the end of 2020. If all goes smoothly, the family will join us in December 2020 or January 2021. By that time, assuming no further disasters occur in their world or ours, we will need to have approximately \$100,000 to support the family through the first year after their arrival. Another \$18,000 is needed to cover the cost of airfare.

Most of our initial fundraising efforts have come from the proceeds of hosting events. While profitable, a lot of time and energy goes into their planning and execution, which is just not sustainable.

Other refugee sponsorship groups in the Greater Victoria area have met their fund raising goals by soliciting monthly donations directly from community members. The committee fervently hopes that some more Gorge Tillicum community members will step forward to help by pledging a monthly amount through CHIMP.

Our second major challenge will be finding housing and storage for furniture that we hope to collect ahead of the family's arrival. To this end, we ask that anyone in our community with an apartment suitable for up to 8 people (three generations: two seniors, two adults, four children) consider the possibility of renting it to the family when they arrive. The GTRSG would cover the costs and provide the usual guarantees against damages. In

a similar vein, since the family may arrive in two groups and/or at short notice, we foresee a need for temporary housing until a more permanent solution is available. Finally, we ask for anyone with storage space suitable to hold furniture and household supplies to consider renting or offering it to the GTRSG as soon as possible.

As the fire season in BC approaches once again it becomes easier to imagine the plight of people displaced by disasters, be they political or environmental. As our climate changes and we see more refugees seeking help we might all keep in mind that some of us are uncomfortably close to the water's edge and might need help one day ourselves.

**-Phil Lancaster &
Edward Pullman
GTRSG**



Typical refugee camp.

It's So Easy To Help!

Set up a regular monthly donation or make a one time donation through CHIMP by going to the following link:

<https://chim.pn/2vgWBmT>

To learn more about the family and the sponsorship program, or see regular updates checkout our facebook page.

www.facebook.com/gorgetillicum-refugeesponsorship



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Upcoming Events

VCKC Marathon Canoe Race: Saturday, June 8, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm at the Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club at 355 Gorge Road. More info. at www.vckc.ca

World Oceans Day Event: Saturday, June 8 at Esquimalt Gorge Park. Come out to the Gorge Waterway Discovery Centre to learn about protecting your local waterways and celebrate and learn about the ocean's diversity and importance to our ecosystems. More info. at www.esquimalt.ca

Gentle Walk & Talk – Gorge Waterway Park: Thursday, June 13, 9:30 – 11:00 am. Meet at Gorge Waterway Park, near Canoe Club off Tillicum Road. Suitable for all walking abilities. Dogs not permitted. No fee or registration required. More info. at www.saanichrec.ca

20th Annual Fairway Gorge Festival: Saturday, June 15, at Fairway Gorge Paddling Club, 2940 Jutland Road. This is a fun but competitive women's/mixed event! Races and festival activities will be held on and adjacent to Victoria's beautiful Gorge Waterway. A variety of food choices, music and other activities. More info. at <https://fgpaddle.com/races/> or contact info@fgpaddle.com

Preschoolers in the Park – Meadow Park: Friday, June 28, 10:00 – 11:30 am. Meet at playground at corner of Dysart Road and Ker Road. No fee or registration required. More info. at www.saanichrec.ca

21st Gorge Canada Day Picnic: Monday, July 1, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm at Gorge Waterway Park and Kosapsom Park. Celebrate Canada Day and Canada's Sesquicentennial along the Gorge Waterway with a pancake breakfast, family parade, stage entertainment, classic cars, kids' activities, canoe rides, buskers' corner, street hockey, strawberry tea, Gorge on Art, market and more. More info. at www.gorgecanaday.ca

SKAmpe: July 12 – 14 along the Galloping Goose Regional Trail. An outdoor live performance festival event that is suitable for the whole family. Take in a series of short shows presented along the Galloping Goose Trail and Harbour Road. Audiences travel from show to show by bicycle, rollerblade, electric mobility scooter, skateboard or on foot. More info. at www.skam.ca

2019 Gorge Swim Fest: Sunday, July 28. More info. at www.gorgeswimfest.ca or www.facebook.com/gorgeswimfest

Victoria Gem, Mineral, Fossil and Jewellery Show: August 16 – 18, at Pearkes Recreation Centre. Over 50 of the best gem, mineral and jewellery vendors from across Canada and abroad, bringing you unique gems, fine minerals, rare fossils, hand-made jewellery, fancy beads and findings, lapidary art and more. More info. at <https://10times.com/victoria-gem-mineral-show>

Music in Rudd Park: Tuesday, August 20, 6:00 – 8:00 pm. The GTCA is proud to co-host this Saanich event in one of our own neighbourhood parks. Come and listen to a free concert, courtesy of the municipality and hosted by the GTCA. Bring a picnic dinner or enjoy food and drinks from several vendors that will be there. We hope you can make it out to a free evening of music! More info. at www.saanich.ca

Gorge Park Cleanup: Saturday, September 14, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Gorge Park East, across from the Fairway Market on Gorge Road. Free coffee and refreshments.

2019 Paddle Battle: Saturday, September 21, at Fairway Gorge Paddling Club, 2940 Jutland Road. More info. at <https://fgpaddle.com/races/> or contact info@fgpaddle.com

Fall Dream Wedding Show 2019: Sunday, September 22, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, Pearkes Rec Centre. Vancouver Island's Largest Bridal Trade Show! More info. at www.dreamweddingshow.ca

Soup's On!: Thursday, September 26: The last Thursday of every month is Soup Day at Saanich Neighbourhood Place (Pearkes Rec. Centre.) Come on down between 11.30 am and 1.00 pm for a bowl of delicious soup and a fresh homemade bun. For \$5 Proceeds go towards supporting food security programs at Saanich Neighbourhood Place. A 'souper' lunch for a great cause! More info. at <http://saanichneighbourhoodplace.com>

Victoria Baby & Family Fair: September 28 – 29, at Pearkes Rec. Centre. More info. at www.baby-fair.com

The 2019 Great British Columbia ShakeOut: Thursday, October 17, at 10.17 am, officially "ShakeOut BC Day," millions of people worldwide will practise how to Drop, Cover, and Hold On during Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills! More info. at www.shakeoutbc.ca

2019 Head of the Gorge & Tail of the Gorge Regattas: October 19 – 20, hosted by the University of Victoria men's and women's rowing programs on the Gorge Waterway. The Head of the Gorge starts just shy of the Johnson Street Bridge and runs under three bridges to the finish line in front of Esquimalt Park. The Tail of the Gorge starts in Portage Inlet, runs under the proud new arches of the Craigflower Bridge, and finishes at the Esquimalt Gorge Park. Head of the Gorge encourages costumes and that gives the entire event a festival atmosphere! More info. at www.govikesgo.com or email mensrow@uvic.ca

2019 Federal Canadian Election: Monday, October 21. Get out and vote! More info. at www.elections.ca

Soup's On!: Thursday, October 31: Come on down to Saanich Neighbourhood Place (Pearkes Rec. Centre) between 11:30 am and 1:00 pm for a bowl of delicious soup and a fresh homemade bun for \$5. More info. at <http://saanichneighbourhoodplace.com>

42nd Annual Creative Craft Fair: November 8 – 10, at Pearkes Rec. Centre. More info. at www.creativecraftairs.com

Want to Promote Your Event?

Email community events to Katherine at kmbrandt@telus.net




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Membership Application

Beginning on January 1, 2018, membership is valid from the time of payment of membership fees to the end of the month of the anniversary date of payment. Join or renew by mail or online on our website!

- ☐ **New Membership(s) or**
☐ **Renewing Membership(s)**

DATE: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

*EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

*This will be added to our distribution list for occasional emails regarding upcoming events or community issues.

If you are paying for other members of your household, please list the other Members' names:

PAYMENT:

Please enclose payment and mail to above address

Individual: \$5/each x _____ memberships = \$ _____

Couples : \$10/each x _____ memberships = \$ _____

Organization: \$25/each x _____ memberships = \$ _____

Donation: Your extra support helps offset
Newsletter and other costs. Thank-you! + \$ _____

Total Payment Enclosed = \$ _____

DETAILS:

Membership is open to any resident or property owner who is 19 years or older, living within the Gorge Tillicum neighbourhood as well as person engaged in business in the neighbourhood.

If membership is not renewed you will remain on our email distribution list for one more year before being deleted. Memberships are available in three categories; individual, couple or organization.



MONDAY, JULY 1, 2019 ROAD CLOSURE ADVISORY

On Monday, July 1, 2019 the Gorge Tillicum Community Association is hosting the 21st Gorge Canada Day Picnic, a day celebrating our country, its people, and the place we live. We again expect over 10,000 people to attend and stroll along Gorge Road itself and the Gorge Waterway paths.

An integral part of the day is the closure of Gorge Rd West between Tillicum and Admirals. We applied for and received a Special Event Permit from the Municipality. This road closure is sanctioned by the Municipality of Saanich and the Saanich Police and coordinated with BC Transit. Here are the details of the road closure.

1. Gorge Road West between Tillicum Road and Admirals Road will be closed to vehicle traffic from 7:30am to 5:00pm on July 1st. Vehicle access to and from Gorge Road West properties will be for emergency purposes only.
2. Access to/from Gorge Road West properties will be for emergency use only, and so residents are requested to park their cars on the side streets on the evening of June 30th and all day on July 1st until 5pm if you need to leave your driveways. Access to and from all side streets will be by Vincent Ave, Cowper Ave, and Admirals Rd (for Rockwell & Inlet).
3. The westbound lane of Gorge Road West is a designated emergency access route for police, fire, and paramedics. It MUST be kept free of obstacles for emergency vehicles if necessary. Please do not set-up games, furniture, or anything at all on the road or public sidewalks.
4. No residential parking is permitted in Gorge Road West parking lots/ areas between 7:30am and 5:00pm on July 1st.
5. The #11 BC Transit bus service will re-route from Gorge Road West during the road closure.

Clearly a road closure like this is asking everyone to be as understanding as possible. Thank-you for your co-operation. For further information on the Picnic and the day's programme, please visit the Picnic website at <http://gorgecanaday.ca/>.



Photo: Courtesy Saanich News