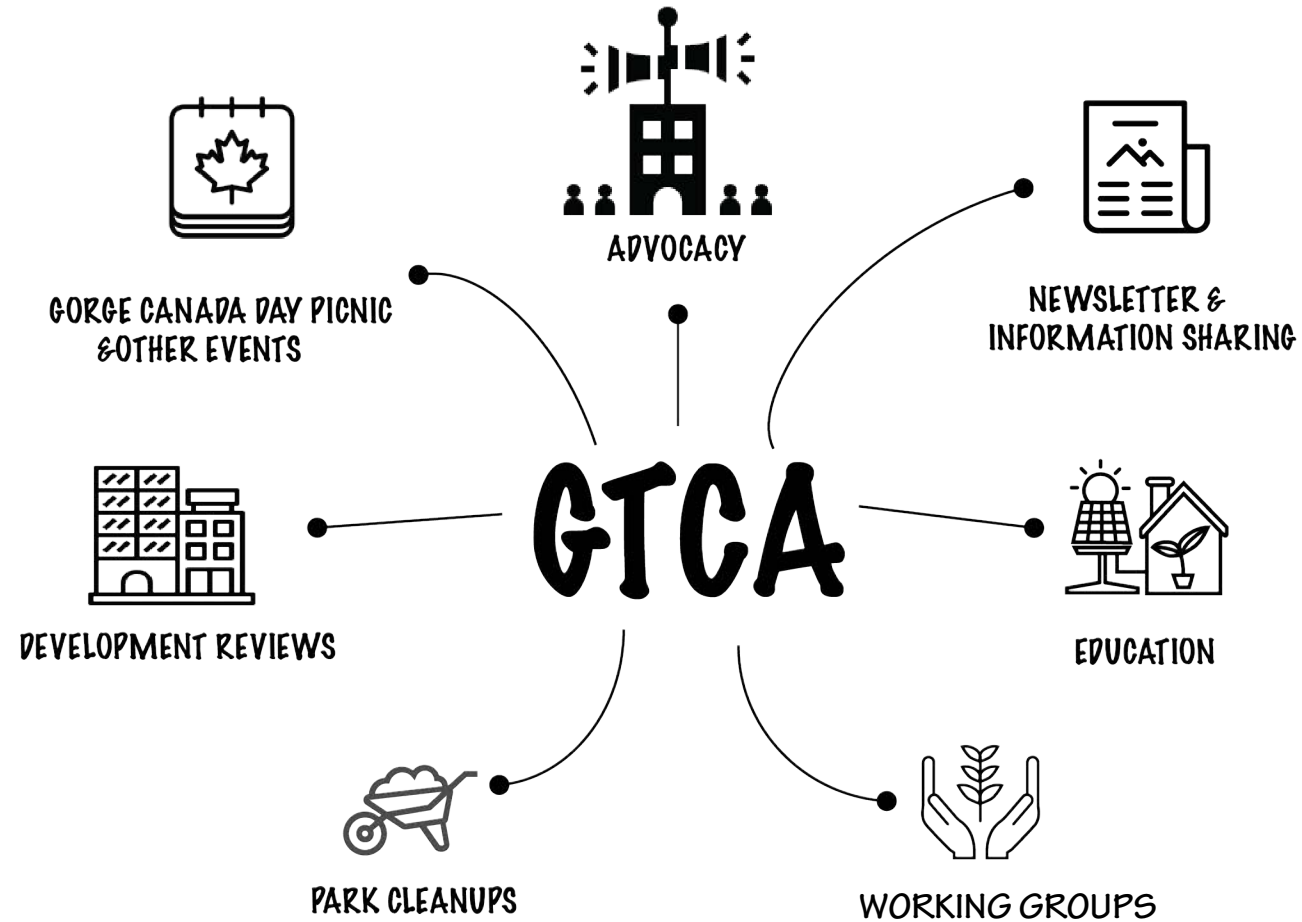


GTCA AGM Presentation

May 10, 2022

2022 – A Year in Review

What We Do?



How We Work- GTCA Working Groups

Natural Areas Working Group



The purpose of this group is to act in support of GT parks, boulevards, gardens and waterways.

Key Initiatives:

- Walter Park Stewardship
- Pollinator Project

Mobility & Transportation Working Group



The purpose of this group is to consider multimodal transportation and parking in our neighbourhood.

Key Initiatives:

- Tillicum Road Advocacy
- Pedestrian & Cycling Safety

Arts, Culture and Celebration Working Group



The purpose of this group is to promote all things artistic in our neighbourhood - public art installations, performing arts, art shows etc.

Key Initiatives:

- Mural & Other Community Art
- Events
- Community Engagement

Climate Action & Ecosystems Working Group



The purpose of this group is to

Key Initiatives:

- Sustainable Energy Use
- Food Resilience
- Trees
- Waste Reduction
- Water Management

The Buildings Working Group



The purpose of this group is to advocate for good development in the neighbourhood.

Key Initiatives:

- Community Design Guidelines
- Tillicum Road Improvements
- Community Amenity Contributions

What Have We Done?

Newsletter & Information Sharing



Gorge Tillicum Community Association

SPRING 2022

NEWS

Neighbourhood

Changes Finally Coming to Tillicum Road!

Your Board of Directors has been working hard to find ways to address the main safety problems. As explained in previous newsletters, we have focused on Tillicum Road, mainly because it has had more accidents than any other stretch of road in our neighbourhood and because it nearly cuts our community in half.

Nearly 20 years ago, Tillicum Road was identified in our (out of date) Local Area Plan as a 'village centre'. A GTCA-initiated design charrette, conducted in 2005, generated a design that included improved sidewalks, bike lanes, protected crosswalks and trees. This design was made official in the Burnside Tillicum Action Plan of 2005. The part between Burnside and Hwy 1 was completed a few years ago, in conjunction with work between the Highway and Carey Road. Since then, no further work has been done, despite this stretch of road being the site of 80 accidents in 2019 (ICBC data).



Designer's rendering of a street design where all users are treated as important. A design for Tillicum Road is still in the works.

Over the past year, we have conducted a concerted campaign to bring this issue to the attention of our local government.

Luckily Esquimalt had published their own ATP, which calls for 'rapid implementation' of a road diet, complete with bike lanes, protected crosswalks and protected sidewalks along their part of Tillicum Road.

After a series of initiatives, on Monday, March 14, Saanich Council approved Short-Term Solutions to Advance Active Transportation. Part of the approved quick build plan was to "Re-allocate the road space on Tillicum Road from Arena Road to the Saanich Boundary with Esquimalt to remove general-purpose vehicle lanes and install protected cycling lanes using quick build and lower cost techniques."

We feel that this is a significant first step to slowing the road down and making it safer for all people - pedestrians, cyclists and drivers.

It's important to understand that this advocacy work is about so much more than bike lanes.

What we want to see on Tillicum Road:

- A street that functions at the heart of the community and becomes a destination with cafes and other local services.
- A more pleasant pedestrian experience which will encourage people to walk for day to day errands.
- Bike lane connectivity - disconnected bits of bike lanes are almost worse than no bike lanes.
- Safer routes to schools.

While we are pleased with the progress, we understand that this is a mere baby step. We have no intention of taking off the pressure until we see tangible and more permanent changes.


Thanks to the many, many community members who took the time to write, call and partake in Council meetings. This strong show of community support helped get changes to Tillicum Road back on the agenda.


-Phil Lancaster & Vera Wynn-Williams

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- 6 > The Green Space - Let's Pull and Plant Together
- 7 > If You Build It - Aquatic Alcoves in Cuthbert Holmes
- 8-9 > Easy Scenic Bike Rides From Our Neighbourhood
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- 11 > Gorge Tillicum Pollinator Project
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3800 copies delivered twice per year






Gorge Tillicum Community Association

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gorgetillicum.ca

1,979 people follow us on Facebook



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About Us

Our Goals, Vision & Board

Get Involved

How to Volunteer & Participate

Latest Newsletter

What's Happening in Our Community

Site sessions
2,101 ↑ 50%


Unique visitors
1,451 ↑ 46%

Avg. session duration
4m 20s ↑ 20%

Instagram

Search

gorgetillicum



11 likes

Newly launched
283 Followers

Development Applications

WHAT THE GTCA WOULD LIKE TO SEE FROM NEW DEVELOPMENTS

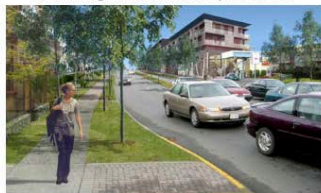
Preserving and Increasing Green Space

- Saving trees and wherever possible adding additional green space
- Planting new trees
- Landscaping features such as:
 - rain gardens and swales
 - drought tolerant plants/native plants
 - shrubs, ornamental/flowering plants
- Tenant garden space for multi-family buildings



Sidewalks

- Inset from the traffic, with trees and other landscaping providing a buffer between cars and pedestrians
- Better curb cuts for mobility challenges
- Proper sidewalks i.e. not substandard sidewalk such as on Cowper St.
- Meandering sidewalks where space allows



Mixed Use Buildings

- Would prefer spaces suitable for business that would improve services to the neighbourhood such as dining, coffee shops, pubs/bars, retail, bakery and green grocers
- On larger properties such as the V lot (Burnside/Tillicum), businesses that are economic drivers such as day surgeries, hospice, long term care, etc.
- Would like to see service organizations, offices, small commercial along Burnside and Tillicum



Parking, Bikes, Personal Mobility and Drop off Zones

- The GTCA is in favour of giving reductions to current Saanich parking requirements
- Buildings must build in some flexibility with respect to transportation
- Parking should be unbundled from units
- Providing space for recreational & commuter bikes, scooters etc. (This would include charging stations for electric bikes and scooters)
- Drop off zones for delivery vehicles (increasingly important in the Amazon era)
- Guest parking & guest bike racks
- Alternative transportation such as free bus passes or car share for tenants that don't have a car

Currently there are 11 development at various stages

- Meeting with developers at various stages of the process
- Encouraging them to follow the Community Design Guidelines
- Encouraging and supporting robust public consultation
- Community Amenities discussions
- Preparing official letters to Saanich Planning
- Speaking to Council

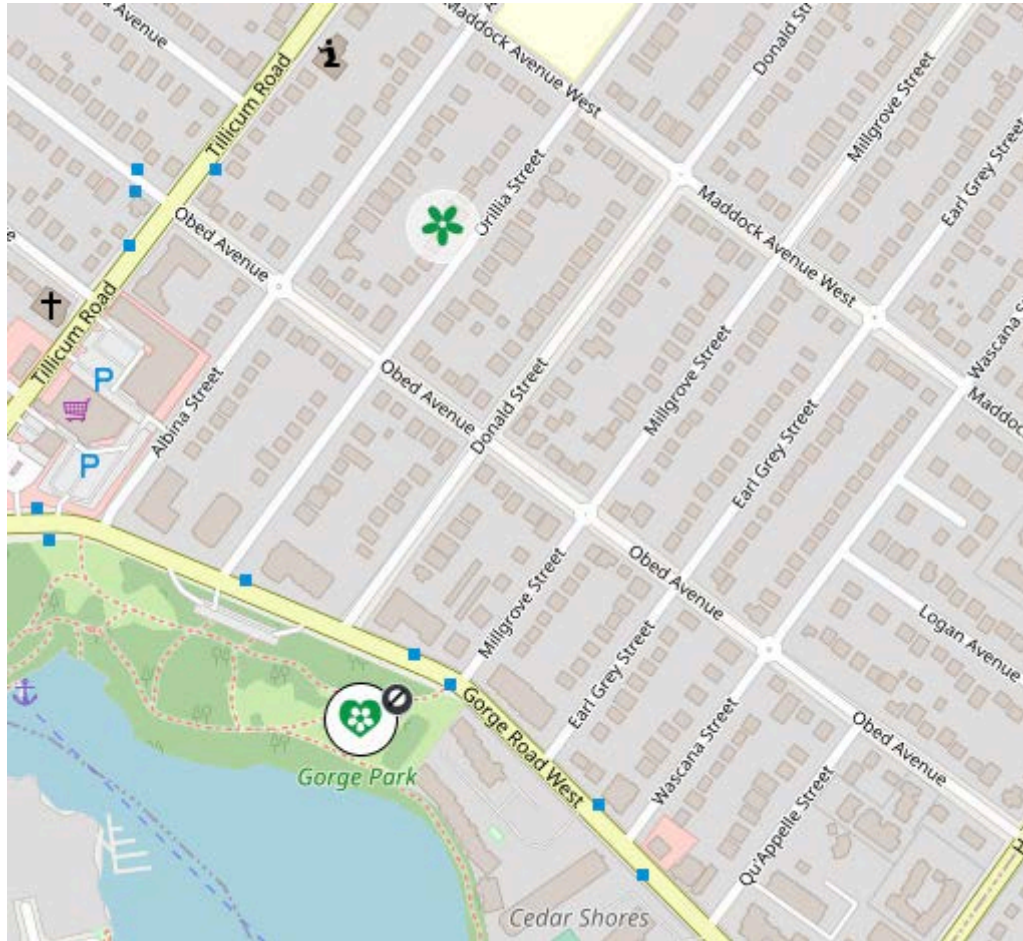
Community Gardens



Supported the establishment of the GPCG and provided ongoing administrative support for 7 years.

- This year the GPCG have become their own not-for-profit society and are fully independent!

Pollinator Project



Promoting awareness and improved GT pollinator habitat.

Collaborated with UVIC Geography students on mapping of current pollinators and habitat.

Walter Park Stewardship



New Park Stewards – Anne Genuist and Steve Legg

- Regular weed and invasive species removal
- New indigenous plantings

Boulevard Brigade



Thanks to the following volunteers who keep our boulevards beautiful!

Pam Loadman
Julie Graham
Shanna Parkin
Celeste Slow
Belle Leon

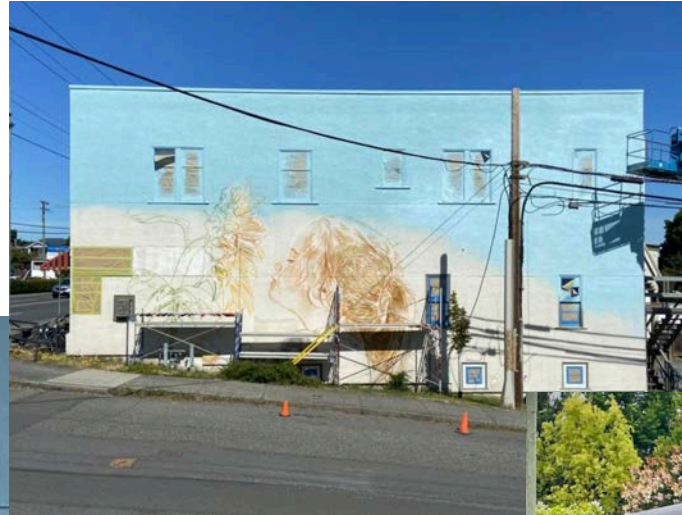
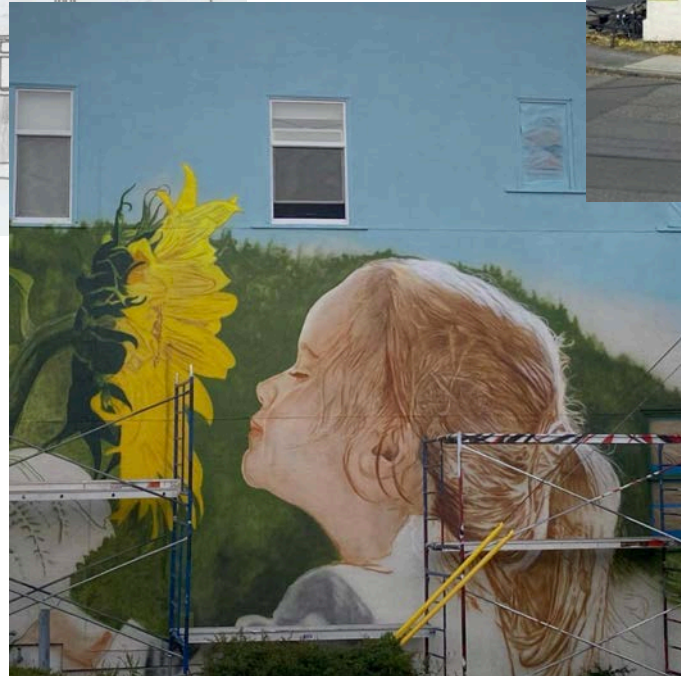
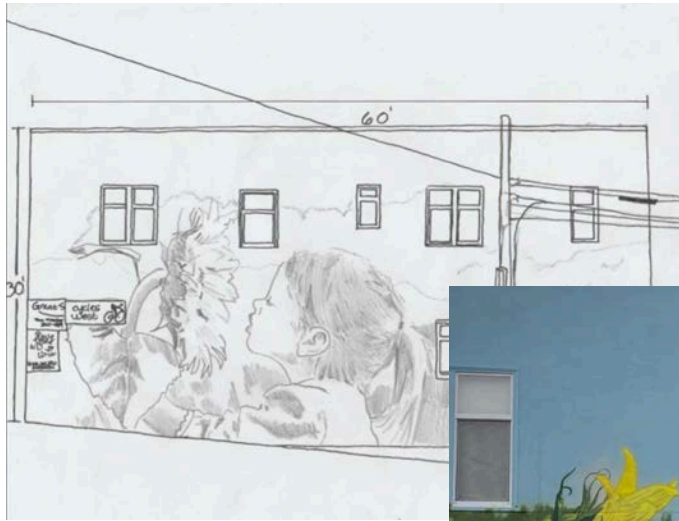
Brenda Sopow
Leanne Taylor
Michele Donaghy
Wendy Mclellan
John McWilliams

Donna Roth
Ruth Nelson
Anne Genuist
Sandy Huisman
Sue Gee

Curb Appeal



GTCA Mural



GTCA Mural






GORGE TILlicum TOUR!

*FREE 15 minute live theatre performances
by Theatre SKAM at a location near you!*

Saturday, July 31, 2021

1:00 43 Logan Ave.	3:00 Hampton Park
1:30 Gorge Park (parking lot between Austin & Dysart)	3:30 3155 Earl Grey St.
2:00 Walter Park	4:00 3238 Eldon Pl.






**GORGE PARK
PUMPKIN PARADE**

- NOVEMBER 1st -

3-5pm: Jack-o'-Lantern Drop-Off
6-8pm: Pumpkin Parade

Saanich Gorge Park - 301 Gorge Road West





A Community Solstice Celebration
**LIGHTS ON THE
GORGE**

Sunday, Dec. 19th
4:30pm

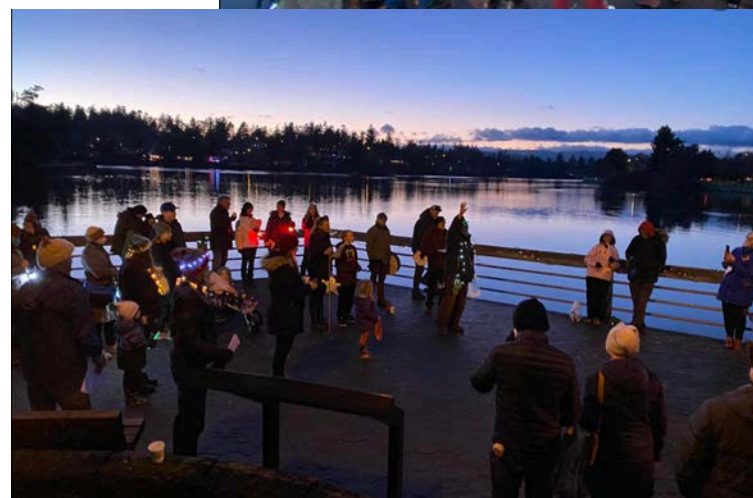
Outside the Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club



**LIGHT-UP
LANTERN PROCESSION*
SINGING**

*Please bring your own lantern & percussion!





Gorge Park Cleanups – Twice per Year



Tillicum Road Advocacy



- Dozens of meetings
- Tours of Tillicum Road with members of Council & Saanich Engineering
- Speaking to council
- Presentations to committees
- Educational & Advocacy Video

Together We Make a Difference

Thank You