

Oak Bay Connector

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF OAK BAY ■ CONNECT - COMMUNICATE - COLLABORATE

Redevelopment

OAK BAY HIGH



cei ARCHITECTURE
PLANNING
INTERIORS

✿ Councillor Hazel Braithwaite

Exciting times are ahead for students and residents of Oak Bay! The Project Definition Report (PDR) for the redevelopment of Oak Bay High School is ready for approval by the School Board and Minister of Education.

Upon endorsement from the Ministry, construction could start as soon as March 2012. The new school and Neighbourhood Learning Centre (NLC) is planned to be completed by August 2013 - ready for the school opening in September 2013!

An exciting part of this project is the NLC. An NLC attached to the school and within such close proximity to the Oak Bay Recreation Centre, will definitely strengthen connections in our community.

The project thus far has been a true collaboration

between Oak Bay Municipal Council, SD 61, Oak Bay Parks and Recreation and community members who have been working together to develop shared education and community space to be accessible outside of school hours.

If the proposed NLC funding is approved there will be room in the school to accommodate much needed after school and daycare spaces, a teen centre as well as access to educational space such as food services, woodworking, drama and dance to name a few.

The PDR being submitted to the Ministry also includes a 450 seat community theatre attached to the school. The municipality feels so strongly about this valuable component, that Municipal Council has

committed \$1 million to the project.

Playing fields and green space will also be a very

important part of this rebuild and will be part of Phase Two and Three of construction.

As I mentioned, exciting times are coming and once this project is approved by the new Minister of

Education, then we can start our celebrations for the biggest project ever to take place in Oak Bay!

Pesticide Bylaw in Place

Oak Bay Municipal Council has adopted a Pesticide Use Bylaw. This means residential pesticide use will generally no longer be permitted on lawns and gardens. The effective date of the bylaw is April 1, 2011.

FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION SESSIONS

Limited space is available, please register in advance to reserve a spot – contact any Recreation Oak Bay reception area or call **250-595-7946**. These free informative sessions on alternatives to pesticide use are presented by the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific in conjunction with the Oak Bay Parks Department and the CRD.

99224 **Friday, April 15** 7:00 – 8:30 pm Windsor Pavilion
99225 **Saturday, April 16** 9:30 – 11:00 am Monterey Recreation Centre

PESTICIDE DISPOSAL (safely dispose of pesticides and containers)

OAK BAY PUBLIC WORKS YARD, 1771 ELGIN ROAD

April 1 to June 30, Monday to Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Sat 8:00 am to noon.

Municipal and CRD staff will be available on site Saturday, May 14th and June 18th from 10 am to noon with information about the pesticide bylaw and Alternatives to pesticide use.

For more information please visit
www.oakbaybc.org or www.recreation.oakbay.ca



Do you know your neighbours?

Oak Bay Volunteer Services (OBVS) is always looking for ways to better serve those in our community: to welcome new clients who have temporary and/or on-going needs. How well do you know your neighbours, their situations, and their needs?

There may be a single parent on your street with very young children who could use a hand with shopping or walking the dog because the needs of the children don't let the parent get out as regularly as necessary. We have volunteers willing to

perform these services.

An illness or accident may render a neighbour of any age temporarily unable to get out to shop or to perform many of the usual maintenance and repair functions around the home. We have volunteers willing to take on short-term jobs.

The loss of a drivers' license or vehicle may make a previously independent person more housebound and socially less active. If you notice a neighbour is no longer driving, or doesn't seem to have visitors, perhaps OBVS could provide drives to medical

and other appointments or make re-assurance phone-calls on a regular basis. We have volunteers willing to commit to frequent and on-going contact with our clients.

If there is a neighbour you help on a regular basis, when you are away on vacation or not available for some other reason, perhaps

one of our volunteers could step in temporarily.

Do you know of anyone on your block: young, elderly, or anywhere in between, that could be helped by becoming a client of OBVS? Please phone the office (250-595-1034) to find out more information, or access the website: www.oakbayvolunteers.bc.ca.

www.caob.ca

The Oak Bay Emergency Program

Public Safety Information Session: Our Natural Disaster Risks

Tuesday, April 12, 7 pm, Windsor Park Pavilion, 2451 Windsor Road

What are our risks for tsunami, earthquake, storm surge and other hazards? What can we do to reduce our risks and increase our resilience?

In response to recent events in Japan, Christchurch, New Zealand, and Chile, the Oak Bay Emergency Program will host an information meeting for the community.

Speakers will provide information on the tsunami, storm surge and earthquake risks for residents, our resources and steps citizens need to take to reduce their risks and increase individual and community resilience.

Displays: Planning maps for tsunami, earthquake and other risks, Grab & Go Bags, Shelter-in-Place and other emergency supplies.

Tsunamis: The most dangerous tsunami threat

for Oak Bay residents will follow a strong subduction zone earthquake, located about 100 km off Vancouver Island. Such an earthquake

What can we do to reduce our risks and increase our resilience?

(commonly called "The Big One") will cause severe ground shaking for 60 seconds or more.

Tsunamis created elsewhere in the Pacific Ocean are not likely to affect beach properties in Oak Bay beyond the high water that normally comes with severe winter storms.

Please check out the links to maps, resources and information under tsunami and earthquake hazards at www.pep.bc.ca or

www.oakbayemergency.com

Earthquakes: DROP, COVER, HOLD ON until the shaking stops. **DROP** down onto your hands and knees (before the earthquake knocks you down); **COVER** your head and neck (and your entire body if possible) under a sturdy table or desk; **HOLD ON** to your shelter (or your head and neck) until the shaking stops.

These actions will help protect you from falling and flying debris, and increase the chance of you ending up in a survivable void space if the building actually collapses. Please visit www.shakeoutbc.ca.

Preparedness: We need to be self-sufficient for a **minimum of seven days**, have a family reunification plan and emergency supplies such as water, food,

shelter, a radio and other items to enable us to shelter in our homes, yards or neighbourhoods.

If you are prepared for an earthquake, you will be prepared for nearly all other events such as severe storms, long-term power outages.

Check out our new Oak Bay Emergency Program website www.oakbayemergency.com for more detailed information, links on what you need to know and do or to see how you can volunteer!



For more information contact
coordinator@oakbayemergency.com or 250-592-9121
or go to www.oakbayemergency.com



President's Report

Welcome to the sixth edition of the Oak Bay Connector which is published three times a year by your community association. The association is entering its fourth year of providing service to Oak Bay. Of our many successes in the past year I would like to mention both our Active Transportation Forum, and Neighbourhood of Learning Centre Forum. In addition we provided community input to the Bowker Creek Blueprint and CRD Regional Transportation planning sessions. On the fun side we held our second annual family Harvest Pot Luck dinner and supported the creation of the Friends of Uplands Park.

Up-coming events include our Annual General Meeting on Saturday, April 9th, at 1pm the Monterey Centre and Earth Day celebration on Good Friday, April 22nd at Uplands Park with the Friends of Uplands Park. Final work is being done on the Oak Bay Green Map.

I know this is going to be a challenging year for everyone, with the Federal election now under way, a Provincial election in the wings and a Municipal election in the fall. The economy has still not fully recovered and it continues to be difficult for many seniors and young families in our community to make ends meet.

Our community is faced with some interesting opportunities this year some of which have been the focus of recent citizen presence at the Municipal Hall. These would include municipal governance, official Oak Bay community plan, an aging infrastructure and making Municipal information more accessible and transparent.

Please consider joining your Community Association it is as easy as dropping a cheque for \$10 in the mail or going to our website www.caob.ca and using the convenient PayPal option.

I do hope that you enjoy this edition of the Connector.

Jam Craft

President
Community Association of Oak Bay

**NEXT EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP**
Tonight, March 30, 7 pm,
Willows Elementary School
Library, 2290 Musgrave St.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK - MAY 1-7

- **Seniors Keeping You SAFE! Workshop,**
April 27, 10 am, Monterey Recreation Centre
- **Pet Evacuation Exercise,**
May 1, 9 am, Windsor Park;
- **Preparedness Workshop,**
May 3, 7 pm, Windsor Park Pavilion;
- **Grade 3 School Initiative**
May 4 & 5, Red Cross/Community Outreach
- **Public Awareness Display**
May 6, 11-2pm, Oak Bay Village

For more information or to register:
250-592-9121
www.oakbayemergency.com



COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF OAK BAY ❁ APRIL 2011

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FREE WORKSHOPS

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BEGINS WITH YOU! WORKSHOPS

Learn how to be self-sufficient for a minimum of 7 days.
6:45 (Sign-in) - 9 pm

NEXT WORKSHOP! MARCH 30, 2011

Willows Elementary School - Library, 2290 Musgrave St.
Upcoming Workshop May 3rd, Windsor Park Pavilion, 2451 Windsor Rd.
Details on www.oakbayemergency.com

PREPAREDNESS EDUCATION FOR SENIORS: KEEPING YOU SAFE!

WED, APR 27TH - 10-NOON
Monterey Recreation Centre
Learn steps to keep you safe.
Register at front desk or 250 370 7300

FIRE EXTINGUISHMENT TRAINING

Learn about how to properly use
a Fire Extinguisher.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 16TH
10-NOON**

Oak Bay Fire Hall, 1703 Monterey Ave.

PROGRAM CONTACTS:

Dave Cockle, Deputy Chief & Deputy
Emergency Coordinator • 250 592 9121
(Fire Hall) or coordinator@oakbayemergency.com

Sonja Ruthe, Community Emergency
Preparedness Coordinator • 250 592 9121
(Fire Hall) or sruthe@oakbayemergency.com

Philip Lin, Emergency Communications Coordinator
250 592 9121 (Fire Hall) or dsla@islandnet.com



Pre-register at 250 592 9121 or coordinator@oakbayemergency.com or check the Oak Bay Emergency Program website for upcoming meetings, training and workshops at: www.oakbayemergency.com

**Good Friday
April 22
Noon - 3:30 pm
Uplands Park
at Entrance to
Cattle Point**



Earth Day Celebration

Friends of Uplands Park and the Community Association of Oak Bay invite you to bring your family, a picnic and listen to the music of **Ron Carter and the Bald Eagles**. Be inspired by Uplands Park.

The music tent and information tables will be at the grassy entrance to Cattle Point at Beach Drive. Participate in invasive Scotch broom removal and family activities like a Treasure Hunt, Bubbles, and

Face painting. Ramble on nature walks to enjoy the wildflowers, rare plants and animals.

11:00 am Bike or Walk the Educational Corridor with CAOB from UVic to the schools and along the ocean to Uplands Park.

9:00 am Bird Watch with Jack Sutherland starting at Cattle Point.

This event is supported by Oak Bay Council and Oak Bay Parks Dept.

Walk, bike, bus or carpool! Celebrate your community rain or shine!

**For more information please contact:
Margaret Lidkea 250-595-8084
Kathleen Matthews 250-598 7995
Jill Croft 250-595-6284**

Willows Beach Tea Room Re Opens

Saturday, April 30, 10 am

The Oak Bay Kiwanis Tea Room is about to re open. Saturday, April 30 will be the first day of our 62nd year of continuous operation.

We look forward to another great season of providing good food and good service in a setting which is second to none. Our hours are 10 am until 5 pm.

In case you didn't know or had forgotten, the Tea Room was built and is operated by the Kiwanis Club of Oak Bay. All profit from sales goes back into the greater Victoria community in the form of grants or donations to worthwhile causes.

Come down and see what is new on the menu and re new your friendship with our students and volunteer staff. You won't be disappointed.

See you at the beach!



If you would like to volunteer as a cook or server for a few hours a week, or if you are looking for summer student employment, there may be a few vacancies still available.

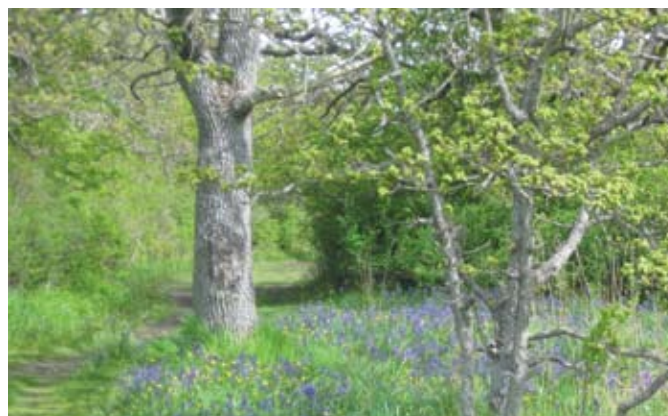
Contact Ken at 250 888 0567 or Brian at 250 888 5520

Friends of Uplands Park: Stewardship, education and inspiration

Friends of Uplands Park was formed in 2010 by Margaret Lidkea and Kathleen Matthews as an informal volunteer group with a Steering Committee and interested members.

To accomplish our objectives, the "Friends of Uplands Park" work closely with Oak Bay Parks, Oak Bay Council, and the Community Association of Oak Bay and is committed to collaborating with GOERT and other organizations dedicated to preserving Garry Oak ecosystems.

The Steering Committee includes Abee Abed, Ralph Archibald, David Blundon, John Henigman, Helen Johnson, Kathleen Matthews and Margaret Lidkea. Other people are helping with specific activities. Anyone interested please contact Kathleen or Margaret.



Mission Statement

To create opportunities for stewardship, education and inspiration.

Mandate

- Support Oak Bay Parks in protecting the ecosystems of Uplands Park.
- Educate the community about the natural and cultural histories of Uplands Park.
- Celebrate the creativity inspired by Uplands Park.
- Support research and documentation focusing on Uplands Park.
- Seek out local knowledge about Uplands Park.

**Contact: Margaret Lidkea 250-595-8084 mlidkea@shaw.ca
or Kathleen Matthews 250-598-7995 kathleenmatt@gmail.com**

ESTEVAN VILLAGE EASTER EVENT

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2011

Noon - 1 pm - kids 5 and under
1 - 2 pm kids 6 - 9 years old
Easter Bunny will be there!

**The Easter Egg Hunt
will take place in Lockier Gardens**



**COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION OF
OAK BAY**

2011 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**1pm, Saturday, April 9
Bamboo Room, Monterey Centre**

Guest Speaker Vic Derman
Refreshments

**Volunteers needed,
get involved with the CAOB**

www.caob.ca

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF OAK BAY ■ APRIL 2011



Dentistry for the Whole Family

Family & Cosmetic Dentistry • Implants • Invisalign

Dr Cheryl Handley

*New patients and emergencies welcome
"Dedicated to patient comfort".*

2108 Oak Bay Ave
Tel: 250 598 1313



Oak Bay Classic

- Truly elegant living awaits you in this 1940's character three storey residence.
- Main floor has a spacious living room
- Cozy sitting room with fireplace off the entry
- Family room and formal dining room
- Updated kitchen, bathroom and master bedroom.
- Upstairs four more bedrooms and a bathroom.
- Downstairs is an exercise room, wine cellar, media room and laundry.
- Quiet landscaped backyard with a pond and outside fireplace. \$1,575,000



JIM BAILEY



www.jimbailey.ca • 250-592-4422 • jimbailey@royallepage.ca • 1933 Oak Bay Avenue

Secondary Suite Opinion Divided

✶ Nils Jensen

"Whether Oak Bay should allow secondary suites is a matter of no small controversy" - Final Report, Oak Bay Secondary Suites Review Committee.

The Oak Bay Secondary Review Committee studied the controversial issue of secondary suites for over a year. The Committee heard from many Oak Bay residents, circulated a questionnaire to get community feedback and surveyed other municipalities, regionally and provincially. The Committee proceeded in an open and transparent fashion listening to all who had something to say on the topic.

The Committee's Final Report issued in June 2010 recommended a comprehensive and informed public discussion led by Council before any decision is made to allow suites in Oak Bay. Council recently acted

on this recommendation. Council hopes to begin the community dialogue later this Spring. Following this a formal Public Hearing will be held in the event Council

voiced concerns that there was a need to resolve numerous issues before allowing suites. Indeed there emerged a consensus on both sides of the debate that

separate suite that contains cooking facilities. For instance you are permitted to take in two students as long as they don't live in a separate unit within the house or have a stove. There are no limits to the number of relatives that can live in one house but there can only be one kitchen.

As for parking generally a house must have two off-street parking spots one of which must be covered. There is however no requirement that the off-street parking be used. So a family of four, each with a car, can park on the street outside their house.

What constitutes a suite is often misunderstood. While a municipality may pass a bylaw permitting secondary suites in residential

neighbourhoods the British Columbia Building Code imposes onerous conditions on suites.

The Building Code limits suites to only one per dwelling with maximum size of 40% of the main dwelling to a maximum of 90 square metres or about 970 square feet. There are other stringent and costly requirements such as having a fire separation between the dwelling and the suite, installing hard-wired smoke detectors and having separate air-handling systems.

Allowing suites raises issues and questions for Oak Bay that bear addressing as a community. In addition to owner occupancy and parking noted above other issues include fairness issues of paying for extra services used by suites, extra noise generation, and perhaps the most difficult to come to grips with:

'community character'. How will allowing suites change the character of Oak Bay? How have the many suites that currently exist illegally in Oak Bay affected the community character? Are there more negatives than positives to allowing suites? What should be done, if anything, with the current illegal suites? There are no shortages of questions.

These issues and questions and the many more raised by residents need to be addressed in an open, informed and rational community dialogue - a dialogue that starts with fairly acknowledging the benefits and burdens of having suites in a community.

A community wide dialogue is an opportunity to hear voices from all sides, a chance for collaborative problem solving, a chance to create a "made in Oak Bay" solution.

Whether Oak Bay should allow secondary suites is a matter of no small controversy

recommends changes.

The Review Committee's survey of residents showed that opinions on whether Oak Bay should allow secondary suites was clearly divided. Of the 1907 residents that responded to the survey 52% were generally in favour of secondary suites while 41% were opposed. The remainder offered no opinion.

Of the 52% who responded positively many

two central issues had to be clearly addressed: owner occupancy and parking.

Currently Oak Bay is one of only a few regional municipalities to prohibit suites. However Oak Bay does permit three unrelated people to live in one house but not in a

THE Oak Bay Connector

CONNECT - COMMUNICATE - COLLABORATE ✶ Jill Croft, Editor

The Community Association of Oak Bay is making a difference!

Thanks to Mayor Causton and Council for the Community Development Grant and support of our Active Transportation and Oak Bay High Redevelopment forums.

Please renew your membership or consider joining your Community Association.

Community Association of Oak Bay Membership

Our Association membership is open to individuals who live, work, have a business, attend an educational institution or owns property in Oak Bay. Membership is \$10 - sign up and be a member of your Community Association.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PayPal now available online:

www.caob.ca

or send this form with a \$10 cheque made payable to Community Association of Oak Bay, 2655 Dewdney Ave., Victoria, BC, V8R 3M3

Contact Information

JILL CROFT

Community Association of Oak Bay
Administrator, Editor

jillcroft@telus.net 250-595-6284

MEMBERSHIP: \$10 per year

Published by:

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF OAK BAY

The views expressed in the Oak Bay Connector do not necessarily reflect the views of CAOB.

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION OF OAK BAY ✶ APRIL 2011

Recreation Oak Bay Annual Pass

PURCHASE THROUGH MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN!

Adult Annual Pass: \$383

(pay approximately \$33 a month)

for unlimited use of drop-in Aerobics, Aquatics, Skating, phone-in Duffer Hockey or soccer, Fitness Studio, Badminton and Table-tennis (see schedules for appropriate sessions).



Call for details

250-595-7946

www.recreation.oakbay.ca

To advertise in

THE Oak Bay Connector

contact

TRICIA STRINGFELLOW

250.381.3633 ext. 283

tstringfellow@oakbaynews.com

Oak Bay Volunteer Services

One-to-one volunteer help to individuals of all ages.

Call for help, to volunteer or donate.

www.oakbayvolunteers.bc.ca

250-595-1034



Ida Chong

MLA,

Oak Bay

250.598.8398

Gordon Head

250.472.8528

www.idachongmla.bc.ca

11:30 am - 8 pm Mon-Sat • 4:30-8 pm Sunday



Estevan Village • 2510 Estevan Ave • 778 430 5866