



Editor's Note: You are receiving this newsletter because you are a current or past member of the Massey Victory Heights Residents' Association. You may unsubscribe at any time.

If you have suggestions for content you would like to see in the newsletter, feel free to email secretary@masseyvictoryheights.com.

If you are not currently a member and would like to support our work on your behalf, you can find a membership form on our website at <http://www.masseyvictoryheights.com/>

Message from the Executive

The Executive team of the MVHRA is a group of individuals working together to foster community and livability within Massey Victory Heights. The 2021 executive was very encouraged to have so many people attend our first Virtual AGM and we look forward to seeing many members at our upcoming meetings - both virtually and eventually, in person.

We want you to know that we listened to you and have been working on the issues that were discussed at the AGM. Some of the "behind the scenes" items we are working on are listed below.

- The Plan for the Intersection at Surrey Street and 10th Avenue was presented and approved by local residents. Much appreciation to all those who attended the virtual meetings to share your thoughts and ideas with the City. The City will be implementing the work which is expected to begin within the next 6-12 months. More details can be found [here](#).
 - We have started the process of getting a light installed at Wesburnco Park to discourage criminal activity and make the park safer for residents using it. We are still in the early stages and hope to report more in the next newsletter.
 - We have purchased a Little Free Library for Victory Heights Park and it is now installed and beginning to fill up with books! Thanks to Allan Hunter for building the lovely little Library and to executive members Dale, Sherry (and husband Jim), and Ron for their efforts to install it. All residents are invited to share books they are no longer using and to borrow books whenever they are in the area.
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We wish all residents of the Massey Victory Heights a wonderful spring and look forward to a time when we can all meet in person once again and plan in-person events.

Kindly,

Your 2021 MVHRA Executive: Dale, Kathleen, Deb, Kaleigh, Ron, Gail, Danielle, Sherry, Leona, Terry and Jason

Massey Victory Heights Residents' Association Activities

Survey of members – A survey of members was undertaken in the first two weeks of March. In that survey, you told us that the top 5 events that are important to you are:

Garage sales

- Social gatherings
- Festivals:
(Hyack, May Day, Sapperton, Salmonbellies Day)
- Family friendly events
- MVHRA meetings and other communications

See <http://www.masseyvictoryheights.com/> for a summary of the survey results

Unfortunately, popular events such as the garage sale and block party, previously annually held, will not take place again this year on the advice of public health officials. We hope to offer them again in 2022!

In the meantime, we continue to engage residents in other ways:

- general meetings with presentations (such as the one at our April 8 meeting on New Westminster history by Rob McCulloch) and the opportunity to express your concerns, and hear what we have done in response to expressed concerns
- celebrations of our neighbourhood in its gardens, Halloween decorations, and winter holiday displays.



Real Estate Market Report from John Cooke

I hope everyone had a great SPRING BREAK. Again, this year is different from any other year, I hope you were able to enjoy and have some relaxing time with the family. The market for detached homes in Massey Victory Heights from January to the end of March was very active and the busiest it's been in a long time. A total of 11 homes sold in the past 90 days in an average of 6 days on the market with the majority of them going into multiple offers. What's driving the market is limited supply and historic low

interest rates. We predict the upcoming spring market will continue to be busy and we look forward to helping as many families as we can. If you are looking to make a move or just have questions, please reach out as I am here to help in any way I can.

Sincerely,

Your local Neighborhood Realtor



John Cooke, Keller Williams ELITE Realty

www.johncookehomes.com

604-818-9507

Around your neighbourhood

Gardens in the neighbourhood - Massey Victory Heights has many lovely gardens. The executive would like to celebrate those gardens by featuring them on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Please send your best photos to: secretary@masseyvictoryheights.com. We'll post as many as we can over the gardening season!



History of your neighbourhood - A memory from a long-time local resident:

"I've lived in this area most of my life. My parents owned a house on Rickman Place. My best friend Heather lives on Chilliwack Street, across from the house she grew up in. We met in grade one and are still best friends. I remember girls riding their horses up Rickman Place on the way back to trails in Burnaby. I also remember hearing frogs and crickets every night at the reservoir. I don't remember ever seeing coyotes, raccoons, or skunks back then." - Kathy Gifford

Several residents shared interesting memories and stories after Rob McCullough's presentation at our general meeting on April 8. The slides from his presentation on New Westminster history will be available on our website at www.masseyvictoryheights.com.

If you have a memory to share, send it to president@masseyvictoryheights.com. It may be featured on our Facebook page or in this newsletter.

Arts and Culture

Cultural Services Spring Brochure - See <https://anvilcentre.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/AHbrochureS-2021.pdf> for information on cultural services being offered in New Westminster.

Massey Theatre - The theatre is not hosting live shows at present but continues to have artist's exhibits in the Plaskett Gallery. For more information on current exhibits,

see <https://www.masseytheatre.com/>

Metro Vancouver's 2021 Regional Cultural Project Grants - Funding assistance is available to arts and culture organizations for regional projects. The regional project grants support creation, production, dissemination, audience development, research, project staff and/or administrative capacity building. Project grants are awarded to a maximum of \$10,000 each, though most grant amounts previously awarded range between \$2,500-\$5,000. The 2021 total allocation will not exceed \$150,000. Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, May 10, 2021. More details can be found [here](#).

New Media Gallery - A new show is now open in this innovative gallery in the Anvil Centre. The show is called MirNs - nine international artists and artist-collectives have created six interactive, technology-based works that consider mirrors and mirroring in a changing world of technology. See <https://newmediagallery.ca/> for more details. **Hot tip:** Appointments to view this show are booking up fast so reserve your spot soon!

Van Dop Gallery - This lovely gallery is right in our own neighbourhood on 421 Richmond Street. At present, viewing is by appointment only. See <https://vandopgallery.com/> for more information on upcoming exhibits and how to book a private viewing.

If you know of another neighbourhood artist or artisan who should be featured in this newsletter, please contact the newsletter editor at secretary@masseyvictoryheights.com.

City Services & Initiatives

City News - Do you want to know what the City is doing and planning on your behalf? You can have City News delivered directly to your inbox by subscribing to CityPage Online.

You can also check out the New Westminster Record for local news and events in the print newspaper or online or subscribe to have regular updates in your email inbox at <https://www.newwestrecord.ca>

Closure of Hume Park Pool - Thanks to a petition by residents concerned about a closure of this pool for a second year, City Council is revisiting the decision. See the full story [here](#).

If you want to know more about the results of the recent survey on the Hume Park Master Plan, see <https://www.beheardnewwest.ca/hume-park>

Jane's Walk: Self-Guided Tour of New West Landmarks (All Ages) -

Walking the streets of our neighbourhoods has become a popular way to pass the time during the Covid-19 Pandemic. Take our self-guided walking tour of New Westminster on May 1 & 2 to learn more about the history of our neighbourhoods and discover some fun and quirky landmarks. Register and receive the link to a map by emailing museum@newwestcity.ca

The New Westminster Aquatics & Community Centre – Construction, delayed by Covid-19, began this month. Construction is taking place in the area formerly used by the Recycling Depot and the parking lot near the Canada Games Pool so parking is limited. See more details at <https://www.newwestcity.ca/2021/03/22/construction-of-new-westminster-aquatics-community-centre-to-begin-april-2021-.php>



The New Westminster Museum and Archives - The Museum is now open to the public with new visiting procedures and physical distancing measures. Visits are by appointment from Wednesdays to Sundays at Anvil Centre. All visitors must pre-book a ticket online at booking.nwmuseumarchives.ca to be admitted to the museum.

See <https://www.newwestcity.ca/services/arts-and-heritage/museums-and-archives> for further details.

Recycling - The new Regional Transfer Facility is due to open sometime in 2021.

See <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/solid-waste/engagement/coquitlam-transfer-station-replacement/Pages/default.aspx> for more details.

The Return-It Depot at 70 Braid Street takes nearly all of those items you used to bring to the recycling depot – as well as returnable bottles and cans and electronics. We recommend Sunday mornings close to their opening time at 9 am – fewer trains, trucks and traffic!

Reopening Plan - Wondering what City services are available and which facilities are open? You can see the City's evolving reopening plan for City facilities, programs and services here: <https://www.newwestcity.ca/services/public-safety/covid-19/response-and-reopening-plan>

Youth Services - See <https://www.newwestyouth.ca/> for currently available services and <https://www.newwestyouth.ca/covid-i> for details on Covid requirements.

Community Resources, Services & Events

Century House - Century House has been delivering programs again – for fitness, wellness, fun and lifelong learning. Booking in advance is mandatory. See www.centuryhouseassociation.com for details on currently available programs or pick up a print copy of their newsletter at 620 Eighth Street.

Note that some programs are offered online with Zoom. If you can't use Zoom, they offer the option to join meetings or events by phone.

Food services continues to offer take-out service. Pre-order by calling 604.519.1066.

Community Resources List - The City of New Westminster maintains a page listing community resources for New Westminster residents at <https://www.newwestcity.ca/services/public-safety/covid-19/community-resources>

Don't Go Hungry: A Food Support Program - Free grocery hampers for those in need are available every Saturday. Current New Westminster and area locations are:
 St. Aidan's Presbyterian Church (1320 Seventh Ave) from 12:30 to 1 PM.
 Queensborough Community Centre from 1:30 to 2 PM

Knox Presbyterian Church (403 Columbia St. E) from 1:30 to 2 PM.

Gordon Presbyterian Church (7457 Edmonds St.) from 1:30 to 2 PM.

See <https://www.dontgohungry.ca> for a current schedule and up to date information on locations.

Free tax clinics - The New Westminster Public Library has published a list of low-cost and free income tax clinics in New Westminster for 2021, providing help for people who need assistance with their taxes. To download the list, go to:

<https://citypage.newwestcity.ca/4034639c14148a47227f46478a0a50dd/free-tax-filing-clinics>

Greater Vancouver Food Bank - The Food Bank can be found most Thursdays at The Olivet Church at 613 Queen's Avenue from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. See <https://foodbank.bc.ca/find-food/locations/> for a current schedule.

New West Helping Hands - New West Helping Hands is a group created and maintained by a small group of community members with a common goal of helping those in need, specifically in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal and focus of this group is to connect people who require help with those that are able to assist. If you need assistance or want to help, you can email them at newwesthelpinghands@hotmail.com or connect through their Facebook group at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/777172272806141>

New Westminster Mental Health and Substance Abuse Centre

The anxiety, and in some cases the solitude, of restrictions and threats during a global pandemic can affect us all. If you need help, there is a local resource at 403 Sixth Street, 2nd floor (604-777-6800). For more information see: <https://www.fraserhealth.ca/Service-Directory/Locations/New-Westminster/new-westminster-mental-health-centre#.Xz6-DEkTGfc>

NewToBC – Are you a newcomer to British Columbia or know someone who is? This great resource guides newcomers to:

Immigrant and refugee programs and services

Settlement information and guides

Links to public libraries and the services they offer for newcomers

See <https://newtobc.ca/> for more information.

Community Safety

Covid-19 Vaccines - You can now register for a vaccination

at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/getvaccinated.html> and you will be notified when it is your turn to book an appointment. **Hot tip:** You will need your confirmation number, your provincial health plan number *and the exact name you used to register* when it is time to book your appointment.

A Q &A with City and Fraser Health officials on Covid vaccines in New Westminster can be found [here](#).

Remember to socially distance, wear a mask in all public spaces and when you can't be 2 meters apart *even after you are vaccinated*.

Case counts in New Westminster remain [high](#).

Businesses are now required by law to ensure mask wearing when entering their premises.

Please be considerate of the front-line workers and fellow shoppers in these businesses and "mask up!" Be kind, be calm, be safe!

Masks now encouraged for students in Grade 4 and up - Public health guidance for schools has been amended to encourage students down to Grade 4 to wear masks while at school due to the surge in new coronavirus (COVID-19) cases. See the full story [here](#).

A reminder to "Bag it and Bin it" with PPE! - If you are using disposable masks or other personal

hygiene products, please dispose of them properly by bagging them in a closed plastic bag and placing them securely into a garbage bin.

Safe Buddies Program - A non-profit led by some of Vancouver's youth is offering a way for people to help keep women safe as they go about their day. The BOLT Safety Society, made up of nearly two dozen young men and women, will be launching their Safe Buddies program on April 10. They are looking for volunteers to be safe buddies and, as of April 12, will be offering buddies for those who want them. For details, see <https://www.boltsafety.org/safebuddies> . See the story in the New West Record [here](#).

Local Youth willing to work!

Do you have too many jobs on your "To Do List"? Do you need a bit of a helping hand, or have a job that a neighbourhood youth could do instead of calling professionals? We have a group of MVHRA youth who would love to help. From dog walking, to cat sitting, weeding, gardening, babysitting, basic house maintenance (fence painting) - just ask.

Please note the rate of pay is to be established between the resident and the youth. Thank you to these awesome youth and to the residents of Massey Victory Heights for working together and supporting each other!

Name: Emilio Locatelli [Email: misskathleen@locatelli.ca](mailto:misskathleen@locatelli.ca)
Name: Benjamin Talbot E-mail: jude.talbot@woodplc.com
Name: Corinna Talbot E-mail: jude.talbot@woodplc.com
Name: Keldan Zschoch Email: kandt0312@gmail.com

Thanks so much!

If you know of any neighbourhood friends that may wish to be included, please have them email Kathleen at: vicepresident@masseyvictoryheights.com

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