



## President's Message

On behalf of the Board of the Massey Victory Heights Residents' Associations, I'd like to thank everyone who attended the January 14 AGM, and also to thank those who provided comments and suggestions by other means to help keep our neighbourhood special.

For those who missed the AGM, below is a list of the full 2021 Board.

- Dale Bradley – President
- Kathleen Carlsen – Vice President
- Deb Thomas – Secretary
- Kaleigh Johnston – Treasurer
- Terry Tomcko – Webmaster
- Ron Bain, Gail Conzatti, Danielle Karlsson, Sherry Messenger and Leona Zheng – Directors at Large
- Jason Lesage – Past President

See <http://www.masseyvictoryheights.com/minutes.html> to download the minutes from our 2021 Annual General Meeting on January 14.

Your new Board has been busy following up on the items and concerns brought forward at the AGM. These include traffic issues, heritage preservation, litter, street light modifications and City communication with residents. We've made quite a bit of progress and updates are below in the newsletter.

For those who were unable to attend the AGM, there are many ways to stay engaged and get updates. As a member of the MVHRA, you will get regular updates through our email newsletter. In addition, you can follow us on Facebook or Twitter. Our meeting minutes will also be posted on our website, once approved.

We really look forward to serving the residents of Massey Victory Heights in 2021, and I hope we will be able to plan for some community events in the future as things begin to open up. In the meantime, if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please contact me at [president@masseyvictoryheights.com](mailto:president@masseyvictoryheights.com)

Sincerely,

**Dale Bradley, President**

**Massey Victory Heights Residents' Association**

[president@masseyvictoryheights.com](mailto:president@masseyvictoryheights.com)

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[Follow us on Twitter](#)

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**Please note** that membership forms and fees should now be delivered to new Treasurer Kaleigh Johnston.

See <http://www.masseyvictoryheights.com/> to download the **new membership form** with her address.

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**Editor's Note:** You are receiving this newsletter because you are a current or past member of the Massey Victory Heights Residents' Association. The only personal information we retain for this purpose is your email address. If two members of your household are included on your membership form, both will be sent the newsletter. 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](mailto:secretary@masseyvictoryheights.com). Thanks to the newsletter committee – Deb Thomas, Sherry Messenger, and Kathleen Carlsen.

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## Massey Victory Heights Residents' Association Activities

We can't meet in person but we are working to connect with you in other ways like the Halloween House Decorating Contest in October, the Holiday greeting delivered to you in December, and this newsletter.

Winners of the Halloween House Decorating Contest were:

473 Elmer Street – Best overall theme

936 Chestnut Street – Scariest

909 Burnaby Street – Most original

833 Scott Street – Funniest

A list of participants can be found at <http://www.masseyvictoryheights.com/halloween.html>

Thanks to everyone who participated and voted for the winners. We look forward to next year's contest!

**Events in 2021** include:

- Halloween House Decorating Contest – Similar to the contest offered in 2020.
- Remembrance Day Wreath Laying – One executive member will attend the ceremony to lay the wreath.
- Holiday Display Map – A map of displays in MVH will be available through our website to encourage local residents to explore their neighbourhood and enjoy the lights.
- Holiday Cards – This initiative appeared to be appreciated by residents and resulted in an increase in memberships. A membership form will again be included.
- Park cleanup & beautification – There is interest in cleaning up and beautifying the small neighbourhood parks starting with Victory Heights Park off Chilliwack near Tenth. The City is interested and can offer equipment and advice. A call for volunteers for this activity will go out in the spring.
- Webinars for residents – We hope to offer a webinar for residents on the history of the neighbourhood. We are open to other ideas for webinars.

Events such as the garage sale and block party, previously annually held, will not take place this year on the advice of public health officials.

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## Real Estate Market Report from John Cooke



I hope everyone had a safe and healthy Holiday Season. Although this year was 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 this fall/winter was very active. A total of 4 homes sold in the past 90 days out of the 7 active homes that were on the market within an average of 15 days, with 3 still remaining active. We even had a few of them going into multiple offers and this is because of limited supply and historic low interest rates. We predict the spring market will be busy and we look forward to helping as many families as we can. We're here to help or answer any questions you may have. John Cooke, Keller Williams ELITE Realty, [www.johncookehomes.com](http://www.johncookehomes.com)

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## Around your neighbourhood

### Current Updates on Issues and Concerns raised by Residents at the AGM

Your residents' association is actively engaging with the City on issues raised at the Annual General Meeting by local residents. Updates from these communications are as follows:

- **"Be Heard" communication:** We have contacted the City to let them know that some residents are having issues with this platform and ask if there are other ways to communicate with residents who are unable to use this platform. The City said they are aware of the concern and will update us in the next few weeks.
- **LED street light:** We have contacted the City electrical department for an update on the LED lighting initiative. Concerns have been expressed that the new street lights do not conform to the heritage look of the current street lights. Massey Victory Heights is due for a full street light upgrade in 2021 / 2022. Engineers are designing lights that will fit in with our neighbourhood and will be presented to MVHRA for input prior to the project starting. The city project manager will present at one of our residents' meetings.
- **10th Ave / Surrey:** Regarding the changes to this intersection, we have been in contact with the City's traffic manager, and there will be more information to come on Feb 15. We will update you as soon as we hear back from the City.
- **Litter removal:** We have contacted the city engineering department and they said they will increase sweeper truck visits.
- **Preservation of architectural elements in older homes:** Concerns were raised by members about the preservation of original architectural elements from the 40s, 50s, 60s, and 70s and the difficulties of navigating City requirements to preserve these elements when renovating. We have contacted the City planning department and we are awaiting a response on this concern.

See the AGM minutes at <http://www.masseyvictoryheights.com/minutes.html> for more details on the concerns raised regarding each topic.

### Community Safety *(for local residents, human and otherwise!)*

#### Residents of Surrey, Burnaby, Ladner Streets

For those who are not aware, the Block Watch program is no longer supported by the City of New Westminister. The former captain of the program from Surrey street created a Facebook group to share similar content about crime and safety. Please feel free to join the group and share it with your neighbours on Surrey, Ladner, and Burnaby streets. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/401425341058595/about>

#### Break-ins

Thieves are always looking for opportunities. In our neighbourhood they have been seen trying both vehicle and house doors, looking for those left unlocked. A reminder: Keep your home secure, lock your car when unattended and do not leave valuables in your vehicle.

#### Covid-19 Vaccines

The 4 phases of the province's vaccination rollout plan are now available here:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/vaccines#phases>. There has been a recent increase in [Covid cases in New Westminister](#). Please remember to socially distance, wear a mask in all public spaces and when you can't be 2 meters apart. Many businesses are now required by law to ensure mask wearing to enter their premises. Be kind, be calm, be safe!

**A reminder to "Bag it and Bin it" with PPE!**

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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.

### **A Merlin, or Sparrowhawk**

...has been visiting local bird feeders looking for a meal of a small bird. They are difficult to discourage and are usually an indication of a healthy small bird population. Sparrowhawks do not affect the overall numbers of small birds as they generally produce more young every year than are needed to maintain the population ([RSPB](#)). If you don't want them eating the birds that visit your yard, however, here are a few tips to make it harder for this predator to be successful:

1. Provide shelter
2. Shield feeders
3. Avoid ground feeding
4. If worse comes to worse, remove the feeders for at least a week

See <https://barrie.wbu.com/problem-solving-hawks> for more details on each tip!

### **Pine Siskins**

...have been affected by an outbreak of salmonella. To ensure that you aren't spreading the disease at your feeder, put out small amounts of seed and replace regularly. Wash your bird feeders regularly – ensuring they are thoroughly dry before refilling. If you find a sick bird, you can call the Wildlife Rescue Association of BC at [604\) 526-7275](tel:6045267275) for advice on what to do.

### **Pet safety**

There have been some recent incidents of dogs ingesting marijuana while playing in local parks in our neighbourhood and becoming ill. We are sharing this concern with City Police. See <https://www.ctvnews.ca/lifestyle/when-dogs-get-high-is-cannabis-dangerous-for-canines-1.4721861> for more information on the negative effects of cannabis on pets.

### **History of your neighbourhood**

Want to know more about the evolution of Massey Victory Heights and its history?

“The neighbourhood has cultural and social value, seen in the mix of people - retired people, single people and families - for its feeling of community neighbourliness, for being pedestrian-friendly, and for neighbourhood-wide annual events. Amenities such as ease of access to other neighbourhoods such as Sapperton, road connections to the wider region, schools and churches add to the livability and sense of connection in Massey Victory Heights.”

Read the rest of the ***New Westminster: Massey Victory Heights Neighbourhood Historical Context Statement***, written in 2016, at

<http://www.masseyvictoryheights.com/Images/PDF/Massey%20Victory%20Heights%20History.pdf>

Thanks to the Potters who contributed this memory of the Massey Victory Heights neighbourhood: “*We’ve lived here since 1975 and have seen such changes in traffic and bus lines and streets closed off. Horses used to come up to Cariboo Park and the traffic was calm and quiet. It was safe to send grandkids to the park without much supervision. What a change it is today!*”

If you have a memory to share, send it to the president at [president@masseyvictoryheights.com](mailto:president@masseyvictoryheights.com). It may be featured on our Facebook page or in this newsletter.

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## Arts and Culture

### **BC Arts Council: Project Assistance - Pivot Funding**

The Pivot for Individuals program assists professional artists, cultural practitioners, and arts administrators to adapt and transition their practice in response to changes in the arts and culture sector or undertake learning activities to sustain or advance their career. For more details please [visit their website](#). Applications are due by February 16, 2021.

### **Lanta Meng**

Our neighbour on Surrey Street produces paintings that reflect our beautiful natural environment, our working river and other landscapes. To see examples of her work, go to <http://www.lanta.ca>.

### **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/>

### **New Media Gallery**

A new show will open in early March 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 and opening dates.

### **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.

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## 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 <https://citypage.newwestcity.ca/>  
You can also check out the New Westminster Record for local news and events in the print newspaper or online at <https://www.newwestrecord.ca>

### **Catchment review of Richard McBride and F.W. Howay Elementary Schools**

New Westminster Schools is proposing a boundary change that will impact F.W. Howay and Richard McBride Elementary Schools, evening out the attendance at both schools. For more information, see <https://newwestschools.ca/our-schools/catchment-review-mcbride-howay/> The deadline for feedback was January 22, 2021 but we encourage you to speak with your School District # 40 representatives if you have questions not answered on the information page.

### **Clean BC Electric EV Charging Rebate Program**

Single-family homes can get a rebate of up to 50% of the purchase and installation costs of an eligible Level 2 EV charger, to a maximum of \*\$700 (regularly \$350). This includes duplexes or townhouses with private garages or dedicated parking. All New Westminster Electrical Utility customers are eligible for the BC Hydro customer rebate. For more information, see <https://electricvehicles.bchydro.com/incentives/charger-rebates>.

### **Dog licences for 2021**

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These are now available for purchase and renewal. Get yours before **March 1st** to qualify for the discounted rate. Please see [newwestcity.ca/doglicence](http://newwestcity.ca/doglicence) for information on renewing a dog licence and purchasing a licence for a new dog.

### **Double rebates for home renovations**

*Are you planning a home renovation?* Energy Save New West is pleased to announce a Double the Rebates promotion from [CleanBC Better Homes](#) and [Home Renovation Rebate Program](#). Homeowners are eligible for Double the Rebates on eligible home energy upgrades including building envelope, space heating/cooling and domestic hot water solutions. Visit program partner webpages for more information on eligible expenses: [BC Hydro Home Renovation Rebate Program](#) and [FortisBC Home Renovation Rebate Program](#).

### **The New Westminster Museum and Archives**

The Archive 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](http://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 in early 2021. In the meantime, 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**

Some programs are now running with Covid safety measures. See <https://www.newwestyouth.ca/covid-i> for details on Covid requirements and <https://www.newwestyouth.ca/> for currently available services.

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## **Community Services & Events**

### **Century House**

Century House is delivering programs again – for fitness, wellness, fun and lifelong learning. Booking in advance is mandatory. See [www.centuryhouseassociation.com](http://www.centuryhouseassociation.com) for more details or pick up a print copy of their newsletter at 620 Eighth Street. Note that some programs are being 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.

### **Help for local residents**

#### **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.

#### **Don't Go Hungry: A Food Support Program**

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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.

### **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](mailto: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>

### **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>

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### **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, shovelling of snow, sprinkling salt, 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](mailto:jude.talbot@woodplc.com)

Name: Corinna Talbot    E-mail: [jude.talbot@woodplc.com](mailto:jude.talbot@woodplc.com)

Name: Keldan Zschoch    Email: [kandt0312@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:vicepresident@masseyvictoryheights.com)

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## MVHRA Word Search - Winter 2021

I	S	A	L	S	S	E	G	S	U	Y	T	S	C	R	A
Y	I	C	Q	R	J	V	C	H	B	N	T	Y	O	E	M
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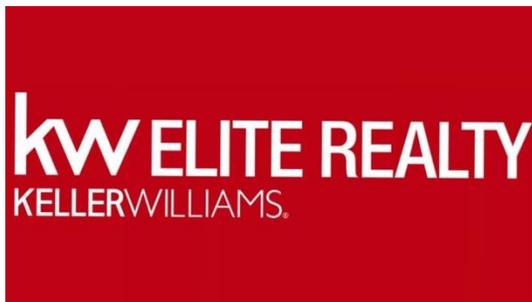
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MASSEY

MOTT  
PLACE  
RICKMAN  
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