

2022-23 Chair's Report

At the BCA's Annual General Meeting on May 9, 2023, the current Chair, Eric G. Andersen pointed out the following highlights for the BCA for 2022-2023:

FIRST OF ALL: A HUGE 'THANK YOU' TO EVERYONE WHO HAS VOLUNTEERED HIS/HER TIME TO THE BCA.

It has been said so many times before, but the BCA could not operate and function at all without EVERYONE's assistance: directors, volunteers and meeting participants alike.

1. Our **scholarship** was handed out for the eighth time: Maya Aubron-Albert was the deserving winner.
2. Our '**Project Community**' has expanded to many new businesses.
3. The BCA continues to be in contact with Recreation Sites & Trails (from the provincial government) regarding a **potential trail from somewhere in Blueridge to Parkgate** as well as the **CMHC Mt. Seymour Recreation Access Management Plan (RAMP)**. This will take time and patience. The Provincial Government now seems to show interest in such a trail – from a fire risk management perspective.
4. The **Blueridge Garden** remains a huge asset with extremely active participants.
5. Our **finances** remain in a decent shape and have increased marginally thanks to the ads that are included in the monthly Blueridge Bulletin.
We have five sub-accounts: Blueridge Good Neighbour Day, Blueridge Cares, Scholarship Surplus, the Blueridge Sharing Garden and the general account.
6. Three **newsletters** (Summer 2022 (8 pages), September 2022 (4 pages) and March 2023 (8 pages)), were prepared in 2022-2023, which reached every household in Blueridge/Seymour Heights (again thanks strictly to BCA volunteers!).
7. The **Blueridge Spirit Award** has rotated as scheduled every three months between very deserving recipients and outstanding community members.
8. The BCA has a frequently updated **website**: www.blueridgeca.org and **Facebook** page as well as our main email address: info@blueridgeca.org. We have over 600 e-mail recipients in Blueridge/Seymour Heights.
We also have an Instagram account, but will likely move away from Twitter.
9. The **Blueridge Business Directory** continues to expand on our website with 22 products and 37 services.

10. The BCA has notified its members of various meetings and events of potential interest to them. This is done through our e-newsletter, the '**Blueridge Bulletin**', which goes out monthly, and numerous postings on Facebook. We are accepting ads in this e-newsletter (unlike the hard-copy newsletter).
11. The BCA has **representatives** on the Community Advisory Panel, Canlan Ice-Sports Committee, the Neighbourhood Advisory Committee and North Vancouver Community Associations Network (NVCAN).
12. In view of COVID many of the BCA committees have remained dormant or ad hoc. These committees include: a **traffic committee**, a **trails committee (hosting walks in the neighbourhood)**, a **Community Lands Task Force** and a **Dîner en Bleu committee**.
Our hope is that many of these activities will resume again over the next year.
13. **Blueridge Good Neighbour Day (BGND)** will be back for the first time since 2019 on Sunday, June 11, at Blueridge Elementary School.
14. The BCA continues to monitor the situation regarding the **future of Blueridge Elementary School**.
15. The **BCA continues to fundraise once or twice a year** (before Easter and Christmas) through the Purdys Chocolates fundraising program.
16. The BCA co-founded the **Seymour Trail Liaison Committee** with the North Shore Mountain Bike Association, with a meeting in the spring and one in the fall.
17. The BCA has its own **brochure** including social media information and local information.
18. The BCA continues to offer **baby, pet and house-sitting services**.
19. The BCA continues to visit and **greet all new Blueridge/Seymour Heights residents** when they move to the area.
20. Before Christmas the **Blueridge Cares Committee** managed to raise over \$5,000 as well as gift cards, toys, beer and other goodies for four local families who applied to get a helping hand before Christmas.
21. A hugely successful '**Brainstorming session**' was held at Canlan on October 1 with about 25 active participants. Lots of excellent suggestions were made.
22. Our **stream clean-up** tradition on **World Rivers Day** continued on September 25, and an **Earth Day clean-up**, April 22, was initiated by a local resident.

23. Our first **Blueridge Fall Swap** took place adjacent to the Blueridge Garden on September 24.

Our **goals for 2023-2024** include:

- Continue to develop a closer working relationship with the local PACs – so far we have connected with Seymour Heights Elementary School and Blueridge Elementary School (particularly in connection with BGND).
- Start the **FireSmart program** in Blueridge.
- Continue to improve how to **advertize and highlight our many activities**.
- Beef up our **Communications team with special emphasis on social media**.