



@WeAreNorthPark

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North Park Neighbourhood Association

PO Box 661, #185-911 Yates Street,

Victoria, BC, V8V 4Y9



DATE: December 31, 2022

RE: 2022 Annual General Meeting

The NPNA's service to the community can be organized into six categories, listed below. The following chart offers some examples of the activities and metrics associated with these categories.

1. Communications & organization capacity
2. Land use committee
3. Service delivery & support
4. Events & activities
5. Arts & placemaking
6. Research partnerships & resource sharing

We are extremely proud of our consistent ability to reach and engage with the incredible range of populations and lived experiences in our neighbourhood. At every event, activity, and meeting the diversity of voices listed below are regularly in attendance.

- Adults and seniors living alone,
- Children, adults, seniors, and families living in low income and/or core housing need
- Youth, adults, and seniors experiencing homelessness
- IBPOC community members
- Persons with disabilities
- Renters
- Newcomers
- Youth, adults, and seniors experiencing homelessness
- Individuals living in subsidized, supportive, and transitional housing
- Community members with substance use disorder

Category	Metrics
Communications & Organizational Capacity	
<p>The 2022 operational funding has enabled our organization to develop our capacity through relationships with community partners and service providers, spend more time with neighbourhood businesses, expand our volunteer base, and further develop collaborative relationships with our neighbouring community associations in Fernwood, Downtown, and Hillside Quadra.</p> <p>Throughout 2022, the NPNA hosted and attended monthly meetings to represent views of community members, share and receive information, and provide opportunities for input and engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Host monthly meetings • Host AGM (December 31, 2022) • Host CALUC meetings, draft and submit letters on behalf of CALUC. • Tiny Homes Community Advisory Committee: Attending, sharing news with community members, hosting meeting agendas and minutes on NPNA website. Represent views of residents at CAC, communicate issues and seek resolution of issues. • 900 Block Good Neighbour Agreement Meetings: attend monthly, represent views of residents at meeting. • Downtown Service Provider (DSP) Meetings: attend monthly • (Co-Chair) Systems Transformation Working Group (STWG): group convened by the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness • Health & Housing Steering Committee Meetings: bi-monthly, convened by the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness, and reports to GVCEH board • (Vice-Chair) Victoria Community Association Network (VCAN) monthly meetings: Become vice chair in September 2022, support website development. <p>We actively work to keep residents informed about events, activities, and opportunities for engagement throughout North Park and the City of Victoria.</p>	<p>In-person/virtual meeting attendance at scheduled meetings in 2022: 640¹</p> <p>Online engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24 newsletters (twice monthly) distributed in 2022 • 949 newsletter subscribers • 55% newsletter open rate • 1,810 Instagram followers • 1,417 Twitter followers • 503 Facebook followers

¹ Number of NPNA-organized monthly and CALUC meetings in 2022: 14
Average number of participants per meeting: 20 = 280 engagement
Number of community meetings NPNA staff and active volunteers attended in 2022: 120
Average number of NPNA participants per meeting: 3 = 360 engagements

- Send [newsletters](#) every other Friday: using Mailchimp, design and deliver newsletters 2-3x/month, publish to website
- Update [website](#) regularly
- Post regularly to social media ([Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#))
- Hand deliver posters to apartment buildings and popular neighbourhood bulletin boards
- Send direct invitations about upcoming events and opportunities for feedback to community groups and organizations (ie. George Jay, VIRCS, Silver Threads, etc)

Other notable accomplishments: we have increased our insurance coverage with a custom insurance package, upgraded our bookkeeping software, and will be welcoming new board members at the upcoming AGM.

Land Use Committee

We view the Land Use Committees as an opportunity to educate residents about City policy, development process, and how they can participate in municipal decision making. The Land Use Planning Advisor plays a vital role in providing this service to the community by:

- Maintaining an up to date [publicly available spreadsheet](#) of all active and archived developments, including
 - letters from City of Victoria about each development,
 - Development Tracker links,
 - CALUC meeting dates and meeting minutes, and
 - CALUC letters
- Hosting [CALUC](#) meetings
- Summarizing feedback in meeting notes
- Tracking feedback on each development
- Drafting and submitting letters on behalf of CALUC

In addition to the CALUC, the Land Use Planning Advisor assisted with attending meetings and informing the community about the North Park Local Area Plan and Downtown Core Area Plan (which covers much of North Park), as well as the Land Use Map with UVic Community Mapping students, updating the [Land Use Translation Guide](#)

Supporting City projects and initiatives falls within the educational and information sharing goals of the CALUC. This year, the CALUC and Land Use Planning Advisor was involved in sharing information about the North Park Villages & Corridors Local Area Plan, advocating for the re-envisioning of Royal Athletic Park (now on the

Land Use/CALUC participation rates rolled into Communications numbers, above.

Active CALUC committee members: 37

2022 developments:

- 1046/1048 North Park
- 1056 North Park
- 2120 Quadra
- 1702 Quadra
- 1952 Quadra
- 940 Caledonia (Tiny Homes)
- 953/959 Balmoral
- 926/930 Pandora

2025 work plan for the Parks Department) , working to identify ways of increasing access to and availability of green space in North Park through developments.

Service Delivery & Support

The [North Park Grocery Hamper Program](#) began in April 2020 as a pandemic response initiative. We quickly realized that the food insecurity of participants had been pre-existing long before the pandemic began. This program has become a foundational program for our organization.

In 2022, we increased grocery hamper program distribution to 95 households per week, and hired a 10 hour/week grocery hamper coordinator to oversee ordering, enrollment, volunteer scheduling, etc.

We operate the hamper program out of First Met Church who donate the use of a room to sort and distribute the hampers every Thursday. Hampers are customized for household size, dietary restrictions/preferences, and are delivered directly to the homes of recipients who are limited by mobility, childcare, or work schedules.

While very labour and administratively intensive, this program has enabled the NPNA to help improve food security for households throughout the City. Despite our eligibility requirement that recipients must live, work, or spend time in North Park, our program includes recipients throughout the City. For many recipients, they are unable to access food security resources at the other community centres that have food programming (Oaklands, Burnside, Quadra Village, Fernwood) or through other organizations because those programs require recipients to pick-up food during working/childcare hours, they do not meet their dietary restrictions/preferences, they are not eligible or the program is oversubscribed. Unlike most food security programs in Victoria, we purchase additional food (cooking and baking staples, proteins, etc) with grant funding. See the map at right showing the postal codes of hamper recipients.

Throughout the year, the NPNA provided one-on-one emergency support and system navigation to community members. Oftentimes, community members had been unable to access support due to capacity issues at existing organizations. Due to the nature of most issues, the assistance required was usually both time sensitive and time consuming.

Examples of one-on-one support in 2022:

- Accessing emergency shelters

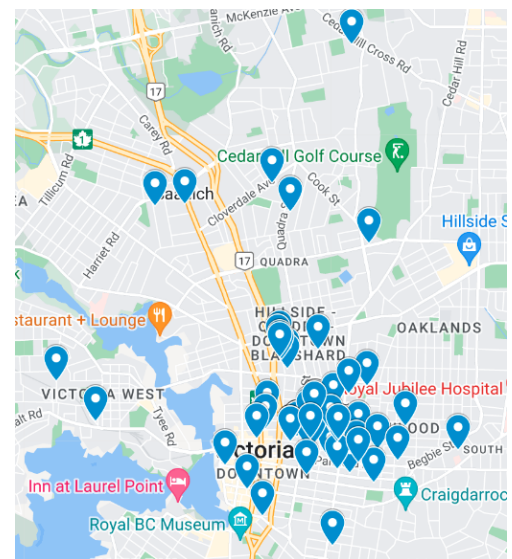
Total number of hampers delivered in 2022 is 4,845

Due to turnover, we carry a roster of 175 households, representing 350 individuals, but on a weekly basis we only have capacity for delivery to 95 households.

2022 Grocery Hamper Recipients reflect the diversity of voices listed above, and include households ranging in size from 1-11 people.

Number of one-on-one cases in 2022: 60

Hours expended: varies, but can take 8 to 40 hours per person to navigate the complexities of their situation and the complexities of the support systems.





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- Advocacy for unhoused community members for improved care,
- Eviction prevention support
- Assisting community members to access emergency shelter support through the Ministry
- ID replacement
- Transportation to appointments
- Tax filing and benefit applications
- Veterinary support and emergency funding for pet care
- Food security in addition to hamper program
- Aging in place (home support, cleaning, referrals to VIHA, etc)
- Navigating healthcare system post hospitalization
- Accessing a family doctor and urgent care

Free Events & Activities

The events and activities in 2022 fall into three categories: recurring events, single day events, and collaborative events.

Recurring Events & Activities:

Activities at RAP, throughout July-August 2022:

- [Drop in Soccer](#) for ages 7-13 with two coaches,
- [Mosaic making workshop](#) with artist Shaylene Schackl of Mosaic the City,
- [Adventures in the Great OUTdoors](#) program for queer, non-binary, and trans children/youth and their families.
 - 150 unique program participants, representing 900 visits over 8 weeks of sessions
- [Monthly garden parties](#): on the second Saturday of every month at the Franklin Green Native Plant Garden in collaboration with VIRCS Welcome Garden
- [Quarterly Multicultural Festival](#) at Royal Athletic Park: May 8, July 24, October 23 in collaboration with Masjid-Al Iman Mosque. Each festival included 30-45 vendors, free kids activities, free performances, and art projects (ie. Humans of North Park)
- [Multicultural Festival & Community Free Skate](#) at Save on Foods Memorial Centre: December 18: 45 vendors in addition to kids activities, photo booth, and a free community skate
- [Weekly Craft Social](#) held every Wednesday since June, is a free, weekly event that provides a casual, social atmosphere to craft, share skills, and meet neighbours. Monthly themed crafts began in October.

Single Day Events & Activities.

2022 activities & events:

- 7 recurring representing 58 individual sessions
- 10 single day events
- 12 collaborative events
- = 80 total events

Estimated total number of participants in 2022 = 7,523

This does not include interactions at the Vancouver Street Plaza (summarized below)

Attendance highlights:

- Summer activities at RAP: 150 unique program participants, representing 900 visits over 8 weeks of sessions
- Jane's Walk: 55 walkers
- 50 repairs of outdoor gear with Basecamp Repairs
- Multicultural Festival attendance 500-1000 guests/event

Number of active volunteers supporting these deliverables = 56

While all events were attended by North Park residents, many events attracted a regional response. See the map to the left of the postal codes of the 400 households



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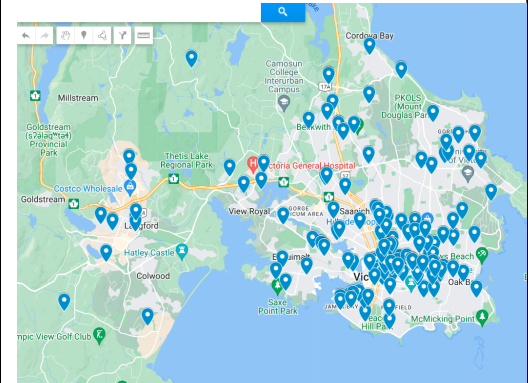


- January 9: [Basecamp Repairs at Vancouver Street Plaza](#) provided more than 50 free repairs of outdoor and camping gear for community members (Vancouver Street Plaza)
- February 23: [Prosper Canada Webinar](#) providing instruction to local service providers and nonprofits about the Benefits Wayfinder
- April 23: Neighbourhood Food Pantry Launch for community members to shop for and donate non-perishable food items to assist with meeting food security needs in the community. (Vancouver Street Plaza)
- May 8: [North Park Jane's Walk](#) to coincide with similar events taking place throughout the City. Over 50 community members attended the walk that stopped at 10 locations throughout North Park and included a hand drawn map by artist Masami Teramachi.
- May 21, 28: Art workshops with SUPPLY Victoria to celebrate Little Free Craft Store (Vancouver Street Plaza)
- June 4: Volunteer Appreciation Lunch (Vancouver Street Plaza)
- August 29: [Family Drag Show & Karaoke](#) at Royal Athletic Park to celebrate the end of the summer programming.
- September 13: [All Candidates Meet & Greet](#) to provide an opportunity for North Park residents to meet and learn about the candidates running for Mayor and Council in the 2022 election
- December 11: [Hot Chocolate at the Plaza](#) to interact with the community, and activate the space in a festive way. (Vancouver Street Plaza)

Collaborative community events: *Provide support to community organizations and individuals hosting free events and activities in North Park. These events were not put on by the NPNA, but supported through organization assistance, promotion, volunteer recruitment, and/or funding)*

- February 23: [Family Day at Royal Athletic Park](#) hosted by the City of Victoria, NPNA organized dog treats, a craft, live music, and drag story hour to augment City organized activities
- March 26: [Repair Cafe](#) with First Met Church provided free on the spot repairs of small electronics, jewelry, clothing and more
- [Map #1 of North Park](#), Fernwood & Oaklands by artist Masami Teramachi: supported artist with printing and distribution costs, introducing to local business owners, and promoting map on social media
- [Map #3 of North Park](#) by artist Masami Teramachi that coincided with a walking tour of North Park for international students:

who attended the free skate on December 18, 2022 at the SOFMC.





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- June 26: Annual Pride Bike Ride championed by North Park resident
- August 14: Bike powered Music Festival in Central Park
- April 27: Get Growing Victoria, Spring Garden Materials Distribution in collaboration with VIRCS Welcome Garden
- May 27: Get Growing Victoria, Spring Seedling Distribution in collaboration with VIRCS Welcome Garden
- August 5: Get Growing Victoria, Fall Seedling Distribution in collaboration with VIRCS Welcome Garden
- August 23: Project ReConnect at Royal Athletic Park in collaboration with the Downtown Service Providers for Victoria's street family
- October 22: Get Growing Victoria, Fall Garden Materials Distribution in collaboration with VIRCS Welcome Garden
- October: Pacific Opera Ticket Access Program that provided free tickets to North Park 23 individuals to attend the opera, Carmen

Art & Placemaking

[Vancouver Street Plaza](#) placemaking activations included the Little Free Craft Store with SUPPLY Victoria, Lending Hub, and Artist in Residence Program. The goal of this project is to increase access to free recreation and activities, promote social inclusion, and develop neighbourhood identity and sense of place.

[Vancouver Street Plaza](#): Placemaking activations: Activate the Vancouver Street Plaza using a placemaking approach to: a) increase access to free recreation and activities (see listed above) b) promote social inclusion, c) promote neighbourhood identity

- (February - May) Little Free Craft Store with SUPPLY Victoria welcomed over 1200 visitors to the hub to shop for free craft supplies and kits.
 - Open Thursday - Saturday 2-6pm
- (March - August) Supported Indigenous Outreach Workers to set up an outreach tent and bring cultural supports through food, drumming, dancing, and elders to the Indigenous street family at the Plaza
- (June - September) Lending Hub lent out puzzles, board games, sports equipment, and lawn games to community members. Employed seven Plaza Ambassadors as volunteers receiving an honorarium.
 - Open Friday - Sunday 2-6pm, provided honouaria supported volunteer positions for 7 community members

Vancouver Street Plaza activations:

- Little Free Craft Store: 1200 visits (February through May)
- Lending Hub: 500 borrows of board games, puzzles, lawn games, sports equipment (June to October)
- Artist in Residence: 5 artists activating the hub for 4-6 weeks each, in addition to a free workshop (December 2022 to March 2023)



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- (December - March 2023) Artist in Residence Program organized a calendar of artists in residence to activate the hub for 4-6 week periods of time

Art Projects: Throughout the year, we worked with local artists on community art projects with the goal of promoting neighbourhood identity and supporting art production.

- Mural with women from Muslim community on shipping container in Central Park
- [Humans of North Park](#): Photo project at May 8 Multicultural Festival
- [North Park Village Banner Design Competition](#):
- [Mural at Action Pawn](#) with Kay Gallivan & Caitlin McDonagh
- [Map #2 of North Park](#) for Jane's Walk commissioned from Masami Teramachi
- NPNA Merch & NPNA Tent design commissioned from local artist and merch embroidered by Multicultural festival vendor
- North Park Village Parklet in development with Fernwood Community Association

Research Partnerships & Resource Sharing

Partnerships with academic institutions have been a major way that we have moved from crisis mode to planning for the further policy recommendations to benefit community and personal wellbeing in North Park. Our goal through these partnerships is to promote the use of evidence based equity decision making.

Academic partnerships: *work with academic institutions to further policy recommendations to benefit community and personal wellbeing in North Park. Work collaboratively to promote the use evidence based equity decision making*

- [Needs Assessment with University of Victoria](#) Masters student researcher
 - Analysis underway of key informant interviews (1-2 hours in length)
 - Final report to be completed by April 2023 and will be submitted to City of Victoria
- Community Benefit Agreement further developed on this idea by working with University of Victoria Community Mapping students on a [land uses map of North Park](#)
- Heatwave Study with undergrad student Riley Sondergaard - including multiple community (August 27, September 9) engagements and a pending report.
- Engagement at May 8 Multicultural Festival asking about neighbourhood priorities. [See report here](#)

Key informant interviews: 19 North Park residents, people working in social service agencies and business owners

Early themes from key informant interviews: emphasis and desire on the importance of meaningful social connection, building community compassion and awareness through locally organized low barrier events, and is bolstered by undercurrents of pride in community and celebration of diversity.



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- [Engagement](#) at October 23 Multicultural Festival and on social media to develop land uses map.

We seek opportunities to share information with other neighbourhood associations and groups to demonstrate the value of collaboration and the importance of an equity focused and evidence based decision making.

Resource sharing:

- Presented at the Burnside Gorge Community Association placemaking meeting about the Vancouver Street Plaza project
- Presentation to Minister Eby on behalf of North Park, Fernwood, Hillside Quadra, Downtown, and Burnside Gorge advocating for more support for non-profit housing providers to stem the flow of REIT purchase of aging affordable rental stock
- Presented at the Greater Victoria Placemaking Network AGM about the Vancouver Street Plaza project
- Presented at MLA Lore and MP Collins meeting about lessons learned at the Vancouver Street Plaza and co-location with Tiny Homes Community