



**North Park Neighbourhood Association
March 2025 Monthly Meeting**

DATE: Tuesday, March 11th, 2025
TIME: 6:30 pm
LOCATION: Community Room at [1025 Mason Street](#)
- or -
Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88416867584>
Phone in: 778-907-2071 (Meeting ID: 884 1686 7584)

6:30: Territorial acknowledgement, opening remarks & introductions
<i>The North Park Neighbourhood Association acknowledges the homelands of the Lekwungen Speaking Peoples, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations, on whose lands we are living, working, and collaborating.</i>
Attendance / Introductions.
Board members present: Kaitie Fillion, Guests: Bri Godsman (NPNA), Courtney Miller(NPNA), Jessica Murray (NPNA), Gary Pemberton, Cenit Munoz (VIRCS) Other: The theme of this meeting is community grants and event planning. Our City Liaison, Gary Pemberton will be in attendance to share information about the My Great Neighbourhood grant and other opportunities to support small community events and projects.
6:35 pm City of Victoria Update - Gary Pemberton (info on My Great Neighbourhood Grant)
Agenda My Great Neighbourhood Grants: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Offered by the City of Victoria, these grants provide up to \$7,500 for placemaking and community resilience projects and up to \$1,500 for events and activities. The community must match the funding through volunteer hours and/or other contributions.
Meeting Notes My Great Neighbourhood Grants



The [My Great Neighbourhood Grants](#) program is currently open and accepting applications. The grant follows three key themes:

- **Community Resilience:** Some project ideas could involve supporting food security, social capacity building, youth programs, education, and initiatives that strengthen community connections.
- **Placemaking:** Funds projects that create permanent community enhancements.
- **Activity Grants:** Some examples of a project idea could be block parties, neighbourhood clean-ups, and street performances.

Application Process:

1. The first step is to contact Gary Pemberton (gpemberton@victoria.ca) to discuss your project and next steps.
2. Use the [My Great Neighbourhood Grant Application Guide](#) to prepare your application.
3. Copy and paste your content into the [online application form](#).

Additional Information:

- Funds are available from February to October 2025 or until the budget is fully allocated.
- Eight grants have already been approved for 2025 in other neighbourhoods in Victoria.
- Any resident or non-profit organization can apply. For-profit businesses are not eligible.
- Applications are accepted on a rolling basis, with monthly intakes to facilitate early project completion.

Grant Reporting Requirements:

- Reports consist of six questions and are 2-3 pages max.
- Applicants must confirm whether all funds were spent.
- Reporting requirements are flexible based on project details.

Local Champions Program

Applications are now open for the [Local Champions Program](#), a community-based leadership development program that helps Victoria residents gain the skills, confidence, and relationships needed to become more active and engaged in their community.

Program Highlights:

- This eight-part training series runs from April to September. It is led by the City of Victoria's Neighbourhood Team and guest presenters. This program has 24 seats for City of Victoria residents.
- Local Champions is being offered at a subsidized cost of \$250 per participant (the market value is over \$2,500).
- Guest speakers provide insights on key community themes.



- Many graduates go on to join neighbourhood associations or lead local projects.
- Sponsored spots are available for projects related to downtown beautification, accessibility, and climate action.
- Additional sponsorships are available for those who require financial assistance.
- A new Alumni Steering Committee has been established to provide ongoing support.

For more information or to apply for a **My Great Neighbourhood Grant and Local Champions Program**, contact **Gary Pemberton** at gpemberton@victoria.ca.

Additional Comments from Attendees:

- Doug Clark (City of Victoria) is the contact for grant-related inquiries.
- Partnership with Peninsula Streams: Discussions occurred about implementing urban greenery, rain gardens, and other green infrastructure projects in the neighbourhood and educating the community on these topics. This could be an idea for the My Great Neighbourhood Grant.

6:45 pm AGM Announcement- Jessica Murray (NPNA)

Agenda

We will hold our AGM on Tuesday, April 29th, at 6 pm. Location TBA.

- We will announce the location this week.
- Anyone interested in running for the board must give prior written consent to having their name brought forward by filling out an application form.
- The form will go up on our website this week and will need to be submitted by April 18th
- An info session for prospective members will be held before the application deadline.
- April 8th and May 13th community meetings will be cancelled due to the proximity to our AGM

Meeting Notes

AGM Meeting:

- Date: April 29, 2025
- Time: 6:00 PM
- Location: To be announced

The AGM will include:

- A review of the 2024 year-end report
- Board elections
- Guest speakers



- An information session for individuals interested in running for the Board or learning more about the Neighbourhood Association's processes and guiding principles will be held in April.

Board applications:

- Application details will be available by the end of the week.
- An information session will be held to address any questions from potential Board members in April.

Further details will be provided as they become available and will be advertised on our website and our newsletter.

7:00 pm: North Park Events and Updates - Bri Godsman (NPNA)

Wednesday, March 12 - Naloxone Training

- Time: 6:00 PM
- Location: 1701 Quadra Street (NPNA Office)
- Details: Free Naloxone training provided by **Substance**.

Saturday, March 15 - Craft Circle: Paint a Pot Night

- Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
- Location: 1025 Mason Street (Bosa Community Room)
- Details: Join us for a creative evening of painting plant pots.

Wednesday, April 9 - Hot Water Bath Canning Workshop

- Time: 3:30 PM
- Location: Balmoral (First Met Kitchen)
- Details: Learn the basics of water bath canning with the **Compost Education Centre**.

Saturday, April 19 - Easter Egg Hunt

- Time: 11:00 AM
- Location: 932 Balmoral (First Met Courtyard)
- Details: A fun community Easter egg hunt for all ages.

Wednesday, April 23 - Fermenting Veggies Workshop

- Time: 5:30 PM
- Location: 932 Balmoral (First Met Kitchen)



- Details: Learn the art of vegetable fermentation in this hands-on workshop.

Registration:

Sign up for free on [Eventbrite](#). If the event is full, you are still welcome to attend.

7:15 pm: Guest speaker- Cenit Munoz VIRCS

Agenda

Join us for seedling distribution events this spring and summer at Franklin Green Park.

Upcoming Dates:

- Saturday, March 22nd, 2025
- Saturday, May 17th, 2025
- Saturday, August 9th, 2025

Meeting Notes

Get Growing Victoria

- The first event is Saturday, March 22, 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM at 1045 Mason Street (Franklin Green Park).
- Activity: Soil distribution
- Please bring your own shovel if possible. Limited parking will be available for loading and unloading.

Franklin Green Native Planting

- Held on the last Saturday of each month
- Duration: 1.5 hours

Mason Street Farm

- The nursery is now open, offering a variety of plants for purchase.
- A large selection of flowers is available.

For more information, please visit the [Get Growing Victoria website](#).

7:30 Questions/ action items-

Questions for Cenit Munoz (VIRCS), Gary Pemberton,(City of Victoria), NPNA Board and Staff.

