



ROCKLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

2019

ROCKLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 5276, Station B, Victoria, BC

www.rockland.bc.ca

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, February 27, 2019
Grace Lutheran Church, 1273 Fort Street, Victoria, BC

Agenda

Call to Order	7:30 p.m.
Introduction of 2018 Board of Directors	President: Marc Hunter Vice President: Art Hamilton Secretary: Chantal Meagher Treasurer: Anthony Danda Past President: Janet Simpson Directors: Lawrence Bortoluzzi Dave Clark Bob June Lisa McIntosh Danielle McQueen David McWalter Stephen Roughley Susan Wynne-Hughes
Guest Speaker: John O'Reilly	Heritage Conservation Areas in Victoria: Initiation, Incentives, and Impacts
Introduction of Guests City of Victoria-Councillor City of Victoria-Downtown Programs Liaison City of Victoria-Senior Planner Victoria Police Department- Community Resource Officer Government House Art Gallery of Greater Victoria	Geoff Young Gary Pemberton Alec Johnston Cst. Terri Healy Thandi Williams Jon Tupper
Approval of Minutes-2018 AGM Financial Report-2018 President's Report Committee Reports Constitution and bylaw update and amendments Members' Concerns Report of the Nominating Committee Election of Directors for 2019 Closing Remarks	

ROCKLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held February 28, 2018
at the Grace Lutheran Church

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

2. President's Remarks

Janet Simpson began the meeting with comments about the Local Area Planning (LAP) process which has not yet begun for Rockland. However, she expects that this process will begin soon. The RNA Land Use Committee (LUC) has been following closely the process at it has unfolded in the Fairfield/Gonzales neighbourhood. Unfortunately the process is ineffectual, utilizing a steering/working group selected by the city which is not necessarily representative of the neighbourhood. The RNA LUC has developed a strategy to help ensure the voice of Rockland's residents is heard. The strategy consists of-

- Reviewing the current Rockland area plan (which has been in place for 30 years) to recommend appropriate updates;
- Working with the University of Victoria to design a survey to determine neighbourhood values; and
- Setting up working groups consisting of people who live in Rockland and are passionate about the area.

The three working groups are-

- Heritage;
- Surroundings (green space, rocky outcrops, trees, etc.); and
- How we move about (active transportation, traffic, parking etc.).

Janet closed her comments by urging people to become involved in the LAP process and to sign up for one or more of the working groups..

3. Guest Speakers

Dave Clark introduced the panelists speaking on the topic of Urban Deer in the Urban Forest-Rockland's Protected Grazers. They were Kristy Kilpatrick, Urban Wildlife Stewardship Society; Brian Nyberg, Esquimalt Survey and Report to Board; and Sean Pendergast, Senior Wildlife Biologist, Province of BC.

Ms. Kilpatrick explained the Urban Wildlife Stewardship Society (UWSS) is three years old and comprises a board and advisory group with a broad scope of expertise. Their aim is to develop and deliver non-lethal, science based alternatives to deer culls. The group is currently working in Oak Bay and Esquimalt against five major points-public education, estimating the size of the deer population, using science based technologies including photo identification, conducting a survey of the attitudes of residents and immuno-contraception of the deer. UWSS has presented to the Victoria Council and recommended a three point program-public education, a three year deer count and conducting a survey to identify public values regarding the deer population.

Mr. Nyberg described the survey carried out in Esquimalt in October, 2016. The survey consisted of 24 questions and was distributed to 1100 households. 510 surveys were returned. Esquimalt can be divided into six neighbourhoods. The survey found that deer density increased from east to west; that 62% of the respondents do not enjoy seeing deer on their property; and 59% agreed to some level of tax increase to fund a solution to the problem.

Mr. Pendergast gave an overview of deer habits and the options to resolve the problem of deer in an urban setting. These deer (black tailed) are not migratory and can reproduce very quickly. They will move “out of the way” when construction is happening but once the area calms down, they will move back in. No community on Vancouver Island has reached its maximum biological carrying capacity. There are three options to deal with urban deer-cull; translocation; and immune-contraception. Translocation isn’t always successful and can be very stressful on the animals. Immuno-contraception is used extensively in the US but the drugs used there are not approved in Canada.

There were questions/comments from the audience-

- Q: Deer were not seen in Rockland until ten years ago. Now they are seen in gardens every day. The predators (eg. cougars) are tranquilized and moved out so the deer are “protected”.
 - A: According to the panel, cars have become the deer’s main predator.
- Q: What public education is available to supplement what everyone already knows?
 - A: Some examples of information available were given by the panel- slow down signs, information on deer resistant plants, fencing options, what to do when walking dogs to safeguard them
- Q: With the increasing number of deer, will there be more ticks?
 - A: The information from the panel was that there are ticks and they can carry Lyme disease but the ticks are not prevalent.
- Q: How are deer counted? Can individuals be double counted or missed altogether?
 - A: In the wilderness, deer are counted as deer per kilometer in six watersheds by doing one pass at a specific time. In an urban setting, remote cameras and tagging are used to get an estimate of the population.
- Q: Why have deer come to this part of Vancouver Island?
 - A: No one knows but urban sprawl has removed their traditional habitat and dog control has allowed them to remain in more urban settings.
- Comment: On a walk one evening, in the space of one block, ten deer were counted.
- Q: What about sterilizing the bucks (in addition to or instead of the does)?
 - A: That may be an effective approach but it is necessary to know how many there are. Does don’t move more than 400-600 meters whereas bucks move 5-6 kilometers.

Dave Clark closed the discussion by indicating that there is a wealth of information available in the public realm which he will summarize and post to the RNA website.

4. Introduction of Guests

Janet Simpson introduced the guests-Pamela Madoff (City of Victoria Councillor and RNA Liaison), Gary Pemberton (City of Victoria Downtown Programs Liaison), Alec Johnston (City of Victoria Senior Planner) Terri Healy (Victoria Police Department), Jon Tupper (Art Gallery of Greater Victoria), Marilyn Denton (St. Matthias Church) and Ben Isitt (City of Victoria Councillor).

5. Thanks to those supporting the board

Janet Simpson thanked the following people for their support of the RNA board.

Welcome-Eileen Nurmi, Heather Grampp
Newsletter-Helen Edwards
Membership and Webmaster-Ian Mayhill

6. Quorum (minimum of 10% of total members)

Total membership is 154. With 58 voting members in attendance, there is a quorum.

7. Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting, March, 2017

Motion: To approve Minutes of Annual General Meeting, March, 2017
Moved/seconded/carried

8. Committee Reports

As included in the AGM Report.

Motion: To accept reports
Moved/seconded/carried

9. Members' Concerns

Chantal Meagher informed the residents that there is the construction of a large scale poultry operation at 1322 Rockland. Council is considering the issue and dealing with it. Anyone wishing to be informed about this should provide Chantal with his/her email.

Lloyd Ollila asked what is happening with the proposal to develop the Truth Center property. Alec Johnston indicated that the public hearing is expected to be held in the spring.

Sally Hamilton asked if RNA would put out a notice announcing the date of the Truth Center public hearing when it is known. Janet Simpson said RNA will do that.

10. Nominating Committee

Lloyd Ollila, Vanessa Dingley, Heather Grampp, Ethelyn McInnes-Rankin

For President, Marc Hunter

FINANCIAL REPORT-2018

Rockland Neighbourhood Association Financial Statement as of December 31, 2018

BALANCE SHEET

Assets

Cash in bank	\$ 21,839.56
Receivables	Nil
	<u>\$ 21,839.56</u>

Liabilities

Nil

Surplus

Balance 01-January-2018	\$ 12,487.66
Excess of Expenses over Revenue	<u>\$ 10,630.92</u>
Balance 31-December-2018	<u>\$ 23,118.58</u>

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

Income

Grant from City of Victoria	\$ 2,755.00
City of Victoria insurance rebate	\$ 840.00
Memberships	\$ 1,946.14
Interest	\$ 5.98
Rockland sign project	\$ 7,000.00
CALUC Meeting - 12-Sept-2017	<u>\$ 250.00</u>
	<u>\$ 12,797.12</u>

Expenses

Administration	\$ 56.70
Insurance	\$ 840.00
AGM	\$ 304.98
Newsletter	\$ 308.57
Postage and printing	\$ 231.57
Annual mailbox fee	\$ 174.30
Website	\$ 39.69
Woodland Garden	\$ 58.72
Rockland yard sale	\$ 151.67
	<hr/>
	\$ 2,166.20

Note: the Rockland Neighbourhood Association is a non-profit Society (S-33680) incorporated under the Society Act of British Columbia.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT for 2018

First, we must acknowledge that Rockland is situated on the traditional territory of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations. On behalf of the Rockland Neighbourhood Association (RNA) Board of Directors, we wish to thank the membership of the RNA for your continued support and interest.

Well, it's been a full year since I assumed the role of President and took the helm from our previous President Janet Simpson. What a year it's been. The RNA was front and centre in several community issues that impacted Rockland. Your Land Use Committee has been diligent in working with the City and other stakeholders in our efforts to ensure Rockland is protected and its unique historical and cultural character preserved.

Some key highlights from the past year:

Rockland Ave Poultry Farm - Despite strong opposition, a large poultry farm was permitted to exist on a private property on Rockland Avenue, notwithstanding health and safety concerns raised by the Vancouver Island Health Authority, neighbours and By-law officials. Neighbours were negatively impacted and lost the use of their back yards and outdoor living during hot summer months due to the smell, dust and rodent infestation. The Board was very active in our opposition to the poultry farm and the potential health issues associated to the operation. We are pleased to see that the issue appears to be resolved, with 15 chickens remaining.

1201 Fort St. – The Truth Center development was ultimately approved for development much to the dismay of many in the Rockland Neighbourhood. It is important for RNA members to be aware that the RNA mandate is not

anti-development. Instead, we advocate for decision makers to be accountable to the processes that have been put in place (e.g., Official Community Plan) to preserve Rockland as the historic and cultural heart of Victoria. In our opinion, the Truth Center development was an opportunity lost for the creation of more green space and harmonizing development to be more in line with the character and historic attributes of Rockland.

On the Crime front and as the Police Liaison on the Board, I've had discussions with Victoria Police Chief Manak and our community resource police officers. We are very fortunate to have such a responsive police department and we will continue to liaise and collaborate with them in order to preserve Rockland as a safe neighbourhood. I have heard from many in the neighbourhood that thefts from vehicles continue to occur. It cannot be stressed enough that these incidents, as minor as they may appear, be reported to the Victoria City police. Otherwise, crime stats are inaccurate, and our police department will not have the information necessary to direct additional resources to a particular community.

We must also acknowledge the efforts of City officials and staff over the past year. Our sincere thanks to the many years of support provided by former Councillor Pam Madoff and a welcome to our new Councillor Geoff Young. Pam will be continuing to work with the RNA on heritage related issues. I must also acknowledge the ongoing efforts of Gary Pemberton our Neighbourhood Advisor with the City of Victoria.

We have also working with the City on traffic calming initiatives (speed boards, road designs), sidewalk upgrades and crosswalk related issues. Finally, we have been participating in some strategic planning sessions with the City and will be holding an RNA specific strategic planning workshop in the next few weeks.

The RNA Board of Directors also support the revised policy put forward at the Community Association Land Use Committees (CALUC) meeting for the proposed revised policy on the Citizen Led Heritage Conservation initiative. We look forward to hearing more about this at the AGM from our guest speaker Mr. John O'Reilly, Heritage Planner with Sustainable Planning and Community Development with the City of Victoria.

On the membership front, membership initiatives and events are in the planning stage for the coming year. More details will be shared once we have worked out the details. Our thanks to John Hughes and his Castle team at Craigdarroch Castle for supplying free passes annually to active RNA members and our thanks as well to the team at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria for providing discounts to active RNA members.

On the social committee front, we thank General Manager Michelle Buck and

Langham Theatre for hosting a special dress rehearsal performance and wine/cheese event exclusively for RNA members on January 14, 2019. Special thanks to RNA members Sandra Jackman, Laurel Dinney and Danielle McQueen for their initiative and hard work to make the theatre event the success it was.

In the months ahead, we are also looking forward to the upcoming soiree this summer at Government House hosted by Her Honour Janet Austin, the Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia. As well, the RNA is looking into sponsoring an evening of music at Government House. We will of course also be exploring more opportunities to collaborate with Langham Court Theatre, Craigdarroch Castle and the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria. Please stay tuned for further details as planning is finalized.

I would like to thank your Board of Directors for volunteering to give up time from their personal lives to support the community of Rockland. We are always seeking volunteers to support the many RNA related functions. If you have any interest in participating as a Board member or committee volunteer, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member on the Board. Any ideas on events or activities are also very welcome.

In closing, Rockland represents history, special heritage attributes, arts and culture and is truly a unique and special neighbourhood. From heritage homes to the majestic trees, it is important that we preserve its unique qualities for future generations of Rocklandians.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Hunter
President

REPORTS FROM THE CITY OF VICTORIA

Geoff Young – Councillor Liaison Report

I am very happy to have been appointed as the new Councillor liaison for Rockland. My family has lived a few blocks away in Fairfield for many years.

The Capital Region has seen rapid growth and change over the last few years, and this has presented challenges even for our long-established neighbourhoods.

As we all know, the City faces a significant shortage of affordable housing. While some of us were able to purchase housing some years ago when prices were more reasonable, those of us who have lived in rented accommodation, the young, and new arrivals to the region continue to suffer from high housing prices and rents. The new City council has made addressing this problem one of their priorities and intends to encourage the development of rental housing,

particularly low cost rental housing. We can expect that all areas of the City will see new housing proposals coming forward. In some cases these may be seen as conflicting with the character of the neighbourhoods they are planned for. Rockland is a beautiful and desirable place to live now, and our challenge will be to find ways of meeting the Council's goals for new development while maintaining what we love about this neighbourhood.

Another high priority of the new council has been to encourage non-automobile travel ("active transportation"). As vehicle drivers are aware, the City has been active in building new bike lanes, and it is expected this network will continue to expand. A goal is also to make the City more attractive for pedestrians by encouraging slower vehicle traffic. Some of this "traffic calming" can be very consistent with a livable neighbourhood, perhaps allowing more room for landscaping and trees and reducing vehicle noise, and has the potential to make Rockland better. The City will be looking for ideas about traffic calming and other pedestrian and bike-friendly initiatives.

The new Council would also like to see the parks system expand. Although the need is more visible in the northern parts of the City that do not enjoy Rockland's private open space and trees, Rockland also has a need for more parks and children's play spaces. City parks planners should be reminded that few of Rockland's spectacular old mansions still house the large rich families with servants they were built for a century ago. Now they are used as multi-family dwellings, and residents may well need public outdoor recreation spaces.

If any of these planning, transportation or parks issues are important to you, I encourage you to participate in your neighbourhood association and to be active in contacting the City staff and councillors about your views.

Ben Isitt– Councillor and CRD Director

I would like to begin by thanking officers, volunteers and members of the RNA for your service to the neighbourhood and city.

In the several months since the municipal election, City Council members and staff have been working hard crafting an ambitious Strategic Plan and Financial Plan in consultation with the local community.

Enhancement of the urban forest, support for traffic calming and neighbourhoods, and exercising fiscal restraint in policing expenditures are among the priorities identified for action.

At the Capital Regional District level, the Strategic Plan is being developed around the priorities of Good Governance, Housing and Transportation, Climate Action and Environmental Stewardship, and Indigenous Relations.

I have recently been appointed as Chair of the CRD Parks and Environmental Committee. In this role, I hope to continue to advance the land acquisition strategy of protecting the region's wilderness areas for biological diversity and low-impact outdoor

recreation. Closer to home, I have supported the acquisition of rare Garry Oak habitat in our urban area in the vicinity of Gonzales Hill Regional Park.

I welcome your questions and ideas for improving our city and region. Please don't hesitate to contact me by email bisitt@victoria.ca or telephone 250-882-9302.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-2018

ENVIRONMENT

2018 was an eventful year in Rockland's environment, beginning with organizing a panel of local deer experts for last year's AGM. A better understanding of deer numbers and their behaviour is an important first step in any management actions that might be initiated.

Our urban forest was a focus of activity. The city has added several staff members who continue to work with property owners to conserve significant trees in the face of increasing development pressure. The city informs the neighbourhood prior to any tree removals on public property. Increasingly, neighbours are notifying us of impending tree removals on private property, and we have been able to alert city staff if the species and size warrant protection.

We were able to attend several workshops and focus groups that promoted "placemaking" – that is, creating and enhancing features that encourage social interaction and enhance our shared environment.

Our Rockland Greenway Signage project will direct pedestrians and cyclists along Rockland Avenue from the city to our cultural partners – Craigdarroch Castle, Government House, The Art Gallery and Langham Court Theatre. This cooperative effort with city staff builds on the recently adopted "Wayfinding" signage style that is becoming more visible in the Inner Harbour area. The posts for our four signs are in the ground, and the signs themselves may be installed by the time you read this. In other trail-blazing news, The Pemberton Trail initiative added an important link – statutory rights-of-way through the pending housing development at 1201 Fort Street. The Pemberton Trail is a long-term initiative to create a pedestrian pathway from downtown to the Oak Bay border where it links to the Centennial trail through to Anderson Hill near the Victoria Golf Course. Over the coming years we will continue to look at opportunities to gain easements through critical properties to link up the quiet streets and cul-de-sacs that make up the bulk of the trail. There are lots of areas for residents to contribute to enhancing our neighbourhood's environment. Consider joining us this year!

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Clark
Chair

LAND USE

RNA LAND USE COMMITTEE 2018 First; a heartfelt thank you to my fellow committee members; Janet Simpson, Sue WynneHughes, Dave McWalter and Lawrence Bortoluzzi for their insights and attentive work. I would also like to thank Pam Madoff for all her input and meetings she cheerfully attended and for agreeing to coach us again thru 2019/20. Next, we are losing LUC committee members this year and we are in search of additional members. We usually meet the first Wednesday of the month for a two-hour meeting, with the occasional additional meeting to facilitate rezoning Community Meetings. An occasional flurry of e-mails accompanies individual developments as well as an occasional meeting with Victoria Developers Services.

Our major initiative is to try to influence city decisions on the density and form of Rockland and to try to ensure the Rockland Neighborhood Plan is front and center in all rezoning.

Going forward we expect to be very active in the updating of a new Neighborhood Plan created to provide background to the newish OCP of 2012. Absence for travel is cheerfully accommodated. If you are interested in how the Rockland neighborhood will evolve in the upcoming years this will be interesting. After the debacle of 1201 Fort Street in 2017 the past year has been much quieter. That may change quickly. With the machinations of city hall and a seemingly concerted push to high ratios of “affordable” housing the future is a little opaque.

Going forward we are currently looking at a rezoning of 1224/26 Richardson with two House Plex’s (large home styled buildings containing multiple condos.) In this case twelve single- and two-bedroom units between 500 and 750 sq. ft. in each building. The developer has said the set backs and heights of the current R1-B zoning will be respected in a rezoning. Parking is contentious with a tentatively proposed 15 spaces off the city lane at this preliminary stage. There has been some preliminary discussion around 1745 Oak Shade Lane, the large undeveloped treed lot) and at this point the owner seems to be considering a simple subdivision. We have had discussion about Garry Oak retention which we are told is being seriously considered. Access off the lane immediately behind the homes along and parallel to Richmond remains contentious. Some of the neighbors along Lyman Duff Lane have been approached about a possible infill panhandle development as well. There was also some preliminary discussion about a large town house development, supposedly supported by the pending Gonzales Neighborhood Plan, along the north side of Richardson but this seems to have lost its legs without the support of its Rockland neighbors or the completion of the Gonzales Plan.

There was an expectation that we would be well into the city mandated Local Area Plan process for Rockland by now. However, that has proved to be very contentious in the Fairfield Gonzales area and the whole city-wide process appears to be up for discussion at city hall. We may know more about timelines shortly. The LUC take is that the Fairfield Gonzales process became very problematic as city planning tried to increase proposed densities across the neighborhood though the allowance of townhomes,condos, apartments, rear lot garden suites, and tiny house infills across the neighborhood without neighborhood consultation and acceptance. There also seems to be a concern that the neighborhood will lose its tree canopy and heritage ecological areas, and

that its environmental integrity would be jeopardized. Our Land Use committee shares these concerns for Rockland development, as well.

We have had lengthy discussions of the values of the current, but forty year old, Rockland Neighborhood Plan we believe the neighborhood wishes to retain. At some point the city will take this to wider consultation in the Local Area Plan process and we look forward to everyone's input.

On a very positive note the City has engaged an additional Heritage Planner, Mr. John O'Reilly, and his first major project has been to develop a Heritage Conservation Area approach that may help simplify and facilitate more heritage preservation in the city and in Rockland. This proposal includes both housing and natural areas for possible protection. It also seeks to be responsive to homeowner concerns about restrictive practices. "Following our meeting with you on November 29th and your positive response to the revised Citizen-led Heritage Conservation Areas policy, we are planning to bring the draft policy forward to Council on January 24th, subject to final scheduling confirmation from legislative services" The positive response was from the Community Land Use Committee chairs as a group. At our suggestion the plan includes significant reference to property values in Heritage Conservation Areas across North America. Please think about pitching in for your Rockland neighbourhood. We are well supported but would appreciate more help and a fresh crew waiting in the wings.

Bob June,
RNA LUC Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Membership by year-end 2018 stands at 183.

We would like to thank the Craigdarroch Castle Historical Museum Society and the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria for their continuing support in the form of passes and discounts which we are able to distribute to our membership.

We extend thanks to our welcoming committee volunteers Heather Grampp and Eileen Nurmi who help the Rockland Neighborhood Association prepare and deliver welcome packages to newcomers in the neighborhood. If you hear of new residents in Rockland, please contact a board member so our welcoming committee may provide them with a welcome package.

We would also like to extend thanks to Ian Mayhill for providing long-time service as the membership chair with the RNA, and for developing our membership tracking system.

Art Hamilton
RNA Membership Chair

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The RNA Social Committee is just starting to ramp up activities for the year! We were pleased to present the first partnership between Langham Court Theatre and the RNA this January. Langham Court invited RNA members to attend an exclusive dress-rehearsal presentation of their latest musical, "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." Tickets included a drink and amazing cheese platters before the show. Thank you for all who attended - it was a fantastic turnout. We hope to partner with Langham Court again soon. Special thanks to Social Committee members Laurel Dinney and Sandra Jackman, who took on most of the organization for this event.

The big event for 2019 will be the bi-annual reception at Government House this summer. Planning is now underway for what will be a wonderful occasion to connect with other Rockland residents and our Government House neighbours. In the past, tickets for this event have been included as part of RNA membership, but we may explore a different funding model this year, in an effort to better recover costs. However, the biggest priority for this event remains to enable as many Rockland residents to attend as possible. We will share more details about the evening and how to reserve tickets by early summer.

Are you interested in helping to enhance community connections in Rockland? Please contact us to join the Social Committee!

WELCOMING COMMITTEE

Members: Eileen Nurmi and Heather Grampp

This year, January to December, there have been 25 visits to new Rockland residents. This is down from 33 visits last year. For the second straight year visits have dropped. Many listings have remained on the MLS for several consecutive months.

Eileen Nurmi
Chair

WOODLAND GARDEN

This year we took one giant step forward, and a wee, annoying one backward.

The City listened to our tale of woe, and installed a water line to the garden! I'm not quite sure of how to get at it - a tap would be nice. There's an access plate on the ground just to the right of the bottom of the stone steps. Further investigation will occur when we start to thaw. A fulsome thank you

to the Franciscans - and especially Father Anthony - for allowing us to use their water during the past dry seasons!

But the City giveth and taketh away. We are now part of the Community Gardens program, which lumps us in with Commons Gardens, Allotment Gardens, and Community Orchards, all of which are about growing food. So, we can have free deliveries of compost, but not wood chips. We don't require compost for a woodland garden, but we do need wood chips to keep the weeds off of the paths through the garden. Parks used to deliver loads of such wood chips every so often; however, now we have to fill out a mind-boggling, frustrating grant application.

So what we really need is someone with a wood chipper! Please let us know if you can help out.

We're looking forward to spring, and some weather conducive to weeding, planting, digging, and fencing. Consider joining us!
Janet Simpson

Janet Simpson
Chair

DIRECTORS' BIOGRAPHIES

Anthony Danda

My background in the financial services industry for the past 20 years and as a participant in local civic engagement will benefit the Rockland Neighbourhood Association. My professional experience encompasses strong negotiation skills, relationship building, attention to detail and clarity of thought, which will be useful as Rockland begins work on the critical local area plan. Rockland will need strong leadership to navigate the process with city hall and ensure the outcome is sustainable and aligns to the values and vision of its residents. I have demonstrated my commitment to the neighbourhood through recent efforts to ensure land use in Rockland is appropriate and sustainable. My husband and I moved to Rockland three years ago specifically for the heritage and sense of community. I will work to ensure that the neighbourhood retains that character in an environment of rapid growth. Thank you for your support.

Experience

HSBC BANK

- Global Head of Revenue Management, Global Payments and Cash Management, 2015 – present
- Global Product Manager, Global Payments and Cash Management, Nov 2010 – Dec 2015
- Regional Program Manager, Change Delivery, HSBC Technology and Services, Feb 2009 – Nov 2010

- Payments Lead, Product Management, Payments and Cash Management, Jan 2008 – Feb 2009
- Senior Product Manager, Payments and Cash Management, Mar 2004 – Dec 2007

Education

- University of Dallas, Irving, TX (BA History, concentration in International Affairs)

Sandra Jackman – Nominee for Secretary

A native Victorian, I moved to Rockland in 2016 and love the character and charm of the neighbourhood.

My formal education is in business management, accounting, and project management. I have almost 30 years public service experience at the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and have developed strong skills in relationship building, leadership, organization, analysis and strategic planning. I retired in 2018 as the Director, Financial Planning for the ministry.

I am currently serving as a member of RNA's Social Committee and would be very happy to expand my contribution to the association.

Chantal Meagher

Over 35 years ago, I moved to Victoria from Regina to attend UVIC Law. As soon as I got past the shock of being considered an 'easterner', I fell in love with this beautiful place.

My job with Foreign Affairs kept me away from both Canada and Victoria for several decades, but in 2016 I made my way back here with my family, and we have been fortunate enough to make Rockland's vibrant, diverse community our home.

Victoria is a remarkable city, and the world has finally discovered what we already knew. As our city and our community face both change and opportunity, we rely upon our Neighbourhood Association to both support and advocate for our community.

I joined the RNA Board last year, and it has been a very rewarding experience. I would be honoured to continue to serve on the Board for the coming year.

Laurence Bortoluzzi

Mr. Bortoluzzi holds a Masters Degree in City Planning (MCP) from the Faculty of Architecture, University of Manitoba, Canada and has practiced as a professional planner in the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia for more than 30 years.

Dave Clark

I am an Agrologist with an interest in wildlife habitat. I have lived with my wife, Heather in the neighbourhood for the past 29 years and for another period of six years through high school.

I have been a Board member for the past 17 years serving in a number of capacities, most recently as chair of the Environment Committee.

I focus on environmental issues such as Greenways and the “Urban Forest” and would like to develop information about the neighbourhood to assist in Local Area Planning.

Art Hamilton

Born in Victoria to adventurous parents who taught for CIDA (the Canadian International Development Agency), I was schooled in Canada, Africa and the Caribbean. My undergraduate education at UVic, U. Laval, and UBC was in History; my graduate program at U. Oregon, in International Development Administration. After a year in BC Treasury Board Staff, my career focused on international development projects (mostly CIDA-funded) in the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and Africa that were carried out through the BC Ministry of Advanced Education, through BC public post-secondary institutions, and through my own company. This work included 10 years developing a technical training institute in Borneo, and 4 years rebuilding the land management system in Cambodia. I was also involved for 25 years in developing BC's post secondary international education system by helping to build the BC Center for International Education and by establishing and operating the international offices of Camosun College and Royal Roads University. With this background, I feel I can offer the Rockland Neighbourhood Association practical management skills, as well as financial, government, and land management experience (including experience from owning a rental property for many years). I'm involved with the sailing community in Victoria through the Cadboro Bay Sailing Association, where I served as treasurer and am now commodore. My overseas experience has reinforced my perception that our corner of the planet is particularly special and deserves the best possible stewardship we can provide. As a resident of Rockland for 31 years, I hope I might contribute to this through participation in the RNA.

Marc Hunter

Marc is a former member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), having recently retired with close to 30 years of service. Marc is now working with the Province of British Columbia as a Senior Advisor in the Government Security Office. As it relates to his career, Marc has significant experience building strategic and constructive partnerships with numerous law enforcement and other partners in a collaborative environment, both domestically and internationally.

Marc has lived in Rockland for close to six years, and feels fortunate to live in such a beautiful neighbourhood. Joining the RNA Board in 2013 as a Director and later as Vice-President, in 2018 he assumed the role of President. Marc also leads RNA related responsibilities for Traffic, Police Liaison and Emergency Management.

Marc is not “anti-development” – instead, he advocates for preservation and/or responsible development that takes in to account the special heritage attributes of Rockland. The preservation of Rockland’s “uniqueness” can’t be taken for granted at the risk of losing the special heritage qualities of the community. Marc also feels strongly in the need to develop collaborative productive relationships with our partners, including the City of Victoria and Victoria Police. You will often see him walking the neighbourhood with his clan of spoiled golden retrievers also known as the "Craigdarroch Goldens".

Besides his rewarding full-time career, his volunteer work with the RNA, spending time with his family, travel and sports take up all of his free time.

Bob June

I think there is a place for box on box architecture, minimal lot size or density, alternative building claddings and flat roofs. But I also believe the Rockland is a delightful neighborhood that deserves care and thought in any significant changes that may be proposed for it. I believe that our natural attributes and architectural heritage are of the upmost importance to the charm of Rockland and that they should be the foundation on which change, going forward, should be carefully integrated.

I look forward, with some trepidation, of the upcoming Rockland Local Area Planning process and I am prepared to be actively involved in that process, barring travel opportunities.

Current Activity:

Seven Terms: RNA Land Use Committee -	2010 – 2016; 2017/Chair
Nine Terms: RNA Board of Directors –	2008 – 2017; standing for 2018
Three Terms: CRD Water Advisory Committee-	2013 – 2017

Previous Directors’ Experience:

Three Terms: Gorge Tillicum Community Association,	2004 – 2007
Three Terms: Federal Constituency Board,	2003 - 2006
Federal Party Agent of Record	2006

Danielle McQueen

I'm excited to join the board as a Rockland renter, having grown up in Victoria and recently returned after studying and working in Ontario. I graduated from Victoria High School and have a BA (Hons) in Political Science from UVic and an MA in Political Science from Carleton University. I’m a freelance graphic designer, writer, and marketing consultant. I live on the Rockland border with my husband, James, and our one-year-old son, Clifford. Cliff and I frequently play at Government House and explore the neighbourhood. I'm pleased to represent

renters and young families on the Rockland board, as well as serve as website administrator. It's residents who create neighbourhoods, communities, and cities. I hope to help preserve Rockland's history, natural beauty, and unique character, while building a forward-thinking community for the generations ahead.

Dave McWalter

I have lived in the Rockland neighbourhood for 5 years along with my wife, Emma, and two children, Ellie (4) and Kieran (2). We have come to appreciate the unique nature of this community and I am eager to become involved with the Rockland Neighbourhood Association. I am a project management professional (PMP) with experience in capital planning and infrastructure construction programs. I have a BCom in International Business and a MBA from the University of Victoria. I have a particular interest in property development and land use, and hope to support the RNA Land Use Committee.



ROCKLAND NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION
pledged to the protection of a unique urban environment in
Victoria, British Columbia