



RNA September/October Newsletter

Dear Neighbours,

With thirty-seven people running for Council and eight candidates running for Mayor, the up-coming municipal election is a quagmire of questions and conundrums. Like so many groups, the Board of the RNA has sent a list of key questions to the many candidates, but these people are drowning in such requests, and few have replied. We've been impressed by Capital Daily's 'evergreen' (i.e. constantly up-dated) [candidates data base](#). We feel that this is the best way for all the candidates to be heard equally, and to provide voters with the information they need to make confident, informed choices on October 15th. Further to that end, we're providing a link to the [recent mayoral candidates debate](#). We hope these links help!

September RNA Board Meeting – Synopsis

Charlayne Thornton Joe

- This is her last Board meeting with the RNA, and from mid-October she'll be overseeing the fruition of her dream for a Chinese Museum on Fan Tan Alley in Chinatown.
- The Missing Middle Initiative looked as though it was heading for defeat at the last Council meeting, so it was decided that the decision

would be deferred to the new Council in the hopes that significant changes to the plan will make it more acceptable to the populace.

- In her role at the Chinese Museum, she has met many locals and visitors who focus more on the amenities and beauties of the city than on its drawbacks. Green gardens and a lack of graffiti top the list.

Gary Pemberton

- [Neighbourhood grants](#): after a slow summer there's money to support place-making or activities that build stronger neighbourhoods.

Land Use

- 1320 Purcell proposes a side yard subdivision to build a new 2 storey, 3 bedroom flat-roofed house. Sits forward of the existing home to accommodate rear-yard parking. Heavy pruning of mature Horse Chestnut tree to accommodate building envelope.
- 1535/37 Despard – goes to public hearing, no date yet.
- 1737 Rockland - infill – staff review stage
- 920 Richmond is demolished, with tree protection zones established.
- 1475 Fort St - approved by council and proceeding
- **Please note** - It's easy to access the City of Victoria's [development tracker](#) , and even to sign up to be notified of [updates to development applications](#)

Social

- Speaker presentation - We're in discussions with John Adams, local historian and *raconteur par excellence*, to present a talk on the history of the Rockland Neighbourhood. We're hoping to make this an exciting social event, so stay tuned for more information.
- The Rockland-wide Yard Sale was another great success this year, attracting 26 households. Thanks, especially, to Dave Clark for coordinating and overseeing it all so carefully for another year!

In the Neighbourhood

[Art Gallery of Greater Victoria](#)

- no report available this month

[Craigdarroch Castle](#)

- The Castle reports that they've had quite a good summer, with numbers surpassing their expectations. Everyone really dug in to make it work, as they are still short-staffed.
- Performances of Frankenstein are coming up on Friday and Saturday nights for the last three weeks in October - (15th and 16th; 22nd and 23rd; 29th and 30th)
- There are no movies being filmed at the Castle for the rest of the year.
- The Gift Shop has been doing well and is still open 5 days a week -
Wednesdays - Sundays 10am - 5pm
- Jason Stevens will once more be presenting "A Christmas Carol", which has become a staple for Castle guests over the last years.
- The Castle had a good cruise ship season also, even though they didn't extend their hours this year for the cruise ships, and accommodated only the day ships.

[Government House](#)

MEWS MARKET

(PAYMENT ONLY BY DEBIT OR CREDIT CARD)

VEGETABLES

Available on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m.

BUTTERNUT SQUASH – individually priced

CARROTS - \$3/bunch

CUCUMBERS - \$2/bag **(last week)**

SALAD MIX - \$3/bag

SPINACH - \$3/bag

SUMMER SQUASH - \$3/bag **(last week)**

SUGAR SNAP PEAS - \$3/bag

TOMATOES - \$5/pound

WINTER SQUASH (Acorn) - \$2/pound

PERENNIALS

Available on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

GENERAL STOCK - \$8 (25% discount for members)

LIMITED STOCK - \$15, \$20 or \$25

FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

Available on Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**ALL FLOWERS GROWN ON THE ESTATE AND ARRANGED BY
THE FLORAL DESIGNER'S GARDEN GROUP**

BOUQUET - \$12

MASON JAR - \$12 (large) or \$8 (small)

SPECIAL ORDER - \$20 (with container)

Email your special order to foghflowers@gmail.com (state the pick-up date in your email).

A special order must be placed **at least one day before pick-up.**

[The Woodland Garden](#)

- Janet Simpson has sent in a tribute to one of their most loyal volunteers:



Anthony Sebastian (May 26, 1928 - May 18, 2022) in the Rockland Woodland Garden

For many, many years, Anthony was a wonderful volunteer in our woodland garden. Because he lived in the Franciscan Friary next door, he gladly took on daily oversight of the garden, noting when something needed pruning, or when a particular weed was invading. And as a proud Saskatchewan farmer, he always offered his services moving soil or planting shrubs. He was the only one of us who was successful in establishing new Oregon grape cuttings! Whenever I arrived in the garden to put in a few hours, he would appear, with a beautiful smile and encouraging words. He was a lovely man, friendly and kind, with a ready sense of humour. In his quiet, gentle way, he inspired us all to appreciate nature and to contribute our time and energy to our community.

In the Broader Community

My Great Neighbourhood Updates

- The newest issue is [on our website](#), and inside you'll find details about: community celebrations this season; street murals as community art; graffiti fighting successes; Little Free Libraries; and the all-important opening of the NeighbourHub.

The Capital Regional District Newsletter

- Also [on our website](#), and in it you'll find seven ways to save money and to reduce household food waste.

Finally....

STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE RNA--FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA
STAY CURRENT WITH RNA NEWS

Follow the Rockland Neighbourhood Association on social media - find us on Facebook at [Rockland Neighbourhood Victoria BC](#) and on Instagram at [hellorockland](#)

Our pages are updated regularly with local news plus important updates on City Developments and decisions that affect our neighbourhood.

There are many important issues coming up in the next few months and we will be updating social media regularly so follow us today.

As the delights of summer slowly fade into memory, I wish you every opportunity to happily cocoon, cuddle, and even canoodle as the autumnal chill, and the welcome and inevitable rain, fills the air.

Patricia