

# MY GREAT Neighbourhood

## GREAT IDEAS FOR GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

Curious to learn what's happening in your neighbourhood and other neighbourhoods in Victoria? Looking for some local and global inspiration for community building and placemaking ideas? Here are some ideas, resources and updates to help you create a vibrant neighbourhood.

### IDEAS FROM AROUND THE CITY

#### Queen's Chambers Boulevard Garden

A few residents can do a lot to create amazing public spaces. Residents in Fernwood turned a boulevard area into something special for the neighbourhood. Through a *My Great Neighborhood* grant, they first transformed the grass boulevard into a garden of native plant species. The City contributed several surplus planters and some concrete furniture. Locals agreed on a placemaking layout that people would enjoy. The residents recently completed the final touches on the project with the painting of the furniture through another grant. It's now a popular place to sit and relax – a testament to its success!

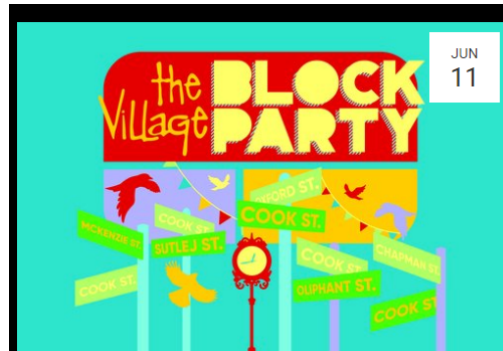


Queens at Chambers Street Garden

#### Summer Celebration in the City



Get ready to kick off the summer season with Oaklands Garage Sale Day and Street Party! Explore the neighborhood for a fantastic Neighborhood Garage Sale where you can find amazing treasures and hidden gems. And that's not all! Join us at the Oaklands Community area for a fun Street Party. There'll be food trucks, music, and plenty of fun for everyone. Mark your calendars and be sure to check out the event schedule. Garage sale maps will be available online and hard copies can be picked up at the community center starting June 10th. We can't wait to see you there!



#### The Village Block Party

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
 313 Cook St, Victoria, BC, V8V 3X5, Canada (map)  
 Google Calendar · ICS

Join us on Sunday, June 11th in Cook Street Village, Victoria BC for The Village Block Party, a family-friendly event with live music 🎵, food trucks 🍔, activities 🎪 & vendors 🛍️

#thevillageblockparty #cookstvillage #cookstreetvillage #dallasroad #dallasrd #beaconhillpark #victoriabc #yyj #vancouverisland #victoria #explorevictoria #victoriabccanada #shoplocal #supportlocal #downtownvictoria #yyjeats #yyjevents



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The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt people.



## IDEAS FROM FURTHER ABROAD

### Neighbours Helping Neighbours - Condo Care



In an effort to build resilience, neighbours in a Toronto condominium have formed a “Condo Care” group. Residents with skills in plumbing, electrical work and mechanical repairs volunteer to help their neighbours with simple tasks around the home. These volunteers feel valued and more connected to their neighbours and those receiving the help are grateful to know there’s someone trustworthy nearby they can call on. They often feel motivated to “give back” to the neighbour community in some way themselves. What a fabulous example of building social connections where you live. *Building Resilient Neighbourhoods* is gathering stories of these kinds of community building so check their [website](#) for other ideas. If you have an example to share, they would love for you to send it along.

### Neighbourhood Branding – Welcome to The Heights!

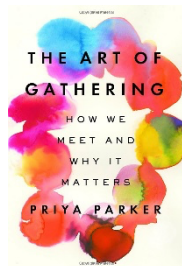


Have you ever driven through Burnaby and found yourself in *The Heights*? You know you are there because this neighbourhood branding shows up everywhere in the form of murals, street signs, stickers on windows of merchants in the area and street banners. Although this branding exercise was undertaken by the local business association, neighbourhood branding can be undertaken by any organization. Because Victoria has 12 distinct neighbourhoods, neighbourhood branding would be a great way to highlight everything from the entry points into your neighbourhood to focusing on your village(s). North Park undertook a branding exercise a few years ago and their “Edgy to the Core” banner is on display as you enter their village on the north end of Cook St. Neighbourhood branding is a big project but it’s a great way to engage with residents to learn how they view their neighbourhood and get a sense of what is important to them. A *My Great Neighbourhood grant* could support a neighbourhood branding exercise so if you are interested, talk to your neighbourhood liaison about what might be possible.

## MAKING IT HAPPEN

### NeighbourSpace Lending Library

#### The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why It Matters by Priya Parker



In *The Art of Gathering*, Priya Parker argues that the gatherings in our lives are lackluster and unproductive--which they don't have to be. We rely too much on routine and the conventions of gatherings when we should focus on distinctiveness and the people involved. At a time when coming together is more important than ever, Parker sets forth a human-centered approach to gathering that will help everyone create meaningful, memorable experiences, large and small, for work and for play. Drawing on her expertise as a facilitator of high-powered gatherings around the world, Parker takes us inside events of all kinds to show what works, what doesn't, and why. She investigates a wide array of gatherings--conferences, meetings, a courtroom, a flash-mob party, an Arab-Israeli summer camp--and explains how simple, specific changes can invigorate any group experience. The result is a book that's both journey and guide, full of exciting ideas with real-world applications. *The Art of Gathering* will forever alter the way you look at your next meeting, industry conference, dinner party, and backyard barbecue--and how you host and attend them. *This book is available to borrow from the NeighbourSpace Library. Please contact your neighbourhood liaison to arrange for pick up. If you have a book you think should be in our collection, please let us know.*



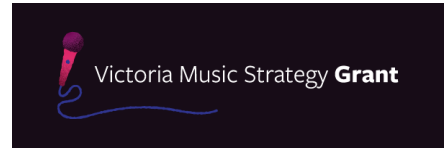
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## New City Grant Available for Local Musicians

A new one-time \$150,000 Victoria Music Strategy Grant is now available to assist the local music industry. This grant will leverage what currently exists in the local music community and address gaps in the music ecosystem such as affordable spaces for music production, rehearsal and performances. Not-for-profit organizations, or musicians and music sector professionals in collaboration with a not-for-profit organization, are invited to apply. For all the details check out the [webpage](#) on the City's website.



**Looking for more ways to stay in touch?** Sign up for our [City e-newsletter](#) for monthly updates on City programs and initiatives. Register with our [Have Your Say Engagement Portal](#) for a monthly notice to participate in surveys and other online engagement opportunities.