



GREAT IDEAS FOR GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

There are lots of great activities happening in the city this month so we've focused this update on letting you know about City sponsored activities and some special events at our community centres around the city.

Downtown



The City of Victoria invites you to a festive afternoon downtown with family and friends at ***Sleigh the Day: Sing, Shop, Create*** on Sunday, December 17 from 1-4 p.m. on Government Street between Humboldt and Courtney Streets.

Enjoy free holiday craft making for all ages, sing timeless classics alongside festive carollers and explore unique handmade treasures and seasonal treats by local artisans for those last-minute holiday gifts. Stay cozy with a cup of

holiday cheer. Spiced apple cider, hot chocolate and seasonal craft beers poured by The Victoria Beer Society will be available for purchase. Craft making starts at 1 p.m. and will be available while supplies last. Rain, snow or shine. Please dress for the weather. For more information, visit: victoria.ca/OurDWTN.

Centennial Square Lights of Wonder December 1 – 31

Downtown Victoria is transforming Centennial Square into a holiday wonderland. This outdoor event features themed light exhibits, four interactive light tunnels, and a 40-foot festive tree. With free admission and for all ages, Lights of Wonder offers live entertainment, warm nibbles, and magical light displays. Check the [calendar](#) for a listing of special events.



Your Neighbourhood Liaison

Gary Pemberton: gpemberton@victoria.ca

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

MY GREAT Neighbourhood

Holiday Wreath-Making Workshop: Invasives Make Beautiful Boughs



OUR DWTN and the Bay Centre invite you to register for the free Holiday Wreath-Making Workshop: Invasives Make Beautiful Boughs. The two-hour workshop will be offered at the Bay Centre on:

Saturday, December 16 from 10 a.m. - noon
Thursday, December 21 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

For many, creating a seasonal wreath to hang on their door is a cherished winter holiday tradition. But what plants are we using to create these wreaths and how does that impact our local environment? This workshop provides participants the opportunity to use ivy to intermix with cedar and fir to create a holiday wreath. Instead of using a disposable metal ring, the entire wreath is biodegradable and helps remove invasive species from our forests. Participants will leave with a sustainable wreath to decorate at home. Twenty spots are available per workshop. [Pre-register through Eventbrite](#). A wait list will be available. All spots are first-come, first-served. Children under 10 years of age must work alongside a parent/guardian. Participants are invited to bring a non-perishable food item for donation to the Mustard Seed Food Bank.

Fernwood



Fernwood NRG is delighted to host our annual Holiday Meal for community members on December 11, from 5:30 - 8:30pm. Join us to mingle, share some holiday cheer and a meal with your community. We'll be serving the meal from 5:30 - 6:30pm. There will be an activity for children at 6:30pm and a community dance at 7pm to celebrate and have some holiday fun together. A generous community member will provide music. Bring your dancing shoes! If you are looking for gifts for your kids, we'll have a selection you can choose from. Join us in the gym around the back of the Fernwood Community Centre at 1240 Gladstone Avenue. Please bring your water bottle to fill and help us reduce the amount of dishwashing. To register, visit <https://forms.office.com/r/CANYLDQrp9> or pay at the front desk of the community centre. We hope to see you there for a night filled with good food, warm company, children's laughter, and celebratory music!



Fairfield Community Place - Holiday Hamper Fundraiser

From November 15 – December 15, Fairfield Community Place is collecting donations to purchase gift cards & groceries for families in-need in Fairfield & Gonzales. Support single parents, low-income families, newcomers, and refugee families and know 100% of your contribution will go towards making a great difference for your neighbours this holiday season!

<https://youtu.be/EG5SiYvkZZc>

Donate in-person at the front desk of Fairfield Community Place (cash/card) or donate online [here](#).

Donation Breakdown:

- \$50 will provide a grocery store gift card for one person
- \$100 will provide a gift card for one person
- \$150 will provide a grocery and gift card for one person
- \$600 will provide a grocery store gift card and gift cards for a family of four

Donations of \$20 and over are eligible to receive a charitable tax receipt.

<https://fairfieldcommunity.ca/holiday-hamper-fundraiser/>



Cook Street Village Activity Centre



Winter Wonderland Festive Lunch for Seniors

We extend a warm invitation for you to join us and your friends on a joyous afternoon, filled with a delightful turkey meal, exciting draws, and live entertainment. Make sure to secure your tickets no later than Friday, December 8, to be part of this memorable event!

Date: Friday, December 15

Time: 12:00-2:30pm

Cost: Members: \$20 Guests: \$25

MY GREAT Neighbourhood

Burnside Gorge



Santa's Pancake Breakfast

Flipping into the holiday spirit at Santa's Pancake Breakfast! Take a picture with the jolly man himself, have a yummy breakfast and much more!

Date: Saturday, December 2, 9 – 11 am

Admission: \$7/Family and \$3/person

To register call 250-388-5251

Christmas Wreath Workshop

Craft your own festive wreath and support BGCA Christmas Hampers this season. The workshop will be facilitated by Bespoke Blossoms.

Date: Friday, December 8

Time: 6 – 7:30 pm

Admission: \$60

To register contact frontdesk@burnsidegorge.ca or 250-388-5251

Burnside Gorge
CHRISTMAS HAMPER FUNDRAISER



James Bay

Community Winter Celebration

Wednesday, December 13th
5:30-7:30pm \$8 per family.

Come join us for a family-friendly, community event with kid friendly, crafts, hot cocoa & cookies, live music, and door prizes!

Tickets on sale Monday, Dec 4th.
Tickets only available at the Centre desk.



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Oaklands

Seniors Holiday Dinner



December 10, 2023
6:00pm - 9:00pm

Kick off the holiday season with an evening of good food and great company at our annual traditional turkey dinner!

Tickets go on sale on Nov. 1st at:

Online: oca.recdesk.com

In Person: Oaklands Community Centre front desk (#1-2827 Belmont Ave)

Phone: (250) 370-9101

Breakfast with Santa



December 16, 2023
9:00am - 12:00pm

This sellout event features a delicious pancake breakfast with all the fixings, along with festive crafts, lively entertainment, and a special visit from Santa himself!

This event is by registration only.

Registration opens on November 15th at:
oca.recdesk.com

Location: Oaklands Community Centre (#1-2827 Belmont Ave)



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