



NORTH OAK BAY

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

President's Corner

Pieter de Groot

Community Engagement

At last year's NOBCA sponsored All Candidates meeting, many candidates made commitments to meaningful citizen engagement with Council. This Fall, Council has held three of its meetings at different locations in Oak Bay, including one at the Emmanuel Baptist Church earlier this month, which was attended by 34 people, including 14 living in North Oak Bay. Earlier this year, Mayor Kevin Murdoch was guest speaker at our community meeting, speaking to Council's priorities and answering many questions. People appreciated the Mayor's openness. NOBCA's Executive acknowledges with thanks a \$640 grant from Oak Bay Council, which will allow us to increase our communication efforts and promote community involvement and cohesion. Community engagement was also demonstrated in July's Block Party held at the Pelly Place/Redwood Avenue corner.

Quite a few North Oak Bay residents attended the Oak Bay's informative secondary suites (SS) Open House meetings held in April and completed the SS survey. Due to another housing related priority imposed on Oak Bay by the Province, the final SS report will not be ready until early next year. NOBCA is following these SS planning efforts with much interest.

Dec. 1st Community Pot Luck Dinner - Begins at 5:30

Last year's successful November family event has encouraged NOBCA to plan our first community 'pot luck' dinner where every one, young and old, and especially families with children, are most welcome. Arts and crafts and games activities will be held and we are fortunate to again have access to the E B church's gymnasium. Caroline Reidel and Scott McQueen have kindly offered their assistance. Any food contributions will be welcome. One volunteer will bring lasagna for ten plus people. NOBCA and U Vic's Community-Engaged Learning Office are hoping to collaborate to engage North Oak Bay residents (adults and children) in a community mapping process. This would be an opportunity to bring the community together to create a North Oak Bay community map of assets and visions, and for students to practice their community engagement skills. Dr. Rhiana Nagel will make a short presentation and ask for your thoughts about the project at the pot luck dinner.





NOBCA Executive members Pete Rose and Roger Kitson have decided to resign their positions, after serving since NOBCA's beginning three years ago. Roger has produced all our Newsletters and Pete has served as treasurer, maintained our e-mail list and delivered newsletters. We thank

them for their valuable service to our community.

I am pleased to announce that Patricia Glazier, who lives in University Woods, will join the Executive as member at large.

We are keen to find a community member with the computer skills and interest to produce two or three NOBCA Newsletters a year. The time involvement is not onerous, and I invite anyone interested to contact me at: 250-592-4575 or pieterdegroot@shaw.ca. I look forward to seeing many of you at the pot luck dinner.

Pieter de Groot

NOBCA Executive

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