

THE SHANNON LAKE NEIGHBOURHOOD Advocate

PUBLISHED & DISTRIBUTED BY THE SHANNON LAKE NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION

ISSUE #1

SUITE SURRENDER: Council Sours on Secondary Suite Policy

AFTER A lengthy discussion, Council decided to delay the regulatory changes required to put its newly-endorsed Secondary Suite Policy in action.

Topics of discussion included how many parking spaces should be required, what type of public notification there should be, infrastructure impacts and whether owner occupancy be required. Watch the Web-cast from May 11 for the full Council discussion (approximately 1 ½ hour into the webcast).

More information on secondary suites - including a letter from **Mayor Findlater** is available on our website at: www.shannonlake.org

Where the Streets Have No Name...

ON MAY 14th, D.W.K. Council endorsed a Street Naming Policy.

As a part of the policy, a master list of prospective names will be created and used by staff to help determine future street names.

The policy outlines the selection criteria for names of historical significance and community heroes and information on how the public can nominate a name to be added to a Master List. The intention of the amended Street Naming Policy was to enable residents to nominate names of persons of historical significance and community heroes. ○



"Things are looking up." Grade 3 students at Shannon Lake Elementary wait for the next egg to drop. Student's had to design & build a "contraption" with an egg that could be dropped from the top of the rotunda without cracking. The drop-off occurred Thursday, May 6th. No one emerged with egg on their face.

DON'T MISS THE SHANNON LAKE NEIGHBOURHOOD MEETING (& AGM)

7:00 pm Monday, May 31, 2010 at

the Shannon Lake Elementary School Library

District of West Kelowna **Mayor Doug Findlater** and **CAO, Jason Johnson** will give a presentation on the Strategic Priorities for the Municipality.

Also, we will explore current topics of concern for our neighbourhood including Traffic Issues concerning Shannon Ridge Drive, Shannon Way, and Shannon Lake Road, the Transfer Station, Pedestrian Connectivity, etc.

All Residents are Invited (but members get to VOTE).

Memberships available at the meeting for \$10.⁰⁰ (cheaper than Costco)

Please make cheques payable to:

"The Shannon Lake Neighbourhood Association"

About the Shannon Lake Neighbourhood Association

(SLNA) is a group of residents committed to improving the quality of life in the Shannon Lake neighbourhood. We strive to make our neighbourhood a better place to live, to raise families or retire in peace. We seek, foster & promote:

- Ways to protect and enhance property values
- The maintenance and development of a planned transportation infrastructure which supports street safety and public spaces
- Public safety and programs designed to reduce crime
- Communication and civil dialogue between neighbours and residents by providing a forum & voice where issues can be raised, authenticated and discussed
- Maintenance of information pertaining to neighbourhood issues

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EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the Editor are encouraged. In fact, they're a moral obligation. If you have or know of an issue that affects the well being of the neighbourhood, please write. We reserve the right to edit for brevity, content and accuracy. All letters must be accompanied by a name and phone number. Anonymous letters will not be considered for publication. Send to:

newsletter@shannonlake.org

ADVERTISING POLICY

Funding for SLNA activities comes from membership fees & advertising - **thanks for supporting our sponsors!** Ads are open to all - provided they're in good taste & promote beneficial goods & services. We reserve the right not to run ads. Rate sheets are available upon request. Please contact:

newsletter@shannonlake.org

The PREZ SAYS

AGM - Time To Have Your Say

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for 7:00 pm, Monday, May 31. The SLNA will be hosting their Annual General Meeting at the Shannon Lake Elementary School (this is our 10th AGM).

This year, our guests will be **District of West Kelowna Mayor, Doug Findlater & Chief Administrative Officer, Jason Johnson.**



There will be a short presentation outlining the strategic priorities of the Municipality after which we will have an open discussion with the Mayor and CAO on topics of neighbourhood interest. Our guests have been approached to be prepared for, but not limited to, discussing increasing traffic and pedestrian and child safety, the future of the Transfer Station, and the Secondary Suite policy.

As for the AGM - it is a necessary evil of being a registered Society. We keep it VERY brief. Those in the room who are current members or elect to renew or become members are eligible to vote and to serve on the board (but don't worry, there will be no press-gang). If you really do not want to become a member you are still welcome. A good turnout will send a message to Council that the neighbourhood cares.

In Our Neighbourhood, Teachers Have it Write

ON THE NIGHT of the Canuck's first play-off game, several SLE teachers hosted a Writer's Workshop for parents. During their presentations, teachers shared how they were instructing (& inspiring) students to write and they showcased samples of student's writing.

They also suggested ways parents could help with writing (see Mrs. Foster's site at: www.sd23.bc.ca/~sfoster/?OpenItemURL=S0907196F or the district website: www.sle.sd23.bc.ca/EducationalLinks .

Studies show student participation & success rates increase when home and school collaborate. These teachers were doing their part.

As I left to watch the game, I thought about the value of our homes and neighbourhood and how property values are enhanced by the presence of a great school with a committed staff and administration.

A reputable school sustains the demand for local housing over the long term.

Our teachers deserve our support and applause... way more than the Canucks. *Ed.*

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ISSUE #2

Road Safety Concerns Persist in Neighbourhood

School staff and Shannon Ridge Drive residents have noticed a marked increase in traffic and safety issues since the road has been linked to Auburn Road.

"This road has become a major safety risk for the residents of Shannon Ridge Drive," commented resident, Jon Newman.

"Not only has the volume of traffic increased drastically, the speed at which people are driving is beyond safe. The Shannon Ridge Drive route to the highway consists of two school zones, one playground zone, minimal sidewalks and minimal lighting. The street is narrow, and allows for street parking which is essential as there are not enough parking spaces for the number of multi-family housing units that have been developed on this road."

Residents have also expressed concern about traffic flow along Shannon Way. The issue is on the agenda and will be addressed at the SLNA AGM.

ISSUE #3

Construction Continues Along Shannon Lake Road

Recent improvements to Shannon Lake road have been applauded by residents and the SLNA. 

"...construction was completed as a part of the bigger Tallus Ridge development."

Curbs, gutters, storm drains and sidewalks have been added to the road just north of the Regional Park making the road safer for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.

Tallus Ridge Developer, **Kelsey Ramsden** was instrumental in modifying that stretch of the road. "The construction was completed as a part of the bigger Tallus Ridge development. We also have plans to assist in sidewalk from the edge of Tallus Ridge to the entrance to the Shannon Lake Park and have lent design and engineering expertise to the district through our low density multiple family rezoning proposal."

ISSUE #4

RDCO Responding to Neighbourhood About Transfer Station

In a recent letter to **Mayor Doug Findlater, RDCO Communications Coordinator Bruce Smith** addressed some of the ways the Regional District has been responding to resident's and DWK Council's concerns about the Transfer station operations on Asquith Road (a copy of the letter is available on the SLNA website).

The mayor will provide an update at the meeting on May 31.

Our friend & fellow SLNA director, **Deborah Greaves** will be relocating with her family to Calgary. She has written countless articles on local issues & the environment. We'll Miss YOU! All the best!

On June 25th, Mt. Boucherie Students will be celebrating DRY GRAD 2010. BEST WISHES to the Class of 2010 from the Shannon Lake Neighbourhood Association.

OTHER ISSUES

New (& Old) Kids on the Block Watch

As summer approaches, longer days and nicer weather often mean a spike in property crimes.

In 2007, Crime Prevention Coordinator, **Duane McTavish** met with SLNA members to discuss the Neighbourhood Watch program. It's been replaced with the more street specific Block Watch program.

Keeping our neighbourhood safe and reducing or eliminating crime requires a joint effort.

The Block Watch program supports a process for working with neighbours to: a) recognize and report suspicious activities; b) create ways to "target harden" your home, and; c) ways to mark your property giving it less appeal to a prospective thief.

Duane can assist you and your neighbours in implementing a Block Watch program. **Membership may reduce your property insurance premiums.** He can be contacted at 250-469-6347 or by e-mail at: crimeprevention@shaw.ca.

NOTE: If you suffer a break in please report it to the police (even if there is little recourse). Statistics are maintained and they help the RCMP & council coordinate crime prevention. The West Kelowna RCMP Detachment can be reached at: **250-762-3300**

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Upcoming Movie Releases:

May 4: Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus, Leap Year, Tooth Fairy
 May 11: Daybreakers, Edge of Darkness, Legion
 May 18: Extraordinary Measures, Invictus, Spy Next Door, Valentine's Day
 May 25: Dear John
 June 1: Alice in Wonderland, Wolfman
 June 8: From Paris with Love, Shutter Island
 June 15: Book of Eli, When in Rome, Youth in Revolt
 June 22: Percy Jackson & the Olympians, She's Out of My League
 June 29: Craziest, Green Zone

Recent Releases: Bad Lieutenant, Crazy Heart, Pirate Radio, Lovely Bones, New York I Love You, Young Victoria, Avatar, It's Complicated

****All these dates are subject to change****

New Releases: \$3 (including taxes) Monday thru Thursday and \$5 Friday thru Sunday
 ...we also have 100's of older movie classics for 89 cents every day

Hi Everyone: My favourite time of the year is well underway...**baseball season!** Registration in the local minor baseball association is slightly up this year and that is a good sign. The parks will be very busy this year as the **Kelowna Jays** will also be using the **Boucherie Main Field** for some games this year. The District has upgraded the park to accommodate this higher calibre of play. I am looking forward to some of those games. I will again be cheering for the **Toronto Blue Jays** this year, the team that the experts pick to finish last! It could make for a long year! The **NHL Playoffs** are well under way and many of the top teams did not make it through the first round. Thanks to everyone who entered the store's **'Playoff Draft'** and a special thanks to all those who made a donation towards **West Kelowna Minor Baseball's** "Park Lighting Account". We collected \$114 towards this worthy cause. Those that entered will be happy to know that my pool picks presently have me near the bottom of the pack! They may already be done by the time this hits print but I will be watching the **Vancouver Canucks** intensely and cheering them on! **Camden's hockey** was again lots of fun this year. We have now had 4 years of exceptional coaching with fun families and good teammates. I was lucky enough to 'draft' two of his hockey teammates onto his baseball team, both good kids with great families. It's a lot more fun that way!! The whole team looks like a fun group! **Can you answer this brain twister? Mary's father has five daughters. Their names are Nana, Nene, Nini, Nono and ----. Can you tell me the name of the fifth daughter? (See the answer at the bottom of the page).** On **June 30th**, we at the store will be celebrating our **10th Anniversary**. Yes, for all of you that have gone through this with us, it has been 10 years already! I recall that day fondly and the "26 customers we had that day" might not have quite the same recollection! Those early days (actually years) were quite lonely times but things definitely turned for the better. Alicia and Brenda have now been with us for six of those ten years. Does it really seem that long ladies!!? Time flies when you are having fun! Nancy, Taylor, Jason, Brendan and Tyrone round out a pretty good team!! We have been very fortunate in that respect. They have even trusted me to be on my own a little bit lately! They check things pretty carefully the next day though! My Dad has recently come to live with us full time. He recently sold his property so even though we have had him for lengthy stints before, this time there is no 'sending him back'. He just turned 84 and I have to admit, it is strange being the caregiver and not the "caregivee". And that is actually easy for me to say because Jackie is actually the true "caregiver" and not me! It is a bit of a challenge but I am quite proud of Jackie for how she has handled it thus far. She even talked Dad into getting hearing aids! Now he will be able to hear the crack of the bat at the ball field when watching Camden play which, rather than playing slot machines, is one of his favourite activities. **A few hahas...** "Mom, I got in trouble today from my teacher for something I didn't do!" "Well, did you explain to her that you didn't do it?" "Yes, but it didn't help". "What was this you got in trouble for that you say you didn't do?" "I didn't do...my homework!"...What kind of bugs do secret agents like? **Spy-ders!!...** "Mom do you know who invented fractions?" "No, son I don't" "I am not sure but Nicholas told me that it was Henry the 1/8"...**Did you guess Nunu?** Read the question again! The fifth daughter's name is Mary!