

June 2009 Volume 3 Issue 11

Contributions: Email us at: [newsbytes@northvanpac.org](mailto:newsbytes@northvanpac.org)

NV Pac News Editor: David Whitehead

North Van Pac: [www.nvsg44.bc.ca/AboutUs/NVPAC.aspx](http://www.nvsg44.bc.ca/AboutUs/NVPAC.aspx)

## North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council

### NVPAC News

This is my last newsletter as editor of NVPAC News so I'm going to ramble a bit.

Hopefully you've found our news useful and helpful in keeping up with the many goings on in the school district this past year. If you have or you haven't let us know how we've been doing and how we can communicate with you better. Please send us feedback to let us know what you want from NVPAC News.

Certainly communications and keeping up have been a challenge this year. It has been a busy year with a new board facing many difficult decisions to do with facilities, programs and budgets in the past few months. There has been good news (new schools), contentious news (Windsor House relocation, Balmoral) and bad news (cuts to continuing education) and NVPAC has tried to keep parents informed of these changes and how they may impact parents and students district wide.

It looks like NVPAC will have a bigger team to help us do this next year with some new faces joining NVPAC and others moving to new roles. But we can always do with more help so please stay informed and stay involved. Speaking of being involved, many PAC's are electing their executive at this time of year and we need to update our mailing lists so please keep us up to date with your executive changes especially if you are missing the newsletter or are receiving it in error. Send your updated PAC exec info to [registrar@northvanpac.org](mailto:registrar@northvanpac.org)

Lastly I want to congratulate the students. I attended Windsorfest in May and was hugely impressed by the enthusiasm, energy, creativity and involvement of our kids (from k-12). It was great to see that because it can sometimes get lost in all the discussion of budgets and facilities that the district is doing a very good job of teaching our kids and keeping them engaged in their schools. And really, that is and should be the focus. So congratulations to all the kids for another successful year.

David Whitehead  
NVPAC News Editor

In this issue:

- Results of the NVPAC AGM and Communications Survey
- Upcoming Board and Public Consultation Meetings
- NVSD Surveys: Music Academies and Visual Identity for the School District
- Identity DNV - official community planning for the District of North Vancouver
- City/District/Ministry transportation survey for crossing Hwy 1 at Lynn Valley Road

## Upcoming Public Meetings

### **NVPAC General Meeting**

Thursday Sept 24th, 2009 starting at 7:00pm  
Leo Marshall Curriculum Centre

OK, its a long way off, but mark your calendars now for the 1st NVPAC meeting of the 2009/2010 school year.

- Previous Meeting Minutes: [www.nvsd44.bc.ca/AboutUs/NVPAC/Minutes.aspx](http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/AboutUs/NVPAC/Minutes.aspx)

### **Public Board Meetings**

*Note: The next School District Board Meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday, June 11th to accomodate the events on the Balmoral school schedule.*

[http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/Trustees/Meetings/2008\\_2009%20Meetings.aspx](http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/Trustees/Meetings/2008_2009%20Meetings.aspx)

Agendas are posted on the website the Friday before the meeting. A public question period on the agenda items is available at the beginning and end of each Public Board Meeting.

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Thursday, June 11, 2009 - 7pm<br>Sutherland Secondary School - Theatre | Public Board Meeting |
| Tuesday, June 23, 2009   | Public Board Meeting |

### **Upcoming Events**

Last Day of School 2008/2009 - Wed, June 24, 2009  
First Day of School 2009/2010 - Tues, Sept. 8th, 2009

## Meeting Reports

### **NVPAC AGM**

the NVPAC AGM was held in May and a new NVPAC executive for 2009/2010 was elected and we all look forward to working with all North Van PACs in the coming year. Many thanks to retiring Executive Member Karen Stewart (Treasurer 2008/9) although we will look forward to still working with Karen in an advisory capacity next year. Members at large Verna Dyk and Sonya Klassen have also stepped down from the Exec over the past few months and we thank them for their contributions over the years.

- (Co)Chair(s) – Leslie Uhlenbruck, David Whitehead
- Vice Chair – Mike McGraw
- Treasurer – Jane Lagden-Holborne
- Secretary – Susan Corcoran
- Registrar - Stefanie Barilla
- Past Chair - Lisa Cartwright
- Member at Large
  - Todd Dea
  - Cyndi Gerlach
  - Bob Gifford
- Currently Vacant - 2 additional member at large spots, Program Facilitator and BCCPAC Liaison

### **Results of NVPAC "Communications Survey"**

- In May NVPAC conducted an email survey – asking if the district/PAC email protocol has been useful and to determine the scope of NVPAC communications (how many families reached) and identify any gaps. We will continue to focus on improving communications and will use the initial data from the survey to guide our way. Your feedback is always welcome. [info@northvanpac.org](mailto:info@northvanpac.org)
- In total 25 schools have reported to date, including 5 secondary. (If your PAC hasn't responded yet, we'd still like to hear from you so we have a complete record. email [info@northvanpac.org](mailto:info@northvanpac.org) if you haven't received the survey)
- To date, our combined total email lists amount to some 6,521 addresses based on about two-thirds of the schools reporting. It would not be unreasonable to assume that the actual potential reach is more like 9,000 emails throughout all of the schools if we can get all PACs to engage in this activity. Used responsibly and consistently, this NVPAC/PAC email network is proving to have significant reach throughout our school/parent community.
- The School District relies on NVPAC to share communications with parents so it is important that PACs distribute this mail as there may be parents in their schools who want to receive the district information, i.e. school closure information, some parents say they are not being informed, the opportunity for networking & communication sharing...we hope all PACs will assist with getting important messages out to the broader parent community.

### **Items of Interest**

#### **BCCPAC wants your websites**

If you would like to put a Link to Your PAC website on the BCCPAC Website, the BCCPAC webmaster (Gabrielle Moore) is going to create a webpage of links to BCCPAC members with websites. This will be another way for members to find out more about each others' activities and advocacy. If you would like your PAC website to be on the BCCPAC member website list, please send the link to [gabriellemoore@bccpac.bc.ca](mailto:gabriellemoore@bccpac.bc.ca). Members will be responsible for making sure Gabrielle has current information about their hyperlink in the event of changing web addresses.

Check it out here! <http://www.bccpac.bc.ca/index/pacweblist.aspx>

#### **District Music Academy Survey**

For those of you that are interested in the idea of a District Music Academy (or not!), here's a link to the brief survey that the District is offering in addition to the information meeting that was already held on May 25th.

<http://www.nvsd44.bc.ca/sitecore/content/OtherNews/MusicAcademyConsult.aspx>

#### **District Visual Identity Survey**

As part of an ongoing process to improve the School District's communications and image, you are welcome to participate, through an online poll, in the creative process for the School District's new visual identity. Please know that these elements are just the "tip of the iceberg" on this project. Once they have been chosen, the design team can begin to build the many components of our new "identity system". For this reason, the voting page will be open only until Friday, June 12th, to allow time to assess responses and proceed to building the bigger body of complementary materials over the summer. Curious? Here's the link to vote: [NVSD Graphic Elements Poll](#)

### **"Identity DNV" - planning for the future of the DNV**

If you would like to know more about "Identity DNV 2030", the District's new Official Community Plan review process or if you have something to say about the future of our community the District of North Vancouver is hosting a community forum entitled OUR FUTURE to be held on Tuesday June 9 from 6 – 9pm at the North Vancouver District Hall, 355 West Queens Road. The evening will feature an engaging speaker panel, Theatre Sports and interactive stations to stimulate dialogue and thinking about the future of our community.

This community forum is the first of a series of three Identity DNV 2030 launch events designed to stimulate community dialogue to create a vision and directions as the Official Community Plan (OCP) Review advances over the next 18 months. Other upcoming launch events include:

OUR PEOPLE – Saturday June 20, 1 - 4pm at Norgate Elementary School (1295 Sowden Street)

Who are we planning for? How are our demographics changing? What kind of growth can we anticipate into the future? How can we encourage a resilient and sustainable local economy in the District?

OUR PLACES – Thursday June 25, 6 – 9pm at the North Shore Winter Club (1325 E Keith Rd).

How can we balance human activities and the environment? What are the implications for global warming and climate change in our community and how will we respond? Can we connect neighbourhoods, increase mobility and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions?

Please register for these free events, and learn more about the District's Official Community Plan Review process, by visiting our website at [www.identity.dnv.org](http://www.identity.dnv.org).

### **Lynn Valley Transportation Survey for pedestrians/cyclists**

The City of North Vancouver, in conjunction with the District of North Vancouver and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, are carrying out a study regarding pedestrians/cyclists crossing Highway 1 at Lynn Valley Road. As part of the study, a survey has been developed that is intended for Lynn Valley Area residents, frequent visitors and frequent users of the crossing to get an understanding of current issues and preferences regarding improvement options.

The survey should take roughly 5 minutes to complete and all information that could potentially be used to identify you or your family, will be kept strictly confidential. To complete the survey please click on the following link, which will take you to the on-line survey.

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=LaY96uhBcol1ABSodlt4tQ\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=LaY96uhBcol1ABSodlt4tQ_3d_3d)

Receipt of your responses to the survey by **Friday, June 19, 2009** is very much appreciated.

***From Grief to Action***

From Grief To Action is a local non-profit organization providing hope, support, respect and resources for families in need when a daughter or son is, or suspected to be, using drugs. For more information about drug abuse, its warning signs and local resources when addiction has been confirmed please access our website: [www.fgta.ca](http://www.fgta.ca). We also host a support group for parents of children struggling with addiction twice per month at John Braithwaite Community Centre: 145 West 1st Street, North Vancouver. Group contact is Joanne: [jowilloliver@shaw.ca](mailto:jowilloliver@shaw.ca)

***Time Out For Sports - Sports Equipment Sanitization Offer***

As a service to help ensure the health of young athletes, Time Out For Sports are offering North Vancouver schools a discount on the sanitization of sports equipment using their Sportzclean machine to kill the bacteria that grow on hard to clean, sweaty sports equipment. For more information contact TIME OUT SOURCE FOR SPORTS, 604-980-9211 or email either [info@source4sports.com](mailto:info@source4sports.com) or [sales@timeoutsports.ca](mailto:sales@timeoutsports.ca)

***NVPAC Events Calendar***

[North Van PAC Public Events Calendar](#)

If you would like your event added to the calendar please forward it to [Newsbytes@northvanpac.org](mailto:Newsbytes@northvanpac.org)

***Email List and PAC communication Problems***

To unsubscribe from this list or otherwise update your contact info with NVPAC please reply to this email at [Newsbytes@northvanpac.org](mailto:Newsbytes@northvanpac.org) or send an email to [registrar@northvanpac.org](mailto:registrar@northvanpac.org)