

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2022 ACTION UPDATE

"Give fools their gold, and knaves their power; let fortune's bubbles rise and fall; who sows a field, or trains a flower, or plants a tree, is more than all."

— John Greenleaf Whittier (1807 - 1892)

RHCS 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



Members, past and present, of the RHCS

WE NEED YOU to come celebrate 30 years of commitment to saving the trees on s̄amiq̄w̄ə?elə/Riverview. Come one and all

- Saturday, December 3rd,
- 12:30 arrival and viewing display materials
- 1:00 to 3:00 pm program at
- Douglas College Coquitlam Campus (Lecture Theatre A1470), 1250 Pinetree Way, Coquitlam.

Douglas Justice (Associate Director - UBC Botanical Garden) will give a presentation highlighting some of the outstanding specimens in the unique and valuable arboretum. The afternoon will also include recognition of members & supporters past and present, displays, beverages, a cake-cutting, and a prize draw.



Douglas Justice leading a Tree Walk, Fall 2021

We hope you will join us in celebrating all the community work and support that has allowed us to continue our quest to protect the magnificent trees on the s̄amiq̄w̄ə?elə/Riverview Lands. The event is free, but we kindly request a return RSVP to rhcs.org@gmail.com so we can be sure to have cake and beverages for everyone.



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT RIVERVIEW

RHCS met with BC Housing (BCH) and Kwikwetlem First Nation (KFN) on October 27, 2022. The main topics of the meeting are as follows.

- **Cost Concerns Regarding Tree Walk**



2022 Tree Walk led by Derek Churchill

WE NEED YOU to call your MLA to help us get the BCH fees waived so that we can continue to offer the public free tree walks on public lands.

Despite RHCS offering suggestions as a compromise to the fees, BCH and KFN were firm in their decision to charge RHCS an \$824.50 fee for every tree walk after the fifth per year. This is the requested cost breakdown they provided: special events fee of \$510.00 (\$127.50/hr x 4 hours) for a weekend event coordinator (liaison) and \$275.00 for administration plus \$29.25 GST.

While evening weekend and weekend walks beyond 5 will be charged, BCH offered to waive the special events coordinator fee if the walk is between 7am and 3pm Monday to Friday, excluding holidays.

We see these special events fees as BCH imposed issues and costs that should not apply to our non-profit society. RHCS has been doing tree walks on public lands for 30 years, with no issues and no need for an event coordinator/ liaison or any administration.

- **Site Planning Update**

Diamond Head Arborists are conducting an update on trees on the səmíqʷəʔelə/Riverview grounds. Information will be posted on the BC Housing website. Pipes over 300 years old were replaced. Work has been done to remove invasive species.

- **Public Advisory Group (PAG)**

Applications are now open. Information is available on the BCH website.

- **Cemetery**

Planting has begun on the mound of dirt.

- **Gardening at Serenity**

David Periera of BCH said at the Oct 27th meeting that he was hoping to have the archaeological training session in December or early January. We must take this course every year to be allowed to garden in Serenity. **If you would like to volunteer to help garden in Serenity please send your name, email address and cell phone number to riverviewRHCS@outlook.com.** The course is given by the archaeology company Brown & Oaks and will be virtual (online) probably during the day on a Monday–Friday. Please consider signing up for this course. This is not a large time commitment. **WE NEED YOU TO SIGN UP.**



Dirt mound located in the Cemetery at Riverview, photo captured November 27th, 2022



The Riverview Horticultural Centre Society

TREEFEST

We have held this celebration of the trees at *səmiqʷəʔelə*/Riverview for many years. Covid stopped us from doing this, but once again we are hoping to run this day-long festival in September 2023. The RHCS Board has voted in favour of running it again.



WE NEED YOU TO VOLUNTEER. Please consider putting your name forward to help with this wonderful event. We run it rain or shine.

GARDEN SHED IN FINNIE'S

If you have items in the garden shed and would like them back, contact riverviewRHCS@outlook.com



Garden shed located in Finnie's Garden

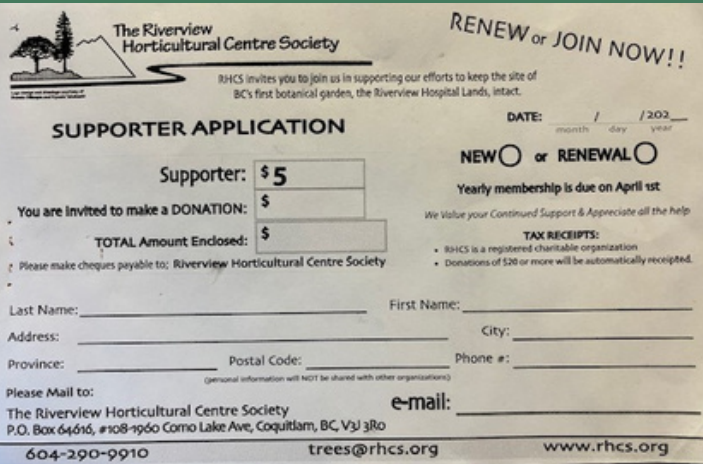
MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to all the friends of the RHCS for renewing your annual membership for the year 2022/2023. There is still time to renew, and we encourage you to do so.

The membership form is available on our website rhcs.org

MEMBER FEEDBACK

We'd love to hear from you. Please send questions or comments to riverviewRHCS@outlook.com or 604.290.9910



Membership form, available on our website rhcs.org

DON'T FORGET WE NEED YOU

- To celebrate with us on December 3rd; take the bus, skytrain, bike, or drive
- To help garden in Serenity—sign up for the archaeology course
- To help at Treefest in September 2023
- And most importantly to phone, email, or talk to your MLA re: the exorbitant and unfair fees imposed on RHCS free tree walks



*"In the end, our society will be defined not only by what we create, but by what we refuse to destroy."
John Sawhill*