



LEAVES Newsletter



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Spring on the Riverview Lands. We hope you have a chance to enjoy the beauty of the new green leaves budding out and the many flowering trees on the site that will be blooming soon.

We have a new editor for our newsletter "Leaves". Teri is a long time member of our executive. We are grateful to her for offering her technical skills to put together the newsletter. At this time I would like to thank Val Adolph for the many years she edited Leaves. She did a wonderful job and we are grateful for her contribution as newsletter editor. Val is a founding member of RHCS and is currently on our executive as a member-at-large.

Part of the process of the Provincial Government reviewing the Riverview site is contaminated soil assessment. You may see drilling programs taking place in the next few months, especially around the boiler house, transport, firehall, etc.

We are going to bring back a tree sale to Treefest this year so I'm putting the message out early that if you have trees that are surplus to your needs we will be grateful to have them for the tree sale. If they are potted up this Spring they will be settled in and well rooted for sale in September. Let Donna know at 604-290-9910 if you have trees to contribute. Thanks, and hope to see you at one of our tree tours this season.

Donna Crosby

online newsletters

Would you like to save a tree? View our newsletters online!

In addition to the 2 printed newsletters a year we would like to add 2 more **online only** versions. All will be available online.

The newsletters will be posted on our website in pdf format. A direct link will be sent in an email.

Approximately March, June, September & December

newsletter@rhcs.org

Please email us your **email** address so we can let you know when the latest Newsletter is available online for viewing!

Your email address will be used only to inform you of RHCS news, we will not share your address.

THANK YOU!
To our outgoing
Newsletter Editor
Val Adolph!

We thank you Val for all your hard work editing the newsletters and so much more over the years.

RHCS Directors

**Membership
Renewal Due
April 1st, 2006**

AGM Announcement!



EVERYONE is WELCOME
Please come join us for Our
Annual General Meeting:

If you want to know more about what is happening with the Society, and at Riverview this is a chance to hear the latest news we have.

**Thursday June 1st, 2006
at 7:30 pm
Henry Esson Young Building
Riverview Hospital**

call for more info: 604-290-9910

BRITISH COLUMBIA BUILDINGS CORPORATION - BCBC

PRESENTATION TO RHCS DIRECTORS MEETING

FEBRUARY 2, 2006

Ian Birtwell and Nick Davies from BCBC and Marilyn Marchment from Big Think Communications presented an update on the Riverview Lands to twenty RHCS members prior to our regular February directors meeting.

A summary of the presentation follows.

1. BCBC TRANSITION AND LAND USE ISSUES

On April 1, 2006, BCBC will cease to be a crown corporation operating outside the provincial government and become part of the Ministry of Labour and Citizen's Services. The organization's name and structure will change but over 90% of BCBC staff will be retained and most of the operations regarding Riverview will continue. Mr Birtwell emphasized that the top priority for use of Riverview's buildings and lands remains the needs of the Provincial Health Authorities. The closure of the existing hospital is proceeding slower than originally planned and may last another three years. Fraser Health will complete the construction of Cottonwood Lodge in a few months and a third building is under consideration. Vancouver Coastal Health is looking at using an existing building for a specialized program but as yet, no decision has been made. The next priority for using the site is the needs of other Provincial Ministries. BCBC is conducting surveys to determine if there is interest in locating other government programs at Riverview.

When this process is completed, planning for additional uses of the property will undergo an open public process. BCBC recognizes the importance that the community places on the trees, heritage buildings, and cultural history at Riverview. In fact, they have contracted Denise Cook to write a Cultural and Landscape History of Riverview and Robert Lemon to review and expand the 1995 Heritage Evaluation report by Don Luxton. Any planning for the future will consider community goals for the site, such as those contained in the Coquitlam City Task Force Report and will be done in an economically responsible manner. As well, BCBC is aware of First Nations interests in the land, and are following Government procedures, protocols and court precedents regarding any claims.



2. THE RIVERVIEW STEWARDSHIP GROUP

Representatives from RHCS, Burke Mountain Naturalists, and BCBC have met regularly since 2002 to discuss responsible stewardship of the Riverview lands, trees, and structures. Many issues have been resolved and a good respectful working relation has evolved. The group is working on several ongoing projects including:

Best Management Practices Paper

This paper sets down rules for contractors, film crews, and landscapers who work with or near the trees and vegetation at Riverview. WSI site manager, Bill Bird, and arborist Julian Dunster developed the original document and shared it with the group. It now needs to be shortened and worded so that it is clear and useful to non-experts. A few outstanding issues remain regarding mowing close to streams.

Tree Tags

The number tags from the 1994 survey of 1800 species trees need replacing. BCBC has started a pilot project to put larger (4 by 6 inch) tags on over 300 exemplary trees chosen by RHCS and located throughout the site. The tags will identify the type of tree, its statistics, and other data to be determined. The goal is to have these in place by April 2006 in time for the tree walks.

Revised Tree Inventory

The 1994 Riverview Heritage Tree Inventory (Philips, Wuori, Long) is out of date. Since then, trees have been removed or have died, and new trees have been planted. Also, the information should be stored electronically in a database and made more readily available to the public. Julian Dunster is working to revise the document. Eventually, the plan is to include photos of the trees and tie it in with a GPS location system, which would facilitate data sharing with experts and non-experts alike.



BCBC story con't from page 3

Mr. Dunster has already commented that the Riverview collection is unique in North America because the planting is part of a working landscape and not simply a collection. Also, the trees are open-grown and have been allowed to develop to natural maturity without pruning or shaping. Some of the older specimens are over-mature and this will need to be addressed over the next decade.

A Vision for the Arboretum

The Stewardship Group has invited arborists Mike Nihls, Doug Justice, Bill Browne and Susan Murray to join them in an exciting project to create a vision for the future of the Riverview Arboretum. The vision will address questions such as; "what should be the purpose of the collection?" "what scope and variety of species should be featured?" and "who would use it and in what manner?" Mr Birtwell reported that the decision makers he reports to in BCBC and the new Ministry have recognized the importance of the tree collection, and are actively encouraging the arboretum visioning initiative. Once a draft of this vision is complete, it will be shared with a wider audience.

Stream Enhancement

BCBC is working with Burke Mountain Naturalists on a salmon enhancement project on the stream below Penn Hall. This will tie in with similar work underway at Colony Farm Regional Park.

RHCS directors are grateful to Mr. Birtwell, Mr Davies, and Ms. Marchment for sharing this information with our members. Please contact us by phone or e-mail if you would like further details.



Our Very Own 'Caring Canadian'

In April 1996, the Governor General's Caring Canadian Award was created to recognize the fine example set by these special volunteers whose compassion and charitableness are such a part of the Canadian character.



This Volunteer Award honours Canadians for unpaid voluntary activities, most often behind the scenes at the community level. They have given extraordinary help or care to individuals,

families or groups, or supported community service or humanitarian causes.

All her life, Liz Rowley has sought to help less fortunate people in our society. She has volunteered at the Youville Seniors Care Home, entertaining residents and visiting those without family, as well as helping to design and provide suitable and attractive clothing for people confined to their bed or wheelchair. For two decades, she has lent her accounting skills to the Volunteer Income Tax Program, helping seniors and low-income families to complete their income tax returns and obtain government benefits. Mrs. Rowley has always tended to the physical and emotional needs of those around her, helping them to maintain their dignity and self-respect in their most vulnerable moments.

Liz's Caring Canadian award ceremony was at the Vancouver Hotel in January 2006. A wonderful time was had by all!

CONGRATULATIONS LIZ!!

We are very honoured that Liz is one of our RHCS directors.

Volunteers Needed

We are on the lookout for volunteers for **Treefest** in September.

We can also use more people on the **Treefest Planning committee**; which meets during the day, monthly at first, then more as required. Energy, ideas, and commitment are appreciated.

RHCS members could help by being a **host/supporter** for the Arborist leading a walk. Come on one of our walks during the year and find out more about what this involves. Speak to one of the members present.

Other volunteer opportunities;

We are always open to new members for the **Board**, as some of us have been around long enough that new ideas would be a great help. We are definitely looking for a new **bookkeeper**. If interested at all, why not come to some of our meetings and see what it is all about?

Usually held on the first Thursday in the month, at 7:15 pm, but as we have had to change our day around it would be best to phone Donna our President (604-290-9910).

**RHCS
Executive**

PRESIDENT
Donna Crosby
donna@rhcs.org

VICE-PRESIDENT
Norma Gillespie
norma@rhcs.org

SECRETARY
Sue Haberber
sue@rhcs.org

TREASURER
Liz Rowley
liz@rhcs.org

TREE WALK DIRECTOR
Mary Brown
mary@rhcs.org

WEBSITE
Teri Madaisky
teri@rhcs.org

DIRECTORS at LARGE
Val Adolph, Patricia Matyas,
Bill Brown, Ron Javorsky,
Janet Wintermans

2006 Tree Walk Schedule

March 19th	Sunday	1 pm	1st walk of the 2006 season
April 9th	Sunday	1 pm	Public Tree Tour-Magnolia
April 23rd	Sunday	1 pm	BMN Backyard walk
April 30th	Sunday	1 pm	Magnolia time
May 21st	Sunday	1 pm	Public Tree Tour
May 28th	Sunday	1 pm	Children's walk
June 18th	Sunday	1 pm	"Crazy about the Trees"
June 25th	Sunday	1 pm	BMN Backyard walk
June 29th	Thursday	7:30 pm	Linden walk
July 16th	Sunday	1 pm	Public Tree Tour
August 20th	Sunday	1 pm	Public Tree Tour
August 27th	Sunday	1 pm	BMN Backyard walk
September 17th	Sunday	12-5pm	TREEFEST 2006
October 15th	Sunday	1 pm	Public Tree Tour



Walks for 2006

All walks start at the HEY building at 1 pm unless stated otherwise.

'Crazy about the Trees' is the title that Doug Justice is giving to this walk, it promises to be a great, long walk, led by one of our passionate supporters, who is the Assistant Director at our 'daughter' Botanical Garden at UBC.

The Linden walk on Thursday June 29th starts at 7:30 pm, hopes to take advantage of the perfume from the linden flowers on the quieter evening air. This is becoming a popular, fun event, when we end up with a drink of Linden tea and refreshments.

Burke Mountain Naturalists will be leading walks along the back yard, where you can see streams, native plants and trees, and where some introduced species removal will be taking place to enhance the more wildlife – friendly vegetation.

Treefest 2006 is to be from 12 noon to 5 pm, as a concession to the people involved with the Terry Fox Run. All other Sundays in September conflict with another event, so we decided to try this different timing.

Mary

LEAVES newsletter

EDITOR

Teri Madaisky

PROOFREADERS

Donna, Norma, Mary, Sue

PHOTOS

Sue Haberber

CONTRIBUTORS

Sue, Don, Norma,
Mary, Donna

DISTRIBUTION

Sue, Norma, Teri
Mary, Donna

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Editorial email:

newsletter@rhcs.org

RHCS

Riverview Horticultural
Centre Society

P.O. Box 64616,
1942 Como Lake Ave.
Coquitlam, BC
V3J 7V7

Phone: 604-290-9910

Email: trees@rhcs.org

We're on the Web!
visit us:

www.rhcs.org

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More on Finnies Wish List

The Friends of Finnies would like to thank all our society members, our friends and supporters who so generously donated tools of all kinds to Finnies. We received two composters, a great wheelbarrow, pole pruners, rakes, clippers and loppers.

We put out the call and most of our needs have been met! Thank you Liz, Sue, Pat, Val and David. We hope we haven't missed anyone.

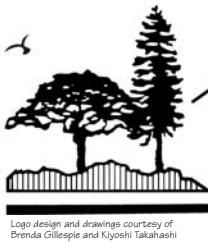
The only item that we require and cannot do without is a gas powered lawn mower.

If anyone is downsizing and would like to make a donation please contact us at (604) 942-7378.

Norma and Don



crocuses, primroses & snowdrops are blooming at Finnies Garden



The Riverview Horticultural Centre Society

April 1st, 2006 RENEW NOW!!

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The RHCS invites you to join us in supporting our efforts to keep the site of British Columbia's first botanical garden, the Riverview Hospital Lands intact.

Your Membership dues support many activities by the Society including public awareness, presentations, displays, etc. These dues are especially helpful for the production of our Newsletter "Leaves". This Newsletter is produced four times a year on-line to keep you up to date and in touch with what is happening currently with RHCS and the Riverview Lands.

NEW this year! On-line Newsletters! Please include your email address with your Renewal so we can send you an email to let you know when 'new' newsletters are available on-line for viewing.

In this time of change on the lands we really need your continued support more than ever before. We Value your Support & Appreciate all the help you can give.

MEMBERSHIP - RENEWAL FORM

The RHCS invites you to join us in supporting our efforts to keep the site of British Columbia's first botanical garden, the Riverview Hospital Lands, intact.

Membership Classification: New Membership [] or Renewal []

Yearly membership is due on April 1st;

Student: \$5 [] Senior: \$5 [] Adult: \$10 [] Family: \$15 [] Corporate: \$25 [] Life Time Membership: \$ inquire []

You are invited to make an additional contribution to support the Society \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

(Please make cheques payable to; Riverview Horticultural Centre Society)

RHCS is a registered charitable organization #3771 0893 RR0001

Choose to receive your 'Newsletter' by: email [] or Canada Post []

email address for Newsletters: _____

Membership Application/Information:

First Name(s): _____ Last Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____ email: _____

Please Mail to: The Riverview Horticultural Centre Society P.O. Box 64616, 1942 Como Lake Avenue Coquitlam, BC, V3J 7V7