



# Whonnock Community Association WHONNOK NEWS

*Fall 2024*

Dear Neighbors,

I hope this message finds you well! My name is Danika Adamthwaite, and I am honored to introduce myself as the new President of our Community Association. I have four children in school, one at Garibaldi and two at Whonnock Elementary. We moved here from Port Coquitlam when my oldest daughter started kindergarten, she is now attending her first year of University! It is my greatest pleasure to be able to raise my kids here. I have served on our school's Pac for many years and enjoy volunteering my time for events that support our children and foster connections within our community. Some of you may have already met me at past events within the schools and community such as the BooHooville Carnival and Easter egg hunts. I look forward to meeting more of our neighbors in the future so please do not hesitate to introduce yourself!

Since our Spring Newsletter the Association hosted its annual Easter Egg Hunt, organized this year by Jenise Paton, with a wonderful turnout. The weather was beautiful, kids were excited and we even had a visit from the Easter Bunny! Thank you for helping to continue the tradition of this event. The Association awarded a Bursary to a deserving highschool graduate in June and continues to award Bursaries (twice yearly) to post secondary students through the Burnes Bursary Committee. June also brought us our first Bear Aware event hosted at the scouts hall (thank you Paul), it was well attended and representatives from both the city and conservation were present to help us learn ways to live with the bears and protect our properties and livestock. The One Book Whonnock group gathered in July to discuss the reading of *The Curve* by M.

Wylie Blanchet. I was sorry to have missed it but I'm looking forward to a new selection this year!

Looking forward, we have had our first association meeting in September where we discussed the highly anticipated return of the Whonnock Giant Pumpkin Contest organized by Pascale Shaw and Joanne Halliday. Thank you ladies for continuing to organize this event. A lot of work goes into growing these giant pumpkins and I wish everyone luck in their pumpkin endeavors, I cannot wait to see the fruits of your labor! The Association will also be hosting its annual Volunteer Tea (by invitation) on November 3rd. New members are always welcome and we meet **the third Thursday of each month** at the **Whonnock community Hall at 7:30pm, come join us!**

In the 14 years I've lived in Whonnock, I've witnessed the strength and support of our community firsthand. I believe that together, we can build on that strength, ensuring our association not only meets your needs but also fosters a sense of belonging within our community.

Danika



## WHONNOCK GIANT PUMPKIN CONTEST

The 6th annual **Whonnock Giant Pumpkin** contest is **Sunday October 20th at 1pm at Whonnock Lake.**

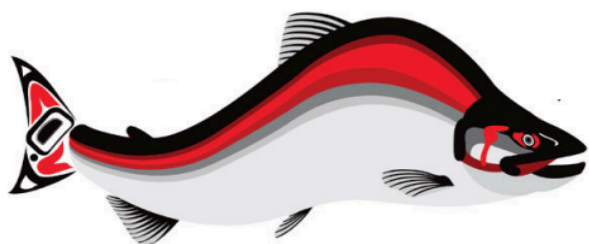
Come join us at this free and fun agriculture focused community building event.

This year we will have more categories for pumpkins along with the biggest zucchini, coolest gourd, survivor and crowd favorite.



Come and sip some coffee or hot Chocolate while enjoying a treat from Hansel and Gretel bakery. Take your best guess at the weight of the pumpkin and you may win a prize. Have your photo taken for free in our lakeside photo booth. Door prizes, best guess prizes and a whole lot of fun.

Everyone welcome.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WHONNOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Danika Adamthwaite - President  
 Mary Blackstock - Treasurer  
 Helmi Braches - Secretary  
 Noreen Woods - Director at Large  
 Heather Anderson - Director at Large  
 Bette Goode - Director at Large

**MEETINGS: THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH  
 7:30 PM AT WHONNOCK LAKE CENTRE**

## TAPS (Thornhill Aquifer Protection Study)



TAPS is completing its 18th year of gathering data regarding well water levels during the 4 seasons and testing once a year for a chemical & bacterial analysis of the water from the Granthill Aquifer.

Klaus and I had a meeting with James Mack and Ted Zimmerman from the Watershed Stewardship and Security Branch to request protection of the Provincially owned Crown lands on the aquifer. They acknowledged our considerable efforts to understand and protect our aquifer. The current status is that the Province has no requests to develop it and so this land is considered vacant. Should an application come forward, the Ministry will put into place consultative measures including input from affected residents, First Nations and the City. The current status is wait and see.

We have consulted with the City regarding the current status of urban development on our aquifer and are awaiting a reply. This season has been wetter and cooler on the whole, so our shallow wells and deep wells have kept consistent levels this summer and Fall.

Please be cognizant of the effects of climate change and all the efforts we can make as individuals to protect our vulnerable environment.

Wishing you all a healthy winter season and appreciating the continued awareness of our special and vulnerable Granthill Aquifer.

Betty & Klaus von Hardenberg  
 On behalf of TAPS

## BYRNES BURSARY

Over the last few years, the number of students applying for the Byrnes Bursary has grown. We are happy that the legacy of Brian and Isabel Byrnes continues to help so many young people from Whonnock with their education, and so far we have been able to grant a bursary in practically all cases. But given the increased demand, we are reaching the stage where we have to pay more attention as to how to distribute the available funds. Therefore, the Byrnes Bursary Committee is currently revising the terms of reference. We can tell you already that the new terms will include two annual deadlines for application, while in the past students could apply at any time. So, watch for publication of the new terms of reference on the WCA Website > [whonnock.ca](http://whonnock.ca)

## WHONNOCK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION BURSARY

Congratulations to the 2024 WCA bursary recipient, Ireland Adamthwaite. She will be attending the University of Victoria and is working towards a bachelor's degree in child psychology. She would eventually like to become a therapist for children and youth. We wish you the best of luck, Ireland, on your education journey and on reaching your personal goals.

Please visit [Whonnock.ca](http://Whonnock.ca) for more information on the WCA bursary as well as the Byrnes Bursary.

## HEADSTONE PRESERVATION PROJECT



The Maple Ridge and Whonnock cemeteries have graves dating back hundreds of years. Many of the people buried there do not have anyone left to care for their resting place. We are once again looking for locals who value historical preservation to help with the important task of cleaning and maintaining the headstones in our cemeteries.

Visit website for more information  
[mapleridgemuseum.org/headstone-preservation-project](http://mapleridgemuseum.org/headstone-preservation-project)

## WHONNOCK WEAVERS AND SPINNERS

Once again, the Whonnock Weavers and Spinners spent much of the summer getting ready for our hands-on exhibit at Country Fest. We spent many happy hours at a member's farm, washing and dyeing local fleece in bright colours that would appeal to children. We were happily inside at Country Fest this year, out of the heat, sharing Planet Ice with the Lower Mainland Sheep Producers Association. Our table full of brilliantly coloured fleece attracted many patrons, and we invited children to pick their favourite colour, help to card their wool, take it over to a spinner who spun their choice into yarn, and then made it into a bracelet. We also had weaving stations set up, with our members helping little hands to try weaving. Over 80 children wove a little mug rug, and over 200 happy faces went home wearing a colourful bracelet. It was a great way to pass our love of fibre arts onto the next generation.

The summer always goes by too quickly as we spend our days spinning, dyeing, making baskets, and weaving. As usual, we are spending the fall getting prepared for our **43rd annual Exhibit and Sale**. Once again, we will host this at the Whonnock Lake Centre, where we have held it for nearly 40 years. We would be pleased to welcome all of our friends in Whonnock – and beyond! This event will take place on **Sunday, November 24 from 10 am to 4 pm**. We would also like to thank the Whonnock Community Association for their continued support and help with our exhibit and sale. We really appreciate you.

However, before this, a group of us will be demonstrating weaving and spinning at the Maple Ridge Library for Culture Days on October 5. Please drop in and see what we are doing, and chat with us. We are a vibrant and friendly group of fibre artists, and welcome anyone with the same “addiction”. **We meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 pm** at St. John the Divine Church at the corner of Laity and River Road. If you wish further information, phone Marie at 604-462-9059 or visit our website at [www.wwsg.ca](http://www.wwsg.ca) or follow us on Facebook or Instagram. **SEE YOU IN NOVEMBER!**

## RUSKIN COMMUNITY HALL



28395 96th Avenue, Maple Ridge, BC, V2W 1L3  
Phone or text 604-462-9739

email - general - [ruskinhall@yahoo.ca](mailto:ruskinhall@yahoo.ca)  
Facebook - Ruskin Community Hall  
Website - [www.ruskinhall.com](http://www.ruskinhall.com)

The Ruskin Hall is located at the corner of 284th Street and 96 Avenue. Hall meetings are on the **second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm**. Everyone is welcome.

The hall is available for rental at hourly or nightly rates for small events, classes, or meetings. Capacity is 100 persons for banquet events or 125 persons for auditorium events. For rental information contact our Booking Agent at 604-462-9739, [bookings@ruskinhall.com](mailto:bookings@ruskinhall.com), or [www.ruskinhall.com](http://www.ruskinhall.com).

> **Alcoholics Anonymous meetings** are **every Monday evening from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm**. For information contact Dave at 604-462-7616.  
> Check out our website for more upcoming events like a community potluck, **Breakfast with Santa** on **December 7th, 2024** and our 100th Anniversary Celebration on **October 19, 2024, 1:00 to 4:00 pm**.

## FIRST WHONNOCK SCOUTS

If interested in joining us, either youth or adult, please email [1stwhonnockscoutgroup@gmail.com](mailto:1stwhonnockscoutgroup@gmail.com)



## SUNFLOWER CAFE



We would love to put a little something about our catering services through the winter :)

As we get ready to say goodbye to another wonderful season at Sunflower Cafe, we look forward to the holiday season just around the

corner. We are accepting bookings for catering, Christmas and holiday parties, and in home dining experiences. If you or your business are interested, or have any questions, please reach out at [sunflowercafebc@gmail.com](mailto:sunflowercafebc@gmail.com) We look forward to a wonderful season of preparing some delicious meals and hosting memorable parties!

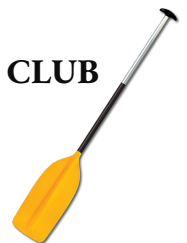
## ONE BOOK WHONNOCK

Not quite a book club, but an opportunity for neighbors to meet and get to know each other over a book. We choose a title once or twice a year and come together to talk about it informally. We like to pick books that have something to do with Whonnock or the West Coast, or at least with Canada, and mostly those have been non-fiction titles, but not always. We haven't chosen our next title yet, so if you are interested, keep your eyes open for an announcement on the WCA Website, or on Whonnock Neighbours Facebook page. Anyone can join!

If you are interested in joining this reading project, please contact Helmi at [braches@shaw.ca](mailto:braches@shaw.ca) or 604-462-8942.

## RIDGE CANOE AND KAYAK CLUB

For information please refer to [rckc.ca](http://rckc.ca)



## WHONNOCK WINTER MARKET



Whonnock Elementary will again be hosting their annual Winter Market hosting over 40 vendors, 2 food trucks, raffle baskets all to raise funds for our school and students.

The event will be held on **November 17th from 10am - 3pm** and can be found on Facebook here:

[www.facebook.com/whonnockhandmademarkets](http://www.facebook.com/whonnockhandmademarkets)

## RAINBOW EGGS FARM NEW FLOWER BARN

Finally, a place to come and learn about agriculture. The Rainbow Eggs Flower farm is looking for ideas for agriculture focused workshops.

We have created an open air barn where we can gather and teach others about growing. Classes so far will include flower therapy, where you can come and harvest your own flowers and learn how to build your own "Jar of Happy". Pumpkin flower arrangement, wreath making, Dahlia 101 and soil blocking.



"We would love to hear from the community and find out what other types of workshops you would like to see" says Pascale Shaw, farm owner. We are excited to share our love of growing with others.

Please share your ideas with The Rainbow Eggs Farm by email [therainboweggsfarm@gmail.com](mailto:therainboweggsfarm@gmail.com) or on FB @rainboweggsfarm or instagram @therainboweggsfarm

## BooHooVille Carnival



Whonnock Elementary school will be having their bi-annual **BooHoo Ville Carnival on October 24, 2024**. This event is so important to the children at Whonnock Elementary as the proceeds raised go towards upgrading resources, technology and other school needs!

We are reaching out to the community for support looking for local businesses to donate goods/services to the silent auction. All sponsors will be displayed during this event. Every little bit counts! Please reach out to Danika Adamthwaite Nicole Wallis or Kelley Hanson if you would like to contribute to the silent auction. You can also email [whonnockboohooville@gmail.com](mailto:whonnockboohooville@gmail.com)

## ALL CANDIDATES MEETING

Held at Whonnock Lake Centre on **Monday, Oct 7th, 6:30 - 8:30 pm**. Followed by Meet and Greet. Meeting is open for everyone.

## **PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE [\(LINK\)](#) PROGRAMS AT WHONNOCK LAKE CENTRE**

### **CANOE & KAYAK PROGRAMS**

**Learn to Paddle** Age: 8Y-14Y

**Adult Learn to Kayak** Age: 19Y and up

Learn proper posture, balance, steering, stroke technique and basic water safety skills in both kayaks and canoes at Whonnock Lake. Instruction given by Ridge Canoe and Kayak Club coaches and all equipment is included.

Instructor: RCKC

### **RCKC'S PADDLING PALS**

This paddling program is run by our CanoeKids certified coaches and introduces children to the sport of sprint canoe/kayak in a fun, safe and team oriented environment. We focus on teaching the FUNdamentals of paddling by developing a foundation for movement skills, coordination, balance and teamwork. Promoting outdoor activity; our multi-sport/activity-based program will help keep the children engaged, active and having fun, with plenty of time for free play and socialization, all while developing a new set of paddling skills.

Location: Whonnock Lake – RCKC Boathouse

### **PILATES BY THE LAKE**

Age: 16+

A play on traditional Pilates, this class will work the entire body from head to toe. Strengthen, lengthen and tone your way to a stronger core, increased balance, flexibility and better posture.

Grab your mat and join us!

Instructor: Curtis Health

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre

### **HATHA YOGA**

Age: 16+

This alignment-oriented class emphasizes posture and breath. It uses poses and stretches in combination with the breath that will develop and increase flexibility and relaxation. An excellent way to calm the mind and connect with your body. Please bring your own mat.

Instructor: Curtis Health

Location: Whonnock Lake Centre

## **ANGLICAN CHURCH**

The Holy Spirit Anglican Church in Whonnock hosted a walkathon at Rolley Lake in September, to raise money for an Anglican hospital in Gaza which has been heavily damaged during attacks there. Over \$3,000 was raised.



The church held a farewell party at the end of June for Rev'd Miranda Sutherland to celebrate her five years of ministry in Whonnock, and to wish her well at her new parish in Port Moody. Rev'd Paul has been with us since then. He is passionate about ministry to the vulnerable, and has volunteered to make several deliveries of medical supplies to the Ukraine in recent months. Our future plans will unfold during the Fall. Watch for them on our website >

[www.holyspiritanglican.ca](http://www.holyspiritanglican.ca) and Facebook page > [www.facebook.com/HolySpiritAnglicanChurchWhonnock](https://www.facebook.com/HolySpiritAnglicanChurchWhonnock).

**Worship on Sundays at 1 pm** and you are most welcome to join us.

## **Membership**

Everyone living in Whonnock is considered to be a member of the Whonnock Community Association.

By being registered as a member for more than two months you get voting rights at our meetings. For membership information call Helmi at 604 462 8942.

Or e-mail to [webmaster@whonnock.ca](mailto:webmaster@whonnock.ca).



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