

MARCH 2026

GRANVILLE GARDENS Bulletin

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Spring Gardening in Granville Gardens: *Ready, Set, Grow!!*

By Christiane Aust, Landscaping Committee

After this year's mild BC winter, our gardens are already stretching awake — and the weeds wasted no time making themselves at home. If you've been feeling the sudden urge to "just check on the plants," you're definitely not alone!

Now's the time to tidy up garden beds, backyards, wake up your soil with some compost, and plant your favorite spring flowers. Just remember — BC weather still enjoys a little drama, so keep those frost covers nearby... just in case.

New soil will be arriving (dates to be determined- most likely in early April) because nothing says spring like fresh soil and big gardening dreams.



Gardening is always better together, so say hello to your neighbours, swap tips, share extra seedlings, and help keep our community green and growing.

Let's dig in and make this our best growing season yet!

See you out there!!

Block Watch:

Record Your Items

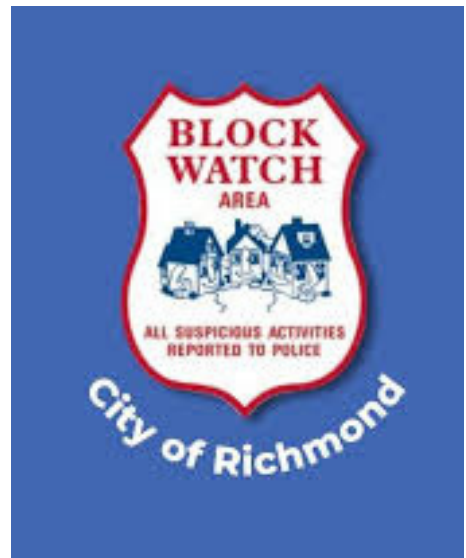
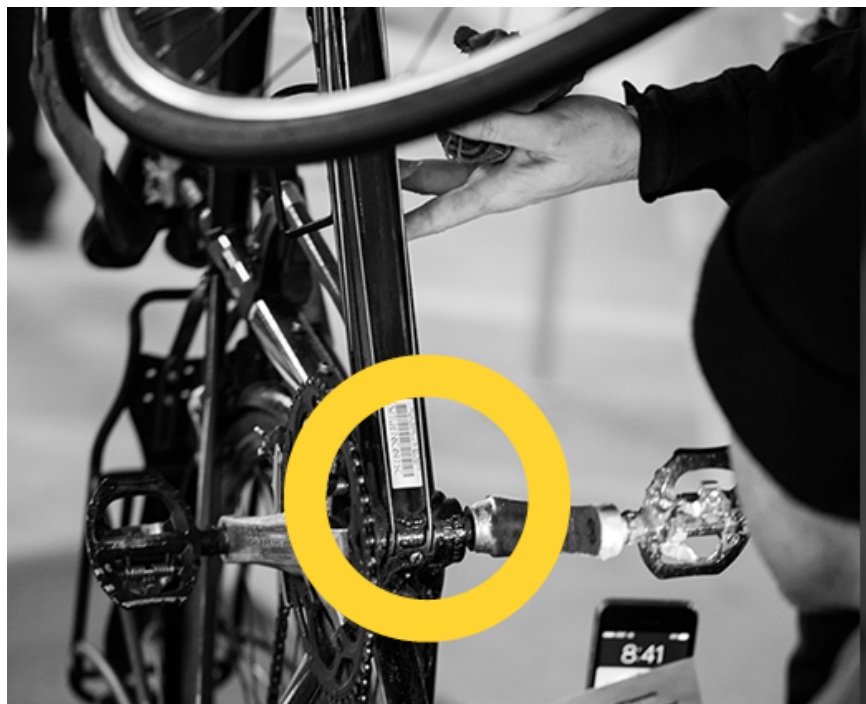
By Trish Kavanagh, Blockwatch Coordinator

Do you have a record of the items in your storage room, shed, garage, or open car port? Keeping an inventory can help with identifying and recovering stolen property. It also allows you to quickly determine what's missing if a theft occurs, rather than scrambling to remember what you had.

Record the serial numbers & secure items

- Items you use frequently such as car battery charges, power tools, bikes and electronics have serial numbers. For items without serial numbers, document other unique identifiers such as dents, stickers, scratches, or custom features.
- For bikes, e-bikes, and e-scooters use Project 529 to keep a record of your micromobility. The app allows you to upload pictures, record detailed descriptions, and securely store your information in one place.
- Properly secure your items and remove them from plain sight.

If your bike was stolen and recovered, different police jurisdictions including Richmond RCMP are able to use the database, identify the owner, and return the bike to you.



COMMUNITY INFORMATION

GRANVILLE GARDENS OFFICE COORDINATOR: Mark Mummery

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BOARD

Email: boardgghc@gmail.com

Sandra Nixon, President

Greg Elia, Vice-President

Caleb Ward, Treasurer

Christiane Aust, Secretary

Maria Petkova, Director at Large

Darrin Williams, Director at Large

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Maintenance - Angie Galbraith

Landscaping - Christiane Aust

Participation - Nhemet Jaffer

Membership - Anne Davidson

Disclaimer: Content is for general information only. Accuracy is not guaranteed. Views are those of contributors, not the newsletter team. Please verify details before acting.

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BOARD UPDATE

The Board is pleased to share the following updates from the past month.

The office has received a **new printer**. Mark will be setting it up and will send all committee chairs their login information once configuration is complete.

The Board is pleased to report that the **Asset management Plan (AMP)** is now finalized. More details will be provided at the AGM in the spring. Many thanks to previous boards who also worked on developing the plan over the last few years.

The board has **authorized inspections of all drop ceilings in applicable units**. This is often an area which attracts rodent activity.

The Board has also made good progress on several important matters behind the scenes. Some of this work involves sensitive discussions, legal considerations, and safety-related issues. As a result, we are not always able to share details immediately, but please be assured these matters are being handled with care and due diligence.

REMINDERS:

We remind all members that **submission of proof of home and care insurance is mandatory**. If you have not yet provided this information, please do so as soon as possible. The same applies to completion of the most recent member survey, which is essential to support informed planning and decision-making.

COMMITTEE UPDATE

Maintenance Committee

- Mice: The co-op spent about \$27,000 on pest control last year, but issues continue. Since members finished their own basements (some with drop ceilings that may harbour mice), the Board approved inspections of basement ceilings and replacement where needed. Inspections are underway.
- Window washing: Planned for late May or early June.
- Work orders: All completed except 10 tied to larger AMP projects (bathrooms, flooring, painting). Submit issues via the hall form, NLM website, or email the office. Report plumbing, electrical, or mold concerns immediately.
- Blinds: Replacements ongoing, one building at a time.
- Laundry rooms: Please keep doors closed to prevent mice from entering.

Participation Committee

Upcoming events:

- April 15: Tea, 2–4 pm
- April 18: Spring clean-up with Landscaping Committee (lunch provided)

We're looking for more members! Join our next meeting on April 7 at 6:30 pm. We meet on the first Monday of each month (except holidays).

Questions? Contact Chairperson Nhemet Jaffer at nimij@telus.net.

Membership Committee

Monita Ko (Unit 84) moved to Unit 59 in early February. Unit 84 is being renovated.

After interviewing three families, the Board approved the Membership Committee's recommendation. The Badoe family (parents and three children) will move in on April 1. The committee is also preparing a joint member policy to submit to the Board for review.

Fire Safety and Prevention: *What to Do*

By Anne Davidson, Membership Committee

Winter is the peak season for house fires due to increased heating and more time spent indoors. Recently, two Metro Vancouver co-ops experienced fires and another had a close call. Since over 80% of house fires are accidental, prevention is everyone's responsibility.

"Fire safety is everyone's responsibility," says Michelle Cooper-Iversen, CHF BC Chief Operating Officer. Co-ops can reduce risk through regular inspections, timely maintenance, and neighbours looking out for one another.

Common Fire Risks & How to Prevent Them

Electrical

- Inspect wiring regularly and use licensed professionals.
- Replace damaged cords immediately.
- Avoid overloading outlets and power bars.

Cooking

- Never leave cooking unattended.
- Keep flammable items away from stovetops.
- Learn how to safely put out a grease fire.

Heating

- Keep portable heaters 1 metre from anything flammable.
- Clean regularly and check cords.
- Plug directly into proper outlets.

Candles

- Never leave unattended; burn no more than 4 hours.
- Keep away from curtains and décor.
- Consider flameless options.

Smoking

- Smoke outside and fully extinguish cigarettes.
- Never smoke in bed or when drowsy.

Co-op Responsibilities

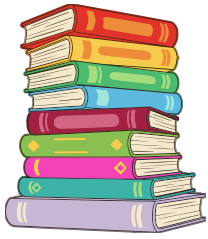
- Consider fire-resistant materials during upgrades.
- Inspect fire alarms and sprinkler systems regularly.
- Provide extinguishers in common areas and offer training.
- Ensure residents know evacuation routes; consider fire drills.
- Support seniors or those with accessibility needs with check-ins or adaptive alarms.
- Encourage support for residents whose health may affect fire safety.



When we work together, we help keep our co-op community safe and thriving.

(Source: CHFBC Website)

NEWS & EVENTS



WHALE OF A BOOK SALE

The Whale of a Book Sale is back at **Thomson Community Centre**. This popular community event features thousands of gently used books across all genres—perfect for readers of all ages looking to stock up at great prices. **Cash only and please bring your own bags.*

March 14, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

March 15, 9:00 AM-2:00 PM

Granville Gardens Buddy System



Join Our Private Facebook Community!

We're building a stronger, more connected co-op — one neighbour at a time.

Offer Help

- Check in on a neighbour
- Help carry groceries
- Help with basic home maintenance tasks
- Be a friendly connection for someone who needs it

Ask for Help

- Need a quick hand with something?
- Looking for support during a busy time?
- Want to connect with other members?



How It Works

- Join the private Facebook group
- Post if you'd like to volunteer or if you need assistance
- Connect safely with fellow co-op members
- Participation is completely voluntary — whether you want to be a Buddy or request a Buddy, you are welcome.

Send an email to granvillebulletin@gmail.com to join.
You will then receive an invite to the private facebook group.



This is a time to celebrate the achievements, resilience, and contributions of women in our community and around the world. It's also an opportunity to reflect on our ongoing work toward equity and inclusion, and to recommit ourselves to building a supportive, respectful co-op for everyone.

March 8th



INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY