



# THE BUZZ

South Burnaby Neighbourhood House [www.sbnh.ca](http://www.sbnh.ca)

Summer - 2010

South Burnaby Neighbourhood House: 4845 Imperial Street, Burnaby, BC V5J 1C5 Phone: 604-431-0400 Fax: 604-431-9499

## Looking In- Reaching Out “Community Talks on Building Welcoming and Inclusive Communities” Thought Provoking and Inspirational

By Branka Vlasic

Our Neighbourhood House was pleased to be approached by the Burnaby Intercultural Planning Table to coordinate three Community Dialogues. With funding from the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia, SBNH hosted three Community Talks as part of a larger project called “Looking In- Reaching Out”.

New and long term residents, community service providers, business people, City of Burnaby and New Westminster representatives, youth and seniors all got together to share their thoughts and inspire action to make Burnaby and New Westminster welcoming and inclusive communities. Each of the three Community Talks had an individual focus in order to look at what makes a community welcoming and inclusive, what we do/ don't do well, and what actions are required to make it better.

At the First Community Talk in March, with the help of graphic facilitator Avril Orloff, participants defined welcoming and inclusive communities as PEOPLE who are kind, respectful, and open minded. FAMILIES who are trusting and loving. SCHOOLS that are friendly, open to the community and supportive to students and their parents. COMMUNITY CENTRES and ORGANIZATIONS that are accessible, culturally and language sensitive, and provide opportunities for community members to give back. BUSINESSES that provide equal employment opportunities, mentorship for newcomers and see new immigrants as assets. In welcoming and inclusive NEIGHBOURHOODS people feel safe, and they are friendly to each other, know each others names and love getting together.

Having this ideal community in mind, participants discussed how welcoming and inclusive Burnaby and New Westminster are. Without any doubt, the multiculturalism of the two cities was seen as the biggest of successes. It was concluded with lots of pride that both cities are diversity champions providing excellent services for newcomers, multilingual resources, and events that celebrate cultural diversity. Community schools, the

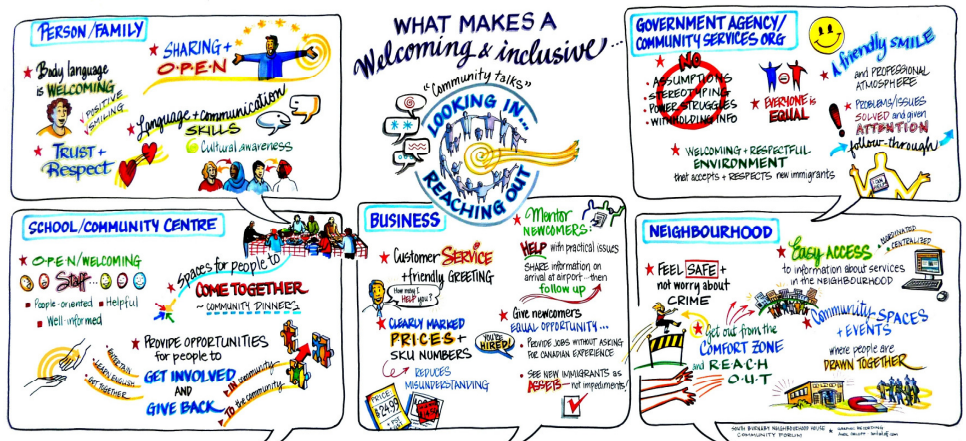
Neighbourhood House, parks, libraries, immigrant serving organizations and post secondary educational institutions were singled out as outstanding. When talking about challenges, community members focused on expensive housing, inadequate rental housing, and overcrowded shopping and recreational facilities. It was mentioned that many businesses still hesitate to hire newcomers and that there is no mentorship for immigrant entrepreneurs. Diversity of Burnaby and New Westminster, although enriching, was also found challenging for many. Language barriers, isolation of newcomers who don't speak English, and negative attitudes towards cultural differences were mentioned as the biggest road blocks to successful intercultural communication and relationship building.

The Third Community Talk in May focused on some of the changes that may enhance the welcoming and inclusive nature of Burnaby and New Westminster. Inspired by keynote speaker Myra Ottewell's film “Mississippi Re-Mixed” and her heart-warming presentation of self-exploration and discovery, community members came up with some very specific ideas and solutions for the challenges mentioned in the previous Talk. In order to make newcomers more welcome and included, more support services and programs were suggested, including an “Immigrant Amba-

sador program”, free and unlimited ESL classes, internships and practicums for newcomer professionals, and more social gatherings and projects to exchange cultures and build relationships. Discussing housing issues, community members asked for more shelters for homeless, and they suggested lobbying with MLAs and MPs in order to improve the rental housing conditions in Burnaby and New Westminster. At the end of the third Community Talk, participants wrote letters to themselves agreeing to a personal action that will make their respective communities more welcoming and inclusive. As much as they expected themselves to be part of creating a positive change, they clearly expressed the need for involvement of government agencies and political representatives.

As mentioned, this series of community talks was part of the Burnaby Inter-Cultural Planning Table's Looking In , Reaching Out project. Information gathered will be forwarded to both the provincial and federal government and will help inform the continued work and direction of the Table.

SBNH would like to thank the funding agencies, BIPT and all participating community members, staff and volunteers for their contribution and we look forward to new opportunities to gather together and continue the dialogue.



**Volunteers: Our Shining Stars**

Our special thanks goes to the following volunteers for their commitment, dedication and hard work:

**Office Assistants:** Barbara Federici, Ruth Chen, Sue Allen, Marion Krause, Veronica Webster, Eddy Fung, Zulfiya Mustafina, Grace Xu, Laura Covaza, Karina Velasco, Gulnara Malgazhdarova, Lorna Santico, Mae Lee, Diego Velasco, Lou Corpuz-Bosshart, Amruta Badiger.

**Volunteer Conference Organizer:** Hong Dong and Wendy Wang for working hard to organize our 3rd Annual Volunteer Conference.

**ESL Teachers:** Mamta Babla, Rajeeta Samala, Patience Wong, David Huitson, for making the ESL a welcoming and fun environment.

**Computer Instructors:** Rahim Reyimujiang, Rixat Abdursul.

**Sharing Cultures Community Nights Planning Committee:** Jeanette Whitworth, Lori Pederson, Maryam Fathi, Amira Gaber, Wana Sei, Naoko Widman, Shihoko Shimizu, Rajeetha Samala, Mae Lee, Nasim Sayyadi, Aida Abdullwahab for making each cultural night a success.

**Building Welcoming and Inclusive Neighbourhoods Committee(BWIN):** Chandu Peiris, Amira Gaber, Julia Zhao, Sonia Sanan, Lily Wu, Carina Velasco.

**Special Events:** Soo hoe Nah, Andrew Park, Sunny Sun, Kiyoe Iguchi, Sirour Salih, Maria Mancera, Winni Liu, Parviz Paydafar, Justin Lee, Kate Gordanier-Smith, Mumtaz Noormohamed, Sherena Tsai, Jielei Feng for helping with various activities at the events.

**Special Event Photographers:** Naoko Widman, Olec Barsukevich.

**Income Tax:** Mary Huitson, Bonnie Forsyth, Frances Fraser, Yasmin Versteeg, May Ng, Najma Shivji, Firouz Nematyfar, Joyce Tseng, Shirley Chiu, Felynda Njotosetiadi, Lynn Lin, Nam Le, Sandy Chiu, Linda Jia, Ashley Jung for continued commitment to help around 1200 clients file their income tax.

**55+ Volunteer Outreach Ambassadors:** Andy Baldo, Dorothy Canhan, George Fang, Grace Wang, Joan Stevens, Young Kim, Iraj Mehan, Vydyasagar Duggal, Tricia Alford, and Raj Vyas for acting as ambassadors providing connections and information within their communities and amongst their peers.

**Summer Programs 2010**

**Youth Adventures (grades 5-8 in Sep. 2010)**

**Summer Fun Clubs (grades 1-4 in Sep. 2010)**

Each week participants take part in a variety of activities (crafts, sports, out trips, etc.). Every week is a different theme (Kids Go Green, Super Heroes, etc.).

**Dates:** July 5<sup>th</sup> - Aug 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm, Mon-Fri

**Cost:** Youth Adventures \$90/week

Summer Fun Clubs \$80/week

Some subsidies are available through the Burnaby Camping Bureau at (604) 299-5778, ext. 28.

**Locations:** Clinton Elementary School, Douglas Road Elementary School, Edmonds Community School, Marlborough Elementary School, Maywood Community School, Stride Ave. Community School. For more information or to download a registration form visit our website: [www.sbnh.ca](http://www.sbnh.ca), or drop by the Neighbourhood House.

**Licensed Child Care**

SBNH runs licensed child care over the summer for children kindergarten to grade 7. (Children must have completed kindergarten to be eligible)

**Dates:** July 5<sup>th</sup> - Aug 31<sup>st</sup>, 2010, 7:00 am - 6:00 pm, Mon- Fri

**Cost:** \$220/week

Some subsidies are available. For more information contact the Provincial Government-Child Care Branch at: 1-888-338-6622.

**Locations:**

- Maywood Neighbourhood Care
- Marlborough Neighbourhood Care
- Stride Avenue Neighbourhood Care (also serving Taylor Park School)
- Douglas Rd Neighbourhood Care
- Clinton Neighbourhood Care (also serving Nelson and Glenwood schools)
- Lochdale Neighbourhood Care- (no summer care)
- Gilpin Neighbourhood Care- (no summer care)

Call Wana at 604-431-0400 for space availability.



South Burnaby Neighbourhood House and Burnaby Family Life are community organizers for *The Safe Harbour* Program in Burnaby. *Safe Harbour* provides training for businesses and agencies to create a safe and respectful environment for people of diverse backgrounds. It is the program that promotes respect for all, community safety and well-being. For more details visit

[www.safeharbour.ca](http://www.safeharbour.ca)

Call Kimberly or Branka at 604-431-0400 if you are interested in free training for your staff team.



# Programs & Services

## Storefront Drop-in

Information about our community and free coffee are available at the Neighbourhood House. Monday-Friday: 9:00am – 4:30pm

## Youth Leadership

We offer 3 levels of Youth Leadership Program:

- **Foundations in Leadership**- A leadership program designed for younger youth in grades 8 and 9. On-going registration is available for this program.
- **Leadership 1** – A community leadership training program developed for local high school youth that focuses on skill development in both group and individual situations working with children. Leadership 1 runs January to August each year.
- **Leadership 2** – The focus of this level is on being a *change agent* within the community by project planning and fundraising for the immediate and long-term needs of the community. Leadership 2 starts October and runs through to May each year. Call Marleen at 604-431-0400 for more info.

## Family Place Drop-in Program

Family Place is a drop-in program for children 0-5 and their (grand) parents. Children can come and join in games, crafts and story time while (grand) parents enjoy a cup of coffee, some conversation, or a parent information session.

### SBNH Family Place- 4845 Imperial Street

Monday-Thursday: 9:30am -11:30am (Mon & Wed– Grandparents Day; Tues & Thurs– Parents Day).

### Brentwood Family Place- 4430 Halifax Street

Wednesdays and Fridays: 9:30-11:30am

### Clinton Family Place- 5858 Clinton St. (Closed July and August)

Mondays and Wednesdays: 9:30 – 11:30am  
Call Maheen at 604-431-0400 for more info.

## Neighbourhood Outreach for Families

Outreach workers are available to support parents with young children (under 5) who need help meeting other parents and making community connections to local family resource programs. Contact Maggie Marquardt (South Burnaby) or Margaret Kelly (North Burnaby) at 604-431-0400.

## Income Tax Clinic

Volunteers are available year-round to assist individuals with their income tax returns. Service is offered to those with limited incomes and we request a \$5 donation per return.

## ESL Classes for Beginners

Volunteer-led ESL classes are available throughout the year for beginner students. The classes are Mondays and Thursdays from 1:00-3:00 pm.

## Computer Class

With the help of a volunteer instructor learn, how to use computers, surf the internet, create email account, and type simple texts. Wednesdays from 3:00-5:00pm

## Free Law Clinics

Tuesdays 12:15pm – 2:15pm. Provided to individuals who cannot access help from Legal Aid and who are low income and cannot afford a lawyer. Half hour appointments can be booked with a qualified volunteer lawyer who will provide step by step advice for dispute resolution. Lawyers do not appear in court, but can assist clients in court preparation. Call **604-878-7400** to book an appointment. Provided in partnership with the Western Canada Society to Access Justice.

## Community Kitchens

Two Community Kitchen groups will begin in the fall at Edmond's Neighbourhood Resource Centre and Maywood Community School. These Community Kitchens are for families with low income. If you are interested in participating please contact Lynn in September at 604-431-0400.

## Seniors Together Program

A senior led group that focuses on welcoming and involving seniors in a variety of different activities at the Neighbourhood House. Wednesdays and Fridays .

**English conversation group:** Fridays 10:00am-11:00am

**Seniors Social Group:** Fridays 11:00am-1:30pm (light lunch will be served).

**Games on the Wii and Exercise:** Wednesdays from 12:00pm-3:00pm.

Call Joan at 604-431-0400 to get involved in the Seniors Planning Committee or just drop in and enjoy.

## Seniors Outreach Program

The Seniors Outreach worker addresses the needs of isolated seniors who generally do not access the existing services and programs for seniors due to language, cultural, income, knowledge and confidence barriers. For more information contact Lycia at 604-431-0400.

## SUMMER COMMUNITY BBQ'S

Bring your friends and family and meet your neighbours.

Join us for hot dogs, games and socializing.

Check the schedule for a location near you—all are welcome.

**All BBQ's are from 6:00-7:30pm.**

**Cost: \$1 for hot dog (chicken or veggie), chips and a drink, \$0.25 for a freezie.**

- July 13th—Douglas Rd School, 4861 Canada Way (at Kincaid)
- July 15th—Marlborough Elementary School, corner of Sanders and Royal Oak.
- July 20th—Edmonds Community School, 7651 18th Ave
- July 22nd—Clinton Elementary School, 5858 Clinton St
- July 27th—Stride Ave Community School, 7014 Stride Ave
- July 29th—Maywood Community School, 4567 Imperial St

## OPEN HOUSE & STREET PARTY

**August 19th,  
11:30am-2:00pm**



Join us for a BBQ lunch, face painting, crafts, games and fun. Jubilee Ave will be closed as we get together and enjoy the summer day.

**Only \$1 for hot dog, chips and a drink.**

**Everyone Welcome!**

## South Burnaby Neighbourhood House

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 Outreach Family Worker (North Burnaby) ..... Margaret Kelly  
 Seniors Outreach Worker ..... Lycia Rodrigues  
 Seniors' Program Supervisor ..... Joan Thomsen  
 Office Assistant ..... Simone Gouveia  
 Office Assistant ..... Julia Zhao

**We would like to Acknowledge & Thank  
 the following 09-10 Financial Supporters:**

United Way of the Lower Mainland, Vancity,  
 Royal Bank of Canada, G & F Financial Group,  
 Burnaby Firefighters, Vancouver Province's Empty Stocking  
 Fund, BC Gaming and Enforcement Branch, Ministry of  
 Community, Aboriginal & Women's Services, Ministry for  
 Children & Family Development, HRDC, BC Immigration  
 and Integration Branch, Rotary Club of Burnaby  
 Metrotown, Vancouver Foundation, Scotiabank, City of Burnaby,  
 Investor's Group, Coast Capital Savings,  
 And

**Sponsors of our Stars Are Out Diamond Ball Held  
 February 6th 2010**

Trio Diamond and Gold, Allegra Print and Imaging,  
 Investor's Group, Greiner, Bethell and Company,  
 Burnaby NewsLeader, Petal Pushers, Scotiabank, West Jet,  
 Firefighters Club, The Wine Shoppe  
 Sweet Beginnings, Burnaby Board of Trade and the Hilton  
**Save the date: 2011 Diamond Ball is Feb. 19th**

**JOIN THE FUN!**

**9th Annual Burnaby Car Rally Fundraiser  
 Sunday September 26th**

*Be an event sponsor or sponsor a team to enter the driving  
 challenge—it's a guaranteed day of fun that will entertain  
 you while helping us raise funds for our new Gilpin Childcare*

**Centre. JOIN AS A BUSINESS SPONSOR!**

Call Antonia at 604-431-0400



**Yes! I would like to support the South Burnaby Neighbourhood House:**

Please accept my donation of: \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque enclosed  Mastercard  Visa

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Receipts issued for donations over \$15. Mail to: 4845 Imperial St. Burnaby, BC V5J 1C5