



HilltopNews

C O N N E C T I N G N E I G H B O U R S

Glenmore, British Properties, Chartwell, Canterbury, Westhill, Whitby Estates, Chelsea Park, Taylor's Lookout, Rodgers Creek, Cypress Park Estates, Panorama Village

A Snowy Day in Paradise – The British Properties in February



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President's Message



Spring has arrived in the British Properties. The snow is almost gone, and I am looking forward to my first year as president of the British Properties Area Homeowners Association. The current Board members are working hard on behalf of our residents and are doing a great job in creating a real sense of community in the British Properties. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Municipality for clearing the roads and maintaining the streets with the unexpected snowfall this year, as well as all our neighbours for their patience and our directors for helping other neighbours who experienced difficulties with the heavy snowfall.

We are looking ahead to a great spring. On behalf of our directors I would like to say that we are looking forward to seeing everybody at our next Neighbourhood Barbecue planned for June.

Sincerely, Shahin Behroyan

Block Watch Neighbourhood Update



by Anne Russell

West Vancouver, and especially The British Properties, has one of the lowest crime rates in the country. However, we never want citizens to let their guard down – don't make it easy for thieves. Theft from Auto is always a concern as people continue to leave valuables in their parked vehicles

while they are hiking, walking their dogs or enjoying community and sporting events.

Please try to reduce your own risk of victimization: never leave valuables such as wallets, purses or electronic devices in plain view in your vehicle. If you must put valuables in your vehicle trunk, place them there before arriving at your destination, in case a potential thief is watching.



If your neighbourhood is not involved in Block Watch please contact Anne Russell for information: annerussell@wvpc.ca

For up-to-date police reports and information please visit: www.wvpc.ca/breaking-stories

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Learn About Our Furry Neighbours

by Robyn Schade

If you are new to living in this area or you're simply concerned about human/bear interaction, we hope you'll take a little time to learn about bears. We live surrounded by lovely parks, trails and streams that form natural wildlife corridors which extend into residential areas. Black bears often follow these corridors and may wander into our neighbourhoods in search of easy food sources such as garbage and fruit trees.

Black bears are generally shy, gentle animals that are very rarely known to be aggressive – they will likely run away when they see humans. Please visit the North Shore Black Bear Society (NSBBS) website, www.northshorebears.com, for information about bears. The aim of the NSBBS is to keep bears in the woods and out of our neighbourhoods by reducing and eliminating the attractants that lure them in.

Please follow our West Vancouver curbside collection rules: keep garbage and the Green Can in your garage;



A young black bear checking out garbage in the BPs. Oops, we left the garbage out. Photo by Peter Dushop

set it out after 5 AM on collection day, not the night before. And bring empty garbage can in as soon as possible after pick up – don't leave them outside.

And if you inadvertently run into a bear remember the four S's: Stay calm; Stand still (do not run!); Speak calmly; Slowly back away.

A portrait of John Weston, MP, MLA West Vancouver-Capilano, smiling. He is wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and blue striped tie. The background is a scenic view of West Vancouver with a bridge and mountains.

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A photograph of a modern, multi-story house with large glass windows and balconies. The house is illuminated from within, and the sky is a deep blue. The David Christopher Architecture logo is overlaid on the top left of the image.

David Christopher

DISTINCTIVELY DIFFERENT DESIGN

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A portrait of Ralph Sultan, MLA West Vancouver-Capilano, smiling. He is wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and red tie.

Ralph Sultan
MLA West Vancouver-Capilano

604-981-0050
ralph.sultan.mla@leg.bc.ca

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Sign up for my newsletter at:
www.ralphsultanmla.ca

The logo for British Pacific Homes, featuring a stylized bridge and the text "BRITISH PACIFIC HOMES".

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Hiking in the British Properties for Fun, Fresh Air and Learning More History About



by Maciej Sobczyk

In the British Properties we're blessed with the proximity of wonderful forest, creeks and mountains. It's not difficult to get to the wilderness when you live here. The extended Brothers Creek Loop will take you for a short lesson about North Shore logging history and to the true rain-forest.

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In the early 1900s the upper British Properties was extensively logged and the trails that remain lead to Blue Gentian Lake and upper sections of Brothers Creek. The trailhead is located at Millstream Rd., 200 meters east of Henlow Rd. A small parking (P) area provides space for 6 to 7 cars so usually it is easy to find a spot for your vehicle. At the beginning of your hike you are rewarded with outstanding city views on the right. Two hundred meters further, note the logs in the roadbed. These logs once supported locomotives constructed

The bridge that takes you over Brothers Creek.

for logging in 1908. A rocky and bumpy road takes you uphill, and at the crossing you go to the right towards leftovers of the steam sawmill (1). This part of the trail leads you across part of the forest logged more than one hundred years ago. Large stumps were left by the lumberjacks and many of them show the charring left by the forest fires of 1910 and 1916.

Half an hour later you have a chance to see rainforest (2) as it used to be before the sawmills' era. Magnificent cedar trees tower and impress with their height and large circumference. Finally, a wooden bridge spans across Brothers Creek (3) see photo (above). Past the bridge turn right to the trail towards Blue Gentian Lake. It's not a logging road anymore but a narrow, winding path. Watch for markers on the trees. Blue Gentian Lake (4) is surrounded by wetlands, so stay on the boardwalk. A



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Out Logging on the North Shore

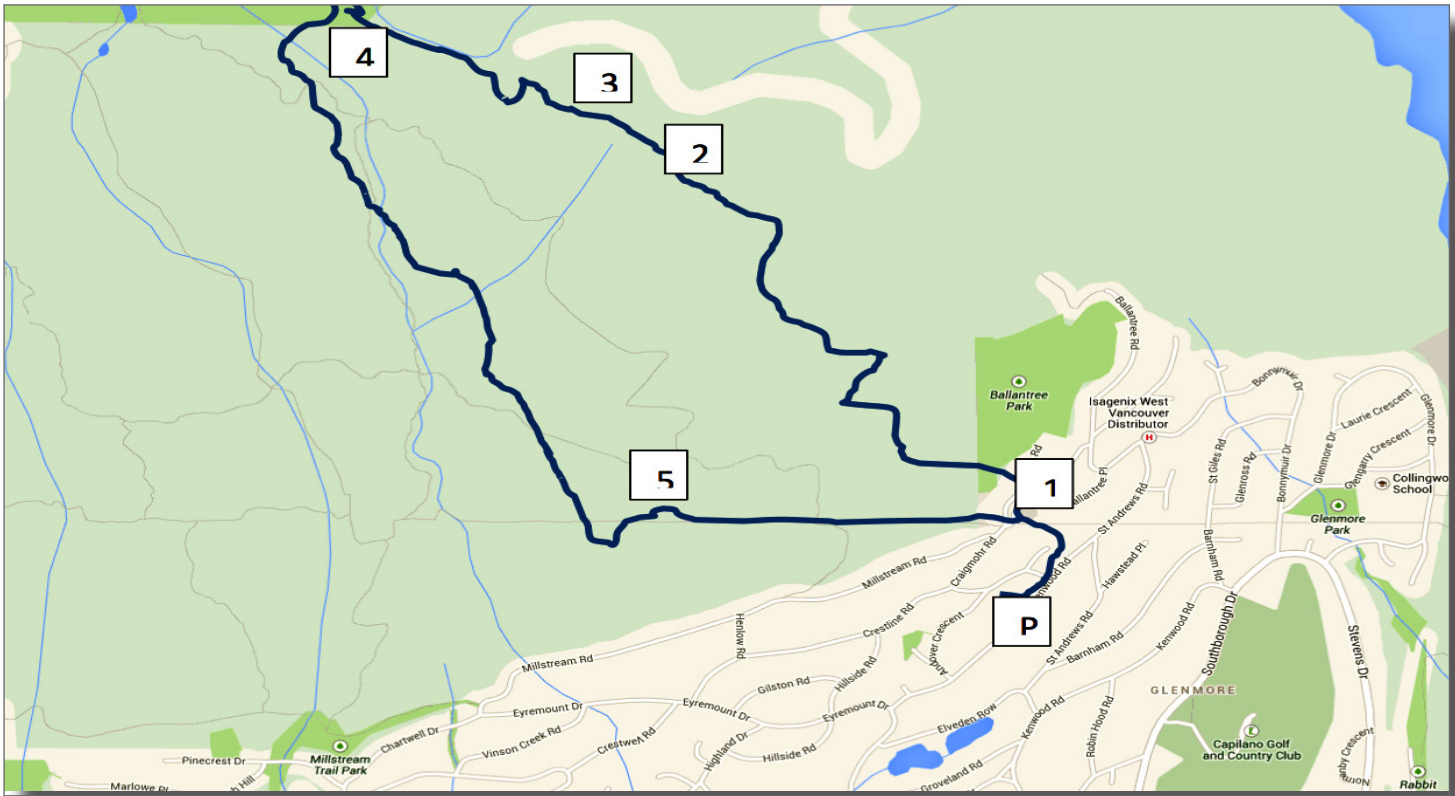
camping table is there for tired hikers – a perfect place to rest and enjoy the quiet.

On your way back watch your steps hiking downhill on the Baden Powell trail. There are steep and slippery sections but generally the trail is well maintained and safe. Turn left (east) when you get to the power line. Don't be lured by the trail going straight down – you may end up far from your car. Follow the well-established trail along the power line to the east. It crosses Brothers Creek where a spectacular waterfall (5) is a great opportunity

for a photo. It's a slippery section so watch your step. The loop closes at that crossing next to the road section paved with cedar logs. A few hundred meters further is the trailhead again.

The full loop takes about two hours while walking at a moderate speed. Add an hour if you go in the winter. Make sure you have sturdy boots. There are no facilities on the trail so bring plenty of water. Don't forget your cellphone, camera and bear spray or a bear bell won't hurt either. Enjoy your hike!

Map of the Brothers Creek Trail showing the 5 points of interest outlined in this story,



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Dragon Dance Team at Sentinel Secondary Celebrates Chinese New Year



On the right, students at Sentinel who “starred” in Dragon Dance. On the left, dancing in full costume celebrating Chinese New Year.

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by Maggie Deng

For the first time at Sentinel Secondary School and the first time on the North Shore, a dragon dance team was put together by students to perform at our community events. After three weeks of intensive practice, the team was a hit in the celebrations of the Year of the Horse. In the history of China, the dragon is a symbol of great power, dignity, fortune and wisdom. It had been taken as an emblem to represent imperial authority for over thousands of years. Nowadays, dragon dancing is a very popular show to celebrate every Lunar New Year.

The 18-meter-long dragon, shipped from China, was sponsored by Chinese parents at Chartwell Elementary School in 2013. The first show was performed by the fathers of 10 Chartwell students last year. This year, with the support of the principals of the two schools, the dragon was sent to Sentinel for its dragon dance team. After very successful shows in Park Royal Mall and other activities, the students are planning to set up

a formal club so the dragon can be passed down year after year in school to spread this Oriental culture in our community.

Sentinel 中学成立舞龙队

这次Sentinel中学成立的舞龙队，应该是学校、也是整个北岸地区的第一只类似的团队。经过三个星期的密集排练，舞龙队的表演成为马年迎新活动中的一大亮点。

在中国历史上，龙代表着力量、尊严、幸运和智慧。在过千年的时间里，龙一直是皇权的象征。如今，舞龙已成为华人民间庆祝农历新年的重要表演。

这条18米长的龙是2013年从中国运来，由Chartwell的中国家长集体赞助的。第一年的表演是由10位该校学生的父亲承担的。今年在两家学校的校长支持下，中学成立舞龙队承接这条龙，在Park Royal商场和其他活动中成功进行了表演。学生们计划正式注册成立舞龙俱乐部，把舞龙表演在学校一届一届传承下去，在我们的社区弘扬这一具有特色的东方文化。

Cell Tower Update and How the West Van Citizens Helped Change the Law

by Carol Reynolds

On December 16th West Vancouver Mayor and Council voted unanimously against Rogers proposal to erect three 12 storey cell towers along the Upper Levels at Taylor Way, 15th Street and 26th Street. West Vancouver residents, including many from the British Properties, made their voices heard! They attended several Council meetings, special Town Hall Meetings, sent emails and wrote to the Mayor and Council to express their views and concerns about these towers.

In response to the huge outcry from this community, Federal Industry Minister James Moore announced on February 5th, 2014, a new Industry Canada policy requiring public consultation for all new cell towers, even those under 15 metres (50 feet), which up until now, required no public input whatsoever.

Highlights of the Announcement:

- Canadians deserve a stronger say on where cell towers are being built in their communities. These changes will close loopholes and ensure that local residents and municipal governments are at the centre of the cell tower placement process.

Wireless companies will now be required to:

- Consult communities on all new cell towers, regardless of height
- Ensure residents are clearly informed of upcoming consultations, with well-marked consultation notices delivered to their homes
- If approval is granted, the company must build that tower within three years. To view the new Industry Canada Policy go to: <http://goo.gl/aJecZe>



The cell tower townhall meeting held at the West Van Rec Centre was so packed that over 100 West Van residents were turned away.

“Never doubt that a group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” ~ Margaret Mead

The West Vancouver Municipal Wireless Communication (Cell Tower) Policy which was approved on May 27, 2013 will now require amendments to cover all sizes of towers, to incorporate the specific Industry Canada requirements for consultation, and to make our local policy specific enough to withstand any interpretation put on it by wireless providers.

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Garbage Pick-up – A Friendly Reminder to Homeowners

There are times that our garbage pickup is affected either by a heavy snowfall which we had in February or if you are not in time for the garbage truck. Please remember to take your garbage can back up and off the driveway or curb to a secure place. This will avoid the opportunity for crows and other wildlife to get at it and make a mess. Leaving garbage on our driveways and boulevards can result in a ticket from the by-law department, as it is up to the property owner to clean up any spilled refuse.



Please help to keep the British Properties a beautiful and clean environment for all who live and visit here.

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