



FAIRFIELD GONZALES
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
the place to connect

FAIRFIELD GONZALES **Observer**

FGCA PROGRAM GUIDE & COMMUNITY NEWS

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August to
November
2016



www.fairfieldcommunity.ca

1330 Fairfield Rd. Victoria BC V8S 5J1

place@fairfieldcommunity.ca 250-382-4604





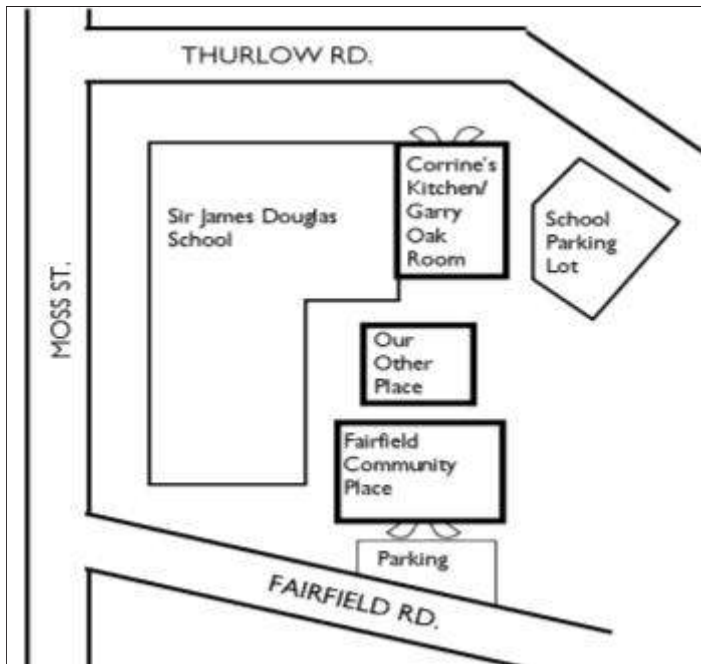
FAIRFIELD GONZALES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

the place to connect



CONNECT WITH US....

- 1330 Fairfield Road, Victoria BC, V8S 1L6
- 250-382-4604
- www.fairfieldcommunity.ca
- place@fairfieldcommunity.ca
- [Facebook.com/FairfieldGonzalesCommunityAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/FairfieldGonzalesCommunityAssociation)
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WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Don Monsour, President, FGCA Board of Directors

The Fairfield Gonzales Community Association has weathered some turbulent times in the past year, with so many big issues on the table in our neighbourhood. We want to thank our Members for their patience as we work through these times.

Our Association serves many purposes in our community and beyond. We are a conduit of information, a place to connect, and a provider of essential services for so many people who live, work, and play here. Our team of staff, Board, and volunteers work hard every day to enhance the quality of life in Fairfield and Gonzales.

The Board of Directors appreciates all the input and feedback that we have received from our community, which will help us make the FGCA stronger and more vibrant in the coming months. We will continue to

expand the opportunities for the community to come together and share input and ideas. We look forward to learning more about what you value about your Community Association and about this wonderful place where we live.

With so much passion in the community, it's a great time to get involved. Become a Member, attend our general meetings, volunteer for a committee, or just get in touch to learn more about us.

All of us at the FGCA are positive about the future of our Association and confident that with your ongoing support and suggestions we can better serve the residents of Fairfield and Gonzales.

Info & Registration 250-382-4604

OFFICE HOURS July & August

9:00am—2:00pm Monday to Saturday

CLOSED—Sunday

We are closed all statutory holidays & Saturdays which fall in a long weekend.

OFFICE HOURS September to June

9:00am—4:00pm Monday to Thursday

9:00am—6:00 pm Friday

9:00am—3:00 pm Saturday

CLOSED—Sunday

We are closed all statutory holidays & Saturdays which fall in a long weekend.

We accept Visa, MasterCard and American Express. Walk-in registrations may also be paid during office hours with credit card, cash, cheque or debit.

Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

All fees must be paid in full at the time of registration in order to confirm a space in the program. All programs are subject to change, and programs with insufficient registration are subject to cancellation. If a program does not have a minimum number of participants registered five working days prior to the program's start date, the program may be cancelled and a full refund or credit will be issued.

Members are invited to attend
Fairfield Gonzales Community Association's
Special General Meeting
Monday, September 12th 7-9pm
Fairfield Community Place, 1330 Fairfield Rd.

We will vote on changes to our constitution.
See our website or drop by the Centre for details.

Come to the
Fairfield Gonzales Community Association's
Annual General Meeting
Monday, October 24th 7-9pm
Fairfield Community Place, 1330 Fairfield Rd.

Celebrate community service
Elect our Board of Directors
Reflect on the past year!

Early Childhood

Recreation

SPORTBALL

SPORTBALL - PARENT & CHILD 2 - 3 YEARS

Sportball Parent & Child programs focus on physical literacy and social exploration as toddlers learn fundamental sport skills and participate in creative motor games, in eight different popular sports. Children are challenged according to their individual skill level, and grownups are taught techniques to help toddlers refine motor skills while developing social skills. Sportball maintains a one-parent-per-child ratio policy to ensure that focus is kept on helping little ones practice and progress.

Thursdays, 9:45am - 10:30am

Sep 22 – Oct 27

Nov 3 – Dec 8

Jan 12 – Mar 16

6/\$84

6/\$84

10/\$140

SPORTBALL - MULTI-SPORT 3 - 5 YEARS

Refine, rehearse, repeat. Multi-Sport classes are the heart of the Sportball programming. Coaches focus on the basic skills common to all sports, like balance, coordination, stamina and timing, in a fun, supportive, non-competitive setting that emphasizes teamwork. Each class focuses on one of eight different popular sports: hockey, soccer, football, baseball, basketball, volleyball, golf, and tennis.

Thursdays, 10:30am - 11:30am

Sep 22 – Oct 27

Nov 3 Dec 8

Jan 12 – Mar 16

6/\$84

6/\$84

10/\$140

SPORTBALL - SOCCER 4 - 6 YEARS

Develop skills and learn new techniques focusing on soccer. Children are taught fundamental concepts of gameplay including throw-ins, dribbling, trapping, passing, goalie skills and more. These non-competitive programs promoting confidence, self-esteem and teamwork are for those kids looking for fun, not competition.

Wednesdays, 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Sept 7 – Oct 26

8/\$112 (+\$15 jersey fee)

Spring Camps

SPORTBALL

MULTI-SPORT CAMP

3 - 5 YEARS

Keep kids moving all year long! Sportball half day camps help kids refine, rehearse, and repeat in the off season, with plenty of skill-focused play, creative exploration, and fun. Camps are run indoor and outdoor depending on location and weather. Please send a nut-free snack, water bottle, hat and sunscreen each day.

Monday-Friday, 9:00am-12:00pm

Mar 20 – Mar 24

5/\$140

L.I.F.E. PROGRAM

LEISURE INVOLVEMENT FOR EVERYONE

The L.I.F.E. Program provides a combination of annual credit and program savings to be used toward recreation programs and services.

Eligibility is based on household income.

For more information contact:
Crystal Pool at 250-361-0732

Drop-ins

PARENT & TOT

BIRTH – 5 YEARS

An opportunity for young children and their caregivers to meet and play in an informal atmosphere with toys, books and crafts. Snack provided.

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00am-11:00am By donation

* On summer break ~ resumes September 13th

LAUGH, LEARN....THEN LUNCH!

BIRTH – 5 YEARS

Step out of our regular drop-in for a brief discussion on parenting issues with other caregivers while your children continue to socialize in our parent & tot drop-in. Then everyone gathers for a simple soup & bread lunch.

Thursdays, 10:15am – 11:00 am By donation

* On summer break ~ resumes September, call for date

KINDERGYM

WALKING – 5 YEARS

A time for preschoolers and caregivers to play and learn together in a fun, positive environment. Gym equipment is set up, upon which children can explore.

Mondays, 9:00am – 10:30am

1/\$2

* On summer break ~ resumes September 19th

BABYWEARER'S MEET-UP

The FGCA is pleased to be hosting a weekly babywearing meet-up at our Centre. Join other parents and caregivers on Friday mornings for an opportunity to learn safe and fun ways to wear your baby. Explore the benefits and variety of options that exist in a positive and relaxed environment. Experienced babywearers will be on hand to answer questions, offer advice, or help you work with your desired carrier. All are welcome.

Fridays, 10:00am - 11:30am

Free

* On summer break ~ resumes September, call for date

Preschools

FIVE POINTS PRESCHOOL

3 - 5 YEARS

Children learn through play. Play provides children with opportunities to explore, investigate, and practice skills. Children build knowledge through hands-on experience or through the direct manipulation of objects and materials.

The emphasis in our program is on process learning. We provide this by offering choices within a framework, facilitating problem solving, redirecting and encouraging independent exploration of the environment.

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

9:00am - 11:30am

Sept - June

\$170/month

+ \$30 one time

administration fee

15 children

2 Early Childhood Educators

Children must be able to toilet independently.

Eligible families may apply for government subsidy.

fivepoints@fairfieldcommunity.ca

MOSS ROCK PRESCHOOL

3 - 5 YEARS

Our goal at Moss Rock Preschool is to provide educational opportunities of exploration in a vast number of areas, such as nature, community, art and social interactions.

Our focus is heavy on exploration-based learning in a warm, diverse and nurturing environment. We pay close attention to the choices preschoolers make and continue to create an evolving program that best suits the children's individual needs.

Monday to Friday

9:00am - 1:00pm

Sept - June

2 days a week \$180/month

3 days a week \$240/month

4 days a week \$310/month

5 days a week \$370/month

+ \$30 one time administration fee

18 children

2 Early Childhood Educators

Children must be able to toilet independently.

Eligible families may apply for government subsidy.

mossrock@fairfieldcommunity.ca

Registration 250-382-4604



School Age

Drop-ins

CHILL ZONE

GRADES 5 TO 8

Stop by after school for crafts, games, baking, art, and more....got an idea? —bring it! Our space features comfy couches, craft supplies, books, games, sports equipment, a Wii and Xbox Station, and a computer with internet access.

Thursday & Friday 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Sep - Jun

By donation

Programs

YOUTH ZONE

GRADES 5 & 6

The Youth Zone is an after school program where YOU have a say in what we get up to! Games, art, cool projects, cooking, baking, sports, awesome out trips – this is just the beginning. The Youth Zone is a fun and safe space for you to hang out with friends and develop your confidence and independence. Here you'll get to build skills, explore new territory, nurture your creativity, learn from community mentors, and develop leadership and a sense of empowerment. Our space features comfy couches, craft supplies, books, games, sports equipment, a Wii and Xbox Station, and a computer with internet access.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Sep - Jun

\$100/month

youth@fairfieldcommunity.ca

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

The FGCA Youth Leadership Program is an engaging and empowering youth-led program for high school students. Throughout the school year, participants will plan and lead activities for the FGCA's Jump 'N Start programs at George Jay Elementary and Central Middle School, and participate in fun social opportunities as a group.

Fridays, 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Sep - Jun

By donation

youth@fairfieldcommunity.ca

HEADWATERS COLLECTIVE

AGES 13-19

The focus of Headwaters is community activities based in restorative action. It is an interwoven web of feminism, creative self-expression, social justice, environmental justice and community engagement, all of which youth strongly agreed that they “want more time and space for” in their lives.

- Eat meals together and discuss topics including feminism, sexuality, multiculturalism, and social justice
- Have free time to hang out with friends in a youth-oriented, safe space with craft supplies and dedicated staff support
- Go on out trips where we explore nature and do volunteer benefit work in the community
- Share our life experiences, self care practices, and learn new skills
- Use our creative awesomeness to engage our community in all of the above

One of our beliefs is that everyone's voice deserves to be heard and that everyone can positively contribute, so we will continually work to create a safer space where everyone is welcome and encouraged to be themselves without obstructing the needs of others.

There will be activities at lunchtime on weekdays, weekday evenings (6-8pm), and some weekends

Sep - Dec

By donation

collective@fairfieldcommunity.ca

Recreation

CHEERLEADING

INTRODUCTION TO CHEERLEADING I (NEW) 6 - 11 YEARS

Join coaches from Island Elite Cheerleading in this introduction to cheerleading. Beginners will practice tumbling, gymnastics, dance and stunting and will compose routines in a fun, friendly and supportive environment. You'll have a blast while developing flexibility, balance, strength and friendship! The class will encourage team building, goal setting and reviewing personal and group goals.

Fridays, 3:45pm - 4:45pm

Sep 9 – Nov 4

8/\$100

INTRODUCTION TO CHEERLEADING II (NEW) 6 - 11 YEARS

Coaches from Island Elite Cheerleading are back to instruct in the fundamentals of this dynamic and fun sport. We will continue to work on tumbling, gymnastics, dance and stunting and will compose routines in a fun, friendly and supportive environment. You'll have a blast while developing flexibility, balance, strength and friendship! The class will encourage team building, goal setting and reviewing personal and group goals. Beginners are welcome as are those that joined us in the Fall!

Fridays, 3:45pm - 4:45pm

Jan 13 – Mar 10

8/\$100

BRICKS FOR KIDZ

BRICKS FOR KIDZ - TICKET TO RIDE

6 - 11 YEARS

Delve into the history and mechanics of amusement park rides in this imaginative unit using LEGO® bricks. Children will construct a Carousel Swing, Tilt a Whirl, Loop de Loop ride, Swing boat ride and Merry Go Round. Lessons incorporate principles of physics described in a way children can understand, such as 'G-force' inertia and momentum, as well as math concepts such as 'there are 360 degrees in a circle'. These lessons will give children an understanding of everyday physical forces. Our programs provide an atmosphere for students to build, play games, and have loads of fun.

Thursdays, 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Sep 22 – Oct 27

6/\$90

BRICKS FOR KIDZ - LIFE SCIENCE

6 - 11 YEARS

Explore the fascinating science of living things and build engaging models of creatures from caterpillars to dinosaurs. During this six-week unit, students will explore topics such as how the human body stays cool and the amazing life cycle of a butterfly. They will investigate the Venus Fly Trap -- a plant that eats bugs! If you love creatures, this is the class for you. Our programs provide an extraordinary atmosphere for children to build unique creations, play games, and have loads of fun using LEGO® bricks. The activities are designed to trigger young children's lively imaginations and build their self-confidence.

Thursdays, 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Nov 3 – Dec 8

6/\$90

BRICKS FOR KIDZ - ENERGY IS EVERYWHERE 6 - 11 YEARS

Energy is essential to almost everything we do, from the lights in our homes to the gasoline that fuels our cars. Introduce your children to the world of energy in all its amazing forms. This unit explores many sources of energy from wind and solar power to biofuel and fossil fuel. Students will define terms like renewable, landfill, greenhouse effect and generator, and they will build moving models of just some of the awesome ways we power our world. Our programs provide an extraordinary atmosphere for children to build unique creations, play games, and have loads of fun using LEGO® bricks.

Wednesdays, 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Jan 18 – Feb 22

6/\$90



Out of School Care (OSC)

We offer licensed care for children who attend Sir James Douglas & Margaret Jenkins Elementary Schools.

Emphasizing fun, safety and fair play in a positive environment, our licensed before and after school programs are play-based and child-focused in nature.

Our staff view children as individuals with their own ideas, cultural beliefs, abilities and interests and strive to provide a safe and stimulating environment.

Fairfield (Sir James Douglas) OSC

ffosc@fairfieldcommunity.ca

250-382-2065

1330 Fairfield Rd, Victoria BC, V8S 5J1

Margaret Jenkins OSC

mjosc@fairfieldcommunity.ca

250-592-8800

1824 Fairfield Rd, Victoria BC, V8S 1G6

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

7:30 am - 9:00 am

5 days a week \$100/month
DROP-IN \$8.00/day*

*based on availability

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

2:50 pm - 6:00 pm

5 days a week \$310/month
3 days a week \$250/month
2 days a week \$200/month
DROP-IN \$20.00/day*

*based on availability

BEFORE+AFTER SCHOOL CARE

7:30 am - 9:00 am

2:50 pm - 6:00 pm

5 days a week \$365/month
3 days a week \$300/month
2 days a week \$240/month

Spring Camps

FGCA SPRING BREAK CAMP

5-12 YEARS

We offer care for both weeks of Spring break.

Registration begins mid January for internal families (families currently in our programs) and mid-February for external families.

Monday-Friday, 8:00am - 5:30pm

Mar 13– Mar 17

5/\$175

Mar 20 – Mar 24

5/\$175

SPORTBALL MULTI-SPORT CAMP

6 – 9 YEARS

Keep kids moving all year long! Sportball half-day camps help kids refine, rehearse, and repeat in the off season, with plenty of skill-focused play, creative exploration and fun. Camps are run indoors and outdoors depending on location and weather. Please send a nut-free snack, water bottle, hat and sunscreen each day.

Monday-Friday, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Mar 20 – Mar 24

5/\$140

Registration

250-382-4604

Adult Recreation

Fitness & Health

SPRING FOREST QI GONG

Spring Forest Qigong (SFQ) is a simple, efficient and effective method for helping you heal physical and emotional pain to enhance the quality of your life and the lives of others. Anyone and everyone—regardless of ability, age or beliefs—can practice the techniques of SFQ and become healthier and happier.

Wednesdays, 6:00pm-7:00pm

Sept 28 – Nov 30	10/\$100
Jan 11 – Mar 15	10/\$100

BELLYFIT SAGE (NEW)

This is a very unique class format designed for older women who are seeking a gentler, more customized form of movement that honours their sensuality, their strength and their varied levels of ability. Bellyfit® Sage combines belly dance, hula dance, and yoga to create an accessible and familiar fitness experience.

Tuesdays, 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Sept 27 – Nov 29	10/\$120
Jan 10 – Mar 14	10/\$120

TAI CHI QUAN (NEW)

Zen of Tai Chi is a holistic exercise combining mindfulness and relaxation in movement. It is a style of gentle, elegant, and meditative dance focused the life force energy of body and mind. The art is based on the 24 forms of Tai Chi but modified and suitable for beginners. The instructor will be teaching the Yang Style, the most commonly practiced Tai Chi Quan in China.

Wednesdays, 10:30am - 11:30am

Sept 28 – Nov 30	10/\$80
Jan 11 – Mar 15	10/\$80

NORDIC STYLE POLE WALKING SEMINAR (NEW)

Discover what makes Nordic Style Pole Walking “the Smarter Way to Walk.” Learn why NPS is helpful, effective and strengthening for the body. This may be the last fitness program you need to start! Especially good for desk workers, people with sore knees and hands, pre & post birth mothers, & more!

Tuesday, 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Sep 13	1/\$10
Wednesday, 7:00pm - 8:30pm	
Jan 18	1/\$10

BADMINTON DROP-IN

Join our group of enthusiasts for an evening of co-ed badminton. Bring your own racquet. Birdies provided.

Tuesdays, 8:00 pm – 10:00 pm (school gym)

Resumes Sept 27	1/\$3.50
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YOGA

YOGA - IYENGAR BEGINNERS

The Iyengar approach to Hatha Yoga encourages a balance between flexibility, strength and endurance. Emphasizing correct body alignment and precision, enjoy a sense of well being and increased relaxation.

Tuesdays, 11:00am - 12:30pm

Sept 20 – Nov 29	11/\$121
Jan 10 – Mar 14	11/\$121

Tuesdays, 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Sep 20 – Nov 29	11/\$99
Jan 10 – Mar 14	11/\$99

YOGA - IYENGAR INTERMEDIATE

The Iyengar approach to Hatha Yoga encourages a balance between flexibility, strength and endurance. Emphasizing correct body alignment and precision, enjoy a sense of well being and increased relaxation.

Tuesdays, 5:30pm-7:00pm

Sept 20 – Nov 29	11/\$121
Jan 10 – Mar 14	11/\$121

YOGA - IYENGAR SUPPORT AND RESTORE

Join us for an hour of gentle yoga in the Iyengar method. A practice to support and restore.

Thursdays, 12:30pm - 1:30pm

Sept 22 – Dec 1	11/\$99
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Jan 12 – Mar 16

YOGA - GENTLE YOGAFIT (NEW)
(TAUGHT IN SPANISH & ENGLISH)

Come join instructor Isabel Arias Santos and apply your Spanish while practicing a yogafit program focused on gentle stretching, breathing and meditation. This late evening class will help you relax and finish your day with a positive attitude!

Wednesdays, 7:30pm-8:15pm

Sep 21 – Nov 23	10/\$80
Jan 11 – Mar 15	10/\$80

YOGA – YIN

This session will target the main joints of the body (hips, back, and shoulders). Classes are kept at a peaceful and mindful pace to allow deeper exploration of poses and cultivation of greater somatic awareness. Yogic poses are maintained mainly in a seated or reclined position from three to five minutes. Practices are supported with guided meditative and relaxation techniques, including breath-work. Suitable for all levels.

Thursdays, 5:00pm-6:15pm

Sept 29 – Dec 1	10/\$80
Jan 12 – Mar 16	10/\$80

YOGA – YIN THE MOMENT WORKSHOP

Participants will be guided through complementary and synergistic postures to assist in accessing more challenging 'peak' postures. This workshop will deliver the tools & tones of a Yin yoga practice, offering eastern philosophy and meridian awareness, as well as breath instruction. Printed materials are included and students will be encouraged to take notes. Peak poses will be explored both in theory and practice.

Friday, 5:30pm-8:00pm

Nov 4	1/\$30
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YOGA – GENTLE YOGA AND SOMATICS

Moving through key postures of a gentle yoga practice, this class will draw upon reconnecting mind/body through somatic exercises. Applied somatics is movement education rooted at the center of awareness—your awareness. Using mindful movement techniques in our yoga practice we hope to achieve better posture off our mat, as well as an enhanced yoga practice. Our focus in this 10-week session is to harmonize muscular tone to support optimal structure and function within the body.

Thursdays, 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Sept 29 – Oct 27	5/\$40
Nov 3 – Dec 1	5/\$40
Jan 12 – Feb 9	5/\$40
Feb 16 – Mar 16	5/\$40

YOGA – TENSEGRITY REPAIR SERIES

All levels welcome to this unique yoga practice developed by Gioia Irwin. Executed with ease and repetition, these movements seek to restore the connective tissue allowing optimal sliding and hydration between the muscle layers.

Wednesdays, 9:15am - 10:15am

Sept 28 – Oct 26	5/\$40
Nov 2 – Nov 30	5/\$40
Jan 11 – Feb 8	5/\$40
Feb 15 – Mar 1	5/\$40

YOGA – HOME PRACTICE PRIMER

This workshop is designed to help create the ideal home practice environment. The workshop will cover the following: preparing your space, designing a yoga practice for both the am & pm, understanding a balanced practice, DIY prop set up, meditation, breath-work. Printed materials provided.

Friday, 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Oct 21	1/\$30
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ZUMBA

ZUMBA – FAMILY FRIENDLY

Sign up for this session and bring your child(ren). Klids under 16 are free! (Maximum 2 kids per paying adult.) Join us for one of the fastest growing Latin dance-inspired fitness crazes across the world! Come dance to the rhythms of Salsa, Merengue, Mambo and other Latin beats.

Wednesdays, 6:30pm - 7:25pm

Sept 21 – Nov 23	10/\$80
Jan 11 – Mar 15	10/\$80



ZUMBA

Join us for one of the fastest growing Latin dance-inspired fitness crazes across the world! People of all ages are falling in love with its infectious music, easy-to-follow dance moves and body-sculpting benefits. Come dance to the rhythms of Salsa, Merengue, Mambo and other Latin beats. This is a fitness class you will not want to miss!

Mondays, 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Sept 19 – Nov 28 (no class Oct 10)	10/\$80
Jan 9 – Mar 13	10/\$80

ZUMBA – TONING

It's an exciting, Latin inspired, dance 'n tone program. This is the original dance-fitness class taken to the next level. **ZUMBA® TONING** is an innovative muscle training program with the addition of light weight toning sticks. We provide the 2 1/2 lb, sand-filled toning sticks, which are very similar to maracas. In a relatively short period of time, this challenging workout helps in building coordination and muscle endurance. Now that you've worked on your lower body rhythm, it's time to perfect the upper body!

Tuesdays, 6:45am - 7:45am

Sept 20 – Nov 22	10/\$80
Jan 10 – Mar 14	10/\$80

Wednesdays, 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Sept 21 – Nov 23	10/\$80
Jan 11 – Mar 15	10/\$80

Fridays, 6:45am - 7:45am

Sept 16 – Nov 25 (no class Nov 11)	10/\$80
Jan 13 – Mar 17	10/\$80

ZUMBA 15-15-15

Love ZUMBA TONING and love ZUMBA but want to take it to another level??? Why not try ZUMBA 15-15-15? This class includes 15 minutes Zumba Toning, 15 minutes Zumba and 15 minutes Zumba Core, and we finish with cool down and stretching. Zumba Toning combines targeted body-sculpting exercises and high-energy cardio work with Latin-infused Zumba moves to create a calorie-torching, strength-training dance fitness-party. Zumba Toning is the perfect way for enthusiasts to sculpt their bodies naturally while still getting in shape and having a total blast!. You will use weighted, maraca-like Zumba Toning Sticks or light hand weights (up to 3lbs) to enhance rhythm, build strength and tone all the target zones. This class can also include older adults who wish to do a slower Zumba workout minus the weights. Zumba Core is designed to strengthen your core and sculpt your abs within a solid total workout.

Mondays, 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Sept 19 – Nov 28 (no class Oct 10)	10/\$80
Jan 9 – Mar 13	10/\$80

SIGN UP EARLY TO ENSURE YOUR COURSE RUNS! SIGN UP LATE AND WE PRO RATE!

Registration 250-382-4604

Special Events & Activities

6th annual

Harvest Fête

Fall Fairfield

Saturday

24 September

2-6pm

food & treats

local coffee

fruit pie fundraiser

old fashioned games

art making

beer & cider

puppets

LIVE MUSIC

Cold Cut Combo

The Blackwood Two

Bucan Bucan

The Half Moon Shine

Porter Park 1330 Fairfield - Free - All Ages

fairfieldcommunity.ca 250-382-4604

 FAIRFIELD GONZALES
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
the place to connect

 CITY OF
VICTORIA

 spinnakers
CREATOR & SUSTAINABLE

 RBC

 THRIFTY
FOODS

FALL FAIRFIELD HARVEST FETE

Fall FAIRfield Harvest Fête, our annual outdoor community celebration, is set for Saturday, September 24th from 2-6pm in Robert J. Porter Park.

Bring yourself, your family, your friends and neighbours! Everyone is welcome to join in the festivities. We have four hours of live music lined up from local artists including; The Blackwood Two, Bucan Bucan, The Half Moon Shine and more! At the event, enjoy perusing a variety of interactive booths, making art, sampling local food & treats, playing Old Fashioned games or indulging in some tasty Spinnakers beverages at the inaugural Cider Garden.

New this year, we will host a small Fruit Pie Competition & Fundraiser, complete with judges and prizes for various desirable pie-attributes. Anyone is welcome to submit their fruit pie to this fundraiser, details on our website.

Fall FAIRfield: Harvest Fete is all about community! It's your opportunity to reconnect with others in celebration of the Autumn season. We hope you will join us at this year's event.

VOLUNTEERS... There are so many ways to help with this community event: putting up posters, leading Old-Fashioned games, set-up, harvest hat making, taking photographs and more. For details, please visit www.fairfieldcommunity.ca/events-projects/fall-fairfield/

The 6th Annual Fall FAIRfield: Harvest Fete is sponsored by the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association, The City of Victoria, RBC, Thrifty Foods, and Spinnakers Brewpub & Guesthouses.



JOIN THE REPAIR CAFE FAIRFIELD

Repair Café Fairfield is a neighbourhood initiative that promotes repair as an alternative to tossing things out.

The initiators organise a Repair Café periodically at the Fairfield Community Place (1330 Fairfield Road). You can bring your broken items to have them fixed on the spot with the help of voluntary repairers. Join us! Repair Café Fairfield is looking for folks with different skills who can be present as repair experts during the Repair Café events. We are especially looking for people who are handy with: **clothing / textiles, bicycles, electrical appliances, furniture / wooden objects.**

Want to know more about the Repair Café?
Email repaircafeairfield@gmail.com



Clothing Swap

FREE!

4th Saturday of the month

10am - 1pm 1330 Fairfield Rd

2016..... August 27

September 24

October 22

November 26

2017..... January 28

February 25

March 25

Bring along your beloved but outgrown items to exchange for new duds, or come empty handed & fill up a bag! Please bring items in clean and gently used condition. Clothing will only be accepted during the event hours and all remaining items will be removed by end of event for donation to charity. Call 250-382-4604 for more info.

 FAIRFIELD GONZALES
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
the place to connect

VOLUNTEER WITH US

Learn more, email:
place@fairfieldcommunity.ca or
call 250-382-4604

Observer Newspaper Writer

The FGCA Observer Newspaper team is looking for enthusiastic volunteers interested in writing, journalism, editing, and formatting for a community newspaper.

Little Garden Caretaker

We have a small garden in front of our centre garden at Fairfield Community Place, and we're looking for someone to give it some love and attention. Peach & pear trees, flowers & herbs need some love, care, watering & weeding.

Fairfield Food Forest Helpers

Join the FGCA Community Garden Committee and volunteer for our garden work parties. We're looking for enthusiasts to join our core group as well as more 'friends': people with time, tools or skills to lend! No garden experience necessary. Contact: fairfieldcommunitygardens@gmail.com for more information.



FAIRFIELD FOOD FOREST

The Fairfield Food Forest is located in Porter Park, near the intersection of Kipling and Thurlow. Come by and see what our hard working Garden Committee has been up to!

Works parties through the Summer & Fall—email us to find out about upcoming parties.

fairfieldcommunitygardens@gmail.com

Facebook: Fairfield Community Gardens



FAIRFIELD GONZALES
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

the place to connect

1330 Fairfield Rd. Victoria BC V8S 5J1 place@fairfieldcommunity.ca www.fairfieldcommunity.ca



GOOD FOOD BOX

The **Good Food Box** is a non-profit alternative fruit and vegetable distribution system. The focus is first on making good fresh food affordable and accessible, and second on providing locally grown food to participants. Anyone can order a box! The more people we have participating, the better the program becomes.

Pick-up every other Wednesday

3:30-5:30pm at the FGCA 1330 Fairfield Rd.

Order online (min one week before): www.thegoodfoodbox.ca or at Fernwood NRG, 1240 Gladstone Ave. 250-381-1552 ext.100

Good Food Box purchases the highest quality produce and ensures variety, freshness and affordability. We prioritize locally grown, unsprayed produce with a focus on seasonal fruits & vegetables.

Good Food Box is a project of the Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group (Fernwood NRG), a non-profit organization based in Fernwood, Victoria. Good Food Box is brought to you by your community, is lovingly packed and delivered by volunteer community members and is meeting shared goals for sustainability, food security, social justice and health.

WE LOVE THE SEA, MAKE PUPPETS!

**'a moveable seascape for
parades & pageants'**

The Theatre Inconnu Youth Program and the FGCA are partnering to create a new feature for Puppets for Peace: WE LOVE THE SEA, a moveable seascape for parades and pageants honouring our surrounding Salish Sea.

In these drop-in workshops for all ages, we will create elements such as puppet jellyfish, fish head masks and other creatures of the sea. We will work together to design ocean banners of wind and waves, inflatable sea creatures, and sky elements like the sun and the moon, clouds, planets and stars. When the different creatures and elemental representations are complete they will come together in a simple choreographed procession that can travel on its own or as a parade entry for events like the Puppets for Peace Parade, Earth Day, Canada Day, and the May Day Parade.

SAVE THE
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HOW THEY LIVE TOGETHER
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MAKE
PUPPETS

FGCA Community Centre
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& SEPT 1
10-4PM: AUGUST 21, 27

workshops for
all ages

puppetsforpeace.org

LED BY THE PUPPETS FOR PEACE COLLECTIVE
FUNDED BY THE THEATRE INCONNU YOUTH PROGRAM
HOSTED BY THE FAIRFIELD GONZALES COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



FAIRFIELD COMMUNITY PLACE IS YOUR PLACE

Come join us here at the Fairfield Community Place on the last Monday of the month for board games, guitar jamming, book clubs, video games, and free computer access. This is your opportunity to get connected with the community by sharing a space with like-minded individuals. We welcome new ideas so bring your creativity and energy!

All ages are welcome.

Mondays, Aug 29, Sep 26, Nov 28, 6:00pm – 8:00pm, By Donation



Adult Recreation

Food

CHEESE MAKING WORKSHOPS

Come and spend time with Paula Maddison, a deep-in-the-bones 'slow foodie', multi-talented lass who has a passion for hand crafting cheese. You will be taken into the world of sumptuous flavour, ancient craft, history, science, chemistry and food as medicine. While learning a delicious and nutritious new skill, you will relish the tastes of succulent cheeses that you can hand craft in your home. Using products readily available and with comprehensive instruction, Paula demystifies the idea that cheese making is difficult. Paula draws on her vast experience in the hotel industry, the private yachting industry and private estate management to show you some unique and creative ideas for serving the cheeses you will be making. Learning with Paula is a unique experience that will spark your inner cheese maker!

PANIR, QUESO BLANCO, & RICOTTA Sunday, Nov 6, 10:00am - 12:00pm	1/\$65
FARM HOUSE CHEDDAR Sunday, Nov 6, 1:00pm - 4:00pm	1/\$65
CHEESE FOR HOLIDAY MAKING Sunday, Dec 4, 10:00am - 12:00pm	1/\$65
ASIAGO Sunday, Dec 4, 1:00pm-4:00pm	1/\$65
MOZZARELLA, BURRATA, & BOCCONCINI Saturday, Jan 14, 10:00am -12:00pm	1/\$65
FETA Saturday, Jan 14, 1:00pm - 3:00pm	1/\$65
LONG SET LACTIC CURDS: FROMAGE BLANC Sunday, Feb 5, 10:00am-12:00pm	1/\$65
PARMESAN Sunday, Feb 5, 1:00pm-4:00pm	1/\$65
SOUR CREAM, CREAM CHEESE, BOURSIN & COTTAGE CHEESE Sunday, Mar 5, 10:00am-12:00pm	1/\$65
ALL CURDS, NO WHEY! POUTINE Sunday, Mar 5, 1:00pm - 3:00pm	1/\$65

SIGN UP EARLY TO ENSURE YOUR COURSE RUNS! SIGN UP LATE AND WE PRORATE!

Registration 250-382-4604

Language

SPANISH

SPANISH FOR BEGINNERS I

An introduction to the basics. Learn grammar, pronunciation, reading and writing, as well as common idioms and expressions. Cultural traditions and context from Latin America are taught. Students will be able to use what they have learned to travel in Spanish-speaking countries and have FUN learning Spanish this way! (Required textbook "Learn Spanish the Fast and Fun Way by Gene Hammet" not included in course fee.)
Wednesdays, 7:00pm-9:00pm
Oct 5 – Dec 7 10/\$90

SPANISH FOR BEGINNERS II

This course will take a more in depth approach to developing your conversational Spanish skills. Suitable for those who have a basic knowledge of Spanish or have taken our Spanish for Beginner's Course.
Wednesdays, 7:00pm - 9:00pm
Jan 25 – Mar 15 8/\$72

Drop-ins

PUBLIC COMPUTER & PRINTER

We have a computer and printer available for community use to access the internet, email and word processing. Fee for printing.
Monday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Free



Arts

AFRICAN HAND DRUMMING

AFRICAN HAND DRUMMING I

Have you ever wanted to learn to play music in a welcoming group setting? It's a fun way to unwind and energize while meeting new friends! African drumming has proven health benefits, and is easy for anyone to learn at any age. No need to own a drum. Beginners are welcome and drums are provided. New students can sign up at any time (classes are prorated from the start date). Award-winning instructor Jordan Hanson uses a progressive, easy-to-follow teaching style. Each new student receives a 24-page handbook & instructional DVD for playing along at home. www.drumvictoria.com
Tuesdays, 7:00pm - 8:15pm 8/\$128
Sep 20 – Nov 8 8/\$128
Jan 24 – Mar 14

AFRICAN HAND DRUMMING II

For students who have taken LEVEL 1 for at least one year, and are comfortable playing bass, tone and slap notes. Develop your sense of timing, polyrhythm, and syncopation. Learn traditional solo phrases and rhythmic breaks. www.drumvictoria.com
Tuesdays, 8:15pm - 9:30pm 8/\$128
Sep 20 – Nov 8 8/\$128
Jan 24 – Mar 14

Facility Rentals

250-382-4604
info & bookings

www.fairfieldcommunity.ca
for FAQs & photos

Tables and chairs are included with all rentals. All rooms are wheelchair accessible including washroom facilities.

GARRY OAK ROOM RATES

\$50	Hourly
\$150	Half day (9am-3pm or 4pm-10pm)
\$250	Full day (9am-10pm)
\$50	To add Corinne's kitchen to rental, if available

GARRY OAK ROOM *(pictured below)*

An open, multi-purpose room with large windows. 1500 square feet, 80 people can be seated or 100 standing. Sound system and microphone included. Located adjacent to the Sir James Douglas School, access is from 1335 Thurlow Road.

ALL OTHER ROOM RATES

\$30	Hourly (2 hour minimum)
\$25	Hourly (for a 3 – 5 hour rental)
\$150	Flat rate for 6 or more hours

CORINNE'S KITCHEN

A 900 sq. ft. commercial kitchen with 12 person seating around large, stainless steel counter. Gas grill and oven, electric cooktop, commercial fridge and sanitizer. Accessed through shared foyer with the Garry Oak Room.

THE PORTABLE

This self-contained space is perfect for meetings, workshops or rehearsal space. Windows let light in from two sides overlooking Porter Park. It is available until 2:30 pm daily, evenings after 6 pm and all day weekends.

OUT OF SCHOOL CARE ROOM

The large room that we use for Out of School Care faces south making it a very sunny and warm meeting place. Suitable for gatherings of 20 -30 people, available for weekend and evening events.

FAMILY ROOM

A bright comfortable room suitable for small gatherings of 20 people, available during evenings and weekends. It has a small living room type corner and adjustable tables. Large windows face west.



WHAT WILL FAIRFIELD GONZALES LOOK LIKE IN 25 YEARS?

By Rebecca Penz, City of Victoria Citizen Engagement Advisor

Have you been dreaming of a new playground down the street or a bike lane to connect to downtown? Or perhaps you have hopes of more seniors housing or you want to see a celebration of the old trees and heritage homes in Fairfield and Gonzales. This is your chance to share your dream and help shape the neighbourhood.

Planning for the future in the Fairfield and Gonzales neighbourhoods is underway. The plans will create the vision for the community for the next 25 years. Over the next 12 months, you will be asked to share your hopes and wishes to help shape the principles, goals, and short-term priority projects for the neighbourhood. The plans will address housing, transportation—including cycling and walking—parks, heritage and culture, sustainability, and other issues identified by the community.

Over the course of the summer, you will see idea boards around the neighbourhoods. These boards will pop up inside coffee shops, outside of grocery stores, and in parks and other places. They ask you to tell us

what you love about your neighbourhood and what needs to be addressed. And, most importantly, what do you want your community to look like in 25 years!

Since you are the expert in your neighbourhood, we are looking for your help to engage. Can you help us connect with your neighbours? Do you know how to get underrepresented groups involved including youth, renters and minorities? Start the conversation with your neighbours by hosting a meeting or surveying residents at your local park or coffee shop. The City can support you with event planning, supplies and much more.

For more information or to fill out the online survey visit www.victoria.ca/fairfield-gonzales or contact engage@victoria.ca.

AD SPACE AVAILABLE

To inquire about advertising opportunities contact us...
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250-382-4604



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VENI, VEDI, VICI ITALIANS IN 1800s VICTORIA

By Annamaria Bamji

GRANCINI, ERMENEGILDO PIETRO

Fire was a constant threat to the wooden buildings and tents that made up most of the early city. There were ongoing petitions from citizens to procure a fire engine to Governor Douglas.

An engine, named the Telegraph, arrived from San Francisco around 1860. It was second hand and cost \$1,600.00.

In the summer of 1859, fire destroyed a block at the corner of Johnson/Government at a loss of \$13,000.00. The loss could have been avoided if there was proper firefighting equipment, but the only engine in town was owned by the Hudson Bay Co. and managed by the police. So on November 22nd 1859, the first fire department was formed: The Union Hook and Ladder Co. The Hook and Ladder Truck House building was constructed by citizens, and firemen were organized. These men were joined by the lantern brigade, a body of youngsters who carried lanterns to fires and who later on would become fire fighters too.

At this time, all fire fighters were volunteers. They equipped the fire halls at their expense and paid a monthly fee to maintain their fire fighter status. Two other brigades were created: the Deluge Engine Co. No.1, formed from British residents and, 15 days later, the Tiger Engine No.2, formed by American residents.

On May Day, a general holiday as Firemen’s Day, a parade and picnic was celebrated. The engines were decorated with flowers and flags, and under a canopy of flowers sat a beautiful little girl, the May Queen.

In the meantime, some capitalists were trying to monopolize the water trade in Victoria, suggesting that lots of little companies were needed to supply water.

One of the problems with having three fire brigades was the competition regarding which brigade should be the first to attach the water hose to their fire engine .

And so, it was reported that a fight started between two brigades while at a fire site. The fight consumed the attention of the fire fighters, and the fire burned down the house on the property.

By the 1st of January 1886, the fire fighters were no longer considered volunteers and were well paid. GRANCINI was one of them.

Grancini was born in Milano in 1827. He left Italy for San Francisco in 1850, where he became a member of a very important firm, Caire and Grancini, selling crockeries, iron items, etc. In 1858 he opened a new company branch in Victoria, on Wharf Street. In the Victoria Directory of 1867, Caire and Grancini were listed as ‘merchants’.

Grancini married Blanch Chassang, a native of France, on 6th November 1875 in Victoria. He was her second husband.

When he joined the fire fighters, Grancini was elected as treasurer, a position that he held for many years.

Grancini was very civic minded and belonged to many associations: The Masons, The Odd Fellows and The Pioneers. He participated on a number of committees including Queen Victoria’s 49th Birthday Celebrations, a day of horse racing, picnics, a regatta and much more.

He lived a full life, although a short one. Grancini died in November 1879 at the age of 52.

Carole James, MLA VICTORIA-BEACON HILL



Honoured to serve you in our community

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1084 Fort Street
Victoria, BC V8V 3K4
250-952-4211
Carole.James.MLA@leg.bc.ca
www.CaroleJamesMLA.ca



FGCA KIDS RECREATION

By Britney Slade, School Age Care Operation Manager, FGCA

If you’ve been to the Fairfield Community Place between 3pm and 6pm then you know that it is a hive of activity and busy children engaged in After School Care on any given school day. Things are about to become busier! Starting this fall The FGCA will be expanding on our recreation courses and activities for school age children and their families.

The selection of children’s recreation programs is currently in the early stages, but the goal is to offer an array of sports, arts, and special interest programming. This is being facilitated by working with experienced and qualified providers and instructors. With convenient after school and weekend sessions and facility space within the community centre, the programming is ideally suited to nearby families.

So what’s happening for kids at the Place? Right now we have partnered with Island Elite Cheerleading to offer a beginners class in the fast growing and popular sport of cheerleading. We are also excited to work with Bricks 4 Kidz to offer ingenious building opportunities and learning. See page 4 for class dates & times, starting this Fall.

Future programs will include art programming, more sports and other special interest items. Do you have an idea? We would love to hear about it! Check in often at the community centre and in the Observer to learn what is being offered.

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| News & Views from Fairfield and Gonzales |

Fairfield Gonzales Community Association News

Board of Directors and Land Use Planning

Over the past year, the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association (FGCA) has received a number of pressing requests from neighbourhood residents, FGCA members, and some FGCA board members to undertake advocacy in relation to land use planning and zoning matters in our area. Advocacy or action in this context relates to political activity focused on any level of government, including federal, provincial and local governments, and may require the FGCA to take positions on development proposals. Since a number of people have been pressuring the FGCA to consider undertaking such advocacy, the Board has agreed to consider the matter and its implications for the FGCA.

Who is the FGCA?

The FGCA is a large and diverse organization that has served the community for 41 years. The organization was started in order for residents to have a say in development issues in the neighbourhood, and it has grown to add many community services and programs that people depend on daily. We currently serve over 100,000 people each year with recreation programs for all ages, special events, preschool programs, family support services, out of school care, and much more.

The FGCA's budget is currently over \$2 million per year. This funding comes from diverse sources, including approximately

35% as fees for the services we provide and 50% from a School District contract, for Youth and Family Counseling in area schools. The remainder of our budget comes from specific, designated funding for the services we provide, including about \$100,000 from the City of Victoria designated mainly for operations, recreation and youth. The FGCA applied for and received federal charitable status in 1995 based on its predominant focus on providing services to families and youth. Offering these services to the community has been the core function of the FGCA for many years.

Land Use Planning

The FGCA has also been involved in land use in the neighbourhood through its Board committees. Land use includes many topics: redevelopment proposals, transportation initiatives, and housing. All of the land use planning and zoning activity of the FGCA is volunteer driven and does not receive funding.

Recent concerns in the community around contentious issues—the proposal for a sewage treatment plant at Clover Point and Tent City, for example—have placed pressure on the FGCA to take certain positions and action on neighbourhood issues. A group of members requested, then postponed, a special general meeting to ask the FGCA to abdicate its land use functions. These events, coupled with the legal risk of the FGCA losing its charitable status by taking political positions on neighbourhood issues, prompted the Board of Directors to suspend land use activities in order to seek further information and counsel.

A few individuals at a July 19 community meeting suggested that the FGCA voluntarily revoke its charitable status in order to undertake political action. The Board has investigated the implications of such revocation and has rejected that option, as the

implications for doing so are far-reaching; these include transferring all physical and financial assets to an existing charitable organization, and not being able to receive funding from other charitable organizations in the future. The FGCA will not undertake any land use advocacy activities for that reason. In addition, the FGCA has had a long-standing practice of not taking positions on proposed developments. The perspective of the FGCA Board is that its role is to facilitate communication between the community and the City of Victoria. As such, it needs to be inclusive of all perspectives and not alienate segments of the community by advocating any one position.

We do, however, recognize that there is a desire for action on many of these issues in the community, whether by the FGCA or by other groups. There are many types of land use activities the FGCA could engage in that are both inclusive and allowable as a charity: gathering and sharing information, hosting forums, and facilitating dialogue between the community and elected officials. **We have clearly heard from our members that they would like to have more opportunities to be engaged and provide input.**

*CALUC

One of the FGCA's land use committees is the Community Association Land Use Committee, or CALUC. This committee facilitates community meetings specifically on rezoning proposals in our neighbourhood, as part of the City's process for rezoning. It also receives requests from the City for comments in regard to City land use policy development. The FGCA CALUC committee takes a neutral position on proposals while facilitating a dialogue between the community and the developer. A summary of the dialogue, including negative and positive feedback, is conveyed to the City.

Timeline

- 1975** Fairfield Community Association (FCA) is established to give residents a voice in land use planning in Fairfield and Gonzales
- 1976** FCA begins its long tradition of hosting community events
- 1977** FCA newspaper starts publication – different incarnations are Fairfield Community Press, Fairfield Observer
- 1978** First instance of the FCA providing social service in the neighbourhood with its Homemaker Service
- 1984** FCA opens its first community centre in the brick annex to Sir James Douglas School, providing recreation and after school care
- 1984—2006** FCA sees a large expansion of its programs and services offered, focused on residents' needs
- 2005** Fairfield visioning process takes place
- 2008** Name is changed to add 'Gonzales' in order to recognize that the Gonzales neighbourhood is an important part of our catchment area
- 2015-2016** Development pressure and land use changes are at the forefront in Fairfield and Gonzales. Major issues include:
 - the development proposal at Cook and Oliphant Streets
 - the City's Biketoria proposal
 - the Tent City established on the courthouse lawn
 - BC Housing's purchase of the Mount Edwards Care Home and establishment of transitional housing there for a term of one year
 - the CRD's renewal of consideration for Clover Point as an option for a sewage treatment site
- June 2016** A group of FGCA members asks for a Special General Meeting. They request that the FGCA abdicate its land use functions and transfer them to a new organization. Prior to the meeting being held, it is determined that what they are asking for requires a constitution change. The request for a meeting is indefinitely postponed, due to the FGCA's legal obligation to send proposed constitution wording changes to members at least 14 days in advance. The Board seeks legal advice. This advice causes the FGCA Board to step back from land use planning and zoning activities while seeking further information.
- July 2016** The FGCA holds a community meeting to hear from its members about where they stand on land use planning and zoning, and what their concerns are. A survey is conducted as a follow-up to that meeting asking respondents whether they think land use should stay with the FGCA. 74% of respondents believe that the FGCA should continue to be involved in non-advocacy land use activities, and 67% believe that the FGCA should continue to host CALUC meetings.

RESOURCES:

FGCA membership page: www.fairfieldcommunity.ca/membership

City of Victoria:

Councillor Liaison for Fairfield and Gonzales:

Chris Coleman ccoleman@victoria.ca

Neighbourhood Coordinator for Fairfield and Gonzales:

Kimberley Stratford kstratford@victoria.ca

CALUC Terms of Reference:

victoria.ca/EN/main/departments/planning-development/development-services/community-association-land-use-committees.html

GET INVOLVED!

- Become a Member
- Join our Board
- Join a Committee (Streetlife, Governance)
- Come to our Special General Meeting: September 12th, 7-9pm
- Come to our Annual General Meeting, October 24th, 7-9pm

place@fairfieldcommunity.ca or 250-382-4604 for info





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BEFORE



AFTER



David Logan & Ole Schmidt of Duttons, middle with Vanya McDonell (L) & Thomas King (R), FGCA Co-Executive Directors.





Ole Schmidt
ole@duttons.com

David Logan
david@duttons.com



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COMMUNITY GIVING

In 2015, Duttons donated 10% of their proceeds on Fairfield home sales to the Fairfield Gonzales Community Association. This allowed the Centre to upgrade its old and deteriorating stroller and bike parking shelter as a perfect fit for their dollars.

“As a non-profit, we are always putting every dollar into running our programs. This was a rare opportunity to do a much-needed upgrade at our facility and encourage more people to walk and bike here at the same time,” said Vanya McDonell, Co-Executive Director at Fairfield Community Place.

The new shelter fits with the heritage aesthetic of our building and will provide many years of shelter for strollers and bikes. “The biggest users of this shelter will be our Parent and Tot group. The group offers a safe and supportive space for new parents and other caregivers to connect. It combats isolation and helps give children a great start in life,” says Vanya.