



GREAT IDEAS FOR GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS

Curious to learn what's happening in your neighbourhood and other neighbourhoods in Victoria? Looking for some local and global inspiration for community building and placemaking ideas? Here are some ideas, resources and updates to help you create a vibrant neighbourhood.

IDEAS FROM AROUND THE CITY



Local Champions has returned after a pandemic hiatus. This program is a great opportunity for motivated residents, new board members, staff, volunteers and youth who are interested in upping their game when it comes to community development and projects. Many previous graduates from the program are now deeply involved in their community at some level and are fulfilling their passion for this line of work. This year's course will span three months with each session jam packed with creative community knowledge and practical learning. All course work

will take place at the City's new NeighbourSpace at 709/711 Douglas St.

We are able to offer some subsidized seats in this program through the generosity of neighbourhood sponsorships. **If your association would like to sponsor the cost of a placement for one of the 24 spots available, please let me know. The \$200 per space covers course materials, lunch and refreshments for this 3 month course. Your generosity will help ensure we get a diverse group of participants in the program.**

Please help us spread the word by sharing this opportunity through your newsletters and networks. Details are here [Local Champions](#).

Clare St Traffic Calming

Residents on Clare St wanted to enhance the sense of place on their street by adding green space, slowing traffic, and providing points of casual social contact through the placement of three planter-benches on the public roadway. Using a *My Great Neighbourhood* grant, they designed, constructed, placed and planted 3 of these on their street. Almost all the residents on this one block street participated in some manner. The result of their innovation is the creation of lovely spaces for residents to relax and visit with each other and passers-by, while at the same time nudging vehicle operators to slow down and enjoy the flowers.





IDEAS FROM FURTHER ABROAD

Take a Street and Build a Community



Hulbert St movie night (Photo: Ecoburbia.com.au)

How well do you know your neighbours? Suburban life is often isolating and rarely a true community experience. This is not the case in Hulbert Street in Perth, Australia. Shani Graham (originally from Gibsons, BC) helped lead a sustainable-living revolution that ultimately resulted in strong neighbour relationships with fences being pulled down and the establishment of a street festival. In this TEDx talk, she explains how it happened. It's a beautiful example of how one person made a simple decision to meet her neighbours. [Take a street and build a community: Shani Graham at TEDxPerth](#)



Stairs in Thailand Encouraging Physical Movement

These stairs mark off calories burned but stair risers offer a wealth of opportunity for positive messaging. Where are the stairs in your neighbourhood and what could you do with them?

MAKING IT HAPPEN

Community Grants Program - Victoria Foundation

The annual Community Grants Program supports registered charities and other qualified recipients whose work benefits community wellbeing within the Capital Region. The goal of this year's program is to strengthen the non-profit sector and long-term resilience of our community by supporting eligible local organizations with flexible, general operating funding. We are welcoming applications to our 2023 program from February 28 to April 4, 2023. Find all the details [here](#).



Neighbourhoods as Magical Places: The Connected Community Book Talk - Abundant Community

[The Common Good podcast](#) is a conversation about the significance of place, eliminating economic isolation and the structure of belonging. In this episode, John McKnight & Cormac Russell discuss their new book, [The Connected Community: Discovering the Health, Wealth & Power of Neighborhoods](#), as a part of the [ABCD](#) Book talk.

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