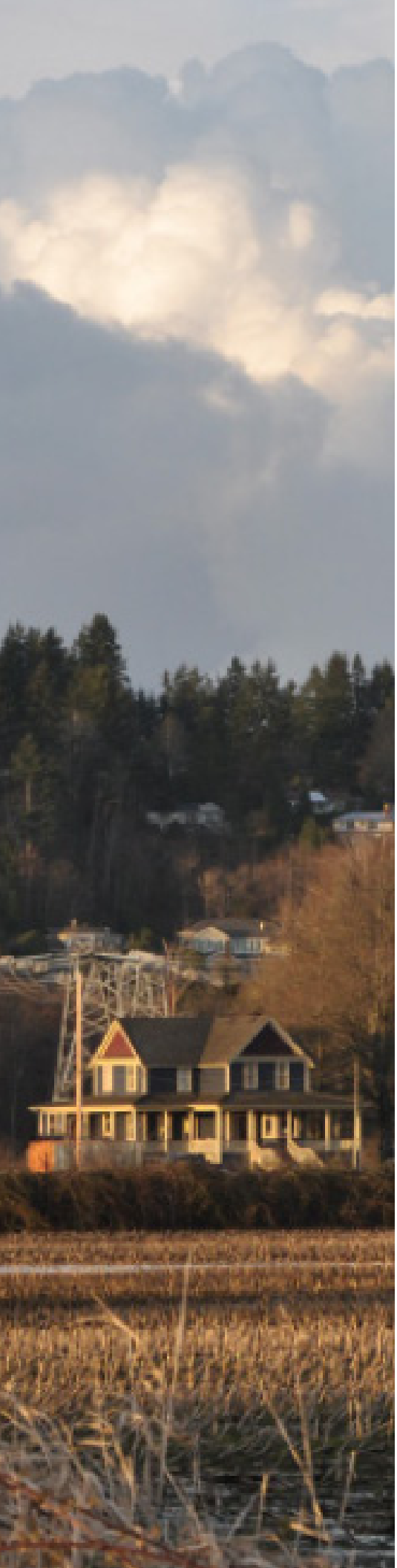


WEST PANORAMA RIDGE
RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

Fall 2011 Newsletter

WPRRA Wins Green City Award!

On October 25th, Tammy Ritchie and Bob Campbell represented the WPRRA at the City Awards Event held at the new library in Whalley. A gala event was organized to recognize leaders in the community with Mayor and Council handing out awards in a number of categories. Bob Campbell nominated the WPRRA in the "Green City Award" category pertaining to Community Groups. Against some pretty tough competition, the WPRRA WON!

We were recognized as a model for how neighbourhood can be environmental stewards and noted for our participation in Earth Day (5 years running), our many Adopt-a-street volunteers, our attention to tree retention in local developments, establishing new parkland and preserving habitats … to mention just a few things!

We received a beautiful plaque that we will have on display at the AGM in April. It was a proud moment for our community association and a recognition of our many years of work in the environmental area.

Thank you to all of you who do your part in enhancing our environment!

Website www.panoramaridge.org
Email panoramaridge@shaw.ca

President's Message

At our April Annual General Meeting, four new Directors were elected to our Board. We welcome Bruce Davie, Herb Hawson, Edwina Nazareth and Lauren Kunimoto! Through our new Director, Herb Hawson we now have a direct connection between the Colebrook United Church and the West Panorama Ridge Ratepayers Association ("WPRRA"). Through this connection we were able to organize our first "Ridge Day" event held at the Church property, which was very well received by many members of our community. A special "thank you" also goes out to Unicorn Stables, Panorama Ridge Riding Club and the Pony Club for organizing horseback rides for the children and for the demonstrations of their equestrian jumping skills! Please read more details of this on Page 3.

The WPPRA received a $3,000 grant to enhance and beautify Deltaview Park, which is located near the corner of Scott Road and New McLellan Road. (see Page 8) This park will eventually provide a connection to Joe Brown Park and provide views over Mud Bay and the farm land below. Volunteer labour will be canvassed early next year to begin the development of this new park starting with a cleanup of the blackberry bushes and garbage.

Our City of Surrey Bylaw Officer, Don Smith has been a huge help to our community and I want to publicly thank him for all his efforts! He has helped with the removal of abandoned houses, tandem trucks that travel through our residential streets, illegal business operating from a home that kept many people awake until late at night on weekends and many other issues that concern our community. Bylaws are only helpful when they are enforced. Don has done an excellent job on improving our quality of life on the Ridge! Don, thank you for all your efforts, they are very much appreciated!

We have noticed an increase in dumping loads of garbage in areas of our community. Please note any suspicious behaviour and forward this information to : panoramaridge@shaw.ca or to the Police. A license plate or any other information/description is usually all that is required to start the ball rolling. An effort by all members of our community should significantly reduce this problem.

Through a suggestion by our past President, Bob Campbell, the WPRRA has adopted an additional membership bracket that now allows members to purchase a lifetime membership for $100. About a dozen members have now taken this opportunity. If you wish to take advantage of this option please return the membership form at the end of this newsletter with your check. Obviously the two other categories of annual and a three year memberships are still available as well. Thank you for your help to strengthen our Association!

Arnie van Hattem, President, WPRRA

Ridge Day Event

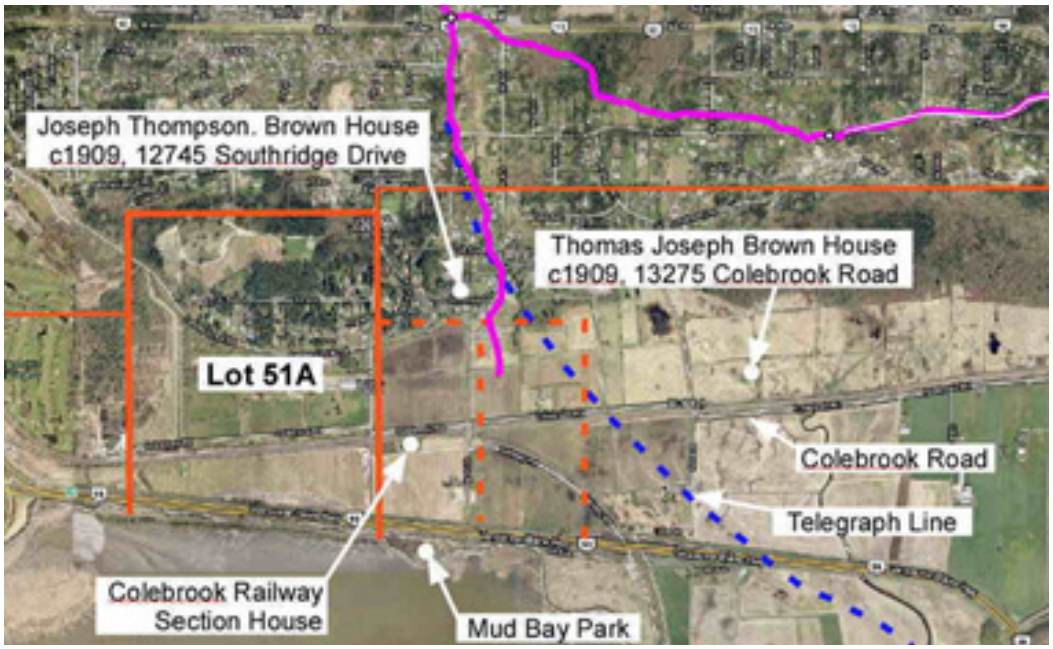
The WPRRA together with Colebrook United Church and the Panorama Ridge Riding Club, Unicorn Stables and Boundary Bay Pony Club held our inaugural event at the Church and in the park at the equestrian facility on Saturday, September 24th. We had games, free food, pony rides and honey and vegetable vendors!

We were very lucky with the weather and overwhelmed with the turnout - over 400 people attended and we ran out of food! The support was fantastic and it was such a true community event that many expressed the need, and the wish, to have it again.

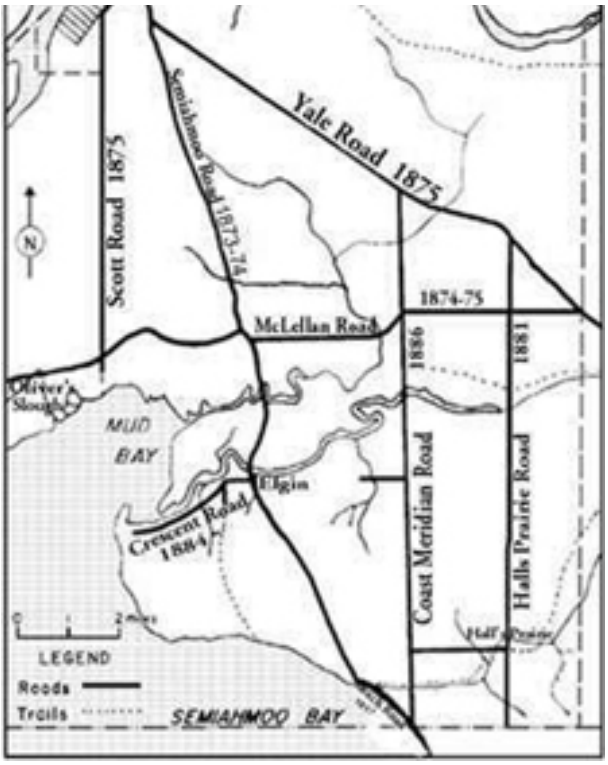
Our goal is to have Ridge Day at the same time next year and hope to see even more of you come out and meet your neighbours. Many thanks to all the volunteers, burger flippers and pony riders!

Historical Transportation Routes on the Ridge

Did you know that two historically important transportation routes went through the Ridge? The first was the Kennedy trail built by James Kennedy in 1861 to provide a land route for early settlers between New Westminster and the natural pasture land at Mud Bay. Shortly after the trail was built, the telegraph line to the US was added to this route. In the picture the purple line is the old Kennedy Trail and the dashed blue line is the old telegraph route.



For more information on the Kennedy Trail please visit
http://www.surreyhistory.ca/kennedytrail.html.



Over time trails like the Kennedy turned into roads and McLellan Road was one of the most important as it provided a route from the ice free port in Ladner (yes it used to be so cold the Fraser River would ice up) and the Yale Road that took prospectors to the gold fields in the interior. It was built during 1874-75 and followed parts of the old Kennedy Trail. With the advent of cars McLellan Road was one of the few passable roads in Surrey. Much or the original McLellan Road is now under Hwy 10, but parts of New McLellan are still used on the Ridge today.

For more information please visit
http://www.surreyhistory.ca/mclellan.html.

Development

We've had a very busy and successful 2011! This year we've managed to have nearly every inappropriate development either halted or changed to better reflect community values (this year we batted 100% with respect to panhandles!). The Ridge is as nice as it is partially because of the dedicated work of our development committee!

The last major area of the ridge to be developed is bounded by Highway 10 to the north, 128A Street to the west, New McLellan to the south and 132 Street to the east. Nearly all the development activity we are now dealing with is in this area. Everyone has probably noticed the newly constructed road running north from New McLellan (officially 130A Street). There will be another road running north from the existing Coulthard Road. There are developments proposed for this entire area right up to Highway 10, all of which the WPRRA has been heavily involved with. One is approved and has resulted in the road you now see, a second is very close to approval and will result in the extension of Coulthard, and a third is linked to the second proposal and involves the development of about 9 acres of land near Highway 10. This last proposal is not yet an official development application. A major success we have had in this area is to convince the City to establish a new park that should protect some of the nicest trees in this area. Another legacy for our children to enjoy!

Colebrook United Church

Our local church continues its busy schedule of activities this fall, including many through the holiday season. The annual Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday, December 3rd from 10am to 3:30pm. Come early for the best selection at this popular annual event. Everyone is invited to attend the Colebrook Community Christmas Concert on Friday, December 9th at 7pm. This festive seasonal gathering will be followed by refreshments. All are welcome to attend the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service and/or the 10am Christmas Day service.

Ongoing exercise classes include Yoga, Kundalini Yoga, Zumba, Zumba Core Xpress and Fitness Freaks which offer pre and post natal exercises.

The Junior Youth Group welcomes youth in grades 3 – 7 on alternate Friday evenings. Further details may be obtained by calling the church office Monday-Thursday mornings at 604 596-2412.

Reverend Daniel Bogert-O'Brien serves as the present minister.

School Traffic Circle

Anyone who has children attending Colebrook Elementary or who has had the misfortune to drive by the school when students are either coming or going realizes what a mess traffic is! All rules of the road appear to be suspended, people stopping in the middle of the street, double parked, parking in no parking zones, making u-turns in the middle of the street and more! A few years ago a proposal was made to build a traffic circle at the convergence of Station Road and 125A Street. This traffic circle would allow parents to travel south on 125A and perform a legal u-turn back to the school. The City endorsed this proposal and apparently had a deal to purchase land from the property to the south (the thin pointy piece!). Nothing has happened, no traffic circle and pandemonium continues to reign! The problem is a delay in the development of the property to the south. The developer agreed to sell land to the City, but only after the rest of his development was approved. For whatever reason this development is not proceeding and the traffic circle remains nothing more than a good idea!

Panorama Ridge Citizen Patrol

The Panorama Ridge Citizen Patrol continues to operate daytime patrols with plans to step up patrols during the Christmas Season. This Christmas season (and always!), everyone is reminded to be diligent when leaving your house, ensuring doors and windows are locked and your house has the appearance that someone is home.

We would like to warn the community regarding a security issue in our neighborhood!

A woman has been seen on the ridge delivering newspapers; giving the impression she is an authorized delivery person, when in fact it has been verified that she is not working for or representing any newspaper company. She has been seen delivering a White Rock newspaper, one not normally delivered in our area. It appears that this person uses the pretense of delivering newspapers to case homes with the intent to steal items from them. She is described as approximately 20 years old, short dirty blonde hair, she is well dressed and drives a white SUV. If anyone sees this lady or any suspicious paper delivery person, please get a description, a license plate number and report this information to the RCMP.

How the RCMP deals with 911 and non emergency calls:

The Surrey RCMP Radio Room is structured so that there is one Radio Room Corporal, one Radio Room Supervisor, 6 Call Takers, 4 Dispatchers and 2 Switchboard Operators (non-emergency lines) in the Radio Room at all times. All members are dispatched through the Surrey RCMP Main Detachment.

When you call 911:

- the call goes to E-Comm in Vancouver
- E-Comm will ask if you want police, fire or ambulance and for what City
- E-Comm then transfers the call to Surrey 911
- a Call Taker will answer the 911 line and will ask you questions that will help him/her to create a computerized file
- the Call Taker sends the call on to the Dispatcher
- while the Call Taker is still on the line with you, the Dispatcher is able to send the police
- the Dispatcher speaks with police through the computers and over the radio to advise of the call and electronically sends the file to the police car
- police then attend the call

Calls are dispatched by order of priority:

Priority 1 - robbery in progress, weapons call - damage to people or property
Priority 2 - crime in progress - e.g. fight
Priority 3 - police attendance required e.g. old break and enter, theft of vehicle
Priority 4 - no police required - e.g. theft from vehicle, wilful damage

When to Call 911
911 should only be called in case of e**mergencies** where an **immediate response** is required.

When to Call Non-Emergency

The **non-emergency number (604-599-0502)** should be used when an immediate response or dispatch of the police is not required. Examples of non-emergency calls:

- reporting a crime with no suspect such as theft of your license plate
- reporting a serious crime with suspect but with a lengthy delay
- incidents such as a noisy party or barking dog
- on going crime issues such as graffiti problems or ongoing drug dealing with the suspect not at the scene
- a suspicious circumstance such as a suspected marijuana grow operation

Delta View Park Cleanup!

Where is Delta View Park? Most people don't know, but it is located on the south side of New McLellan about 100 yards east of 120th street. It is officially a park, but there are no park improvements or signs. And when you drive by most of what you see is blackberries and scrub brush. The WPRRA made a successful application for the clean up of Delta View Park through the City of Surrey Beautification program. We were granted $3,000 towards the cost of beautification and we must donate an additional $500 for a total budget of $3,500. Drive by and take a look at the park, anything we do will be a big improvement!

The original plan was to organize a cleanup this fall, but we decided to hold the very successful Ridge Day. With a finite amount of organizational resources, the decision was made to move the Delta View event to spring 2012. The current plan is to have the clean-up two or three weeks after the spring AGM. Look for notice of this event and come out and help us clean up this mess! If you happen to have access to a small excavator, bobcat, shredder or similar machine, you could be our best friend! Contact Bob Campbell for more information.

Lifetime Membership

Residents of West Panorama Ridge may now purchase a $100 “lifetime membership” in our community association. This membership is offered in addition to the single year ($10) and three year memberships ($25). Lifetime membership is equivalent in cost to 10 single year memberships and 4 three year memberships.

More than a money saving idea, this membership level was created around the concept of encouraging residents to become sustaining members of our community association. We plan to use funds collected to create sustainable funding for the activities of the community association. An added benefit is that lifetime members never need to ask “Did I pay this year??” and we the volunteers of the community association can reduce our efforts to remind members when their membership has lapsed and coordinate payment.

A number of residents have become “lifetime members”, illustrating their dedication to our community. Please consider joining them!

We will be sending out an e-mail to everyone at the end of December to let you know whether or not your membership is up for renewal.

Your Directors

Arnie van Hattem	President 604-572-8302
Bob Campbell	Immediate Past President; Chairperson, Development Committee 604-596-6578
Tammy Ritchie	Vice President Chairperson, Keep Clean /Neighbourhood Safety 604-596-6237
Susan Williams	Treasurer 604-594-7510
Joan Mayhew	Secretary 604-597-5002
Mike Glas	Coordinator, Panorama Ridge Citizens Patrol 604-591-6598
Bruce Davie	778-578-1441
Tom Dent	604-671-5755
Bob Dhaliwal	604 617-7763
Travis Endersby	604-594-4200
Bruce Fraser	604-599-1973
Herb Hawson	604-597-1641
Lauren Kunimoto	778-565-7637
Edwina Nazareth	604-543-8523

Membership in the WPRRA

Our community of West Panorama Ridge is bounded by Highway 10 on the north, King George Highway on the east, Highway 99 on the south and Scott Road on the west. We are proud to live in one of Surrey's most desirable residential communities.

For over 50 years the West Panorama Ridge Ratepayers Association has provided its' residents with a strong voice relative to promoting the further development of green spaces and parks within our community's boundaries. The Association directors are vigilant in ensuring that the residential development reflects the direction provided by our community.

The community website www.panoramaridge.org was established to provide all residents with an opportunity to find information about available essential services, and to communicate the most current information available on happenings and events of concern and interest to you in our community.

Our Directors work hard to fulfill the mandate of the community association. We would encourage you to consider participating as a Director or a volunteer. Even if you can't spare any time, we need you to support the community association by becoming a member! Just being a member shows the City of Surrey that the residents of this community support the WPRRA. Your membership fee allows us to create and distribute the newsletter and the website. It is the best $100 (Lifetime), $25 (Three year membership) or $10 (One year membership) investment you can make in your community! If you are not already a member, join now by completeing our membership application form and make a difference!

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