

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THIS BEAUTIFUL PLACE WHERE WE HAVE CHOSEN TO LIVE, WORK, AND PLAY LIES WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF THE LEKWUNGEN-SPEAKING PEOPLE, KNOWN AS THE ESQUIMALT, SONGHEES, AND WSANEC FIRST NATIONS

President's Message

Welcome to our new members who joined over the past 18 months. Thank you for giving VENC the opportunity to welcome you into our community.



A HUGE Thanks to everyone who renewed your membership in support of the VENC Restart!

Congratulations to the Activity Leaders who have planned for a safe restart. If you are offering to host or lead an Activity, please check out the COVID-19 Related Guidelines posted on the VENC Website. Our goal is to keep entertained while staying safe and informed.

The VENC Calendar is filling up. Enjoy Fall in this beautiful place where we have all chosen to live!

Sincerely,

Laurie Davison

Acting President



Focus on Activity Groups

Butchart Gardens Walk, a new group, has been started by Valerie Stirling. The first walk will be on **Friday September 24th**. An annual membership at Butchart Gardens is one of Victoria's best entertainment bargains!

To start up any new activity, get the inside scoop from the Activity Leader job description on the web site (About VENC> Job Descriptions> Member Roles), then contact the Activity Group Liaison (VENCActivity@gmail.com) and fill in the form. After acceptance by the Executive Committee, the new group can get started.



Have you heard about Friendship Force International?

VENC member, Lynda Wilson, recommends considering a homestay through this organization once international travel becomes feasible again. Your host and their family, Friendship Force members, become your inside guide to the country and its people. There is no better way to explore the world! See the posting in the Travel & Getaways Forum, or contact Lynda directly for the inside scoop (250-804-7919 or collegetown.wilson@gmail.com)

Welcome Committee could use 2 more members

Thanks to the members who joined this committee recently. We are attracting so many new people that the committee could use a couple more participants. For a new member, contact from this committee is a welcome interaction. To join the committee, see the job description on the web site (About VENC>VENC Job Descriptions>Member Roles) then contact the Membership Coordinator, Alison Clark (VENCmembership@gmail.com)

COVID-19 Related Guidelines

The Executive has been following the Public Health Orders and other guidance from Dr. Bonnie Henry throughout the pandemic. However, as the Delta variant became more prevalent and the incidence of cases and hospitalizations has risen higher than the rates last year at this time, feedback from various members and activity group leaders suggested that we adopt a more conservative approach. Consequently, we are not arranging any club-wide event for the foreseeable future. Activity groups are still meeting, but in smaller numbers, and with the option that a hostess may limit attendance to fully vaccinated members only if the activity is being held in her home.

Please take a moment to review the [COVID-19 Related Guidelines](#) which are available on the web site home page under the Special Announcements section. We will be reviewing these guidelines monthly and updating them as needed.

In Search of Photos and a Photo Editor

Most members enjoy seeing group photos taken during VENC activities. Please be aware that any photos taken during a VENC activity may be selected by the Photo Editor to appear on the web site, or used in a newsletter.



If you prefer not to see yourself on the web site or in a club publication, please remove yourself from the photo before it is taken. If you have photos from a VENC gathering, please send the best ones to vencphotoeditor@gmail.com. Remember to identify the activity group, location, and date.

We are still searching for a member to monitor the Photo Editor email account, selecting the best photos for use on the web site. This is not an Executive role. If you enjoy taking photos of our beautiful surroundings, you can contribute some of these to enhance the web site. Other details pertaining to this role are listed on the members web site under the About VENC tab (About VENC > Job Descriptions > Volunteer Support Roles). **Please contact the VENC Activity Group Liaison (VENCActivity.com) if you would like to help the Club by performing this fun job.**