



September Newsletter *Saanich Neighbourhood Place*

Dear Community,

Autumn has arrived. Crisp mornings, earlier moonrises, warm soup, sweaters and falling leaves are all reminders that the season is changing again. As with the seasonal changes, there are also many changes in our organization, and a larger national change, a time to make real and meaningful commitments to Truth and Reconciliation.

September 30th is the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. This day provides an opportunity to recognize the history and ongoing legacy of Residential Schools and

colonialism in Canada; to honour survivors, their families, and communities; to amplify Indigenous voices; and to hold one another accountable for engaging in meaningful decolonization (on this day and everyday). [Please read here for more information](#). You will also find more resources included below.

In recognition of this important day, Saanich Neighbourhood Place will be CLOSED on September 30th. We also acknowledge that one day is not enough, and we continue to renew our commitment to meaningful ACTIONS in support of ongoing Truth and Reconciliation work.

In close, we are continuing on our accessibility journey. We have much more to learn while we, as an organization, increase our efforts to make our spaces, programs and work product accessible.

In Gratitude,
The SNP Team



Saanich Neighbourhood Place News and Updates

Community BBQ - Postponed

The community BBQ we had scheduled for September 29th has been cancelled. In light of the rising COVID-19 cases we have decided to postpone this gathering. Your health and safety is a priority and we look forward to welcoming you into our space, for a larger scale celebration, at a future date.

SNP Employment and Volunteer Opportunities

Do you love working with children and families? Enjoy a beautiful work space and a great supportive team environment? [Please visit our website for current employment opportunities.](#)

Early Childhood Educators

We are currently seeking several dynamic Early Childhood Educators to join our growing team.

Family Support Worker

We are seeking a Family Support worker to join our team.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are interested in volunteering your time at Saanich Neighbourhood Place, we welcome your enthusiasm and generosity. Contact ali@snplace.org to inquire about current openings.

Board Members Opportunities

We are currently welcoming new board members to our Board of Directors. If you are interested in volunteering for this, please contact ED@snplace.org

New Reception Hours

We have added some great new staff to our admin team and are pleased to share our new reception hours. Our main reception at 3120 Tillicum (the Child and Family Centre situated behind Pearkes Recreation Centre) is now open 9:00 am - 3:30 pm, Monday to Friday. Pearkes Centre reception at 3100 Tillicum Road is open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:45 am - 2:00 pm and Tuesdays from 12:30 - 4:00pm. To reach our admin team, please call 250-360-1148 or contact them via email at admin@snplace.org

BC Accessibility Act

The Accessible British Columbia Act received Royal Assent on June 17, 2021, and is now law. This act serves to ensure that BC residents of all abilities will have full access to information and resources in accessible formats. [View a plain language overview of the Accessible B.C. Act](#). The BC government offers an [Accessible Toolkit](#) to help folks learn to make more accessible work product and understand the options that are already available and/or easy to access.

Fall Programs

We are pleased to be offering in-person programs once again.

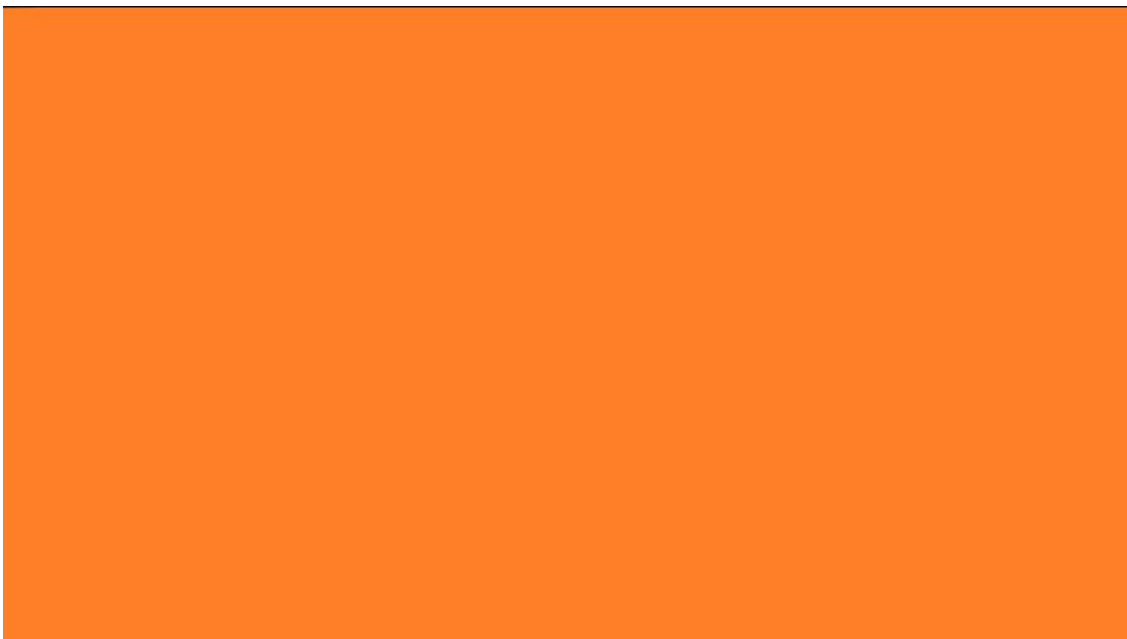
COVID protocols are in place. While we encourage folks to be vaccinated to attend our programs, our services are deemed essential and we are not required to check for vaccine status at this time.

We have fun, supportive, and educational programs for for all ages. We currently have the following programs available:

- young parents
- pre/post natal

- dad groups
- cooking classes for youth and families
- play groups for babies and toddlers
- parenting toolbox for parents with 0-10 year olds
- education and support for trans and non-binary youth and their parents

We are operating programs in three of our locations within Saanich and Royal Oak. [Visit our programs' calendar](#) and/or email us at admin@snplace.org to register for Fall programs.



Truth and Reconciliation Day Community Resources

As a family-serving organization, we recognize our responsibility to work towards Truth and Reconciliation, and to remain open to suggestions and direction from local Indigenous communities, on how our organization can continue to work

towards Reconciliation. Please find included below some resources to support our collective journey in Education, Action, and Reconciliation on September 30th, and every day moving forward.

Indian Residential School Survivors Society

Crisis Line: 1-800-721-0066

[For more information visit IRRSS](#)

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC) was created through a legal settlement between Residential Schools Survivors, the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit representatives and the parties responsible for creation and operation of the schools: the federal government and the church bodies. The TRC's mandate was to inform all Canadians about what happened in residential schools. The TRC documented the truth of Survivors, their families, communities and anyone personally affected by the residential school experience. This included First Nations, Inuit and Métis former residential school students, their families, communities, the churches, former school employees, government officials and other Canadians. [For more information, please refer to the TRC website.](#)

Reconciliation is an ongoing individual and collective process and will require commitment from all those affected including former First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Indian Residential School (IRS) students, their families, communities, religious entities, former school employees, government, and the people of Canada. Reconciliation may occur between any of the above groups. [Please refer to the Truth and Reconciliation 94 Calls to Action.](#)

Indigenous Ally Toolkit

So you want to be an ally? [Visit this resource for information](#) on how to work towards becoming an ally in Truth and Reconciliation.

Whose Land Are You On? [How To Use Native-Land.ca](#)

There are a number of ways to use this website. You can use it directly by

entering your address, or by mousing or clicking around on the map to see the relevant territories in a location. Once you click, a number of links will appear with different nation names. By clicking on those links, you will be taken to a page specifically about that nation, language, or treaty, where you can view some sources, give feedback, and learn a little more.

You can also export the map to a printable image file, turn map labels on or off to see non-Indigenous borders and towns, and select or search from a dropdown of territories, treaties, and languages. [Native Land Digital](#) is a registered Canadian not-for-profit organization.

Resources For Settlers From the W̱SÁNEĆ Leadership Council
[Settlers who are interested in allyship with W̱SÁNEĆ people](#) will find the resources below in a suggested order for those on the first steps of this journey.

1. Find out what Indigenous Territory you live and work on, and get information on how to properly create a territorial acknowledgement.
2. Learn how to pronounce the names of the First Nations and the languages they speak.
3. Choose some materials to work through from the suggested [reading list](#) to take the all-important step of being responsible for your own education on Indigenous issues. Learn about the culture of W̱SÁNEĆ people, the history of colonialism, and paths toward reconciliation.
4. Consider making regular financial contributions to various local community organizations that can help provide W̱SÁNEĆ people with much-needed resources for education, athletics, and cultural initiative.

Saanich Neighbourhood Place is privileged to provide our services on the unceded lands of the W̱SÁNEĆ and Lkwungen-speaking peoples.

View our land acknowledgment [here](#).