



Winter Newsletter Saanich Neighbourhood Place

As the year 2022 draws quickly to a close, I am reflecting on the past year at Saanich Neighbourhood Place, and boy, have we been busy. As always, we have had our share of unique challenges to contend with but, as the days get shorter and cooler – and wetter. We at SNP sincerely hope that you find ways to enjoy the winter season soon upon us. Saanich Neighbourhood Place offers programs across the District of Saanich, as many of our families live at some distance from our main locations at 3100/3120 Tillicum, with locations in the Royal Oak area and also at Cedar Hill X at Shelbourne.

This fall we passed the first anniversary of the opening of our **SNP Child and Family**

Centre, which provides care for as many as 49 little ones each day. We are fortunate to have a great team of dedicated Educators in those programs, and are excited to have five adult learners completing their full qualifications through the Work Integrated Learning program at Camosun College. Students are sponsored by SNP and Camosun College, and will be fully qualified ECEs upon completion. The Child and Family Centre is also home to the 'Nurturing Connections' program, offered by Island Health. We have opened our space to the Gorge Tillicum Community Association and the Gorge Tillicum Urban Farmers for meetings, along with other occasional user groups.

Family Support Services have been exceptionally busy in the past few months. This is an ongoing trend as more people come to us for information, resources and support. Our youth support, pre/post-natal and family support programs are working hard to address the needs of the community even as those needs become more complex and acute. The Fall saw a very full program calendar offered, with more people attending groups than we've seen in a while. We also offered some new programming specifically for dads that we hope to continue in the new year. Upcoming programs and registration information are posted on the website at www.snplace.org and our social platforms.

Our **Food Equity** work is in high demand, now that most restrictions have been relaxed. Kitchen classes are busy, Family Dinner on Wednesday serves about 20 families each week. The Victoria Harbourside Rotary Club made a generous donation to support our "Lunches for Little Ones" program, Island Health provided funding to support a second weekly family dinner event which happens on Mondays as of November 7th, and Santa's Anonymous also made a significant donation to our food resources for families. The Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitallers made the seed donation towards a much-needed upgrade in our kitchen at our Pearkes location. We are raising funds for this project, which we hope to start by Summer 2023. Food programs are also supported by BC Gaming, Coldstar Freight Solutions, Save On Foods and the Mustard Seed programs, as well as local gardeners. We are grateful for all of you.

The Royal Oak Neighbourhood House (RONH) is seeking a new home for April 2023. RONH has been operating in the Royal Oak community since 2018, and our

lease is due to expire on the historic Royal Oak Schoolhouse at the end of March. With 3-5 weekly programs offered to families, plus community access and support for other service providers offered at that location, the loss of RONH services will be a blow to SNP and the Royal Oak neighbourhood, which is home to as many as 30% of those families who attend SNP programs. We have been told our lease will not be renewed, as the landlord, Geric Construction, would like to rent the space at market value. As all of our programs are offered at no charge, SNP does not generate the revenue required at that location to meet this threshold.

On a more positive note, as of November 2022, our location at Broadview United (Cedar Hill) has been closed for renovations, necessitating the closure of our weekly outreach playgroup at that location. We are looking for new space while we wait for that project to be complete in July 2023. The renovated space will provide us with dedicated office space and new program space to work in. We look forward to our continued partnership with Broadview United to serve the residents of that community.

This month, **Tuesday November 29th is Giving Tuesday**. Saanich Neighbourhood Place is participating in this national event, intended to celebrate the generosity of our communities and the individuals and businesses who donate to worthy causes and support programs and services in their neighbourhoods.

While many of our SNP programs are free to participants, they are not free to provide, and we rely on the financial support of donors to continue to provide the wide range of services we offer. We are asking you to think of us as a cause worthy of your support, and if you are able to donate this year, please consider Saanich Neighbourhood Place. Any amount helps, and all donations are tax deductible.

To donate, [please visit the 'Canada Helps' button on our website](#).

I leave you with our sincere thanks for the support of individuals, foundations and service groups over the past year. Saanich Neighbourhood Place is so fortunate to have a wonderful group of dedicated people to serve our community, and we are grateful for the contributions of time, resources and funds that make it possible.

In Community,

Corinne M Hilton

Executive Director

Saanich Neighbourhood Place &

Royal Oak Neighbourhood House



#GivingTuesday Campaign

November 29th is #GivingTuesday, a global movement to celebrate the generosity of our communities and the individuals and businesses who donate to causes and support programs and services in their neighbourhoods. While many of our SNP programs are free to participants, they are not free to provide, and we rely on the financial support of donors to continue to provide a wide range of services. Please consider donating for this great cause to help us serve our community. We are

thankful for ongoing community support and please note, all donations are tax deductible. For more information or to make a donation this month, please [visit our Giving Tuesday Partner Page.](#)

Donate to SNP

Saanich Neighbourhood Place Updates

Winter Closure (December 23rd - January 2nd)

We will be closed for our annual Winter break on December 23rd, 2022 and will reopen on January 3rd, 2023 to give our staff, volunteers, and buildings a chance to rest and rejuvenate. All programs will be on hold during this time period. We will miss you and look forward to connecting again in 2023. If you need support over the break, please call the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888.



Winter Programs 2023

We are pleased to be offering in-person programs once again. It has been lovely to see folks in-person once again in 2022 and we welcome you to join us again in 2023. We offer fun, supportive, and educational programs for all ages which are free or by donation to attend. Our Winter programs will begin again in January and registration is now open. [Check out the calendar here.](#)

New Programs in 2023

Toddler Kindergym
Food, Family & Connection

Popular Regular Programs 2023

Dad's Drop In
Baby Groups
Best Babies (pre/post natal support)
Playgroups for under 5
Kindergym
Messy Hands

Parent Child Mother Goose
Young Parent Play & Connect
Community Kitchens

We are operating programs in three of our locations within Saanich. [Visit our programs' calendar](#) for more information and email us at admin@snplace.org or phone 250-360-1148 to register.

SNP Winter Programs



SNP Food Security Work

The Gift of Good Food is Back. We are again proud participants in The Gift of Good Food annual Holiday Fundraiser that runs from November 14th through to December 31st, 2022. This amazing initiative is organized by The Gift of Good Food, who work together with many community groups with a goal to raise \$100,000 and support 140 local families with fresh produce for a year.

At SNP, we support families who are in need and connect them to our annual allotment of Good Food donations. Please contact us at admin@snplace.org for more info on how to donate and/or if you need food security support. Please donate, share and spread the word.



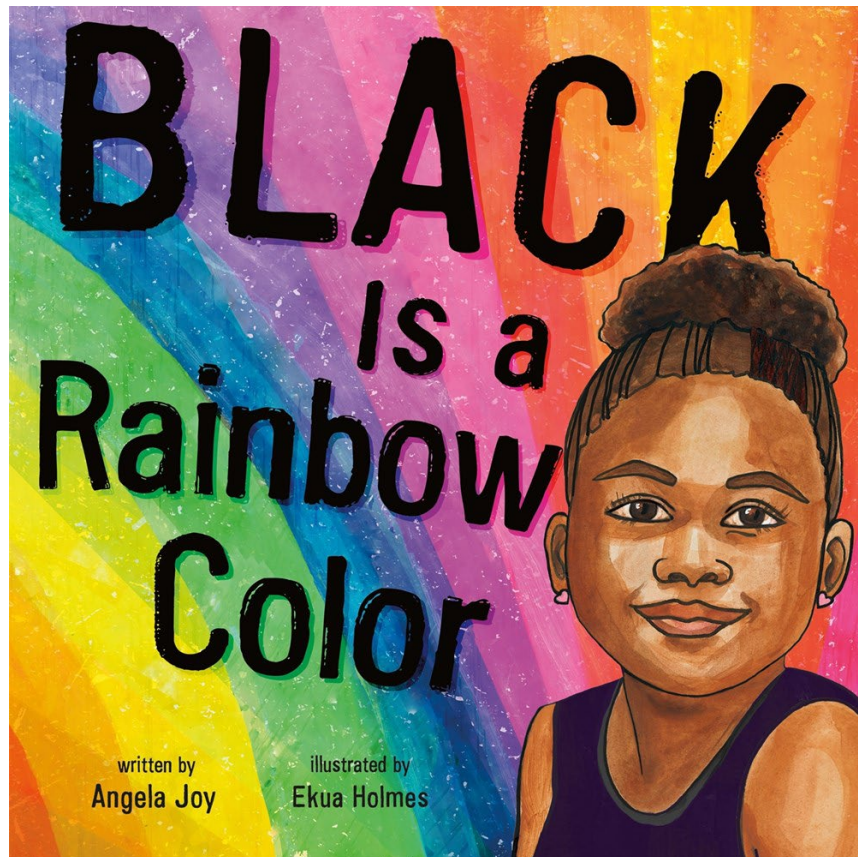
Events, Books, and Recipes

"Coastal Reflections" Karen Guildbault

Karen Guildbault's westcoast themed series of paintings are sourced from her daily paddling experiences. She enjoys painting wildlife in semi-abstract backgrounds. Fascinated by cloud and water patterns, Karen has been developing her skills with these landscape subjects in larger sizes. She is a member of the Gage Gallery artist's

collective in Bastion Square Victoria, where she also shows her work on an ongoing basis.

The exhibition is held at Cedar Hill Arts Centre Gallery in Saanich, from December 7th, 2022 to January 8th, 2023.



Black Is a Rainbow Color Written by Angela Joy, Illustrated by Ekua Holmes

Red is a rainbow color.
Green sits next to blue.
Yellow, orange, violet, indigo,
They are rainbow colors, too, but

My color is black....And there's no BLACK in rainbows.

This beautifully written and illustrated book is a reflection of a child on the meaning of being Black in this moving and powerful anthem about a people, a culture, and a history, and a legacy that lives on. You can access the read-aloud version of the book [here](#).



DYI: Snow Globe

This simple craft will be a perfect winter project that you and your family can make together. It can be a wonderful keepsake or winter gift. Some simple craft supplies from a dollar store and mason jars are all you need. You can customize what goes in the globe by putting some photos, your favourite figurines, some Lego or playmobile people. You can follow the detailed instructions from [here](#).



Holiday Cinnamon Shortbread Stars

These sweet-smelling stars will brighten up the dark and chilly winter nights. They are easy to make and are a great addition to your winter celebrations.

Ingredients:

250g margarine
1 cup (220g) superfine sugar
2 cups (300g) plain flour
1/2 cup (90g) white rice flour
1 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
Cinnamon sugar to sprinkle

Directions

Preheat oven to 325F. Line 2 baking trays with baking sheet. Use an electric mixer to beat the margarine and superfine sugar in a bowl until pale and creamy.

Add the combined flour and ground cinnamon. Bring dough together in the bowl. Shape into a disc. Cover with plastic wrap and place in the fridge for 30mins to rest.

Roll out the dough on a lightly floured surface to a 3mm-thick disc. Use a 5cm star-shaped cutter to cut stars from the dough. Place on the lined trays. Lightly sprinkle with cinnamon sugar. Bake, swapping trays halfway through cooking, for 12-15 mins or until light golden. Set aside on the trays to cool completely.

*With gratitude, we respectfully acknowledge that we work and serve on the unceded lands of the L'kwungen speaking peoples of the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations.
View our land acknowledgment [here](#).*