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CHAIR'S MESSAGE by Ramona Rea

Let's start up again!

This is the start of a new fiscal year for VNC, and it's a new normal for everyone. We still don't know what our activities will look like over the next few months, but it looks like we can move cautiously toward renewing some in-person gatherings. We've already started with small Coffee Monday groups and a Lunch Bunch picnic in the park.

We don't know yet what our usual monthly meetings will look like. Thirty people in a basement room of White Spot doesn't look wise right now, nor is it even feasible. I know that the monthly meeting is often the only event that some members attend, so we'll address it as soon as possible.

Please feel free to offer suggestions for get-togethers, either through the activity coordinators or via Join Me. It's very low risk to meet for a walk, and to have coffee outdoors. And it's summer! Let's do it – let's meet up.

MEMBERSHIP

VNC Contact email is: membership@vancouvernewcomersclub.com

Welcome to Newcomers!

Apoorva Dar has joined us as a recent transplant from Ontario. We look forward to meeting her soon!

Happy Birthday, July Babies!

Shari Erenberg

Lori Jamison

Anis Samji



MEET THE 2020-21 EXECUTIVE

RAMONA REA, CHAIR and WEBMASTER



I moved from Toronto in 2018 to live with my significant other in New Westminister, after several years of a long-distance relationship. My daughter still lives in Toronto, so a big piece of my heart is still there and I'm looking forward to safe travel again soon. I work as a management consultant for science and health-related organizations. My partner and I have been walking the streets of New West, marking our progress on a map, and aiming to walk the whole city this year.

BARBARA GIROUX, TREASURER

We sold our house in Richmond and moved to Oakville ON in 1986. I moved most recently from Edmonton because I wanted to come home and spend some time with my siblings. My interests include reading and walking and I hope to get back to my quilting as soon as I get more comfortable with my new sewing machine.



HEATHER JOHNSTON, ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

We moved to Vancouver from Ottawa, but it was really returning home after 30 years in the Canadian diplomatic service. We have three grown sons in Vancouver and are expecting our first grandchild in September! We enjoy travel, our family cabin, reading, movies, and walks in the forest.

INA VAN DER VEEN, SECRETARY

I joined Newcomers in early Feb 2019 and have been Secretary for the club for the last year and will be

been a lovely way to meet interesting women in Vancouver and has made me much more 'connected' very quickly.



**WINNIE GIBSON, MEMBERSHIP
DIRECTOR**

I have been with VNC since August 2017, after moving to Vancouver from Ottawa. This is the 2nd year that I am on the Executive, managing VNC's membership and co-convenor for Lunch Bunch. During the pandemic, I've been spending my time knitting and growing vegetables on my rooftop.

LORI JAMISON, PAST CHAIR and NEWSLETTER EDITOR

I grew up in Saskatchewan, but lived in Toronto before moving to Vancouver after the death of my husband. I have one grandchild in Vancouver and two in Kitchener ON. A former teacher and literacy consultant, I still give occasional workshops for teachers and run a small publishing company. I also love to sing (missing my choir!) and to explore Vancouver on my new e-bike.



JULY VNC ACTIVITIES - Mark your Calendars!

MONDAY COFFEES resume on the patio at the Bistro at Vancouver Art Gallery on July 6, 10:00 a.m. No need to RSVP - just come!

SATURDAY WALK AND TALK (AND MAYBE COFFEE) in Stanley Park every Saturday, come rain or shine.

LUNCH BUNCH PICNIC July 15 in Vanier Park (where Bard on the Beach is usually held)

CITY WALKS - Pacific Spirit Park on Thursday, July 23

See the Activities Newsletter or visit the VNC Website for more information.

VNC HAS A WEBSITE?? WHO KNEW?

VNC Chair Ramona Rea, our website is full of general information about the club, as well as Members Only (login required) sections with our Monthly Activities calendar. Don't forget to check out (and contribute to) our book and movie reviews!

www.vancouvernewcomersclub.com

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN VANCOUVER IN JULY



CANADA DAY ROUNDUP A list of ways to virtually celebrate July 1 in Vancouver

NEW WEST CRAFT The first craft market in B.C. to relaunch, starting Saturday, July 4 at Tipperary Park in New Westminister.

BILL REID GALLERY FIRST FRIDAYS The Bill Reid Indigenous Art Gallery has reopened and offers free admission on the first Friday of every month from 2-5 p.m.

GREEK SUMMERFEST (TO GO!) Get your fix of souvlaki and spanakopita on July 10-12 and July 17-19

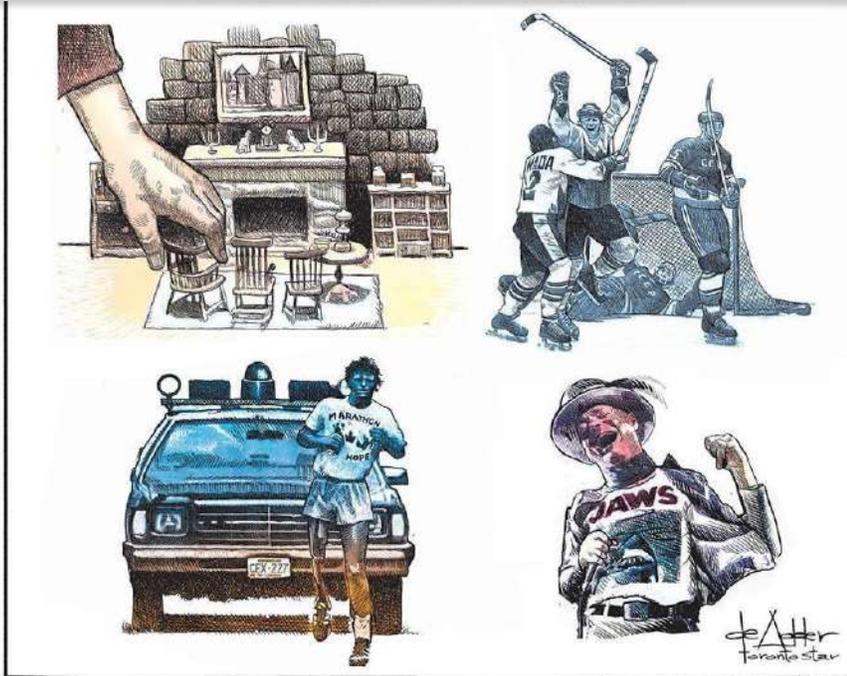
MUSICALLY AND PATRIOTICALLY SPEAKING

Watch [Walk Off the Earth \(and French's ketchup\) sing O Canada](#)

[Vancouver X Michael Bublé](#) Our favourite local crooner has just launched a new mix of tunes "from, about and reminiscent of" Vancouver (available from Amazon Music).



CELEBRATE CANADA THIS MONTH



How many of these "Canadian Bucket List" Activities (according to Canadian Geographic) have you done? Are any of them on YOUR bucket list?

Canadian bucket list

Bingo



SLEPT IN A TENT	EATEN POUTINE	VISITED 3+ CAPITALS	SEEN A BEAR	BEEN NORTH OF 60
SEEN THE ATLANTIC	BEEN UP THE CN TOWER	PLAYED ICE HOCKEY	FELT -35C TEMPS	VISITED A NATIONAL PARK
SEEN A GREY JAY	EATEN A BEAVERTAIL		BEEN TO THE CALGARY STAMPEDE	GONE SNOW-SHOEING
BEEN HISSED AT BY A CANADA GOOSE	SEEN A WHALE	TASTED REAL MAPLE SYRUP	SEEN THE PACIFIC	HAD A DOUBLE DOUBLE
PADDLED A CANOE/ KAYAK	SEEN THE ROCKIES	SUNG THE ANTHEM IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH	BEEN ON A MOUNTAIN AND A BEACH THE SAME DAY	SAID 'SORRY' FOR NO REASON

SEE BC THIS SUMMER!

With international travel questionable for the foreseeable future, we are lucky to live in a place where we can see so many sights without leaving the province. **PLEASE SHARE YOUR PICTURES AND STORIES OF (RE)DISCOVERING BRITISH COLUMBIA FOR UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS.**

I just returned from a week in the Okanagan and I can attest that the wineries are OPEN FOR BUSINESS with a variety of social distancing measures in place. We stayed at Osoyoos Lake, which claims to be the warmest lake in Canada. The jury's still out on that for me, but it was pretty refreshing with temperatures climbing into the 30s. Good city-dwellers that we are, we brought all



A BEVY OF BEAUTIES...



Barbara, Monika, Barb, Kathryn, Brenda and Geri social distancing on Scie Patio, June 16.



Sue and Vana at the June Lunch Bunch Picnic.



Trudy and Barbara, Linda and Kathryn at June Lunch Bunch Picnic.



Kathryn, Trudy, Brenda, Teri and Linda at 1931 Bistro at the Vancouver Art Gallery, June 22.



Gathering of the New Westers: Ramona, Linda, Vana



Rudi, Barbara, Marsha, Barb, Pauline and Trudy enjoy Happy Hour on West Broadway.



Monday Coffee
June 29 at Off

the Rails - Brenda; Lori, Trudy and Barb



Monika, Joanne and Winnie in their black and white ensembles. Is this a new VNC dress code?

OKAY, I JUST CAN'T RESIST ONE MORE MEME...



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