



Neighbourhood Small Grants

2023 Stories: City of Penticton

31 PROJECTS

THAT CELEBRATE WHERE WE LIVE

Neighbourhoods awarded with an NSG

- Atkinson St
- Balsam Pl
- Bennett Ave
- Burnaby Ave
- Cambie St
- Cleland Dr
- Forestbrook Pl
- Glen Pl
- Hastings Pl
- Huth Ave
- Killarney St
- Lakeshore Drive E
- Nanaimo Ave
- Paris St
- Penticton Ave
- Pinetree Way
- Pineview Rd
- Ponderosa Pl
- Redlands Rd
- Ross Ave
- Scott Ave
- Skaha Lake Rd
- South Main St
- The Circle
- Wade Ave E
- Walden Cres
- Williamson Pl
- Wilson St
- Young St

In June, thirty-one households in Penticton seized the opportunity to foster stronger community ties by applying for and receiving a Neighbourhood Small Grant of up to \$500 each.

These microgrants empower individuals to enact positive change within their neighborhoods. They extend invitations, share warm welcomes, and recount their experiences, serving as wellsprings of inspiration for others to follow suit in fostering connectedness.

These stories highlights some of the many projects and events that took place in Penticton over the summer, with activities continuing until November 2023.

We invite you to immerse yourself in the stories and photos shared by the NSG project leaders, celebrating the vibrant essence of where we live, be inspired!

What would you do with \$500?



Balsam Place Safety Shindig

The Neighbourhood Small Grants program is grateful to learn and learn on the sacred and unceded homelands of the snpintktn and syilx peoples.

BALSAM PLACE SAFETY SHINDIG **Uniting Neighbours for Safer Streets**

After multiple reschedules, the Balsam Place Safety Shindig finally became a reality, bringing our community closer together while addressing school traffic concerns.

Our primary aim was to strengthen neighbourly connections across generations and tackle the unique school traffic issues in our cul-de-sac, all made possible through the Neighbourhood Small Grant.

In September, our cul-de-sac and neighbouring driveways transformed into a lively gathering space. We enjoyed mouthwatering gelato from local business Chabendo and helped decorate the kids bikes. They also engaged in bike and scooter road safety activities, guided by us watchful adults.

Empowering our kids further, we had them design a "safe walking route to school." Laughter filled the air during the Water Balloon Toss, where adults used balloons to emphasize road safety. The event ended with prizes for everyone.

A neighbour, a bylaw officer, shared parking insights and safety information for school drivers. Thanks to the grant, we acquired road safety signs and equipment that significantly improved safety in our neighbourhood.

Reflecting on the event, we take pride in the increased road safety awareness among all residents and stronger community bonds. We may not be perfect, but we've made undeniable progress thanks to the grant.

Looking ahead, we are eager to explore more opportunities, knowing our community's spirit is thriving. Together, we will continue to make positive changes and create a safer neighbourhood for all.

Thank you, City of Penticton and the Community Foundation.



GLEN PLACE AN ARTISTIC HAVEN

It all began with a casual conversation between neighbours An and Jo-Ann; the idea of bringing neighbours together for a paint night took root as they imagined the possibilities of turning their little neighbourhood into an artistic haven for an evening.

A small group of neighbours gathered in a room adorned with canvases, easels, and vibrant acrylic paints; and, the atmosphere held excitement and creativity,

While the paint night had concluded, its impact lingered on. The following discussions were filled with enthusiasm, and the prospect of including the neighbourhood children in future events began to take shape.

In the end, what began as a simple conversation transformed into a night of creativity, connection, and community.



CAMBIE/NANAIMO BLOCK PARTY



"We live on a corner, making it convenient to invite neighbours from both streets to our gathering. Twelve households could join us, totalling twenty attendees, while a few couldn't make it and sent their regrets. Prior to the event, we talked with some neighbours to gauge their preferences for food and the flow of the event. It turned out that people just wanted to eat burgers and visit!

With the support of a grant, we ensured that everyone could relish a sumptuous meal: burgers adorned with all the fixings, a variety of salads and veggies, a platter of fresh fruits, and delectable squares for dessert. For door prizes, we found lovely potted plants available at a reasonable cost, ensuring each household had a plant to take home. The joy expressed by everyone upon receiving these potted plants was truly heartwarming.

Everyone was so happy to have the opportunity to gather, and we would like to express our thanks and appreciation for choosing to award us a grant for our event. We held a block party last year on our own, but having the grant money took the pressure off a lot of preparation and allowed us all to relax and connect. We hope to continue this event yearly on an ongoing basis."

ALYSEN PLACE SUMMER SOCIAL

"The event went off without a hitch; it was a lovely day, quite warm, thank goodness for some shady areas in the backyard. We had some tents set up to protect the food from getting warm and provide further shade to attendees.

We put out all the games around the area, including the new purchase of a game. This year, we had a barbeque and plenty of coolers and ice to keep food chilled.

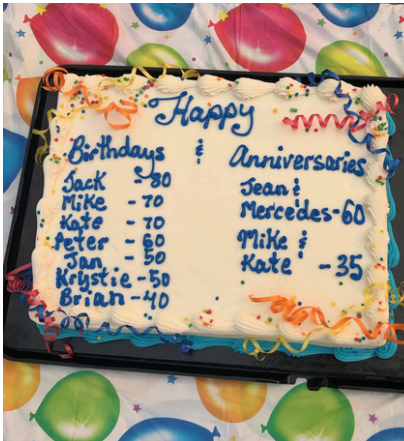
We had a great turnout of 36 people, an increase from last year's event. This event is meant for the residents of our complex to be more social and join in on all the fun together.

These kinds of events build better communities since people get to know one another and provide support and help to one another since they have made long lasting friendships, which we have already witnessed from last year's event."



PINEVIEW CELEBRATION A SUMMER GAERTHING TO REMEMBER

We're thrilled to report that our recent gathering was a resounding success! Despite some lingering smoke, only two households were unable to join us, but the majority of our wonderful community, almost 50 strong, came together to make it a memorable day.



The event provided a fantastic opportunity for our neighbourhood to come together and strengthen our bonds. We were delighted to welcome four new families who have recently moved in allowing us all to connect.

To ensure nobody was a stranger, we provided name tags that included both names and house numbers, making it easier for everyone to connect.

Speaking of connections, our event was a hub of celebration! Check out the cake photo showcasing numerous milestone birthdays. The kids led us in a harmonious rendition of 'Happy Birthday' to honour all the celebrants.

To keep us cool in the summer heat, we had an unexpected guest – a giant misting gorilla! It provided much-needed relief, while some of our creative residents contributed yard games for everyone's enjoyment.

We also captured a few group snapshots to share. I had the privilege of sharing a few words of gratitude, expressing our thanks to all attendees, and extending our appreciation to our sponsors, including the City of Penticton and the Community Foundation. I emphasized the importance of community and the value of knowing our neighbours.

Lastly, a heartfelt thank you for your support and the grant that made this event possible. The enthusiasm from everyone to make this an annual tradition speaks volumes about the success of the day.



MOUNTAIN FEST ON PINETREE WAY

This year marks the fourth of our beloved gathering, which we aptly named "Mountain Fest." What began as a response to unforeseen circumstances has transformed into a cherished tradition that invigorates our community spirit and strengthens the bonds.

Our event has become a beacon of unity, attracting both neighbors and friends to immerse themselves in the festivities year after year. The talents of Dennis C, who not only graced us with his performance but also unearthed the remarkable talents of our youth, who took the stage with their own mesmerizing acts. The festivity-packed schedule included a parade, a day of sun-soaked fun at the beach complete with sandcastle sculpting, a spirited neighbourhood hike, a talent show, an open mic night to showcase diverse artistic expressions. Games, coveted prizes, vibrant stickers, gleaming trophies, and a delightful spread of delectable food was offered.

The year 2023 brought a remarkable turning point, thanks to the support of the Neighbourhood Small Grant. With gratitude, we extend our thanks.



CLELAND DRIVE FESTIVAL

"We were thrilled to welcome an impressive turnout of nearly 60 neighbours.

As hosts, we provided hotdogs, chips, and refreshing beverages, and the spirit of potluck further enriched the offerings. A dedicated "kid zone" ensured our younger attendees had a blast. The towering balloon arch proved to be an inspired addition, serving as a fantastic backdrop for countless photos."

The event not only brought neighbours closer but also kindled a renewed sense of togetherness, Kaylee and neighbours are already talking about their next gathering."



PONDEROSA PLACE

Under the warm sun, Ponderosa Place came alive for its third annual block party with purpose. Chairs dotted the street as people enjoyed the tunes of two live bands, and indulged in treats from a nearby food truck, Laws of Attraction.

Amidst laughter and music, the neighbours rallied for their local hospice, their generosity amplified by businesses like Wentworth Music, Painted Rock Winery and Yamaha Motorsports joined the cause, propelling donations beyond the \$2000 goal to a remarkable \$4100.

It was an unforgettable success, and gratitude filled the air. A big thanks for the NSG and every neighbour's heartfelt support.



Penticton Residents Celebrate their Neighbourhoods

