

**Peggy Griesdale, New President,
Dunbar Community Centre Association (DCCA) Board of Directors**

The cornerstone of any community is people. They're the volunteers in the Dunbar community patrol who help keep our neighbourhoods safe from crime. They're organizers of local block parties or Dunbar's Salmonberry Days. Many of these same people also accept the invitation to join the volunteer board of their local community centre, a gathering place with valuable but affordable programs, from daycares to gyms, seniors and arts activities for all ages and abilities.



I accepted that call for support. I joined the Dunbar Community Centre (DCC) board five years ago, serving on the Facilities, Special Events & Programming Committees before becoming President in July, taking over from Colleen McGuinness, who has tirelessly served this organization. I was also a board President of Dunbar Memorial Preschool. As a mom and a local Vancouver School Board high school teacher, I can say I have a solid grasp of children's special and individual needs. A ten-year Dunbar resident, I've also made regular use of the Dunbar fitness centre while my children were enrolled in the on-site preschool. I'm motivated to ensure that this local community centre continues to offer meaningful and accessible programming that supports everyone who lives here and welcomes newcomers as our neighbourhoods change.

To learn more about our current community centre programs, I encourage you to explore our latest 52-page Fall 2019 interactive program guide online, which can take you directly to the registration portal here: [Fall 2019 Program Guide](#). The online guide helps us conserve trees and be more sustainable while keeping print costs down. Although print copies were mailed out to Dunbar residents, extra copies are available at the community centre.

I also invite you to complete a short, needs assessment to help your volunteer board of directors ensure programs remain relevant to this community. Please answer the following questions (*less than two minutes*) at: [DCC Programming Needs Assessment](#)

QUESTIONS:

- What existing programs of the Dunbar Community Centre best serve the needs of our neighbourhood?
- What service or program gaps do you see?
- What do you find most enjoyable about the programs/services of the Dunbar Community Centre?
- How could we improve upon our existing programs/services?
- What led you to register for a DCC program?

During my term with the DCCA, I have been fortunate to meet many community-oriented leaders who enjoy giving back. I encourage those of you with a similar passion to consider joining me and my fellow directors in serving our community centre. We could use additional volunteers with special skills in the areas of finances, marketing, communications, or special events. We are also looking for members with fluency in a second language, particularly Chinese (Mandarin or Cantonese) or Tagalog.

No previous board experience is required but is certainly an asset. If you'd like to learn more about joining the board, please send an e-mail to: dunbarcca@gmail.com. Online [Board Membership Application Form](#).

In the meantime, we have an exciting year ahead of us, with many popular programs and events planned. Here are a few:

- Renaming of the Dunbar Room, to the Gerry Massing Room, unveiling Oct 4 at 2pm
- New, longer Sunday operating hours 8:45am-4pm (previously 12-4pm)
- Holiday Craft Fair: Sat Nov 23, 10am-5pm
- Festive Tree Lighting: Wed Dec 4, 6:30pm-8pm (lighting at 7pm)
- Bees: Honey extraction will take place in the fall – come by early at Craft Fair to buy our DCC bee's honey. This sweet treat always sells out before the fair is over.
- Breakfast with Santa: Sat, Dec 7, 10-11:30

I hope to see you at one or more of these events. Let's connect! You can reach me at: dunbarcca@gmail.com. You can also follow the Dunbar Community Centre Association on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

Peggy Griesdale
President
Dunbar Community Centre Association

