

January 23, 2015



HPAC News

Well, we gave you two weeks of a short and sweet HPAC News. Not so this week. We're back to a full newsletter of information - you may need to read it twice!

Also, please remember that **Wednesday, January 28** is a Staff Collaboration Day and students will be **released at 2:00 pm**.

Onto the news...

This issue:

- Parents' Night Out
- Unwrapping Bubble-Wrapped Kids Session
- NVPAC Meeting
- Walk & Wheel Champions Needed
- SPC Volunteer Needed
- Kidsbooks for Birthdays
- Revised Directory
- Next HPAC Meeting
- Save-the-Date: Family Bingo & Movie Nights

Highlands Parents' Night Out - Buy Your Tickets Now

Friday, January 30 7:00 pm *(One week today!)*

Book your tickets now for the Highlands Parents' Night Out on Friday, January 30, at Pier 7 restaurant + bar overlooking the beautiful lights of downtown Vancouver.

Ticket price includes delicious Pier 7 canapés, a glass of wine or beer, music by Absolute DJ, and some fabulous door prizes. And this is a non-fundraising event which means you can leave your chequebook and toonies at home.

Tickets are \$40 each and are available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/highlands-parents-night-out-tickets-14674133729>. Tickets are selling quickly!

Unwrapping Bubble-Wrapped Kids: The Importance of Risky Play

Wednesday, January 28 7:30 pm

Lynn Valley Elementary School, 3207 Institute Road

[Parent Information Poster](#)

Tickets are **FREE** - please RSVP at: <http://lvpac.ca/programs/education/>

There are implications to overprotecting our children. Dr. Ian Pike will encourage

participants to reflect on their play experiences and those of today's children. He will also speak to research that has been done on the impact of children not experiencing risk in play and to the focus of the injury prevention field in this area.

Dr. Mariana Brussoni will speak to her experience with playground design features to better accommodate risky play for children. She will also speak to research on developmental importance of children's risky play and the influence on parenting related to risk and safety.

North Vancouver Parent Advisory Council (NVPAC)

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, January 28 7:00pm

Mountainview Room, 5th Floor - 2121 Lonsdale Avenue

The NVPAC January General Meeting will feature speakers on the topics of Traffic Safety and Active Routes to School:

- Harvey Kooner of ICBC will speak about the road safety packages available for elementary schools.
- Tom Walker, President of the North Shore Safety Council will speak about his organization's advocacy work in schools.
- Carol Sartor of Montroyal PAC will speak on the "WOW" program - Walk to School on Wednesdays, and her role as a traffic safety consultant and advocate for safe and active routes to school.

Dave Whitehead will present the results of our parent survey conducted last spring. The agenda is [attached](#), and can be found on the NVPAC [blog](#).

Walk and Wheel Program Seeking Parent Champions

At the last HPAC meeting we met Carol Sartor, a member of the North Shore Safe Routes Advocates (SRA). Carol has implemented the "WOW" (Walk or Wheel) program at her school, Montroyal, and told us all about the possibilities of such a program here at Highlands.

The program gives each kid a scan card, with their first name and a code for the area they live in. This can be scanned on a phone; the data is easily collected. A reward system with prizes lends itself to healthy competition, and we are looking into the possibility of such a program, keeping in mind privacy issues and ease of use. We think this could be a winner, and Carol has let us know of all the success' she has had with students.

The students think it's cool, the parents are encouraged to walk, and there is still the "drive to five" option, where you park and walk a bit. Are you interested? **We need a few parent champions and new parents are encouraged to help get this easy program up and running in the Fall of 2015.**

While the details of the new Walk or Wheel program are being finalized we will continue with our regular bean count and "golden shoe" competition this Spring.

Willing volunteers for either initiative are asked to email Marnie Premont at marnie@premont.com.

School Planning Committee (SPC) - One Volunteer Needed

We are looking for one more Highlands parent to volunteer for the School Planning Committee (SPC). This role entails attending three or four meetings between now and the beginning of May to discuss the existing school plan, to review previous years' objectives, and to set new objectives for the coming academic year.

More information about the role is available at the following link:

<http://www.sd44.ca/Board/PoliciesProcedures/Series400/Policy410/Pages/default.aspx>

If you're interested in this position and/or would like more information, please contact Anna Archer at annaarcheruk@hotmail.com.

Kidsbooks - Books for Birthdays

We have an option if you are looking for an alternative to baking treats to mark your child's birthday...

As a gift to the school, Highlands students/families are encouraged to purchase a book off the Library Wish List located at Kidsbooks in Edgemont. This Wish List, created by Highlands Librarian Ms. McGee, includes fiction and non-fiction for all grade levels and books at various price points.

Once purchased, the students can then give the book directly to Ms. McGee who will have labels for the students to put in the book and on which to write their name. The children will be able to "visit" their book when they and their peers visit the library.

Highlands library will receive a credit at Kidsbooks for 15% of all books purchased off the list, (in addition to the 15% discount already provided to the Highlands library and staff).

NOTE: Kidsbooks' annual book sale is on NOW until Sunday, January 25.

Revised HPAC Directory

Deadline to make changes: Friday, January 30 (one week today!)

An updated version of the 2014/15 HPAC Directory will be prepared in February.

If you would like to have your contact information included in this revised edition but were NOT included in the earlier version **or** need to update any of your details (contact information, sibling names, etc), please:

- 1) log into hpac.wildapricot.org,
- 2) edit your profile details,
- 3) select either Yes or No to the publication of contact information, and
- 4) save your changes.

(You don't need to do anything if you were included in the earlier version and have no revisions to make.)

Please update this information no later than **Friday, January 30**. If you have any questions or difficulties, please email HPAC@wildapricot.org.

Next HPAC Meeting:

Tuesday, February 3 7:00 - 8:00 pm
Highlands Library
Complimentary childcare available.
(The agenda will be available next week.)

Save the Date, More Details to Come...

- **Family Bingo Night: Friday, February 13**
- **Family Movie Night: Friday, March 27**