

Oaklands Rise Woonerf News



Time is flying, it's a new year!

In this newsletter:

- **UVIC Community Engagement Project**
- **Greater Victoria Placemaking Drop-in**
- **Greater Fernwood Art Stroll**
- **Victoria Hospice Society Garden Tours**
- **Public Survey Highlights**
- **What's Been Happening**
- **Go Canada 🍁 on Feb 15 Red Flag Day, Saturday**

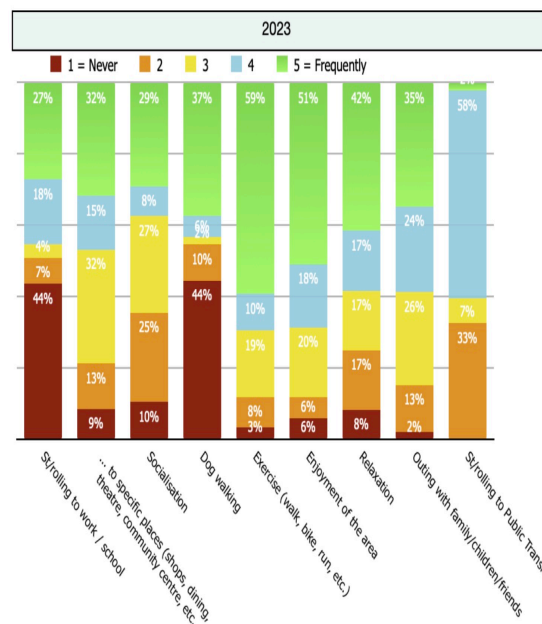
Community Engaged Learning offers students a chance to learn while contributing. Past ORW projects include 20 students engaged in permaculture studies—4 now reports guide many activities. This term, we welcome Chloe to assist in organizing our online research library. Why not join us at the **Greater Victoria Placemaking Network drop-in** on Feb 21, 709 Douglas, 2-3:30 pm?

- ▶ What topics/keywords can help find answers to Woonerf questions? Chloe may reach out or join a small group gathering to identify needs. Stay tuned!

Woonerf ((VÖN-airf) artists have created an Oaklands Cluster on the Greater Fernwood Art Stroll. On board now are Robin, Michelle, Carlyne, Dana, Thomas, Susan, John...perhaps you? Home galleries open on June 7 & 8

- ▶ Visit [Fernwood Art Stroll](#) for membership details. Next meeting: Mar 3, 7:00 p.m. at the Store Front Studio, 1923 Fernwood Rd. This year, some artists *may* be participating in the Victoria Hospice Society garden fundraiser. Bonus!

Highlights from the Public Surveys *(Click to enlarge the graph)*



☑️ 96% explained *why* they're on the streets in 2018. In 2023, we asked for *ranked* preferences.

☑️ Top activities are: exercise, enjoyment of the area, relaxation.

☑️ 76% walk, 40% cycle, 18% drive the Woonerf (Oaklands Park-Capital Heights)

☑️ 4% use assistive devices. 9% push a stroller. 3% are skateboard/scooter fans.

☑️ 71% support art elements: 4% do not.

☑️ 66% do not want sidewalks: 7% do, doubting that drivers will cooperate.

☑️ Happily, there's great support for slow speeds for the safety of children, seniors, dog walkers, and ALL who love the area.

My Great Neighbourhood

Your ideas & volunteer efforts are needed for up to \$7500 to build community, beautify boulevards & bring us together in these fraught times.

[Learn more](#)

ORW Planning Group templates can help volunteer project leads—just ask!

Curious about buying Canadian products?

[Learn more](#)

84% offered to help in Woonerf activities, but contact info missing?!

[Who are you?](#)

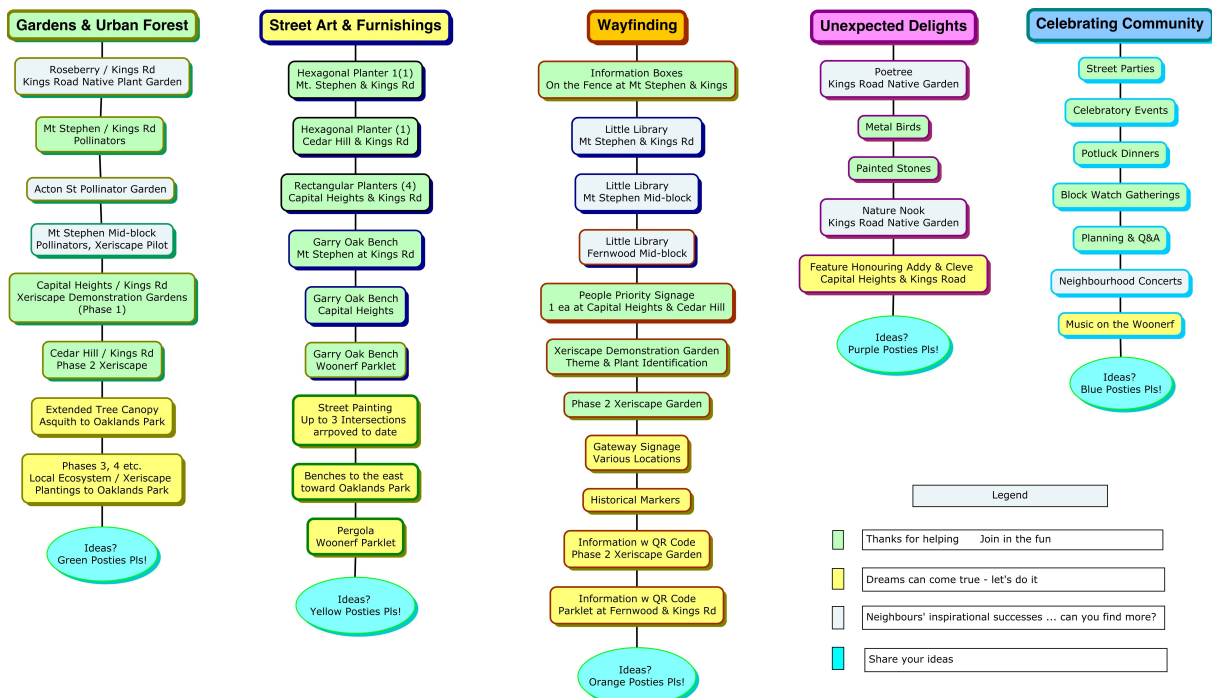
Don't take the Woonerf for granted.

From Oaklands Park to Capitol Heights, it's our "green lung" & place of belonging. Let's protect what we share.

oaklandsrise.ca

- ✔ 99% of respondents are willing to drive at 20 km/h or less for the 2-3 blocks to reach a connector or arterial thoroughfare. Some respondents did share concern about increased cut-through driving. That concern guided a street painting (with mixed results) and later feedback to City of Victoria staff.
- ✔ 84% will volunteer to maintain & enhance the Woonerf pitching in through a variety of activities. *Here's a challenge: how do we take that willingness into active volunteering?! Many forgot that being on the mailing list does not reveal who you are in a blind survey—please, reach out!*
- ✔ Thanks for the input shared in the ORW Community Survey Summary Report, [available online](#).
Let's talk—there's a lot to enjoy! [Tell us your preferences for a small group chat at Koffi on Haultain.](#)

Curious about what's been happening? Click on the chart for a larger image.



The Woonerf Parkette on Kings Rd. at Fernwood has found its place with a musical launch; an anniversary celebration of the nearby Kings Rd Native Garden; a “parkette sale” and a *Music, Market, Mingle* event thanks to Kurt and Rosina. Christmas Carolling has been a hit two years in a row thanks to Peggy, Madeline and Margaret. Street painting brings oak leaves and acorns to Mt. Stephen thanks to Robin and John. **Here's an aerial view by drone - thanks Phil!**

NO GUARANTEES

In Year 8, the Woonerf is strong but has no official standing. Your support makes it real.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Opportunities abound!

Tag social media posts to raise awareness; be visible in your support. Respond to calls to action!

You are invited to send a message of solidarity and pride on Saturday, February 15 as urged by 5 former Prime Ministers and current leaders.

Will you choose to wear or display red in some way, to fly a traditional Canadian flag or Kwakwaka'wakw artist Curtis Wilson's beautiful version?

Let's acknowledge the journey we travel together toward achieving aspirations we hold as Canadians for a bright, fulfilling future for *all*.