

NEWSLETTER MAY 2024



Broad View
— UNITED —

Broad View United in amalgamation with
First Metropolitan United Church



broadviewunited.com



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Minister's Message

Pentecost and Anniversary Celebration

BVU came into being on Pentecost Sunday in 2020. We chose Pentecost as our official starting date because it's a celebration of the church that came into being with the moving of the Spirit (Acts 2). We liked the idea of being attached to this liturgical season both for its meaning and because the date of this is celebrated 50 days after Easter and the date for Easter is fluid, it means that we never celebrate our anniversary Sunday on the same day of the year... it keeps moving and changing. This seems an appropriate metaphor for BVU as we keep moving and changing as well.

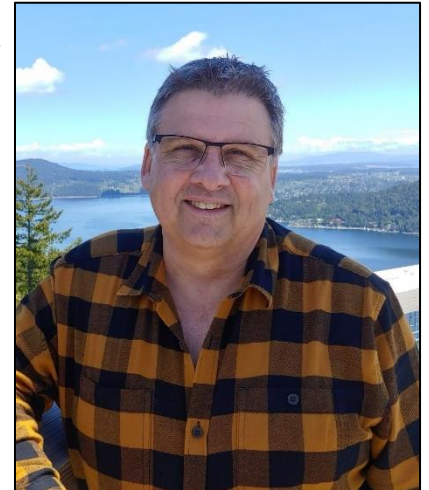
This past year folks from First Met joined BVU and so a new iteration of BVU began and we will celebrate this new incarnation on Pentecost Sunday this year which falls on April 19th. There will be wind and fire and surprises to help us engage in the Pentecost story and we will share communion with one another. The celebration of communion was one of the first shared actions the church undertook as it was being formed.

I think I personally like the celebration of Pentecost the most of all the liturgical seasons. It doesn't have the many theological overlays to it that are as problematic as Christmas and Easter are for me. And the music choices for this day are energetic and multidimensional. And the story has so much going on that it lends itself to having a lot to explore and connecting to as a community of faith. We will unpack this story during the last two Sundays of May. And the other reason I love this celebration as it allows my inner pyromaniac a little room to play 😊

The United Church of Canada is fast approaching its 100th anniversary in 2025 as well. As a church we have navigated a lot of change both within our denomination and as a response to a changing society. We have worked hard to be as responsive to the needs of the Canadian sociological landscape as we could, perhaps not as quickly as needed at times and yet relative to some other institutions, we were more responsive and nibble than others.

My hope for BVU is that we navigate this and the many other anniversaries to come, that we will never stop growing, changing, adapting and being nibble in our responsiveness to the world around us. The pace of change grows ever quicker and our ability to pivot and make changes will continue to be tested. Yet if COVID taught us anything, it was that we have the capacity to make those changes quickly when we make the decision to simply do it. We learned to pivot quickly, and we can transfer those skills to our current context.

Lucky for me, I see all sorts of evidence that BVU continues to do just that. Adapt and pivot quickly. And our move into the building, our recent amalgamation process with First Met and Visioning process and changing landscape for our social enterprises are but a few examples of the resilience and fortitude of this community of faith. Thank you to each of you for your part in these transformations of the Spirit. Happy Pentecost!



Rev. Mark Green

Mark Green Co-Lead Minister

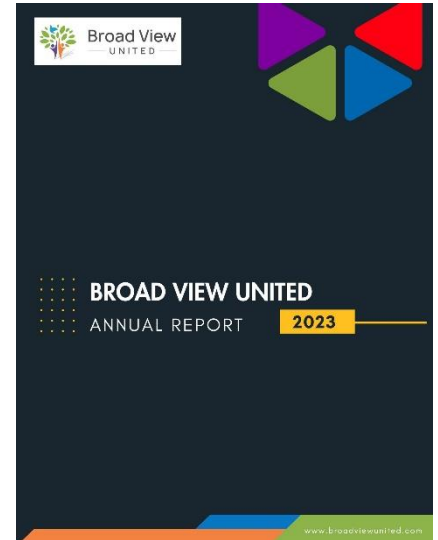
BROAD VIEW UNITED UPDATES

AGM Update

On Sunday April 28th BVU held its Annual General Meeting. About 86+ people attended the online meeting. The report was circulated in advance and praise was given for the format and the extensive information contained within about all that had happened this past year. Many shared their appreciation for the format and its tie to the Strategic Plan.

Paul Malnarich and Liane Clark shared some commentary on the financial reports contained within and answered questions from the floor. As well the budget was shared, and a few questions answered as well. The budget for the 2024 year was passed unanimously.

A change to the governance structure of BVU was approved to change the board size from a min of 7 to a max 10 people. A slate of nominees was presented for both those whose terms are being renewed and for new nominations to the board. The new incoming chair Barry Cameron was also elected by the congregation. In addition, 4 trustees were named for the 2024 year: Kathryn Berge, Don Craigmyle, Jan Drent and Forrest Nelson.



The 2023 Annual report will stay on the website for the rest of the 2024 year and folks can access it at any time. The current Strategic Plan is contained in appendix one as well.

Worship Schedule for May 2024.

Date	Theme	Scripture	Preacher
May 5 th	Social Enterprise	Act 4: 32- 5:11	Carla Leon
May 12 th	A Love Letter to Millennial Women* and Mothers	Mark 3:31-35 Matthew 11:28-30	Ha Na Park
May 19 th	Pentecost and BVU anniversary	Acts 2	Mark Green
May 26 th	People of the Spirit	Acts 2	Mark Green
June 2 nd One Sanctuary Service	Partnership with Shelbourne Community Kitchen	TBD	Margaret Harper and Kim Cummins (Director of SCK)

* including non-binary trans parents

Beginning in June we will shift to our Summer Schedule of services. Chapel service will continue at 9 am and then we will have only one Sanctuary service at 10 am.

Thrift Store Update

Thank you to our generous donors who cross the threshold of the doorway to deposit their goods in our bins. May 1st, Wednesday was one of our busiest store days ever, leading to our grand total of \$16,000 for April 2024. Did you know that January through April we logged, in our store, 3,150 volunteer hours of precious time and effort? So much to be thankful for!



The newly formed Fellowship Team held their first meeting to recognize our loyal store volunteers on National Volunteers Week. Two of our many Outreach Agencies, "Kid Start" and "S.O.L.I. D." provided context to the recognition of the value of volunteers like ours in their community programmes and the work they accomplish. Much of our unsold clothing fills a vital need to feel better about themselves and to stand taller.

We are still in need of more donations to offer for sale. Drop off is Monday through Saturday at the store door, 9 am to 3 pm.

Always new volunteers are needed and welcome for fellowship, fun and a mindful work experience.

Watch for Weekly Thrift Store Updates on Facebook!

We've employed our youth volunteer member, under adult supervision (her mom 😊), to manage our Thrift Store's Facebook page. Expect regular updates about the store, including highlights from various departments, volunteer spotlights, sale information, and much more. Stay tuned for weekly posts!



PMR meeting – Dates and delegates

The annual meeting of the Pacific Mountain Region of which we are a part, will meet May 30th – June 2nd. Many of our ministerial staff will be both in attendance at that meeting and wearing several hats of leadership during that time. Lay delegates from BVU are: Sandra Lee, Kath Silversides, Barry Rolston, Emile Dykes and Sakshi Turnbull will also be attending as a youth delegate to the youth forum. Our prayers of support go with them. The meeting this year is at St Andrew's Wesley United Church in Vancouver.

Visioning Windup - Session 3 Saturday May 4th 9:30 – 12 noon

Join others in the Broad View United community for the final of three gatherings to engage our vision and purpose. This final session "For Such a Time as This: What Matters Most" will focus on gathering your input about what's emerging and what's next for BVU. Somewhere between the needs of the wider community and world, BVU's unique gifts and context, and the Spirit's persistent presence lies the pathway of ministry for us. Join Allison and others Saturday May 4, 9:30 – noon for this final session in the Commons. You are welcome whether you've attended the first two sessions or not.

Are you new to Broad View United since October of 2023?

Welcome to Broad View United! We're an affirming congregation that warmly welcomes you, regardless of your sexuality, gender identity, or any other social aspect. We're committed to fostering an intercultural environment that wholeheartedly embraces radical hospitality.

At BVU, we strive to offer a multitude of entry points so folks can enter in a manner and style that meets their needs and desires. We are much more than 'just what happens on Sunday'. We are here to support you and your family through a variety of life transitions. We offer workshops and events to help us go deeper in our learning, believing that community is foundational to living out our faith. We offer a variety of spiritual practices, small group experiences, opportunities to volunteer, sing, write, pray and play!



Each Fall, we publish a year-round program guide that encompasses our programs and learning opportunities for all ages. In this guide, you will learn about a wealth of ways where you can become involved and get to know others at BVU. [\[LINK to Program Guide 2023-24\]](#)

Help Us Get to Know You <https://form.jotform.com/241215536971255>

NEWCOMERS LUNCH

NEWCOMERS LUNCH

SUNDAY, MAY 26TH | 12:30PM | SANCTUARY

Are you new to Broad View United since October 2023?

You are invited to a Newcomer Lunch on Sunday, May 26 at 12:30PM

We'd love to be able to welcome you, and begin to get to know you.

Come meet others and find out more about BVU! We will meet at 12:30PM in the Sanctuary.

Please let us know of any dietary restrictions or needs.

Child care will be available upon request.

RSVP to info@broadviewunited.com or by calling the church office at 250-590-3677 or through the QR code.



Scan to RSVP





World Day of Prayer 2024

The theme for 2024 is

*“I Beg You...
Bear With One Another in Love”*

based on Ephesians 4:1-3.

May 7th | 2 - 3 pm

Broad View United
3703 St. Aidan's St.



Artwork by Halima Aziz



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What Do You Know About the Opioid Crisis? Facts & Fiction



Evolving Church will be hosting:

COFFEE and *Conversation*

MAY 15, 2024 | 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Broad View United, 3703 St. Aidan's St



Shane Calder, Co-ordinator Outreach Mobilization from the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, will be attending this session. This event is intended to increase your understanding of the ongoing crisis and Shane will be available for any questions you may have.

Table Talk

On the last Sunday in April, the question of the day was “Have you ever told a story or lived a story that made an impact, despite not having a perfect ending?”

We are all living out our stories right now in the midst of a rapidly changing climate and a world growing more polarized and complex. We have many questions but few answers. Thinking about what the future holds is overwhelming, filling us sometimes with fear, grief and even despair. Climate science tells us that we are living in a 'code red' time- that we must do something now or else. But what?

Asking questions is important but what seems even more critical at this inflection point is taking the time to be with one another, sharing our stories and listening wholeheartedly. With that in mind, KAIROS Victoria is creating an opportunity for us to engage in some meaningful conversations about things that really matter. We will set the tables, provide some lunch and refreshment, and then use questions to explore what we are up against. We'll need to go deep and wide as we collectively try to imagine what a hope-filled resilient community looks like in a time of climate chaos. Please join us.



TABLE TALK
When: *Monday, June 3 from 11:30-1pm*
Where: *The Commons at BVU*
**Lunch and a Conversation
about Really Important Stuff**

To RSVP, email *Susan Draper:*
graceful@shaw.ca
No charge but do register by May 31.

Human conversation is the most ancient and easiest way to cultivate the conditions for change—personal change, community and organizational change, planetary change. If we can sit together and talk about what's important to us, we begin to come alive. Margaret Wheatley



For all kinds of reasons, it's become harder to have conversations with family and friends, let alone strangers, about the things that really matter. But we know that being able to talk about what is happening around us and what the future may hold has never been more critical. Join us for a FREE lunch and a process we've created to help us open up and explore the possibilities. Yummy food followed by table talk. All are welcome.

Food Safe Level 1 – Training Course together with Shelbourne Community Kitchen

FOOD SAFE LEVEL 1 - TRAINING COURSE
at Broad View United



8 hour food handling, sanitation, and safety course designed for workers and volunteers who cook; serve; wash dishes and clean up.

The course covers safety information including storing food; preparing food; serving food; cleaning; and sanitizing.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
8:30AM - 4:00PM

*bring a bag lunch

\$65 PER PERSON

*fee includes training manual and certificate (valid for 5 years)

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3703 St. Aidan's St.

For more information and to register, scan the QR code:



PROGRAM UPDATES

Junior Youth

For the month of May, Jr Youth will be on Friday May 3rd, 17th and 31st . Same time (6:30 to 8:30).

Flatlanders Walk: Saturday May 4th at 1pm

The Flatlanders walk on Sat. May 4 will be led by Earl and Alva Jenson. We will meet at the beside the parking lot at Henderson Recreation centre at 1:00 and walk to Finnerty Gardens. We plan to stop for coffee in the U Vic library before returning our cars or other transportation. If you plan on joining us, please RSVP to Jenson's at aejenson@gmail.com or 778-265-4198.

Writing Your Legacy Letters/Ethical Will

Will meet Thursday May 2 and June 6 in the Cedar Room at 1:00 pm. A small group has begun to meet to 'write' stories and reflections on our lives that can be left/gifted to our loved ones when we die. Our sessions are loosely based on the book 'For You When I am Gone' by Steve Leder. At the beginning of each session, we will talk about the questions we have chosen to focus on, and then folks can stay and 'write' together if they choose. We are also planning a zoom session for those who prefer to meet on-line. Contact Betty Doherty (bdoherty1@telus.net) or Margaret Harper, for more information.

Circle CHAT: Wednesday May 8th at 1:30pm

Will meet Wednesday, May 8th at 1:30 pm in the Cedar Room. Are you longing for friendly conversation with others? Consider joining this drop-in group of women elders. Come and meet some new friends! Refreshments and fun included. This will be our last gathering before we break for the summer. If you need a ride, please reach out to Margaret Harper margaret@broadviewunited.com

Inter-View: Inter-Spiritual and Queering: Wednesday May 8th at 7pm

Zoom Meeting on May 8th, at 7pm (Every Second Wednesday of the month)
Meeting ID: 941 532 2272

Inter-View: Inter-Spiritual and Queering is a monthly conversation that integrates two lenses: Inter-Spiritual &

Queering. We hope Inter-View becomes a safe space for Broad View United's queer and transgender members and allies, a community where you can experience a warm welcome, learn from each other, and provide mutual support.

This month, we will experience a practice together called "Gratitude Countdown." It's part game, part collaboration, and part spiritual practice that we can enjoy solo, in a pair, or as a group. Try the Gratitude Countdown in a fun, pressure-free way and see if you'd like to incorporate it into your daily, weekly, or even monthly routine.



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Broad View Knitters: Tuesday May 14th at 1pm

Broad View Knitters meets every second Tuesday of the month and will be getting together **on May 14th, from 1 pm to 3 pm in the Cedar room!** A selection of yarn, knitting needles and advice will be available to you.



Guys' "Water into Wine" pub night: Tuesday, May 14th at 7 pm, at The Rack West Coast Bistro, 1550 Cedar Hill Cross Rd.

Join with men of all ages who simply want a chance to connect with other men in the congregation for a time for conversation, sharing of life stories and an exchange of ideas. Order a beverage of your choice (and a bite to eat if you wish), pull up chair and enjoy a time of fellowship and camaraderie.

Exploring Gender Diversity: Let's Talk Everything about Trans!

With this learning event **Exploring Gender Diversity: Let's Talk Everything about Trans! (Sat, May 11th, 10am-12noon)**, BVU Affirm Team hopes *to create momentum and impact ripples*.

We invite you to come and be part of this impact ripple creating community. We want to raise 40 people. Could you be one?

Together with Ned Gallagher, whose bio and the objectives of the workshop you can find at this Jotform [HERE](#), we will cover:

- ✚ Understanding language, including pronouns and differences across generations
- ✚ Discussing intersectionality
- ✚ The challenges and impacts of gender
- ✚ How to be a more responsible ally

We are curious about the impact that would flow like a river or ripples from our learning collectively and even after the learning event because of the shared experience we will be participating in and creating.

Even if you may feel comfortable welcoming whoever comes to BVU and introduces themselves as a "non-binary" person;

Even if you have already learned how to help create a safe space for the youth—when they say, I use "she/they".

Even if you have had moments for listening to the stories transgender members share, whether they use she/her, they/them, he/him,

As 1 Corinthians 13 inspires us, even if we may feel experienced about all the language ("queer", transgender, non-binary, they/them, etc.), if there is no **impact of love** as we welcome, invite, empower, and embrace the transgender community and family members at BVU and beyond, we gain nothing. ***In fact, we are everything! Let's create the impact from learning collectively.***

MAY 11 Saturday 10AM - 12PM

The Affirm Team has invited an expert to lead an engaging workshop to exploring some basics of gender diversity together.

Exploring Gender Diversity Introduction
Let's talk about everything trans.

Please contact the BVU office (office@broadviewunited.com or scan the QR code to reserve your spot.

Broad View UNITED

Pride Parade and Queer Film Festival

We are in the midst of pulling a team together to help plan a 3-day queer film festival at the beginning of PRIDE week (June 30 – July 7) and a group to help coordinate the United Church Presence at the PRIDE Parade on July 7th. As a congregation we will definitely have a strong showing but we also see our role as a regional church to be acting as a coordinating group so that other congregations have a door into participating as well. If you are interested in helping with either of the two projects during PRIDE week, please email mark@broadviewunited.com

Movie Night: Saturday May 25th at 7pm

This month's movie is "Front of the Class". Based on the true story of Brad Cohen -- who, after being challenged by Tourette's syndrome from a very young age, defies all odds to become a gifted teacher. A story of hope and resilience. Popcorn, candy, and beverages provided. Discussion follows.



Broad View UCW

Broad View UCW will be holding its next meeting Tuesday June 4, 2024, 11 – 2pm in BVU Narthex. We will have lunch (bring your own bag lunch) and our meeting will follow. Our guest speaker will be Min Goo Kang, who will share with us the many facets of his Intercultural Program Ministry.

Summer Family Camp

Broad View United



Summer FAMILY CAMP

at Goldstream Provincial Park



Come for any combination of days within any of the weeks listed above. Cost for the campsite is covered by BVU. You are responsible to supply your own camping gear and breakfast/lunch foods. Evening meal will be a joint venture shared among participants. Other meals will be independent as per family preference. Daytime participation is also an option if you prefer to sleep at home in your own bed.

Families of all configurations are invited to join us at the group campsite we've booked for a relaxed time of games, nature walks, crafts, storytelling, community conversation, and roasting marshmallows.

JULY 2024

JULY 15 (MONDAY) - JULY 18 (THURSDAY)
JULY 28 (SUNDAY) - JULY 30 (TUESDAY)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER ONLINE:

<https://broadviewunited.com>

SCAN TO REGISTER



SPIRITUAL CARE TEAM

May Meeting

The Spiritual Care Team will meet Tuesday, May 14 at 1:30 pm in the Chapel.

Our agenda includes plans for a special newsletter that will be delivered/mailed to some of BVU's elders and homebound. Our hope is to produce this newsletter 3-4 times/year. Content will include a message from the Pastoral Care Team, some spiritual nourishment, alongside with highlights and stories from recent church events and activities. We will also be discussing donation suggestions for the Margaret Cameron Trust Fund, an important legacy that has been held within the First+Metropolitan congregation.

Exploring Loss and Grief Group has 10 folks who have signed up. We will be meeting Thursdays in May in the chapel between 3:30-5:00 pm. There is still time to join. Direct all inquiries to Margaret Harper.

Milestone Birthday Celebrations

- ❖ May 7 - Alice Waddell - 100
- ❖ May 8 - Joyce Huff - 100
- ❖ May 9 - Shirley Tucker - 107
- ❖ May 12 - Bud Buchan - 99
- ❖ May 20 - Clare Lowery – 95

Prayer Connection

Did you know that Broad View United has a dedicated group of individuals who are committed to praying on behalf of you, someone you love, or any situation that is heavy on your heart. All requests are held in utmost confidence. Confidential requests can be sent to Jean Margison or Anne Sikstrom at:

Jean@jampot.ca; anne.sikstrom@gmail.com , via prayer@broadviewunited.com, and also from the Broad View United website. Requests can also be passed along to staff members Shelagh MacKinnon (currently on sabbatical) and Margaret Harper.

Campus United UVic Newsletter

My heart is full of gratitude as I reflect on the incredible year we had as Campus United UVic. Students often said, they felt at home while cooking and eating together. The kitchen turned into a place of belonging, where stories were told, and friendships were formed. Over the course of the two terms, the students naturally built an inclusive and vibrant community. I am delighted to share the Campus United UVic newsletter with you. I am grateful for your continued support and prayers. I am eager to discuss how we can continue this wonderful ministry together. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like to find out more about what YOU can do to make an impact on students' lives. [Click here for newsletter!](#)

- Rev. Min-Goo Kang, Campus Minister, University of Victoria



INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS

An intercultural church is a welcoming church. It is joyful, accepting, and life-giving... it is committed to listening and learning, not just to speaking and teaching. It invites full participation and dialogue. It allows itself to be changed."

– from the United Church of Canada's vision to become an intercultural church.

Greetings from Broad View United's intercultural space! Here, we embrace a sense of belonging, foster friendships, and encourage mutual transformation. We invite you to explore our intercultural programs as we continue to grow in community. Everyone is welcome, and all are encouraged to participate.

Taste of Home Potluck Supper: Saturday, May 11 at 5 PM in the Commons

Over the past two months, newcomers to Canada, alongside church volunteers, have been sharing their cultural foods from around the world—dishes that evoke the warmth of home. Now, we invite you to partake in this celebration of food and its incredible ability to make deep connections—tying us to memories, relationships, the ingredients, and the earth itself.

Bring a dish and its story to share. Register today through [online registration form](#) and join us in the Commons for an evening of **storytelling** and **live music**, performed by a group of people from diverse backgrounds. Every plate has a story to tell—let's hear yours!



English Conversation Circle on Zoom: When: every Thursday 3:30 – 5:00 PM

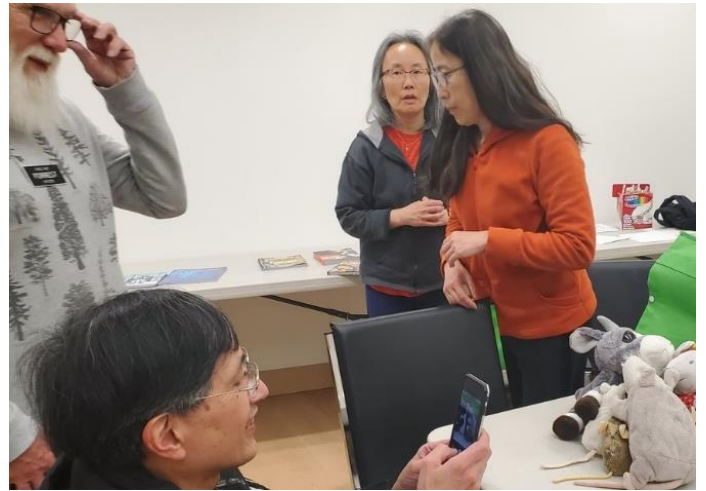
A dozen people join the weekly English Conversation Circle on Zoom regularly. Participants engage one another in honest dialogues, uncovering hidden meanings across



various cultures. The gift of our conversation circle is the openness and willingness to learn from each other. There is no expert in the room, as everyone has something to share. If you know anyone who might benefit from this conversation circle, please encourage them to sign up through our [online registration form](#).

Intercultural Saturday Social: Every Saturday 6:30 - 8:30 PM, Both in the Hub & Commons

Did you know that our Saturday Social is so much more than playing ping pong or games? It offers a wonderful opportunity to connect with people across diverse cultures! The group is getting even more intercultural AND intergenerational, with some families attending as three generations!



Some of our participants greatly enjoyed our workshop series – a free tax clinic for newcomers and learning to make comic books - questions and creativity. A huge thank you to Lian and Mike for teaching and facilitating.

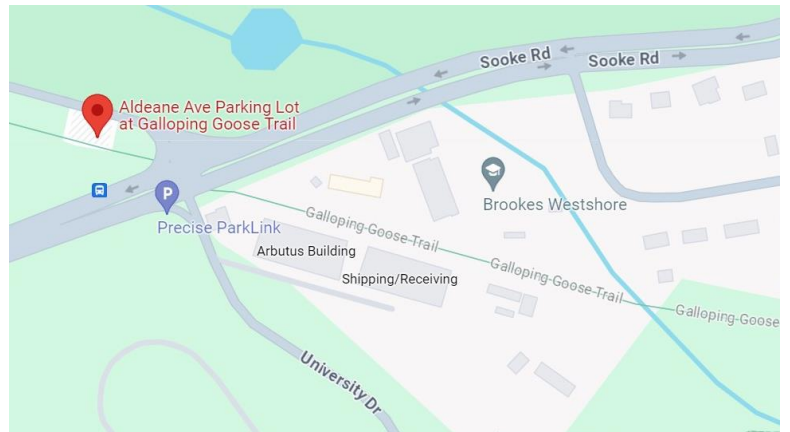
Intercultural Hiking: Saturday, May 25 at 1-3 PM in Charlie's Trails at Royal Roads



We are planning a hike along **Charlie's Trail** at Royal Roads. **Sharon Strong** will be our guide! The trails are beautiful, featuring creeks and waterfalls, and some trails are covered with earth and may have some roots and rocks. Though the trails are considered an easy route, they may not be suitable for people with accessibility needs.

Nearby **Hartley Park gardens** are also gorgeous. The entire walk, including the trails and gardens, will take less than two hours. Please let us know if you're interested in joining us. Also, indicate if you need a ride or can provide one. We will meet at the Aldeane Ave Parking Lot at 1 PM.

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/cFUspyXq7DLnszHN6>



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Broad View United SUMMERQUEST CHILDREN'S DAY CAMP

JULY 22
TO
JULY 26



AUGUST 12
TO
AUGUST 16

(from 8:30am - 3:30pm)

Cultivate your curiosity as together we journey on a quest of self discovery. Explore what is unique about you and experiment with things you perhaps haven't had the opportunity to try.



Admission

\$150

Snacks included

Ages

5 - 12

Enjoy these offerings for this week-long adventure:

- Games
- Activities
- Sports
- Crafts
- Nature Hikes
- Water Games
- Friends
- Fun
- ...and many more!



REGISTER NOW



SCAN
ME

<https://broadviewunited.org>