

NEWS & VIEWS



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May Long Weekend – Victoria Day

For many people in BC the May long weekend marks the start of summer. The camping equipment gets pulled out of storage and dusted off, and they venture out on their first camping trip of the season come rain or shine. Vancouver Island offers many wonderful campsites whether you're looking for an ocean or mountain vista or if you just want to be in the peace and serenity of the forest. Check out <http://vancouverisland.com/plan-your-trip/campgrounds-rv-parks/> for a comprehensive view of many of the islands' campsites.

The May long weekend is marked by the Victoria Day statutory holiday on Monday 22nd this year. It is a holiday celebrated every year on the Monday preceding May 25th, in honour of Queen Victoria's birthday. Every year, Victoria hosts the Island Farms Victoria Day Parade. The parade displays Canadian and American marching bands, floats, decorated cars, community and multicultural performers. If you wish to watch the whole parade it will take approximately 3 hours to pass by, so go prepared with a blanket and/or folding chair, drinks, and snacks. The parade will begin at Mayfair Mall and continues along Douglas Street finishing at the intersection of Douglas and Humboldt Street. Additionally, Celebration Square will be in Centennial Square from 8am-2pm. This is a family friendly event that will have bouncy castles, entertainment, food trucks, and more!

Whatever you choose to do this coming May long weekend, enjoy your time with family and friends and enjoy a well-deserved day off from work or school.

Please note that the Family Centre will be **CLOSED** on May 22nd for the Victoria Day Statutory Holiday.

Family Centre Weekly Programs

Monday – Family Learn and Share	10:00am-12noon
Wednesday – Early Learning Program	1:30-3:00pm
Thursday – Conversation and Coffee Club	1:00-2:30pm
Thursday – After School Program	3:30-5:00pm
Friday – Early Learning Program	10:00am-12noon

In addition to weekly programs, the Family Centre is open Mondays 9-2pm; Wednesdays 9:30-3:00pm; Thursdays 1:00 - 5:00pm and Fridays 9:30 - 1:30pm. We also have monthly book clubs and special events. For more information please check out our Facebook page or contact us at familyc@uvic.ca.



Money Matters

Most of us are living on a tighter budget as students. Every month this column will offer a tidbit of advice to lighten the load.

This month...

Help with costs for kid's sports activities.

If you have children who are involved in sports throughout the year, you may want to check out the following 2 organizations who are set up to provide grants to help with the costs involved with your children attending sports clubs.



Funding is up to \$500/per child, subject to Jumpstart's other funding maximums and/or local demands. Check out <http://jumpstart.canadiantire.ca> for more details.



KidSport Greater Victoria allows multiple grant applications per child (5 to 18 years) per year to a maximum of \$400 annually. Check out <http://www.kidsportcanada.ca/british-columbia/greater-victoria> for more details.

Mothers Day Celebration Planting Event

It has been 'all things Spring' at the Family Centre Early Learning programs in the last week



or so. With that in mind, please join us during our regular program times on **Wednesday, May 10th, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm and/or Friday, May 12th,**

in the morning from 10:00 to 12:00 for some planting fun to celebrate Spring and Mother's Day on May 14th.



A Mother's Love

There are times when only a Mother's love
Can understand our tears,
Can soothe our disappoints
And calm all of our fears.

There are times when only a Mother's love
Can share the joy we feel
When something we've dreamed about
Quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a Mother's faith
Can help us on life's way
And inspire in us the confidence
We need from day to day.

For a Mother's heart and a Mother's faith
And a Mother's steadfast love
Were fashioned by the Angels
And sent from God above.

Author Unknown

Tuesday Food Program

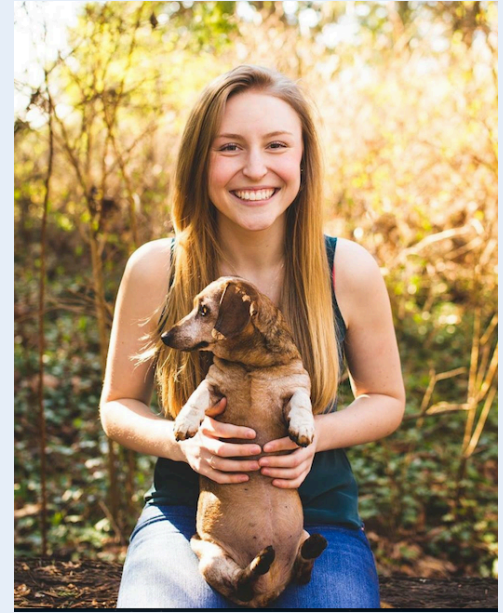
Don't forget that every Tuesday evening food donations are outside the Family Centre. There is usually bread, fruit and vegetables.



Many thanks to Lam Circle resident Danny Martin for all his hard work organizing this amazing program and to The Mustard Seed via Emmanuel Baptist Church for the food donations.

Hi my name is Molly Vermeulen and I am going into my fifth year of university and fourth year of my child and youth care degree. I am originally from Calgary, Alberta and just recently permanently moved to the island. I hope to focus on international child and youth care and do my final practicum internationally. As well as being a student I am also a part time preschool teacher and I love it. My favourite colour is blue and I love elephants. I am excited to spend the summer with the Family Centre and I look forward to meeting you.

Molly



STEP FORWARD END GLOBAL POVERTY

JOIN US AT 10:00 A.M. ON SUNDAY, MAY 28
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

Enjoy a free, fun, family event. Including a walk, entertainment, food, beverages and inspiring speakers.

@WPKWalk /wpwalk worldpartnershipwalk.com



An initiative of:
AGA KHAN FOUNDATION
CANADA

Walk for a more peaceful,
prosperous and equal world for all.

LEAD PARTNERS



MAJOR PARTNERS



PARTNERS



“Let's Learn Bengali”



Did you know that the Bangladeshis are the only people in the world who fought for their right to speak in their mother tongue Bengali? This Mother's day, we decided to start a program for children up to 10 years of age to help them learn Bengali and about Bangladesh. We will gather every Sunday of May, starting from May 14, from 11am to 1pm at the UVic Family Centre at Lam Circle. We will have fun activities for the children and their parents that would make the learning an enjoyable journey. We welcome everyone who wants to join us." Any questions please contact Rahnuma Islam Nishat, at rnishat@uvic.ca

Programs and Events

Family Learn and Share

On Monday mornings from **10:00am-12:00pm** the Family Centre hosts a drop-in program for families to interact and learn from one another. Each week there is a designated focus topic and facilitator.

May 1 st	tba
May 8 th	Public Health Nurse
May 15 th	Campus Security – All things safety related.
May 22 nd	STAT Victoria Day – No Program
May 29 th	tba

Early Learning Program:

Families are welcome to this drop-in program that runs on **Wednesday from 1:30pm-3:00pm and Friday mornings from 10:00am-12:00pm**. Learning through play is encouraged in an environment that promotes children's inherent love of learning and sense of wonder. Each morning session concludes with a story time with songs/music as well as an opportunity for outdoor play.

After School Club:

School Aged Kids (Grades K-6) are invited to the Family Centre's After School Club on **Thursdays from 3:30 - 5:00 pm**. We will be doing a variety of activities each week. These might include outdoor games like soccer, tag, and croquet, as well as puzzles, projects, board games, talent shows and crafts. **Please make sure your kids are dressed for the outdoors.**

Book Club:

The Family Centre has a book club that meets on **the third Thursday of each month** to discuss a novel chosen by the group. If you enjoy reading and would like to get together with others please come along. To find out more join our Facebook group or send us an email at familyhousingbookclub@gmail.com.

Conversation and Coffee Club:

Are you new to Canada and looking for an opportunity to practice your English language skills? If so, this is the program for you! For the month of May the Family Centre will be offering an opportunity for people to come and practice their English conversation. The program will take place on **Thursday afternoons from 1:00-2:30pm**. Children are welcome to come and play during this time.

Community Events



Family Sport & Recreation Festival, May 6th, 11-3pm. PISE (Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence)

4371 Interurban Road. Free admission. The festival features more than 30 activities for kids and families to try out including outdoor rock climbing, obstacle courses, tennis, rugby, hamsterball, wheelchair basketball, and so much more! There is no cost for organizations to participate, or for families to attend! .

Kids Run Victoria, May 7th, 10am-12pm. Tillicum Centre, lower parking lot.

Enjoy a morning full of family activities, entertainment, fire trucks, mascots, barbeque by donation provided by Montana's Cookhouse, silent auction and enjoy a 1k or 5k walk or run through beautiful nature trails. This community event supports pediatric oncology services at our RGH. Online Registration (until May 3rd): raceroster.com

Victoria Highland Games, May 20-22, 8am-. Topaz Park.

Spend Victoria Day Long Weekend enjoying Victoria's 154th Annual Highland Games and Celtic Festival. Western Canada's largest Scottish cultural event is home to events and activities for people of all ages. Entertainment includes piping and drumming, Whiskey school, Celtic Music, Highland Dance, Irish Dance, History Tents, Celtic Sports, Clan Tents, Beer Gardens, Food Concessions, and more!