



City of Powell River
**Block Party &
Neighbourhood Project
Planning Guide**



Block Parties & Neighbourhood Projects connect our neighbourhoods and strengthen our community

For many of us, life can be busy. Between work, volunteering, extra curricular activities and other commitments, we often find it hard to interact with those who we live closest to.

That's where a block party can help.

A Block Party is a gathering of people who want to celebrate and strengthen their neighbourhood's feeling of togetherness.

It's a great way to get to know each other, create new friendships, enhance and preserve safety and encourage a sense of local community.

Neighbourhood Projects are a get-together of like minded community members who collaborate on projects that make their neighbourhoods stronger and more connected.

Projects can focus on block beautification, weed-pulling events, and neighbourhood trash clean ups. These events can aid in giving a sense of pride and ownership to neighbourhoods by promoting a group effort to make improvement.

10 Reasons to have a Block Party

1. Meet and get to know your neighbours. When you know who lives nearby, you are more likely to identify strangers or abnormal activity.
2. Beautification of your neighbourhood.
3. Increase a sense of pride and ownership in your community.
4. Discuss local challenges and collaborate on solutions.
5. Respect and celebrate cultural diversity, connect people across boundaries of age, backgrounds, and the like.
6. Meet some long time residents and learn about the neighbourhood's history.
7. Organize a Block Watch and neighbourhood emergency preparedness program.
8. Establish new friendships and learn about common interests and activities.
9. Create community tradition and events that occur on an annual basis.
- 10.

have fun!

What you need to think about when planning your event ...

Where will it be?

Make sure you select a location that suits the size of your event and that it meets all necessary bylaws. Neighbourhood parks & cul-de-sacs make great venues.

When will it be?

Early Morning? Late afternoon? Leave enough time to plan (4-6 weeks) and find a day that works for as many neighbours as possible.

Who will be involved?

Invite your neighbours into the planning process to ensure people are informed, and include them in the decision making process so that they know what to expect.

What activities do you want?

Be innovative! Come up with a fun theme and include games, food, entertainment and activities! There are a number of services and activities that can be provided by local groups.

Looking for Ideas?

- Block Wide Scavenger Hunt
- Block Garage Sale & BBQ
- Bicycle & Pet Parade
- Multi-Cultural Recipe Exchange
- Neighbourhood Sing Along
- Multi-Family Easter Egg Hunt
- Family Go-Kart Race
- Neighbourhood Trash Bash
- Neighbourhood Weed Pull
- Block Beautification
- Neighbourhood Dance
- Neighbourhood Brunch
- Sports Day
- Neighbourhood Picnic at the park
- Volleyball tournament at the beach

Steps to a successful application

Submit a completed Community Block Party Application Form (a copy is attached at the end of this guide).

Make sure to include an estimated number of guests, the activities you are planning and your location. It is good to consider the diversity and needs of people in your neighbourhood and ensure that the event is suitable for everyone.

If your block party or neighbourhood project requires a street closure you will need to fill out a Parade Permit Application. Please note that streets along bus routes & intersections cannot be closed. Streets that are closed must allow emergency service vehicles to pass if necessary.

If you would like to host a event in a park, make sure to provide the name of the park and the area of the park you will be using.

You've been approved for your grant!



- You will receive a phone-call or email informing you of a successful application. Liability insurance coverage for your event is included.
- **KEEP YOUR RECEIPTS** - You will be reimbursed for your event costs upon proof of receipt purchases up to \$200 and completed copy of your Block Party Evaluation form after your event. Make sure to include your name and grant # when submitting receipts.
- Send out flyers to explain what your event is, encourage attendance, and get opinions on food options, possible dates and times of day.
- If you were approved for a road closure and requested blockades, you will be informed of a date for pick up and return of your equipment. Blockades can be picked up at the Recreation Complex located on 5001 Joyce Avenue. Blockades must be returned in the same condition in which they were acquired.

Neighbour Emergency Preparedness and our Regional Emergency Program



Did you know that the simple act of meeting your neighbour will help cope with disaster?

Invite the Powell River Regional Emergency Program and Powell River Fire Rescue to your block party. We come with lots of free information, resources and will provide tours of the fire truck when available.

Contact fire@cdpr.bc.ca

Clean Events



Planning a Block Party or neighbourhood project can be a lot of work. Make sure everyone taking part helps out with clean up after the festivities and activities have ended.

Make arrangements to have garbage & recycling stations available and if you are using parks, leave them in the same or better condition as found.

Remember

- A Community Block Party Application must be filled out at least 15 business days prior to your proposed date.
- It is recommended that events be held on Saturdays between 9am-9pm or Sundays between 10am-8pm.
- Liability insurance is included with a successful grant application.
- Fireworks are not permitted.
- All recyclables and garbage must be cleaned and disposed of at the end of the event.
- These are alcohol free events.