

# Between The Bridges

*Special COVID-19 Bulletin #7 | May 8, 2020*

*A publication of the False Creek South Neighbourhood Association*

As a community response to the COVID-19 emergency, **Between The Bridges** is publishing a series of bulletins providing information of local interest within the False Creek South neighbourhood. *The Bulletin* is for sharing! Please send your ideas and news to [newsletter@falsecreeksouth.org](mailto:newsletter@falsecreeksouth.org). You can also find resources and supports at [falsecreeksouth.org/special-covid-19-bulletins](https://falsecreeksouth.org/special-covid-19-bulletins).

## **PARADISE REGAINED**

There's a renewed buzz at Granville Island. At the market, all the required spacing is still carefully marked out, but more of the shops are re-opening. On Thursday morning, the folks at Jackson's Poultry and L'Epicerie wore smiles on their first day back in business, while recent additions like Duso's and Dussa's were enjoying the growing trade along with the many shops that managed to stay open. And of course there was a long line at Lee's Donuts.

Over in the takeout area things are quieter, but there's a bustle of getting ready. Pizza Pzazz has been open for a week, and proprietor Tony is hopeful even though admits it's been a little slow. He says he and others are reinventing things, everything in boxes, "a whole new business model." His optimism is not diminished even by the prospect of reduced tourist trade this summer: it will give locals a chance to rediscover the Island, he says: "It'll be a paradise for locals."

## **PLANTING SEEDS – AND SUSTAINABILITY**

The pandemic notwithstanding, dedicated teachers and parents (thank you, Jen and Mike!) have cleaned up the garden at the back of False Creek School, bought and added new compost and planted seeds and seedlings for the upcoming growing season. Seedlings donated by a neighbour were planted by kids from Spruce Village – specifically, and not surprisingly, by Yael Stav's children.

Yael, the Association's chair of its new Sustainability and Resilience working group, has a strong background in matters related to food security. Looking to the future, the working group's focus also includes alternate energy and how False Creek South might demonstrate transitions to a more integrated, sustainable society. Interested in participating? Email [yaelstav@gmail.com](mailto:yaelstav@gmail.com).

## **COVID-SAVVY ROCKS**

The kids' painted rock scavenger hunt reported last week may have resulted in some of those rocks migrating to the False Creek Co-op, or perhaps it just provided the inspiration for others to do the same. In either case, one such rock appeared in the Co-op's garden and showed a meticulously painted face -- complete with mask.

### **MUSIC IN THE TIME OF COVID-19**

If you've walked past Mariner Point, between Mariner Walk and 2nd Ave, around 7:00pm, you may have heard more than just pots and pans. After the shout-out to healthcare workers, Landis Maitland-Whitelaw and Lia Wolfe have been entertaining their neighbours with a saxophone and flute serenade, all from their respective balconies.

In addition to their nightly tunes, Landis told us, "We have had several birthdays during this time and so we play a version I arranged of Happy Birthday. We have people from several buildings around us telling us how much they enjoy it."

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD THUGS?**

If someone tells you to look out your window at something "thuggish, ferocious, rapacious, and frightening" you might feel a wee bit alarmed. You do look, however, and feel somewhat relieved to find that there's nothing out there but a plant – a pretty, stately one with white flowers. Look a little more closely, however, and you might, like some residents in at least one False Creek South enclave, wish these particular thugs came in human form.

What they're looking at in two disparate places in their complex is something that MacLean's Magazine, among others, has described as "a demon weed so relentless, bloody-minded and destructive, it's been called the terrorist of the plant kingdom".

Japanese Knotweed, aka *Fallopia japonica*, is incredibly destructive and very, very difficult to eradicate. It can chew through concrete and pretty well any other medium it comes across. As the Sooke area learned last year, the plant's roots can travel under 4 lanes of highway with a root system up to 100 meters in size. In Vancouver the Arbutus greenway construction was interrupted at one point to try to eradicate the monster – with the result of spreading its rootlets far and wide.

As a cautionary move, check out what's growing around your buildings. Further into at <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/regional-planning/PlanningPublications/InvasiveSpeciesBMP-Knotweed-v3.pdf>

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