

## Victoria West Community Association Board Recommended Candidates Candidate Bios for 2 year terms 2012-2014

Please note nominations can be received from the floor at our AGM Tuesday Nov 27, 2012 for anyone who has been a member for at least 60 days.

### **Denis Fredette**

Denis has been a resident of Vic West since 1996. He has been employed in the property management of provincial government buildings since 1999 with the BC Buildings Corporation and Brookfield Lepage Johnson Controls. He is presently employed as a Project Manager. Earlier in his career, Denis was a Marine Engineer in the Royal Canadian Navy for 23 years (1976-99).

Denis' previous community involvement was with the Esquimalt Fastball Association where he was involved in various capacities from umpire, umpire-in-chief, coach, vice-president and president. He is presently the Captain of the Neighbourhood Block Watch in the Sherk/Griffith/McCaskill Street area.

Denis enjoys helping people. "Being involved with the block watch and the community association will allow me to help our neighbours and to have a positive impact on my community. I am willing to serve in any capacity but my primary interests are transportation, land use, parks and environment."

### **Simeon Goa**

Simeon Goa is a graphic designer. He and his wife bought a house in Vic West in 2009.

Simeon's community involvement started in 2003 when he joined the Greater Edmonton Area Alliance to campaign for affordable housing and safe working conditions.

Since moving to Victoria in 2007 he has served on the board at Xchanges Gallery and Studios, as secretary, contributed his expertise to a number of organizations including the Burnside Gorge Community Centre, Island Writer Magazine and the Vic West Urban Farmers.

He has worked as a provincial fundraising manager and currently works for Orca Book Publishers.

His values are centred around community and the environment, including sustainable transportation and food systems.

### **Rebecca Kennel**

Rebecca has been living in Vic West for close to eight years. She is committed to increasing Vic West's walkability, to creating more opportunities for neighbour to meet neighbour, and to encouraging an engaged membership.

Rebecca would bring various skills to the board, including her fluency in social media, a flare for marketing and promotions, an ability to organize, her creative thinking, and her enthusiasm.

Previously, she spent over fifteen years actively involved in the community of Shell Lake, Saskatchewan, helping to organize and promote events. During that time she instigated the Great Neighbourhood Giveaway and an ice sculpture competition, as well as helping to build an outdoor, wood-fired clay oven. For her role in organizing the Thickwood Hills Studio Trail, she won the award for "Best Promotional/Marketing Campaign for an Event or Festival" from Tourism Saskatchewan

Rebecca is the author of *Victoria Bench by Bench*.

### **Robin Rombs**

Robin has lived in Vic West for since Jan 2006. He is a husband and a father of two young boys. Robin is just finishing his BSc in Geography at UVic. For the last 14 months Robin has managed 11 residential suites across three properties in Vic West.

Robin volunteered at the last two Vic West Fests and this past summer's Gorge Swim Fest. He now would like to be more involved in some of the various activities and events that are generated out of the Community Association and the Centre.

Robin is interested in enhancing our collective sense of community through fostering engagement, creativity, and fun. He is also interested in helping to make progress towards safer streets and development that enriches the neighbourhood, not just developers. Robin believes that *the local* is the scale at which change can be made most effectively. He would be proud to have community members

share their visions and concerns with him, and would strive to reflect them in our neighbourhoods, through our Centre, and to City Hall.

### **Mike Medland**

Mike has been a resident of Victoria West for the past 8 years and has been the association treasurer for the past 4 years and the Vice-President for the past year. Mike has also served on the Land Use Committee from 2007-2009 and on the Community Centre Committee since 2011. Other board experience includes serving as President of his strata corporation for the past 8 years. Mike is a professional accountant, and believes the community association needs the support of engaged citizens

### **Jack Meredith**

Jack has a broad range of business experience working for both public and private sector organizations, as well as running his own firm offering professional engineering services to the green buildings industry. A hallmark of his career has been the results he has achieved through working with teams to get things done.

Jack has lived in Victoria since 1980 and has been renovating a home in Vic West since 1995. Jack sees the value of being active in the community association. He chairs the Transportation Committee, the Community Projects and Events Committee and he initiated the Gorge Swim Fest last summer in partnership with other community associations along the Gorge.