



# The Mission Adopt-A-Block Society- Community News

## Adopt-A-Block Hosts First Annual Spring Community Litter Clean-Up

Mission Adopt-A-Block would like to thank all the volunteers who came out this spring to be apart of their First Annual Spring Community Litter Clean-Up. Approximately 160 volunteers from 8 local non-profit organizations participated in picking up litter in some of Mission's heavily littered hotspots. The event took place over four Saturdays in April & May and the litter collected off Mission's streets and green spaces totaled 1460 kilos, not including the recyclables (metal scraps, cans, bottles, etc.). Everything from fast food litter items to old tires was collected and properly disposed of. A many thanks to the District of Mission team- for its support in this year's Spring Clean-Up and Dale



The Mission Art's Council tackled the litter problem in Mission at this year's Spring Clean-Up.

A reminder to all Mission non-profit groups that our **Fall Clean-Up Deadline is June 30<sup>th</sup>**. The Fall Clean-Up, alike the Spring Clean-up, entails the acceptance of eight (8) non-profit groups to participate in a community litter clean-up for the remuneration of \$250 upon the completion of assigned litter routes. This is a great opportunity for Mission non-profits to raise funds to support their programs and all Mission non-profits

Patience, who was hired for the removal of litter garbage bags post clean-ups. It takes team work to improve the aesthetic beauty and environmental health of the community. A many thanks to all who were involved to make this year's First Annual Spring Clean-up a success!

are welcome to apply. Information and application forms for the Fall Clean-Up are available online at [www.missionadoptablock.com](http://www.missionadoptablock.com) or call (604) 826-9423.



## Adopt-A-Block's Annual Earth Day Clean-Up

Volunteers, friends and supporters of The Mission Adopt-A-Block Society met up at Centennial Park on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> to participate in Adopt-A-Block's annual Earth Day Community Litter Clean-Up Event. Approximately 200 kilos of litter was collected off the streets and green spaces in Mission, not including the

recyclables. The 20 volunteers who came out for the clean-up combed the streets for about 2 hours, before heading over to participate in Communities in Bloom's Annual Tree Planting in the south end of Centennial Park. Mission Adopt-A-Block would like to thank all the hard working, dedicated volunteers who

came out to participate at this year's event. You are making a difference!



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### Upcoming Events:

- June 7th Annual Stave Lake Clean-Up for more information contact: Carolann at (604) 826-5333.
- Children's Festival- June 22. Keep your eye open for another Enviro Girl & L. Bug Saga at this year's event.
- **Submit Applications Now! Annual Fall Clean-Up Deadline is June 30.** Applications available online.



## Mission Adopt-A-Block Welcomes all New 2008 Volunteers!

Paul Berntsen  
Mandy Brar  
Kyle Boyles  
Andrea Cumisord  
Sandra Cockroft

Cindy Forward  
Christina Hart  
Sonya Hughes  
Cederic Ng

Helen Pierce  
Juliette Robertson  
Corinee Setter  
Joyce & Bruce  
Smith

The Mission Adopt-A-Block would not exist without the dedication and perseverance of a good number of volunteers. It takes special people to commit to the difficult and not-so-pretty task of litter clean-up so that the rest of the community and the environment can benefit. You too can make a difference! Join our team by registering as an Adopt-A-Block volunteer and adopting your block today! Adopt-A-Block also welcomes enthusiastic individuals to join the Board of Directors this year.

## Feature Story- Adopt-A-Block Acknowledges MACL Dedicated Litter Control Volunteers

While the Mission Association for Community Living (MACL) celebrates its 50 years, Mission Adopt-A-Block celebrates MACL and all of their hard-working dedicated volunteers that participated weekly and consistently in Adopt-A-Block's anti-litter program. Approximately 10 volunteers rotate regularly maintaining weekly routes that include; Main St. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave., Terry Ave., Dewdney Trunk and the area around Safeway. Dan O'Neill is just one of the many MACL individuals who participates in Adopt-A-Block's program, through Bridge Training Services. O'Neill comments, "people often say thank-you and good job while we are out

picking up litter". The MACL team agrees that volunteering in litter control gives them a sense of pride, not only because they are making Mission a cleaner city, but because its an activity they do regularly and they take pride in the streets they maintain. O'Neill adds, "We separate the recyclables we pick up and the funds we collect from them go towards our coffee fund for Tim Horton's", another reason for O'Neill's enjoyment in being part of AAB's program.

Adopt-A-Block was pleasantly surprised with MACL's offer to replace the organization's stolen computer, and welcomed the gift of a laptop, a new computer

now portable, so Adopt-A-Block staff can take the computer home to avoid future security problems. Adopt-A-Block recognizes the laptop as a gift of extraordinary generosity and asks friends and supporters of Adopt-A-Block to return the favor to MACL, by making a donation or becoming a member of the MACL society. You can learn more by visiting [www.macl.bc.ca](http://www.macl.bc.ca) or by calling (604) 826-9080. Congratulations MACL on your 50 years of service to the community of Mission and thank-you for all your continued support of our anti-litter program through your volunteer efforts and generosity. **You are making a difference!**



Dan O'Neill one the many MACL-AAB volunteers working to "Keep Mission Clean".

## Adopt-A-Block's Extra-Ordinary Volunteer



Rob & Joanne Chadwick from Fraser River Safari Ltd, and their two kids work hard to keep the harbor area of Mission neat and tidy. But that's not all, their Saint Bernard, 'Paws' insists to be included. Paws joins the family on each and every garbage

pick up. Joanne explains, "The first time we took him out I balanced his leash and garbage bag in one hand while using the other to pick the trash. In a moment of clarity I asked Rob to rig up the bags so that Paws could wear them like a saddle to make our job easier. It works almost too well, the act of walking a bit and then stopping so I can load him

up with discarded trash is the perfect amount of exercise for Paws."

**We want to hear from you!** Do you know an extraordinary litter control volunteer that should be recognized in our community newsletter? Submit your stories to the Adopt-A-Block Coordinator.

## Mission Adopt-A-Block's 2008 Community Garbage Barrel Painting Event

*"Creating positive awareness, for today's children are tomorrow's stewards of the earth."*

Several Mission elementary schools participated in a 'Community Barrel Painting Event' this Spring 2008. Participating schools included Ferndale, Albert McMahon, Silverdale, Stave Falls, Hatzic and West Heights. West Heights planned a special event on Earth Day, April 22 in which the entire school body con-

tributed to the design and painting of 10 different barrels. The barrel painting event was especially significant to the schools that will be closing at the end of this school year, as students will enjoy seeing a barrel with their school name written on it out in the community, a legacy for them, after their school closes. All the bar-

rels were provided by the District of Mission and will be going to replace the old and dingy barrels around the city of Mission. Adopt-A-Block was pleased at this year's school participation, and is looking forward to seeing the many new barrels out in the community displaying a positive environmental theme.



**West Heights Elementary participates in a Community Barrel Painting Event on Earth Day, April 22, 2008.**

## Landfill Tours & School Litter Audits

Teachers are reminded to consider Mission Adopt-A-Block's other free education program opportunities, including School Litter Audits, Landfill Tours, and Special Guest Appearances.

The **Litter Audit Program** allows students to take an active role in being responsible for the cleanliness of their own schoolyard. Conducting a litter audit expands

student knowledge about litter and its consequences on the environment .

A **Landfill Tour** can be a complimentary contribution to the environment component of the education curriculum. The tour teaches kids the importance of the social responsibilities, recycling and composting.

**Enviro Girl** has been an active representative of Adopt-A-Block promoting a litter free Mission. Keep your eye open at upcoming events to witness the on-going saga between Enviro Girl & the Litter Bug or consider inviting this dynamic duo out for a school assembly.

For more information call (604) 826-9423 or visit us online.



*Visit Us online!*  
[www.missionadoptablock.com](http://www.missionadoptablock.com)



Mission Adopt-A-Block would not exist without the support of their volunteers & friends!

**A special thank-you this spring to:**

**The District of Mission  
Mission Recycling  
MACL**



Mission Adopt-A-Block and Communities in Bloom volunteers team up for Earth Day 2008.



**The Mission Adopt-A-Block Society**  
P.O. Box 3245 Mission, B.C.  
V2V 4J4  
**(604) 826- 9423**  
[missionadoptablock@gmail.com](mailto:missionadoptablock@gmail.com)



## **Mission Adopt-A-Block Joins Online Community**

The world is changing and along with it, the sense of community. To keep up with today's computer literate generation, Mission Adopt-A-Block has joined the online community of "facebook". Adopt-A-Block's Enviro Girl has also joined facebook to aid residents of Mission and other anti-litter fanatics to fight the L. Bugs in the community. Add "Enviro Girl" to your "Friends List" and sign up to be apart of "The Mission Adopt-A-Block Society" group—for more information on upcoming events, for dialogue on litter and possible solutions, for community snapshots and more. Hope to see you there!

## **Adopt-A-Block Supports Communities in Bloom**



Communities in Bloom (CNB) is a Canada-wide non-profit organization with international affiliations dedicated to recognizing community projects that involved heritage, environmental awareness and beautification. With the support of the District of Mission, a local volunteer committee was formed in 2004 to undertake Mission's annual participation in CNB. Several community groups work together in the spirit of friendly cooperation to achieve commu-

nity wide beautification goals. Last year, 2007, Mission scored 91.2% and was awarded the 2007 Communities in Bloom Provincial Trophy for "Community Involvement". Mission also received special recognition for "Environmental Awareness", four out of five blooms and increased their over all score from previous years. CNB encourages local residents to enter their residential gardens (flower & vegetable) in the garden competition, as well as businesses to compete in the

business categories. Adopt-A-Block encourages volunteers, friends and supporters to contribute to CNB's goal of going for 5 blooms this year, by taking a stroll with a goal and picking up the litter in your neighborhood, or while visiting parklands, as well as cleaning business store fronts. It takes a team effort to make Mission, not only a cleaner & safer place, but a beautiful city to live in and be proud of. Thank-you. You are making a difference!