

May 9, 2020

### **Greetings neighbours,**

When Covid 19 happened, where it is now, and my hopes for a return soon to daily life as it was pre-pandemic.

### **Physical Distancing and Social Connecting 2020: How will you remember it?**

The Provincial Government just announced plans for a slow and thoughtful rollout of the phases that they have determined will bring us through this crisis with a safe community and a sound economy. Where we are now they call Phase 1, according to Premier Horgan we will be able to move to Phase 2 later in May and small social gatherings of people within our circle will be allowed. BC has been generous in this because in the Maritimes some provinces called it a “double bubble” and limited it to only one additional family.

The shelter at home rule will continue for those most at risk. Others will be able to move a little more freely, however, we are not out of the woods yet and will have to continue to respect social distancing. Cabin fever is mounting and it is challenging trying to keep the cupboards stocked. AS warmer and longer day light hours continue to tease us to get out for some form of fresh air: just listen to the orchestra of songbirds with their welcoming messages up and down our Dunbar boulevard. They are letting us know they are waiting!

Here are some random thoughts ... It is perhaps a little early to be putting in garden plants, but did you know that there are a number of local florists and nurseries in the neighbourhood with bedding plants available? Blights Home Hardware continues to keep inventory stocked for home and backyard improvement projects. And what is a movie theater without movies showing? In our case it is the purveyor of sweets and freshly made popcorn with just the right amount of butter and salt! And I don't know about you, but my plans for Mother's Day dinner has been confirmed with the dinner specials brought home from a local eatery. Please go to the DRA home page to be kept current on hours of operation for a variety of Dunbar food and retail services.

I for one am missing the Dunbar community center programs as I had set my spring fitness routine to include spinning classes. I am sure I am not the only resident missing the center's programs and the sports programs on the playing fields. Current weather would suggest why there are line-ups for the tennis court and what is going on at the roped off children's playground. These disruptions, however, are expected to be short lived. I take great comfort and put a bit more bounce into my step when out with Marley as I hear the characteristic sounds of cyclists, joggers, dog walkers, and couples lost in conversations as physical distancing is practiced but social connections continue.

Please do what you can do for a resident who might not be as able; if you can, avoid getting into the car, walk to shop locally. Please take heart in the knowledge that Dunbar retail and residents have come together and are successfully weathering the adjustments and disruptions this pandemic has imposed on our daily life. We have endured and will soon return to the health and activity found on Dunbar! Stay well.

**Sincerely,**

**Bruce and golden guide dog, Marley**