

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the QGPCA Newsletter! We're a non-profit volunteer Community Association. If you're interested in getting more involved, please reach out to exec@qualicum.org



RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT Q & A with David Hughes

Hello! My name is David Hughes and am one of the original residents of the Qualicum Graham Park neighbourhood. My wife Shirley and I moved here in February 1965 with our young family. I am a retired chemist and worked for Health Canada for almost 40 years.

What made you and your family choose Qualicum Graham Park?

After emigrating from England in the fall of 1964, we rented a townhouse on Meadowlands Drive from the Minto corporation. We then set about looking for a house to buy. We liked the neighbourhood and, as they were Minto houses, they let us break the lease on the townhouse and move in early. There was a school right around the corner, Graham Park Public School, where both of our children went from kindergarten through grade 6. It seemed a long way from my work but I drove daily, then used the bus when it started out this way, and not many years later I started to bicycle to work, every day from early April through mid-November. In those days there were hardly any bicycles, but by the time I retired in 1993, the bike paths were getting busy!



What is your favourite part of the neighbourhood?

We have always enjoyed the park behind the school, where the Community Center is now situated. Many hours have been spent, first with our two children, and then with our grandchildren playing at the park. When we first moved here, there were no houses on Morrison Drive behind ours so the children played in the open areas. We remember seeing many different birds such as Grouse and Evening Grosbeaks over the years. Although we don't see those anymore, many Cardinals and Blue Jays frequent our bird feeders these days.

Any advice for new residents?

Get outside and meet your neighbours! We have made lifelong friends throughout the years. My wife, Shirley, was a walker and everyday walked the entire Qualicum/Graham Park neighbourhood. She knew so many people and kept up on the news! After she died, my daughter and son-in-law came to live with me, to help me out, in the home she grew up in. It is wonderful to see new families moving into the area and hear the laughter of children outside again!

UPCOMING EVENTS

3 OCTOBER – FALL FESTIVAL

26 NOVEMBER – ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

5 DECEMBER – HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

13 TO 20 DECEMBER – HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **BOARD MEMBER**
- **COMMUNITY EVENTS**
- **EVENT PLANNING**
- **FLYER DISTRIBUTION**
- **STREET REPRESENTATIVE**

NEWS/REMINDERS

- Municipal Elections – 26 October 2026. More details pertaining to candidates and advance voting and locations can be found here: <https://ottawa.ca/en/city-hall/elections/voters/information-voters>
- Community emergency plan – our internal community plan is being created, however consult the City emergency preparedness website for ideas on how you can prepare yourselves and family members: <https://ottawa.ca/en/health-and-public-safety/emergency-preparedness>. All residents should be prepared to self-sustain themselves for up to 72 hours.

Become a member!

The annual membership runs from 1 September – 31 August.

- **Support year-round community based events and activities**
- **Receive event info right to your inbox**
- **Voting rights on community motions at the AGM**



Have someone you want to be featured in the Resident Spotlight? Or have an idea for future newsletter content? Reach out to Christine Smith at christine.smith@qualicum.org