



Festival of Neighbourhoods
* Kitchener *

thE-neighbour

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Blitzing neighbourhoods

Students help break the ice during the hot summer months.

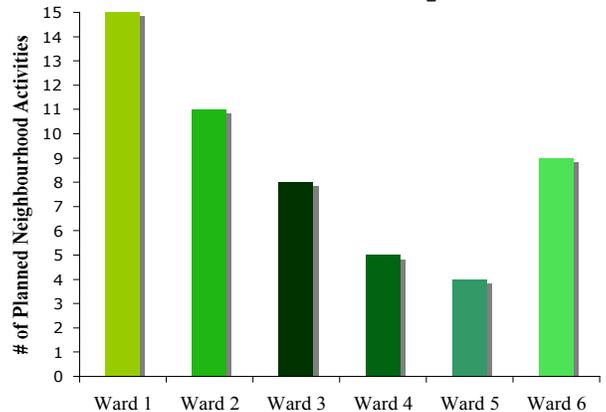
This summer, some neighbourhoods have been approached by students whose mission was to get neighbours to meet each other. The students would knock on doors, talk to residents and hand out invitations to gather at a nearby spot within a couple of days. Simple activities such as a scavenger hunt, or bring-a book-take-a book would break the ice. These gatherings would draw up to 50 people, who often found themselves still chatting well after dark. "It was a common story at the Blitz gatherings. People who had been living across from each other for years were for the first time meeting and talking to each other. The neighbourhood kids had so much fun simply being able to play together so close to home. The Blitzes uncovered a richness in the neighbourhoods that wasn't evident before.... and it was that easy: Knock on doors, invite people to do something simple and watch the connections start to build"



Caryndale hits a home run with a neighbourhood ball game, 2008.

The Ward Challenge

Planned Activities Update



Know your neighbours

and build a stronger community
For John MacDonald Architect strong communities are built when neighbours know each other.

John MacDonald is an architect who believes in the power of the unassuming day-to-day relationships that we can have with our neighbours. They contribute to healthier, safer, more resilient communities and to the well-being of all citizens. "The evidence is clear. Strong relations among neighbours make a better community for all of us."

John MacDonald Architect is a founding partner of the Festival of Neighbourhoods. To learn more visit www.johnmacdonaldarchitect.ca

Neighbour to Neighbour

People Share Stories that Reflect the Value of the Festival to their Communities

"This event brought a lot of hope and encouragement to people as they realized that people still cared about them and wanted to make a difference. It also brought a sense of pride as they realized that they in turn had something that they could share with someone else and therefore make a difference in someone else's life."