



Festival of Neighbourhoods
* Kitchener *



thE-neighbour

January, 2018

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Happy New Year to You and All Your Neighbours! Use 2018 to Reach Them All

Festival of Neighbourhoods challenges you to explore within your own neighbourhood what it means to be inclusive.

By encouraging people to come together with their neighbours with inclusive activities, Festival of Neighbourhoods helps us step forward in our community to meet those who live near us, and to have a community where everyone feels they belong. This year, FoN is once again promoting the theme “Reach!” to help us focus on the core values of inclusiveness that define the Festival’s identity. As you identify your immediate neighbourhood and gather it together, we ask you to reach everyone in your neighbourhood, regardless of their beliefs, ethnicity, gender, health, age, wealth, etc. . Whether you gather through a potluck, a neighbourhood walk, or a clean-up, the challenge is to reduce barriers to participation. Barriers come in many forms: physical, financial, generational or even cultural. Intesests and activities all carry the risk of exclusion. For example, if they are held on a weekday in the afternoon, not everyone can attend. A children’s movie won’t attract those without children. A skating party will be intimidating to those without equipment, skills, or confidence. Each of these gatherings can be tweaked though, so there is something for everyone to do, and best chance of inclusiveness. Whether it is in the enjoyment of the activity, helping out throughout its organization, or volunteering on the day, there are many ways to create great experience and opportunity for everyone. Take on the Reach! Challenge and let us know how it made your neighbourhood gathering more inclusive!



Trudy Beaulne

With great sadness we remember our friend and mentor Trudy Beaulne, Executive director of the Social Development Centre K-W and a founding member of Festival of Neighbourhoods.

Trudy passed away suddenly on Friday, January 5, 2018 at the age of 63.

Trudy dedicated her life to improving the lives of others through her work at the Social Development Centre of Waterloo Region, which used to be called the K-W Social Planning Council of K-W and Community Information Centre of Waterloo Region, the Mount-Hope Breithaupt Park Neighborhood Association, and the Festival of Neighbourhoods.

A tireless advocate for everyone in our community, she helped shape Festival of Neighbourhoods. Thanks to Trudy, FoN has held the value of Inclusion at its core for almost a quarter Century. She understood how tough it is to be truly inclusive, but equally how important it is to leave no one out. She inspired every one of us to rise to the challenge, and to spread this message of hope.

Trudy’s spirit is with us when we all work to make a more inclusive and compassionate community.



Soupstock at Mt. Hope-Breithaupt with a blackboard for neighbourhood updates.



The KW Tenant group holds the annual barbecue at Kingsdale Neighbourhood.

Quick Links

- [Useful Contacts & Resources](#)
- [Neighbourhood Activity Guide](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Reach! Challenge](#)
- [Neighbourhood Activity Trunk](#)
- [Registration Form - Mail & Fax](#)
- [Online Registration Form](#)
- [Grant Opportunities](#)
- [Becoming a Sponsor](#)

Billboard

- *Congratulation to the Auditorium Neighbourhood, winners of the January Early Bird Prize, a \$50 card from a local grocery store. Neighbours came together for an October Porch Party .*
- *Register your neighbourhood activity held between October 1 and March 15, 2018 before March 30, 2018 to enter the next early bird draw for a gift that you can use on your next neighbourhood gathering.*