



Festival of Neighbourhoods  
Kitchener

# Kitchener e-neighbour

May, 2016

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## Start Planning this Summer's Neighbourhood Gathering!

*Don't let the summer slip away without getting together with your neighbours!*

Summer... the kids are off school, the days are long, and warm. There is no better time to come together with your neighbours and plant the seeds to help everyone feel like they belong, including you. At such events, you meet neighbours, strike up conversations and build relationships. The same happens with the younger ones. Encourage the neighbourhood kids to meet each other.

Neighbourhood activities can easily happen outdoors during the summer, making it much easier for all to gather. You can celebrate Canada Day, the Summer Solstice, or the end of summer... or simply celebrate the good weather! You might be able to close your street to traffic, pull out a barbeque or hold a potluck. Games with water to keep everyone cool, or even traditional games for large groups, such as Tug of War, Parachute games, and fun fair games are old time favourites. These games and many more are available through the [Neighbourhood Activity Trunk](#).

Check out the [Neighbourhood Activity Guide](#) for tips and ideas. In the Guide you will find instructions for all sorts of things that you and your neighbours can do, as well as ways to access resources in Kitchener. Contact your community centre to find out how they can support you in planning your event. Most importantly, get in touch with neighbours to help you plan out the neighbourhood gathering. It is less work and more fun that way!

***By bringing your neighbours together, you help build a healthier, safer, and more fun neighbourhood for everyone year round!***

### FoN QUICK LINKS

- [Useful Tips and Resources](#)
- [Neighbourhood Activity Guide](#)
- [Registration Form - Mail/Fax](#)
- [Full Registration](#)
- [Neighbourhood Activity Trunk](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Grant Opportunities from the City of Kitchener](#)

### FoN BILLBOARD

- Register your neighbourhood activities held between October 1st, 2015 and April 30th, 2016 before May 15, 2016 to enter the May early bird draw for a chance to win a prize for your next neighbourhood event.

- [Neighbour's Day](#) will be celebrated on June 11 in neighbourhoods across the city at community centres and facilities. Plan a neighbourhood event of your own for Neighbour's Day!

- Share information on upcoming events in your neighbourhood on our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts, or by adding us to your [mailing list](#).



*Mt. Hope-Breithaupt won the Heritage Award for this Jane's Walk through Mt. Hope Cemetery, May 2015. This year's tour will focus on the name change of Berlin to Kitchener 100 years ago.*

## Celebrate your Neighbourhood's Heritage

*Your neighbourhood's heritage is made of the stories, the architecture, and the people who once lived there*

During last year's [Jane's Walk](#), Wayne Miedema led a walk through Mt. Hope Cemetery. His knowledge of those buried there was inexhaustible. It was an honour to be there to listen to all the stories of so many who had lived in Kitchener. Particularly poignant was the story of Pte. Buckam Singh, from India's Punjab region, one of only nine Sikhs allowed to enlist in the Canadian army during WWI. He was wounded in battle and died in 1919 in a Kitchener military hospital. His grave is now a national memorial site for the Sikh community, marked annually on the Sunday before Remembrance Day. Wayne Miedema's tour earned the Mt. Hope-Breithaupt Neighbourhood the **Heritage Award**, sponsored by the [Grand Valley Society of Architects](#). This award is for neighbourhood gatherings that recognize the heritage of the neighbourhood and community. This year's [Jane's Walk](#) will be taking place May 6, 7 & 8 throughout many cities around the world, including Kitchener. [Traynor Vanier](#) Neighbourhood will be holding a Jane's Walk which they pre-registered so they could participate in the March Early Bird Draw. Congratulations for winning \$50 from a supermarket for the next neighbourhood gathering!

To ensure that your activity qualifies your neighbourhood for the \$20,000 capital improvement grant draw, give us a call or email. [Register](#) qualifying neighbourhood activities held between October 1, 2015 and September 30, 2016 with the Festival of Neighbourhoods before October 5, 2016. Join us at the Festival Finale at Kitchener City Hall on October 16 from 1:00 to 3:00pm, when the draw for the \$20,000 neighbourhood improvement grant will be held and the winner announced.