



Festival of Neighbourhoods  
Kitchener

# thE-neighbour

May, 2017

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## This Summer Celebrate Inclusively!

*Tanglewood Neighbourhood showed us how to be inclusive on Canada Day*

Nothing could be more Canadian than to celebrate Canada Day by thoughtfully including all of our neighbours! It is empowering to know that we can reduce the barriers that keep others from participating.

In 2015, Tanglewood Neighbourhood won the Inclusion Award for their Canada Day Street Party. Organizers held the event on Saturday so more neighbours could participate. They hand delivered and emailed invitations and then followed-up by going door-to-door. Children and youth took on organizing of portions of the party. There was something for everyone - food, music, outdoor film, a campfire with songs and story telling, Canadian Trivial Pursuit, and fireworks.

A few neighbours who wanted to participate, but could not leave their homes, had the party brought to them right on their porch, where they shared a meal and watched the fireworks together.

This event was designed to be enjoyed by everyone, and in that spirit, organizers planned to be even more inclusive the next year. Well done!

### FoN BILLBOARD

- Win a prize for your next neighbourhood gathering!
- Congratulations to Kingsdale Neighbourhood, the winners of the April Early Bird prize, a \$50 card from a local grocery store. Neighbours came together for a Halloween Party.
- If you haven't registered your activity yet, do so before May 15 to enter in the next Early Bird Draw.

### FoN QUICK LINKS

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



*Over 50 neighbours of the Westmount neighbourhood got together for an Earth Day clean up. Traynor Vanier Neighbourhood included organizational tasks, such as registration and bag & glove hand outs, for those not able to do the physical clean up.*

*More than 35 groups have organized neighbourhood clean ups so far this spring! Be sure to register your clean up with Festival of Neighbourhoods!*

### Festival of Neighbourhoods invites you to take the **REACH! INCLUSION CHALLENGE!**

At last year's Festival Finale, Paula Saunders of the [Independent Living Centre Waterloo Region](#) and Inclusion Award sponsor, challenged everyone to go one step further in what they would usually do to bring diverse neighbours together.

By picking just ONE IDEA from the [Inclusion Checklist](#), you can make your neighbourhood gathering more accessible and welcoming to all - even those who don't typically join in. Use these tips to plan, promote and hold a gathering that is open, inviting and fun for everyone! When your event is complete, share your success stories so that others can be inspired to follow in your footsteps.

Call us to share your thoughts or questions. We are happy to help support you as you plan your gatherings. We can share your success stories and inspire others to make the world a more inclusive place, starting in their own neighbourhoods!

*You can always phone us to register your activity!*