

## Langford Residents' Association 2024 Annual Report

### Summary of 2024 Activities

#### March

- Provided support and volunteers to Greater Victoria Green Team (GVGT) Porcher Park cleanup
- Conducted our first of four Langford Residents' Association Society (LRAS) community cleanups of Westhills Park
- Provided support and volunteers to Peninsula Stream's Cedar Vale North Park cleanup

**April** – Provided support and volunteers to FireSmart Langford cleanup of Westhills Park

**May** – Conducted 2nd LRAS community cleanup of Westhills Park (FireSmart-sponsored event)

**June** – Commenced dialogue with Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society (VIRCS) on providing support services to Canadian Newcomers in Langford

**July** – Conducted our 3rd LRAS community cleanup event of Westhills Park

**August** – Conducted first annual LRAS Canadian Newcomers Information Session in Langford

#### September

- Conducted 4th LRAS community cleanup of Westhills Park
- Provided support and volunteers to Relmagine West Shore's Repair Café

**October** – Collaborated with Relmagine West Shore to re-locate their Repair Café to Langford

**November** – Provided support and volunteers to GVGT Rain Garden Park cleanup



### 2024 Metrics

#### **Enhance natural spaces and support community stewardship (LRAS Mission #1 and #2)**

Our 4 community cleanup events resulted in the **removal of approximately 3600 cubic feet of flammable deadfall and invasive species** from Westhills park; **enough to fill 52 pickup trucks**. These results were achieved through **200+ hours of volunteer labour**, a huge win for community building/bonding, neighbourhood safety and the Langford taxpayer.

*These metrics/results do not include the LRAS contributions made to the other 4 Langford park cleanup events that we supported.*

#### **Support services, programs and events that foster connection in our community (LRAS Mission #3)**

From the start, LRAS has been committed to identifying and discussing the gaps that exist in services and programs in Langford. As part of that effort, we held our first annual Newcomers information session in collaboration with the Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society (VIRCS). We believe that our efforts in raising community awareness on the need for additional programs in Langford, has been partly responsible for the new programs that are now being offered by both VIRCS (Newcomers program) and West Shore Parks and Rec (a new youth program in Langford).

## **2025 Activity Plan**

In addition to the following LRAS-planned events, we intend to support at least 3 or 4 other activities in Langford with other partnered non-profit community organizations like the Greater Victoria Green Team and Peninsula Streams.

- February 22 – Supporting ReImagine West Shore's Repair Café (Gordon United Church)
- March 15 – Westhills Park Community cleanup
- April (TBD) – FREE Youth Board Game Café evening
- May 24 – Westhills Park Community cleanup (FireSmart-sanctioned activity)
- September 20 – Westhills Park Community cleanup
- September 27 – Supporting ReImagine West Shore's Repair Café (Gordon United Church)
- October (TBD) – Canadian Newcomers Information session
- October 18 – Westhills Park Community cleanup



## **Membership and Board of Directors**

We currently have five active directors and just over 40 members. We rely on our members, our website ([lras23.com](http://lras23.com)), our Facebook page and our advertised events/activities to spread the word about LRAS and the work we do to build a better and more resilient community. We welcome any West Shore residents who are interested in helping shape the organization and our Langford community activities.

## **Collaborative Partners**

We continue our efforts to grow our community connections through collaboration and mutual support. Our current partner organizations include City of Langford (Parks Department and FireSmart/Fire Rescue), Greater Victoria Green Team, The Village Initiative, ReImagine West Shore, Gordon United Church, Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society and Peninsula Streams.