



Festival of Neighbourhoods  
Kitchener

# Kitchener e-neighbour

March, 2016

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## Spring into your Neighbourhood with Fresh Ideas!

*Bring your Ideas for a Neighbourhood Gathering to Life!*

As winter fades away and we look forward to long sunny days, now is the time to start organizing your neighbourhood gathering. Seek the help of others in your neighbourhood for fresh ideas that can bring your neighbours together.

For spring gatherings, think of **Earth Day** activities such as nature walks, tree planting, backyard bird counts, spring cleaning yard sales, and neighbourhood clean ups. Contact the **City of Kitchener** for supplies, resources and information to hold your neighbourhood clean-up. What about going for a walk in your own neighbourhood and discover its own stories on the first weekend of May? Check out **Jane's Walk** to lead a walk or to find out where you can join one.

Make this year's theme "Let's Have Fun!" your own experience. As a rule of thumb, give yourself about a month and a half to organize your neighbourhood get-together. Check out the **Neighbourhood Activity Trunk** for helpful tips and resources. And don't forget to make it fun for yourself and all your neighbours!

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



*The Neighbourhood Strategy Lemonade Stand attended 27 events in 2015 to learn all about the city's neighbourhoods.*

## Join us for the Neighbourhood Strategy Kick-off Event

*Find out all about the Neighbourhood Strategy and how you can contribute*

Tuesday April 26 , 5:00 to 8:30 PM  
Stanley Park Community Centre

There will be music, games, hands-on activities, inspiring speakers, FREE FOOD and fun for the whole family! Not to mention the first of many opportunities to start providing your feedback on planning, building and supporting great neighbourhoods.

Festival of Neighbourhoods will be there, demonstrating some fun and easy ways to bring your neighbours together, as well as games and resources available in the Neighbourhood Activity Trunk. If you come, look for us and say hi!

The Neighbourhood Strategy aims to design and implement a citizen-led approach to placemaking in our neighbourhoods that will engage residents in defining the unique identity/character of their neighbourhood and identifying actions that could be taken to contribute to the health of their neighbourhood.



*On Louisa St., neighbours feel like champions after the 2015 spring clean-up.*

### FoN BILLBOARD

- Win a prize for your next neighbourhood get-together! The March early bird draw is for neighbourhood activities held between October 1st, 2015 and February 29th, 2016 and registered before March 15th, 2016.

- The next early bird draw will be in May for neighbourhood activities held between October 1st, 2015 and April 30th, 2016 and registered before May 15th, 2016.

- Share information on upcoming events in your neighbourhood on our **Facebook** and **Twitter** accounts, or by adding us to your **mailing list**.

To ensure that your activity qualifies your neighbourhood for the \$20,000 capital improvement grant draw- just 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 3:00 pm, when the draw for the **\$20,000** neighbourhood improvement grant will be held and the winner announced.

- Congratulations to Edgewater Estates, winners of the January Early Bird draw for Colin's Annual Toy Drive. For their next neighbourhood gathering they will have a \$50 gift card from a local grocery store.

### 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](#)