



Festival of Neighbourhoods
* Kitchener *

thE-neighbour

January/February, 2019

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Doon South Backyard Sessions



Schneider Creek BBQ & Potluck



Auditorium Skating Party



New Doon BBQ

These neighbourhoods were recognized in 2018 for challenging themselves to gather a bit more inclusively. Click [here](#) to read all about these gatherings.

Make 2019 the Year of Reaching Inclusively!!

Since its inception in 1994, Festival of Neighbourhoods has stood behind the idea that forging supportive relationships among our neighbours can improve our sense of belonging and our wellbeing.

Thousands of Kitchener residents have enthusiastically embraced this concept, continuing to come together with their neighbours face to face and inclusively, creating simple connections across gender, health, age, beliefs, ethnicity, wealth, or any lines that can divide us.

Scientific research is catching up with us, and confirming what we already know - that reaching across diversity in our own neighbourhoods is good for our health and happiness. Communities far and near that are struggling with lonely and detached citizenry will do well to encourage and be supportive of inclusive neighbourhood gatherings.

Next time you organize a neighbourhood gathering, challenge yourself to break down barriers to participation. The **Inclusion Challenge** guide spells out ways that you can reach out to more neighbours, and make them feel welcome.

Kitchener's Festival of Neighbourhoods encourages everyone to organize inclusive activities in their immediate neighbourhood. Contact us for tips and resources in Kitchener to help bring your neighbours together. **Register** your inclusive neighbourhood gathering (held between October 1st, 2018 and September 30th, 2019) with the Festival before October 5th, 2019 and join us at the Festival Celebration at Kitchener City Hall on Sunday, November 17th.

Neighbour to Neighbour

People share thoughts that reflect the value of gathering with their neighbours

"It's become an annual event that neighbours look forward to every year. It's a great event for both adults and children. We have families participate but also young singles and older adults without children at home. It's a casual walk in the neighbourhood that allows everyone to connect. This year we did it in the dark as well which encourages positive uses of the street/neighbourhood in the night." - Queen's Park - Night Time Easter Egg Hunt

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

- Register your neighbourhood activities held between Oct. 1, 2018 and Jan. 31, 2019 no later than Feb. 15, 2019 to enter the next Early Bird Draw for a prize that you can use at your next neighbourhood gathering.

Having Fun in the Neighbrrrrhood!



Soupstock - Mt. Hope Breithaupt Oct. 13, '18



Pumpkinpalooza - Victoria Park Nov. 1, '18



Skating Party - Auditorium Jan. 6, '19