

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Many people are trying to live a healthier lifestyle these days, by doing things like eating less junk food and getting more exercise.

At the same time, many people are also trying to live a greener lifestyle to help create a healthier environment, by doing things like driving their car less, and making better use of their green and blue carts.

There are many connection points between a healthier lifestyle and a greener lifestyle. For example, driving less and walking or cycling more is good for the body and for the environment. The same is true of avoiding the use of chemicals and pesticides in your garden, and eating more fresh fruits and vegetables (less packaging to dispose of).

The City of Port Coquitlam has spent the last several years focusing on reducing waste, and these efforts will continue into the future. We've also begun to implement our new environmental strategic plan, EnviroPlan, that will ensure the environment is considered in all future City decisions.

But at the same time, we're also committed to providing opportunities to help our citizens lead a healthy lifestyle. Our PoCoMotion program, for example, provides resources to help people get active and eat more nutritiously.

We also offer our citizens a wide variety of recreation opportunities, both through our facilities and for free in the community, such as our extensive trail network and the Gates Park outdoor gym.

As we move forward, a major focus for the City will be to provide even more opportunities for our citizens to live both healthier and greener lifestyles. By making the right choices in our day-to-day lives, this is something that can easily be achieved by individuals and families in our community.

Visit [www.pocomotion.ca](http://www.pocomotion.ca) and [www.portcoquitlam.ca/green](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/green) to find out how to get started.

Mayor Greg Moore

## Are you watching your waste-line?



Port Coquitlam residents are now diverting 62 per cent of their household waste away from the landfill and into their blue and green carts.

In 2010 alone, that translated into 1,863 fewer tonnes going to the landfill (26 per cent less) than in 2009, and about \$164,000 less in operations costs and disposal fees.

As a result of these savings, taxpayers haven't seen an increase to their garbage levy for three years. But more can be done. About 75 per cent of what is typically thrown away can go into the green cart and blue cart.

This fall, the City is inviting the community to join in the Port Coquitlam Waste-Loss Challenge to help push the diversion rate to at least 70 per cent – the goal for the Metro Vancouver region.

The Waste-Loss Challenge encourages residents to put discarded items in the right place:

- All recyclables (e.g. clean and dry tins, plastic and paper) go into the blue cart.
- All food scraps, food-soiled papers and plant/yard trimmings go into the green cart.
- Glass goes to one of six glass depots (for locations, see [www.portcoquitlam.ca/bluecart](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/bluecart)).

- Small appliances and electronics go to return-it centres (info: [www.portcoquitlam.ca/recyclingdirectory](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/recyclingdirectory)).
- Consider donating or selling other unwanted items.

To help educate the community, the City is sending out information this fall to residents who don't understand the right way to sort their waste, based on what the City's sanitation drivers have observed in their carts.

Other recent City efforts to help increase diversion from the landfill include expanding green cart service to all multi-family households, and the introduction of blue and green cart service to Port Coquitlam schools.

Residents can also now separate out their food scraps and cans/bottles at both of Port Coquitlam's recreation centres, at civic events such as the Rivers and Trails Festival on Sept. 25, and in some public locations including Shaughnessy Street.

**More information**

The City thanks those residents who are doing their part to reduce how much garbage our community produces. Visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/wasteloss](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/wasteloss) for information to help your household divert even more from the landfill.

## Vote on Nov. 19. It matters – for you, your family and your community



Port Coquitlam voters will go to the polls on Saturday, Nov. 19, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. to elect a local mayor, city councillors and school trustees.

The results of municipal elections, held every three years, have a direct impact on the lives of local residents and property owners. That's because cities and school boards are the closest level of government to the people, making the decisions that affect our property taxes, development in our community, the City services we use and our child's school.

How will that lot across the street be developed? How often will the garbage be picked up? Where will the City develop its next neighbourhood park?

These and many other decisions are made by the mayor and city councillors who will be voted in on Nov. 19.

The City of Port Coquitlam has posted information for voters and candidates at [www.portcoquitlam.ca/elections](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/elections). Questions may also be directed to [corporateoffice@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:corporateoffice@portcoquitlam.ca) or 604.927.5421.



# What's happening in the Dominion Triangle?

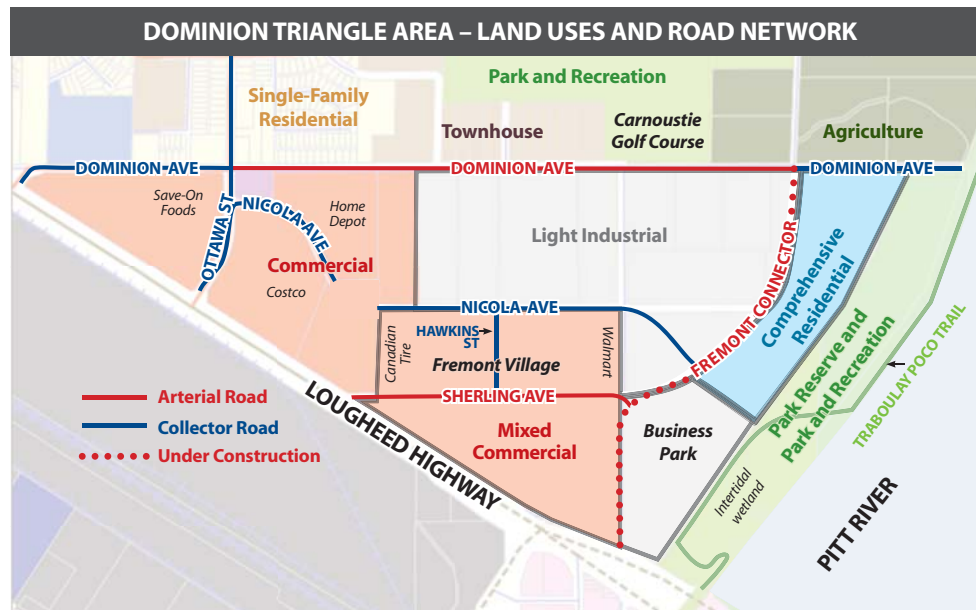
Significant changes are happening in the Dominion Triangle area just east of the Pitt River and north of Lougheed Highway.

This area is fast becoming the City's newest centre, with a mix of new commercial, industrial, and residential developments complemented by new roads and parks.

The area includes the recently opened Fremont Village commercial centre being built to the highest environmental standards, a business park that will provide local employment opportunities, and a proposed sustainable residential neighbourhood.

The newest intersection on Lougheed Highway is now open at Sherling Avenue, connecting to a new street (Hawkins Street) and parts of Nicola Avenue. This new intersection is a direct result of the new development, as the developers have been responsible for constructing roads and services associated with their sites.

These new roads will eventually connect with the existing road system (completion of the Nicola Avenue "missing link" from the Home Depot/Costco to the Canadian Tire/Walmart sites will be in the future, as this extension involves crossing privately-owned land). Meanwhile, work has already begun



on constructing the Fremont Connector which will directly link Dominion Avenue with Sherling Avenue and the Lougheed Highway.

Onni, a major development company in the Lower Mainland, is behind the development of the new Fremont Village centre. The first of its projects opened in July – the new 150,000-square-foot Walmart

store. An 83,000-square-foot Canadian Tire store is expected to open just to the west later this year. Both stores have met the highest environmental standards, with green (vegetated) roofs to minimize energy use and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

South of Sherling Avenue, Onni is developing a mixed commercial and high-density residential "lifestyle centre" with

construction beginning on food stores, banks, restaurants and other buildings. Onni has also submitted plans for two high-rise apartment towers that would add 528 new residential units to the centre.

Conwest, a major industrial developer, is developing the light industrial properties in the 18-acre area east of Fremont Village and just north of Lougheed Highway.

Conwest constructed the riparian habitat compensation area located between the dike and the Pitt River (known as the Pitt River Intertidal Wetland) and is currently building the new Fremont Connector.

A 16-acre environmental reserve located beside the Traboulay PoCo Trail will be dedicated to the City with completion of Conwest's industrial rezoning.

There will also be a parking lot built at the new end of Nicola Avenue east of the Fremont Connector, providing access to the PoCo Trail and a local park adjacent to the proposed residential neighbourhood development, with trails connecting it to the community.

For more information on the Dominion Triangle, including future public consideration of proposed developments, visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/dominiontriangle](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/dominiontriangle).

## Open house on Oct. 18 kicks off input into new Master Transportation Plan

Public consultation will soon begin on the City of Port Coquitlam's first update of the Master Transportation Plan (MTP) since 2001.

The MTP is a long-term transportation strategy guiding the development of the City's roadway network, transit services, pedestrian systems and bicycle facilities.

Public consultation for the new MTP will take place during a three-phase consultation process from fall 2011 to spring 2012:

### Phase 1 – Fall 2011

- Review of existing transportation network
- Overall MTP goals and objectives
- Community input via stakeholder meetings, open house (Oct. 18 – see end of article), website

### Phase 2 – Early 2012

- Working draft plan
- Community feedback via survey, open house, website

### Phase 3 – Spring 2012

- Draft final plan
- Community feedback via comment forms, public meetings, website

Since the first MTP was adopted, the City has undergone significant growth and development, and has developed a more efficient and sustainable transportation system, with elements including



## MASTER TRANSPORTATION PLAN CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM

the Coast Meridian Overpass, Broadway Street Reconstruction Project, a number of new traffic signals, and extensive improvements to transit, pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

The MTP update will examine stakeholders' key transportation issues and concerns, define goals and objectives for the City's transportation system, identify and evaluate major transportation improvements and recommend a preferred transportation plan and implementation strategy.

Visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/mtp](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/mtp) for more information about the plan or input opportunities.

### Open house on Oct. 18

The public is invited to attend an open house on Tuesday Oct. 18, 6-9 p.m. at Wilson Centre, 2150 Wilson Avenue. Participants can view display boards, ask questions of staff and consultants, and fill out a questionnaire sharing their vision for the future of transportation in Port Coquitlam.

## RIVERS AND TRAILS FESTIVAL SEPT. 25



## Celebrate our rivers and trails Sunday

Port Coquitlam's rivers and extensive trail system will be celebrated on the banks of the beautiful Pitt River on Sunday Sept. 25 during the annual Rivers and Trails Festival.

The free event will take place from noon to 4 p.m. at Peace Park, 1470 Kebet Way (at the foot of Coast Meridian Road). Activities will include worm composting demonstrations, music, displays, family entertainment, a children's craft area, a guided nature walk, displays by a variety of groups, and a concession by the Port Coquitlam Lions Club.

### Schedule of events:

- Noon: Opening ceremonies
- 12:30 p.m.: Popular Maritime and Celtic band Copper Sky
- 1 p.m.: The Ta Daa Lady Storytelling Session in the Nylon Zoo
- 1:30 p.m.: Guided nature walk with Burke Mountain Naturalists
- 2:15 p.m.: The Ta Daa Lady Show
- 3 p.m.: Copper Sky
- 3:15 p.m.: The Ta Daa Lady Storytelling Session in the Nylon Zoo

For more information, visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/events](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/events).

## City welcomes new staff

Two new faces are joining the staff at the City of Port Coquitlam.

Jacqueline Gorton joined the staff on Sept. 19 as the new Chief Financial Officer. Gorton, who was most recently Director of Finance for the David Oppenheimer Group, has held a variety of private sector finance management positions as well as senior consultant and internal auditor

roles in local government. Reporting to Director of Corporate Services Mindy Smith, Gorton will provide support to the City management team on strategic planning, budgeting, financial reporting, investments, and other financial matters.

Andrew Wood will be joining the City as Director of Engineering & Operations on Oct. 3 after serving as the Municipal Engineer for the

District of Maple Ridge since 2001. Prior to that, Andrew held engineering positions with the City of Coquitlam, Metro Vancouver and in private practice.

Wood will lead the department that provides engineering, transportation, drainage, water, sewer, waste management, and environmental protection services to the community.



## Hey kids: Get active in Grade 5 and stay active in Grade 6!

In a partnership to promote youth involvement in physical activity, the cities of Port Coquitlam, Coquitlam, and Port Moody are once again offering Get Active! Cards for all Grade 5 students and Stay Active! Cards for Grade 6 students.



The Get Active! Card gives Grade 5 students unlimited free admission to drop-in swimming, skating and gymnasium-based activities at civic recreation centres in the Tri-Cities. The program is available to all Grade 5 students from Sept. 6, 2011 to Aug. 31, 2012.

It is hoped that offering free admission to drop-in activities will encourage young people to try out different recreational activities, and start them on the path to having an active and healthy lifestyle.

A Grade 6 Stay Active! Card is also being issued in the 2010/2011 school year as a transition to encourage continued participation in physical activity.

The Grade 6 card allows for 12 free visits to recreation centres, enabling Grade 6 students to continue to develop healthy lifestyles. The card is valid Sept. 6, 2011 to Aug. 31, 2012.

### How to receive and activate your card

Students must bring the following documentation to Hyde Creek Recreation Centre (1379 Laurier Ave.), Port Coquitlam Recreation Complex (2150 Wilson Ave.) or The Outlet (#2100-2253 Leigh Sq.):

- A letter of verification from School District #43 identifying them as a Grade 5 or 6 student (paperwork available from local schools by Sept. 26).
- Birth certificate or Care Card showing the student is of the applicable age to be in either Grade 5 or Grade 6 as of Dec. 31, 2011.
- Proof of residency – students must live in Port Coquitlam.

For more information, contact Nathan Taylor, Program Coordinator – Active Living and Sport, at 604.927.7923 or [taylor.n@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:taylor.n@portcoquitlam.ca).

## Field improvements set for Evergreen Park

A new sand-based soccer field is being added to Evergreen Park in north Port Coquitlam.

The existing soil-based soccer field at Evergreen Park had deteriorated due to drainage issues, to the point where the field was only able to be used during the driest months.

In a response to the need for increased bookable hours by local sport users, Port Coquitlam City Council approved funding to rebuild the soccer pitch to a sand-based field.

The improvement from a Class “B” field to a Class “A” field will assist in meeting field booking demands and take pressure off other overbooked Class “A” fields in the community.

The Evergreen Park improvements are expected to be completed by spring 2012.

# Cooking with caution

Fire safety education important as students prepare after-school snacks

About 700 kitchen fires take place in B.C. each year, and the leading cause is unattended cooking. Most cooking fires in the home involve the stovetop.

When school is in session, there is usually an increase in cooking fires involving youths. Port Coquitlam Fire & Emergency Services is reminding parents to teach their children about kitchen safety if they allow them to prepare their own after-school snacks.

Review the following information with your child before allowing them to use the kitchen unsupervised.



### Cooking with caution:

- Don't use the oven or stove if you are sleepy.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen even for a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting or boiling food, check it regularly, remain at home and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire – oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains – away from your stovetop.

### If you have a cooking fire:

- Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and then turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.
- Don't try to extinguish a larger fire by yourself. Just get out and close the door behind you, then call 9-1-1. For more tips, visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/fire](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/fire).

## Fire Prevention Week Oct. 9-15: Protect your family from fire

Eight Canadians die each year from fires – most of them preventable. Actions like creating a family fire escape plan, practising kitchen safety and testing

smoke alarms can greatly reduce your family's fire risk.

Visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/fire](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/fire) for information about Fire Prevention Week and more fire safety tips.

**Don't forget to drop, cover and hold on at 10:20 a.m. on Oct. 20: [www.shakeoutbc.ca](http://www.shakeoutbc.ca)**

## Dog licences help provide services

About 9,000 dogs and their families live in Port Coquitlam – approximately one dog for every six to seven residents. The City recognizes that dogs are important members of many local families.

Through the Animal Control section, the City provides a variety of services and functions related to dog ownership. Many of these are funded through fees from the annual dog licences required for all dogs over six months of age.

### Dog licences

The City canvassed the entire community from March to September this year to raise awareness of the requirement for dog licences, and to increase revenue for Animal Control services.

Each year the number of licensed dogs is increasing, creating revenue that helps provide dog owners and community with a variety of services.

### Animal shelter and adoption services

Each year, dozens of stray dogs, cats and even birds are picked up from local streets and provided safe shelter. Licenced dogs are the most quickly to be reunited with their owners – often the same day.

Adoptable unclaimed pets receive medical care, vaccinations, an identifying tattoo or microchip, and are spayed or neutered before being placed for adoption by the City's animal control contractor Countryside



**Dogs can run free at the Shaughnessy Park Dog Off-Leash Area.**

Kennels (for information about cat and dog adoptions, please visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/pets](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/pets)).

### Community safety and well being

Animal Control staff enforce the Animal Control Bylaw to ensure dogs are good neighbours, are not a threat to people or other dogs, and don't damage or leave their waste on public property.

There is high public demand for enforcement of the “poop and scoop” bylaw, as it is widely agreed that it is unacceptable for owners to leave dog waste in parks and playgrounds or to throw bags of dog waste into the bush.

Animal Control also investigates complaints about barking dogs, aggressive dogs, dogs at large, dog bites and other dog-related issues. Dogs at large and excessive barking make up the highest percentage of Animal Control calls.

Other services include picking up pets and wildlife killed on roads.

For more information related to

dog ownership in Port Coquitlam, visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/dogs](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/dogs).

### Other City services for dogs:

The City provides free biodegradable dog waste bags in most parks.

Dog owners can also visit the Shaughnessy Park Dog Off-Leash Area. Open 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., it is more than an acre in size and located in the 3300-block of Shaughnessy Street, opposite Chester Place. Amenities include a forested trail circuit, enclosed small-dog area, benches, picnic tables and parking. Info: [www.portcoquitlam.ca/dogpark](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/dogpark).

Due to demand from dog owners, the City is considering opening an off-leash area on the south side.

### Animal cruelty issues:

The BC SPCA deals with animal cruelty and animal welfare issues in Port Coquitlam. The emergency contact number for the BC SPCA is 604.879.6343. For more details, visit [www.sPCA.bc.ca](http://www.sPCA.bc.ca).



## Broadway Street open again for business

After more than a year of roadworks, members of the community gathered Sept. 16 to celebrate the reconstruction of Broadway Street. The open house and business fair highlighted the reconstruction and widening project that has transformed Broadway into an urban-standard four-lane roadway linking the Coast Meridian Overpass and Mary Hill Bypass.

Broadway is an important local and regional transportation link for commuters, businesses and emergency responders.

With funding support from the federal and provincial governments and TransLink, the project improved the 1.3-km length of Broadway, including four travel lanes, a centre right-turn lane, three new traffic signals with dedicated left-turn lanes, marked bicycle lanes, sidewalks, LED streetlights, an Intelligent Transportation System (to manage traffic signals), improvements to water mains, and sewer and drainage infrastructure.

Visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/broadway](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/broadway) for more details.

## Bear regulations enforced on both north and south sides

Enforcement of the bear regulations in the City's Solid Waste Bylaw is stepping up – even on the south side.

While the north side has typically been the City's bear hot spot, increasing numbers of bears have been spotted on the south side, particularly in neighbourhoods near the Coquitlam River and Colony Farms. Because the bear regulations have not been strictly enforced in these areas, the bears are finding easy meals from unsecured garbage carts, fruit trees and carts set out at the curb the night before collection day.

This increase in south-side bear activity could lead to more dead bears, adding to the five that have already been euthanized in Port Coquitlam this year. Bears that become habituated to human food sources are euthanized because they can become aggressive. Relocating bears doesn't work – often, bears don't fare well in their new environment, and many will walk dozens of miles to return to their old feeding grounds.

Until early September this year there were 215 bear sightings in the community, including 37 related to human food sources. Numbers spike from September through to the end of fall as bears go into pre-hibernation feeding mode.

To address the increase in bear activity, bylaw enforcement officers are beginning to enforce the bear regulations throughout the community, particularly:

- **LOCK IT UP** – secure your garbage and food scraps in either a wildlife-resistant enclosure (e.g. garage or shed) or by using a City-approved wildlife-resistant lock.
- **SET IT OUT** – cart set-out times are between 5:30-7:30 a.m. on collection day.

On the south side, bylaw officers are issuing warning notices before proceeding with fines. However, officers are handing out fines without warnings on the north side, where residents have had numerous warnings since the bylaw was introduced in 2009.

Details about the regulations plus bear smart tips can be found at [www.portcoquitlam.ca/bears](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/bears).

**SEE A BEAR?** Bear sightings should be reported to the Provincial Conservation Officer Service 24-hour toll-free hotline at 1.877.952.8277.



## Garden award winners announced

Thirty-five nominations were received this year for the annual Pride of PoCo Garden Awards, which recognize the efforts of those who beautify the community through the use of plants, flowers and other landscape materials.

The awards are sponsored by the City of Port Coquitlam and the PoCo Garden Club. Judging of the nominated properties was based on: street appeal, effective use of texture, colour and space and maintenance of plant and landscape materials. New for this year was the inclusion of backyard gardens.

The following winners were recognized at the Sept. 12 City Council meeting.

- Best Overall Garden: Roger and Kim Brito
- 1st Place – Front Yard: Al Letendre and Janet Ahmelich
- 2nd Place – Front Yard: Wayne and Linda Robins
- 3rd Place – Front Yard: Henry and Dianne Santos
- 1st Place – Back Yard: Warren and Barb Henham
- 2nd Place – Back Yard: Gilles Giasson and Karen Moran
- 3rd Place – Back Yard: Al and Carol Duggan
- Honourable Mention – Back Yard: Maureen Haack



Roger and Kim Brito won the best overall prize.

- Top Townhome: Jim and Espe Thorleifson
- Best Theme Garden: Terry and Carolyn Jeffrey/ Barney Heppner & Nita Powers
- Best Business Garden: Sushi Village

Addresses are not being released for security reasons. Visit [www.portcoquitlam.ca/gardenawards](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/gardenawards) for more information about the awards and to view photographs of the top gardens from this year and previous years.

## Teenagers take on graffiti around community

Armed with paint cans and brushes, groups of Port Coquitlam teenagers took to the streets this summer to leave their mark on walls, portables and other surfaces. But they



Participants in the Aug. 13 graffiti paint-out.

weren't adding graffiti – they were painting over it.

The teens were participating in the Hyde Away Youth Centre's Teens Against Graffiti (TAG) program, which cleans up hundreds of tags around the city each summer.

Three paint-out events took place this summer, including one on Aug. 13 in which TAG partnered with the Ismaili Muslim Civic Group, RCMP Community Policing, Meridian Village Residents' Association and Metro Vancouver Housing. About 60 volunteers came out to paint over graffiti covering a 150-metre stretch of fence between Birchland Elementary and Meridian Village.

Discounts are available for paint to cover up graffiti tags in Port Coquitlam. For details, contact Community Policing at 604.927.2383 or [communitypolicing@portcoquitlam.ca](mailto:communitypolicing@portcoquitlam.ca). Information about graffiti removal and an on-line reporting form can also be found at [www.portcoquitlam.ca/policing](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/policing).

### [www.portcoquitlam.ca](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca)

The City's website is a comprehensive guide to City services, news, programs and activities, as well as time-saving online programs, including:

- PoCoMAP interactive mapping tool
- Community Calendar – City events, meetings and public input sessions
- Council meeting agendas and minutes
- Online Payments – renew dog and business licences
- Electronic Home Owner Grants – claim your annual grant online
- Service Requests, Complaints and Compliments – online form and department contact details

### [www.experienceit.ca](http://www.experienceit.ca)

Browsing or registering for recreation programs is simple and convenient at our online registration site.

### [www.pocomotion.com](http://www.pocomotion.com)

Provides resources and information to help you get healthy and active.

### [www.pocoyouth.com](http://www.pocoyouth.com)

Offers a range of information just for youth.

### e-Updates

Sign up at [www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-update](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/e-update) for email newsletters with info about community events, input opportunities, programs and services.

## How to stay connected!

### Facebook and Twitter

Stay up-to-date by following our posts on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/PortCoquitlam](http://www.facebook.com/PortCoquitlam)) and on Twitter ([www.twitter.com/CityofPoCo](http://www.twitter.com/CityofPoCo)). Our Facebook page also has info about events, services, programs, initiatives and web links.

