



Hello,

Hi Neighbour is all about building connections and bringing community members together. In Sardis, residents have done that in so many ways from walking groups and seniors' lunches to the building of a bicycle pump track circuit in the Chilliwack community forest.

Times like the one we are experiencing now with COVID-19 are also when we need community. Our collective response to this crisis will call upon our resilience and ability to take care of one another. And we're seeing people come up with new and creative ways for supporting their neighbours during this period.

Coming together as a community



Social distancing is being advised to help contain the spread of COVID-19. Many people will be self-isolating, telecommuting, and choosing to stay home away from large crowds. This could lead to feelings of disconnection. Seniors are particularly vulnerable. So now is a good time to start a contact phone list in your community of folks that need extra support.

Consider starting or joining a Facebook group to share information and resources. For more ways to connect with family and friends while keeping yourself and your community safe during this time, visit [United Way's Facebook page](#). Read community developer [Jim Diers'](#) article on the importance of social connection in the face of social distancing.

Upcoming Hi Neighbour activities postponed

In keeping with the Government of Canada's preventative measures, if you are planning an event, or run activities within the community that are supported by United Way's Local Love Fund or any other [United Way](#) support, we can help you with event cancellations or postponements, as well as provide further advice on community engagement during this unique situation.

Currently scheduled events like the April 4 trail-building day with the Chilliwack Park Society, as well as the seniors' lunch has been postponed.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at AndreaD@uwlm.ca if you have any questions or concerns.

Got ideas for connecting your community? We can help



We're taking a pause for gatherings, but opening space for dialogue around current ways to connect. Are you looking for ways to bring your neighbours together in these uncertain times and beyond?

United Way also offers funding to support your community-building ideas. [Apply to our Local Love Fund today](#). We grant up to \$1,000 for projects that increase community connections and belonging.

Not sure where to start? I'd love to chat. You can reach me at AndreaD@uwlm.ca or give me a call at 604.614.6174. I'm also on Facebook - [Andrea Nicole](#).

A final note: we also have our Sardis survey active for a couple more weeks. If you haven't had a chance to do so yet, please take a few moments to take our [survey](#).

Do take care of yourselves and your loved ones.

Stay safe!



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