

Filip de Sagher

The Point Grey Fiesta: Celebrating our Community

For quite a few years, my wife Hilde and I have volunteered to help organize our annual neighbourhood event, the Point Grey Fiesta.

This community celebration at the start of Summer brings together diverse local groups from the arts, business, and the sports world; we all share in a fun-filled day of family activities. As the Fiesta mission statement so eloquently states, we offer an opportunity to local residents and businesses to affirm their sense of neighbourhood.

A core group of 10 enthusiastic volunteers makes up the Fiesta committee. While the real organizing starts only 3 to 4 months before the event, we have such a great time with our little group that any excuse is good enough to get together throughout the year!

Fun aside, we have a lot of work and responsibilities on our plate, especially leading up to the day itself, and we magically manage to get it all done on time.

As with all local events, sponsorship is crucial. The many costs must be addressed; Hilde

and I, together with the local bank branches, assist with financing.

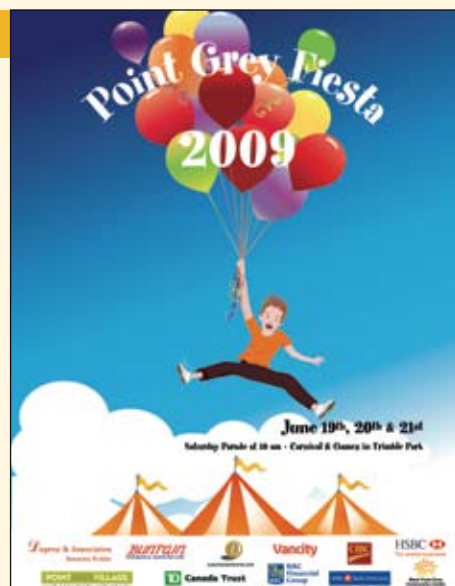
The Fiesta day starts with a parade on West 10th Avenue with local groups, decorated floats, sports teams, and marching bands led by the motorcycle drill team of the Vancouver Police. This year Hilde and



We proudly participated in the parade this year with our family. That's me in the passenger seat.



Carnival rides at Trimble Park as seen from the ferris wheel



About a month before the event, a Fiesta poster goes up in the neighbourhood and acknowledges the sponsors.



With our local MLA: BC premier Gordon Campbell

I enthusiastically participated in the parade and enjoyed waving at our many clients, friends, and neighbours.

After the parade, the focus shifts to Trimble Park where opening ceremonies are held on The Stage in the presence of our local VIPs. Many shows are performed there throughout



Our local MP Joyce Murray with her husband, showing the electric Scion she rode for the parade



The Vancouver city skyline from the top of the ferris wheel



Hilde and our nephew on a ride

the day, from bike and karate demonstrations to fencing and Celtic dancing. The rest of the Park offers carnival rides where kids celebrate the start of Summer—and the end of school! Many local retailers and businesses sponsor a silent auction.

We enjoy the event hugely and the companionship of our friends on the committee even more. Volunteering has proven immensely satisfying for us; the sense of neighbourhood we help create and re-create every year through this event is priceless! ▲

Filip de Sagher and his wife **Hilde Deprez** have their Notary office, Deprez & Associates, in Point Grey.

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Our tired but happy nephew!

Heart and Stroke

Trevor Todd