

Ideas for Connecting with neighbours and begin developing a Neighbourhood Hub in your neighbourhood/apartment building.

Sit outside on your front porch; Val put out a bowl of water for dogs passing by; lots of interactions with neighbours walking along their corner.

Intentionally sit out on your front porch or lawn and take time to chat with those passing by; or as someone called it “**front yard living**”. (this was mentioned many times, **intentionally being present** and taking time for chats with neighbours)

Invite neighbours to become part of a group, like WhatsApp, Facebook, etc.; this makes regular connection easier.

Welcome new folks who move into your neighbourhood with cookies or muffins; new folks are looking for connections

At Christmas, or at any other time, make up trays of cookies (or whatever else you like to make) and share with neighbours; put a sticker with your name and house number on it making yourself available for connection

Ask a neighbour for help, it makes people feel needed; do you need an egg, go next door; need a tool, ask your neighbour; and be willing to share your stuff too.

Put cards in people’s mailbox introducing yourself as Neighbourhood Champion (cards are in your gift bag); you can also use door hangers.

Write down people’s names as you meet them.

Organize a food drive on your street, or a hat/gloves/scarfs drive for winter.

Shovel the driveway of a senior or help a single mom with lawn care.

Connecting in an apartment building:

- Develop relationship with superintendent or someone else from the inside
- Be intentionally present in gathering spaces
- Host a Community yard sale or clean-up
- Host an activity for kids in the common area

Ideas for the Thorold Neighbourhood Hub team to work on:

Make a presentation at the seniors’ center in Thorold connecting seniors with Hubs.

Put together a Resource Booklet for champions so they know who they can connect with when

there is a need in the neighbourhood that needs outside resources.
Partner with local businesses that want to become part of this movement.

Helpful Resources:

'Building Neighborhood Connections', Michigan State University Extension

Resilientneighbourhoods.ca

Abundant Community Initiative; www.abundantcommunityinitiative.org

"Real Simplicity" by Rozanne and Randy Frazee

"The Turquoise Table" by Kristin Schell

"The Art of Neighbouring" by Pathak and Runyon