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## **Parks Alive!**

Parks Alive! is a community-oriented concert program dedicated to maximizing the potential of Kelowna's lakefront and community parks by stimulating a vibrant arts and culture environment. Each week in July and August from Tuesday through Saturday, and every second Sunday, live concerts are held in parks and public spaces throughout Kelowna, and feature both amateur and professional performing artists from a variety of musical genres.

The program strives to create a positive, community-minded presence in Kelowna's parks that will promote and expand family values, foster employment and volunteer opportunities, and encourage greater use of the City's community parks.

By developing new, family-oriented events during the summer and increasing the scope and calibre of the program each year, Parks Alive! continues to encourage greater numbers of people to enjoy their local parks. As well, by encouraging art and cultural expression and creating opportunities for the community to participate, we help enhance the quality of life for community members and visitors alike, and create a greater sense of pride in our community.

Admission to the concerts are free, however donations are encouraged and gratefully accepted.

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## **Celebrate Canada Day – Kelowna** [View Website](#)

Held outdoors in Kelowna's beautiful Waterfront Park, Celebrate Canada Day - Kelowna is a one-day, family-oriented event featuring live music and entertainment, a multicultural food fair, a children's activity area, multicultural displays, the "Made in Canada Marketplace" of arts & crafts, and a fireworks display at the end of the day.

Working in partnership with Folk Fest and the Canada Day Concert Society, additional activities

are held in Prospera Place located across the street from Waterfront Park. The annual Folk Fest is a celebration of the ethnic diversity of Canada as demonstrated through live cultural performances and a multicultural food fair from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. In the evening, guests can enjoy the Canada Day Pops Spectacular, a live symphonic performance of popular and classical music, themed to honour Canada Day from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Admission to all activities is by donation.

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### **Arts on the Avenue - Introduced in 2015!**

Are you a fan of handcrafted arts and crafts? Do you like to buy local? Stay tuned for more details as we develop this new one-day, visual arts-focused festival to be held in late July each year along Kelowna's Bernard Avenue.

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### **The Kelowna Buskers Program** [View Website](#)

The Kelowna Buskers Program is dedicated to maximizing the potential of Kelowna's lakefront and downtown areas by stimulating a vibrant arts culture environment. The purpose of The Kelowna Buskers Program is to offer citizens and visitors to Kelowna a unique entertainment experience through a diversity of performers, while adding an animated flare to the downtown core.

The Kelowna Buskers Program strives to create a positive presentation of acting, singing, live music, juggling, magic, dancing, puppetry, reciting, and other forms of entertainment in Kelowna's downtown core, waterfront spaces and Cultural District. Licensed Buskers may include professional and non-professional local performers or visiting performers travelling through the area. Buskers are not paid performers and are permitted to encourage donations that may be received in receptacles such as an open musical instrument case, box or hat.

The Kelowna Buskers Program runs year round from 10:00am to 10:00pm seven days a week in designated "Busk Stops" located throughout the downtown core, City Park, Waterfront Park and the Cultural District.

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### **Pianos in the Parks - Introduced in 2015!**

A fun new program we launched in the summer of 2015.

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### **New York New Years**

This annual family celebration is held on December 31st from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Just like our other events, New York New Years is all ages appropriate, alcohol free, and features multiple activity areas and live cultural stage entertainment. The name comes from our ringing in an "early New Year" at 9 pm, the same time as the iconic Times Square ball drop in New York City, thereby allowing families with young children to celebrate the turn of a new year together.

Held in Jim Stuart Park in downtown Kelowna, the venue is easily accessible by transit, biking, walking, or by car. New York New Year's Eve is free to attend and features activities and entertainment that appeals to a wide range of ages and tastes. Interactive games and activities will be based around the outdoor skating rink in Stuart Park and include:

- High-energy, live cultural performances on the stage from 6:00 - 9:00 pm
- "Snow Zone" drop-in activity stations (i.e. snowball toss, craft stations, drop-in games, karaoke, Wii dance off)
- Multiple screens featuring projected images and videos
- Dynamic lighting effects
- Giveaways and goodies (i.e. hot chocolate, glow items, gifts from event partners)
- New Year's Countdown at 8:59 pm
- Fireworks show

