

Home is where the heart is. With hundreds of businesses waiting to welcome you with open arms, Downtown Vernon is truly the place you want to be.

There's rarely a dull moment here so deciding where to grab a coffee, go out for dinner, or purchase that perfect fitting pair of pants can be tough. How could you possibly decide what to do next? Here are some ideas to get you started:

Start your week off right with a massage, a fitness class or a trip to the health food store. Downtown Vernon boasts plenty of wellness options to keep you moving. Besides, walking the length of 30th Avenue is no small feat! Share some laughs with a friend over coffee, and maybe indulge in some pastry too, you've earned it!

Learn about Vernon's diverse history through a guided mural tour with a suggested donation to the Greater Vernon Museum & Archives, and with 28 murals to see, you'll be getting your daily exercise without even realizing it!

For music lovers, Downtown Vernon is the place to be. Get Jammin' in Justice on Wednesday afternoons in Justice Park with a variety of musicians playing every week during the summer. Then on Thursdays at

the Civic Plaza is Civic Sounds, a two-hour free outdoor concert played by local and visiting musicians alike. Both events run weekly throughout July and August.

Maybe you're attending a wedding over the weekend, or simply looking to freshen up your

closet for the season. The businesses of Downtown Vernon will have you looking your best, with shoe stores, jewellers, clothiers, salons, barbers galore no matter what your style. On Thursday's in July and August, make sure to take advantage of Late Night Shopping with many stores open until 8:00 pm.

Weekend plans in Downtown Vernon are made easy with events like the Sunshine Festival. Bring the grandchildren or act like a kid again with over 150 vendors, two live music stages, dunk tanks and even an obstacle course for adults. This event happens on the third week in June annually, attracting thousands of people.

There is always something happening in Downtown Vernon, Welcome home, Welcome to Downtown Vernon.

Contributed by **Dudley Coulter** of the **Downtown** Vernon Association. For more information on what's happening in Downtown Vernon, visit: www. downtownvernon.com or contact us at 250.542.5851 or info@downtownvernon.com.