



Guide to Pride
13th annual celebration this week!
PAGES 13-20

Aqua mag
Fabulous fall issue
INSIDE



GULF ISLANDS Driftwood

Wednesday, September 6, 2017 — YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960 57TH YEAR — ISSUE 36 \$125 (incl. GST)



PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SAFETY: A School District 64 bus heads up Rainbow Road on the first day of a new school year Tuesday, with the school zone sign reminding drivers to slow down.

INCORPORATION REFERENDUM

Grams and McIntyre back 'yes'

Grove keeps opinion private

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN AND GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Two of Salt Spring's three elected officials have made their positions regarding incorporation public in advance of the Sept. 9 vote.

Trustee George Grams and Wayne McIntyre, Salt Spring's electoral area director to the Capital Regional District, have issued statements with their opinions that incorporation is the best

option for local governance.

"We've had 43 years to refine our current governance format, without much success. There's now general acceptance it has major deficiencies that just can't be repaired," Grams wrote in his statement, which outlined some of the drawbacks of the current situation and weighed the potential risks and benefits of change.

"I believe the referendum presents

us with an opportunity to grasp the tools with which to tackle perennial island problems and to better prepare our island for an ecologically secure future as fully functioning members at the heart of a federation I am committed to, the Islands Trust," Grams concluded.

McIntyre also made the case for incorporation.

ELECTED OFFICIALS continued on 2

FIRE

Electric bike ignites structure fire

Labour Day incident contained to cabin

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring Fire-Rescue crews spent the last hours of the Labour Day long weekend putting out a structure fire on Rainbow Road.

Soaring weekend temperatures and extra dry conditions were likely factors in the incident, which started sometime after 8 p.m. when the occupant of a small cabin was working on his electric bike.

Cabin tenant Hugh Pomeroy is a chef at Meadowbrook and also has a sideline building electric bikes. He said although the lithium batteries are usually quite safe, they can short if pressure is put on them. This happened without him noticing as he was working on the bike inside.

"It happened very very quickly. It only took five seconds for the house to start to burn," Pomeroy said, adding lithium batteries don't require oxygen to burn.

Pomeroy took the bike outside immediately but the battery had fallen out. The flames quickly ignited his bed, which was close by.

Salt Spring Fire-Rescue incident commander Lt. Colby Sawchuk said around two dozen firefighters responded to the 8:20 p.m. call-out and stayed on scene until midnight. Thanks to an aggressive, quick attack and interior operations, they prevented the fire from spreading. They saved the structure, but the interior was completely destroyed by fire and smoke, Sawchuk reported.

"The property owners were there and hosed down the outside to make sure the fire didn't spread into the bush, which helped a lot," Sawchuk said.

FIRE continued on 2

20% off
Games & Jigsaw Puzzles
Salt Spring Books



INSERTS

- Country Grocer
- Ganges Pharmasave
- Thrifty Foods
- Home Hardware
- The Local Liquor Store
- Buckerfield's
- The Vitamin Shop
- Lifestyle Markets
- Natural Retail Market

INDEX

Arts	21	Letters	7
Classifieds	29	People & Community	28
Editorial	6	Pride	13
Get Noticed	26	Sports & Recreation	30
		What's On	24

driftwood@driftwoodgimedia.com 250.537.9933 www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

SILVER
DRWOOD
TAXI
TAXI, TOURS
& DELIVERY
250.537.3030



Make a **Splash** at the
RAINBOW ROAD INDOOR POOL

Rainbow Road
indoor pool
250.537.1402



friend us on
facebook!
and win prizes!
www.facebook.com/
gulfislandsdriftwood

CALL GAIL OR ELIZABETH
IF YOU SEE NEWS HAPPENING
250-537-9933

Officials explain public positions

ELECTED OFFICIALS

continued from 1

He said that effective local government needs, but the current system does not allow for, "strategic planning, priority setting, local decision making, centralized and overarching financial planning and service support."

McIntyre said his reasons included the fact there is no ability to coordinate the budgets of the Islands Trust, CRD and improvements districts. And while the CRD has achieved much on Salt Spring, dependency on the regional body's resources costs local taxpayers in time and overhead.

"CRD headquarters provides

some great support — when we can get it — but integrating more service support resources, including administration, on Salt Spring rather than in Victoria would build a stronger team and be more effective," McIntyre wrote.

Trustee Peter Grove stated last week that he will not add his personal opinion to the discussion despite pressure from both sides of the debate to do so. He confirmed that position on Monday.

Grams and McIntyre said they wanted to wait until the Aug. 30 official debate at Gulf Islands Secondary School was over before making statements about the issue.

McIntyre said Monday, "With the increasing pressures to say something as an elected representative of the community and the number of statements being made that were confusing or in some cases incorrect, I felt I could add value to the process based on my direct involvement with municipalities as an elected municipal councillor, a community volunteer and a contractor

covering decades, along with two terms as the Salt Spring electoral area director to the CRD. Before I presented my view, I discussed the matter with the CRD corporate officer and there was no issue for me to express my personal opinion. Based on feedback, a significant majority have thanked me for my insight."

Grams, who also sits on the Islands Trust Executive Committee as a vice-chair, noted that while Islands Trust policy discourages trustees from becoming involved in "controversial local issues in an area outside a local trust area or island municipality that he or she represents unless the elected official first consults with the local trustees or municipal trustees," it is appropriate for local trustees to speak to issues on their own island.

The North Salt Spring Waterworks District board of trustees has previously come out in favour of incorporation as being the best option for its ratepayers and reiterated the position through a letter mailed to its customers last week. The Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District

board, which governs an improvement district like the NSSWD, has not taken a position either way.

Official voting day is from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday. Qualified resident electors and non-resident property electors can vote at the Fulford Elementary School gym, Gulf Islands Secondary School multipurpose room and Community Gospel Chapel on Salt Spring, A.R. MacNeill Secondary School in Richmond or the Mary Winspear Cultural Centre in Sidney.

An advance poll also takes place today (Wednesday, Sept. 6) from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Salt Spring Public Library and Community Gospel Chapel.

Residents are entitled to vote as long as they are 18 years or older on Sept. 9, are a Canadian citizen, have resided in British Columbia for the past six months and have resided within the boundaries of Salt Spring Island for the past 30 days. They do not need to be property owners. People need to present valid ID. See www.crd.bc.ca for all the details about voting requirements.



Exercise your right to vote on September 9th!
Need a ride? Don't know where to vote?

CALL US and reserve your spot on the
FREE VOTER SHUTTLE
250-538-5541 or 250-884-4460

Authorized by YeSSI Registered Sponsor under LECFA,
saltspringmunicipality@gmail.com



Even the NO campaign recognizes our island needs to change. Unfortunately, this was recognized many years ago and nothing has been done to address the issues of lack of integration, lack of water management, lack of local oversight and lack of financial control. Voting no is not enough.

Now's YOUR time to vote for **REAL CHANGE**

LET'S PLAN FOR THE PEOPLE FOR THE PLANET FOR OUR ISLAND LET'S VOTE YES SEPTEMBER 9

Authorized by YeSSI, Registered Sponsor Under LECFA, saltspringislandmunicipality@gmail.com

Firefighters return home

FIRE continued from 1

Pomeroy suffered second-degree burns on his hands and will have to take several weeks off work while the blisters heal. He lost the entire contents of his home, amounting to around \$50,000, including his electric bike inventory, and did not have contents insurance. He is staying with a friend for the time being.

"I was lucky to get out okay. I did get burned, but nothing drastic," Pomeroy said. No one else was injured in the incident. BC Ambulance Service, RCMP, BC Hydro and Emergency Social Services personnel attended.

A weather station at Salt Spring Elementary registered temperatures above 30 degrees Celsius at 8 p.m. Monday night.

Salt Spring's fire risk rating remains at extreme, with a total fire ban in effect until further notice.

In other fire news, the latest Salt Spring Fire-Rescue crew members to be deployed to wildfire suppression in the B.C. Interior were released and returned safely home to Salt Spring on Monday.



PHOTO COURTESY SSIFR

Salt Spring firefighters Alex Reid, left, and Colin McDougall arrive in Clinton with the island's reserve tender on Thursday.

Firefighters Colin McDougall and Alex Reid were the fifth local team to assist the province. They were sent to the Sheridan Lake area on Aug. 31.



More daily flights home from the mainland

- 6 scheduled flights daily between Ganges and Vancouver Airport
- Newest, fastest and quietest Seaplane fleet in Canada
- **Free parking** and **free shuttle bus** to main YVR terminal and bus exchange
- Frequent flyer discount
- Charter flights available to other destinations, including USA.

For scheduled flight info please call

1-800-447-3247

or visit our website at

seairseaplanes.com

Super Saver Webfares

AS LOW AS

\$95 includes all fees & taxes

*selected seats on all flights between Richmond (YVR) and Salt Spring Island.

Ganges ↔ Richmond (YVR)

Book your flight on-line and SAVE \$12.00 on a return trip airfare.

MUST BOOK ONLINE TO SAVE!

NEWSBEAT

Heads up!

SSI Incorporation Referendum

Advance Poll: Wed., SEPT. 6; Regular Voting Day: Sat., SEPT. 9. See www.crd.bc.ca for details

GOVERNANCE

Bowen Islanders reflect on life in an island municipality

Achievements, Trust role, costs and more

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD EDITOR

The discussion around potential Salt Spring incorporation has prompted people to share their knowledge of what occurred in other jurisdictions in B.C., Canada and the U.S. in the past when voters chose a municipal form of governance.

No examples can provide an apples-to-apples comparison for a number of reasons, the main one being that Salt Spring has evolved under the Islands Trust. Driftwood reporter Elizabeth Nolan has gathered and presented data from Bowen's experience after 18 years as an island municipality within the Islands Trust in both this issue of the Driftwood (see page 4) and last week's. The following is a compilation of input received from some active Bowen Island community members.

Peter Frinton was an elected official on Bowen from 1999 to 2011, as both a municipal council member and an islands trustee.

"The advantages of being a municipality are, fairly obviously, having a one-stop-shop and the other being master of your own house," said Frinton in a recent interview. "And it allows you to do so much, from setting road standards to giving money to community groups."

"We've been able to exercise authority in ways we never had before," he added. One example is creating a headland authority to deal with derelict vessels in Mannion Bay.

He also feels Bowen has done well in acquiring public amenities over the years, especially through local developer John Reid, who "has always offered more than asked." Affordable housing is the next amenity area of focus, he said.

Reid has done about a dozen different developments, with preserving green space and linking public lands being hallmarks of his projects. He told the Driftwood his goal is to get more land into public ownership and cluster homes on smaller lots, instead of creating 10-acre parcels that can end up with few trees and owners wanting further subdivision. His latest project would see a 200-acre nature preserve around the island's major water supply of Grafton Lake.



PHOTO BY CHLOE SJUBERG

Queen of Capilano comes into Snug Cove on Bowen Island.

Bowen Island's Official Community Plan and the municipality's 2017 Island Plan are filled with strong environmental language, and Reid's developments conform to island visions.

The first of 12 Island Plan goals mirrors the Islands Trust object: "To preserve and protect the unique amenities and natural environment of Bowen Island for the benefit of Bowen Island residents and, generally, for residents of British Columbia."

"I'm for nature and the community, but I just don't see that we've done much preserving and protecting."

SUE ELLEN FAST
Bowen council member

Sue Ellen Fast was elected as a council member and Islands Trust trustee for the first time in 2014 but also chaired the OCP update steering committee. She agrees that the OCP and municipality's plan have strong environmental policies but said they have not been embraced through municipal activities.

"How do you do the proactive [environmental] things when it's not the main thing of a municipality?" she asked. "I'm for nature and the community, but I just don't see that we've done much preserving and protecting."

As part of the Islands Trust, Bowen Island participates in and helps fund Trust-wide initiatives, such as the Trust Fund Board's conservation of land through purchase and covenants, or projects like water-resource education for islanders. Bowen was among 11 islands holding Trust-organized groundwater workshops this summer. Two of eight Islands Trust Community Stewardship Award winners were from Bowen Island in 2017.

Doug Hooper was a municipal council member from 2008 to 2011 and also served on the OCP review committee in the early 1990s. He shares Fast's view about environmental or Islands Trust awareness on Bowen, despite the island's official participation in the Trust.

"There is very little ethos around preserve and protect on Bowen right now," he told the Driftwood.

Hooper was never a fan of Bowen becoming a municipality, and believes the process has been expensive. He described the provincial government's support for post-incorporation road upgrades, similar to what Salt

Spring has been offered, as "putting lipstick on a pig."

Frinton is among those who feels the costs have "not been excessive," even if the municipality ended up hiring far more staff than its incorporation study predicted and road maintenance costs were also higher.

Murray Skeels is the present mayor of Bowen. In providing asked-for input to the Salt Spring Island Incorporation Study Committee, he said, "In regard to property taxes, before incorporation we were told our roads would either bankrupt us or fall apart. Today our annual taxes are very much in line with other communities our size and every year our roads are better. One big advantage we found to municipal status is that we can set priorities, fund them in our next budget and then get to work. In my opinion there is a tremendous efficiency to be gained by incorporating."

Hooper also feels Bowen's "grassroots democracy," with volunteers stepping up to get things done, has changed as a result of incorporation.

"You shift to a suburb or city perspective that the government is going to be the entity that takes care of things."

Fast and Skeels disagree that volunteerism has decreased.

"There is still a really high level of volunteerism and community groups and neighbours helping neighbours," said Fast.

"We still have a tremendous array of clubs, societies and councils," said Skeels, "but we have incorporated some of the groups, such as the recreation commission, library board and water districts, into our municipal structure," said Skeels.

Both Hooper and Frinton were not re-elected in 2011 when a pro-development council was elected as a result of heated conflict about whether or not a national park reserve should be established on the island. Frinton noted, however, that the 2011-2014 council was so dysfunctional that nothing got done. The mayor during that period, who died in 2014, is the one who has been quoted as questioning why Bowen was still in the Islands Trust.

Hooper feels things were "pretty topsy-turvy" on council and in the community for the first 15 years, but said the current council is balanced and functions well.

For more information about Bowen Island Municipality, see www.bimbca.ca.

Vote Positively NO on September 9th!

positivelyno.org

INCORPORATION DEBATE

Incorporation reality stacked against pro, con claims

Bowen example applied to some common statements

The following represents Part 2 on some of the statements made by people speaking both for and against incorporation, compared with examples of what actually happened on Bowen. Part 1 was published in last week's Driftwood.

FARMER ROLLIE COOK'S PARABLE

Salt Spring Island is a special place. It attracts artists, farmers, crafts people, tourists and retirees because it is unique. We love the fact it has an amazing environment, few rules, one street light. It's a bit crazy and very creative. People love it.

That charm attracts tourists, artists, retirees and... developers. That unique charm feeds us. Tourism drives our economy. It energizes small stores, B and B's, restaurants, all of our services. The charm is our unique environment and our chaotic lack of rules and order.

Incorporation will give us a town council, more rules, more inspectors, more taxes and fees. Incorporation will make us an anywhere kind of place. More like Duncan. Development needs will drive the new council. Development will kill the Salt Spring you and I love.



Mayor and the Spirit of Salt Spring

Do you remember the farm story about a silly farmer who had a Golden Goose? The Goose was special. It laid a golden egg every day.

The farmer and his wife talked. That Goose must have lots of eggs in her. Let's kill her now and we will have all the gold at once! They did. They discovered the Goose laid just one egg a day and there were no more golden eggs inside.

Salt spring is special because it unique. Let's not kill the very thing we love or we may end up like the fools who killed the golden goose! **Please vote no.**

Some farm wisdom from Farmer Rollie at Redwing Farm on Bullock lake. We sell pork, lamb and eggs to grocery stores, restaurants and islanders. We care deeply about our special island and our fellow islanders.

**CALL ME FOR LAMB, CHICKEN OR INFO 250-537-5434
LAMB IS \$7.00 LB.**

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Authorized by Roland Cook, registered sponsor under LECFA

Position: A municipality could facilitate more innovative green policy.

Some tools are open to a municipality that Salt Spring doesn't current have, but that doesn't mean they'll be acted on. For example, British Columbia's Municipal Act permits municipalities to draft and enact bylaws regulating and prohibiting the cutting and removal of trees on private lands. On Salt Spring, there is no way to regulate against tree-cutting on private land except within steep slope and rural watershed zones.

Bowen's OCP review included policies on clear-cutting logging and forest retention. A municipal permit is now required to cut or remove trees and other vegetation within the public road right-of-way, but no broader tree-cutting bylaw has been enacted.

Bowen has made steps toward marine protection. The municipality acquired a 30-year license of occupation for Mannion Bay in 2016, allowing it to enact a management plan and deal with derelict vessels. People who have mooring buoys there will be required to pay \$240 annually starting January 2018, which will give the municipality some funding for derelict boat clean-up. Boat owners must also have third-party liability insurance and prove their vessels are safe, seaworthy and in compliance with the Licence of Occupation.

On the other hand, Bowen has struggled to enact the same level of environmental protection that Salt Spring's OCP already has. Adding Development Permit Areas for environmentally sensitive areas and hazardous slopes was suggested as part of the OCP review. Council still has not successfully implemented them, but draft bylaws are expected by January 2018 as part of the island's 2017 strategic plan. Shoreline protection is also limited in the OCP.

Following of green building guidelines is encouraged, but not required, in the building bylaw. Rainwater catchment, for example, is not mandated.

Position: Taxes will increase by a lot.

The Bowen Island municipal tax levy has increased 125 per cent since 2002 from just under \$2 million to \$4.5 million in 2017. The taxation cost for 2017 is \$2,366 for the average homeowner, and does not include Translink, Islands Trust, provincial school and police taxes.

Bowen Island Municipality (BIM) has a financial policy in place which requires council raise taxes by a minimum of 1.5 per cent each year in order to increase the annual contribution to the municipality's capital renewal and reserve fund. The recommendation for 2017 was a 2.5 per cent increase in order to pay for increasing costs of services and additional contributions to reserve funds. As of Dec. 31, 2016, BIM had accumulated cash reserves of \$7.3 million, plus \$56.5 million in capital assets.

Other Greater Vancouver municipal tax increases for 2017 range from Richmond at 3.0 per cent to Port Moody at 5.1 per cent.

Urban Systems calculated that Salt Spring's tax increased by 187 per cent between 2000 to 2015, compared to an average of 160 per cent for eight other communities with comparable taxes and populations. Salt Spring's compound annual increase was 7.3 per cent, compared to 5.9 per cent for Bowen during the same period. Factors include new facilities and services: the opening of the Rainbow Road swimming pool and the new library, the establishment of an on-island CRD

administration including a senior manager for Salt Spring Island and the unionization of the Salt Spring Fire Department.

Position: The community will be eligible for infrastructure grants.

Some significant infrastructure grants Bowen Island Municipality applied for or received in recent years are:

2009 - \$1.46 million in provincial and federal grants received for the Snug Cove wastewater treatment plant expansion and upgrade.

2015 - applied for funding but did not receive any grants for new Cove Bay water treatment plant. A Small Communities Fund grant worth \$3.89 million was approved in 2017.

2015 - applied for but was denied a Canada 150 infrastructure grant for its library annex.

2016 - received a \$10,000 provincial grant to be put towards further research on the creation of a local facility to process Bowen's green waste.

2016/7 - received Canada 150 grant of \$19,000 for improvements to the Bowen Island Museum & Archives.

Other grants:

2010 - The LIFT community hitchhiking group received \$49,000 from Environment Canada's EcoAction Community Funding Program.

2014 - The Caring Circle Resource Centre received a \$20,000 Age-Friendly BC grant to provide support and health services that enrich the quality of life of seniors living on Bowen Island.

2016 - BIM received \$100,000 through the UBCM First Gas Tax Agreement for the Snug Cove Housing Diversity Implementation Plan.

Other projects:

On Aug. 18, Bowen Island voted 80 per cent in favour of a borrowing referendum for \$3 million to construct a fire hall and emergency operations centre with three double truck bays. The community has been working toward the project since 2001, after a seismic study found the current facility to be at risk of collapse. The hall is expected to cost the average property owner about \$68 a year over the next 30 years. The construction will take place on community land, part of a large package purchased from Metro Vancouver in 2006. No grant funding has been suggested in the referendum material.

The municipality has yet to construct a town hall and currently leases its office space. Plans are to build a community centre with municipal offices in the near future. BIM's 2017 strategic plan identifies having a completed design and validated project costs as a goal to be completed by January 2018.

Position: A municipality will install parking meters and business licences.

Bowen has not done either of these things yet. It recently created a new community parking lot in Snug Cove and has a free park and ride lot outside town that's connected to a bus route. It does issue traffic and parking violation tickets, however: \$50 for the first offence, \$100 for second and \$150 for subsequent offences.

An economic development commission task force is currently exploring the idea of business licensing.

INCORPORATION REFERENDUM

Panels lay out governance positions at official debate

Taxes, coordination and roads among top topics

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The Gulf Islands Secondary School gym hosted a large crowd of islanders on Aug. 30, with community members seeking the final pieces of information needed to commit to a vote either for or against Salt Spring's incorporation as a municipality.

Former B.C. Liberal cabinet minister George Abbott guided the debate process, which saw three panel members each for the yes and no sides outline their general positions and provide answers to a set of 14 pre-determined questions. Abbott proved to be an entertaining and balanced facilitator, while his job was eased by a well-behaved and respectful audience.

Ken Marr, Michael McAllister and David Wood made the case for the need to improve local governance and urged islanders to accept the provincial transition offer and vote yes.

"This is an opportunity. Let's grasp it, and as the community that we are, see what we can make of it," Wood said in his closing statement.

On the no side, Greg Clayton, Brenda Guiled and Gary Holman argued against ending the island's rural governance system in which land-use planning is provided by the Islands Trust and service delivery decisions are separated. They said improvements could be made without incorporating.

"There's tools in the great workshop of local government that we haven't used yet, and we can sharpen them up, we can bring them out," Guiled said.

In response to the first question about the reason to become an island municipality or not, Marr said there were a great many to do so. The local businessman grew up on Salt Spring and graduated from GISS, as will his two children. Local budgeting decisions, more democratic procedures, a simpler and more understandable form of government, direct access to government grants, and the ability to better enforce bylaws were just some of the reasons Marr gave.

Problems with local



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Former B.C. cabinet minister George Abbott addresses the debate crowd last Wednesday. Abbott was the event's moderator and also provided some trademark humour.

governance in structures such as North Salt Spring Waterworks District and the Salt Spring Fire Protection District was another key point for Marr.

"We need a system that brings fire, water, housing, land planning, building inspection, and all our other agencies under one umbrella, and the only way to do it is with a municipality," Marr said.

McAllister belongs to the law firm that represents the Bowen Island Municipality. His view is that the municipal structure is the best type of governance available. He spoke of a "silo effect" due to Salt Spring's many different commissions and improvement districts applying taxes to their individual mandates without an overall strategic plan, which a municipality is required to submit every five years.

Clayton, who served on the Salt Spring Incorporation Study Committee, said smaller government doesn't necessarily mean more representative government. As a member of the finance sector who moved to Salt Spring to grow food and a family, he argued the provincial government has an interest in downloading risks and responsibilities. He also observed the province has not released the draft Letters Patent for a new municipality, effectively asking islanders to vote on a contract in which the terms have not been supplied.

In regard to the impact on taxation, Holman, who has served both as Capital Regional District director for Salt Spring and

MLA for Saanich North and the Islands, said the main difference between tax increases on Bowen and Salt Spring is that Salt Spring taxpayers have had more direct control over their taxes since every major increase or new service goes to referendum.

Holman said municipalities can borrow money and create new services without taxpayer approval and have the ability to shift the tax burden between property classes.

"For example, on Bowen, one of the first things they did as a municipality was effectively shift taxes from the commercial sector to residential — so be careful what you wish for there," Holman said.

The role of the Islands Trust and worry that budget pressures would spur development under incorporation formed a common theme of discussion.

McAllister said Bowen Island has a protocol agreement with the Islands Trust in addition to the wording in its Letters Patent that makes land-use decisions work well.

"Incorporation doesn't have to lead to development. If you don't want development, just make sure you have four of your best friends on council," McAllister said, adding an island municipality wouldn't be "the Wild West."

Guiled has posited there are big discrepancies between the estimated roads costs in Urban Systems' incorporation study report, and the figures supplied from the

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure through freedom of information requests. Upcoming road surface repair and maintenance costs have been estimated at \$33.5 million, while the provincial restructuring offer is for \$19.8 million with \$12.8 million specified for roads.

McAllister said in response that a municipality would decide how much it wanted to put into its roads. Wood added that the one of the few "knowns" is that under incorporation, the province will repave Fulford-Ganges Road, adding a 1.2-metre shoulder, and Walker's Hook Road would be remediated.

"Roads lead lives of their own. They age out, they tell you when they need fixing. And when they fall into the sea and when the pavement has failed and there are safety issues, the roads dictate what we have to pay. And they will," Guiled said.

Along with increased police costs of at least \$900,000 per year, which the no side also believes has been underestimated, the opponents say tax rates could increase dramatically. Without having the Islands Trust mandate and planners to oversee zoning decisions, they say the temptation would be to finance budgets through

increasing the tax base and development.

The impact of farming and local culture were also discussed. Disagreements between the two sides linger around how much decision making is made off-island and the grant money that Salt Spring has received for infrastructure and affordable housing. In the end, the no side reaffirmed that for them, the threat to Salt Spring's unique community and environment was too strong to gamble with.

"All it takes is four people on a bad council. It's a huge risk," Clayton said, adding, "I'm an advocate for change — but not this kind of change."

The yes side countered that Islands Trust rules would still be in place, and the real question for voters is whether they want to govern themselves, or by governed by people in Victoria and Nanaimo.

"In order to make visionary decisions for the well-being of our entire island, we need to abandon the silo form of governance and take this opportunity to elect a local council to prioritize our needs for the benefit of us all," Marr said.

**SAM ANDERSON
APPLIANCE REPAIR**

- Prompt, Reliable & Professional Service
- Authorized Warranty Technician
- Hot Water Tank & Appliance Installation
- Licensed Refrigeration
- Fully Insured & Security Screened
- Kenmore Service Technician

250-537-5268
samander@telus.net
www.AndersonApplianceRepair.ca

EMERGENCY SERVICE 124 Lawnhill Drive, Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1M9





Top 10 Dangers of Incorporation:

- Islands Trust sidelined, "Preserve and Protect" undermined
- Higher taxes for roads, policing, and a costly new layer of government
- Farmers hit by higher taxes and lost exemptions
- Rent hikes for tenants and small businesses
- Debt: public borrowing no longer needs a public vote
- Secret council meetings, common in municipalities
- Big developers get more say
- The province has final word, NOT US
- Over-development threatens tourism, our economy, and our island culture
- There is no going back!

This the third time we've been forced to vote on this divisive issue. Remember why you live here! Please vote Positively NO on September 9th.

facebook.com/positivelyNO **positivelyno.org**

Authorized by Positively NO, registered sponsor under LECFA themanyislanders@gmail.com

OPINION



2017 CCNA Awards
 Gold - Best All-Round | Gold - Best Editorial Page | Silver - Best Front Page | Silver - Best Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)
 Silver - Best Coverage of the Arts | Best Community Newspaper Magazine (Aqua - Gulf Islands Living)
 Silver - Best Print Innovation (Driftwood wall calendar) | Silver - Best Print Ad (Home Hardware fall fair catalogue)

2017 BCYCA Awards
 Gold - Best Cartoonist (Dennis Parker)



EDITORIAL

Time for change

Articulate and passionate arguments have been aired in the lead-up to Saturday's incorporation vote.

We clearly understand the positions presented by both sides. But as an organization that has observed Salt Spring governance up close since the mid-1960s, we believe incorporation is the better choice.

Yes, the island can celebrate many achievements, most of them possible under any form of governance. But the status quo has failed to deliver two critical things. They are vital infrastructure for a community of 10,500 residents and coordinated decision-making that reflects a truly grown-on-Salt-Spring vision of our community.

The long-overdue fire hall, the \$28 million in North Salt Spring Waterworks District upgrades, cycling infrastructure and the Burgoyne Bay septage facility top that list. Having a newly paved road between Ganges and Fulford,

THE ISSUE:
Incorporation

WE SAY:
Yes

complete with a 1.2-metre cycling/pedestrian shoulder, plus notorious trouble spots fixed and maintenance taken care of for five years is not bribery from the province. It's a decent start to managing our road infrastructure.

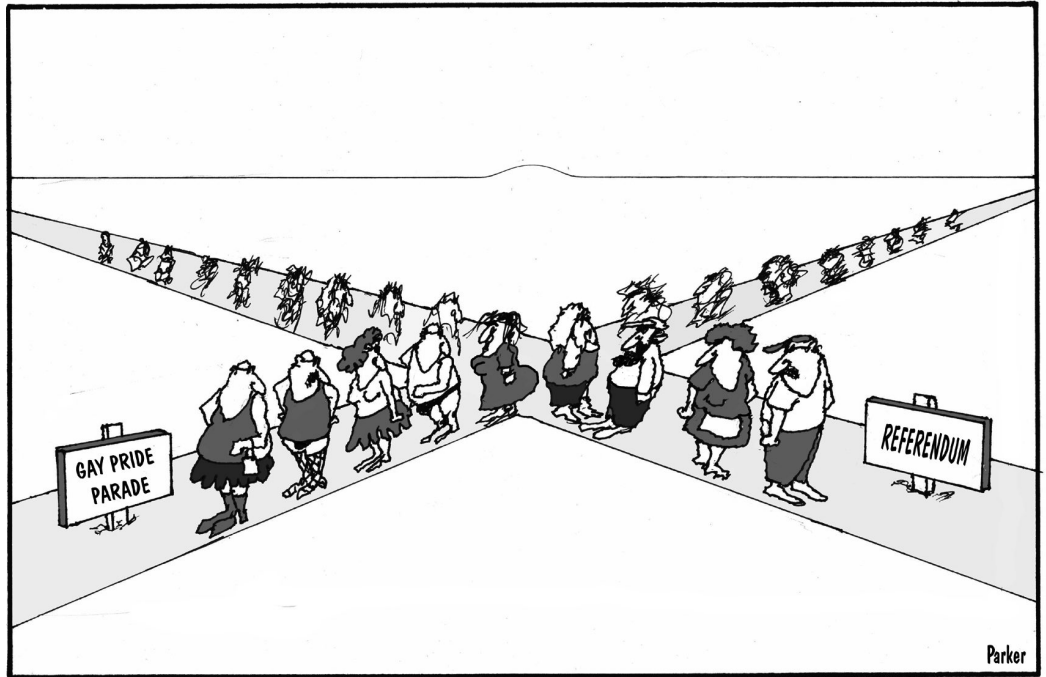
The time for change has come.

With coordination, stakeholders will sit down in one room and talk about what's important for the community as a whole. Tools will be assessed, projects prioritized and the resources needed to complete them nailed down.

Regarding the environment, some people erroneously believe incorporation means Salt Spring would lose effective Islands Trust protection. This is simply not true. If Section 38.4 of the Islands Trust Act, which allows the province to intervene in a Trust/municipality dispute, remains a prime concern, we could lobby for its removal. The rest of the story is in the Islands Trust Impact Analysis. Please read that report before declaring incorporation to be the ruination of the Trust or of Salt Spring.

Could we end up with an inept municipal council? Of course. Just as we could elect inept trustees, CRD directors and improvement district trustees now. Will a municipality be awash in surplus dollars and able to do everything at once? Unlikely. Will all of the complex problems we face today evaporate if we become a municipality? Of course not.

But adding the powers of coordination and being "masters in our own house" will give us what we need to build a cohesive community: One that is still unique, still creative and passionate, still Salt Spring Island — but even better.



VIEWPOINT by Sabine Swierenga

What can municipalities do for us?

- Municipalities can control tree cutting on private lands.
- Municipalities can control parking (but do not have to install parking meters everywhere).
- Municipalities can enact property standards bylaws. Nobody now takes the initiative with eyesores like the dead gas station in the town centre and the derelict pub properties at two island entrances. Moreover a municipality can enable conversion that might have avoided levelling the Fulford Inn.
- Municipalities look after their residents. The Isabella Point Road (only evacuation route for 300 residents) washout would have been repaired long ago.
- Municipalities have the same lovely things we do like libraries, swimming pools, art centres, plus more facilities for young people like skating rinks and adequate playing fields. Perhaps with less trauma. Who remembers the battles for the pool and ArtSpring? And the Ganges sewer?
- Municipalities have volunteers, and lots of advisory commissions, just like we do now.
- Municipalities have sidewalks on their downtown streets.
- Municipalities have better roads than we do. Visit any municipality to see this. Yet we pay amongst the highest taxes in B.C.
- Municipalities by the sea have boardwalks or sea walls.
- Municipalities provide employment. We already pay for CRD and Trust workers, some on and off-island, and there would be new job opportunities.
- Municipalities get to keep all of the property tax they collect. We don't now. And, the municipality decides how to spend it.
- Municipalities look after water supply.
- Municipalities have more tools to generate affordable housing.

• Municipalities set funding priorities for the community as a whole. For example, the overall walking/biking plan for Salt Spring Island includes \$12 million of our tax money, funds that might be better spent at this time on more pressing issues like affordable housing.

And yes, we can afford this. I believe the tax impact figures so thoroughly compiled by the consultant group showing a \$10 per average increase in household taxes if all things stay as they are. If we want better roads, of course that will cost more. But our taxes have tripled since the last referendum, it could hardly get worse.

And bonus — should we incorporate the province kicks in \$6 million for stabilizing Walker Hook Road and resurfacing all of Fulford-Ganges Road, including adding shoulders, so urgently needed for the bikers and walkers. That will not happen otherwise. Plus, we receive another \$13 million in cash that accumulates over five years as a reserve fund for our community to use.

And no, we will not lose our island paradise. We will be empowered to make it be what we want it to be and that needs to include providing opportunities for young people.

Please, people, get properly informed. Here are two links. Read both and cross reference:

(1) www.ssiincorporationstudy.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/2016-11-21-Final-Report-R1-Executive-Summary.pdf

(2) www.yestosaltspringmunicipality.org/faq/.
Then get out and vote on Sept 9.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

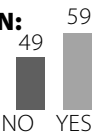
Did you get enough referendum information?

Cast your ballot online at www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com before Monday at midnight or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 4:30 p.m.

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Will you miss the Queen of Nanaimo?



Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

Tony Richards, MANAGING DIRECTOR
 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3
 Ph: 250-537-9933 Fax: 250-537-2613 Toll Free: 1-877-537-9934
 Email: driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com
 Website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday
Subscription Rates: In the Gulf Islands \$52.50
 Elsewhere in Canada \$88.20* Foreign: \$235.00*
 Digital Edition: \$39.85 anywhere | Prices include GST
 Digital Edition with Print Edition subscription additional 1yr \$12.60 | 2 yr \$18.90

Editorial:
Sean McIntyre,
Elizabeth Nolan

Front office:
James Burton,
Johanna Walkner

Advertising:
Fiona Foster,
Drew Underwood

Amber Ogilvie
PUBLISHER
aogilvie@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Gail Sjuberg
MANAGING EDITOR
nsws@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

Lorraine Sullivan
PRODUCTION MANAGER
production@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



Funded by the Government of Canada



Canada Publication Mail No. 0040050837
 International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782

Member of: Canadian Community Newspapers Association, B.C. & Yukon Community Newspapers Association, B.C. Press Council



ISLAND VOICES

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: "We've had 43 years to refine our current governance format, without much success."

GEORGE GRAMS, SALT SPRING LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE MEMBER

SALT SPRING SAYS

We asked:
What are you looking forward to most about this school year?



ISABELLE WOOLLCOMBE
Making new friends!



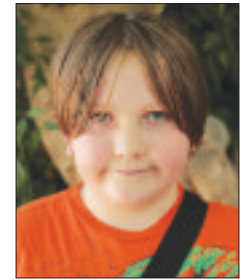
KEVIN GRAY
Graduating! The eclipse of my public education.



NIKO REVELEY
I am looking forward to seeing everyone and getting back into the groove of learning.



TIGER LILY GREEN
Playing outside! We like playing in the forest.



VICTOR REYNOLDS WOOLLCOMBE
I am excited to see my friends again. It is also my birthday this month.

Letters to the editor

Islands Trust is more essential every day

The undersigned are six former Islands Trust local trustees and one former Capital Regional District director. Among us, we have served over 40 years in local government on Salt Spring.

We are voting "no" in order to make our island heritage and way of life secure, and to ensure that needed change comes from within, driven by the love of islanders for this place, and not by the enormous fiscal needs of municipal government.

We made our many land use and servicing decisions with the Trust's unique mandate to preserve and protect firmly in mind. We had been reminded

in the 1990s by the province's highest court that the Islands Trust mandate was "no mere piety."

But incorporation is a massive reversal. The preserve-and-protect mandate becomes, legally, only one point of reference for a town council. Under incorporation, all powers, including those of the Local Trust Committee, are vested in a municipal council of seven. In practice, only a majority of four is needed to make decisions. The directly elected municipal trustees need not be among the majority of four. Trust Council's power of review is gutted by the provision for a municipality to appeal to the minister of the day.

Incorporated local government must assume vast new costs, especially for roads, and is bound by legislation which makes it far more tempting to trade development rights for

tax income. As for offsetting grants, we already get most of them, and outstrip many municipalities in this regard, while protecting far more land than any comparably-sized municipality.

The Islands Trust vision becomes more essential every day. The mixture of directly elected land-use government and regional services administered by local commissions is more than just "good enough." It keeps the preserve and protect mandate legally in force and retains potential for renewal and change, driven by islanders, not by outside forces acting on an impoverished municipality. It has been wonderfully successful to date. The evidence is all around us.

NICK GILBERT, BEV BYRON, GEORGE EHRLING, PETER LAMB, CHRISTINE TORGRIMSON, DAVID BORROWMAN, FORMER TRUSTEES; AND FORMER CRD DIRECTOR GARY HOLMAN

Fire board correction

The following is a clarification regarding the incorporation referendum debate and Local Community Commission concept.

At the moderated incorporation referendum debate held Aug. 30, "no-side" panel member Gary Holman stated that the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District has indicated a willingness to consider a "Local Community Commission" as an alternative local governance model. This assertion is not correct. The SSIIFPD board of trustees have taken no such action.

A delegation, which included Gary Holman, spoke at the July 17 meeting of the board of trustees and in their presentation suggested that other models of governance should be investigated. Specific mention was made of the possibility that the Capital Regional District could establish a Local

Community Commission for Salt Spring Island to oversee and administer services.

After the delegation spoke, trustees deferred consideration of taking a public position regarding incorporation.

PER SVENDSEN,
CHAIR, SSIIFPD

Interesting choice

I have lived here since the cretinous era, when only primitive life forms such as improvement districts, crown corporations and provincial ministries ruled the land, before the CRD and Islands Trust came into being and brought light and beauty to our theretofore benighted existence.

And so it has come to pass that we are given the opportunity, again, of making an informed choice between our current situation or electing a Salt Spring Island council and mayor responsible for a Salt Spring Island administration,

planning and coordinating local services, their operations, facilities, equipment, staff and contractors.

This time, will we have the guts and integrity and foresight to take responsibility for our island on our island as we clearly have the means to do? Or will we again decide that it really shouldn't be up to us to get along with each other and our environment to a reasonable standard, leaving the overall responsibility for all that at arm's length with the provincial government, the CRD, the Islands Trust and improvement districts carrying on as usual?

We have an interesting choice to make on Sept. 9. Please make it thoughtfully. "More harm is done in the world through indifference, negligence and incompetence than ever by ill intent." (Attribution uncertain.)

ULI TEMMEL,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 10

Referendum-induced catatonia almost over

I was listlessly thumbing through the Driftwood a couple of days ago, looking for anything of interest that didn't involve people posturing on both sides of the Great Divide, when a shocking thought struck me. I was possibly the last person on the island over the age of 14 who hadn't opined on the question of incorporation.

Once a month, I thought, the nice people at the Driftwood give over some of their valuable space to my hokum, space that could be more profitably filled with Country Grocer BOGOFs or library opening hours, and I don't mind telling you, I was mortified.

What was I thinking of? Here I am, a gentleman of letters, an inky-handed son of toil with space for 750 words, no more and no less, and I had so far been silent on the Great Issue of the Day.

There is a line in To Kill A Mockingbird: "People generally see what they look for, and hear what they listen for . . ." And ain't that the truth?

Personally, I am a leaf in the wind, incorporation-wise. I go to bed a No and wake up a Yes. I eat breakfast certain that only hippy

farmers and elderly artists want things to stay the same while the bloated plutocrats on the other side want to cover the island with Starbucks and McDonald's and drill for oil outside Auntie Pesto's.

By lunchtime, I've convinced myself that unless I step up, the island's future will devolve into a six-lane highway from Ganges to Fulford and a row of all-inclusive hotels beside a Beddis Beach reeking of coconut oil and shoulder-to-shoulder with Russian tourists on sun-loungers.

By bedtime, I remember that I have only recently marvelled, slack-jawed, at the quality of pothole-free roads in Crofton like a Tibetan yak herder encountering a German autobahn for the first time. And if that weren't enough road envy, you can actually see the lines down the middle of their roads — and I want some. I'm not even especially fixated on the colour of the lines. White would be nice, yellow if they've got it, but I'd at least like a clue as to which side of the road I should be driving on.



Paul McElroy

AND ANOTHER THING

Let's face it, Crofton is not exactly Nice nor even Sidney-by-the-Sea, but have you seen their boardwalk? It may not be the Promenade des Anglais, but at least it exists. A man could spend happy hours fishing from it or sauntering up and down it in his Sunday suit.

I've done my due diligence, read pretty much everything that either side has had to say on the issue and am none the wiser. Vote yes and we'll be overrun by jackbooted pen-pushers who will squeeze us dry before turning our dear little island into a new Hong Kong. Vote no and the only traffic on the rutted roads will be oxcarts and geese being led to market. Or is it the other way around?

I recall that I have lived most of my life in the care of town, city, rural and parish councils on three continents and not some hokey construct like the Islands Trust and in all cases it worked out well enough.

And I do rather like the idea of a mayor.

Mayors have so many more uses than a mere chair of the Islands Trust. Mayors can start races, lead parades, turn on Christmas tree lights and judge baby contests. In some countries, they can even conduct marriages and funerals.

But in the end, it's all academic. I know that when I step up to the polling booth on Sept. 9 I will most likely fall to the ground in a catatonic stupor when, unable to make a decision either way, my brain shuts down.

So in the end it will come down to the common sense of ordinary Salt Springers, heaven help us, but whichever way it goes we can at least go back to bickering over Saturday parking or overpaid firemen while the Driftwood reverts to running stories about art exhibitions and vegetable gardens.

And when it's all done and dusted I shall emerge from my referendum-induced catatonia to an island that is still a rural idyll, still quaintly weird — and still looking for another issue to get its knickers in a twist about.

paulmcelroy@shaw.ca

Local trustee asks islanders to imagine possibilities

BY GEORGE GRAMS

Imagine the provincial government with no premier, no de facto chief executive, no provincial "ambassador" to communicate B.C.'s priorities and plans to other provinces and levels of government.

Imagine, too, if we were to retain the ministries but eliminate the cabinet, so coordination between ministries ceases. Instead, each ministry would set its own priorities without reference to the others, and each would be responsible for setting its own tax levels.

Imagine we abolished the Ministry of Finance, so the government had no department to provide financial and taxation advice to the ministries or the cabinet, and the government had no ability to undertake a coordinated approach to overall taxation and spending within the province.

Transpose the above on Salt Spring and that's our current governance structure. With a taxation base for local services of \$15 million, we have no mayor (de facto CEO and ambassador), no council (local equivalent of a cabinet) and no finance department to collect and manage our multi-million-dollar tax base.

Instead, we have eight independent service providers that never meet to discuss and agree on priorities or taxation implications and don't prepare coordinated plans for service delivery. Each agency sets its own targets in isolation of other community needs, without consideration of the island's overall ability to fund improve-



GEORGE GRAMS

ments. This is the heart of our unique governance structure which has led to chronic problems that defeat our ability to find solutions. Below are some examples.

- the worst affordable housing crisis in the CRD area;
- a water management crisis that has precipitated a \$40-million lawsuit against NSSWD, the Trust and a non-profit society and paralyzed development over nearly half the island;
- improvement districts operating huge budgets under rules and regulations that deny islanders the same level of scrutiny and transparency that apply to a municipality. The result? A union contract negotiated without legal or professional advice that has hooped this island's taxpayers indefinitely;
- capital expenditure commitments of \$28 million to fund essential water infrastructure upgrades with no possibility of grant support;
- a potholed and poorly maintained roads system dangerous to pedestrians and cyclists for which we're taxed way more than we get back;
- no ability to green our transport system through such measures as increasing pedestrianization in Ganges or legalizing low-speed electric vehicles;
- decades of failed attempts and tens of thousands of wasted dollars in abortive costs to provide a decent ball park for

our youth. Still no ball park;

- the mismanagement of the replacement liquid waste plant in Burgoyne leading to the resignation of the entire CRD commission and a 15-year wait for a workable replacement;
- a harbour boardwalk conceived and partly built decades ago that has defied all attempts to complete.

Here we have the skills, the culture, the values and the will to be one of the greenest communities in Canada, but we're obstructed from going the distance because our current governance model makes it so difficult to get anything done.

We've had 43 years to refine our current governance format, without much success. There's now general acceptance it has major deficiencies that just can't be repaired. The choice electors face is to continue with a system with recognized major defects or to adopt an incorporated model that offers significant advantages in addition to fixing existing weaknesses but has some risks attached that have to be weighed against the

benefits.

The risks I mostly hear expressed are those that apply if a council were to make bad decisions. Would we be victims of unsustainable growth? Could our council be hijacked by developers? Would a council raise property taxes disproportionately? Would a council be less environmentally focused or weaken our links with the Trust?

Imagine . . .

Bad politicians make bad decisions regardless of the governance model within which they function. Where I believe incorporation can make a difference is in enabling implementation of good decisions made by an enlightened council. Here we have the skills, the culture, the values and the will to be one of the greenest communities in Canada, but we're obstructed from going the distance because our current governance model makes it so difficult to get anything done.

Imagine, instead, a council finally solving chronic problems but taking us further, of greening our built environment so we become an example to the rest of Canada, with the lowest ecological footprint on our continent.

Imagine a council setting policies, bylaws and regulations that do more than pay lip service to affordable homes, net-zero energy dwellings, alternative energy solutions on a community-wide basis, pedestrian and cycle-friendly streets and a meaningful strategy for transitioning to a green economy.

Imagine treating our sew-

age sludge in a new facility that relies on structured wetlands and reed beds, a man-made habitat that supports wildlife and promotes biodiversity.

Imagine being able to go further than the Trust in preservation and protection through measures such as an eco-asset strategy and meaningful tree protection.

Imagine the benefits to this island had there been a council that would have helped Salt Spring Coffee Company achieve its dream of growing organic food under glass using waste heat from the roaster, of providing courses in organic, fair-trade business practices to other Canadian companies from a LEED-gold business campus and learning centre.

I don't fear the decisions a council would make or the future our councillors would help us shape because I trust my fellow islanders. I have faith in our values and in our collective judgment.

I believe the referendum presents us with an opportunity to grasp the tools with which to tackle perennial island problems and to better prepare our island for an ecologically secure future as fully functioning members at the heart of a federation I am committed to, the Islands Trust.

That is why I will be casting my vote for hope and change.

The writer has been a Salt Spring Local Committee member since 2011 and vice-chair of Islands Trust Council since 2014. He stresses that the above is written in his capacity as an island resident.

CRD director Wayne McIntyre shares perspective

BY WAYNE MCINTYRE

The Salt Spring Island governance referendum vote will be held on Sept. 9. The two options will be to remain with the status quo or to move to a municipal model.

Many have asked for my opinion, which I believe is appropriate to share. My experience in local government is extensive and I believe is unique as a politician on Salt Spring. I have had first-hand experience as an elected local politician in both systems of local governance, first as a municipal councillor in the Village of Lions Bay and second as a two-term electoral area director for Salt Spring Island. I have also had decades of experience in various capacities in both provincial and municipal governance matters.

I will be voting yes in the referendum and will give a few very specific examples of why. Most will agree that the most effective governance models have a structure appropriate for their community and elected officials who support moving their community priorities forward.

In addition, crucial to effective local government are strategic planning, priority setting, local decision making, centralized and overarching financial planning and service support.



WAYNE MCINTYRE

Our current governance model has serious weaknesses in all of these areas. Three of the largest budgets impacting the Salt Spring taxpayer are the CRD, Islands Trust and the fire district. Sadly, Salt Spring Island doesn't have a comprehensive,

multi-disciplinary strategic plan and the present system of budgeting and financial planning for Salt Spring is done in silos.

As an example, the CRD and Islands Trust have local government oversight but the fire department does not, as the process is led by a board elected only by property owners, disenfranchising many residents. The latter is also an improvement district and not eligible for senior government funding for capital projects. None of the main budgets affecting the Salt Spring taxpayer are prioritized, reviewed and agreed to in concert, i.e. between the CRD, Islands Trust and the fire department, and decision making is fractured and teamwork limited.

The CRD budget is driven by service requirements with separate budgets, and approval by a 24-person board of

directors is required, with only one board member from Salt Spring. All these budgets are set and managed separately.

In the municipal model, individual budgets are set, approved and managed by a locally elected council with oversight responsibility and local, open meetings. Municipal revenues are considered in most cases general revenue and if circumstances change it is possible to consider moving money to a different budget centre or centres, unlike in our present model. The present system is complex, inflexible and formal oversight is off island.

Support for Salt Spring services is split between resources on Salt Spring for infrastructure such as waste manage-

ment, CRD water districts, parks and recreation services. While we have successfully provided more resources on island with a local CRD senior manager and an on-island engineer, we still have a heavy dependency on CRD headquarters resources and bear the costs when this support comes to Salt Spring. Three hours plus of travel time for each person is included in the Salt Spring service billings.

I should qualify that by saying that CRD headquarters provides some great support — when we can get it — but integrating more service support resources, including administration, on Salt Spring rather than in Victoria would build a stronger team and be more effective.

Salt Spring Island governance weaknesses need to be addressed using a proven model for a community of our size. The choice is now up to the Salt Spring voters. Focus on the facts and review the material contained on the website www.latestincorporationstudy.com

Above all, please vote. It is our future, help define it.

The writer has been the Electoral Area Director for the CRD for Salt Spring Island since 2011. He also said he submitted the above as a resident of Salt Spring Island.

You ask me why I live here

BY ARTHUR BLACK

Before you open your mouth on this island, it helps to geographically situate yourself. I am neither a north-ender nor a south-ender. I'm smack in the middle of the "Salt Spring Oreo" . . . pretty darn close to where, back in the 1880s, Sam Beddis, his wife Emily and their five kids ran the keel of their sloop onto the sandy shingle we now call Beddis Beach and stepped ashore. Among their worldly goods they carried apple seeds from England which they planted in front of their homestead.

A century and a bit later my partner Lynne and I managed to purchase a sliver of that 140-acre homestead. Any day now, I'll be able to walk out my front door and pluck a juicy Gravenstein from one of the gnarly descendants of the original Beddis Orchard.

We won the lottery for life, moving here. Coming to Salt Spring is one of the very best decisions we ever made.

I didn't realize it at the time, but I moved here 21 years ago because of the Islands Trust. Everything I heard in that sexy siren Salt Spring song that wafted out over Fulford Harbour and lassoed a land line around my heart was directly descended from the Islands Trust mantra: preserve and protect.

You probably know the story. Back in the '60s and '70s, speculators and developers hovered like buzzards over the Gulf Islands. They desecrated a swath of North Pender with Magic Lake Estates. Mudge Island farmland was carved up and repurposed into suburban lots. Plans to slice and dice Bowen, Mayne and Salt Spring were in the works.

And then some Guardian Angel got the government to okay the creation of the Islands Trust.

Me? I was living in London, Madrid and Toronto when all this was going on. Surrounded by concrete, high-rises, traffic jams, noise, smog, line-ups. Didn't know where the Gulf Islands were.

And then suddenly, I'm walking off the Fulford ferry and onto...Salt Spring.

What? No WalMart? No Costco? No stop lights? No mid-town gridlock, no cupcake subdivisions, no Burger Kings or Dairy Queens?

Are you unhappy here? I'm not.

Would you rather Salt Spring was like somewhere else?

Not me.

No . . . Tim Hortons??

I was 50-some years old and I'd arrived, for the first time in my life, in a place that didn't worship "progress."

You know "progress" — that juggernaut that can't be stopped? The sacred church of bigger is better, more is richer, busy is good, growth is grand and unlimited growth is positively orgasmic?

When I worked in Vancouver I used to pass a real estate office that had a slogan over the front door. It read: UNLIMITED EXPANSION INCREASES THE DIVIDE.

That's a pretty good definition of progress. It is also the philosophy of the cancer cell.

I don't need to tell you that we live in dangerous times. In the past year, we've seen two major world entities — the U.K. and the U.S. — suddenly and inexplicably succumb to stupefying suicidal impulses. Great Britain opted to run away from home. America voted — voted! — for an

unhinged lunatic who, as Michael Moore so grimly warned, "could get us all killed." These phenomena were not the result of palace coups or army takeovers. Voters willingly chose these fates.

So don't think it couldn't happen here. There are some funny vapours in the air. I overheard a guy in the locker room at the pool say he was voting for incorporation because we need leadership that can "get things done."

I don't think real fast plus I try never to get into a disagreement when I'm half-naked with a sock in one hand, so he was out the door before I had a chance to say:

Get things done? I'm a relative newcomer, but in my time, Salt Spring's created ArtSpring, a marvellous library, a fabulous swimming facility, an abattoir, a transit system, an island pathways network, a recycling depot, a batch of affordable housing — and we've protected over 5,000 acres of green space.

Not bad for a dysfunctional community. Oh — and in the past 15 years, through the efforts of Gary Holman and others, we've corralled over \$60 million in grants from various levels of government.

Makes that \$15-million hush-money carrot the province is dangling to cover our road maintenance for all eternity look pretty chintzy.

Governance on Salt Spring is not perfect. Lord knows. But it can be worked on, it can be improved. Sure, the incorporators say soothingly that the Islands Trust would be perfectly safe if Salt Spring became a municipality. Really? Read the fine print. The language they use in their own literature says that land use and land management would be administered "with regard to" the Islands Trust.

With . . . regard . . . to?

That doesn't sound like a commitment or a promise. That sounds like a honk and a wave.

Now I have to say that some of my friends are on the other side of this issue. I don't think they're mindless greedheads bent on bulldozing the island. I don't think they're evil.

I just think they're wrong.

Others? Well, some people — some of you reading this — are undecided. I feel for you. Statistics are flying back and forth and so are numbers, volleys and blitzkriegs of numbers.

But, you know what they say: figures lie and liars figure.

For me it's not a question that can be answered by bar graphs or pie charts or business projections. It's about what greets me each time I get off the ferry; what I see and hear and smell when I look out my door; shoot the breeze with Country Grocer cashiers; take a coffee with my complementary Globe and Mail at Cafe Talia. It's about Salt Spring, this kingdom that's so magical it doesn't need a king.

Are you unhappy here? I'm not. Would you rather Salt Spring was like somewhere else? Not me. Are you willing to risk all we have on a no-going-back roll of the dice? Include me out. To any islanders who can't abide living under the Islands Trust umbrella, I would paraphrase Bob Dylan: "You ask me why I live here? Honey, how come you don't move?"

I'll be voting on Sept. 9. In fact I voted in the advance poll because I could get hit by a truck on Sept. 8.

And I'll be voting positively, absolutely, utterly and defiantly no to incorporation. I hope you will, too.

Why? Look around you. Look at what we've got to lose.

The writer is an author and retired TV and CBC radio personality.

CAN WE DO IT?



YES WE CAN

LET'S PLAN

FOR THE PEOPLE FOR THE PLANET FOR OUR ISLAND

LET'S VOTE YES SEPTEMBER 9



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

CRD director Wayne McIntyre thanks participants in the Aug. 30 incorporation debate event at Gulf Islands Secondary School. From left, three yes-side speakers Ken Marr, David Wood, Michael McAllister, McIntyre, Urban Systems senior planner and fact-checker Dan Huang, moderator George Abbott and three no-side speakers Greg Clayton, Brenda Guiled and Gary Holman.

Let's focus on nature of problems, not just governance

BY LUISA MAFFI

During the debate ahead of the Sept. 9 incorporation referendum, there have been calls for moderation — for listening to the other side and putting ourselves in the other folks' shoes.

Having a civil and well-informed dialogue is always a good idea — especially in a community that has often been depicted as “an argument surrounded by water” (although, frankly, when it comes to discussing hot-button issues Salt Spring Island is probably no different from any other community on the globe). Through fair and open-minded dialogue, we might well come to agree on a few basic points: for instance, that no form of governance is perfect.

To be sure, the Islands Trust — our unique form of “preserve and protect” land-use governance since 1974 — does have its warts. Just as surely, experience elsewhere shows

that municipalities are no panacea for the social, economic and environmental issues that ail communities large and small — issues that often originate in circumstances that are not local (and thus locally controllable), but rather regional, national or global. Even much larger municipalities can by no means find all the resources they need to deal with all their problems, including such things as unaffordable housing, unemployment, and out-of-control gang violence. Take it from Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson, who recently spoke on the island: in his own words, “It sucks!”

With that clarity in mind — that we need to focus on the nature of the problems rather than on the nature of governance in the abstract — as a smart and caring community we could then start thinking together of best steps to take in order to address our problems. Because that's another thing that we all share: in one way

or another, the social, economic and environmental problems we're experiencing on the island affect us all. Absolutely nobody is immune.

And what is it, first and foremost, that affects us all, no one excepted? The fraying of the web of life — that complex and delicate network of living things and life systems of which we are a part. It's time to stop deluding ourselves that we're separate from and dominant over the natural world, or that if we do cause harm to the environment technology can fix it. We're part of nature and we depend entirely on it to be alive and thrive. Weaken it and we weaken ourselves. Deplete and damage it, and we deplete and damage our options for life now and in the future. And, overall, technology has been dismally poor at fixing the environmental harm we've caused — from biodiversity loss to habitat destruction to the release of persistent pollutants, including the ever-growing

amounts of greenhouse gases we've emitted and continue to emit into the atmosphere.

So what does all this have to do with the incorporation debate? Lots. What we need to think of, together, is: what is in our hearts? What are our values, what kind of life do we want for ourselves, our children, our community? If the answer to those questions is “a thriving, fulfilling life on a healthy island,” then I believe that points us, as a community, toward one choice at the ballot box: pulling together to say no to incorporation.

An island municipality, “green” as it might be in its intent, will ultimately succumb to saying yes to more development (and thus to more habitat destruction and other environmental damage) — because that's one key way in which it can raise funds to pay for all the services it will assume, as well as for the salaries of its mayor, councillors and bureaucrats.

The current system isn't perfect, but it can be fixed. That will be especially true if we give our attention and support to that process, instead of letting ourselves be bullied by a province that (at least under the previous government) wanted us to believe there are no options available to us other than either the current system and the Islands Trust “as is” or incorporation.

And what the Islands Trust has that is irreplaceable, and that we would end up losing with incorporation, is its mandate to “preserve and protect” that which will preserve and protect us: a healthy web of life. We can't afford to lose that. We should count our blessings and vote no to incorporation.

The writer is an anthropologist who co-founded and directs the international nonprofit Terralingua. She has lived on Salt Spring for the past 12 years.

Use talent and creativity

I've lived on Salt Spring for 31 years, 25 of which I worked at the Driftwood as a reporter and editor. I'm not a developer; I don't own a business. My politics are well left of centre. I support the Islands Trust mandate. And I'm voting “yes” for incorporation.

Many of my friends and other community members (whom I continue to respect) are voting “no.” However, for me, I simply don't understand why this island — with all its talent and creativity — is willing to let decisions about its fate be made elsewhere. This island has always celebrated individualism. We've defied the status quo. So why, when we so proudly honour who we are as islanders, do we want people from elsewhere making decisions for us?

Here's what I know about the upcoming referendum.

- Most importantly, a “yes” vote creates an incorporated municipality within the Islands Trust. Decisions made by a council must adhere to the Trust's preserve-

and-protect mandate and the Trust Policy Statement.

- With more local control and less control from agencies like the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (which is the island's subdivision-approving authority, by the way, not the Islands Trust), or the Capital Regional District, I believe we could actually preserve and protect this island better.

- Mayors in other cities have become vocal spokespersons for their communities. Who speaks for Salt Spring?

- A local council could look at Salt Spring-specific issues and seek out creative ways to resolve them. And because council meetings would take place on-island, the electorate can witness decision-making and take part in it more easily.

The idea that we will somehow elect a pro-development council makes no sense. If everyone votes, the resulting council would be a mix of people supported by the “yes” side and people by the “no” side. It could be a mix of people similar to those taking part in last week's debate.

One thing for certain is that this council would enjoy a lot of healthy debate over

many issues. It would have the opportunity to develop outside-the-box solutions, reflective of a community that is full of talented and creative individuals.

SUSAN LUNDY,
SALT SPRING

Island municipality challenge

Whether we vote yes or no to incorporation, I think it important that we understand the concept of an “island municipality.”

Interestingly, if we vote yes, the municipality of Salt Spring would be bigger than Vancouver. At 185 square kilometers, we would be larger than the city of Vancouver (115 sq. km.), Victoria (19.47 sq. km.), Nanaimo (91.3 sq. km.), or Burnaby (90.61 sq. km.), to name a few.

A reason for the difference in size? Most municipalities develop around business centres on transportation routes. For example, Salmon Arm, where I was a town councillor for six years, grew up around the railway and the lakehead, a shipping point for farmers

and lumber mills.

These business and residential clusters became towns and cities with city limits that deliberately encompassed areas that could be affordably serviced.

Big farms, forests and scarcely populated lands were usually left outside the city boundaries to be managed by the regional districts.

Here on Salt Spring, we do not have the option of becoming a “normal” municipality which can determine its own financially manageable city limits. If a Gulf Island wishes to incorporate it must, by B.C. law, become an “island municipality.”

The challenge for an island municipality is that its borders are determined by the shoreline, not by residential or economic realities.

Back in 1883, 10 years after incorporation, the residents of Salt Spring successfully petitioned the B.C. government to dissolve the municipality of Salt Spring.

This time there will be no turning back. This time let us be clear as to what we are voting for, and the challenges we face.

JANE PETCH,
SALT SPRING

MORE LETTERS continued on 11

MORE LETTERS

Nothing will change for the positive

I'm another one of the 30 per cent who voted yes in 2010 but plan to vote no this time around. By the time you read this, I will have voted no to incorporation in the advance poll.

Why have I changed my mind? The last time I felt that we could take greater control over what happens on Salt Spring if we ran everything ourselves. Today, I'm not convinced that this would happen.

First, we already make most of our own decisions right here on the island. Most important to me, the major land-use decisions are currently made by our two elected Islands Trust trustees. We could increase their number to four if people agreed to that. However, even the two we have can make the same land-use decisions that a council of six plus a mayor could make. A municipal set-up would just replace the Local Trust Committee and do the same work.

I've heard people complain about the official community plan (and the Islands Trust planners). However, nothing would change under a municipality. We would still have an OCP and we would still have planners carefully ensuring that we followed the OCP. If we really want to change the OCP, we can do that now. We don't need to incorporate.

Everyone seems to agree that the CRD is dysfunctional. However, if we take on many of the service provisions currently being mishandled by the CRD, would we have any guarantee that we could do better with another bureaucracy? In my view, we would simply be replacing one bureaucracy for another. And perhaps it's better to deal with the devil you know than to create a new one.

On "a difference of opinion surrounded by water," the other name for our little island, self-government would add to the polarization and hostility that we are already experiencing in the incorporation debate. I do not want to live in a community that is as fractious as those we see in incorporated places like Nanaimo.

In sum, I'm just not convinced that incorporation would change anything that happens on Salt Spring in a positive way. I just see negatives like a mammoth increase in costs and polarization. We can certainly improve on what we've got, but let's not throw out the baby with the bathwater. Let's fix the model we have rather than replacing it with an entirely new one that's quite liable to come with worse problems and few, if any, advantages.

CHARLES KAHN,
CHANNEL RIDGE

No campaign makes final appeal to voters

BY PATRICIA LOCKIE

In a few days, the referendum vote will be over. Island governance will have been decided. Campaigners for both sides have worked ceaselessly for months to make their arguments heard above the competing clamour in hopes of convincing fellow islanders that reason is on their side. The campaign quickly morphed into a crusade for the soul of the island. Columns, letters, opinion pieces, press releases, a storm of advertising, street theatre, public debates and special events have been let loose on the community.

Two distinct and divergent visions for local governance emerged and voters must decide on Sept. 9 which of these best serves the island. Under incorporation, islanders would ultimately face heavier and heavier tax and liability burdens because of the relentless downloading of huge costs for services by senior governments. In 2015, a resolution put before the Union of BC Municipalities' annual meeting noted "local governments depend almost wholly on property taxation to fund municipal services and are currently facing infrastructure deficits of enormous proportions." Just over 12 years after its incorporation, then Bowen Island councillor Wolfgang Duntz said this in the Bowen Island Undercurrent: "The more I watch our financial situation, the more I wonder if Bowen Island is sustainable as a municipality. The reason the other islands are still ticking along is because they are not municipalities."

Incorporation puts at risk the very things that make our island exceptional. The rural island culture is shaped and nurtured by our unique form of governance — the only truly green governance in Canada with its preserve and protect mandate. Being part of the Islands Trust makes us partners in the stewardship of a precious, diverse ecosystem, and part of a larger protected marine area. We are responsible for preserving an irreplaceable legacy for all British Columbians.

We need look no further than last week's panels' debate at GISS to get a glimpse of what incorporation might really mean for the island. A panelist speaking for incorporation assured us that all that's required to get what we want in a

municipality is to vote four of our best friends on to council. We could, of course, try to elect green councillors with every intention of honouring the Trust's preserve and protect mandate, but all it takes at any time is for four out of the total seven-person council to set aside that mandate and the island as we know it could be lost.

The checks and balances we have under our current system of governance stem in part from the decentralization of governance functions. Many more islanders are currently involved in decision making through our various boards and commissions than would be in a municipality. A consolidation of power in the hands of a few with accountability to the people only once every four years represents not an extension of democracy but rather a reduction in citizen power. For example, in important matters of spending and borrowing, a municipal council may act without any voter input as the Town of Sidney did recently, borrowing \$10 million for a new fire hall. This cannot happen under our present system where such decisions are made by referendum.

The most effective tool we have in keeping local governance sustainable and accountable is the visionary separation of land-use planning from the provision of community services and amenities. This does not exist with incorporation. This separation of authority safeguards us from the consequences of the municipal taxation treadmill. We make our own land-use decisions uncoupled from the need to provide revenue for costly services such as road repairs and maintenance for 265 km of island roads — estimated to be \$50 million — or for the other big ticket item, rising policing costs.

Our relationship to the Islands Trust will be changed and weakened should incorporation occur. The late mayor of Bowen Island, Jack Adelaar, was outspoken about wanting to leave the Trust, questioning its relevance. With incor-

poration, our local Trust committee would disappear. There would be no Trust planners and no Trust office. And despite persistent claims that a municipality will be legally "bound by" the wishes of the Trust, the legal wording "to have regard for the object of the Trust" indicates a non-binding obligation. In the event of a conflict, it is the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing that gets the final word. This right of appeal by the council to the province means that outsiders will have the final say on island affairs, and not the Trust, as is the case now.

Then there's the money. What about all those extra grants that will flow into a municipality's coffers, according to incorporation's promoters. The vital distinction between eligibility for grants and actually receiving funding seems to escape them. There is fierce competition for limited funds among B.C.'s 162 municipalities. There are no guarantees of additional funding. What, then, happens when the anticipated grants fail to be awarded? Costs for roads, police, fire, water still have to be met. The need to raise revenue is what puts pressure on a municipal council to succumb to more and more residential and commercial development in order to expand the community's tax base.

Under our present governance, since 2001 our community has received more than \$60 million in grants, more than other municipalities of comparable size. We have built wonderful community amenities and facilities such as the pool, library, ArtSpring, 154 affordable and seniors housing units, a cold-weather shelter, pedestrian and cycling pathways, as well as protecting some 5,000 acres of green space. This record of achievement is unparalleled in B.C. communities of the same size. All done within our existing form of governance.

On Sept. 9 you have a choice to make. Remember, there is no turning back from incorporation. With a "no" vote you give yourself a future with choices and the potential for change within local governance, as opposed to a future of risk and uncertainty.

The writer has been an island resident for 26 years. She chairs Positively No's communication committee.

On September 9, 2017 we will have OUR say in determining the most efficient and effective form of governance for our island

CURRENT MODEL OF GOVERNMENT



VICTORIA GOVERNMENT of SALT SPRING ISLAND



50 members in our current government
• 26 TRUSTEES
• 24 DIRECTORS

94% of the people governing Salt Spring Island **DO NOT LIVE HERE**

PREFERRED MODEL OF GOVERNMENT



MUNICIPALITY OF SALT SPRING ISLAND



seven municipal councillors

100% of the people governing Salt Spring Island **WILL LIVE HERE**

MORE INFO
7-9 pm
Sept. 7
221 CHU-AN DRIVE

TOP 10 BENEFITS

- Local Decision Making ✓
- More Representation ✓
- Smaller Government ✓
- Financial Planning and Efficiency ✓
- Cohesion and Coordination ✓
- Sustainability Planning ✓
- Water Resource Management ✓
- Accessible Local Meetings ✓
- Accountable Local Officials ✓
- Grants and Funding ✓

SAY NO to Non-Residents in our Local Government

VOTE YES to Accountability
VOTE YES to Local Decision Making



YesSI!
YES Empowers Salt Spring Island

Authorized by YesSI, Registered Sponsor Under LECFA • saltspringislandmunicipality@gmail.com

YesToSaltSpringMunicipality.org

Keeping the options open with a no vote on Sept. 9

BY JAN SLAKOV

If Salt Spring were to vote for incorporation on Sept. 9, this would close the door for a number of options for positive change that are open to us under our current system. This is one of several reasons why I will be voting "no."

Like many others, I would have liked our governance and incorporation studies to look into options for modifying our current system. But the provincial government paid for those studies and placed considerable restrictions on them.

Now an ad hoc group of citizens is organizing an information session to discuss options for improving governance after a no vote and I can imagine some people who support incorporation will cry foul.

So I'd like to provide some context to explain why I look forward to the information session.

After the "no" vote in 2002, some supporters of incorporation formed the Islanders for Self Government (ISG) group. Then, in 2006, elected officials began a governance review which led to a referendum in 2008 on whether or not to increase the number of local islands trustees from two to four. ISG campaigned against the increase, even using what I

feel were misleading advertisements. Another ad, placed by a citizen who supports incorporation, argued that "a vote for four trustees [would] prevent a real look at governance and equitable tax treatment for Salt Spring."

It's impossible to know if that assessment was correct or not, but the statement shows why some people would have felt that any improvement they might have worked towards under our current system would have been shot down by supporters of incorporation as a mere half measure.

I believe our Trust-based form of governance is part of what makes Salt Spring unique and precious.

Nonetheless, further efforts were made to fully consider our options. For instance, during their term in office from 2008 to 2011, our elected officials approached the B.C. government, asking for an open-ended, inclusive process

to review governance options for Salt Spring. The Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development replied that they did not have funding for a governance study, but even if they did, they would not fund that kind of study. Indeed, in an article dated Dec. 22, 2010, trustee Christine Torgrimson wrote, "the ministry even told us not to finance our own study, as they would not consider it legitimate."

It's not surprising, then, that pressure for another incorporation referendum did not subside. By 2013, this led to a governance study, which many people saw as biased, for a variety of reasons. I was particularly struck by the fact that the study committee was initially given model terms of reference which included "Identify a range of local government structure options for the community." But the MCSCD representative nixed that idea, and made it clear that the study was to compare only a "snapshot" of the status quo with incorporation. (They were not to look at how the current system has evolved over the years and how it could evolve further.)

For the subsequent incorporation study, MCSCD restricted

the terms of reference from the outset, stating that a review of "any form of governance other than the current rural model or incorporation" would be beyond their mandate.

Even so, many Salt Springers communicated to the committee their interest in learning more about other options. This prompted the committee to prepare a fact sheet on "governance options." Its title, as a Driftwood article explained, was "Dissecting a governance non-option," as the article panned the idea of Salt Spring using a Local Community Commission to oversee and co-ordinate service delivery on Salt Spring.

In August 2015, I had written to the committee, suggesting I could work with others to "produce some kind of report on at least one other option within the next few months. [...] If you felt it included useful information for the community, would you be interested in including it somehow in the public engagement process?" The reply was cordial but clear, stating, "we are encouraging delegations to the committee to speak on matters that are within the scope of the committee's mandate. Unfortunately, this is a topic that falls outside our scope and, as

such, we are not in a position to receive or debate such a report, or receive a request to do so."

I would say it showed bias when the committee later produced a fact sheet that discredited the LCC option after doing minimal research on the topic. I would go further; I believe the "fact sheet" actually distorts the facts.

The fact that the studies were limited and biased is not a capital offence; bias is virtually inevitable. But it's important that voters be aware of these issues before casting their ballot.

I believe our Trust-based form of governance is part of what makes Salt Spring unique and precious. Like a rare species, it's worth protecting, if only because of the need for diversity in our governance models.

Of course there are many other reasons to vote "no" on Sept. 9. I invite readers to check out the Positively No campaign for more information at www.positively-no.org.

And there is a fledgling group working to lay the groundwork for "next steps." You can find out more by contacting Gayle Baker at 250-537-4482.

The writer is an active community volunteer.

Tree House experience illuminates system's failings

BY MARK AND TERENA LECORRE

When we moved to Salt Spring 10 years ago we bought a charming, iconic one-of-a-kind local treasure in the Tree House Cafe. We also bought a business that needed much repair and upgrading. There were many things that were falling apart, but the opinion we heard from many long-time locals was that any work we did could cause us trouble.

"Don't fix anything," they said. "Don't make anything better. If you do, any number of local government agencies could come down on you and you will have less than when you started."

We chose not to give in to fear and did what we could to save a crumbling cottage and to make the patio better for our customers. As we did we could see why we were told to leave things alone, as things are rarely straightforward or clearly defined here.

The laneway next to the Tree House is a good example of this. It is controlled by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure next to the Tree House, the Harbour Authority towards the dock with bits of Mouat's property here and there. We received verbal permission from Mouat's and MoTI to use the space and that was that. It's been suggested that we have gotten a free ride by not paying for the lane all these years. We would have loved to be able to pay rent and have some assurances, but there was no way to do this. To even bring the subject up seemed to be taboo. In early 2014 a survey was done

indicating the Harbour Authority (HASSI) property line was further towards us than had been previously thought. In June of that year we were given legal notice of trespass and told to vacate by the end of the season.

Issues with HASSI notwithstanding, the past few years have showed us much about the shortcomings of our local governance.

- When this dispute came up there was no local government to turn to. We went to our two trustees, our CRD director, our MP and our MLA. All of them expressed support, but each of them was unable to do anything. It seemed it was always someone else's "department." It took almost a year before a friend told us that Robin Williams at the CRD Transportation Commission (SSITC) might be someone we should talk to. It turns out that this "was his department" and he was very helpful and effective. Our question is why did no one know this? Why weren't we directed to speak with the SSITC when we approached one of our five locally elected representatives? It appears that our local governance is so complicated that even our elected representatives don't understand how it works.

- June of last year, MoTI, B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the CRD met and decided the best solution would be transferring the land from the parking lot to the boardwalk to local control. This has not hap-

pened yet. MoTI is leasing a portion to the CRD (not a transfer as was agreed, but a lease for a fair bit of money) and the other portion is controlled by HASSI still. The Tree House has short-term leases from both parties for use of the land, but where are things with the original agreement? This issue is much bigger than the Tree House, but under our current system of governance this may never happen. It shouldn't take years of protests, petitions and media coverage to get results. As soon as the noise stops, our local government (in this case the CRD) with its limited resources moves on.

It's OK to think you live in an amazing place and also to embrace the possibility that we can make it better.

- The CRD is based in Victoria. When a local issue comes up we are lost in the vastness of a huge bureaucracy. It took us a while to realize that when we were dealing with local CRD issues that we were dealing with the CRD in Victoria, not CRD on Salt Spring.

When our issue in the laneway happened we immediately thought that it might be easier to move our seating to the east side

of the restaurant towards Mouat's. Surely moving to private land would be easier than dealing with a half dozen provincial and federal agencies. Not on Salt Spring. The plan was to rebuild the patio with increased year-round covered seating and to build a new building next to the cottage with more kitchen and storage space and more bathrooms. Year-round jobs, year-round music, money invested in local construction, Ganges beautification. The Tree House is in the official community plan as an example of how a Salt Spring business should look. Seemed like a no-brainer.

Space doesn't permit all the details, but after a couple of years and one last local government decision, our landlord decided chances of approval were too slim and too costly to move forward.

Are these things signs that our current governance is working?

A boardwalk unfinished for decades. The Fulford Inn is a parking lot. The Vesuvius Inn sits forever empty. No more laundromat. Salt Spring Coffee Company moved to Richmond. The Tree House in limbo. Ten years and still no new ball diamonds or soccer fields. Businesses and individuals afraid to make improvements to their property. These things are all indications of a system of governance that is not working for a great many islanders.

We have an important decision to make this week. Please vote. Be informed and don't base your decisions on fear. The no side is repeating the same worst-

case scenario. We are not going to wake up one day to find that our new locally elected government made up of our friends and neighbours has paved paradise and put up a parking lot. I would hope that we have learned from our neighbour to the south that playing on people's fears and repeating something over and over again does not make something true.

We are voting for representative democracy. Throughout history people have fought to get this kind of governance. It has become the norm in the free world. It is so important that the Islands Trust Act made sure that every island could choose to have a municipal government within the Trust.

Our family moved here 10 years ago this week to be part of something. We moved here because in about 15 minutes we realized that the people here make this an amazing community. People care about each other and look after each other.

But it's OK to think you live in an amazing place and also to embrace the possibility that we can make it better. Being a municipality will not fix all our problems. But it will give us the opportunity for Salt Springers to work towards solutions for our problems together here on Salt Spring.

On Sept. 9 vote for hope, not with fear.

The writers own the Tree House Cafe in Ganges.

13th annual
SALT
SPRING

Pride

celebration

*be a part
of pride...
join the
parade!*

SALT SPRING
ISLAND

INSIDE: Pride articles, schedule of events, parade route & more !





salt spring pride

GRATITUDE

DAISSI sends huge thanks to community contributors

BY BILL TURNER

Each year in the weeks leading up to Pride week I get on the phone and I walk the town asking for donations from our business community, donations which allow DAISSI to continue doing its good work.

Each year I am amazed by the incredible generosity of our Salt Spring business community — so far this year I have received donations of cash, gift certificates and products from more than 40 local businesses! In case you're wondering, we turn

the gift certificates and products into cash by having a silent auction at our fabulous Pride dance at Fulford Hall.

Money raised during Pride is used in many ways during the year. Besides supporting Pride events, we also use funds for other causes,

such as supporting DAISSI members in crisis, isolation or bereavement; supporting the Rainbow Railroad; or sponsoring activist S. Bear Bergman, who will be addressing GISS students this fall through his Youth Creating Inclusion Project.

Seldom do I get turned down in my request for donations, and each year we seem to receive more donations than we did the previous year. Words can't express how grateful we DAISSI'ites are for this extraordinary generosity.



CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Pride embraces the world

DAISSI – Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island presents Salt Spring Pride 2017

BY SHELLYSE SZAKACS

A World of Pride is the theme of the 13th annual Pride celebration on Salt Spring Island. This year's slogan speaks to the world within each of us, the world we live in and the world we envision. One World, One Love.

Here, we are celebrating our Pride and recognizing the tremendous privilege it is to be able to do so in a community that supports and embraces us. Thank you, Salt Spring Island!

We walk in Pride knowing that, in some parts of the world, a simple celebration such as this is not possible and/or safe. And we walk in Pride knowing that there are some members of this community who are not able to walk it themselves. We know that here too, LGBTQ2S+ people can still be harassed in our workplaces, shunned at school and still struggle because we are not fully understood and accepted by our families and by our peers.

This year we walk in Pride for ourselves and all those who cannot. We welcome you to walk in Pride as allies for your family members and friends and colleagues and neighbours. We invite you to walk in Pride for the folks around the world who are not safe to celebrate their Pride in who they are and how they love.

It has been a year of soul-searching, and pride, and change for our LGBTQ2S+ community here on Salt Spring Island.

The change of our name, from GLOSSI to DAISSI — Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island — is the outcome of that soul-searching. As well as the parade and public events, we are hosting LGBTQ2S+ events to nurture new understanding, and growth, and cooperation within our diverse community. We believe that if we take care of ourselves, we will have more to share with others.

Last year our Pride came on the heels of the Orlando Massacre, reminding us that while we may feel relatively safe here on Salt Spring Island, discrimination and hate still impact our LGBTQ2S+ community. We are deeply grateful to our allies who stood beside us in our horror and held us in our grief at last year's difficult Pride. Gay marriage is not the end of our work for equality. As we continue our efforts to build a society that honours all its members, we see that trans rights, adapting to the new language and needs of our non-binary members and the issues of women and of black people, Indigenous people and people of colour, particularly as they intersect with LGBTQ2S+ are key, ongoing concerns.

This year we return to the essence of Pride as a celebration of love and a celebration of diversity. This year we hold 'A World of Pride' in our hearts, for the world we live in and the world we envision for all.

Come get a sticker, walk with us and tell us: Whom do you hold with Pride? For whom do you walk in Pride?

Happy Pride!

The writer is chair of Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island.

All for love and love for all

LAKESHORE ON SALT SPRING
premier cottage rentals close to town and amenities
250-537-2214 • 1-888-537-4854
info@lakeshoreonsaltspring.com
lakeshoreonsaltspring.com

Celebrating our World of Pride

OUR SERVICES:

- Salt Spring Transition House & Help Line
250-537-0735 or toll-free 1-877-435-7544
- Women's Outreach Services
250-537-0717 or toll-free 1-877-537-0717
- Stopping the Violence Counselling for Women
250-538-5568
- Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling
250-538-5569
- Transitions Thrift Store
#1-144 McPhillips Ave. OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

SAFE • FREE • CONFIDENTIAL

www.iwav.org A welcoming and centrally located environment
Funded by BC Housing and the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

henri Procter

I'm proud and pleased to be living in our inclusive and diverse community!

henri Procter
Macdonald Realty

250-537-1201
henriprocter@gmail.com
realtysaltspringisland.com

PH: 250.537.1201 | FX: 250.537.2046
TOLL FREE: 1.800.537.1201
101-170 Fulford-Ganges Road,
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2T8
www.realtysaltspringisland.com

salt spring pride



To Be Proud

In Memory of Orlando

BY TARYN MULDOON

SALT SPRING ISLAND POET

I remember the first one
eyes of blue with wingbeats of grey
flying in her head, running,
until our knees hit the leggy grass
and we told stories about the stars
and the moon eclipsed the clock
shy little Taryn, fourteen, and her,
almost an adult then
but we were like the grass,
we would be friends in that soil
forever

I remember the day she told me
of the girl she had loved once
how I stopped believing in my
breath
struggled with the secret clamped
in my ribcage
the first one
the first time I knew I was not
alone
there were others than I in this
world, young and stumbling
lost and ripping tidal waves off the
gleaming stones of our lungs.

Those wing-filled eyes became a
promise
I could be safe
someday i could be the lighthouse
like she was

Ever since
I have tried to be her / moss on the
tree trunk pointing to safety
a hand waving the flag in the street
for the child I remember being
fighting the whole world without
knowing why.

when I finally shook the stones from
my throat
coughed truth into her ear
she met me with her story
edges ragged with the need of telling
the triumph of having made it her own
how i held it as a gift in my palm
until i could roll my own story into a
letter
tucked into the pocket of truth
there are so many colours on the flag
of empowerment

Every day
i choose to raise my voice high, i think
of her
every day it is easier to slide silent,
belly-up beneath the sheen of
assumed heterosexuality
i imagine myself at thirteen, watching
thinking myself alone
unseen

every day fear wrests my voice from
me, its tone so reasonable
if no one else needs to constantly set
their sexuality on a stage
why do I keep doing it? Why
can't we let the pride in our wrists
bleed into a comfortable silence?

Then I remember
the prick of firewood on my fingers
and tears in my mouth
thudding tease of middle school
all those boys i was supposed to love,
or marry
save my smiles for
the burrs of pronouns tangling my
hair / no wonder I cut it off
along with those boys

desperate words already screaming
in my throat
NO.
Not my story. Let me become
a wishbone
snapping into hope

When 49 people were killed in
Orlando
I thought of how many people
how many goddamn kids walked
downstairs
with a bullet between their eyes
how many of them braided their arm
hair into feathers
and dreamed they could fly away
I thought of Akyra Murray
eighteen, calling her mother from a
bathroom stall
begging for help
for someone to save her from the
wings of an impossible hatred

i never want to go back to the
moment
when i first stopped all my dreaming
when i started to wonder

if the world would someday catch
me with a blow
instead of the hug i always trusted

before I learned what Pride meant
i learned what fear was
from the others i met in between
silences
whispering our stories to each other
but staying in the shadows
one step away from disappearing
i never understood why i always had
to run out
why i couldn't let my lashes hide the
rainbow
in my eyes

I am here because of them
those who stepped into the silence
with their voice
who promised the future they were
coming
and held each others hands

the most important words i will ever
write are thank you
thank you for every one of us
who ran deep into their bones
whose fingernails tore down the sky
of their silence
who gathered in the street
the ones who kicked down the door
because every day I walk outside
and don't even think to be afraid
they are winning
my family is not just the ones whose
blood knotted my umbilical cord
it is the rope of Pride

every queer person who fought back
who stood up
whose hands shaped the sky we are
still peeling back

my pride depends on being here
on marrying this march
on crying into each others arms at
the vigil
on cheering beneath this rainbow
flag
on belonging in every room
my queer heart swells so big when i
see you all
it tries to swallow the sun
i want to follow this flag like a moon
leading the oceans in a dance
i want to laugh
at the way the sun tickles the skies
every morning
and maybe i don't believe in hiding
any more
maybe i never did
maybe sometimes i regret it

but i will always stand tall and
proud
for the scared kids hiding in the
shadows
for those whose blood paved my
safety
for whatever dance this beaming
sun will give the day throwing
back the silence
so we will never be alone

but i will never forget you
i will never forget you



MOUAT'S



Here's How.

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
250.537.5551

Colour Your World Proud

MONDAY-SATURDAY
8:30-5:30
SUNDAY & HOLIDAYS
10-5
GANGES VILLAGE





salt spring island 13th

WEDNESDAY SEPT 6

QUEER STORY SHARING CIRCLE

Beaver Point Hall 7pm.
LGBTQ+ welcome.

THURSDAY SEPT 7

POETRY OPEN MIC

A World of Pride. Join in the celebration of the SS Pride festival. Reader sign-up at 6:45. One poem per reader. Salt Spring Library, 129 McPhillips. 7pm.

COMMUNITY MEAL & DISCUSSION

379 Lower Ganges Road, catered dinner 5-8pm
By donation, LGBTQ+ welcome.

QUEER DANCE TEMPLE*

Beaver Point Hall, 7pm-10pm. Deep dancing with DJ Shauna Devlin, everyone welcome.

FRIDAY SEPT 8

FERRON & HER ALL-STAR BAND

ArtSpring, 6:30pm Garry Oaks wine tasting, 7:30pm concert, tix at artspring.ca

OPEN MIC & TALENT SHOW*

Terp City Lounge 7pm-12 am, 19+ID.

ANGE HEHR*

Moby's 9pm

SATURDAY SEPT 9

PARADE!

- 12:30pm - Gather at the Library.
- 1pm - Parade through town.
- 1:30 - 3pm - Celebration in the park with DJ TRIIKSTR & Coco Klein.

DANCE PARTY/VOGUE-OFF*

Terp City Lounge 3-7pm, free, 19+ID.

ANGE HEHR*

Moby's 9pm.

PRIDE DANCE: QUEER AS FUNK!

Fulford Hall, 7:30m-1am, all ages. tix at artspring.ca.

SUNDAY SEPT 10

A MESSAGE OF LOVE*

Unitarian Pride Service with Dar Levy
379 Lower Ganges Rd, 10:30am.

QUEER PHILOSOPHY/MOVIE NIGHT

Terp City Lounge, 7pm-12am, 19+ID.

INFO AT WWW.DAISSI.ORG

** Indicates a non-DAISSI event, but still an awesome Pride thing to do!*



VOTE

Positively NO

Positive NO

Remember Why You Live Here!

Authorized by Positively4U, registered sponsor under LECPA. themanyislanders@gmail.com

positivelyno.org

Salt Spring Pride T- Shirts \$19.99



\$10.00 from each sale donated to Glossi \ available Uptown and Downtown stores
T-shirts made by Jennifer Close

Live well with

PHARMASAVE®

DOWNTOWN 250-537-5534, 104 Lower Ganges Rd.
UPTOWN LOCATION 250-538-0323, 372 Lower Ganges Rd.

Annual pride festival



Celebrating Diversity



118 Lower Ganges Rd.
Salt Spring Island, B.C.
250.931.2553
www.facebook.com/mondotradingcompany

Celebrate ! A WORLD OF PRIDE

WITH 

**Salt Spring's 13th Annual
Pride Festival Sept 6 - 10**

- DANCE - Thursday, Friday, Saturday
- SING - Friday
- SHARE - Wednesday, Thursday
- PARADE - Saturday, everyone is invited to join in parading through the streets of Ganges celebrating lives lived authentically and with love. Meet at the library by 12:30
- LOVE - Sunday ... and everyday

info at www.daissi.org



Proud to celebrate diversity with Salt Spring Island

We're here to help.™



salt spring pride

DAISSI MESSAGE

Why Pride? Discrimination still exists at home and

BY ANDREW CAMERON

With the annual approach of Pride events come perennial questions asking why we celebrate Pride.

Is it necessary or even relevant anymore? The motivations behind the questions can be as diverse as the answers, and illustrate the

imperative for the LGBTQ2S+++ community to continue striving for equality, social justice, and building stronger connections within our communities.

I view these questions as opportunities to re-evaluate where we have come and how far we have to go in the pursuit of a world where

sexuality and gender identity will no longer be issues that keep people from living safe, fulfilling and productive lives. In the space of my lifetime, in Canada, we have gone from homosexuality being a criminal offence, to our Prime Minister supportively marching in Pride parades.

With dramatic advances in human rights, including same-sex marriage equality, adoption rights and coverage under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and the mainstream inclusion of LGBTQ2S+++ characters in popular culture, we are now living in a time and place that is probably one of the most open and accepting societies in history in terms of gay and lesbian equality. If that is so, then why do we still go to great efforts each year to stage parades, marches and rallies? I offer here several reasons why Pride celebrations are as important as ever.

We're not there yet . . .

As far as we have come, there is still a long way to go to achieve true equality and social justice. Equal protections for people who identify as trans-, non-binary, or other minority identities, are still playing catch-up in the legislative arena. Also, legislated equality is not the same as the lived experience for many people.

Prejudice, intolerance and discrimination linger to varying degrees among segments of the general population. Children inherit parents' outdated values, individuals feel pressured to prove their hetero-identity to their peer groups by bullying those they see as different, and vast numbers of people are influenced by archaic values vaunted by some community, religious and political leaders. Every year bullying, bashings and other forms of violence, including murder, are committed against the LGBTQ2S+++ community.

Countless people are affected by more subtle forms of discrimination such as being denied housing, jobs, etc., and worst of all, youth being cast out of their homes and rejected by their own families. Because the motivations for these actions can be hard to prove, perpetrators of such injustices usually get away with them, having little fear of repercussion.

Keep in mind that this is the reality here in Canada, where we often feel that we are an enlightened society and people are free to truly be themselves. That misconception is a reason why we still need Pride events to bring us together, and remind us that there is more

work to do, but also that we are not facing these challenges alone as we build positive relationships with friends and allies in the broader community.

A world of disparity...

We also rally at Pride to bring attention to places all over the world where the situations for LGBTQ2S+++ individuals are far worse than in Canada. In dozens of countries, discriminatory laws, and/or systemic discrimination on religious, social or political grounds, often ignored or even sanctioned by governments, make it extremely dangerous, and sometimes deadly, to be perceived as LGBTQ2S+++ . . . Until all people in all countries of the world have equal rights and respect, we still need to march together in Pride, and draw attention to the plight of those less fortunate. We need to be the voices of those for whom it is too dangerous to speak up. By sharing messages of solidarity, by supporting organizations like the Rainbow Railroad who help people escape from dangerous situations and oppressive regimes, and by urging our own elected officials to put pressure on foreign governments to protect their citizens, we strive to make a difference in the world.

We must be vigilant, not complacent...

History shows that hard-won rights can be swept away in a heartbeat. Germany in the 1930s had developed a societal acceptance of diversity that was very enlightened for its day. However, when the Nazis came to power, those freedoms came crashing down and thousands of homosexuals became victims of the horrors of the Holocaust.

While it may seem hard to believe that such a transformation could happen again today, we have only to look at the battles in the courts and legislatures of many American states, as ultra-conservative groups and the politicians who pander to them attempt to roll back freedoms and basic human rights of LGBTQ2S+++ in their jurisdictions, and extremist groups brazenly parade their hate in the streets. Bearing witness to these inhumanities and standing up to injustice is our duty, and the first line of that process is to gather together in our own streets, asking friends and neighbours to join us in supporting human rights and denouncing any attempts to take people's freedoms and dignity away.

20 years of dedication to... community collaboration

safety **diversity** **equality** **inclusivity** **courage**

S . W . O . V . A

Celebrate our World Pride
www.swova.org

I walk with pride for my sister and many friends.

Kerry Chalmers, Realtor
PEMBERTON HOLMES
250-537-6593

it's all love happy pride

m clothing
mouat's
Since 1997

MOUAT'S CLOTHING
110 Purvis Lane
Salt Spring Island
Toll Free: 1-877-490-5593
info@mouatsclothing.com
mouatsclothing.com

Follow the Rainbow to...

MOBY'S PUB

CELEBRATE PRIDE with
Ange Hehr, Friday Sept. 8
and Saturday Sept 9

124A UPPER GANGES ROAD 250.537.5559
www.mobyspub.ca

salt spring pride



around the globe, while progress needs celebration

Sharing our histories...

Each new generation grows up learning standard textbook histories of the world, but they have few opportunities to learn specifically about the contributions that LGBTQ2S+++ people have made over millennia in all cultures and civilizations, nor do they learn about the pioneers who bravely stood up in the face of oppression to demand equality and justice, blazing trails to the rights and freedoms that many of us enjoy today. Without hearing those stories, and seeing themselves reflected in historical settings, they may take for granted what they have, and what they stand to lose if the wrong people get their way. Pride provides opportunities for those of various age groups to converge, hear each other's stories, share their experiences, pass on knowledge and wisdom, and otherwise create a historic continuum within the LGBTQ2S+++ community.

Strength in diversity, comfort in inclusion...

The string of characters so often used to encapsulate the vast collection of identities has varied and grown through the years as it tries to reflect the range of sexuality and gender identities that humans inhabit. (For those who may be unclear of what they all stand for, here is one interpretation: Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans, Queer, 2 Spirit, and plus signs to express the open nature of the designation.) It is an awkward and incomplete attempt to describe a population which by its very nature is hard to clearly define.

By building social and activist connections between disparate individuals embraced within that smattering of symbols, we learn to be more understanding of each other's personal journeys and life experiences, and become ever stronger partners in the struggle to achieve equality and social justice for all. It also allows everyone to benefit from the skills and insights that such a diverse group affords.

Organizations like DAISSI are growing and morphing with the changing dynamic of modern society so that they can continue to be a force for positive change in people's lives, as well as a safe and welcoming haven in a sometimes hostile world. Salt Spring Island has been blessed over the years

as a community that has pulled together despite our differences, and has achieved great success for a populace of our size. The recent transition of the local LGBTQ2S+++ organization from its historic and much-loved moniker GLOSSI (Gays & Lesbians of Salt Spring Island Society) to DAISSI (Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island) is a reflection of how we as a community are growing and becoming more supportive and respectful of each other, and more sensitive to the needs of our members. In order for DAISSI to carry forward the wonderful GLOSSI legacy of friendship, fellowship and activism, we rely on Pride to be a nexus for the different segments within our constituency to unite in a colourful mosaic, enriching us all.

Celebrating our allies and our home...

We also celebrate Pride in this place we call home, this beautiful island, and the wonderful people who are our neighbours, our friends, our families, our allies. While there are some people even here who have yet to respect diversity or feel comfortable around people different from them, we take comfort in knowing that most of the people on this island are warm, respectful, friendly and caring. I believe that by celebrating Pride as a grassroots, people-powered, community event, the positive relationship that formerly GLOSSI and now DAISSI fosters within the broader community will continue to flourish.

Welcome...

Pride is for everyone. It is for those who identify LGBTQ2S+++ to come together and celebrate the lives that we lead.

It is for those who may be in the closet or questioning their own identities to have comfort in knowing that they are not alone, and that when they are ready, there is a warm and welcoming chosen family ready to embrace them.

It is for our allies who have stood by our sides as we have taken our place in society.

It is for the general public, so that they can make personal connections with people who may be different from themselves, and thereby expand their worldview.

It is for those who are still uncomfort-

able with people different from themselves, so that they have the opportunity to discover that despite our differences, we are all people who share this planet, and contribute to society for the benefit of all.

Love is Love. I encourage you to participate in the various Pride events through the

week. Parade with us through Ganges at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 9. Celebrate with Pride.

The writer is a former director of GLOSSI and a proud member of DAISSI – Diverse and Inclusive Salt Spring Island.

JJ Beans
COFFEE SHOP

A WORLD OF PRIDE

BREAKFASTS • BRUNCHES LUNCHES & SNACKS

- Poutine • Chicken Strips and Fries • Onion Rings

Open Late Fri. & Sat. in the Summer
Free long distance calling with purchase
Mon. - Thurs. 7am - 6pm
Fri. & Sat. 7am - 8pm | Sun. 8am - 5pm 250.537.1216

Salt Spring Island
chamber of commerce

The Chamber of Commerce & Salt Spring Tourism
welcome *all* the colours
of the rainbow to our island!

www.saltspringchamber.com

CELEBRATING
Pride

Indulge yourself in our unique guest rooms, suites or cottages.

Enjoy culinary perfection in our Fine Dining Room or Bistro

Pamper your senses at our Wellspring Spa.

Hastings House
COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL

www.hastingshouse.com

160 Upper Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island
250.537.2362 www.hastingshouse.com

WE ARE PROUD OF OUR PRIDE

rec ex
RECREATION EXCELLENCE

"Serious about fun"

Rainbow Road
indoor pool

262 RAINBOW ROAD 250-537-1402

www.recreationexcellence.com



salt spring pride



HUMAN RIGHTS

Rainbow Railroad contributions bear fruit

Letter from international organization to DAISSI

The following letter was sent from Kimahli Powell of the Rainbow Railroad, whose purpose is to help LGBYQ++ to escape persecution and possible death in countries like Chechnya and Uganda, to DAISSI treasurer Debbie Louise. DAISSI supported the Rainbow Railroad with \$1,000 in 2017.

On Friday, May 19, I arrived in Russia, under the cloak of secrecy, to meet a group of LGBTQI Chechens, mostly men, who escaped the country to various safe houses.

Over the course of several days, armed with a Russian translator, I conducted in depth interviews, hearing instances of abuse, humiliation and torture at the hands of the state. I knew we had to do everything possible to get these individuals to safety.

I can finally tell you at all of those individuals I interviewed are safe here in Canada thanks to your support.

In April, we called on the Canadian government to act in supporting the Chechen crisis after the Prime Minister responded to the U.S. travel ban in favour of accepting refugees and had appointed a special LGBTQI advisor. The time for action was clear.

Over the past few months we have received such a tremendous outpouring of community support, with individuals donors, private foundations and corporations all chipping in to allow us to do this work.

And now, I am happy to announce that we have been able to move 31 people to Canada under this program, with the opportunity to help more.

We couldn't have done this without you. Over the past few months we have received such a tremendous outpouring of community support, with individuals donors, private foundations and corporations all chipping in to allow us to do this work. It has also resulted in another year of rapid growth, from helping 29 people to safety in 2015, to 81 last year, and 140 so far in 2017. Take a look at our 2016 Annual Report, for a snapshot on what we have been able to accomplish.

Sadly, the number of requests has also sharply increased, and we have a significant queue of individuals all over the world who are in imminent danger because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. We have not forgotten them. That is why with your support, we will keep going.

The first Chechen arrived in Toronto on June 30, and marched with us at the Pride Parade as we celebrated being the honoured. Over July, more people came. My heart was full when we were reunited in Canada.

They are doing well — optimistic about their future. However, they are so young, were torn away from their homes, education and employment, and do not speak English. They are going to need a community. We are providing the new arrivals with some additional support as Government Assisted Refugees and have connected them with local groups to support their settlement. If you'd like to learn how you can help in the settlement process, please email us.

But for now, let me just say THANK YOU for your support of Rainbow Railroad and our efforts to help persecuted LGBTQI individuals find safety.

KIMAHLI POWELL,
RAINBOW RAILROAD

Celebrating our world of Pride here on Salt Spring Island.

LAWYER | NOTARY | DUTY COUNSEL

Wynona Elizabeth Cook
Serving Salt Spring Island Families Since 2004

MORNINGSIDE LAW
ph:778.353.4466 email:morningsidelaw@shaw.ca fax: 778.353.4499


"166 Rainbow Road"




Windsor Plywood

MON TO FRI. 7 - 5:30 | SAT 8 - 5:30 | SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS 9 - 3
WWW.WINDSORSSI.COM • GENERAL@WINDSORSSI.COM
PH: 250-537-5564 FAX: 250-537-1207

Always celebrating diversity



Salt Spring Books
104 McPhillips Avenue



SALT SPRING INN

*Celebrating Inclusiveness
Peace, Love & Joy*

**Together,
We Hold Our Pride High**




IN THE HEART OF GANGES 250.537.9339

arts&entertainment

SALT SPRING INN
 Open for Breakfast every day at 8am
 Sunday Brunch served until 2pm
 "Where Islanders & friends start their day"

MUSIC/DANCE PERFORMANCE

Flamenco tour makes stop on island

Fin de Fiesta at ArtSpring Sept. 14

Acclaimed flamenco ensemble Fin de Fiesta brings Spanish inspiration to ArtSpring Thursday, Sept. 14 as part of their summer/fall 2017 Canadian tour.

Fin de Fiesta brings together flamenco dance, song, guitar, flute, and percussion in an electrifying celebration of the passionate Andalusian art form. Comprised of award-winning artists from Canada, France and Italy, the ensemble is bringing stages to life across the nation with their new production, Liándola, which was conceived in flamenco's heartland.

Press material explains, "Flamenco is the living music and dance of southern Spain, and members of Fin de Fiesta Flamenco know that when it comes to capturing the passion and intensity of this uniquely vibrant art form, there is only



OSCAR PANTALONE PHOTO COURTESY FIN DE FIESTA FLAMENCO

Award-winning flamenco group Fin de Fiesta taps into Sevillian tradition for their latest show, Liándola.

one place to be: Sevilla."

Fin de Fiesta artistic director and dancer Lia Grainger happily traded a stable job as a journalist and comfortable apartment in Toronto for two years in a rooftop garret in Seville's old town and the freedom to spend long, hot days in the studio. Guitarist Dennis Duffin gave

up a career in astrophysics to journey to Seville, where he's spent the last two years working with the city's masters and jamming with the descendants of flamenco's great founders.

"It was in these informal, improvised midnight sessions that the theme of this season's show emerged. Liándola is the

company's fifth production since its founding in 2012, and a celebration of the uncontrollable joy and mischievousness that is at the heart of flamenco," company press material states.

The production takes its name from a popular Andalusian figure of speech used to describe boisterously unrestrained behaviour, a playful fearlessness that cannot be contained. Simply put, Liándola means taking an ordinary experience and making it extraordinary.

"Whether performing a joyful Alegrias or a tormented Caña, Liándola means hitting the stage at full throttle and giving the performance every ounce of heart and energy you've got," Grainger has said. "It also means having the time of your life while you're doing it."

The show starts at 7:30 p.m. More information is available at www.findefiestaflamenco.com.

Red Robinson speaks out about Hearing Loss.



"Forget what you knew about hearing aids. Ask about the Oticon OPN with BrainHearing™ Technology. They are the first hearing aids proven to be 'easier' on the brain."



SALT SPRING 778.353.3012

101 - 164 Kings Lane

NEXGEN HEARING
nexgenhearing.com

Registered under the College of Speech and Hearing Health Professionals of BC

EXHIBITIONS

Partners inspire new artwork

Salt Spring Gallery show

Partners in life and art Kuno Egger and Lisa Lipsett are launching Still Chasing, a show of fresh ceramics and painting, with a reception at Salt Spring Gallery from 5 to 7 p.m. this Friday, Sept. 8.

For the follow-up to last year's Chas-

ing Bliss show, Egger was inspired to try a fresh approach to his ceramic art this time around, taking inspiration from Lipsett's work. Lipsett has been painting for over 20 years, and works in acrylic, oil stick and water media, building layers on wooden panels with cold wax.

The show runs until Sept 20.

Excited About our Rural Island Future



Millennials for Salt Spring – We're voting... positivelyno.org



Authorized by Positively NO, registered sponsor under LECLA themanyislanders@gmail.com

FOR MORE SALT SPRING ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT HAPPENINGS, SEE OUR WHAT'S ON CALENDAR ON PAGE 24.



Friday Sept. 8th 7:00pm
ALL SAINTS BY-THE-SEA
 110 Park Drive,
 Salt Spring Island
 BY DONATION

Meet and hear what Rob has to say about off grid and zero waste living. Rob has been featured in TEDx talks and major media across the world as a pioneer of sustainability.



AMY HELM

SATURDAY, SEPT 16
 PITCHFORK SOCIAL
 AT BULLOCK LAKE FARM
 360 UPPER GANGES ROAD.



TICKETS \$35 • 7:30PM SHOW
 DINNER SALES 5:30PM

TICKETS AT: WWW.PITCHFORKSOCIAL.COM
 OR SALT SPRING BOOKS + FEVER TREE

here's my card

ANNA J. PUGH
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR
PERSONAL LAW CORP

- Wills, Estates, Power of Attorney/Representation Agreements
- Trusts • Residential Real Estate
- Matrimonial agreements
- Elder Law • Guardianship • Corporate/Commercial

ANNA J. PUGH LAW CORPORATION
1-105 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island, BC
ph: 250.537.5505 cell: 250.538.7020 email: anna@ssilaw.ca

CW
CREATIVE WOODCRAFT
QUALITY CUSTOM CABINETS

Serving Vancouver Island & the Gulf Islands for over 30 years!

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • RENOVATIONS
250-743-4111 1340 Fisher Road, Cobble Hill, V0R 1L0
www.creativewoodcraft.ca

Find us by accident!
COMPLETE COLLISION REPAIRS

- *ICBC accredited Express Valet Shop
- *All Private Insurance
- *Wheel Alignments
- *Air Conditioning
- *Auto Glass Replacement
- *Guaranteed Workmanship

Irwin COLLISION

115 Desmond Crescent, next road down from the car wash 250-537-2513
email: irwincollision@telus.net

BACK ON THE ISLAND

Dan Hardy Denturist
Salt Spring office located at #202-338 Lower Ganges Rd. Upper Ganges Centre

- New Dentures
- Reline & Repairs
- Home & Care Facility Visits

For appointments call 1-250-710-1884

Beat the drought!
ALL SHAPES ALL SIZES

PREMIER PLASTICS

Find the Right Plastic Tank for your Needs!

Call today for local distributor
1-800-661-4473
office@premierplastics.com

www.premierplastics.com

Buying or Selling Real Estate?

Let me put my experience, contacts & track record of success to work for you!

Clients first & foremost

250.537.5553 or 1.888.608.5553
phyllisw.saltspring@shaw.ca

Phyllis Wakelyn Managing Broker

Sonia Studio

chic chef aprons
hand bags & totes
home decor

BOUTIQUE
142 Woodland Drive - 250-931-8215

Open daily - July, August, September
October - June please call & we'll open the Studio for you.

EXHIBITIONS

Street photos take a walk to Gallery 8

Bob Fenske and Curt Firestone share work

BY ELIZABETH NOLAN
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Two members of the Salt Spring Photography Club will share a joint passion for street photography with an exhibition hosted by Gallery 8 opening Friday, Sept. 8.

Bob Fenske and Curt Firestone will contribute their part to the ongoing discussion of what constitutes street photography and how it should be approached with 21 different images. As they discussed with the Driftwood, there are differences even between how the two friends address the concept, though both have a preference for immediacy over the studied pose.

"There's a lot of controversy within the street photography community," Fenske explained. "Some purists say it should be totally candid in order to capture the essence of the scene. But it's not just about people, it's also about the surroundings."

Fenske started the street photography group within the Salt Spring Photography Club, which is where he and Firestone got to know each other and then became good friends. While Fenske's passion is for people, Firestone has appreciation both for people and for the environment they create.

"I think the show's a really great mix of how the two of us see the world," Fenske said.

Firestone has turned his lens to several different areas of focus over the years, including a book of portraits called Faces of Mexico. Much of his art takes place around his second home in that country, because he's involved in too many community initiatives to find the time when on Salt Spring.

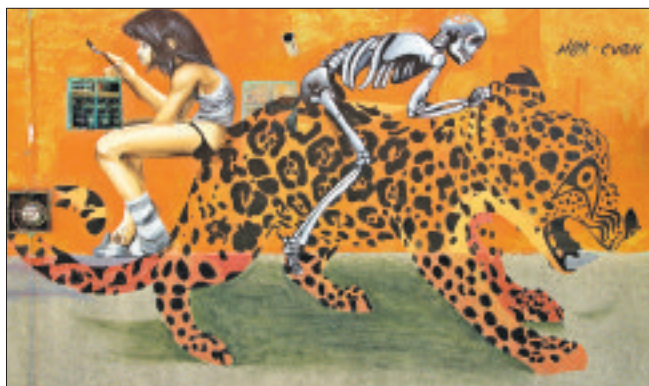
For the upcoming exhibition Firestone is sharing two groupings of work. One captures mural art in the Guadalupe neighbourhood of San Miguel de Allende, a colonial town in the Mexican highlands. The other stream contains street shots taken in various places where Firestone has travelled, such as Italy and Vietnam. In this case, people may be included but are incidental to the images. It's their public culture that takes precedence.

"I believe you capture the essence of a community or a society within the streets," Firestone said.

He believes types of art such as landscape and nature photography can be aesthetically beautiful, but it's the way people interact with the landscape that makes it exciting.

"When you get into the streets you're reflecting what you see in society, and that's what I enjoy doing," Firestone said.

Fenske's images were taken at home on



IMAGES COURTESY OF THE ARTISTS

From top, Bob Fenske's image shot in Centennial Park in Ganges and Curt Firestone's Guadalupe Murals 4 photograph.

Salt Spring as well as during travels near (Vancouver) and far (France). His passion is for capturing people's faces and eyes, if possible. The practice is perhaps more challenging than it seems. Unlike landscape photography, when a photographer witnesses an event unfolding in real time he or she may have just a few seconds to capture it. At the same time, that person is striving for a well-composed shot.

Another consideration in street photography is the desire to capture people in a natural, unposed state — which usually means taking photos without asking permission first. Fenske gets close to people to

catch their expressions, and he's had to overcome his anxiety of what might transpire as a result.

"All the fears are myths. I've been doing this for years now and I've never had an altercation, never had anyone yell at me. Quite often they're flattered," he said.

Firestone, on the other hand, has had people get "testy" when they realize he's snapping their image. He typically uses a zoom lens to get in close unawares, but said he is gearing up to try Fenske's technique. What's most important to him is that people are truly candid, because if a subject knows a photo is being taken it's difficult not to subconsciously pose for it — producing the family-photo effect.

"I'm not putting family pictures down, but that's not what I'm looking for," Firestone said.

Other ethical questions involve how much of what occurs in the public sphere should be co-opted into someone's art. Fenske said there are some things he doesn't feel would be appropriate to show, but not all photographers agree.

"What I'm hoping is when people come to the show, a story will evolve for them," Fenske said. "I think people will see some very different images from what you see from a lot of photographers."

An opening reception for the show takes place at Gallery 8 from 5 to 7 p.m. on Sept. 8. The show runs to Sept. 15.

Are you a Salt Spring charity with a bright idea?

We can help.

The Foundation is now accepting fall grant applications. Application deadline is September 30, 2017. Early application is encouraged. For complete information, visit ssifoundation.ca, or email kisae@ssifoundation.ca.

salt spring island FOUNDATION
Collecting your giving with island needs

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Unified governance boosts mandate

BY TERRY MORTON

From the Islands Trust website:

Islands Trust - Surveys and Polls in or about the Islands Trust Area:

"The poll commissioned by the Islands Trust (Ipsos Reid - March 2011) . . . indicated strong province-wide and Trust Area support for preserving and protecting British Columbia's Gulf Islands. The survey indicated strong support for the mandate, especially amongst Gulf Islands.

"Key findings: Across B.C., at least 83 per cent of respondents agree the Gulf Islands should be protected from overdevelopment, and that the B.C. government should take action to make sure the Gulf Islands are preserved and protected; within the Islands Trust Area, agreement rises to 90 per cent."

With this degree of collective support for the preserve-and-protect mandate, it is challenging to imagine a pro-development council emerging on Salt Spring Island.

Instead, if incorporated, it is most reasonable to expect that the Salt Spring Island electorate (and especially the Salt Spring Island electorate) would choose a council representative of the 90 per cent support for the preserve-and-protect mandate, such as the good people who are spearheading the "no" campaign.

Islands Trust Local Planning Services [Report] March 23, 2007:

"There have been concerns about the effectiveness of Local Planning Service from a variety of perspectives. The Islands Trust engaged Stantec (Consulting) to provide an independent, third-party review.

"Section 2 - Process. The consultant reviewed the legislative framework, reviewed some of the planning documents (the Policy Statement, various OCPs and land use bylaws), and interviewed almost all of the trustees, the chief administrative officer, the planning staff, other members of the administrative unit, and staff from the Islands Trust Fund. Some outside stakeholders (such as landowners, applicants, lawyers, former employees, and consultants) were interviewed.

"Section 5.12 - Advancing the Mandate. The object of the Islands Trust, as defined in the Islands Trust Act, is to preserve and protect the Trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the trust area and of British Columbia . . .

"The Islands Trust [read: Islands Trust Council and its LTCs] has the same planning tools as regional districts. It appears that most people understand the mandate, but there are not many people that feel that the Islands Trust is doing anything different or better than other typical B.C.

municipalities in protecting and preserving the environment."

The above is a very significant acknowledgement. But, to incorporate also means "to unite into one body." And, taking into account the proactive, innovative, vibrant nature of this community, it is not unreasonable to anticipate that a local, unified governing body, could be different, could do better, could do more, than a typical municipality.

As one small case in point: although it is common to apportion or rezone lands to meet the needs of the community, as in the case of industrial properties, an incorporated Salt Spring need not encourage excessive development as a means to raise taxes to finance further projects, as has been suggested as the modus operandi of a municipality.

Instead, the community of Salt Spring could keep to its best practices of the past by continuing to finance projects through fundraising (ArtSpring), grants (library), or through the community oversight and free choice that a spending referendum provides (Pathways, ArtSpring, fire hall).

To advance the mandate to preserve and protect the environment and its amenities, under unified local governance, is rather a good idea.

The writer has been a Salt Spring resident for 23 years.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 12

Leave our ecosystems intact

One of the concerns I have heard from the "no side" multiple times is that the Islands Trust will disappear. I believe this is called "fake news."

The Islands Trust will continue to protect and preserve the islands and have an oversight role by controlling the official community plan, alongside an elected municipal government.

I also read of concern for developers running wild and construction projects being approved all over the island. But that is what we have now. I don't see an island with thoughtful planning and responsible building guidelines. I see incongruous developments that don't demonstrate protection and preservation.

I am a relatively recent arrival on Salt Spring, but I see some wildly unsuitable developments that have been approved during the watch of the Islands Trust. Channel Ridge and south-end developments on forested lands come to mind, along with the resort at Bullock Lake. These tracts of forest and small ecosystems have been divided into lots for large suburban-style houses far away from village centres. Resi-

dents have to drive 30 minutes to buy a pint of milk. With the approval of these type of developments, Salt Spring has become a carbon dependent island with a large carbon footprint, losing its human scale.

The Islands Trust has not been effective in planning for the community. We need checks and balances to guide development in a more sustainable way. Let's leave our ecosystems intact and think rather of in-filling with smaller units around Ganges and other village centres, where seniors and families can live in walkable locations.

Planning is a local government responsibility. I'd like to see a municipal government with its in-built accountability and local island-based meetings. This will be more democratic than CRD meetings in Victoria or Islands Trust meetings in various parts of the Trust area, which few if any Salt Springers ever attend.

I see local government taking responsibility for sustainable planning, a firmer building code (like including solar systems and water catchment tanks in new houses) and better use of resources like water.

I'm voting "yes" and encourage others to vote yes too. No matter what, get out to vote!
JAYNE LLOYD-JONES, GANGES

Don't swallow poison pills

In 2002, 70 per cent of islanders on Salt Spring said no to incorporation.

It was a bad idea then and it still is a bad idea whose time should never come. Follow the money.

Those islanders are still here and have not drank the incorporation Kool-Aid. Follow the money. Fifteen years later they will do the right thing again.

The Liberal government loved this idea, downloading expenses and getting us off their books and turning us over to a mayor and council. Follow the money.

I'm not so sure the new management in Victoria thinks so. The download comes with a mayor and council — follow the money — complete with the attendant problems that brings. This is a Trojan horse with Pandora's box inside it containing many poison pills.

If Salt Spring is not working for you the way it is, there is no shortage of other places to be from. But none like this.

On Sept. 9, just say "no."
DAVID L. MERKE, SALT SPRING

Road repair realities

If we vote "no" to incorporation, what will happen

to our roads?

Mainroad may still be contracted to maintain and repair our roads. But with all their contracts on Vancouver Island, do you really think they'll pay much attention to Salt Spring when all the ridings on Vancouver Island are NDP — the governing party — and we have a Green MLA?

If we vote "no" to incorporation there will be no federal or provincial money to rebuild Fulford-Ganges Road, or maintain other roads properly. MainRoad will patch, then turn their attention to the more lucrative prospect of an NDP-dominated Vancouver Island.

If we vote "no" to incorporation, we would still be controlled by the Ministry of Transportation and MainRoad for road maintenance. How is Isabella Point Road, by the way? Washed out January 2017 and just being repaired now.

What about Walker's Hook and North Beach roads? Now, MainRoad and MOT prioritize. As a municipality we would decide how much to spend, when and where.

Please wake up, people. Roads will not improve or cost less if we reject the chance to be masters in our house, namely by choosing to become a municipality.

JANE HORSBURGH, SALT SPRING

here's my card

Michael Byron Electric
Licensed & Bonded
Reg. #38235

Michael Byron
Owner/Operator
mbyron33@gmail.com

TEL: 250.537.6229
FAX: 250.537.8967

Kerry Chalmers
REALTOR®

kerryjchalmers@gmail.com
Office: 250.537.5553
Toll-Free: 1.888.608.5553
Fax: 250.537.4288

Real Estate Division
#1101-115 Fulford-Ganges Road
Salt Spring Island, BC V6K 2T8
www.pembertonhomessaltspring.com

www.saltspring-realestate.com

Vince Smythe
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Ph: 250-213-6316
Fax: 778-746-7310
info@smytheroofing.com

SMYTHE ROOFING

"Quality Workmanship - Reliable Service"

REYNOLDS
CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
TILE & GROUT CLEANING

PAUL REYNOLDS
owner/operator
250-537-4208
ssjpreynolds@yahoo.ca

JOSH LACY
certified technician

FREE ESTIMATES
"Since 1964"

BERNARD LeBLANC
FINE FURNITURE & MILLWORK

- unique custom crafted furniture
- creative cabinetry with storage solutions
- luxurious & simplistic urns and accessories

bernardleblanc@me.com
www.bernardleblanc.com

PH/FAK: 778.353.1963
CELL: 250.538.7570

Your "clear" choice for glass.

- Auto Glass • Residential & Commercial
- Aluminum Fabrication • Custom Skylights
- Mirrors & Shower Doors
- Custom Sunrooms • Free Estimates

TROY KAYE

Kapa Kai Glass 250-653-4148

Salt Spring Way Pilates

Reneigh Gerow
Pilates Instructor

Gentle Intelligent & Effective Exercise
Private reformer or mat classes

320 Salt Spring Way
rengerow@gmail.com
250 931 5553
Find us on facebook

what's on this week



Wed. Sept. 6

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Tea a Tempo: Gwen Gagne. Singer-songwriter Gwen Gagne in concert at All Saints. 2:10 p.m.
Sasha Rose. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Incorporation Referendum. Advance voting at Salt Spring Public Library and Community Gospel Chapel. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Info: www.crd.bc.ca
Pride Fest: Queer Story Sharing Circle. LGBTQ+ people welcome. Beaver Point Hall. 7 p.m.
Salt Spring Forum: Taking Kinder Morgan to Court. With Ecojustice lawyer Karen Campbell at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.



Thu. Sept. 7

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Doug & the Thugs. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Pride: Poetry Open Mic – A World of Pride. Join in the celebration of the SS Pride festival. Reader sign-up at 6:45. One poem per reader. 7 p.m. start time.

Thu. Sept. 7

ACTIVITIES

Positively No Referendum Open Houses. Focus on Overdevelopment with Ashley Hilliard (10 am); on the Islands Trust with Linda Adams (noon), and on Governance/Options with Richard Kerr (2 pm). Salt Spring Public Library.
Pride Fest: Community Meal & Discussion. LGBTQ+ welcome for talk on Diversity and Inclusion Moving Forward. Salt Spring Seniors Centre. Catered dinner from 5 to 8 p.m.
Restorative Justice Community Circle: Healthy Conflict, Healthy Community. Facilitated circle appropriate for discussing conflict arising from incorporation debate in our community. Lions Hall. 5 to 7 p.m. RSVP to saltspringdarlene@gmail.com. Info: 778-402-6626
Pride Fest: Queer Dance Temple. Deep dancing with DJ Shauna Devlin. Everyone welcome. Fulford Hall. 7 to 10 p.m.



YES! Campaign Info Session. Learn about benefits of incorporation in advance of referendum. At 221 Chu-An Drive. 7 to 9 p.m.

Fri. Sept. 8

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Marianne Grittani. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Karaoke. At the Legion beginning at 7 p.m.
Pride Fest: Ferron & Her All-Star Band. Acclaimed lesbian folk singer-songwriter and her band perform at ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. With Garry Oaks wine tasting from 6:30 p.m.
Harry Manx & the Emily Carr String Quartet. Live music in concert at Fulford Hall. 8 p.m.
Pride Fest: Ange Hehr Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

ACTIVITIES

Elementary Bridge Coaching. Beginning bridge? We might be able to help. Every Friday at the SS Library Program Rom. 10 a.m. Free of charge.
Positively No Referendum Open Houses. Focus on Overdevelopment with Ashley Hilliard at noon and on Farming with Brian Brett at 2 p.m. Salt Spring Public Library.
Salt Spring Literacy Open House. Celebrate Salt Spring Literacy's 10th anniversary, new premises and International Literacy Day. 125B Rainbow Rd. 3 to 5 p.m. Bring jewelry donations for Jewels for Literacy Sale in November.

Fri. Sept. 8

ACTIVITIES

Art Show Reception: Still Chasing. Opening event for Still Chasing – ceramics and paintings by Kuno Egger & Lisa Lipsett at the Salt Spring Gallery. 5 to 7 p.m.
Art Show Opening: Street Photography by Bob Fenske and Curt Firestone. Opening reception for a new exhibit at Gallery 8. 5 to 7 p.m.
Salt Spring Squash Club Opening Extravaganza. Intro match at 6 p.m. and feature match between Victoria Lust and Ryan Picken at 7 p.m. Reserved seating and general admission tickets: saltspring-squash@gmail.com.
The Zero Waste & Tiny Home Lifestyle. Rob Greenfield, a pioneer in sustainability, gives a talk at All Saints. By donation. 7 p.m.

Sat. Sept. 9

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Pride Fest: Open Mic & Talent Show. For 19+ at Terp City Lounge at Leaf Compassion. 7 p.m. to midnight.
Happy Daze. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.
Pride Fest: Pride Dance With Queer as Funk. All-ages dance at Fulford Hall. 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets through ArtSpring.
Pride Fest: Ange Hehr. Live music at Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Sat. Sept. 9

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Incorporation Referendum. Main voting day with polls at Gulf Islands Secondary School, Fulford Community Elementary School and Community Gospel Chapel on Salt Spring, plus A.R. MacNeill Secondary in Richmond and Mary Winspear Cultural Centre in Sidney. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday Market in the Park. Locally produced crafts, foods and produce at famous event in Centennial Park. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Pride Fest: Parade. Gather at the SS Library on McPhillips Avenue at 12:30 p.m., parade through town at 1 p.m.; followed by celebration in Centennial Park with DJ TriikSTR & Coco Klein until 3 p.m.
Pride Fest: Dance Party/Vogue-Off. For 19+ at Terp City Lounge at Leaf Compassion. 3 to 7 p.m.

Sun. Sept. 10

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Aaron Troyr. Live at the Tree House Cafe. 7 to 10 p.m.

Sun. Sept. 10

ACTIVITIES

Pride Fest: Unitarian Pride Service With Dar Levy. With a theme of A Message of Love. Salt Spring Seniors Centre at 10:30 a.m.
Pride Fest: Queer Philosophy/Movie Night. For 19+ at Terp City Lounge. 7 p.m. to 12 a.m.



Mon. Sept. 11

ACTIVITIES

Tempest Roller Derby Fresh Meat Night. Youth aged 10 to 17 invited to try roller derby. Fulford Hall. 4:45 to 6:15 p.m. Try skating, meet the team and coaches, learn more about roller derby and have fun.
Salt Spring Scottish Country Dancers Open House. Join the group for dancing and light refreshments. No previous experience or partner required. Soft-soled shoes are best. All Saints. 6 to 8 p.m.



Tue. Sept. 12

ACTIVITIES

Nia – Tuesday Morning. Wellness/fitness movement practice with classes each Tuesday at Salt Spring United Church Hall from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Info/register: arleensadler@telus.net
Tuesday Farmers' Market. Local, organic food producers and food artisans offer goods every Tuesday from June through October. Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.
Terry Milos Book Launch. Author reading for North of Familiar: A Woman's Story of Homesteading and Adventure in the Canadian Wilderness. Salt Spring Public Library. 4 p.m.
Nia – Tuesday evening. Classes each Tuesday at Antler Ridge Dance Studio from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. Info/register: arleensadler@telus.net
Trivia Tuesday. Tuesdays at Moby's Pub. 7 to 9:30 p.m.
Tempest Roller Derby Fresh Meat Night. See Monday's listing.

Wed. Sept. 13

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Historical Society: How We Got Around Before B.C. Ferries. How We Got Around Before B.C. Ferries talk by retired BC Ferries senior chief engineer Ross Van Winckel delves into marine transportation of the past in the first of the SSI Historical Society's fall meetings at Central Hall. 2 p.m.

THE FRITZ CINEMA
 901 North End Rd. 250-537-4656 Movie info: www.thefritz.ca

Starring Daniel Craig + Channing Tatum

LOGAN LUCKY

119 min. Rating PG

Sept. 8 to 12 7pm / Sun. 3pm matinee + 7pm

MICHELANGELO

Love and Death

Thurs. Sept. 21 only 3pm matinee and 7pm

get noticed board

Send your submissions to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or drop them off at the Driftwood office.

Published in the first Driftwood of each month!

BROUGHT TO YOU BY PATTISON SUBARU.

SS Literacy Open House

Celebrate SS Literacy's 10th Anniversary at new SSL premises: 125B Rainbow Rd.

Friday, September 8th
 3–5 p.m.

THRIFTY FOODS

Ganges, Moutat's Centre • 7:30am to 10pm • Customer Service 250 537 1522

IF YOU HAVE AN EVENT FOR THE EVENTS CALENDAR EMAIL:
news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

CINEMA

• **Logan Lucky** — Starring Daniel Craig and Channing Tatum. To reverse a family curse, brothers Jimmy and Clyde set out to execute an elaborate robbery during the Coca-Cola 600 race at the Charlotte Motor Speedway.
 • **Michelangelo Love and Death** — A biography of Michelangelo, exploring his relationships and immense artistic practice, painting, sculpture and architecture including David in Florence and the Sistine Chapel in Rome. Thursday, Sept. 21 only, 3 p.m. matinee and 7 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Still Chasing** - ceramics and paintings by **Kuno Egger & Lisa Lipsett** opens at the **Salt Spring Gallery** with an opening event on Friday, Sept. 8 from 5 to 7 p.m. Show runs through Sept. 20.
 • **Bob Fenske and Curt Firestone** show photos of street photography at **Gallery 8**, beginning with an opening event on Friday, Sept. 8 from 5 to 7 p.m. Show continues through Sept. 15.
 • **Larry Melious** has a photography exhibit titled **Off the Wall** in the **Salt Spring Library Program Room** through September.

EXHIBITIONS

• **Jeannette Sirois** presents **The Stillness of Life**, the final showcase exhibition of the season, at **ArtCraft** at Mahon Hall daily through Sept. 17.
 • **Duthie Gallery** hosts **Second Growth** — drawings and paintings by **Sibéal Foyle** and furniture by **Peter Pierobon** through Oct. 1.
 • **Pod Contemporary** hosts "Many years have passed, New work by **Michela Sorrentino**" through Sept. 8.
 • **Amelie Love** shows artwork in an exhibit titled **I'm An Arthoholic** at **Fernwood Road Cafe** until Sept. 16.
 • **The Salt Spring Basketry Guild** marks its 20th anniversary with **Nests**, an outdoor exhibit at **Mahon Hall**.
 • **ArtCraft**, the Salt Spring Arts Council's annual show and sale of work by Gulf Islands artisans, runs daily at **Mahon Hall** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Sept. 17.
 • **Salty Pear Gallery** is open at 279 Rainbow Rd. with an exhibition of recent work by photographer **Stasia Garraway**.

driftwoodgulfislands media.com/calendar/

VIEW OUR ONLINE COMPREHENSIVE INTERACTIVE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS LISTINGS

Unexpected electoral results an incorporation risk

BY MARTIN ADAM

This letter is written in response to a specific argument commonly made by some individuals who argue in favour of incorporation for Salt Spring Island.

It is suggested that those who would vote “no” to incorporation would thereby demonstrate a “lack of faith” in the collective wisdom of our island population to vote environmentally responsible people into office under a mayor and council system.

This line seems misguided to me for two main reasons. The first might simply be referred to with the catch-phrase of “the vagaries of electoral politics.” The progressive vote splits, for example, and an unpopular candidate comes

up the middle to win. This happens regularly in electoral politics. Everybody knows the perils that unexpected electoral results can bring and the damage that can do — even in a single four-year term of office. One doesn’t need to be a political scientist to think of recent examples (such as Stephen Harper, etc.)

The second reason is a little bit less obvious, as it would likely take a couple of decades to manifest — since we would probably be delivered some very fine councils, as well as some stinkers, in this time. But, in general, as time passed and new kinds of development opportunities arose on our island, new investors and business people would, naturally

enough, make Salt Spring Island their home.

In any particular instance this would not be a bad thing — but cumulatively, over time, it seems probable that island culture would gradually shift towards a more mainstream culture as a result. As time passed there would be a corresponding increase in the odds that clear electoral results would deliver us politicians with the kind of pro-development mentality that our 2017 island population now decries. Once we have started down this track it seems unlikely that the dwindling minority of “alternate” voices would be strong enough to reverse the general trend towards greater development and urban-

ization.

Faith that it will “all work out somehow” does not seem to me a sufficient basis to put this precious island in peril. As things stand, our island environment and culture are delicately preserved; the political system we have in place actually works well in this — even if it needs some tweaking in other areas.

Salt Spring’s way of life serves

as an example for a world that has gone mad with greed and self-interest. We should be proud of it. What a loss it would be if we chose to let it go. For the sake of our island’s culture, as well as that of our planetary environment, I will be voting positively no to incorporation.

The writer is a Salt Spring resident.

MORE LETTERS

continued from 23

Don’t be fooled twice

Here we are again, in the 11th hour of our governance decision, and the “no” side is clinging to the same threads as before: improving the system.

Their advertised claims in the last go-round included “taxes could increase by up to \$1 million per year”; “Let’s improve our rural system”; “The Trust has just proposed unprecedented reforms.” “Consolidating planning and the delivery of service”; “Revising property tax system with a more equitable funding formula”; “Institute a weighted voting system on (Trust) Council.” None of these things came to fruition and our annual local taxes went up by several million dollars since 2002.

We are hearing about Local Community Commis-

sions again as well. Gary Holman was reported as saying that he was looking into one in 2003. No progress was made in his five further years as our CRD director.

An LCC is intended for small communities of dozens or hundreds, not thousands. An LCC is yet another CRD commission with advisory powers on CRD affairs only. It would simply add another layer of government to our already wasteful and inefficient system.

It’s the same story all over again. If effective local government improvement could happen without becoming an island municipality, it would have. The fact is it didn’t and nothing substantial has changed since 2002.

Fool me once, shame on you. Vote for real governance improvement this Saturday. Vote yes for a rural island municipality of Salt Spring.

KEN MARR,
SALT SPRING

Island’s current system actually has more dangers

BY RICHARD FRASER

I read with interest Harold Page’s Viewpoint set out in the Aug. 16 Driftwood (“Current system has fewer dangers”), which seemed to be indicating that a third party based in Victoria with a limited mandate is in a better position to look after the overall interests of Salt Spring rather than those who actually live and pay taxes here.

What makes Salt Spring unique is not only the place, which has been more than looked after by the Islands Trust, but more importantly the people. For the people to thrive we need a diverse, family-friendly environment where there are jobs for doctors, nurses, electricians, plumbers, etc. and their partners and there is a positive environment for the raising of families.

I have been visiting Salt Spring since the early ‘70s when my parents retired here. I have had a place here myself since 2001. What I have noticed over this period is a marked reduction in the diversity and economic well-being of the island. For example, not only have landmarks such as the Vesuvius and Fulford inns, which had year-round clientele, disappeared along with their jobs, and Salt Spring Coffee is no longer on Salt Spring. Graduates of the high school once had a good chance of staying and working on the island, and one had the luxury of actually changing doctors if they wanted to rather than having to chase the possibility of getting an appointment in Duncan. Also, all the services required to maintain a home or farm were mostly available on-island. This is not the case today.

So to maintain and make this unique place thrive we need a governing structure that not only respects the place environment but also the people environment. This means that we have to welcome and encourage appropriate businesses and say yes rather than no to some reasonable facilities such as ball parks and rec centres to ensure we maintain a full, diverse population.

For the retirees who do not see a need for these kinds of facilities, which enable the community to attract and keep the diverse service providers, the alternative of not having these services available means it would not even be feasible to retire here. I would submit that had we been incorporated we may have had a pool, library and a community centre all for less than the cost of what we are paying for the existing pool and library, so I am not sure the cost is so much an issue if we are able to do better forward planning.

And regarding costs, instead debating to the second decimal place the potential future cost of roads, if we grow the economy this will be taken care of and then some. If we are able to establish a positive and diverse community who knows what the future may enable us to attract to this special place — e.g. high-tech related work which has little or no environmental impact.

Therefore I submit the system with fewer dangers is incorporation.

The writer is a retired engineer living on Salt Spring.

Referendum Open Houses at the Library



Why vote NO? Find out more during Open Houses: Displays, handouts, videos.

Thursday, Sept 7th 10am – 5pm: Focus on *Overdevelopment* with Ashley Hilliard starting at 10 am, on *The Islands Trust* with Linda Adams starting at noon, and on *Governance/Options* with Richard Kerr starting at 2 pm.

Friday, Sept 8th 12pm – 5pm: Focus on *Overdevelopment* with Ashley Hilliard starting at noon, and on *Farming* with Brian Brett starting at 2 pm.

In the Library Program Room. Free. All are welcome!

Authorized by Positively NO, registered sponsor under LECFA themanyislanders@gmail.com

positivelyno.org



Site C Inquiry: Public Feedback

The BCUC is conducting an independent inquiry on the cost implications of Site C on BC Hydro ratepayers. On September 20, BCUC will publish a preliminary report on the initial findings of the inquiry.

The public is invited to provide feedback on this report between September 21 and October 11 either online, or at community input sessions being held at locations throughout the Province.

To learn more, or pre-register for a community input session, please visit the Site C Inquiry website, or call the number below.

<http://www.sitecinquiry.com>

1-844-815-6190

COMMUNITY INPUT SESSIONS

Vancouver	Sep 23	1-5pm	1125 Howe Street (12 floor)
Kamloops	Sep 24	6-10pm	Kamloops Coast Hotel
Kelowna	Sep 25	6-10pm	Kelowna Coast Capri
Nelson	Sep 26	6-10pm	Nelson Best Western Hotel
Prince George	Sep 29	6-10pm	Prince George Ramada Hotel
Hudson’s Hope	Sep 30	6-10pm	Pearkes Centre
Fort St. John	Oct 1	6-10pm	Fort St. John Pomeroy Hotel
Fort St. John	Oct 2	6-10pm	Fort St. John Pomeroy Hotel
Vancouver	Oct 5	6-10pm	1125 Howe Street (12 floor)
Nanaimo	Oct 10	6-10pm	Nanaimo Coast Bastion Hotel
Victoria	Oct 11	6-10pm	Delta Ocean Pointe Hotel

You are encouraged to pre-register as session capacity is limited.

getnoticed board

The free place to list your regular group activities of any kind.



Send your submissions to news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or drop them off at the Driftwood office. Published in the first Driftwood of each month! Brought to you by Pattison Subaru.

WEDNESDAY

SOUTH SALT SPRING SENIORS meet on the last Wednesday of each month at Fulford Hall at 2 p.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

BOOMERFIT — Enjoy fitness classes outdoors this summer. Contact Trisha, cert. personal trainer, for details. 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP for people caring for individuals with Alzheimers and others. Every Wednesday at Salt Spring Seniors (379 Lower Ganges Rd.) at 11 a.m. Info: Margaret Monro, 250-537-5004.

COMPUTER HELP — Free help with computer, tablet, smartphone problems at Salt Spring Literacy. By appointment at the literacy centre's new office at 125B Rainbow Rd. or by calling 250-537-9717 or emailing coordinator@saltspringliteracy.org.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 12:45 p.m. (for 1 p.m. start)

KIRTAN at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 7:30 p.m. **MEDITATION GROUP** suitable for beginners meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10:10 to 11 a.m. Everyone welcome. Info: Deb Stevenson, 250-930-5333

MEDITATION MEETINGS and teachings with the Salt Spring Vipassana Society. The Gatehouse at Stowel Lake Farm. Teachings offered by donation with Insight Meditation teacher Heather Martin. 7 to 8:30 p.m.

MEN'S BRIDGE at Salt Spring Seniors at 7 p.m. **PICKLEBALL** games are played at Portlock Park from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

PILATES CLASS with Anna Haltrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd. 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Info/register: anna@bonesforever.com Pilates is a body conditioning system that builds flexibility and long, lean muscles, strength and endurance.

SSI ROTARY CLUB meets each Wednesday for a deliciously prepared lunch with community focused speakers and presentations at the Salt Spring Baptist Church, around the back, from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SENIORS YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre. 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **SWING DANCE** at SS Elementary School gym. East-Coast, West-Coast, and Lindy Hop. Everyone welcome. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. For more information, call Larry Nelson or Wendy Hartnett at 250-537-4118.

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

YOGA - Mixed levels with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.

ZEN MEDITATION at 210 Cedar Lane at 7:15 p.m. Call 250-537-2062 for details. Newcomers always welcome.

THURSDAY

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets on the first Thursday of the month at SS Wellness Centre. 1 to 2 p.m. Info: Claire at 778-353-0029 or clairebeariona@yahoo.com.

TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION — Group meditations for all who have learned TM. Last Thursday of each month 7:30 p.m. Call 778-353-3014 for address and more information. Free introductory lectures by appointment.

EVERY THURSDAY

AL-ANON for friends and families of alcoholics meets at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church rear annex. 12 noon.

DANCE TEMPLE at Beaver Point Hall. 7 to 9 p.m.

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS with Alice Friedman at The Gatehouse. 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Info: Alice Friedman, 250-653-4332, alicef@saltspring.com.

LUNCH at Salt Spring Seniors. 12 to 1 p.m. **MEN'S YOGA** with Ken Katz at SS Wellness Centre. 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.

PICKLEBALL at Fernwood Elementary School gym. 6 to 9 p.m. No experience necessary. **TAOIST TAI CHI** for beginners at All Saints By-the-Sea. 10:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at SS Centre of Yoga from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

YOGA WITH JIM DICKINSON at Salt Spring Seniors. 2 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

AIKIDO for kids and adults at the SSI Wellness Centre. Kids 5 to 6 p.m.; adults 6 to 7:30 p.m. Info: Alan, 250-538-5549; alanwardroper@gmail.com.

BRIDGE GAMES run at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:30 p.m.

COFFEE TIME for seniors is at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

DRUM CIRCLE meets at Salt Spring Seniors at 4 p.m.

ELEMENTARY BRIDGE COACHING. Beginning bridge lessons (but also with more advanced coaching available) at the Salt Spring Library Program Room. 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

FELDENKRAIS AWARENESS THROUGH MOVEMENT® CLASS with Anna Haltrecht at Cats Pajamas Studio, 104 Langs Rd., 10 to 11 a.m.

Move with less pain and stress by learning how to make any activity more effective and more enjoyable. Info/register: anna@bonesforever.com.

EVERY FRIDAY

GAMES NIGHT at the Salt Spring Library Program Room. Facilitator Bryan Dubien brings his vast collection of board games, or you can bring your own. 6 to 9 p.m.

MAH JONGG players gather at Salt Spring Seniors at 12:15 p.m.

MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 p.m.

STAY AND PLAY DROP-IN for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Family Place. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

EVERY SATURDAY

BRIDGE at the Legion. 1 p.m.

DAD 'N' ME PANCAKE BREAKFAST at Family Place. For dads and kids aged 0 to 6. 8:30 to 10 a.m.

MEAT DRAW at the Legion. 5 p.m. **PICKLEBALL** games are played at Portlock Park from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Open practice. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

TAI CHI FOR HEALTH in the green space across from the Co-op gas station on Rainbow Road. Improve your health, gain strength and flexibility and prolong your life. The instructor has 35 years of experience with Qi Gong, Tai Chi and related exercises. 10 to 11 a.m.

ZUMBA DANCE FITNESS with Shannon Joyce. SSI Wellness Centre. 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

SUNDAY

OPEN STAGE OLD TIMEY CAFE. On the last Sunday of every month at Fulford Hall OAP annex. 7 to 11 p.m. Everyone welcome to alcohol-free event with good music and munchies. Info: 260-653-9856

EVERY SUNDAY

KUNDALINI YOGA with Jaya Levesque at SS Wellness Centre. 10 to 11:15 a.m.

PICKLEBALL games are played at Portlock Park from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

SUNDAY SATSANG at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 3:30 p.m.

MONDAY

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC on the last Monday of each month at SS Seniors. 10 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

SSI FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT usually meets on the third Monday of each month at the SS United Church hall at 7 p.m. but is also having special meetings throughout July. See www.saltspringfire.com.

SSI PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION usually meets on the third Monday of each month at the Portlock Park Portable. 5 to 7 p.m. Public welcome. But check possible summer meeting dates at 250-537-4448.

TOASTMASTERS, a dedicated band of public speaking learners and enthusiasts, meets at the Salt Spring Public Library every second Monday for the summer (except statutory holidays) starting June 26. 7 to 9 p.m. Guests are always welcome.

EVERY MONDAY

ACTIVE LEARNING group meets at Salt Spring Seniors. 2:30 to 4 p.m.

BOOMERFIT — Enjoy fitness classes outdoors this summer. Contact Trisha, cert. personal trainer, for details. 8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. Info: trisha.synergyfit@gmail.com, 250-653-4656

CHESS GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

CRIBBAGE at the Legion. 1 p.m.

DARTS at the Legion. 5:30 p.m.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE meets every Monday at 6:45 p.m. at Salt Spring Seniors Services. Info: George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorage@shaw.ca.

PICKLEBALL games are played at Portlock Park from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

READERS' THEATRE meets at Salt Spring Seniors from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

SALT SPRING PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB holds casual coffee mornings for its members at Penny's On the Green at 10 a.m.

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. With beginners until 8 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

TECH TUTORING WITH CONRAD at the Salt Spring library. iPad, Tablet and eReader tutoring with Conrad Koke. Sign-up sheets are found in the Info Desk Programs binder. Sessions are available every Monday at 12 and 1 p.m.

THE CLINIC by OPT: Options for Sexual Health is open every Monday at the Core Inn 2nd floor. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. 250-537-8786.

YOGA with Celeste Mallett Jason at SSI Wellness Centre (yoga studio). Mixed Levels - 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.; Level 1 - 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE for all levels at the Salt Spring Centre of Yoga. 4:30 to 6 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

AIKIDO MARTIAL ARTS classes for kids and adults at the SSI Wellness Centre. Kids from 4 to 6 p.m., and adults from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Info: Alan, 250-538-5549; alanwardroper@gmail.com.

ARGENTINE TANGO PRACTICE. All are welcome to join the tango group, Por el Amor del Tango, at weekly practicas. All Saints By-the-Sea. 8 to 10 p.m. Email to confirm at: ssi.tango@gmail.com

ART GROUP meets at Salt Spring Seniors at 1 p.m.

CHESS GROUP plays games at Salt Spring Seniors. 6:30 p.m.

IYENGAR YOGA with Jayne Lloyd-Jones at SSI Wellness Centre. 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.

LIFE DRAWING at Lions Hall. 1 to 3 p.m. Info: Martin, 250-537-8493.

MEN'S GROUP - Speak openly about inmost subjects. 138 Castle Cross Road from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Info: Tristan, 604-200-7333, reinless@mender.ca or meetup.com/reinless/

PICKLEBALL at Fulford Firehall courts. 6 to 8 p.m.

SSI SEARCH & RESCUE - Learn ground survival, search and rescue techniques at the SAR Hall. 7 to 9 p.m. Or phone Chuck Hamilton, 250-537-6601.

SMARTSOMATICS classes with Nelly Kosteljik at North End Fitness from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Info: 250-537-2056 or http://smartsomatics.shawwebpace.ca/.

PADDLE & PLAY for parents and caregivers and their children aged 0-6. Bring a snack and come play at Vesuvius Beach. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. A Family Place activity.

TAOIST TAI CHI at All Saints By-the-Sea, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Info: Stephanie, 250-537-1721.

UBUNTU sacred chants with Barb Slater. SSI Wellness Centre. 1 to 2:30 p.m.

YOGA WITH DOROTHY PRICE — All Levels at SSI Wellness Centre, 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.



2018 Crosstrek TOURING AUTOMATIC

WELL-EQUIPPED FROM
\$28,840 OR

BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT
\$188
PLUS TAX

DOWN PAYMENT
\$0

48 MOS LEASE AT 3.99%*

**ALWAYS READY,
ALWAYS UP
FOR ANYTHING.**



LEV \$14,256 PLUS TAXES
ARRIVING AUGUST 2017
MODEL # JX2TP

Jim Pattison
Subaru victoria

JPSubaruVictoria.com • 1784 Island Highway, Victoria, BC 1-888-619-0809

*Pricing applies to a 2018 Crosstrek Touring Automatic with price of \$28,840 including Freight & PDI (\$1,875), Documentation Fee (\$295), Tire Levy (\$25), and Air Conditioning Fee (\$100). Taxes, license, registration, and insurance are extra. Leasing and financing programs available through Subaru Financial Services by TOCI on approved credit. Offers available until August 31, 2017. Offers are subject to change or cancellation at any time without notice. Vehicle shown solely for purpose of illustration and may not be equipped as shown. See Jim Pattison Subaru Victoria for complete program details. Dealer #42319.

Municipal engineer offers roads and planning details

BY PETER BROUWER

Since I have lived on Salt Spring it is evident to me that our "local" form of government is inefficient, not accountable and not workable.

Each board, association and entity moves forward with their particular agenda/priority independent of the others' plans or priorities. The concept of separate budgets for different infrastructure requirements does not adequately address the "overall" priorities of our island.

Let me explain. Typically a municipality would have in hand, or complete, an "Infrastructure Master Plan" or IMP. This document would review all the wants and needs of the community (water, sewer, storm water management, solid waste management, roads, parks, fire protection, community facilities). It reviews the condition of existing infrastructure and puts dollar values for upgrading, extending or replacing the same over a 30-year period.

An IMP is a dynamic living document that requires constant updates to ensure that the priorities within the community have not changed. The plan incorporates a financial analysis, including potential provincial and federal funding and their effect on affordability. Only when these wants and needs are established can priorities be set for the entire community. Is a new fire truck more important than upgrading the Ganges water distribution system to provide adequate fire flows? Is a community room at the pool more

important than repairing a road failure on Isabella Point Road? Is low-cost housing more important than the Ganges boardwalk upgrading? These are the things an IMP lays out. The current form of government makes the process of ranking community priorities virtually impossible.

The no campaign indicates, and I quote: "Many SSI roads are poorly maintained and near the end of their lives. SSI has 265 km of roads compared to Victoria's 260 km. The costs of our extensive road network would be too much for our small rural community."

The fact that we have virtually the same length of roads is about the only thing common between SSI and Victoria road infrastructure. We have a "rural" road network. Victoria has an "urban" road network. Where SSI taxpayers mostly pay for crack filling, drainage improvements, culvert replacements, graveling, grading, chip sealing, etc., Victoria taxpayers mostly pay for concrete curb and gutter, sidewalks, medians, traffic signalization, storm sewers, catch basins, storm manholes, street lighting, overpasses, pedestrian bridges and storm water detention facilities. If a true comparison were to be made, I would suggest using a similar-sized "rural" community.

The no campaign indicates, and I quote: "SSI roads are poorly maintained."

In driving the roads around Salt Spring it becomes quite evident

that maintenance of existing road infrastructure is lacking. Relatively simple tasks such as line painting and crack filling are limited or non-existent on many roads. When no funds are allocated within the budget to complete basic tasks such as line painting, there is something significantly wrong with the Ministry of Transportation's budgetary process. In my experience, a local municipality, utilizing municipal employees and equipment, is far more efficient at maintaining road infrastructure versus third-party maintenance contractors. I question the value we receive from MOT's annual \$2-million capital and maintenance budget. I believe if the \$2 million were administered locally, by a local council, more could be accomplished with the same amount of funds.

The no campaign indicates that "Many SSI roads are... near the end of their lives."

Based on the roads study, which was completed in conjunction with the incorporation study, 72 per cent of all Salt Spring roads were determined to be either in "very good" or "good" condition. Stating that Salt Spring roads are near the end of their lives is a gross exaggeration. Do some roads on Salt Spring need upgrading, asphalt overlays, culvert replacement or total reconstruction? Yes, but this is not any different than any other municipality which has a continuous list of roadwork requirements. It's the reality of maintaining any infrastructure. There will always be the next

project.

The no campaign indicates, and I quote: "Capital repairs, rehabilitation and widening of our roads to meet ministry standards amount to over \$50 million..."

The key to this statement is "to ministry standards." The advantage of incorporation is it allows the municipality to set its own road standards and priorities, not MOT. Of the \$50 million flagged for road work, the consultant estimated that 58 per cent or \$29 million would be used for road widening. MOT has provincial standards that they must adhere to. A local municipal council, upon receiving recommendations from transportation experts, will have several options to consider. As an example, council can decide to widen all roads as suggested in the report, not widen the roads and simply grandfather the roads "as is," reduce the speed limit in all or some sections of road to ensure safety, or perhaps widen critical sections of road such as at intersections and road curves. The assessment may include a cost/benefit analysis of each option ensuring that value is obtained for the dollars spent. The option selected by council would be made locally based on practicality, affordability and road safety, not based on generic provincial standards. Excess funds, not spent on road widening, could then be transferred to areas deemed of higher priority within the community, detailed within the IMP.

I can go on but I believe that our

form of government is not workable in its current structure and never will be if we truly want to prioritize and implement all of our community's wants and needs. For governments to be accountable and representative they need to be local... it's that simple. The mayor and six councillors will be your child's teacher, your doctor, your local artisan, your grocery store clerk, your local farmer, your plumber and yes, perhaps even a property developer. All six councillors and mayor have an opportunity to present their perspective to the entire council, and the community at large, prior to any vote on any issue which comes before it.

The work that Wayne McIntyre, our current and only CRD Board member, has attempted to complete over the years is admirable; however, when you are only one vote compared to the other 23 off-island votes, any progress on any file is painfully slow or non-existent with the Burgoyne Bay sewage disposal project and the Ganges boardwalk as just two examples.

The writer's background is in municipal engineering consulting with most of his 30-year career providing planning and engineering services to local governments in western Canada. More specifically, he provided guidance to councils relative to existing infrastructure rehabilitation and new infrastructure spending.

Note: The original article was cut due to space considerations.

Don't choose island 'Brexit'

BY RODNEY POLDEN

After the disastrous consequences that have ensued for both Britain and the U.S. from recent voting experiences, some of us are asking ourselves, "Why is it exactly that we on Salt Spring are still now being pushed ahead down a remarkably similar path?"

Have Trump and the Brexit referendum not already been sufficient examples of where one ends up, following the urge to "make all our own decisions at home," exclude the "outsider," trust in a president/mayor and council as the only ones to have all the right answers?

As if somehow all the other Gulf Islanders around us and their islands trustees share none of Salt Spring's concerns about development, ferries, financing, agriculture, land use, roads, affordable housing. Be assured that the greedy, not the needy, are likely to have a much greater input into the decisions of a much smaller body of council members than the many and varied voices that presently inform the decision-making process of Salt Spring. Deep pockets and vested interests undermine democratic decisions in almost every jurisdiction, if permitted.

The past 16 years of frankly "legal-but-corrupted" government we have endured in this province is now bestowing on some of their generous donors the greatest gift it has left to offer: the opportunity to clean up some huge future profits by sweeping away the sole existing obstacle to their development plans for Salt Spring, namely the actual "requirement" that its treasures be preserved and protected. Yes, the Trust will still exist, for a time, but in little more than a dwindling "advisory" role of pro-

test at the wave of big-money effects if we incorporate.

Those in the business of multi-million dollar homes and subdivisions, hotels and AirB&B have been planning, pushing and financing this referendum play for a long time, and they see bigger dollar-signs, not better democracy, dancing on their horizons. Sadly for them, there is still the problem of convincing you all, us all, that we "want" their Salt Spring Brexit project.

You do realize, I assume, that once Salt Spring becomes a corporation, we cannot ever reverse that change. There is no way out later, once we discover what we've got ourselves into — the referendum is structured that way. No way out.

It's also structured to deny alternative options like improving our present trusted system. That's because it is, fundamentally, just the Trust's present legal authority to "preserve and protect" that is what developers and the big-money interests want to do away with. That's what they've paid and worked for. This is not happening to enhance democracy, there are a million ways to achieve that. This is about "Take down the arbutus and put up Arbutus Grove Estates, gated community."

Y'know what? It's about consent. When not sure something is in our absolute best and long-term interests, we don't get hustled. We just say "no." No thank you. No way! Positively, definitively no.

Maybe tell your friends this time it's no. That wasn't so hard, was it?

The writer is a long-time Salt Spring resident.



people&community

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, Streets of Salt Spring Island

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com



NEWS UPDATES

Follow the Driftwood on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/GIDriftwood>



SAFE • FREE • CONFIDENTIAL

Salt Spring Transition House & Help Line
250-537-0735 or
toll-free 1-877-435-7544

Women's Outreach Services
250-537-0717 or
toll-free 1-877-537-0717

Stopping the Violence Counselling for Women
250-538-5568

Children Who Witness Abuse Counselling
250-538-5569

Transitions Thrift Store
#1-144 McPhillips Ave.
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Please visit our website
www.iwav.org

Funded by BC Housing and the Ministry of Justice

COMMUNITY AWARDS

Salty nods due

Sept. 15 last day for online entries

Islanders and "friends of Salt Spring" have until Friday, Sept. 15 to nominate their favourite people, places and things for the Salty Awards through the Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce.

The new Salty trophy symbolizes how the chamber has taken its long-running business awards program to the next level this year. The business award section has expanded to include many new categories with more than 30 services represented, while the nomination process has been simplified with a user-friendly online form.

The new Salty Awards for Community include categories to recognize the people and places that make Salt Spring special. Nominations are open to volunteers and organizations, but also recognize great servers, teachers and first responders, in a few examples, plus awards for locations like top kayak destination and "top trail for you or your dog."

Nominations are open to all Salt Spring-based locations, groups and businesses, who do not need to be chamber members to be nominated or to win an award. Everyone can participate in the nomination and voting process. Voting will open from Sept. 15 to Oct. 10.

Winners of the Salty Awards for Community will be announced at a reception at Meaden Hall on Oct. 17. The Salty Awards for Business will be handed out during a catered buffet dinner on Oct. 19. The Meaden Hall event will include a cash bar and entertainment.

For more information on tickets and to nominate candidates for awards in advance of voting, visit www.saltspringchamber.com.



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

OPEN FOR LEARNING: Salt Spring Literacy's administrative assistant Inma Segura, left, and coordinator Stella Weinert hold up the sign for the not-for-profit organization's new premises at 125B Rainbow Rd. The community is invited to an open house on Friday, Sept. 8 from 3 to 5 p.m. to celebrate the new space, the society's 10th anniversary and International Literacy Day. People can learn about volunteering with the society's various learning programs or how to access its free services. With its Jewels for Literacy sale coming up in November, visitors are invited to bring donations of jewelry to Friday's event.

IS YOUR **WELL WATER** SAFE TO DRINK?

Contamination can occur without changes in colour or taste.

\$25.00 per test • Results in 24 hours
Be Safe • Test Annually!



2062 Henry Avenue W.
Sidney, B.C. V8L 1Y5

656-1334

Fall Fair Focus



Section 9 Baking

Big Changes in Baking Section

Lots of new categories including fun classes for youth, cake pops, sausage rolls and quiche

Focus on less waste in specific categories. Bring your entry, a slice will be removed for judging

Take the remaining entry home



Have fun, and see you at the Fair!

LOCAL HISTORY

Historical talk looks at pre-ferry travel

Season opener with Ross Van Winckel set for Sept. 13

The Salt Spring Island Historical Society will start its fall meeting schedule at Central Hall with a look at how people managed marine transportation in the past.

On Wednesday, Sept. 13, retired BC Ferries senior chief engineer Ross Van Winckel will present How We Got Around Before B.C. Ferries, a talk that looks at local history from the 1800s to the beginning of ferry service.

Roads on Salt Spring were not well developed in the early days, leading to the construction of many wharves to

service what were then isolated parts of the island. As Van Winckel will discuss, when ships arrived, islanders gathered to get their mail, hear news from outside, transact business and visit with their neighbours.

"Salt Spring's early settlers traversed the distance between Vancouver Island and Salt Spring by canoe and rowboat for mail and trading," information from the historical society event explains. "As steamers began to commute past the island between Victoria, Nanaimo and Vancouver, Salt Spring residents would raise a flag requesting the ship to stop. They could then row or paddle out to meet the ship with their goods or passengers. In this way farmers would

send produce and livestock to market, the mail was picked up and delivered, and travelers commuted to the mainland and Vancouver Island. Livestock was sometimes tethered on the deck and when the ship approached its destination the animals were put overboard to swim to shore."

The presentation will contrast the early picture with how expanded marine connections brought passengers and delicacies to Salt Spring, with Canadian Pacific Railways ferries such as the Princess Mary starting service in the 1930s.

The event starts at 2 p.m., with admission by donation. All are welcome.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Players shine despite eclipse, hot weather

BY JILL EVANS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

It's been a hot time in the old town these days, but on Aug. 14 it had cooled down a bit so 20 people (five full tables — welcome back, Ian Thomas!) looked forward to duplicate bridge at Seniors. But Jeff Bell and Prem Margolese were hot stuff that evening, with George Laundry and Terry Clement almost as torrid. It was good to have Charles Kahn and Judy Norget back again and heating up the third spot while Bob and Judy Ripley warmed the fourth place.

Aug. 21 was, of course, The Eclipse, and nobody was blinded by looking at it sans correct eyewear. There were six full tables that time, and it was the Bell-Margolese pair who again blotted out the competition, but Patricia Hewett and Bob Morrisette shone

BRIDGETRICKS

through in second place. The Laundry-Clement partnership came third, taking about a halfway slice through the shining orb, with Janet Stethem and Bev Machesney settling for a quarter or so in fourth. It was Al Wilke and I.D. Garuda who nibbled at the sun in fifth place.

Aug. 28 was hot again here and rainless, contrasting with Hurricane Harvey's horrendous visit to Houston, nearly drowning it and other parts of Texas. Among the four and a half tables it was again the Bell-Margolese pair who blew away the competition, with Oleh Mycyk and Peter Robinson landing in the second spot. The Wilke-Garuda partnership whirled into third place, while Patricia Hewett and Bob Morrisette reigned (rained?) in the fourth spot.

For information about these games, contact George Laundry at 250-653-9095 or pastorale@shaw.ca.

DRIFTWOOD Classifieds 250-537-9933

www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com OR 1-855-310-3535 • OVER 20,000 CLASSIFIEDS ON-LINE UPDATED DAILY

PLACE AN AD

In person at 328 Lower Ganges Rd., Ganges
By telephone 250-537-9933 or fax 250-537-2613
By email to driftwood@driftwoodgimedi.com
By post to Driftwood, 328 Lower Ganges Rd.,
Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2V3

Payment

By cash, debit, Mastercard or Visa. Classifieds are prepaid.

DEADLINES

Class display deadline: Monday 4pm
Word ad deadline: Tuesday 9am
Too Late To Classify: Tuesday 1pm



WHAT IT COSTS

3 LINE CLASSIFIEDS:
\$14.00 - additional lines \$1.00 ea
All ads are posted to BCClassified.com
EMPLOYMENT/LEGAL ADS:
3 line rate \$16.75 - additional lines \$1.00 ea
DISPLAY ADS: \$14.00 per col. inch

YOUR AD ON-LINE

All liner ads booked in the Driftwood Classifieds appear on-line at www.bcclassified.com
Auto ads also listed on line at www.bcautocentral.com

BOOK YOUR AD ON-LINE

Book your classifieds online - open 24 hours a day
www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com or bcclassified.com



Please check your ad after the first insertion. Should an error appear in an advertisement, Driftwood Publishing Ltd. is only liable for the amount paid for the space occupied by the portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred. Driftwood Publishing Ltd. will accept responsibility for only one incorrect insertion.

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIAM

Invitation to
Celebration OF Life
for
HELEN KOTTKE WIEBE
in her home
133 Arnell Way,
Saltspring Island
Saturday Sept 9, 2017
Open house
3pm - 6pm
Please join the family to share memories
Special thanks to
Dr Reznick and Jean Pharnasave staff
Beacon Home Support workers, community health nurses
Private care workers

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN MEMORIAM

Love gives us memories not even death can steal.
Salt Spring Hospice
250-537-2770
saltspringhospice.org

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

OSTEOPOROSIS:
Are you waiting till 65 for an MSP test?
Imagine knowing your risk now. Health Canada approved test. Instant results. Cost \$169. Not MSP. You only 97. SSI clinic. Limit 19 people.
Call Derek now (604) 769-3326 - dbagatto@gmail.com

Persnickety clothing for kids and teens
As of September 16th, Persnickety Clothing for Kids will be closing.
We've had 50 much fun with this store and it's concept since we took it over on May 17th, 2010, but like all amazing adventures, this one has now come to an end. Our family is SO grateful to everyone for your support over the past 7+ years. There have been many ups and a few downs, but this experience has been one that we loved. For the next couple of weeks, we'll be busy marking down EVERYTHING in the store. All items including remaining stock, some shelving, and most racks will be available to purchase.
Gift cards will still be accepted until we close our doors.
Our family is very happy on Salt Spring and we look forward to continuing our support in this community. We will continue to offer our custom printing services out of our home studio.
Thank you Salt Spring. This has been a WONDERFUL adventure for us!

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMATION

SELLING WILD SALMON from Haida Gwaii at the Ganges Boat Ramp by Centennial Park.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

PERSONALS

MAKE A Connection. Real People, Flirty Chat Call FREE! 250-220-1300 or 1-800-210-1010. www.livelinks.com 18+0

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

F/T Service Counter Personnel

Compensation: TBD
A busy Vancouver Island marine, ATV, & Motorcycle dealership requires exp. service counter personnel. Position would be full-time. Must have a valid drivers licence and computer knowledge.
Please email cover letter, resume, & references to: aboats89@gmail.com

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION! In-demand career! Employers have work-at-home positions available. Get online training you need from an employer-trusted program. Visit: CareerStep.ca/MT or 1-855-768-3362 start training for your work-at-home career today!

Motel Assistant Manager Team

Needed to run small Motel in Parksville BC. Non-Smoking, no pets, good health, full-time, live-in position.
Fax 250-586-1634 or Email resume: kjlr27@hotmail.com



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMING EVENTS

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

EDUCATION/TRADE SCHOOLS

INTERIOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT SCHOOL. Hands-On Tasks. Start Weekly, GPS Training! Funding & Housing Avail! Job Aid! Already a HEO? Get certification proof. Call 1-866-399-3853 or go to: theschool.com

PERSONAL SERVICES

FINANCIAL SERVICES

GET BACK ON TRACK! Bad credit? Bills? Unemployed? Need Money? We Lend! If you own your own home - you qualify. Pioneer Acceptance Corp. Member BBB. 1-877-987-1420 www.pioneerwest.com

RAPID DEBT RELIEF...

NO Interest - LOW Payments
There is Special Government Legislation that allows you to reduce your DEBT by up to 100%

Call GEORGE for a FREE CONSULTATION
1-604-817-7387



ABAKHAN & ASSOCIATES INC.
414 - 1207 Douglas St. Victoria
120 - 625 Howe St. Vancouver
We'll help you get a fresh start!

TIRED OF HIGH INTEREST RATES? MAXED OUT CREDIT CARDS?

Consolidate your credit cards or line of credit with us with rates from 2.1%. Bad credit or bankruptcy ok. Tel 1-250-216-0786 or 1-800-917-3326

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

HELP WANTED

PERSONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL HEALTH

CANADA BENEFIT GROUP - Attention British Columbia residents: Do you or someone you know suffer from a disability? Get up to \$40,000 from the Canadian Government. Toll-free 1-888-511-2250 or www.canadabenefit.ca/free-assessment

COMPUTER SERVICES

CALL BOB'S Computer Service for troubleshooting, software & networking support. We do house calls. 250-537-2827 or cell 250-538-7017. Please back-up your important data now!

CONCRETE & PLACING



Serving the Gulf Islands

- Concrete
- Concrete Pumps
- Sand/Rock
- Rebar
- Bagged Cement
- Colour & Sealers

Small Load Pick Ups Available at Yard

345 Rainbow Road 250-537-2611

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION

HELP WANTED

Driftwood Gulf Islands Media is now accepting applications for an ACCOUNT MANAGER

Are you looking for a great long-term full-time job? A job that is rewarding and offers great earning potential? Are you a team player that has the ability to work in an extremely fast-paced environment? Are you a confident energetic individual with excellent organizational skills that will deliver superior customer service?
If you answered yes to these questions then we have a job opportunity for you.
This position offers a great compensation package that includes a benefit package and comprehensive training.
This job will be a good fit for you if you are: eager to learn; open to implementing new ideas to help customers grow their business; able to meet deadlines and work with minimum supervision.
Must have reliable transportation and valid driver's license.
Driftwood Gulf Islands Media (www.driftwoodgimedi.com) includes our weekly newspapers, magazines, websites, regular special features, as well as many vertical publications each year.

Please forward resumes to:
Amber Ogilvie
aogilvie@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



HOME/BUSINESS SERVICES

DRAFTING & DESIGN

LET'S GET STARTED
Bring your sketches & ideas and together we'll design (or upgrade) your dream home. Through the use of computer-aided drafting, we'll quickly produce the working drawings you'll take to your contractor.
HELSET DESIGN 250.537.1037 Ask for Jim

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

SAWMILLS from only \$4,397 - MAKE MONEY & SAVE MONEY with your own bandmill - Cut lumber any dimension. In stock ready to ship. FREE Info & DVD: www.NorwoodSawmills.com/4000T 1-800-566-6899 Ext:4000T.

STEEL BUILDING SALE
"PRICED TO SELL" 20x21 \$6,298 Front & Back Walls Included. 25x25 \$6,097 No Ends Included. 32x35 \$9,998 One End Wall Included. Check Out www.pioneersteel.ca for more prices. Pioneer Steel 1-855-212-7036.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
EVERSON UPRIGHT PIANO & stool. Reg.#: 62190, good condition but needs tuning. \$800 OBO 250 537-4520

RENTALS

WANTED TO RENT
2 BEDROOM RENTAL long-term needed for local family with son, pugh and cat. NS, ND - Refs. avail. 250 537-7544

HOMES FOR RENT

ISLAND EXPLORER

Property Management Ltd.

www.islandexploreproperties.com

250-537-4722
1-800-800-9492

Island Explorer is a fully licensed, management company under the laws of the B.C. Govt.

STORAGE

STORAGE

- All units heated
- Humidity control
- 9 foot height
- 24 hours access

MID ISLAND STORAGE 250-537-4722

READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

This Week's Horoscope

by Michael O'Connor
www.sunstarastrlogy.com | sunstarastrlogy@gmail.com
1.250.352.6871

Aries (Mar. 21-Apr. 19)
As summer fades, you are beginning to get serious about work. Your focus and resolve is deepening. Yet, you also still want to play. It may feel like you have not had as much fun as you feel you want and need. Creative projects represent the ideal solution. Productivity that includes art and entertainment will prove very satisfying.

Taurus (Apr. 20-May 20)
Your focus remains strong on home and family. You have already begun to get serious about projects you want to do and this trend will continue. Feeling as confident as you would like to might prove to be a challenge, but the flow stands to get progressively easier over the coming weeks. The catch is you will be challenged to work harder.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)
You have begun to dig in deeply and to make some serious moves, both literally and figuratively. A creative mood prevails and many ideas are pouring in. It may prove wise to capture these inspirations now even if you only act on them later. Be proactive and exercise your visionary mind regarding future dreams and goals.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)
Your energy levels are on a steady rise. You are in the mood to get things done. Tackling big projects feels easier. Making key investments is featured. You want returns on your efforts and purchases so are willing to pay more to get higher quality. You generally remain on an upward swing especially if a steady learning curve is underway.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)
Over the past several weeks you have probably taken some key initiatives. This momentum continues and is gaining speed. Yet, you have entered the work phase and it is not enough to dream and imagine. This is when the inspiration must be backed by perspiration. Get projects in motion and affirm your resolve to be disciplined.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
The Sun and Mars in your sign signifies the impulse to take new leads. Mercury and Venus will join in soon, so the theme is extra strong. As ever, the journey always begins with the first steps. This represents the planning and the drafting stages. Proceed with this in mind and trust that you will get to the finer details, later.

Libra (Sep. 23-Oct. 22)
Last month, you began to reveal new modes of self-expression. This could have come in the form of new projects, interests and/or collective involvements. Now there comes the challenge to follow through. You may feel intimidated for one reason or another and therefore avoidant of further involvement. Overcoming inner doubt and hesitation may be required to persevere.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
If you have answered the call to 'put it out there' then you have been on an exciting roll. This has supported a new sense of confidence. Now you feel even bolder and determined. Yet, you also have to work harder. Your best efforts now are to gain recognition. This may include a learning curve and new tools, techniques and methods.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Exploring new territory guided by what and perhaps who you love continues as a central theme. Yet now you want returns for your efforts. A learning curve which includes giving and/or receiving some kind of training is indicated. Your focus will become increasingly more practical over the coming weeks.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
You are in the midst of some deep changes. These are pushing you to see a bigger picture. This may require that you push through learned beliefs, convictions and perceptions that stand in the way of who you feel you truly are and/or what you feel you need at this time. Take the time to step back and re-evaluate... everything.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
You have taken a plunge into deeper waters. Whatever you are doing requires organization and renovation or clearing the old to make way for the new. This could include old attitudes and interpretations as well as prior involvements. The main theme is one of work and deep work at that. One way or another, you feel determined to get to the bottom of things.

Pisces (Feb. 19-Mar. 20)
New relationship involvements are suddenly taking on a lot of momentum. Creative work projects are featured. Circumstances are pushing you to give a lot now. This trend will continue over the coming weeks and will bring returns, eventually. Be careful not to let critical analysis

sports&recreation

D.W. Salty is looking for material for his column, Streets of Salt Spring Island

If you have information on any of our streets, please contact us at: 250-537-9933 or dwsalty@driftwoodgimedia.com



TRIATHLON

Islanders triumph at competitive multi-sport events

Jansen, Young and Hayden on the road

BY ERIC ELLIS
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Salt Springers have been significantly extending themselves over the last few weeks both in terms of how far they have been travelling to compete and how much and far they have been competing.

Over 10 days in the middle of August, Penticton, B.C. hosted the International Triathlon Union Multi-sport World Championships. Multi-sport includes any combination of two or three of swimming, biking and running — on road and off. Salt Springers were represented in the penultimate events, the on and off road triathlons.

On Wednesday, Aug. 23, Marcia Jansen and Marion Young competed in the Cross Triathlon World Championships. Cross denotes the competition being on trails rather than roads. This competition included a 1.5-km swim in Lake Okanagan, 31 kms of mountain bike racing climbing 666 metres, and an eight-km run, including climbing and running in the lake.

Jansen qualified for the age group competition representing her birth country, the Netherlands, and earned an age-group bronze medal for her efforts. She completed the 1.5-km swim in 24:24 for first place in her age group, third woman in the age group competition and 30th overall in the age group competition. In the 31-km mountain bike portion of the race, she finished in two hours, two minutes and 28 seconds for sixth in her age group, 40th woman in the age group competition and 169th overall. In the final segment, the eight-km run, she finished in 47 minutes and 10 seconds for third place in her age group, 28th among all women, and 147th in the age group competition. The race being run continually, she finished in three hours, 18 minutes and 32 seconds for a third place among 13 in her 45-49 age group, earning a bronze medal and the right to call herself a world champion, 28th of 102 women in the competition and 143rd of 315 competitors in the overall age-group competition.

Young entered in the open competition class, starting 10 minutes after Jansen. She com-



COURTESY:SS SNEAKERS

Salt Spring's Marcia Jansen runs in the International Triathlon Union Multi-sport World Championships in Penticton.

pleted the 1.5-km swim in 44:24 for fourth place among the nine women in the open class and 15th overall in the open competition. She completed the 31-km bike segment in two hours, 31 minutes and 16 seconds for fifth place among the women in the open class, and 15th overall. Finally, she completed the eight-km run in 54 minutes and 39 seconds. In fourth place with three kms to go, she sprained her ankle, her pace dropping from 6:23 km/hr to 7:16 km/hr, but adrenalin and determination drove her to continue while dropping from fourth to fifth at the finish. Overall, Young finished the race in four hours, 17 minutes

and 32 seconds for fifth place among the nine women in the competition and 15 of the total competitors in the open class. All of the women ahead of her were at least 10 years younger.

On Sunday, Aug. 27, Richard Hayden, three weeks after his completion of the ultra Norwegian triathlon in Norway, competed in the Multi-sport World Championship Long Distance Triathlon in the age group category. The Long Distance competition comprised a three-km swim in Lake Okanagan; a 120-km bike race on paved roads climbing 1009 metres, and a 30-km road run comprising three laps around downtown

Penticton. Richard completed the three-km swim in 57 mins and 57 seconds for 41st place in his age group, 261st of all men, and 368th of all age group competitors. He completed the 120-km bike ride in three hours, 34 minutes, 51 seconds for 32nd place in his age group, 187th of all men and 204th of all age group competitors.

He completed the 30-km run in two hrs, 37 minutes and one second, with temperatures reaching 26 C, for 20th place in his age group, 167th of all men and 191st of all age group competitors. He completed the entire race in a continuous effort of seven hours, 15 minutes, 38 seconds, starting at 6:35 a.m. and finishing at 1:54 p.m., placing 26th of 67 in his age group, 167th of 487 men and 207th of 841 competitors registered. He improved his placing at the end of each segment through the race.

Just 12 days after the world triathlon championships, Jansen returned to competition at the Vancouver Olympic Triathlon, while Young scratched due to her previous ankle injury. Held at Stanley Park, the Olympic-distance course was comprised of a 1.5-km swim off Second Beach, a 37.6-km double circuit of the Seawall, and a 10-km run from Second Beach to the north seawall and back twice.

The wear and tear of competition saw Jansen finish four minutes slower than her performance the year before at two hours, 27 minutes, 41 seconds, coming in first in the swim and bike segments in her age group but three minutes slower than last year in the final run segment, falling to second overall, eight minutes behind first place. Thus Jansen finished second of seven in her age group, seventh of all 87 women and 30th of all 279 competitors.

GOLF

North takes title at annual tourney

Club championships up next

BY MARCIA HOGAN
DRIFTWOOD CONTRIBUTOR

Local golfers headed to the lush fairways of Salt Spring Golf and Country Club on Labour Day weekend for the seventh annual tournament between players from the north end of the island and those from the south.

Many new members were in the mix and everyone appreciated the strong sense of community fostered by the camaraderie on the course and at the auction.

Duelling bidders chased exquisite wood-turned bowls by Barry Scotton, whale-watching

tours and a weekend on Pender Island. All told, the tournament succeeded in raising thousands of dollars for necessary upgrades to the course.

Up next are the men's and ladies' club championships, for all members of SSGCC, on Sept. 9-10.

Sept. 11 brings our first professional golf tournament to Salt Spring. Thirty-six professional golfers from across Vancouver Island tee it up and you can be there to enjoy the live action. Spectator tickets can be purchased online at www.planethempgolf.com or at the pro shop.

Lessons with hall of fame Sandra Palmer are fully subscribed for Sept. 14 and 18.

SALT SPRING'S VERY OWN

Community Cookbook

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!



Calling all Cooks!

Submit your favourite recipes!

E-mail: news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com
Or drop-off in person.

Driftwood
FROM COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

ROLLER DERBY

Teens invited to 'fresh meat' derby nights

The Tempest recruits new members

BY KATE RICHER
SPECIAL TO THE DRIFTWOOD

Junior roller derby on Salt Spring Island is celebrating its first anniversary and looking for new team members this September.

The Tempest got together last September with a combination of experienced and brand-new skaters. New skaters wobbled their way through the first drills: how to fall down safely, how to get up and, of course, how to stop! The team picked up skills very quickly and after several months spent learning how to skate, they took on the challenge of learning the sport of roller derby. They played their first games in the spring, losing their first and winning their second, and



FILE PHOTO BY JEN MACLELLAN

Some members of The Tempest at a scrimmage session in February.

always keeping their spirits up. Roller derby is a fast-paced, strategic sport, requiring quick thinking, physical endurance

and agility. Training for derby is a full body workout, but tons of fun too. Coaches incorporate fun games such as tag and

dodge ball into the practices. Team work is essential and The Tempest has developed a positive, inclusive and supportive team spirit thanks to its diverse and welcoming team members. Skills such as perseverance, cooperation and emotional strength are developed through participation in derby.

Young people between the ages of 10 and 17 are invited to come and give it a try at two "fresh meat" nights this week. On Sept. 11 and 12 from 4:45 to 6:15 p.m. at Fulford Hall, youth can come and try skating, meet the team and coaches, learn more about roller derby and have fun.

No skating experience is required, and everyone will be set up with full gear to try it out.

People should find The Tempest on Facebook and send a message so gear can be ready and any questions answered.

CALL GAIL
OR ELIZABETH
IF YOU SEE
NEWS HAPPENING
250-537-9933



Cowichan Petroleum Sales 2007 Ltd.
monthly \$150 draw winner is...
Stewart Gales

Give us a call for **Heating Fuel, Gasoline or Diesel.**
We also carry lube oils, fuel tanks & pumps.

CPS COWICHAN PETROLEUM SALES 2007 LTD.
1-877-715-1019
KEN & TRACY BULLCOCK

SOCCER

Salt Spring United kicks off youth season

Ice breaker session at Portlock this Saturday

BY MALCOLM LEGG
SALT SPRING UNITED SOCCER CLUB

With summer slipping away we see cooler nights, the start-up of school and, of course, the start up of the Salt Spring United soccer program. Yes, it really is that close and therefore time to highlight what our program will be offering for the youth and adults of Salt Spring.

Ice Breaker Tourney

This Saturday, Sept. 9 at Portlock Park, the Salt Spring United Soccer Club will open its season with an Ice Breaker Tourney for players U-10 and up. Games will be five-a-side for different age groups and run from 9 a.m. to about 1 p.m. House program games may also be added. Registrations, especially for late comers and house program youth, will be available on the field.

Teams

At present we have teams as follows: Boys U-10(2), U-11, U-12, U-13, U-15 and U-16. Girls have U-10, U-11(2), U-12, U-13 and U-16.

There is room to register on these teams but do not wait too long, as once they are full no more registrations can go on a roster. We are also looking for coaches for U-11 boys and U-10 girls — please contact technical director Josip Bratanovic at jbratanovic@shaw.ca or me at mallegg@shaw.ca if interested.

We are also looking at a possible co-ed league for U-17 and U-18, boys and girls, possibly mixed with adults for the fall to at least offer a program for these players.

SOCCERKICKS

There is also a Division-4 men's team this year. If interested, contact Colin Walde at cwalde@shaw.ca.

Uniforms

Salt Spring United Soccer Club is happy to announce that our teams will have brand new soccer uniforms this year. Rather than white we are going with a light grey with black and we are all excited to see our teams take the fields with their new look.

Fields

This season we will get to start games on our regular fields as both PARC and the school district were able to water them all, giving us great-looking surfaces for the coming season. Most full-field games will be played at Portlock and the two main high school fields, with Euro games at Portlock, Salt Spring Elementary and Salt Spring Middle School and the house program set for Portlock.

Salt Spring United Academy

For players who wish extra training from our technical director Josip Bratanovic, his staff and guest coaches, you can register for this program on our website, www.saltspring-soccer.com under registration and Academy.

The program starts on Friday, Sept. 15 and runs to Dec. 1. It will take place at Portlock Park (or the school gymnasium, when and if the weather turns)

for the fall session.

The highly successful program plans to have training sessions, some games against other academies and special guest coaches (we still hope to get Andrea Neal from Canadian women's team), so do not miss out! Info will be posted on our website.

Referees

If you have youths ages 11 and up or adults wishing to referee this year, please contact me to get registered and on a list to take a course. We provide all the gear nec-

essary to do this vital part of our program.

The Online Store

Salt Spring United is happy to announce that in conjunction with our new supplier, IQ Solutions, we will offer a large supply of track suits, jackets, rain gear, toques and more that can be purchased at reasonable rates.

More details will be coming, but our supplier will be at Portlock Park on Sept. 9 to do sizing and show off the new clothing available. Do not miss this!

Smoke Forecasts

With all the fires still burning in the BC and in Washington State this website offers a smoke forecast for North America.

This is run by Blue Sky Canada Smoke Forecasting system operating out of the University of British Columbia. Go to the link to see the hourly forecast on a map that extends for 51 hours.

This program runs from April to September.

<http://firesmoke.ca/forecasts/viewer/run/ops/BSC-CA-01/current/>

www.prepareyourself.ca

Driftwood
YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER SINCE 1960



Town Hall Meetings

Saturna Island
Wednesday, September 6
7:00—8:30pm
Saturna Island Community Hall
109 East Point Road

Saanich
Thursday, September 7
7:00—8:30pm
Bob Wright Centre
Room B150
University of Victoria

Saanich
Monday, September 11
7:00—8:30pm
Our Lady of Fatima Church
4635 Elk Lake Drive

With Saanich North and the Islands MLA
Adam Olsen

Pender Island
Friday, September 8
7:00—8:30pm
Pender Island Community Hall
4418 Bedwell Harbour Road

Mayne Island
Saturday, September 9
6:00—7:30pm
Mayne Island Community Centre
493 Felix Jack Road

Galiano Island
Sunday, September 10
5:30—7:00pm
Galiano Community Hall
341 Studies Bay Road

Saanich Peninsula
Thursday, September 14
7:00—8:30pm
Bodine Family Hall
Mary Winspear Centre
2243 Besson Avenue

Salt Spring Island
Friday, September 15
7:00—8:30pm
Fulford Community Hall
2591 Fulford-Ganges Road



Elizabeth May, MP Saanich-Gulf Islands

elizabethmaymp.ca | 1-800-667-9188

9711 Fourth Street Sidney BC V8L 2Y8

Some of The Many Islanders Opposed to Incorporation:

Find your **FRIENDS** **NEIGHBOURS** **COLLEAGUES**

Michael Ableman, Paul Alexander, Ann & Ross Alexander, Vera Algoet, Gay Alkoff, Raamayan Ananda, Chris Anderson & Deb Cran, Robin Annschild, Larry Appleby, Barbara & Chris Arnett, Stephen & Carol Arnold, Michael Aronoff, Susan Astill, Katharine Atkins, M. Bagnell, Gayle Baker, Ted Baker, Maureen & Keith Ballantyne, Marion Banks, Pat Barclay, Ellen Karpinski & Jerry Barenholtz, Libby Barlow, Sonja & Bruce Barnard, Derek & Jennifer Barrio, Geoff Bartol, Bob Bateman & Birgit Freybe Bateman, Josephine Bateman, Patti Bauer, Rosalie Beach, Steuart Beattie, Marie Beaudoin, Robert Beckett & Yantara Walker, Melinda Belleau, Chelsey Benna, Ulriekie Benner, Seth Berkowitz, Alan & Terri Bibby, Mark Stevens & Robert Birch, Doug Bishop, Lou & Dave Bishop, Heather Biver, Arthur Black, Zeke Blazecka, Astha Bolliger, Chintan Bolliger & Satva Hall, David Borrowman, John Borst, Coreen Boucher, Sierra Bouebra, Colleen Bowen, Judith Bradley, Dr. Christine Bradley, Nancy Braithwaite, Charles Breth, Brian Brett, Bea & Roy Brewer, Jean Brouard, Hannah Brown, Rod Browne, Bill Brownridge, Elizabeth Buchanan, Susan Buie, Susan Bull, Paul Burke & Anna Gustafson, Joanne & Rob Burns, Seth Burton, Harry Burton, Michael Bushby & Dennis Lucarelli, Michael Butler & Robin Ferry, Katharine Byers, Michael Byers, Bev Byron, Sharon & Gary Bywater, Bette Calkins, John & Marion Callas, Patricia Calvert, Deborah Campbell, John & Gillian Campbell, Mary Richardson & Blair Carley, Sharyn Carroll, Safiya Carroll-Labelle, Taylore Carson, Ellie Casey, Jeff Chamberland, Adrian Chantler, Jaki Chantler, Vivian Chenard & Alan Martin, Mike Cherry, Jonathan Chilvers, Kathryn Christie, Linda Clark, Laurie Clark & Paul Bryant, Greg Clayton, Erin Cleal, Banana Joe Clemente, Joan & Dan Clements, Don Clifford, Donna Cochran, Susan Cogan, Uri Cogan, Phyllis & Matthew Coleman, Jennie Colver, Rollic Cook, Ron & Carolyn Cook, Barry Cooke, Sharon Cooke, Judy & Bob Cooke, Michael Cooke, Dorothy & Alf Copeland, Leslie Corry, Mark Coulter, Nicholas Courtier & Anne Macey, Catherine Crombie, Dr. Bob Crossland, Andrew Currie, April & Michael Curtis, Wendy Judith Cutler, Dorothy Cutting, Lisa Dahling, Susan Dann, Doreen Davidson, John Davies, Elizabeth & Clare Davis, Gerri Davis & George Lerchs, Paul De Roo, Diana Dean, Sandra DeAthe, Ken Deaton, Jano Demandre, David Denning, Rob Denny, Anne Derelian, Normand DesRosiers, Ben DesRosiers, Leora & Cam Pypier, Brenda & Chris Dixon, Edward & Maureen Dodds, Sharon Doobenen, Charles & Gloria Dorworth, Michael Dragland, Elizabeth Dunn & John Cochran, Seamus Dunne, Patrick & Rosamund Dupuy, Sue Earle, George Ehring, Jim Erickson, Susan Evans, Carol Eyles, Sharon Farquharson, Delaine Faulkner, Diane Fay, Bob Fenske, Mona Fertig, Brian & Janice Finnemore, Patricia Flannagan, Tom Flemons, Jim & Noni Fogarty, Anna Ford, Bristol Foster, Toby Fouks, Ian Fraser, Mary Fraser, Barbara Freitas & Richard Koppelaar, Claudia French, Alice Friedman, Howard Fry, Melanie Furman, Corrie Hope Furst, Amarah Gabriel, Gary Gagne & Cary Ennis, JoAnn Gainor, Goya Gardiner, Cynthia Garrett & Rory O'Donnell, Janis Gauthier & Kenn Danner, Andreas & Annebeel Gedeon, Jean Gelwicks, Dr. Rajdeep Gill, Don Gillespie & Brenda Guiled, Stephan Glanville, Tangachee & Henri Goebel, Marsha Goldberg & Jane Schweitzer, Jane Goodall, Judy Goodman, Therin Gower, Julia Grace, Susan Grace, Shirley Graham & Peter Levitt, Philip Grange, Luc & Elna Gravelle, Sylvia Greenwood, Bill & Catherine Griffiths, Honor Griffiths, Tamar Griggs, Ronan Gunn, Callum Gunn, Peter Haase, Wilma Haig, Anna Haltrecht, Sarah Hamilton, Ron Hardie & Judy Henderson, Marian Hargrove, Mary Harkema, Bill Harrington, Ali Harris, S. Harris, Ted Harrison, Wendy Hartnett, Frances & Jan Havelaar, Beth Hawkes, Brian Hayward, Jon & Jennifer Healey, Christina Heineman, Bob Hele, Bill & May Henderson, Sheldon & Mindy Heppner, Jeanne-Marie Herman, Holger Hermann, Caroline & Andy Hickman, Susan Higginbotham, Frances Hill, Ashley & Wendy Hilliard, Helen Hinchliff, Jane Hitt, Sheila & Ernie Hoen, Guy Hoffman, Michael Hogan, Claudia Holding, Joy Holland, Gary Holman, Marilyn Horsdal, Fred & Jean Howell, Les & Dale Howell, Vanessa Hudson, Alan & Mary Hughs, Christine Gunsie Hunt, Kim Hunter, Brian & Kishori Hutchings, Elaina Hyde-Mills, Damian Inwood, Shirley Jan Jang, Bobbi Janowiak, Dan Jason, Sandi Johnson, Marc & Elodie Jones, Rosemary Joy, Charles Kahn, Gary Kahne, Glenda Kaiser, Ken Katz, Wendy Kaye, Sydney Kazakoff, Kelly Kazakoff, Sacha Kerr, Gill Kidd, Matthew Klassen, Laura Klein, Lauren Klimek, Kay Kos, Patt Labatiuk, Patti Labine, Rick Laing, Juliette Laing, Josie Lamarche, Peter Lamb, Mike & Marjorie Lane, Mary Laucks & Brian Le Borgne, Sandra Leckie, Marjorie Leckie, Jennifer Lee & Rob Lesosky & Aiko Shebib, Michael Levy, Kit Lewis, Kjell Liem, Sam Patricia Lockie, Dan Logan, Jo Logan, Mary Lowery, Lorraine Lowry, Jeanne & Derek Lyons, Gwen MacDonald, Mary MacLean, Luisa Pat Martin, Heather Martin, Tara Martin, Donna Martin, Heather Kerns, Christine Mauro, Lisa Sigurgeirson Maxx, Dianette & Wil Mayhew, Alan Maynard, Jenny McClean, Jean McClure & David Storm, Pamela McColl, Mary Ann McColl, Sharon McCollough, Caldry McDirmide, Jill & Bob McIvor, Janice McLean, Judy McLennan, Donald McLennan, Gina McMahon & Ross Harvey, Doug McMillin, Gora L. McRae, Donna McWhirter, Karl & Michelle Mech, Bernadette Mertens-McAllister, Jesson Methernen, Gail Meyer, Maureen Milburn, Anne Miller, Ralph Miller, Sam Miller, Deborah Miller, Charley Miller, David Miller, Pierre Mineau, Ian Mitchell, Tom Mitchell, Helen Moon, Maureen Moore, John Moore, Taryn Muldoon, Douglas Muldoon, Leonie Muldoon, Richard Murakami, Rose Murakami, Russ Murcheson, Veronica Murray, Fabiola Naguib, Larry Nelson, Sue Newman, John Newton, Margaretha Nordine, Ron Nordine, Judy Norget, Margaret O'Hara, Andrew Okulitch, Melynda Okulitch, Jude Oliver, Arlene and Peter Ommundsen, Pat O'Neill, Wiebke Ortlepp, Bruce Osborne, Maggie O'Scalleigh, Gladys & Harold Page, Kathy Page & Richard Steel, Andrea Palframan, Randolph Parker, Anne Parkinson, Alberto & Cecilia Parry, Arielle Paterson, Brian Paterson, Susan Paynter, Doc Paynter, Charlie Penn, Briony Penn, Caroline Penn, Rowan Percy & Ren Ferguson, Robert Pettigrew, Dianne Petrie, Tom Pickett, Tim Pickstone, Joe & Dorothy Picotte, Premilla Pillay, Conrad & Gillian Pilon, Yassie Pirani, Valerie Pitman, Lewis Pitman, Melanie Platz, Rodney Polden, Elissa Poole, Fred & Nancy Powell, John & Joyce Prothero, Ron Puhky & Kim Hanson, Linda Quinn, Linda Quiring & Bill Goddu, Nina Raginsky, Andrea Rankin, Mort Ransen, David Rapport, Usha Rautenbach, Lynne Raymond, Jennifer Regular, Terri Reid, Peter Reiner & Lynn Jennings, Murray Reiss, Kaya Reiss, Karen Reiss, Bonnie Reynolds, Philip Rhem, Marlene Rice, Jacob Andrew Richardson, Jackie Rieder, D. Roberts, Paul Roberts, Erna & Doug Robertson, Vera Robinson, Sabine Roodenburg, Jade Snow Rosen, Adrienne Ross, Douglas Ross, Deirdre Rowland, Mary Rowles, Marcelle Roy, Daniel Ruane, Lawrence Ruskin, Jim Russell, Catherine Samson, Margarite and Alvaro Sanchez, Samantha Sanderson, Susan Sandler & Beth Appeldoorn, Lyndsay Savage, Sue Savage, James Scarfo, Linda Scarlett-Hauck, Alan Schoen, Belinda & Ron Schroeder, Amanda Seip, Karen Selk, Alyce Elinor, Richard Shead, Yukiko Shibata, Ahava Shira, Valerie Short, Bill Showkow, Scott Simmons, Janet Simpson, J. Sinclair, Jody Slakov, Jan Slakov, Candace Snow, M. Solomon, Jackie Somers, Margaret Spencer, Lyndsay Spencer, Greg Spendjian, John & Lois Sprague, Jane Squirer, Maggie Squires, Jane Stack, Geoff & Roberta Starke, Rebecca Steel, Cleome Steiman, Jan Steinman, Judi Stevenson, Edith Stevenson, Catalina Stevenson, Walter Stewart, Beverly Stewart, Patrice & Bob Storey, Chidakash & Shera Street, Sharon Sullivan, Jill Sydneysmith, Sam Sydneysmith, Carol & Henry Tabbers, Joe Tannenbaum, Ruth & Sam Tarasoff, Dane & Justyne Taylor, George Taylor, Daphne Taylor, Patti Taylor, Claire Taylor, Sharon Whalen & Chris Taylor, Anne Taylor, Roberta & Roland Temmel, Lynne Terry, Brenda Thomas, Jacqueline & Ian Thomas, Kathy & Dave Thomas, Melanie Thompson, Margaret & Alan Thomson, Ellie & Bill Thorburn, Pamela Thornley, Tony & Margaret Threlfall, John Todrick, Christine Torgrimson, Bob Twaites, Mike Valcourt, Cathy Valentine, Hans Van de Sande, Phillip Van Horn, Robert van Oeveren, Ian Van Wyck, Philip Vernon, Charlene Vickstrum, Alison Vida, Rosalind Vijendren, Thomas Vikander, Ting Von Bezold, Doug Wahlsten, Phyllis Wakelyn, Ruth Waldick, Michael Wall, Bruce Wallace, John Walper, Harry Warner, Bill Warriner, Aya Watanabe, Teresa Waters, Ann Watson, Ron Watts & Donna Hall, Dylan Webb, Simon Webb, Wendy Webb & Larry Bishop, Judy Weeden, Lea Weir, Kathy Weisner, Ron Weisner, Geoff & Wendy Wethersett, Simon & Janet Wheeler, Ann Wheeler, Paul Whidden, Elizabeth White, Patti & Neil Whittaker, Nancy Wigen, Tiff Wightman, Audrey & Bob Wild, Tanis Wilkie, Doug Wilkins, Terry Wilkinson, Jean & Derek Wilkinson, Jill Willmott, Dulcy Wilson, Paul Wolf, Ashley Woods, Larry Woods & Sue Walker, John Woodward, Irene Wright, Ronald Wright, Eileen Wttewaal, Jo Yard, Sue Yardley, Bryan Young & Brian Day, Maggie Ziegler, Donna Zwick...



Ireland, Sherri Israels & Geoffrey Butcher, Denys James, Eddie Jang, Johnson, Gavin Johnston, David Kirk Johnston, Nick Adamson-Rumiko Kanesaka & Brian Smallshaw, Jennifer Lloyd Karr, Luanne & Kazakoff, Chase Kazakoff, Tina Kempling, David Kerman, Richard Clifford Knox & Diana Morris, Ingrid Koivukangas, Margie Korrison, & Philip Lake, Mike Lakin & Kate Turney, Alane Lalonde, Lucille Swanson, George Laundry, Florence Laundry, Nora Layard, Andrea Cannon, Maxine Leichter, Cathy Lenihan, Kait Leslie, Sequoia Lightman, Bev Lillyman, Paul Linton, Lisa Lloyd, Sandra Locke, Dawn Luker & Jim Glenn, Derek Lundy, Kathryn & Sean Luttin, Maffi, Debbie & Richard Magnusson, John Marko, Dennis Marshall, Martin-McNab, Libby Mason, Patricia Massey, Katy Mateer & Kim

Vote NO on September 9th!

facebook.com/positivelyNO
positivelyno.org