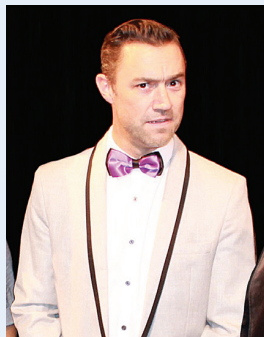
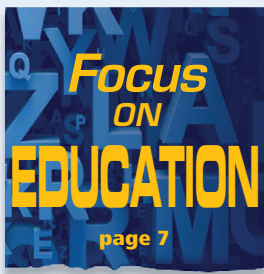


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Wednesday, Mar. 9, 2022

62nd year  
Issue 10  
\$1.50

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PHOTO BY ANETTE SCHRAGE

**IN SOLIDARITY:** Lit by the sun on Sunday are some of the approximately 50 people who gathered in Centennial Park to express opposition to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which began on Feb. 24, and to learn how to help people in Ukraine. Another rally is planned for this Sunday, March 13 at 12:30 p.m.

## COVID-19

# Greenwoods copes with outbreak

### No further people with symptoms over weekend

BY EMELIE PEACOCK  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A COVID-19 outbreak declared last week at the Greenwoods complex care facility on Blain Road appears to be winding down, yet outbreak protocols will stay in place for some time.

Greenwoods declared an outbreak on Feb. 28 after 17 residents and five staff members tested positive for the novel coronavirus. The facility has been able to keep providing essential care and services despite having a number of staff out sick, said executive director of Greenwoods Eldercare Society Aletha Humphreys.

The society operates the 51-bed residential facility with 48 residents at present, providing 24-hour nursing care to elders who live with complex cognitive and physical challenges. Registered care aides and registered nurses provide care to the residents who live at the facility on a permanent basis.

When reached Monday, Humphreys said the number of confirmed cases stands at 17 residents and five staff. PRC tests done

for other residents and staff have gone off-island with results not available as of Monday, yet a number of other staff and residents had presented with symptoms and are presumed to have contracted the virus.

No additional people have shown symptoms over the weekend, Humphreys confirmed, yet the earliest the outbreak would be declared over would be March 15. Outbreaks are monitored with the help of Island Health and the medical health officer and are declared over when 10 days have passed since the last staff member or resident shows symptoms of COVID-19.

Due to privacy concerns, Humphreys was not able to say how many staff have had to go off sick nor whether anyone is experiencing severe symptoms. No one has had to transfer to hospital, however, the facility provides 24-hour nursing care and it would be unlikely that anyone would be transferred, she explained.

All staff are vaccinated and there is a high vaccination rate among residents at Greenwoods, Humphreys said, including early rollout of the third vaccination last October.

While staff are stretched and working long hours, Humphreys said they are still able to maintain staffing levels and provide essential care and services for residents. A dietary aide and housekeeper came over from Lady Minto Hospital to help during the outbreak.

While the Omicron variant of COVID-19 is highly transmissible, the upside is the short isolation period required. Staff who tested positive or are presumed to have COVID-19 isolate for five days, and are then able to return to work.

"We're in a much better shape than facilities who had outbreaks early on when their staff was out for 14 days," Humphreys said.

The outbreak was declared on Feb. 28, yet outbreak protocols have been followed since the week prior when staff started seeing concerns. This includes closing the dining room and having residents stay in their private rooms. The facility has no shortage of personal protective equipment, Humphreys confirmed.

GREENWOODS continued on 2

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# Virus kept at bay in eldercare facility for two years

## GREENWOODS

continued from 1

On Feb. 25, Humphreys informed families and the public that one Greenwoods resident had tested positive, with transmission having occurred outside the facility.

The facility has not had to change the visiting protocols, Humphreys said, so visitors have been able to come in and support their loved ones with some social time and during meal-times.

Island Health noted that the outbreak response also includes limiting staff movement, enhanced cleaning and infection control and enhanced screening of staff and patients for symptoms.

The eldercare society also operates an assisted living residence, Braehaven, where only one person had tested positive for COVID-19 as of Monday. The resident who tested positive was transferred, Humphreys stated, as the facility does not have 24-hour care.

"The exposure to other residents at Braehaven is considered to be low and we have spoken to the residents who may have been in closer contact," she stated on the society's website. "We will be continuing to monitor everyone closely and provide support."

This is the first outbreak at Greenwoods, Humphreys said, and she wants to keep morale high during this difficult time for staff and residents.

"This pandemic and this virus

is changing all the time and the fact that we're dealing with it now doesn't diminish the success they've had for two years keeping it at bay, especially at the very critical time," she said.

Feedback from an Island Health infection control practitioner who visited the facility last week was welcome news.

"There's always areas and things to improve . . . but she thought we were doing an excellent job," Humphreys said.

Support from families and the community, including a treat delivery from Country Grocer and from families, also helped buoy spirits at Greenwoods.

A March 1 Island Health information bulletin included Greenwoods as one of three new

COVID-19 outbreaks at long-term care homes in the region, as four other long-term care outbreaks were declared over. Seventeen healthcare facilities across B.C. have ongoing outbreaks, according to a March 7 provincial pandemic update.

204 of those in Island Health. A total of 449 people were hospitalized with the virus and 63 are in intensive care. The province stated there were 11 new deaths in this time frame, one of those in Island Health.

Humphreys emphasized that while the Omicron variant might be seen as a less severe strain and more like a cold, "it's not a light disease for everyone." "It can really hit people quite hard," she added, even those who have been vaccinated.

From Feb. 25 to March 3, Salt Spring Island saw 30 new test-positive cases of COVID-19 compared to 11 the week prior. The other Southern Gulf Islands saw zero test-positive cases from Feb. 25 to March 3, compared to two the week prior.

**"[Omicron] can really hit people quite hard."**

**ALETHA HUMPHREYS**  
*Greenwoods executive director*

The latest provincial update, which covers the three days preceding March 7, reported 997 new cases of COVID-19,

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SATURDAY MARKET

# Market hand-over details shared

## PARC business case outlines complicated issues

BY EMELIE PEACOCK  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

At least one local non-profit is interested in running the Saturday market, as the Capital Regional District (CRD) prepares to issue an expression of interest and makes public more details about plans to hand over operation of the market.

Parks and recreation manager Dan Ovington told the Salt Spring Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PARC) at a Feb. 22 meeting that a local non-profit, which he did not name, has inquired about running the market. PARC commissioners decided in late January that the CRD, which has run the market since 1993, should find an independent entity to take on the job for a five-year term starting in 2023.

PARC chair Sonja Collombin stated in an email to the Driftwood that a review of the CRD's operation of the market was in PARC's 2019 strategic plan. With a growing number of projects under the umbrella of parks and rec and challenges with staff shortages, Collombin wrote, "it may become difficult to give the market the time and attention needed to be as successful as possible." The decision to find another entity is what the CRD recommended in a business case on the market.

The goal of shifting to an independent entity, the document noted, is to reduce CRD staff time spent on market issues and to increase parks and recreation programming. Currently, a market coordinator is contracted by the CRD.

"A considerable amount of CRD staff time" is put towards the market, the document stated, including dealing with permits and fees, resolving vendor disputes and visitor complaints.

Having a regional district run a farmers or community market isn't typical, Ovington told the Driftwood, noting he hadn't found another example in North America. The report described several issues with running the market, including political pressure placed on elected officials and commissioners, usually from vendors and related to commercial decisions about the market. There is also a prevailing opinion that the market should run on a break-even basis, like a community venture would, which makes it difficult to support the real operational costs.

The full potential of the market also isn't being realized under the current model, the business case stated.

"The bureaucratic nature of the market operations means that it is neither able to move quickly enough to respond to day-to-day operations nor take advantage of opportunities for

enhancement and improvement."

The CRD doesn't have the expertise in managing markets and markets that are not operated by the public sector, such as Granville Island, Lonsdale Quay and other Lower Mainland markets, "work better by administering and marketing their commercial interests."

The analysis done in the business case assumed an independent entity would pay the CRD \$70,000 for a licence of occupation, or \$10,000 per month for the duration of the market, which runs from April to the end of October. The CRD wants to ensure it doesn't suffer a "drastic loss in revenue" because of no longer receiving vendor fees. The business case assumes the independent entity will be able to pay a user fee "equal or slightly lower than revenues currently collected to offset other operating costs in Centennial Park."

The entity that takes on the market will have to grapple with the seniority system in place. As part of a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats analysis of the market, one threat was complaints from new and potential vendors "that the existing model of seniority points makes it too difficult for them to become seasonal vendors."

The business case also emphasized the importance of setting vendor rates so that they do not have an unfair advantage over competitors who lease space downtown. To do this, the CRD stated, the new operator should seek to operate at a profit and set rents at fair market value "subject to the need to offer favourable terms for food sustainability initiatives."

There is a risk, the report stated, that the controversy during the so-called "market wars" years may re-emerge once the market shifts to being an independent entity. That situation might require the CRD to step in again.

The report noted that as the market is a source of revenue for the CRD, outsourcing it to an independent entity could result in loss of revenue, with any major budget deficits needing to be offset by "new sources of revenue or an increase in the [property tax] requisition."

The report stated that the market philosophy of being a space where vendors who "make it, bake it, grow it" can sell their goods should remain in place even without the CRD managing the market.

Ovington said he has not yet posted the expression of interest, which will go out this month and gauge general interest. This will be followed by a full request for proposals.

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Islands Trust

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Community Information Session

Thurs. March 17, 2022 @ 4:00-4:30 p.m. Via Zoom:  
<https://islandstrust.zoom.us/j/67791071062>

Public Hearing  
Tues. March 22, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Community Gospel Church  
147 Vesuvius Bay Road, SSI

Who should attend?  
Anyone affected by the proposed bylaw.

Enquiries?  
Kristine Mayes  
Planner 1  
Islands Trust  
[ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca)  
250-537-9144

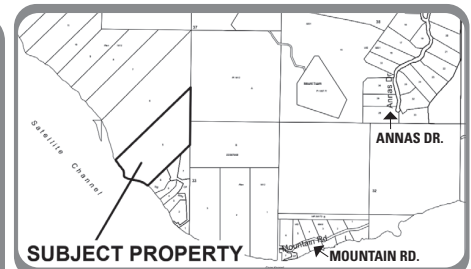
**Proposed Bylaw No. 525  
Rezoning to Permit an Oversized Boathouse and Establish a Setback**

Subject Property Address: 1351 Mountain Road, SSI  
Parcel Identifier Number: 004-053-761  
Application: SS-RZ-2020.1

## COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION & PUBLIC HEARING

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

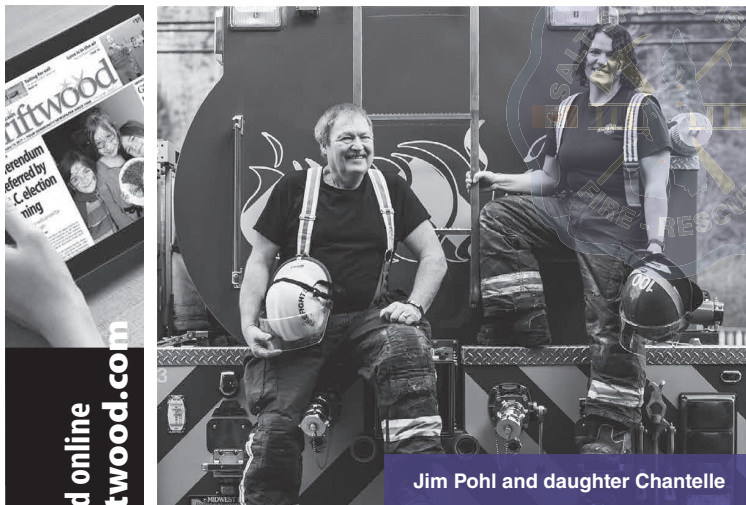
What is Proposed Bylaw No. 525 about?  
Proposed Bylaw No. 525 will amend Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw No. 355 to make lawful an oversized boathouse and to establish a 15-metre setback to the natural boundary of the sea.



How do I get more information?  
A copy of the proposed bylaw and other information are available on the Current Application webpage: [tinyurl.com/SSlapplications](http://tinyurl.com/SSlapplications) and, at the Islands Trust office at #1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, after March 7, 2022.

A Community Information Session (CIS) will take place via Zoom to answer any questions about the proposed bylaw amendment. The Public Hearing will occur in person per the details on this notice.

Submissions  
Written submissions are welcome up until the conclusion of the Public Hearing and can be emailed to [ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca), mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office by Monday, March 21, 2022. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.



Jim Pohl and daughter Chantelle

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# OPINION

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Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Best Feature Series (Gail Sjuberg)  
Bronze - Best News Story (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Service

2021 BCYNA Awards  
Gold - Best All Round (for circulation Category C)



## Driftwood

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### EDITORIAL

## Help for Ukraine

As the Russian invasion of Ukraine becomes more destructive, support for the Ukraine people being attacked keeps growing locally and around the world.

A week and a half ago, a handful of people gathered in Ganges to express opposition to the invasion. This past Sunday, a much larger crowd attended a rally in Centennial Park, hearing about local actions being taken to get aid to where it's needed in Ukraine and to demand the need for peace over war.

A number of initiatives are underway to raise funds for the humanitarian response.

Transitions Thrift Shop will accept clothing donations for refugees, for example, while Salt Spring artist Mel Williamson is selling cards of a sunflower painting with proceeds benefitting the cause.

### THE ISSUE: War against Ukraine

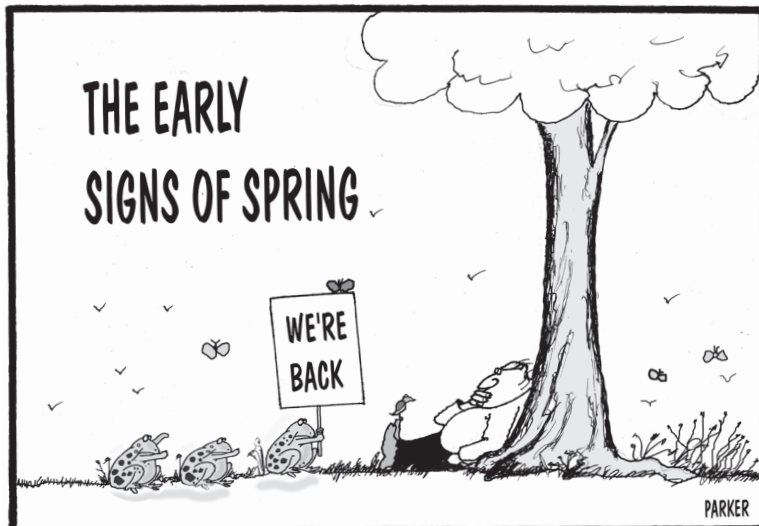
### WE SAY: Any size of contribution worthwhile

Other islanders are encouraging people to volunteer for the U.S.-based UkraineNow initiative — ukrainenow.org — in order to help match people fleeing the Ukraine with those who can help transport or accommodate refugees in Europe.

For people wanting more insight into the war itself, the Salt Spring Forum has stepped up to arrange a guest speaker for this Saturday, March 12 at 3 p.m. at Mahon Hall. Jeremy Kinsman, a former Canadian ambassador to Russia, will attend and answer moderator and audience questions. As seating is limited to 75 people, early ticket purchase is a must.

The 2016 Canadian census saw 1.36 million people identify themselves as having either full or partial Ukraine heritage, making it the country's 11th largest ethnic group. Canada is home to the third largest population of Ukrainian people after Ukraine itself and Russia. A number of those individuals live on Salt Spring and have family members either suffering, living in terror or fleeing the country.

In the face of such madness, destruction and evil being demonstrated, the actions Canadians take may seem insignificant. But we must act in whatever ways possible, as Salt Spring Islanders did for Syrian refugees in the 2015-2019 period, and have done for numerous aid and peace efforts worldwide over the years.



## LCC no fix for real issues

BY BOB MOFFATT

Salt Spring Islanders are being asked to embrace another layer of government by a Capital Regional District (CRD) director after a scathing independent governance review and indictment of the existing Islands Trust and its dysfunctional record.

CRD director Gary Holman and his anti-incorporation supporters have decided after three and a half years, to embark on a poor substitute, a local community commission (LCC). As the adage goes, there's nothing more terrifying than hearing "I'm from the government and I'm here to help."

An LCC is a 30-year-old artifact in the Local Government Act not intended to be used in a community the size of Salt Spring. It's impractical and rarely used, even in small communities.

The proponents believe it will avoid the more costly and complex issues like policing and roads. For most municipal councils, these two, along with water systems, fire/emergency services and land use, are typically the core functions. By ignoring these critical areas, it's difficult to understand how that enhances the functionality of an LCC.

More serious is that the entity will not have explicit

### VIEWPOINT

authority over legal affairs (bylaws, contracts etc.) or financial affairs (taxing, service fees, borrowing) and crucially, human resources (employees). Without access to a full complement of powers, its usefulness is crippled. However, taxes will escalate regardless.

Residents can expect to pay more taxes for endless meetings that have no measurable outcomes or benchmarks. In fact, meetings and higher costs are likely to be the principal product of an LCC.

An LCC is just like any commission where the real power and head office will remain in Victoria, regardless of what authority the CRD decides to delegate. The single elected CRD director from Salt Spring will be the sole representative on the 26-member CRD board.

The last thing the island needs is another layer of government. Among other things, it will oversee some CRD services. However, we already pay taxes to the CRD, which oversees an extensive suite of services. There is no justification to elect four commissioners to oversee the overseers. It would be a surprise indeed if the CRD

thinks this is a good idea.

The commissioners will supposedly have the same mandate as the CRD director. It's been reported they will be paid according to a typical municipal grid where councillors might receive as much as \$40,000 a year. There are also expenses, admin support, office space and benefit packages. It's a shocking amount for a workload that is a shadow of a municipal councillor.

It's not as if government is in short supply on the island. A resident could devote 24 hours a day following the activities of several commissions, government agencies, roads, policing, water and sewer systems, improvement districts, task forces, NGOs, the Islands Trust, and still not understand how local government works.

An LCC is another concoction in a seemingly inexhaustible list of government glut.

The handful of LCCs that exist are in tiny rural communities. Salt Spring, with 12,000 residents, has far more at stake. I believe taxes will rise, multiple agencies will continue to exist and residents will be exasperated that there will still be no single governing authority to turn to. It should be rejected.

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### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Are you concerned a nuclear conflict may be inevitable?  
 Yes  No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you want to hear more about an LCC for Salt Spring?  
75 YES 98 NO

Cast your ballot online at [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com) before Monday 2 p.m. or clip this box and drop it at our office before Monday at 2 p.m.

# ISLAND VOICES

Letters to the editor are welcome, but writers are requested to keep their submissions to 350 words or less. For details about deadlines, and word limits for the Viewpoint and other longer opinion pieces, contact the editor at the email address below, or phone 250-537-9933. All submissions may be edited for brevity, legality and taste. Writers are asked to provide a telephone number where they may be reached during the day, and to sign letters with their full name. Letters published do not necessarily reflect the views of Driftwood Publishing Ltd., its staff or advertisers. Send letters to: [news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com](mailto:news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

## FROM THE BACK ISSUES

Some items published in the Driftwood during the same week of the year noted.

**1962**

Salt Spring Lands Real Estate Ad Copy: Some twenty million years ago A fossil stood where you now stand; Unlicensed realtor tho' he was, He dreamed of subdivisions grand. But the hot, hot sun on his three-cell brain Baked away his dream and soothed his pain. And when you consider all the remarkable facts, It's sometimes a pity that modern realtors wear hats.

**1982**

The proposal for a community swimming pool on Salt Spring was scrapped because of lack of funding. Despite a survey that appeared to indicate a number of residents and taxpayers were interested in a swimming pool, when the provincial government dropped grants for recreational facilities it was deemed unaffordable by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

**1992**

A 29-year-old Victoria man was charged with attempted murder in connection with a Feb. 24 assault against a Fulford woman at her Weston Lake cabin. Patrick Gordon Troywalchuck was also charged with six counts of break, enter and theft, one count of possession of stolen property over \$1,000 and one count of possession of stolen property under \$1,000.

**2002**



Members of the Wrangellian Gumboot Ensemble dance at the Salt Spring Folk Club's season-ending Gumboot Gala at Fulford Hall.

**2012**

Islands Trust Council voted 22-3 to not proceed with a review of the Islands Trust Policy Statement. Despite a promised \$250,000 gas tax grant that would offset the estimated \$433,000 cost for the project, trustees cited strong public opposition, high costs, lack of resources and a long list of local priorities among reasons not to conduct the review.

## LETTERS to the editor

### Support Vortex

We are speaking as local residents of Fulford village. We have also been longtime (at this point) supporters of the Vortex project.

We were so happy to think that a project of this size and design would be a wonderful opportunity for local folks to gather and socialize like they used to be able to. It has been a long time. Not to mention that we are an island that attracts all kinds of tourists all year round. We sometimes wonder what people coming off the ferry think about its present condition. A "magical island" is what they are expecting. Is it?

The people trying to build

this project have been challenged, to say the least, with everything that could possibly go wrong. They are intelligent, and have researched to the nth degree all of the environmental concerns before the community even stepped up about them. They are caring citizens of this island and have demonstrated their ability to protect the environment in the past and present. They should be welcomed with open arms for standing up to help our community and build something positive for all of us to enjoy. Instead they have been met with hostility from some local people. Saying we don't understand this negativity is an understatement.

This is the time in history when people need to band and

work together to improve our world. Let's start with our own community. Enough nay saying and bitterness. Bring back the love and care we once had as a community. Support people bringing happiness back to our shores. It is a good thing.

**NEALE AND NIKI SMITH,**  
SALT SPRING

### Trading power

I get so lost in the mysteries of money — what in the world is a bitcoin? — that it really tickled me when I read about a woman who started with a safety pin and, many internet exchanges later, ended with a house. No money changed hands.

What made it possible, of

course, was the huge pool of prospective traders she reached (surely, out of millions, there will be one who will trade); that, and each participant's satisfaction with images for information.

At its core, though, was joining one person whose desire for what you have equals your desire for what they have.

Wait a minute! Are we talking about rowboats here, or proposals of marriage?

By the way, the woman with the house gave it to someone who needed a place to live, and began a new game with a hat-pin.

**BOB WEEDEN,**  
WHIMS ROAD

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 6

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

**"An LCC is another concoction in a seemingly inexhaustible list of government glut."**

**BOB MOFFATT, SALT SPRING RESIDENT, ON THE LOCAL COMMUNITY COMMISSION CONCEPT BEING FLOATED FOR ISLAND GOVERNANCE**

## Policy statement public engagement falls short

BY MAIRI WELMAN

On the afternoon of Friday, Feb. 25, the Islands Trust launched the Policy Statement Review - Phase 3 Public Engagement program on their website with a link to a public opinion survey and an invitation to pre-register for an online Q&A session, to be held on March 1.

In our opinion it borders on gaslighting to ask the public to participate and then make it incredibly difficult for them to do so. Here's why . . .

The invitation to pre-register for the Q&A session was published on a Friday afternoon, for an event to be held the following Tuesday. Extremely short notice. Only those who pay close attention to Trust business would likely have noticed. The format of the so-called Q&A session, which began with a mind-numbing 40-minute presentation on the existing draft revised policy statement, did not allow participants to see each other or actually ask any questions during the session. The only questions that were answered during the session were written by the presenters. Questions pre-submitted by the participants are now going to be answered at another time in a yet-to-be-determined format. How incredibly frustrating for the folks who took the time to register, submit queries and then sit through the online session!

The public opinion survey itself is astonishingly poorly designed and does not follow best practices of being clear, concise and comprehensible. The issues with the survey include pages of bureaucratic language, introductory and cautionary notes, vague question language, value-laden statements, subjective and/or leading language, conflation of issues that do not belong together, repetition of the same questions and limited space for open-ended question responses.

Some examples include:

"Marine dependent land uses should be directed away from eelgrass

### INDEPTH

meadows, kelp forests, forage fish spawning areas, tidal salt marshes, mud flats and coastal wetlands, acknowledging the important roles they play in capturing and storing carbon, protecting shorelines, and supporting marine food webs and species at risk."

What is a "marine dependent land use?" Would most lay people even understand what that phrase means?

"Neither the density nor intensity of land use should be increased in groundwater regions where the quality or quantity of freshwater is likely to be inadequate or unsustainable."

What is the difference between density and intensity? What does intensity mean, in this instance?

"Harvesting practices (i.e. forestry, agriculture and aquaculture) should be small-scale, sustainable, regenerative, supportive of climate action, respectful of Indigenous harvesting areas and protective of the environmental integrity of the Islands Trust Area."

There are six values-based phrases combined in this statement. What if I agree with all but one, or only half of them? How do I answer?

What does "respectful of the environmental integrity of the Islands Trust Area" actually mean?

Section 21 asks for our opinion on an array of advocacy work the Trust could take on, but it does not tell the participants whether any of this work is already part of the Trust work plan and budget or whether it would require entirely new resources. Of course, it would be nice to have all the things, but we don't even know if we can afford them.

Sections 22 through 26 ask open-ended questions about macro issues and then provide a mere 300 characters in which to answer. Three hundred characters is only 20

characters longer than a tweet and we all know how useful they are in addressing the subtleties of any complex issue.

The whole point of a survey is to gauge community sentiment and provide actionable information. But it is disingenuous in the extreme to survey the public with only half the information required to respond, while placing severe limits on possible responses by framing them within the very policy proposals that caused the process to literally fall apart in the first go-round.

Trust Council's intent and direction to staff for the Phase 3 public engagement program, which was specifically added to the policy statement review process at an additional cost of approximately \$140,000 to taxpayers, was to address the failings of the first engagement process; to be more inclusive, hear from more voices, broaden the input beyond the usual participants and ensure that groups who would otherwise not be heard from, such as youth, would be included.

The design and language of the survey, the short notice and non-inclusive format of the so-called Q&A session, and the scheduling of the other "upcoming Phase 3 engagement activities" over the two weeks of spring break, when families and local businesses are very busy, in fact accomplishes exactly the opposite.

If this is the shape of things to come, Trust Council would be better off scrapping the Phase 3 engagement and saving taxpayers' money, rather than executing a so blatantly obviously biased exercise.

The public is already on high alert. These Machiavellian manoeuvres by the bureaucracy will only serve to trash what little public trust is left.

*The above was submitted to the Islands Trust, and the Driftwood, on behalf of the Salt Spring Solutions community group.*

**MORE LETTERS**

continued from 5

**Losses and gains**

In his letter in the March 2 issue of the Driftwood, Mark Perry tells us that looking through past issues of the Driftwood showed him that "Salt Spring has moved a long way back from being the vibrant community it once was." He adds, "Is this island destined to simply continue down the road of complacency?"

Now, since we moved here in 1988, I join Mark in lamenting the loss of several venues dear to my heart. In Fulford there was Rodrigo's and then Kizmit. In Ganges there was Luigi's Pizza, Admirals Specialty Foods and the best milkshakes created by Wendy at the Tides Inn. There was Watermark Books, Volume II Books, Mark's Work Warehouse and Slegg.

And since we moved here in 1988, and thanks to thousands of Salt Spring Islanders, these excellent new venues and family events

were created: In Fulford there is the Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park, the Shaw Family Community Gardens, the Salt Spring Apple Festival and the abattoir.

In Ganges we now have ArtSpring, the pool and the Rainbow Road Allotment Gardens. We have the new library, the new bus system, a safe network of pathways for pedestrians, the Tuesday Farmers' Market, Seedy Saturday seed exchange, the Salt Spring Laundromat and loads of exciting new businesses, marvellous new cafes, eateries, food carts and bakeries, and a vibrant music, arts and crafts scene.

Let's celebrate and support our collective accomplishments as a community. Let's continue to work together to respect our differences.

And as for the Vortex project, to quote from Aldo Leopold's Land Ethic, "A thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."

**NINA RAGINSKY,**  
WALTER BAY

**A sickening déjà vu:  
Prague 1968;  
Ukraine 2022**

I was in Prague looking forward to meeting scientist Dimitri Korzhinski at the 1968 International Geological Congress. At 6 a.m. on the opening day I awoke to the sound of explosions, low-flying jet aircraft, shouting in the streets and sporadic gunfire.

From my hotel window I could see crowds of people, cars flying the Czech flag, and lines of Russian tanks. Men were standing in front of the tanks trying to stop them. Later, some were overrun by the tanks, bullet scars could be seen at the congress venue, the congress was aborted, and I did not meet academician Korzhinski.

The country was in chaos. A Russian airborne force had landed at the airport with a mobile control tower and rapidly delivered a military ground force while fighter-bombers controlled the airspace.

A friend with a car was able to fill his tank privately and six of us zigzagged across the country to the border to avoid roadblocks on the way to Germany. It suddenly made sense to me that before leaving Canada I had been warned by plainclothes RCMP to avoid liaisons while away to avoid blackmail and a forced introduction to espionage.

Today, on Salt Spring in 2022, I have had the sickening



Scene from Prague, 1968, as photographed by Hugh Greenwood, who now lives on Salt Spring.

realization that the Russians are doing it again. It is bloodier this time, and the international brinkmanship seems more dangerous.

The Russian people themselves are hostages to their own government autocrats, the Ukrainian people and their international guests are victims, and democratic countries are struggling to find ways to stop the carnage without actually starting another world war.

Democracy is a slow and cumbersome way to run a country but it beats the alternative. Where we can, we must defend it on both large and small scales.

**HUGH GREENWOOD,**  
SALT SPRING

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 8

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# Focus ON EDUCATION

## Students build skills and careers in trades

TASK program keeps thriving with new home at SIMS

BY EMELIE PEACOCK

DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Entering the trades while in high school can set you up in multiple ways, says Nick Pringle.

Being a skilled tradesperson on Salt Spring Island has allowed Pringle to stay here, work on unique projects and now own his own company with a crew of six, and it all started in high school.

A fifth-generation Salt Spring Islander, Pringle went to work for Perry Booth and Lancer Contracting in 2014. School counsellors suggested he gain credits for that work through Camosun College.

"So I graduated first year of college prior to high school," he laughed.

Pringle went on to get his Red Seal qualification in carpentry and incorporated his company in 2020.

Pringle has now brought on Finley Lesosky, a Grade 12 Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) student in the Trades, Awareness, Skills and Knowledge (TASK) program, who spends his Fridays on the job site. Lesosky has his sights set on getting his Red Seal in carpentry, but also wants to try out other trades to see if exposure to them changes his mind.

Grade 11 student Jahluca Grooms took the TASK program in Grade 10. This is when most students start the 20-week-long program, where they spend the semester building structures under 100 square feet in size and trying out electrical, welding, fabrication sheet metal, heavy duty mechanic and plumbing trades.

It starts with the very basics, said Maggie Allison, who man-



PHOTO COURTESY SD64

This semester's TASK students at their new SIMS construction yard with a \$3,000 Country Grocer donation of cordless framers, nail guns and batteries.

ages career development and community initiatives with the district, with students building their own sawhorses, then doing a concrete pour and continuing to assemble the buildings. The rest of the trades are learned either in 18-wheeler trucks carrying mobile classrooms that come to Salt Spring or with students going over to Camosun to learn.

The program is run like a job site, Allison said. Students need to come on time, put their phones away and can't be absent except in the case of "blood, bones, barf." Now added to those three Bs is "C" for COVID-19 symptoms.

This rigorous approach sets students up for Fridays, which they spend on real job sites. By the end of the school year or towards the next one, students can then sign up as youth apprentices with local companies.

"What that does is springboard kids into Work In Trades,

which is another [Industry Training Authority] program," Allison said.

As apprentices, students gain on-the-job training while earning up to 16 credits towards their high school diploma, and log those hours towards their trades credentials.

By the second semester of Grade 12, Allison said, students can take a first year in technical training in their chosen trade, tuition free, at Camosun or another college in a place where they have family members.

Grooms ended up doing his Friday work experience and spent the following summer working with Elevated Construction. He now wants to take woodwork and fine furniture courses at Camosun, which together with his carpentry and TASK experience will prepare him to set up a small business converting vans into tiny homes on wheels.

"It's been a lot of work, but it's been a lot of fun and a lot of laughs. The people who run the program are really nice," Grooms said of his TASK experience.

"It's really different. It's a lot more physical work rather than mental work. We're always outside, active rather than sitting inside and learning," Lesosky said. "Both ways I get a lot of new information. I learn a lot."

Participating in high school trades training also has benefits outside of work. Pringle gutted and renovated a home he bought on his own, while Grooms has done mechanical work on a car he bought this summer, as well as helping his mom with some electrical problems in her house.

For the past nine years TASK operated out of the poultry barn at the Farmers' Institute, which meant instructors had to construct and then disassemble a warm classroom every year so it could be used for poultry. The program has now moved to a new home in the shop and grounds at Salt Spring Island Middle School (SIMS).

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# Pharaphrasing Tolstoy for today

BY GREG SPENDJIAN

In my years working in international development, I often came across this quote by Leo Tolstoy: "I sit on a man's back choking him and making him carry me, and yet assure myself and others that I am sorry for him and wish to lighten his load by all means possible . . . except by getting off his back."

Tolstoy takes responsibility for not relieving his victim's misery, which is good. However, the quote does not address the fact that he is assisted in his oppression by the system of power and privilege in which he exists, nor his sense of entitlement to do what he is doing. Even if Tolstoy decided to get off the victim's back, or the victim succeeded in freeing himself from his burden, he remains in a feudal system of servitude, poverty, lack of opportunity and powerlessness.

I keep being reminded of this quote in the context of the biggest issue facing the world today: climate change. In today's context, the equivalent to Tolstoy not getting off the man's back to relieve his suffering is our societies not reducing dramatically the greenhouse gases we spew into the atmosphere.

Daily headlines prompt this reflection. Notwithstanding efforts of some to reduce carbon footprints, the U.S. Energy Information Administration projects nearly 50 per cent increase in world energy use by 2050. Even if much of this comes from renewables, the level of hydrocarbon use is not projected to decrease significantly.

Increases in energy consumption are due to many reasons: growing population, the rise in living standards leading to increased demand, changing consumption patterns globally, the limitless thirst for consumer goods and services.

Market-oriented private enterprise systems and planned economies share the same overarching goal: industrial growth and economic expansion from increased production and consumption of goods and services. This growth imperative cannot be squared with the need to reduce "throughputs of material and energy," to use a term popularized by Herman Daly in his book *Steady-State Economics: A New Paradigm*.

A May 20, 2021 BBC article headline asks: "Could humans destroy all life on earth?" The article goes on to ask "The seemingly insatiable human tendency to consume is changing our

## GUEST COLUMN

planet and the life on it, but can we change our behaviour?"

Examples of over-indulgence are everywhere. At one extreme, if you ever wondered how many residences and vehicles are owned by ultra high-net worth individuals in the U.S., the answer, according to a 2016 *Fortune* article, is nine homes and 19 cars. Recently we have seen the rather repulsive sight of billionaires shooting into space, just because they can afford to.

The mega-rich are not the only ones with a high carbon footprint. A September 2020 *Guardian* headline reads "How SUVs conquered the world – at the expense of its climate." The International Energy Agency determined that over the past 10 years "SUVs were the second largest cause of the global rise in carbon dioxide emissions, eclipsing all shipping, aviation, heavy industry and even trucks . . ." A significant impact of a personal choice of transportation.

Even seemingly benign activities have serious energy consequences. In 2020 it was estimated that the carbon footprint of our gadgets, the internet and the systems which support them accounted for 3.7 per cent of global greenhouse emissions. This was projected to double by 2025. All that emailing, texting, zooming and streaming has consequences.

Then there is the current craze in cryptocurrencies and especially Bitcoin mining. The electricity required for the latter is more than the total electricity consumption of countries like Finland or Ecuador. For whose benefit, one might ask, other than money launderers, corrupt operatives and speculators?

Notwithstanding coal being the dirtiest fuel, the world still uses 8 billion tonnes. China's coal production hit record levels of over 4 billion tonnes in 2021. A Nov. 13, 2021 headline in *Forbes* says: "Coal Is Out At Cop26 – Except For Countries Where It's Still In!", listing China, India, Australia and the U.S.A. as "still in coal."

A recent *Guardian* headline claims "World's militaries avoiding scrutiny over emissions . . ." Countries do not have to include armed forces' emissions in their targets despite estimates sector creates six per cent of greenhouse gases.

Individual choices can reduce carbon

footprints. But just as Tolstoy getting off his victim would not be enough to relieve his misery, personal lifestyle changes will be insufficient to alter the trajectory of global warming. So far governments, oil companies, the rich and the powerful have done everything they can first to deny or ignore the reality of climate change, then to take as little action as possible to confront it, while spending billions gaslighting growing public awareness. Without their commitment to be part of the solution, prospects for reducing greenhouse emissions sufficiently are virtually nil.

Concerns about climate change cannot be separated from growing inequality in wealth and economic opportunity. The top one per cent have appropriated almost all recent economic growth, now owning close to half of global wealth. Reductions in energy and material consumption need to be accompanied by redistribution of wealth and economic opportunity, a move strongly opposed by the political right.

The demands we place on the global commons will eventually have to differentiate between real material and service "needs" such as food, clothing, shelter, health care, education, and a sense of belonging and well-being, and mere entitlement "wants" for luxury goods and services. Gross and harmful patterns of over-consumption will at some point have to be labelled as unacceptable and inimical to a viable life for all. The strong value we place currently on individual freedoms and choices will have to be balanced by values of environmental responsibility and community welfare.

In today's world, Tolstoy's quote could be expanded and rephrased thus: "We indiscriminately exploit the resources provided by nature, producing by-products which damage the prospects of all life on the planet, while assuring ourselves that we are concerned for the welfare of the planet, its humans and its myriad species, and wish to lighten nature's load by all means possible . . . except by reducing our level of material and energy consumption and redistributing more fairly the wealth our societies generate."

It is difficult to be optimistic about the prospects for humans and other species, but such an admission may be a first step towards collectively searching for and implementing solutions to the mess we are in.

Congratulations to Zach Carver, director of *The Race to Alaska*, which has been named Audience Favourite. This highly entertaining documentary about a 750-mile endurance race up the treacherous Inside Passage has previously won audience choice awards at several other film festivals.

Congratulations also to Cassie De Colling, director of *Precious Leader Woman*, a film about Olympic snowboarder Spencer O'Brien, which was the runner-up for most popular film. Both Zach and Cassie joined us here on Salt Spring to present their films, and contributed engaging insights into the filmmaking process through onstage Q&As.

Thank you to our presenting sponsor Country Grocer, as well as our major sponsors Gallery 8, the Salt Spring Exchange, Salt Spring Island Community Services and the BC Community Response Network. We also gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia, the BC Arts Council, the Salt Spring Island Foundation and Telefilm Canada.

Watch for other stand-alone film events between now and next year's festival, as we continue to do what we do best: providing the Salt Spring community with high-quality, award-winning films on important local and global issues, presented when possible by visiting filmmakers.

**THERIN GOWER,**  
PRESIDENT, SALT SPRING FILM FESTIVAL SOCIETY

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### Real Estate

#### How Should I Prepare My House For Listing? Part 1



JAN MACPHERSON

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### MORE LETTERS

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## Festival fun

Thank you to everyone who attended the wonderfully successful Salt Spring Film Festival at ArtSpring last week, featuring a dozen documentaries, two with

visiting filmmakers in attendance.

Over 800 tickets were sold, and 75 per cent of the audience voted to let us know what they thought of the films, with 94 per cent of the ballots indicating that the films were either excellent or very good.

Capital Regional District



### Notice of Meeting

#### Capital Regional District Board 2022 Financial Plan Bylaw Approval

A meeting of the Capital Regional District Board, including budget discussion for 2022, will be held:

**Date:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022

**Time:** 1:00 pm

**Place:** CRD Headquarters, 6th Floor Boardroom  
625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC



# ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

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**LIVE SHOWS**

## Comic Strippers return for improv



PHOTO COURTESY THE COMIC STRIPPERS

From left, comedians Chris Casillan, Michael Teigen and Roman Danylo, members of the Comic Strippers who will present their show called The Improvisers at ArtSpring on March 26.

Improvisers set to make islanders laugh

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

An improv comedy troupe that has thrilled audiences worldwide for more than a decade — including some on Salt Spring Island — is bringing a new show to the ArtSpring stage this month.

The Comic Strippers have won a best live production Canadian Comedy Award and been on numerous TV shows, including CBC's Just for Laughs, CTV's Comedy Inc. and NBC's Late Friday. On Saturday, March 26, three group members will present The Improvisers.

One of them, Roman Danylo, explains the difference between past shows and The Improvisers.

"The Comic Strippers show concept is a group of fake male strippers trying their hand at improv comedy. In real life we're all improv comedians that have been doing it for about 30 years each. In this stripped-down version of the show we are fully clothed. However, we've all been known to take off our shirts from time to time in any comedy show."

The Improvisers sees the actors create spontaneous comedy sketches based on audience suggestions. The March 26 show, which begins at 7:30 p.m., is guaranteed to be a fun and high-energy evening with

performers who have tons of comedy experience.

Danylo has appeared on CTV's Comedy Now, Comedy Inc. and Corner Gas, CBC's Just For Laughs and The Debaters, and played the Winnipeg and Halifax comedy festivals. Michael Teigen is a well-known performer in the improv comedy scene and has also been in many films, TV shows and commercials. He is also a proud kidney donor. Chris Casillan is a longtime Vancouver-based actor, improviser, comedian and musician, and two-time Canadian Comedy Award winner.

Danylo says improv work has delivered the most fun in his acting career.

"There's just a special electricity that happens when the audience knows you are flying by the seat of your pants. Improv comedy is like learning how to play an instrument: once you figure out how it all works you can just get out there and play."

Danylo also gave high ratings to past audiences at ArtSpring.

"We absolutely love Salt Spring. The crowds here have always been super enthusiastic. We'd love to come do a show here once a month if we could."

Like all live performers who were kept off stages due to the pandemic, they are really looking forward to getting back on track.

"There's certainly an extra level of gratitude we are feeling for being able to tour and do shows with our friends again," he said.

Tickets are available through ArtSpring at [www.artspring.ca](http://www.artspring.ca).



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# what's on this week



Wed. Mar 9

**ACTIVITIES**

**Music Bingo.**  
 Every Wednesday at Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

**ONLINE**

**Islands Trust Council.**  
 Watch quarterly meeting of trustees via [islandstrust.bc.ca](http://islandstrust.bc.ca), or attend in person at Vancouver Island Conference Centre in Nanaimo. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thur. Mar 10

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**Open Mic & Jam.**  
 Royal Canadian Legion. 7 to 10 p.m.

**ONLINE**

**Faith and the Climate Crisis — A Multi-Faith Perspective.**  
 A Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice event focused on how faith can respond and/or be helpful in the face of the climate crisis. 7 to 8:30 p.m. Register at [staroftheseaassi@gmail.com](mailto:staroftheseaassi@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

**Islands Trust Council.**  
 See Wednesday listing except the times are 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Fri. Mar 11

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**Tom Hooper.**  
 Live at Moby's Pub. 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**

**StoryWalk.**  
 Follow the trail of laminated signs from a children's book beginning from the Salt Spring Public Library through Mouat Park and toward the Rainbow Road pool. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**ASK Salt Spring.**  
 CRD director Gary Holman is this week's guest via Zoom. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Email [ask@asksaltspring.com](mailto:ask@asksaltspring.com) for the link.

Sat. Mar 12

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT**

**Before Night Falls.**  
 A musical journey with Bruce Cobanli and friends, including Monik Nordine. At the Legion. 7:15 p.m.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Salt Spring Forum: Jeremy Kinsman.**  
 Former ambassador to Russia is the Forum's guest for a special event on the war in Ukraine. Mahon Hall. 3 p.m. Tickets: [saltspringforum.com](http://saltspringforum.com).

**StoryWalk.** See Friday's listing.

Sun. Mar 13

**ACTIVITIES**

**Support for Ukraine Rally.**  
 Gather in Centennial Park at 12:30 p.m. for updates on community response to Russian invasion of Ukraine and more.

**Community Bake Sale.**  
 Round 2 of social justice event at Bullock Lake Farm. 12 to 3 p.m. Proceeds to World Central Kitchen, Keepers of the Water and Indian Residential School Survivors Society.

**StoryWalk.** See Friday's listing.

Mon. Mar 14

**ACTIVITIES**

**StoryWalk.** See Friday's listing.

Tue. Mar 15

**ACTIVITIES**

**Trivia Tuesday.**  
 Every Tuesday at Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Wed. Mar 16

**ACTIVITIES**

**Music Bingo.** See last Wednesday's listing.

**THE FRITZ CINEMA**

King Richard shows on Friday, March 11 through Tuesday, March 15 at 7 p.m., plus a 3 p.m. matinee on Sunday. See [www.thefritz.ca](http://www.thefritz.ca) for more movie info. COVID-19 protocols, including vaccine card and mask requirements, in place.

**EXHIBITIONS**

• Salt Spring Gallery presents **For the Love of Art**, work by artists Allison Brodie, Lisa Lipsett, Carol Newmeyer, Nathalie St Amant and Olga Szkabarnicki until March 16.

• Salt Spring Painters Guild members show work in the lobby of ArtSpring until April.

• **Small Works by Gabrielle Jensen**, in Unison pastel, is up through the end of March at Dragonfly Art Supplies.

• Alexandra Aristera shows her artwork in the programs room of the Salt Spring Public Library through March when the library is open (Monday through Saturday) and the room is not otherwise in use.

• Salt Spring Photography Club member Colton Prevost is exhibiting at Country Grocer Cafe this month.

**Salt Spring Forum**  
 With guest Jeremy Kinsman  
 Saturday, March 12  
 Mahon Hall, 3 p.m.  
 Tickets through [www.saltspringforum.com](http://www.saltspringforum.com)

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## CHILD CARE

# Little Rainbows centre seeks community support

Accommodation for staff, resources and more needed for vital service

BY EMELIE PEACOCK  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

The excitement is palpable for Janice Shields as she prepares to open the Little Rainbows infant and toddler-care centre, as is the need for community support to help the centre succeed.

Shields as executive director and a board of directors are behind plans to open the Little Rainbows Early Learning Centre, to be housed in the recently completed 1,500-square-foot addition to the Rainbow Road Aquatic Centre. With housing and employment being major concerns on Salt Spring, the board is looking for community support as they recruit new early childhood educators (ECEs), find them housing and also equip the new centre with resources, books and playground equipment.

The new board formed to open Little Rainbows operates under the umbrella of the Gulf Islands Early Learning Society (GIELS), a society with charitable status that has been active on Salt Spring for close to 40 years and runs the Salt Spring Early Learning Centre. Two years ago, as the provincial government was making funding available for new early learning spaces, the board was initially working with the Gulf Islands School District to operate a future early learning space with the district.

The board then found out the Capital Regional District (CRD) had received grants to construct an addition to the aquatic centre as well as a stand-alone purpose-built classroom — both meant to house early childhood education. The board was initially advising the CRD, including informing them about the very dire need for infant and toddler spaces. They later bid on the project with the CRD and were successful. Little Rainbows will be leasing the expanded multipurpose space at the aquatic centre daytime from Monday to Friday.

Tree Frog Daycare was the last space for infant and toddler care to open, in 1994, and closed in November 2021 due to the combined staffing and workforce housing shortage.

"It had four infant toddler spaces, and there's been no other childcare since then, for the infant age group," Shields said. "So it's well overdue."

Shields has been told by Salt Spring midwives that around 70 children are born to parents here every year. A fundraising letter from Little Rainbows also states that a recent needs survey showed 75 families are looking for infant and toddler care.

Since coming to Salt Spring to work for and manage Tree Frog in 1994, Shields has also worked in the school district with children with special needs, with StrongStart and most recently with the Seamless Day kindergarten pilot program at Fulford Community Elementary School.

The biggest hurdle Little Rainbows is facing currently is recruiting staff. Once it is up and running, Shields hopes to have four full-time staff in addition to herself as an administrator, or three full-time staff and a few working part-time. All educators working in the early childhood space need to be certified, and Little Rainbows will need ideally two ECEs with the infant and toddler certificate, as well as ECEs and ECE assistants.

Part of the challenge is ECE salaries, which Shields noted haven't grown with time and are quite different from a teacher's wage despite the important service they provide. The province is working to attract people to this career through education grants for people certifying as ECEs and getting further qualifications. While this is great to see, Shields said, there also needs to be a focus on keeping people in the profession by making theirs a living wage.

There are ways to study for an ECE certificate remotely, and some on Salt Spring have done this, for example through Northern Lights College. High school students can also begin their education to be an



PHOTO BY JANICE SHIELDS

New Little Rainbows infant and toddler-care centre.

ECE in their senior years. Shields hopes to see Little Rainbows offer practicum spaces down the road, as a practicum is a requirement for students to receive their certificate.

As businesses see staffing challenges across Salt Spring Island and Shields knows most ECEs and where they're already employed here, Little Rainbows will likely need to recruit off-island ECEs. This means they will need a place to stay, so Shields is asking anyone who might have a suitable place to rent to get in touch.

The Little Rainbows board has also reached out to the community for financial support to purchase learning resources, books and playground equipment.

"The grant was for the building and then a bit of equipment, but it doesn't cover the finer resources," Shields explained.

There's a lot of work ahead to get to opening Little Rainbows, something that hasn't deterred the team behind making the centre a reality.

"The community has been needing infant care for so long. As a group of passionate ECEs that exist in the community, we couldn't let the opportunity go by," Shields said. "We figured we had to try and create the vision, so here we are. A lot of us are at the end of our careers, but it's still fairly fitting to be a part of it."

Members of the Little Rainbows board are Kathryn Akehurst, Jaylene D'Amboise (Kaye), Janet Hoag, Trish Hoffman and Andrea Hollingsworth.

With licensing with Island Health done and staff hired, the centre will be able to open to 12 children up to age 36 months at a time. They will likely be serving more than 12 children as some may only come on certain days. There are already 20 on the waitlist.

To connect with the Little Rainbows board about employment, housing or donations, or to be added to the waitlist, email littlerainbows@giels.org.

## NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT NOTICE

### FLUSHING OF WATERMAINS

FLUSHING OF WATERMAINS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN THE DISTRICT ON TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS - MARCH 9 - APRIL 29, 2022

Short periods of low pressure and discolouration of water can be expected between these dates. Consumers are warned to be on alert for discoloured water, especially before using washing machines, dishwashers and other appliances.

Commercial establishments such as laundromats, restaurants and beauty salons will receive advance warning of flushing in their vicinity if a request for such notification is received by the District. Please contact the NSSWD at 250-537-9902.

In no case can the District accept responsibility for any claims arising out of the use of discoloured water.

## TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

**MARCH 2022 PST (UTC-8h)**  
When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
9	0308	2.6	8.5	13	0343	3.2	10.5
	0806	3.0	9.8		1947	0.9	3.0
	WE 1606	1.1	3.6		SU DI		
10	0107	2.9	9.5	14	0413	3.2	10.5
	0449	2.8	9.2		1007	2.6	8.5
	TH 0811	2.9	9.5		MO 1248	2.7	8.9
	JE 1657	1.0	3.3		LU 2034	0.9	3.0
11	0218	3.1	10.2	15	0437	3.2	10.5
	FR 1754	1.0	3.3		1018	2.5	8.2
					TU 1401	2.7	8.9
					MA 2116	0.9	3.0
12	0306	3.2	10.5	16	0458	3.2	10.5
	SA 1853	1.0	3.3		1034	2.3	7.5
					WE 1504	2.8	9.2
					ME 2154	0.9	3.0

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## WORLD AFFAIRS

# Forum hosts expert on Russia

Former ambassador Jeremy Kinsman on island Saturday

### SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING FORUM

Events are moving quickly in the war between Russia and Ukraine. Many Salt Springers are following the details of daily events on the ground via news media and the internet and through the sometimes dubious channels of social media.

To help us get a wider perspective on this tense historic conflict, the Salt Spring Forum will host a discussion with Jeremy Kinsman, a former Canadian ambassador

to Russia in the early 1990s. His distinguished career also included postings as ambassador to Rome and to the EU. Now retired, Kinsman lives in Victoria where he maintains active roles in academia and with international democratic institutions.

The Forum event will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 12 at Mahon Hall.

Tickets are available through the Forum website — www.saltspringforum.com — at \$20, or \$15 for Forum members.

Mahon Hall can accommodate 110 people, but, in view of COVID safety, seating will be limited to 75. Proof of vaccination will be required, as well as masks and prudence.


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**Obituaries** **Obituaries** **Obituaries** **Obituaries**

**Rita (Maroesja) Brouwer-Krischko**



In loving memory of Rita (Maroesja) Brouwer-Krischko who passed away February 5th 2022 surrounded by love and with the daughter she protected so fiercely in life by her side. A devoted mother to Elly (Dave) and Theo (Maya), Rita was strong, determined and eternally kind, never allowing the immense hardships she endured as a child in war torn Europe dampen her loving spirit. Whether it was a stray cat, wild bird or pet dog she was there to offer comfort and nourishment, always embodying her maxim of it being better to give than to take. Born in Seredyn, Ukraine, Rita married her love and protector Jan in 1945 (1924-1994), living together in Alkmaar, Netherlands then later Bergen, Netherlands until emigrating with the family to Oliver, BC in 1991 and finally moving to Salt Spring in 2003. Her sense of humour remained strong throughout the years and her love of flowers and nature provided her endless enjoyment. A caring and compassionate spirit, she will be dearly missed.

**PAUL CLARK ISSERLIS**  
26 April 1946 - 2 January 2022



Paul was born, with his twin Joseph, in Morton in Marsh, Gloucestershire, UK. The family moved to London and then Rochester to live on a Thames river barge which probably started Paul's love of the sea. At eleven the family moved to Scotland, finally settling in Edinburgh. Here he studied marine navigation but poor colour discrimination led to his not qualifying for his officer's ticket. He also married Liz and had a son, Roy. He joined the merchant navy as an able bodied seaman for a number of years before emigrating to Canada in the early 70's and worked on the BC coast. He discovered Salt Spring and stayed there for many years. His twin passions were boats and motor cycles, only learning to drive a car in his sixties. He captured reconstructions of HBC fur trade York boats from Rocky Mountain House to Fort Edmonton Park and from Fort Edmonton to Lower Fort Garry in Manitoba. These historic trips were later complemented by his joining the support vessel to the RCMP MV St. Roche crossing the North West Passage in 2000. Paul married Janine in 2010 but she passed after only a few years together. Paul suffered a stroke in 2016 but remained physically active until his death in January. He leaves his twin Joseph, older brother Alan and his son Roy.

**Obituaries**

**DONALD BRUCE ELLIS, 1947-2022**, Whitehorse, Yukon, passed away February 20, 2022, leaving his "True Love, Carol", Whitehorse, with friends, relatives across Canada.

**In Memoriam** **In Memoriam**

*Celebration of Life of*  
**Sheila Zoltay**

A gathering to celebrate the life of Sheila Zoltay will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2022 at 2 pm at the Hart Bradley Hall, 103 Bonnet Avenue, Salt Spring Island, B.C. No flowers please. If you wish to donate in lieu of flowers, please donate to the Knowledge Network (<https://www.knowledge.ca/donate/gift-in-memory>).

Please RSVP to [andy\\_trek@hotmail.com](mailto:andy_trek@hotmail.com)

**Coming Events** **Coming Events**

**Salt Spring Island Library, 129 McPhillips Ave., Ganges, BC**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
Thursday, March 17, 2022 3:30 pm

Library Members with active library cards are invited to attend and vote using Zoom video conferencing by computer or phone. To register email: [admin@saltspringlibrary.com](mailto:admin@saltspringlibrary.com) or call: 250-537-4666 ext. 224

**The Annual General Meeting OF THE salt spring arts council**  
Sunday, March 20, 2022, 11am  
Mahon Hall - 114 Rainbow Road  
Covid protocols will be in place.

Everyone Welcome. Members in good standing are eligible to vote, with memberships available online: [ssartscouncil.com/product/membership/](http://ssartscouncil.com/product/membership/).  
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**Coming Events**

**FABULOUS FLEAMARKET**  
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**Salt Spring Island chamber of commerce**  
**Chamber Operations Manager Job Posting:**

Chamber Operations Manager supports the Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce Board with overseeing all aspects of chamber operations, with a special focus on day-to-day tasks, overseeing projects that the Chamber is involved in, supporting the visitor center, organizing chamber staff, supporting our membership and co-ordinating with local interest groups and governments. It is the responsibility of the Chamber Operations Manager to carry out the directives of the board, and to report back to the executive committee and/or board as needed.

**This position requires:**

- Appropriate combination of education and experience.
- A commitment to community involvement and to learning local government roles and issues.
- A service driven individual dedicated to member experience.
- A team player.
- Excellent communication and effective listening skills.
- Skills and dedication to work safely and independently.
- Ability to work with little supervision and maintain a high level of performance.
- Understanding of project management skills.
- Dedication to collaborating with local interest groups and local governments.
- Valid BC driver's license.

This is a salary position based on a 40 hour work week and ranges from \$53,000 to \$55,000 per year based on experience. Please apply by email to [chamber@saltspringchamber.com](mailto:chamber@saltspringchamber.com) with a cover letter and resume. Letters of reference are encouraged with your application, but not required.

Salt Spring Island Chamber of Commerce  
121 Lower Ganges Road  
Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 2T1  
1-250-537-4223 [www.saltspringchamber.com](http://www.saltspringchamber.com)

**Employ. Opportunities**

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## THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

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**Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)** The inclination to retreat, escape, dream and meditate vies with a rebellious impulse. You want to shake-it-up somehow. Your focus may be internal or external, or a weave of both according to your specific nature and destiny. In any case, your overall financial foundation and future is on your mind and you are determined to prevail.

**Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)** A revolutionary beat and pulse is running through your veins. Finding opportunity to express your sense of individuality feels extra important. The main keyword is freedom. Yet, you also want to merge in heart and mind with those you love to create something new and wonderful. Weaving dreams with measurable action is the key.

**Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21)** You were born to be a dream weaver. Merging creative inspiration with imaginative possibility, you see the magic in life and the divine signature. At least this is a description of your ideal. Conscious co-creation begins with the interaction of your conscious and subconscious mind, your right and left brain, your mind and soul. The trumpets have been sounded. Do you hear them?

**Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22)** Seeing a bigger picture is an active theme now. That you also want to see the details of it is where the real work begins. Your passions are running strong. Yet, you are in the midst of deep, internal changes as well that are adding to the challenge. You can have it all by meditating upon deeper and higher realities and trusting the process.

**Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 23)** You may find yourself lingering somewhere between what was and will be. Dwelling here in peace requires faith in the cycles of life. Free will is important, yet sometimes the best choice is to yield and surrender. Of course, this is also a choice. Commitment to the future and a willingness to patiently and faithfully persevere is your power now.

**Virgo (Aug 24 - Sep 22)** Relationship dynamics are in the spotlight now. These include and require extra effort. Having a positive attitude about it all is extra important. Fortunately, despite the work involved, you are up to the task. Yet, if you run now and try to escape your responsibilities, it will prove costly later. The opposite is true if you give more than usual now.

**Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)** Weaving imagination and creativity into your daily rhythms is extra important now. In doing so, you are likely to experience a breakthrough, one which you have likely been dreaming of for some time. Answering the call will also contribute to your overall well-being and health. Changes in your current financial reality and future are featured.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)** Pisces time is one during which you are meant to dive deep into your imagination to assess the possibilities. This can include envisioning in your mind what might be. In doing so, you are also wise to become aware of what could go wrong as you pursue various paths. This dose of reality to counterbalance dreams of possibility is a cornerstone of wisdom.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)** You are a mystic at your core, yet you also aspire to be a realist in the ways of the world. When these principles are balanced your powers of manifestation multiply. However, when the two are in conflict, everything seems to go awry and you feel compelled to resort to less lofty means to achieve your goals, which is the painful and expensive way. Aim for the balance.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)** Ideals vie with the pressures of reality. Your sights are set on the future and your ambitions are running strong. This is largely a creative time in your life, but could just as easily be enjoyed via playful activities, if you have earned, literally and figuratively, the opportunity to do so. Either way, use this time to dream new dreams and go big!

**Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 19)** Pisces represents your higher ideals. These include living in but not being of the world. Themes of non-attachment to material goals or to outcomes are a feature of this perspective. The powerful influences of planets in Pisces are activating this very focus. So, don't pressure yourself to achieve at this time. Take a break until Aries time.

**Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20)** This is your time to enter new territory. Doing so may occur literally, but also in your mind, attitude, perceptions and interpretations. After all, reality begins in the mind. While others will generally respond to this impulse by taking literal, material leads and strides, you have the opportunity to take this in your mind first and doing so is the foundation of true magic.

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## NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT

### NOTICE TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE ELECTION OF TWO TRUSTEES

Notice is hereby given to the Ratepayers of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, that nominations for TWO trustees will be received in the District office between:

**8:00 am February 24, 2022**  
**12:00 noon March 22, 2022**

Nomination of candidates for these positions must be made in writing, duly signed and seconded, by two duly qualified electors of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District with signature of agreement by the nominee, and delivered to the District Office at or before 12:00 noon, Tuesday, March 22, 2022.

#### NOMINATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FROM THE FLOOR

Both of the Trustee positions are for a three year term commencing at the Annual General Meeting, to be held on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road and virtually. Due to COVID-19 guidelines changing frequently, we are hoping to hold the AGM in person, but this could change depending on restrictions; however the meeting will also be held virtually through Microsoft Teams, and the link will be posted on the district website for the public to join. The Trustee election will use an exclusively mail-in ballot process. Voting packages will be mailed on March 22, 2022 and ballots must be received at the District office by April 27, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.

To be eligible a nominee must be a Canadian Citizen, 18 years of age or older, an owner, or spouse of an owner of land in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District, and entitled to be registered as a voter under the *Elections Act*.

Visit the "Who We Are" and "Becoming a Trustee" pages on our website for more information about the role of a Trustee.

Nomination forms are available at the District Office and online in the Documents/Forms section of the District website.

### NOTICE OF 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Ratepayers of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at the Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, and virtually through Microsoft Teams (the link will be available on our website).

[www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca](http://www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca)

761 Upper Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, BC V8K 1S1  
(250) 537-9902

## CHARITY

# Family Place wins funds

100+ Women Who Care group members make \$18,000 benefit choice

#### SUBMITTED BY 100+ WOMEN WHO CARE

After three compelling presentations, including from the Salt Spring Arts Council and Farmland Trust, Kathleen Lindstrom's nominated charitable cause of Salt Spring Island Community Services was declared the winner during 100+ Women Who Care's Zoom meeting on Feb. 23.

The organization was awarded the collected total of approximately \$18,000 for its Family Place program, which focuses on perinatal services and parent-child support for families with young children up to six years old.

Lindstrom, a lactation consultant and childbirth educator, has volunteered as a guest speaker for over 30 years for Family Place programs throughout B.C.

"It takes a village to raise a child and far too many communities and families do not have the privilege of that kind of caring, support and education," she said. "I just knew however much was raised would make a difference to young families on Salt Spring."

Family Place offers a variety of parent/

child programs throughout the week, including Stay and Play drop ins, Island Infant Discussion Group, Dad 'n Me Pancake Breakfasts, Parent-Child Mother Goose Music Program in partnership with the Salt Spring Public Library and, most recently, the Intergenerational Mother Goose Program in partnership with Greenwoods Eldercare Society.

The funds come at an important time. Family Place formerly relied on Success by Six provincial funders, a partnership of United Ways, credit unions of B.C., Ministry of Children and Family Development, and Indigenous community leaders, for starting a number of programs over the years. The Success by Six initiative has been phased out and the Gulf Islands will no longer be receiving this vital funding.

The Salt Spring branch of the 100 Women Who Care was founded in November 2018 to bring this high-impact philanthropy to the island, and in three and a half years, it has raised over \$174,000 for now 11 causes ranging from senior and eldercare services to pathways and the public library to the SPCA. Any member of 100+ Women Who Care can nominate a CRA-registered charity that has a local impact.

The nomination deadline for the next 100+ Women Who Care vote in June will be May 20.

## FAITH

# Climate crisis explored at event

Star of the Sea hosts multi-faith discussion

Representatives of four major world religions will gather on Zoom on Thursday, March 10

to discuss how faith can be helpful in light of the ever more visible climate crisis affecting the world.

"We invite the Salt Spring community to participate, as together we consider how our faith might encourage us and guide our way forward, offering hope instead of despair, and strength to act boldly for the sake of our children, grandchildren and those who come after us," explains a press release from organizer Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice.

Guests for the event, which runs from 7 to 8:30 p.m., are Christine Mauro (Vipassana Buddhist, Salt Spring Island), Rabbi Harry Brechner (Congregation Emanu-El, Victoria), Rozina Kanchwala, an Ismaili leader from Illinois, and Bishop Anna Greenwood-Lee (Anglican Diocese of B.C.). Kanchwala is also the founder of Eco.Logic, an education, arts, and community building non-profit that inspires people to take tangible action to address climate change.

A group conversation will follow the panelists' presentations.

People can register at [staroftheseassi@gmail.com](mailto:staroftheseassi@gmail.com) for the Zoom link.

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