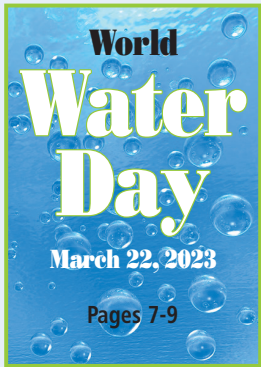
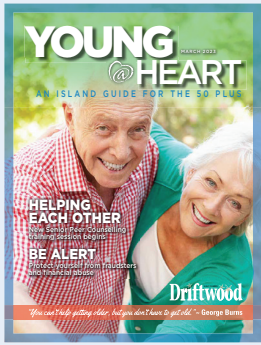


inside:



11 Gulf Islands Fire Rescue Cadet Camp on again

Arts and Entertainment... 10
 Classifieds..... 14
 Editorial 4
 Island Life 11
 Letters..... 5
 What's On..... 12

- INSERTS:**
- Country Grocer
 - Thrifty Foods
 - Pharmasave
 - The Local Liquor St.
 - Home Hardware
 - Buckerfield's

BEDDIS ROAD GARAGE
 Repairs to all makes & models
 181A BEDDIS ROAD
 250-537-4122

Ian Massender
 250 538-8451
 Macdonald Realty



Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

63rd year
Issue 12
\$1.50

Your Community Newspaper Since 1960 • gulfislandsdriftwood.com • 250.537.9933



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

FRIENDLY ART & ARTISTS: Joan Werner, left, and Johanna Hoskins, Salt Spring Printmakers Society members and participating artists in the exhibit called Re-Imagined: Making Waste Into Art, at ArtSpring until March 27, commune with Suzy Q, a piece made by Deborah Miller using plastic bags, old clothing, a compost bin, bamboo pole, twine, garden hose, bottle caps and 2X2s. The show continues to March 27. For more photos, see page 10.

INVASIVE SPECIES

Weed strategy seeded

Manual eradication chosen to deal with knotweed near allotment garden

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A plan to use herbicide near a community garden has been set aside, and Capital Regional District (CRD) staff will work with volunteers to attempt to mechanically control a particularly noxious weed.

Those volunteers will likely be drawn, at least in part, from the uncharacteristically large group that attended what may be the final meeting of Salt Spring's Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) on Tuesday, March 14, as PARC will fall under the new local community commission after it is formed later this spring.

KNOTWEED continued on 3

CHANNEL RIDGE

Protests restart with cell tower work

Signs, remote cameras aimed at public trailhead

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Remote cameras, "no trespassing" notices and signs of worker activity near the proposed site of a contentious communications tower have returned protesters to Channel Ridge — and the Concerned Residents of Canvasback (CRoC) to the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee (LTC).

Last summer, a protest action blocking access to a site where Rogers wanted to build a wireless cellular communications tower jointly with the Capital Region Emergency Service Telecommunications (CREST) agency brought the RCMP, who at one point threatened picketers with criminal charges had they continued to block the road. Since then and over the winter, residents had seen little activity at the site nor any need for physical

protests, according to organizers.

But at its meeting last Thursday, Salt Spring's LTC directed staff to report back on options — including legal advice, if necessary — in response to what seems to be a decision by Rogers to continue development activities on the Channel Ridge site, despite the LTC's strong objections. Those objections were laid out in a letter sent last month, in which LTC advised Rogers to "indefinitely suspend" any development at the site off Canvasback Place. In the letter, LTC chair Tim Peterson wrote that both trustees and the Capital Regional District (CRD) were interested in working with Rogers and CREST "to find a more appropriate location" for a tower.

"Our staff are willing to work with you to locate a site that better meets the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee Antenna System

Siting and Consultation Protocol, as well as your operational needs," read the letter. "We hope you can see the merit in moving forward with an alternate site."

An appendix to the letter laid out an extended explanation of LTC's rationale for having last year rescinded its 2021 statement of concurrence with Rogers' application, including "multiple, substantive and material" areas where LTC believes Rogers did not follow its protocol. The letter stated Rogers "falsely asserted they had fulfilled the protocol, provided inaccurate information, and omitted material information in their application, which are valid reasons for rescindment of the concurrence decision."

Rogers acknowledged receipt of the letter.

CELL TOWER continued on 2

BOYD
 AUTOBODY & GLASS

Visit us at one of our **7** ISLAND LOCATIONS!
 including the new
BOYD AUTOBODY & GLASS
 COMMERCIAL & FLEET DIVISION
 (6722 Betram Pl, Saanichton, BC)

PARKSVILLE 531 STANFORD AVE E #1A
 KEATING 25-6809 KIRKPATRICK CR
 SIDNEY 103-2031 MALAVIEW AVE
 NANAIMO 624 COMOX RD
 VICTORIA 540 JOHN ST
 LANGFORD 2663 SOOKE RD
 SAANICHTON 6722 BERTRAM PL

boyardautobody.com



NOTICE OF AGM

Sunday, March 26
1:00pm
Meaden Hall, 120 Blain Road
(downstairs at the Legion)

All members welcome and encouraged to attend.

www.saltspringlegion.ca

LTC seeks legal advice

CELL TOWER
continued from 1

At the proposed site Friday, a group of a dozen or so protestors said they had witnessed recent activity in and around the access point — a short roadway off Canvasback Place, which is also a right-of-way access point for the Channel Ridge trail system marked on CRD maps. In addition to the new signage, at least one piece of heavy machinery had been delivered to the site, and several spots on the ground were freshly marked with orange spray paint.

Notably, some of the new “no trespassing” signs were positioned on and around a closed gate in front of the CRD trailhead sign and map — meaning anyone wanting to use the public trail would have to walk past the signs first. Cellular-transmitting cameras were strapped to trees adjacent to the roadway, with at least one pointing directly at the trailhead — and the CRD’s signpost marking it.

Residents and community members who are once again picketing at the site praised the LTC for its earlier letter. CRoC representative Julian Clark called the letter “the most significant step the LTC has made in the past 18 months.”

“When the previous LTC concurred with the siting, they invited a monster into our community,” said Clark at the meeting, “and Rogers are just that — they really don’t give a darn what authority you might have, they are in their mind that they’re going to put this tower on that site.”



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

Sign at entrance to Canvasback Place cell-tower site and a Channel Ridge trail system access point.

Salt Spring resident Oona McOuatt told trustees the timing of recent activity suggests it may have been in response to the LTC’s letter.

“Rather than it just being a coincidence,” said McOuatt, “I feel like they’re trying to push this along.”

Regional planning manager Christ Hutton reminded trustees there had been a legal opinion sought and received by the previous LTC.

“My understanding of it was that we had pretty much played our cards to the extent that we could,” said Hutton. “That’s where we were, I believe, about nine months ago. Some of the more recent developments may be something worth exploring.”

“Notwithstanding that advice, I’d still like us to understand, and get some reporting back on what we can and can’t do at this point,” said trustee Peterson.

The committee seemed open to the notion of acting quickly — before their next official meeting — should legal advice warrant it. Under certain circumstances, the LTC can pass a resolution without meeting to authorize an injunction or other time-sensitive action.

Meanwhile, residents and community members said they would maintain a presence on Canvasback indefinitely to monitor ongoing activity by Rogers’ contracted crews.

“It’s just disappointing,” said Clark. “We have a land use authority who’s stepped up and said, ‘Hey, you can’t do this, guys,’ but they’re gonna do it anyway. It’s one of Canada’s largest corporations, and they really don’t seem to care.”

RECREATION Pool fees to tick up this fall

Commercial use of facilities will also rise 3.5 per cent

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

For the third year in a row, entry fees and other charges at the pool and park facilities will be going up.

Salt Spring’s Parks and Recreation Commission (PARC) approved a broad fee increase of 3.5 per cent Tuesday, March 14, which will apply to the existing PARC facility pricing formula for admissions, bookings and rentals starting in September.

After no fee changes in 2020 and two per cent hikes in 2021 and 2022, this year’s daily pool admission for adults will increase from \$6.10 to \$6.30, with an annual pass increasing from \$414.40 to \$428.90. A family admission for the day will rise from \$12.20 to \$12.60, with an annual pass increasing from \$828.25 to \$853.70. Commercial use of facilities such as classrooms and fields will increase by the same 3.5 per cent.

The commission also approved the addition of an hourly booking fee of \$25 for school sport groups using the gym after hours — to remove cost barriers to participation, according to staff — and a \$35 per hour charge for the dance room.

In the event the CRD continues to operate and manage the Saturday market in 2024, staff recommended a five per cent increase in market fees to offset additional operating costs and administration. That would bring the daily vendor charge for an eight-foot booth from \$30.90 to \$32.45.

User fees collected by PARC typically offset the amount of tax requisition collected for the delivery of recreation and park services; the upcoming increases are rounded to the nearest nickel, and program registration fees are not included in the fees and charges bylaw.

PARC staff also told commissioners the annual pool maintenance closure would likely run from Dec. 4 to Jan. 7, and will necessarily include a substantial electrical replacement project. The work won’t involve draining the pool this year, according to parks manager Dan Ovington, so there won’t be quite as many days’ wait as usual for the water to get back up to swimming temperature after work is completed.

Call today to reserve your advertising space in this award-winning 39th edition

THE Gulf Islander

250.537.9933



250-537-9933 • 241 Fulford-Ganages Rd.
driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com
www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

BOOK SIGNING and EXHIBITION of ISLANDS Lake of the Woods




Bill Mayberry • Razali May • Randolph Parker

Featuring paintings by renowned Salt Spring Island artist Randolph Parker



Shoal Lake Cedar, N 49° 30' 21.99" W 95° 02' 32.81", 30 x 40 inches, by Randolph Parker

OPENING RECEPTION March 31 st • 5pm to 8pm	BOOK SIGNING March 31 st & April 8 th 1:30pm to 4:00pm	EXHIBITION RUNS March 31 st to April 17 th
---	---	--



Tel: 250-537-8822 | Toll Free: 1-866-537-8822
gallery8ssi@gmail.com | gallery8saltspring.com
Grace Point Square - 3104-115 Fulford Ganages Rd.
Salt Spring Island, BC, Canada V8K 2T9

expert ADVICE

Real Estate

Listing with a Strategic Marketing Specialist



JAN MACPHERSON

...has it’s advantages. My seller clients receive key information and services that assists them in making decisions designed to optimize their pricing and presentation that include:

- Market trend info where most buyers come from.
- Learn about lead generating proprietary websites and how to position for optimum results.
- How to set up for photography and staging.
- Effective on-line & print advertising including RE/MAX global websites & mobile apps.
- Brochures that are amongst the most informative in the industry — that encourage buyers to see your home.

Your input is valued! Let’s plan together.

I work with Octane Media for 3D Matterport virtual tours & drone videos to maximize the appeal of & provide exceptional promotion for your property.

Jan Macpherson, M.E.S., R.I.(B.C.) - GOLD AWARD 2021 (VREB)
STRATEGIC MARKETING SPECIALIST

Direct: 250-537-9894
RE/MAX Salt Spring: 1-800-731-7131
janmacpherson@gmail.com
www.saltspring.realestate




ECONOMY

CESC report in the works



PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Participants at a March 7 economic forum at Lions Hall ponder economic action plan priorities, with help from consultant Patricia Huntsman, at right in the photo.

Group hopes economic planning functions won't be lost

BY GAIL SJUBERG
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

When the Capital Regional District Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission (LCC) is formed later this year, an island entity that's had its pulse on the local economy for more than a decade will no longer exist.

The Salt Spring Island Community Economic Sustainability Commission (CESC) — which originally had the word “development” rather than “sustainability” in its title when it was formed in 2010 — will join transportation, parks and rec and liquid waste commissions in having its activities subsumed by the LCC.

As shared at a recent community economic forum held at Lions Hall, current CESC members hope the island's economic health won't be lost in the transition without either dedicated volunteers or a CRD staffperson to help bolster it.

The CESC's last major task will be completion of a report for the LCC highlighting priority focus areas for economic planning. A CESC working group with various partners has been working on the project since last October, and the March 7 forum titled Towards Strengthening the SSI Economy - Current Realities & Potential Opportunities gathered further input about priorities from a number of community representatives.

Daniel Muzyka, a CESC commissioner whose high-level positions included being the head of UBC's Sauder School of Business, said it's important for people to realize that “the economy isn't something that just happens.”

Some people assume the economy will take care of itself while social and other issues are dealt with, he said. But, he added, “The economy funds the other issues. We've really got to make sure that we focus a lot more on the golden goose.”

The CESC has been working with consultants to create the final report. The process also included interviewing community members representing varying economic interests.

“It's been really nice to like have different agencies working together with this mission,” said commission member and Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce president Dayle Murray, “and I think it's important to highlight what the commission has done over the years, especially with the transition coming with the LCC, and we hope that it'll be really useful for the LCC.”

The report will be available on the opportunitiesaltspring.ca/cesc/ website.

The last CESC meeting is scheduled for April 17.

PARC heeds gardeners' voices

KNOTWEED The unusually robust turnout Tuesday came as organic gardeners stepped up to speak against a proposal to use the herbicide glyphosate to manage the weed, recently found on CRD-held land.

“Last spring, the Rainbow Road Allotment Gardeners identified invasive species known as knotweed adjacent to the gardens,” said CRD parks manager Dan Ovington. “It's one of the world's most invasive species, in the top 10 for eradication in B.C.”

The CRD is required by the BC Weed Control Act to manage knotweed, as it is classified as a noxious weed, but there is some latitude as to how that is done. PARC staff do not currently use glyphosate in their work, said Ovington, but staff research and the recommendation of several experts they'd consulted led to the proposal.

“There is a recommendation here that we proceed with the stem injection,” said Ovington, speaking of a process that delivers herbicide directly into the plant, “but I will note that staff have provided an alternative to that recommendation as well.”

About a dozen attendees and multiple speakers preferred a mechanical alternative and found a receptive audience in the commission; they agreed that the possible downsides of using the chemical herbicide outweighed the advantages — enough, at least,

to be worth an attempt to avoid using it.

“If you go a [mechanical control] direction right now, that decision could be changed in the future,” said organic orchardist Brian Webster. “But once glyphosate's been used, it's been used — and you can't change that.”

Island Natural Growers chair and allotment garden member Anne Macey pointed out that noxious weeds in the gardens have been managed for many years through mechanical means.

“[Knotweed] isn't present in the allotment gardens simply because it has been removed,” said Macey. “Every time we have seen it encroaching, we have controlled it through mechanical means within the growing area.”

Speakers argued the site itself wasn't conducive to knotweed spread, being generally quite dry. According to several speakers, knotweed tends to spread with flowing water.

“However, there does appear to be some kind of underground water flow along the garden fence,” said Macey. “So probably that is the area that's going to be most problematic, and it will require control.”

Ultimately, commissioners felt the attempt was worth an added effort. Staff were asked to begin coordination with volunteers to map out a plan of attack — and assess the situation on an annual basis, to ensure the knotweed doesn't return.



**NORTH
SALT SPRING
WATERWORKS
DISTRICT**

NOTICE TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT

2023 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, April 27, 2023, virtually through Microsoft Teams, and in person at the Community Gospel Chapel, 147 Vesuvius Bay Road, Salt Spring Island, BC. The link to the meeting can be found in the top right-hand corner of our website.

NOMINEES FOR 2 TRUSTEE POSITIONS ARE: (Both positions are for a 3-year term)

Elizabeth FitzZaland
Gary Gagné
Steve Lam
Leigh Large

AGM Voter Eligibility and Process

The Trustee election will use an advance mail-in ballot process and an in-person voting process. Voting packages and instructions will be mailed to all eligible voters on March 22, 2023, and ballots must be received at the district office by April 25, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. In person voting on the day of the AGM will begin at 2:00 p.m. and end at 6:00 p.m. The results of the election will be announced at the AGM as soon as they are available.

Per the *Election Act* and the District's Letters Patent, an eligible elector for the purpose of a Trustee election is a North Salt Spring Waterworks District ratepayer who meets the following criteria:

- Is a Canadian Citizen 18 years of age or older, who has been a resident of British Columbia for at least the prior 6 months;
- Can only vote once in this election unless the owner is also an authorized agent.
- Is a registered owner of land in the North Salt Spring Waterworks District area, or the authorized agent of any board or corporation that is an owner of such land, or the legal representative of any owner of such land who has died, become insolvent or insane (written proof must be provided by the representative);
- Has been a registered owner of a property within the North Salt Spring Waterworks District area for at least 30 days prior to election packages being mailed out;
- Has an account in good standing;
- Is entitled to be registered as a voter under the *Election Act* and is not disqualified from voting by the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment; and
- Spouses or partners who are not registered on title per BC Assessment are not entitled to vote.

www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca

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

OPINION

2022 CCNA Awards
Gold - Best Special Section | Gold - Best Local Cartoon (Dennis Parker)
Silver - Best Editorial (Gail Sjuberg) | Bronze - Best Editorial Page

2022 BCYCNA Awards
Gold - Best All Round (for circulation Category C)
Bronze - Community Service Award



Driftwood

Published every Wednesday by Driftwood Publishing Ltd.

Tony Richards, MANAGING DIRECTOR


Nancy Johnson
PUBLISHER
nancy.johnson@gulfislandsdriftwood.com


Gail Sjuberg
MANAGING EDITOR
gail.sjuberg@gulfislandsdriftwood.com


Lorraine Sullivan
PRODUCTION MANAGER
lorraine.sullivan@gulfislandsdriftwood.com


Sky Marcano
ACCOUNT MANAGER
sky.marcano@gulfislandsdriftwood.com


Derek Capitaine
OFFICE MANAGER
driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com


Cindy Jacobsen
OFFICE ASSISTANT
driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com


Robb Magley
REPORTER
robb.magley@gulfislandsdriftwood.com

EDITORIAL

Economic focus

Salt Spring has much to gain when a local community commission is formed under the CRD this spring.

But hopefully the island won't lose some of the focus provided by the existing volunteer-run commissions. One of those groups is the Community Economic Sustainability Commission (CESC), which has arguably been the poor cousin of CRD commissions, dealing as it does with less "in-your-face" issues than parks and recreation or transportation, for example, and operating on a much smaller tax requisition. The 2022 CESC budget was just \$98,000, compared to some \$2 million for all parks and recreation services.

Salt Spring property taxpayers have received a pretty good bang for their economic development buck. The commission was formed on the initiative of past

THE ISSUE: Commission impacts

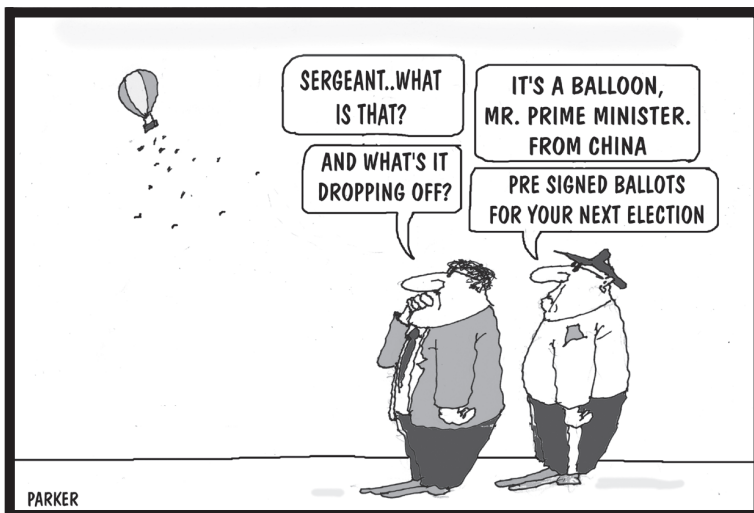
WE SAY: Local economic activities important

CRD director Garth Hendren in 2011 when the impacts of the 2008 financial meltdown were still much in evidence. In 2014 the commission affirmed its credibility by releasing a detailed report and action plan called *Toward a More Resilient Salt Spring*, which saw a number of its recommendations pursued. Since 2016 the commission has been a leader in trying to diversify Salt Spring's economy and to support new initiatives. It pioneered the Rural Business Accelerator program and Green Biz Lab, and created the Opportunity Salt Spring website. Under leadership of CESC chair Francine Carlin, the commission also led the successful call to include the Gulf Islands in the Islands Coastal Economic Trust (ICE-T), which resulted in grants for projects like the three murals created in Ganges last summer.

Beyond the ICE-T inclusion campaign, the CESC engaged in other advocacy efforts, such as the push to have the islands designated as "rural" and part of the Community Futures program for grant purposes, and to have the Municipal and Regional District Tax on accommodations apply to the Gulf Islands.

It also stepped up to protect island businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic, connecting with the Rural Island Economic Partnership to set up the Island Comeback program that encouraged people to make purchases online when in-person contact was discouraged, and holding regional recovery roundtables.

A list of the commission's achievements really could go on, and we hope the list continues to grow despite the commission no longer being a separate entity when the LCC is formed after May 27 elections.



PARKER

ICE-T deserves more funds

BY ADAM OLSEN
SAANICH NORTH AND THE ISLANDS MLA

VIEWPOINT

Currently, the only regional economic development tool available to rural communities to financially support their local priorities is the Island Coastal Economic Trust (ICE-T).

As it stands, in the coming months the doors will be closed, and the lights will be off. It is inexplicable. All but two of the ridings in the region are represented by an MLA in the BC NDP majority government.

The ICE-T's capital stream has accelerated projects like the Hornby Island Arts Centre and Parksville Outdoor Theatre. The community place-making project stream has benefitted the downtown revitalization in Campbell River and Lantzville commercial core revitalization. The start-up stream has boosted the Cortes commercial commons, and Gabriola Island Quick Start projects. There are dozens of other examples.

For context, the ICE-T was created in 2006 with \$50 million as a sinking fund. The BC NDP gave them a \$10 million boost in 2017. This day was always coming. In September 2022, the ICE-T submitted a plan to the province asking for \$150 million to re-capitalize as a permanent fund.

The proposal is to create a legacy that can leverage an estimated billion dollars of economic development over the next 25 years. Without ever touching the initial investment, the trust would draw between \$7-million and \$12-million annually, to disburse to countless more community projects. It is a sound proposal.

In the past couple of weeks, the provin-

cial government has spent more than \$2.7 billion on municipal funds to build new recreation facilities, roads or other municipal needs. The money is part of the \$5.7-billion surplus cash that the government found in Budget 2022 and announced last November. ICE-T was eagerly hoping for good news in Budget 2023, but neither has anything for the fund.

I have had many conversations with my colleagues in the BC NDP. I have yet to find anyone who thinks it is a bad idea, however I am cautioned that it is complex. Yet, I fail to see the complexity. On many occasions I have seen how simple it really is: when a majority government wants something to happen, they make it happen.

With deficit budgets forecast for the foreseeable future, now is the time to make this investment.

The evidence is in the recent debates. The provincial government needs to spend the surplus by March 31, or it is used to pay down the debt. Premier David Eby told nine ministries to spend money. The Ready, Fire, Aim approach.

So why can't we find the \$150 million to re-capitalize the ICE-T, to create a long-term benefit for rural Vancouver Island and coastal communities? It is inexplicable. With deficit budgets forecast for the foreseeable future, now is the time to make this investment.

There is still time before the end of the fiscal year to change course! I will bring your message to the legislature and share it with my BC NDP colleagues. Send your note to encourage the BC NDP to not miss this important opportunity to me at Adam.Olsen.MLA@leg.bc.ca.

241 Fulford-Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, B.C. V8K 2K7 | PH: 250-537-9933
Email: driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com | Website: www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

OFFICE HOURS: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday to Friday

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR:

Digital Edition with Print Edition: \$85.00 | Elsewhere in Canada *\$15.00

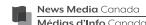
Foreign: \$248.00 | Digital Edition: \$45.00 anywhere | Prices include GST



Funded by the Government of Canada



Canada Publication Mail No.0040050837 | International Standards Serial Number 1198-7782
Member of News Media Canada • National NewsMedia Council, and BC & Yukon Community NewsMedia Association



THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Should a running track be included in a Portlock Park reconfiguration? Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Note: Some people reported difficulty voting online this week, so accuracy not guaranteed!

Are you glad the Islands Trust won't pursue tree-cutting authority for now?
96 YES 107 NO

Cast your ballot online at 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

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

Latest CRD tax increase too much

At the March 10 ASK Salt Spring event, Capital Regional District (CRD) Gary Holman revealed that now the CRD budget is potentially going to increase by 7.6 per cent.

The recently announced 5.6 per cent increase was appalling enough. Even without the new two per cent, such an increase is unacceptable and irresponsible. I can just live with the original 3.4 per cent. There was not enough time to respond to these new hikes.

Responsible organizations cut their budgets to make ends meet.

SABINE SWIERENGA,
SALT SPRING

Be compassionate

A friend of mine is a living breathing example of who might be living on the street.

Back in 1996, when I left Toronto to move out west, my friend Catherine was a successful health professional. She had a very busy practice in the Bloor Street part of Toronto. She and her partner, both work and personal, were making a very good living that enabled them to live in an upscale part of Toronto and take several vacations a year. Life was good. She was always interesting and some would call her fey, but she did not seem to have serious mental health issues.

But then, changes happened. Her relationship fell apart. In a last-ditch effort to save that relationship, she drove 2,000

kilometres to see her estranged partner. When that didn't work out, she did a quick turn-around and started driving the 2,000 km back home. About 150 km from home, she had a devastating car injury. Lucky to survive, she was left with a brain injury that made her unable to work at the age of 48. Her practice was gone. All of her education was no longer of use. She was lucky enough to have long-term disability for many years until she turned 65 and she did okay.

But now she lives on the cold, mean streets of downtown Toronto. She sleeps in McDonalds. Her brother has tried to help. I do not have the money or the skills to help. I am almost certain she does not take street drugs. And I know she is not violent. She is a street person. My friend Catherine, who used to be a successful health professional, is a street person.

Be compassionate. We don't know any of those people's stories. Yes, there are scary, mean people out there, but most are not. They're like Catherine.

SUSAN WORRALL,
SALT SPRING

Confusion on Green party position remains

I would like to thank Elizabeth May for her interesting response to my March 8 Viewpoint in the Driftwood ("Correcting the record: the Green party on the war in Ukraine").

It is nice to know you support the Euro-

pean Green Party and their solidarity with the people of Ukraine. However, it is the Green Party of Canada whose policies are in question, and you have done little to clarify two important issues. The first is whether you support sending lethal weapons to help Ukrainian forces fighting Russia, and the second is whether you want to encourage a negotiated settlement to the conflict.

Let me illustrate the confusion in the minds of many Canadians, by referring to comments made in an interview with CBC radio by Green Party of Canada deputy leader Jonathan Pedneault. On Feb. 25, he stated Canada should consider restricting the types of weapons it sends to Ukraine and should press for a negotiated peace. Was he speaking on behalf of the Green Party of Canada or did his remarks misrepresent your policies?

The reaction of the Ukrainian Canadian Council (UCC) to his interview was certainly unequivocal: in an email to CBC News, UCC senior policy advisor Orest Zalydalsky stated: "It is a moral obscenity to argue that people who are victims of an unprovoked assault should not be given the means with which to defend themselves . . . to argue against the provision of weapons to Ukraine is to argue that Russia should be allowed to annihilate the Ukrainian people."

On the second point, President Volodymyr Zelensky has stated that he will not negotiate a peace settlement with Vladimir Putin until the Russian forces have left his country. He knows that it is truly naive to believe that Putin would negotiate a settlement in good faith as long as his forces are in Ukraine.

Once again, thank you sincerely for your earlier response to my letter. As leader of the Green Party of Canada, perhaps you can clear up the obvious confusion about exactly where your party stands.

COLIN ROSS,
SALT SPRING

Admiration

Two items in the March 15 Driftwood caught in my increasingly sticky mind.

First, thanks to Brenda McLean for her plea for imagination and vibrancy in the face we show ourselves and visitors. Grey is, well . . . grey. It does blend with our predominant hair colour, though things have improved since purple hair tint went on sale. Her timing was superb! Just look at the sketch (on page 3 of last week's paper) of the soon-to-come supportive housing structure. It took less imagination to produce that model of architectural beauty than to justify its price tag.

As for vibrancy, we can sit back and wait for the earthquakes John Cassidy will tell us about at this Sunday's Salt Spring Forum event at ArtSpring.

My second note is in admiration of the Salt Spring Printmakers Society. In a place priding itself on its vibrating arts community, it takes guts to produce a show called "Re-Imagined: Making Waste Into Art" (also covered in the March 15 issue). Have they made sure our Capital Regional District/Community Services recycle centre will accept it? If so, I know a potter who has a crackpot to toss. (Bad clay.)

BOB WEEDEN,
SALT SPRING

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"The economy funds the other issues. We've really got to make sure that we focus a lot more on the golden goose."

DANIEL MUZYKA, SALT SPRING ISLAND COMMUNITY ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION MEMBER

Support for tourism contradicts environmental protection goals

The following letter written by Franz Scherubl of Seclusion Lane on Salt Spring Island was sent to Saanich North and the Islands MLA Adam Olsen and filed with the Driftwood for publication.

Dear Mr. Olsen, I was both startled and perplexed when I read your "Business challenges faced" Viewpoint piece in the March 1 edition of the Gulf Islands Driftwood.

Though I am glad that you are meeting with and listening to representatives of the business community, I am startled that you seem to be so quick to abandon the core principles on which, as a prominent member of the Green party, you were elected.

All levels of government have agreed that we are in a climate EMERGENCY, and that the entire planet is doomed unless we use all available means to immediately slow global warming.

Most disturbing to me is your commitment to "supporting the tourism economy with safer transportation routes and visitor friendly infrastructure." The tourism economy, especially on an Island — whether Vancouver Island or the Gulf Islands — is almost entirely fossil fuel powered. Tourists arrive and depart on fossil fuel consuming ferries, almost entirely in fossil fuel consuming vehicles, and they drive (and pollute) extensively when on the island. Or they come on fossil fuel powered airplanes or fossil fuel powered cruise ships and rent fossil fuel powered vehicles once they get here.

Fossil fuel production is driven by demand. There is no point in protesting against oil wells and pipelines while simultaneously encouraging people to consume fossil fuels by enabling them to travel purely for pleasure. And when they arrive they consume a considerable amount of the housing

IN RESPONSE

stock which, as you admit in your piece, has resulted in "many rental units being turned into short-term vacation rentals."

Do you support reducing consumption of fossil fuels and an increase in long-term housing rental stock, or do you support tourism which diminishes long-term housing stock and increases fossil fuel consumption?

On Salt Spring Island we have an acute shortage of workers due in large part to insufficient housing and this is forcing many people to commute via ferry daily to provide the services we require. The observation that tourism is in part consuming long-term housing stock compounds the problem.

There are already more than 350 ferry sailings each week serving Salt Spring Island in the off-peak

seasons. In the summer that number goes to over 375 — an additional 25 sailings a week driven almost entirely by tourism. What is the ecological footprint of that? Eliminate, or at least reduce, tourism and overall demand drops dramatically, especially in the summer.

More sailings means more greenhouse gas emissions and building bigger ferries has a huge ecological footprint: many tons of materials need to be mined, transported, manufactured and remanufactured, transported numerous times through every step of the process, assembled, transported again, and on it goes. Surely you are not blind to the enormous environmental damage which results.

Salt Spring Island is already underserved by workers to support residents. We do not need to create jobs related to the tourist industry. They compete with jobs sorely needed for supporting the

full-time population and they put even more stress on the ferry system to transport many of them on and off the island on a daily basis.

I remind you that the Salt Spring Island Foundation has calculated that a livable wage for workers living on Salt Spring was \$24.36 per hour last year and inflation continues to put upward pressure on that number. Many (most?) of our workers earn less, and those who need to reside off-island, in addition to contributing to fossil fuel consumption, face even higher costs.

Many parts of the world have already reacted to the cultural and environmental damage caused by tourism and are vigorously acting to reduce visitors. Why will you not do the same here to protect our sensitive ecosystems and support policies which serve to preserve and protect our islands as well as the planet as a whole?

Capital Regional District



Notice of Nomination

2023 Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission Election

Public Notice is hereby given to the electors of **Salt Spring Island Electoral Area** in the Capital Regional District, that nominations for the office of Local Community Commissioner will be received between **9 am, Tuesday, April 11, 2023** and **4 pm, Friday, April 21, 2023**.

During that period the nomination documents shall only be received during regular office hours, 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays, by a person designated by the Chief Election Officer at the Capital Regional District, **SSI Administration Office**, 108-121 McPhillips Avenue., Salt Spring Island, BC. **Appointments are recommended** for submitting nomination documents. Originals of emailed forms must be received by 4 pm, Friday, April 28, 2023.

Representation will be as noted below and shall be for a 3-year term commencing June 2023 and terminating in 2026 after the general local election held in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act*:

Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission - Four Commissioners

Candidates shall be nominated in writing by two qualified electors of the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area. To qualify, a candidate must be 18 years or older on voting day (May 27, 2023), a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for six months immediately before the day nomination papers are filed, and not be disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or another enactment from voting.

The nomination documents shall be in the form prescribed in the *Local Government Act* and available at www.crd.bc.ca/SSI-vote and at:

Capital Regional District, SSI Administration Office,
108-121 McPhillips Ave., **Salt Spring Island**,
250.537.4448

Capital Regional District, Legislative Services,
625 Fisgard St., **Victoria**,
250.360.3127

Campaign Period Expense Limits:

In accordance with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, for the 2023 Local Community Commission election, the following expense limits for candidates during the campaign period apply:

Commissioner \$6282.90

Third Party Advertising Limits:

In accordance with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, for the 2023 Local Community Commission election, the following third party advertising limits apply:

Commissioner \$809.84

Additional information on campaign financing and advertising rules is available through Elections BC, 1.800.661.8683, electoral.finance@elections.bc.ca or www.elections.bc.ca.

Candidate Information Session

A virtual information session for potential candidates will be held at 1 pm on March 30, 2023.

Please email elections@crd.bc.ca to register and receive the Zoom meeting link.

For further information on the nomination process, contact Karla Campbell, Deputy Chief Election Officer, at 250.538.4300 or elections@crd.bc.ca.

Dated this 22nd day of March 2023

Kristen Morley
Chief Election Officer

www.crd.bc.ca/SSI-vote



PHOTO COURTESY THEATRE ALIVE

A TOAST TO LONG RELATIONSHIPS: Rehearsing a scene from Lucy Kirkwood's play *The Children*, directed by Chris Humphreys, are, from left, Wendy Beatty, Robert Ruttan and Debbi Toole. Presented by Theatre Alive, the staged reading of an acclaimed play that takes place after a nuclear-plant disaster and revolves around the lives of three people who used to work at the plant runs at Mahon Hall on Friday, March 24 at 7 p.m. Tickets (\$20 and cash only) are at Salt Spring Books or the door.

SALT SPRING ISLAND FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF NOMINATION THREE (3) TRUSTEES



Notice is hereby given to the owners of land within the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District that nominations for three trustees will be received between:

9:00 a.m. Thursday, March 23, 2023
and 4:00 p.m. Thursday, April 6, 2023

During which period the nomination documents shall only be received during the office hours of Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Ganges Fire Hall, 105 Lower Ganges Road, or arrangements may be made to file nomination documents by phoning Anthony A. Kennedy at (250) 537-8815 or 647-284-2900

The Trustee positions are for a three-year term commencing at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday April 24, 2023, and terminating at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in the year 2026

The Election to be held on Saturday, April 22, 2023, at the Ganges Fire Hall, 105 Lower Ganges Road from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Advance Voting will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023, at the Ganges Fire Hall, 105 Lower Ganges Road from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Only persons who are qualified electors of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District may nominate Trustees and hold the office of Trustee. Qualified candidates must be nominated by two duly qualified electors of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District.

Nomination forms may be obtained at the Ganges Fire Hall or from Anthony A. Kennedy, Returning Officer (250) 537-8815 or 647-284-2900. (anthonykennedy10@shaw.ca)

Those persons eligible to nominate Trustees and vote at this election will have the following qualifications:

1. Be a Canadian Citizen
2. Be eighteen years of age or older
3. Be a resident in the Province of British Columbia for at least six months prior to the election day
4. Be an owner of land located within the boundaries of the Salt Spring Island Fire Protection District
5. One vote is also allowed for each board or corporation that owns land within the Fire Protection District. The Board or Corporation must designate one person in writing to act as an authorized agent to vote on its behalf.

If more than one person is registered on title as an owner of land, then each owner may vote providing they meet the qualifications set out above. No person may vote more than once with the exception that they may vote as an authorized agent and personally if they own land on a personal basis.

Dated at Salt Spring Island, B.C. this 24th day of March 2023.
Anthony A. Kennedy, Returning Officer

LET'S PICK IT UP, It's time for the Driftwood's annual island-wide clean-up campaign! Join your friends and neighbours in clearing litter and other debris from island roadsides and beaches.

SEE AD ON PAGE 16 FOR DETAILS

World Water Day

March 22, 2023

Island freshwater stewardship

Take a holistic view of the value of our island's watersheds and forests and learn about freshwater capture systems

SUBMITTED BY THE SALT SPRING ISLAND WATER PRESERVATION SOCIETY

On a rock surrounded by seawater, continuous freshwater availability is a big deal for our island community. Based on various field observations and on ongoing studies and literature, here are some 2023 World Water Day stewardship and community thoughts and factoids to muse over:

- Our island has over 100 watersheds(!). Each of these watersheds is unique, some (many) have been heavily modified, and all crucially play a critical role in sustaining our island's freshwater.
- Each island watershed contributes to the capture of some of that 100 cm of rainwater that falls seasonally on our island.
- Our island watersheds (with their intact natural systems), capture less than 10 per cent of that precious, seasonal, fresh rainwater. This means that generally, less than 10 cm of any potential annual precipitation is stored underground under any point on the island. In some areas of the island, owing to land use changes, this percentage may be significantly lower.

- Our island's underground freshwater storage systems (or groundwater, in aquifers) provide freshwater for some 60 per cent of our island's population, and play a pivotal role in maintaining our natural ecosystems (both forests and aquatic).

- Studies suggest that less than five per cent of that 10 cm of watershed rainwater captured in our groundwater systems is used by our community. This sounds OK, but unfortunately the rest of this stored groundwater is really difficult to easily access, being locked away in a complex system of natural and often poorly connected cracks (fractures) in our aquifers.

- We know that the island's groundwater helps maintain at least some of our island lakes and some of our many creeks via something called baseflow, and baseflow both supports and maintains the surrounding natural systems.

- Our natural watersheds' vegetative cover plays a pivotal role in sustaining our island's freshwater capture; both freshwater quantity — or availability — and freshwater quality.

For the island's population that individually accesses freshwater from wells and/or creeks, lakes and ponds, the watersheds' natural capture and storage systems roles are incredibly important. However, even

in the island's water districts we'd all prefer to spend less on treatments to improve water quality, and we are all keen to preserve water quantity!

It's clear that our interconnected watersheds and natural systems are key to our island's continued freshwater sustainability. Protecting both these components has a very significant value in maintaining our community (and those natural systems that underpin it), and in maintaining a lower \$\$\$ spend on providing freshwater in all its forms.

From the perspective of a community that recognizes the importance of watershed health, and the role of forest and aquatic systems within this setting, we improve the island's freshwater sustainability by thinking holistically about our freshwater systems.

Freshwater is something all this island's living systems share and we all have a role to play in protecting living systems! Perhaps we need a "Less (use) is More" freshwater call-sign for both the community and the island's natural systems.

If you would like to know more or support our education/outreach efforts, including our collaborative stewardship and educational documentary film called Shaped By Water (shapedbywater.org), please reach out to John Millson via email at jamssiwater@gmail.com.

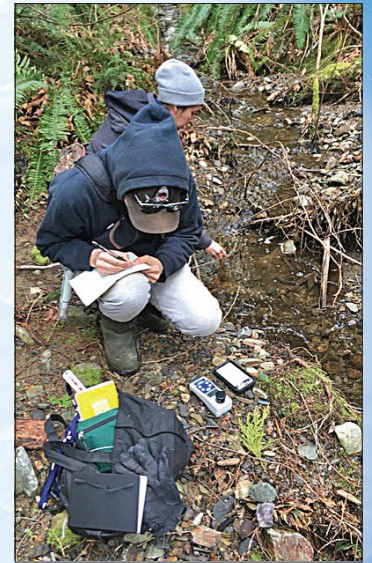


PHOTO COURTESY SSIWPS

Rachel Bevington and Tye Joseph monitor a freshwater creek at Xwaaq'um in a Stqeeey' Learning Society and Water Preservation Society collaborative stewardship project.

Founded in 1965 Drillwell is one of the longest-standing members of the B.C. and Canadian Groundwater Associations.

For Water Well-Drilling, Development and Hydro-stimulation nobody has more practical, hands-on experience than Drillwell.



FAMILY-OWNED AND OPERATED
250-537-8456 • www.drillwell.com • drill@drillwell.com

ISLAND WATERWORKS
Certified Well Pump Service • Filtration Equipment
Real Estate Inspections • Water Quality Testing
250-652-0238
islandwaterworks.ca
Serving the Gulf Islands and Southern Vancouver Island since 2002

Check out our water storage tanks!



In stock!

Windsor Plywood

166 RAINBOW ROAD 250-537-5564
Mon to Fri 7am-5pm/Sat 8am-5pm/Closed Sundays & Holidays
225B Beddis Rd. Contractor's yard hours: Mon-Fri 6:30am-3pm
saltspring@windsorplywood.com • www.windsorplywood.com

Wellmaster Pumps & Water Systems

- Water treatment: reverse osmosis, ultra violet, water softeners
- Pumps: deep well submersibles, jet, boosters • Flow testing
- Cisterns & pressure tanks • Potability testing & analysis
- BC Certified and Registered Installers
- Member of the B.C. Ground Water Association
- Member of the National Ground Water Association

OFFICE:
250-474-5755

WWW.WELLMASTERPUMPS.COM

RAIN WATER CONNECTION

DESIGN & INSTALL FOR:

- Certified Potable systems
- Certified indoor non-potable systems
- Non-Potable outdoor systems
- Fire suppression systems & storage
- Site Plans, Design & Drafting
- Service/Repair/Retro-fit/Upgrade
- Operation & Maintenance plans
- Fully Insured - Liability & WCB

www.rainwaterconnection.com • info@rainwaterconnection.com

World Water



**NORTH
SALT SPRING
WATERWORKS
DISTRICT**

Maxwell Lake Watershed Protection

As islanders, you are helping to play a vital role in Maxwell Lake's watershed protection by honouring the fact that it is private property and not open for swimming, picnicking, fishing, mountain biking, hiking, horseback riding, or off-road vehicles such as motorbikes and ATVs. These activities degrade the watershed because the expansion of trails and pathways creates a direct route for nutrients and sediment to enter the lake during the rainy season. This nutrient loading negatively impacts water quality in both the short and long term. A healthy and intact watershed helps to filter and purify runoff before it reaches the lake. The risk of wildfire during the summer months, especially in a drought situation, is significant and could cause devastating and permanent damage to the watershed and the district's ability to supply water.



In the last year, the District has noticed an increase in trespassing and vandalism in the Maxwell Lake watershed. As this land is held under a covenant with The Land Conservancy and Salt Spring Island Conservancy, the North Salt Spring Waterworks District has a responsibility as the owner to maintain the watershed in its natural state and to protect drinking water. This means that the District must undertake decommissioning all the trails that have been created by illegal activities over the years. To try to prevent any future trespassing or vandalism from occurring and to collect data on the illegal activity, the District installed trail cameras in multiple locations of the watershed in mid 2022. After reviewing the data from the trail cameras the District has been able to determine the majority demographic of the offenders, the date and times of the illegal activity, and what type of illegal activity is happening in the watershed. The District will continue to work with the RCMP to create a plan of action for laying charges.

Currently the Maxwell Lake DAF Water Treatment Plant is scheduled to complete by the end of 2025. With the design of the new plant, the District is working with the consultant to ensure a live video feed is able to be installed to allow the District to immediately react to illegal activity before a catastrophic event occurs. This would have been very useful in August 2022 when an illegal campfire almost got out of hand and could have caused the loss of the watershed and community drinking water source for over 700 properties in the Ganges area. Please consider helping your community by educating others in how important this watershed is to providing potable drinking water to over 1,400 residents on Salt Spring Island.

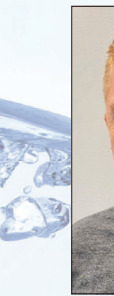
Every Drop Counts

761 Upper Ganges Road • Salt Spring Island, B.C. • V8K 1S1 • 250.537.9902
info@nsswaterworks.ca • www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca



North Water

Since made chang



MI
Yes, since m
Suzanne and
unique water
Island, for ex
• We are mo
to everyday
• When renc
invested in
drought re
• We continu
to conserv
consumpti

CAR in the Cree

The Clima
a unique-to
together ec
and firefight
critical wat
More than
water from
million galle
alone. In pa
District, Tran
and the lan
Waldick are
forest aroun
collecting g
action.
Cutting-e
thin stands
that augme
regrowth, a
species bio

Water Day March 22, 2023

North Salt Spring Waterworks ASKS:

Moving to SSI in the last few years, have you made any changes to your water use habits and, if so, what changes have you made?



MIKE CHARTRAND

Moving from the city, my wife and I have adapted well to the rural situation on Salt Spring. For example, I am more conscious when it comes to household usage; renovating our home, we installed low flow fixtures and efficient landscaping; we like to look for opportunities to conserve and improve our water use habits.



MARK BOYSEN

Yes, since moving here from Ucluelet with my wife and kids, we decided it would be a smart investment to look at non-potable water options for outdoor water use, for example:

- We installed 3 rain-water catchment tanks for all our outdoor water use;
- We plan on adding tanks over time to reduce our demand on the district system;
- We have been letting the lawn go golden in the dry months as it always grows back.



DEREK CREECH

Yes, I have. In the township of Langley, water is unmetered and we just paid a flat rate for the year. We were not the best for limiting ourselves. We had an on-demand hot water heater, so lengthy showers didn't affect others in the house. Now, however, we have a small hot water tank for 5 people, so we plan our times better and the kids are quick to point out to each other when someone has used an unfair amount.

- Just a quick rinse under faucet while washing dishes, don't leave water on;
- Only wash clothes that are dirty, not just random ones you find in your room;
- Showers are better than baths, but if you have a bath, only fill the tub half-way.

Science at work in the Maxwell Creek Watershed

The Adaptation Research Lab (CARL) is a North Salt Spring project that has brought together ecologists, water providers, foresters and scientists to protect one of the island's most important watersheds.

Over half of Salt Spring gets its drinking water from the lakes and streams — and nearly 50% of the water comes from the Maxwell Creek Watershed. In partnership with North Salt Spring Waterworks, the Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue, and the island's covenant holders, CARL and ecologist Ruth Waldick are looking at ways to improve the poorly managed Maxwell Creek watershed through human intervention — using ground-level scientific data and taking targeted



Scientist Ruth Waldick and NSSWD trustee Gary Gagne at work in the Maxwell Creek watershed.

management to help secure water quality for generations, improving the riparian and wetlands areas that enhance water retention.

Robust soil and understory slow and help clean water as it travels through the watershed. And healthy forests have the additional benefit of being fire and drought resistant; CARL's work will help prevent a potentially catastrophic forest fire that could devastate homes and farms — and decimate the island's water supplies for years.

Staying out of the Maxwell Lake area is critical to preventing forest fires and maintaining water quality. Please heed all "NO TRESPASSING" signs.



edge forestry work does more than merely conserve trees; it includes improvements to natural processes of decay and succession, adding to native plant and animal diversity. Boosting forest health will



Tips for Conserving Water Inside the Home

- Check for leaking taps and toilets. You can pick up toilet dye tabs at the NSSWD office.
- Run only full loads in dishwashers and washing machines.
- Turn off the tap while brushing teeth and shaving, and washing dishes.
- Install low-flush toilets. Flush less often.
- Install low-flow shower heads. Keep showers short.
- Inform visitors to our island of our limited water supply and ask them to conserve.

Tips for Conserving Water Outside

- Follow the watering restrictions in NSSWD Bylaw 301.
- Let your lawn go golden in the summer. It will go green again with the fall rains.
- Collect rainwater and use it for your outdoor water needs in summer.
- Use drip irrigation instead of sprinklers.
- Cover your pool when you aren't using it to reduce evaporation.
- Sweep your driveway and deck instead of hosing them.
- Make sure hoses are in perfect condition. A leaking hose delivers 27 litres of water per minute so a leaking hose or coupling can add up to significant water waste.
- Consider alternatives to lawns such as low-growing ground cover or hardscapes such as stone or gravel.



ARTS + ENTERTAINMENT

SALT SPRING INN SALTSRINGINN.COM
250-537-9339

New Spring Hours

Open till 9pm daily

Juno-nominated bluegrass band to watch.

ArtSpring Presents

The Slokan Ramblers

Thu Mar 30, 7:30pm
\$30 adult | \$5 youth

SPONSORED BY VICTORIA OLCHOWECKI

artspring.ca
tickets.artspring.ca | 250.537.2102



PHOTOS BY GAIL SJUBERG

TRIUMPHS OF THE IMAGINATION: A handful of the 40-some individual artworks submitted to the Re-Imagined: Making Waste into Art show now on in the ArtSpring gallery, plus dozens of pieces made by island students of all ages in the Salt Spring Printmakers studio space at SIMS. From left are Andrea Little's colourful toilet-paper tube mobile, with Stefanie Denz's Curving Beneath piece seen behind; Reliquary by Deirdre Tessman, made from all manner of otherwise discardable objects; prints created by school students. The show, made possible by a CRD Rethink Waste grant and other support, continues daily until March 27. For more information about the event, see the story in the Driftwood's most recent Aqua - Gulf Islands Living magazine.

Island Arts Centre Society

ARTSPRING

TREASURE FAIR

SAVE THE DATE!

Spring is here, and it's the perfect time to declutter and donate to The Treasure Fair.

Donations Open: May 1st
Auction Runs: July 12-15th

treasurefair.artspring.ca

CONCERT PREVIEW

Ramblers set to create new fans

Roots & bluegrass band's fun bar and dancehall vibe coming to ArtSpring next week

BY KIRSTEN BOLTON
FOR ARTSPRING

When Tom Power, host of CBC's "Q," says you "put on one of the most vibrant shows of acoustic music I've seen in some time," and even BBC radio says "I love it — smokin' bluegrass!" — you must be delivering up something extraordinary.

The buzz is about The Slokan Ramblers, named for British Columbia's Slokan Valley, who have emerged from playing their brand of lightning-fast roots and bluegrass in the bars of

Toronto's Kensington Market to earning band and album of the year awards in Canada and the U.S., including from the Kentucky and Tennessee-based International Bluegrass Music Association Awards.

They take the stage at ArtSpring Thursday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. with a rousing performance that is not to be missed.

Helmed by Frank Evans on banjo/vocals, Adrian Gross on mandolin, Darryl Poulsen on guitar/vocals, and joined by Charles James on bass/vocals, this all-Canadian ensemble digs deep into tradition while breathing new-generation energy into the genre and gaining a reputation for their electric, audience-rousing live shows.

Much like blues musicians Lloyd Spiegel and Suzie Vinnick, who were a recent community smash at ArtSpring, The Slokan Ramblers are aware of the pigeon-hole perception of their genre of music, often dismissed as "hillbilly" when it is actually intricate, soulful and complex.

"The common thing people will say is, 'I didn't know I liked bluegrass until I saw you guys play,'" says mandolin player Gross. "Or, the best is: 'I don't even like bluegrass, but I like you guys.' They had never seen it. They never knew that they liked it. They have associations with it that were either incorrect or founded on previous experiences that they had."

Featuring original compositions from their new album *Up the Hill and Through the Fog*, the band channels the past two years of some very personal losses during COVID into a surprisingly joyous collection of 12 songs intended to uplift and help make sense of the world.

True to style, they promise the classic dusty vocals, impeccable musicianship, and fun rowdy bar and dancehall vibe that converts everyone within earshot into being a lifelong fan.

Thank you to Victoria Olchowecki for sponsoring this performance.

Tickets for the show are available through tickets.artspring.ca or the ArtSpring box office.

RE-IMAGINED

MAKING WASTE INTO ART

Showcasing works by adults & youth at ArtSpring

March 14 to 27, 2023
10am to 4pm daily
March 27, 10am to 12pm

SALT SPRING ISLANDS PRINTMAKERS
CRD
ARTSPRING

Windsor Plywood SALT SPRING



Full line of building supplies from foundation to roof!

PH: 250-537-5564 • FAX: 250-537-1207

RAINBOW ROAD

Mon- Fri 7am to 5pm / Saturdays 8am to 5pm
Closed Sundays and holidays

BEDDIS ROAD

Mon to Fri 6:30am to 3pm



saltspring@windsorplywood.com

LET'S PICK IT UP, Salt Spring!

It's time for the Driftwood's annual island-wide clean-up campaign! Join your friends and neighbours in clearing litter and other debris from island roadsides and beaches.

SEE AD ON PAGE 16 FOR DETAILS

2023 RIEP Forum

Gabriola Island
April 25-27

3 Days to

Connect+Reflect+ACT!
for BC's rural islands

RIEPForum.ca

ISLAND LIFE

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Next generation of responders trains on Pender

Youth get firefighting, search and rescue, and medical response skills

SUBMITTED BY GULF ISLANDS FIRE RESCUE CADET CAMP

Pender Island Fire Rescue (PIFR), in association with Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue and other emergency response partners including the RCMP and BC Ambulance Service, are guiding 16 courageous students through an intense boot camp of hands-on fire and rescue training this week.

The first Gulf Islands Fire Rescue Cadet Camp held since 2019 due to COVID-19 restrictions, PIFR received a record number of applications for the week-long spring break program. This year's successful cadets (ages 15 to 18) hail from the Southern Gulf Islands and Southern Vancouver Island.

Endorsed by the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs, the Gulf Islands Fire Rescue Cadet Camp has grown into one of the most respected camps of its kind in Canada. Totalling over 100 hours of rigorous training, the cadets reach new levels of confidence, self-esteem, fitness and teamwork through hands-on instruction in structure fires, auto extrication, high-angle rope rescue, search and rescue, medical first response and more.



PHOTO COURTESY GIFRCC

Gulf Islands Fire Rescue Cadet Camp attendees tackle a live fire at a previous year's camp. The 2023 version is going on this week on Pender Island.

The cadets receive first-hand experience in search and rescue operations onboard a Canadian Coast Guard hovercraft, one of the largest search and rescue hovercraft in the world, as well as on a Royal Canadian Air Force CH-148 Cyclone helicopter and RCMP vessels.

The Gulf Islands Fire Rescue Cadet Camp is one of the few youth firefighting pro-

grams in Canada to engage and supervise teens 24 hours a day for six consecutive days. This is possible thanks to the commitment of over 40 firefighters and community mentors who volunteer over 2,500 hours in the areas of development, training, oversight, food, lodging and other support roles.

Pender Island Fire Chief Mike Dine devel-

oped the concept for the camp over 20 years ago with the first bi-annual cadet camp taking place in 2005.

"Our community-based Gulf Island fire department provides youth from across the Capital Region with essential life skills that will serve them well for the rest of their lives," said Dine. "In just one week, there is an amazing transformation in our cadets as they see the value of community service, teamwork and leadership skills, while learning through first-hand experiences."

A number of camp graduates have gone on to become accredited firefighters and first responders or chosen other careers in support of public health and safety. Several of these graduates have returned for the 2023 camp as instructors and mentors to add their encouragement and expertise.

The cadets will have the opportunity to utilize Pender Island Fire Rescue's state-of-the-art live-fire and drill-tower training facility, completed in 2018.

Members of the RCMP, BC Ambulance Service, Canadian Coast Guard, Royal Canadian Air Force, the Southern Gulf Islands Emergency Program, and School District 64 also lend their support to this important initiative. Students receive career credits towards graduation through their school districts upon completion of the camp.



DON'T LOOK ANY FURTHER!

Here are ... Your Local Business Specialists!

GROW YOUR BUSINESS - CALL TODAY TO ADVERTISE 250-537-9933


SMYTHE ROOFING
 Vince Smythe
 RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
 Ph: 250-213-6316
 Fax: 778-746-7310
 info@smytheroofing.com
 "Quality Workmanship - Reliable Service"

Residential & Commercial Glass
Shoreline Glass
 Julian Cronin
 250-537-7858
 juliancronin@icloud.com

Dan Hardy Denturist

 Salt Spring office located at the Gulf Clinic
 241 Lower Ganges Rd.
 • New Dentures
 • Reline & Repairs
 • Home & Care Facility Visits
 For appointments call 1-250-710-1884

GROW YOUR BUSINESS CALL TODAY TO ADVERTISE
Driftwood
 250-537-9933 • 241 FULFORD-GANGES RD
 DRIFTWOOD@GULFISLANDSDRIFTWOOD.COM

Your "clear" choice for glass.

 • Auto Glass • Residential & Commercial
 • Aluminum Fabrication • Custom Skylights
 • Mirrors & Shower Doors
 • Custom Sunrooms • Free Estimates
Kapa Kai Glass 250-653-4148

GET YOUR VEHICLE READY FOR SPRING DRIVING
 From car wash soap to battery chargers, air fresheners to stereos, tune-up parts to mag wheel sockets sets, pickup everything you need to "Ride & Shine" on the roads this season.

Bumper to Bumper® Saltspring
 CANADA'S PARTS PEOPLE
 106 JACKSON AVENUE 250-537-5507

CALL TODAY TO ADVERTISE

250-537-9933 • DRIFTWOOD@GULFISLANDSDRIFTWOOD.COM • GULFISLANDSDRIFTWOOD.COM

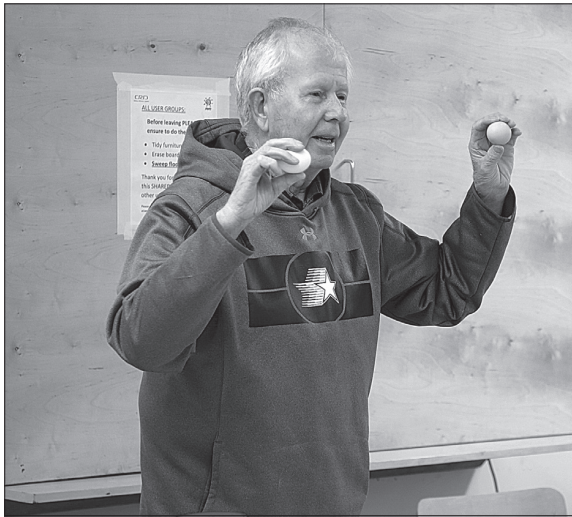


PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

EGG-SAMPLES: Ted Baker, who raises award-winning poultry on Salt Spring Island, poses a question about two different kinds of eggs during a presentation at a recent 4-H club meeting at the Portlock Park portable. Baker has been involved with 4-H for several decades.

HISTORY

Elder shares research

Snumithiya Jillian Harris of Penelakut on Women in the Colonial Era

The Salt Spring Island Historical Society hosts Snumithiya Jillian Harris for her talk called Women in the Colonial Era at the library on Saturday, March 25.

Harris is a knowledge holder, elder and former chief of the Penelakut Tribe. Among her current projects, Harris is working with the search for residential school missing children.

Her studies in ancestry, researching lineages and family histories have fostered a special interest in the lives of women in the early days of colonization, which she will share in her presentation.

Saturday's free event begins at 2 p.m. in the library's program room.

GET INVOLVED salt spring arts

GRANTS & AWARDS
STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS - \$1250
DEADLINE - APRIL 6

ARTCRAFT
CALL FOR 2023 ARTISTS
DEADLINE - APRIL 15

GRANTS & AWARDS
ARTIST PROJECT GRANTS - \$1000
DEADLINE - APRIL 30

GRANTS & AWARDS
SUSAN BENSON AWARD - \$1000
DEADLINE - APRIL 30

ARTIST IN THE CLASS
2023/24 APPLICATION TO JOIN
DEADLINE - MAY 31

SALTSPRINGARTS.COM

what's on this week

Wed. Mar. 22

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Percussiano3. Prize-winning duo-pianists Elizabeth and Marcel Bergmann, and virtuoso percussionist Rod Thomas Squance perform. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Salt Spring Garden Club Meeting. Mason and leafcutter bee expert Gordon Cyr of Bee Canadian is the guest speaker. Meaden Hall. Doors at 6:45 p.m. Speaker at 8 p.m.

Teen Lounge. Activities for youth aged 13-18 every Wednesday afternoon at the library's Teen Zone. 4 to 5 p.m.

Music Bingo. Wednesdays at Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.

Buddhist Meditation. Offered by Salt Spring Insight Meditation at Ganges Yoga Studio. Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Info: saltspringimc@gmail.com.

Swing Dancing. Wednesdays at the Legion. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Zen Meditation. Every Wednesday at All Saints by-the-Sea, upper hall. 7 to 9 p.m. Arrive by 6:45 p.m. if you have not attended before. Info: saltspringzencircle.org.

Thur. Mar. 23

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Open Mic. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m. (Preceded by the meat draw from 5 to 7 p.m.)

Songs in the Round. Merival, Dana Sipos, Ellen Trotter and Lys Hermanski play at Mateada Lounge on their Spring Turns Tour. Doors at 7 p.m. and music at 8 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Mother Goose. Rhymes, songs and storytelling activities for babies and children to 4 years of age and their parents/caregivers. Library program room. 10:30 a.m. to noon.

Needlework and Embroidery Display. Fulford Seniors will exhibit Terri Manuck's collection of needlework and embroidery as well as some Slovakian weaving. 2:45 to 4 p.m.

Fri. Mar. 24

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Karaoke. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m. (Preceded by the meat draw from 5 to 7 p.m.)

Fri. Mar. 24

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Theatre Alive: The Children. Staged reading of British playwright Lucy Kirkwood's play runs at Mahon Hall. 7 p.m.
CR Avery: Victory on East Hastings. Film and dance party at Mateada Lounge. 9 to 11:30 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

ASK Salt Spring is on hiatus until April 14.
Neighbourhood Story Time. Community members read stories for kids and parents/caregivers in the library's children's area. 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Youth Games. Every Friday for ages nine to 13 in the library's children's area. 2 to 4 p.m.

Friday Game Night. For ages 13 to 21. Library program room. 7 p.m.

Sat. Mar. 25

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

ArtSpring Presents: Gryphon Trio. Acclaimed trio shares show called Colour You Like. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.

Old Timers Cafe. Open stage at the Fulford Hall Annex, with pizza available. 7 to 11 p.m. (and the last Saturday of every month).

Ashton Bachman Band. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m. (Preceded by the meat draw from 5 to 7 p.m.)

Somethin' Else - All Vinyl Night. DJ event with Graham Van Pelt, DJ Rafkats and Ben J Frey. Mateada Lounge. 8 p.m. to midnight.

Fridays With DJ Boomtown. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

ACTIVITIES

Fabulous Flea Market. Twice-yearly event at Fulford Hall. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Central Community Hall Society AGM. Annual general meeting. Central Hall at 1 p.m.

Salt Spring Historical Society: Women in the Colonial Era. With guest Snumithiya Jillian Harris, knowledge holder, elder, and former chief of the Penelakut Tribe. Library program room. 2 p.m.

CHIR.fm Record & CD Sale Fundraiser. Saturdays at the portable classroom at SIMS. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Sat. Mar. 25

ACTIVITIES

Book Launch: A.C. Bibby. For debut sci-fi novel by A.C. Bibby. Library program room. 7 p.m.

Sun. Mar. 26

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Blues Jam. Singers, players and fans welcome at the Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Taking Time To Connect. Star of the Sea presents a workshop to reconnect with ourselves and others, led by Marcia Burton. St. Mary's Church. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Info/register: staroftheseasi.ca.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 92 AGM. Annual general meeting at Meaden Hall (downstairs at the Legion) at 1 p.m.

Hike with the Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club. Meet at ArtSpring at 1 p.m. to join in a hike. Non-members may attend up to 3 hikes per year. For more details, see saltspringtnc.ca.

Salt Spring Forum: The Earth Shook - Devastating Earthquakes In Our Time. Earthquake hazard research expert John Cassidy is the Forum's guest. ArtSpring. 3 p.m.



Tue. Mar. 28

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Songwriters Circle Acoustic Open Mic. At the Legion. 6 p.m.

ACTIVITIES

Teen Journalling Workshop. First of two sessions led by Alexandra Aristera. Library program room. 3 to 4:30 p.m. Preregistration required as space is limited.

Trivia Tuesday. At Moby's Pub. 7:30 p.m.
Hike, Walk or Ramble with Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club. Non members may attend up to 3 hikes per year. For destinations see saltspringtnc.ca.

Tue. Mar. 28

VIA ZOOM

Spanish Conversation Group. Chat with other Spanish speakers on Zoom. 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Register at programs@saltspringlibrary.com.

Wed. Mar. 29

ACTIVITIES

Teen Lounge. See last Wednesday's listing.
Music Bingo. See last Wednesday's listing.
Buddhist Meditation. See last Wednesday's listing.
Swing Dancing. See last Wednesday's listing.

CINEMA

• **Women Talking** runs Friday, March 24 to Tuesday, March 28 nightly at 7 p.m., plus a Sunday matinee at 3 p.m. Rated PG. 1 hour 44 mins. See thefritz.ca for more movie info or 250-538-7718.

EXHIBITIONS

• **The Re-Imagined: Making Waste Into Art** exhibit runs in the ArtSpring gallery until March 27 (10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, except only 10 a.m. to noon on March 27).

• Exhibit of work by **Will Millar's work at Gallery 9** runs through March 24.

• **Salt Spring Painters Guild** members show work in the lobby of ArtSpring this month.

• **Salt Spring Gallery** presents **Sculpture by Janus** from the **Mind Myths Series** until March 22.

• Photographer **Howard Fry** shows portraits of family, friends and acquaintances in the library community program room through March.

• **Avril Kirby** is showing photographs of dogs at the **Country Grocer Roasters Cafe** for the month of March.

Fabulous Flea Market

At Fulford Hall
Saturday, March 25
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
A fundraiser for the hall

THRIFTY FOODS

Ganges, Mout's Centre 7:30am to 9pm
Customer Service 250-537-1522

ENVIRONMENT

Up in smoke: wood-burning issues explored

Rebates for new stoves and heat pumps available; better wood-burning tips offered



BY TRANSITION SALT SPRING

So many of us rely on wood stoves for our home heating on Salt Spring and the Southern Gulf Islands, but have you considered the cost of burning wood on our community's air quality?

"The fact is, wood stoves release a lot of pollutants that create health problems," says Transition Salt Spring's Morgan Fraser.

Fraser leads the Climate Action Coach program at Transition Salt Spring, which offers free advice and local rebates for making your home more climate-resilient.

While wood is renewable, when burned in wood stoves and fireplaces, it releases significant amounts of harmful substances, especially PM 2.5, which studies show negatively affects respiratory illness and increases the risk of heart attack or stroke. Vulnerable folks like the elderly, children, and people with heart and lung conditions are most likely to be affected. Removing one old, dirty, inefficient wood stove is equivalent to the PM2.5 pollution reduction of taking five old diesel buses off the road, according to the EPA.

"At Transition Salt Spring, we recommend anyone with an old wood stove to upgrade to a Heat Pump as their primary heating source and use their existing wood stove during power outages and in extreme cold as supplementary heat. If a heat pump isn't accessible to you, we also offer a rebate to upgrade to an EPA-2020 Certified wood stove," says Fraser.

Transition Salt Spring is offering rebates to Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Island residents of \$500 to \$1,000 to upgrade your uncertified wood stove to a heat pump or EPA-2020 certified wood stove. There is also the option to remove your uncertified wood stove and receive a \$300 bounty with no heat upgrade. Funded by the BC Lung Foundation and BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, this is stackable with other provincial and federal rebates available for heat pumps.

If you burn wood in the colder months, what matters is how you burn the wood. If you burn wet wood or let it smoulder, the resulting fire adds significant particulate matter into the atmosphere. The smoke is the problem. Burning wood inefficiently can also release excess methane, a gas with a greenhouse impact 20 times greater than CO2. Burning wood in an open fireplace releases large

amounts of ash in the smoke. Wood smoke becomes air pollution once it leaves the chimney.

5 Tips for Burning Wisely

1. Season wood outdoors for at least seven months before burning it. Properly seasoned wood is darker in colour, lighter in weight, has cracks in the end grain, and sounds hollow when

smacked against another piece of wood.

2. Store wood outdoors, stacked neatly off the ground, with adequate airflow, and protected from the elements — stack wood with the bark-side facing down for quicker drying.

3. If you have yet to build a woodshed, build it south facing to allow the sun to aid in drying. Cool, damp north-facing firewood sheds retain moisture and can get mouldy.

4. If you're buying wood, aim to buy waste wood from a sustainable source on the island in the springtime: stack it, store it, protect it from the elements, and you will have dry wood by fall. Firewood also usually costs less

in spring than during the fall's "we're out of firewood!" buying frenzy.

5. When maintaining a fire, burn small, hot fires as they produce far less smoke than ones left to smoulder. It bears repeating - when one burns wood inefficiently, the resulting smoke contains a number of chemicals, such as carbon monoxide (CO), VOCs, Nitrogen Dioxide, and PM2.5.

"Transition Salt Spring has worked with Salt Spring Fire Rescue to provide education on the best practices for using a wood stove. Take an hour to watch our All About Wood Stoves video on YouTube. Even seasoned wood stove users can learn new tips to improve their wood stove

usage," says Fraser. "Also consider the improvements to your household when upgrading — oftentimes, you will save money monthly by using less wood and greater energy efficiency. If you are able to upgrade your old uncertified wood stove to a heat pump or EPA-2020 wood stove, our Community Wood Smoke Reduction Program rebate helps empower you to save money while improving both your home and our community."

People can join the interest list for this rebate at TransitionSaltSpring.com/Coach.

For more information about other Transition Salt Spring programs, see transitionsaltspring.com.

Capital Regional District



Notice of Advance Voter Registration & Availability of List of Registered Electors | Salt Spring Island Electoral Area 2023 Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission Election

Public notice is hereby given that **Advance Voter Registration will be accepted until Tuesday, April 4, 2023** for Capital Regional District (CRD) List of Non-Resident Property Electors for the **Salt Spring Island Electoral Area**.

The CRD will be using the Provincial Voters List to determine who is eligible to vote as a Resident Elector in the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area. If you voted in the last local election, your name will appear on the Provincial Voters List, and will automatically be placed on the CRD List of Registered Electors. The CRD List of Registered Electors will apply to voting for Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission Commissioners.

Elector Qualifications

Resident Elector - If you are 18 years or older on voting day (May 27, 2023), are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for six months immediately before the day of registration (the residency qualifications are set out in the *Local Government Act*), reside within the boundaries of the local community, and not disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or another enactment from voting, you are entitled to vote as a Resident Elector.

Non-Resident Property Elector - If you are 18 years or older on voting day (May 27, 2023), are a Canadian Citizen, have resided in British Columbia for six months, have owned and held registered title to property within the boundaries of the local community for 30 days immediately before the day of registration, do not qualify as a Resident Elector, and not disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or another enactment from voting, you may vote as a Non-Resident Property Elector provided that you: (a) have registered on or before April 4, 2023, or (b) register at the time of voting.

The following information is required at the time of application:

- ▶ a recent land title registration of the real property (may be obtained at the Land Title Office) or property tax notice, showing the names of all the registered owners,
- ▶ two pieces of identification (one must have a signature), and
- ▶ in the case of more than one owner of the property, a completed consent form, signed by the majority of the owners, designating you as the person entitled to vote for the property.

Please Note:

- ▶ Only one Non-Resident Property Elector may vote per property regardless of the number of owners.
- ▶ No corporation is entitled to be registered as an elector or have a representative registered as an elector, and no corporation is entitled to vote.
- ▶ Individuals who are on title with corporations are not entitled to register or vote.
- ▶ Individuals who own an undivided interest in land on which the balance is held by a corporation are not entitled to vote.

Advance voter registration is not required to vote on May 27, 2023. You may register at the time of voting if you meet the elector qualifications set out above.

List of Registered Electors

The preliminary List of Registered Non-resident Property Electors is available, upon signature, for viewing at the Capital Regional District, SSI Administrative Offices, 108-121 McPhillips Avenue, Salt Spring Island, BC from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. You may also call 250.360.3642 to enquire whether your name is on the list.

Following the close of Advance Voter Registration and beginning Tuesday, April 11, 2023, until the close of general voting on May 27, 2023, a copy of the final List of Registered Resident and Non-Resident Property Electors will be available, upon signature, for public inspection at the office listed above.

An elector may request that personal information respecting the elector be omitted from or obscured on the List in accordance with section 78 (Protection of Privacy) of the *Local Government Act*.

Objection to Registration of an Elector

An objection to the registration of a person whose name appears on the List of Registered Electors may be made to the CRD Corporate Officer, PO Box 1000, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC, V8W 2S6, in accordance with the *Local Government Act*, until 4:00 pm on Friday, April 21, 2023. An objection must be made in writing, may only be made by a person entitled to be registered as an elector of the CRD, and can only be made on the basis that the person whose name appears has died or is not qualified to be registered as an elector of the CRD.

Mail Ballot Voting

Mail ballot voting will be open to all Salt Spring Island Electoral Area electors for the 2023 Salt Spring Island Local Community Commission Election. The application form to vote by mail is available at www.crd.bc.ca/SSI-vote and due no later than May 5, 2023.

For further information on registering as an elector and mail ballot voting, contact Capital Regional District, Legislative Services, at 250.360.3642 or elections@crd.bc.ca.

Dated this 15th day of March 2023

Kristen Morley
Chief Election Officer

www.crd.bc.ca/SSI-vote

DRIFTWOOD Classifieds ^{CALL} 250-537-9933

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

In Memoriam

 Salt Spring Hospice

Looking for GRIEF SUPPORT?

Hospice offers 1-on-1 and group help.

Call for info
250-537-2770

250-537-2770 • saltspringhospice.org

 SUPPORTED BY COUNTRY GROCER

Coming Events

THE CENTRAL COMMUNITY HALL SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday
March 25, 2023 at 1:00 pm in the main hall at 901 North End Road.

Public welcome.

Garage Sales

FABULOUS FLEAMARKET


At Fulford Hall
Saturday, Mar. 25, 2023
10am - 2pm

ENTRY BY DONATION
MINIMUM \$1.00

NO EARLY BIRDS

Pets Remembered

Canyon



We are saddened to announce the passing of our much-loved family member, Canyon. A border-collie/blue heeler born and raised on Saltspring, Canyon went to his Happy Hunting Grounds at the age of 15 years, this past January 26th. He lived his life in the present and taught us so much about trust, patience, loyalty and determination. He accompanied us on long road trips to Manitoba and New Orleans, came on many camping holidays, attended festivals, sports events and parties, and always helped out at the Recycling Centre. Canyon loved to be sung to. He was smart, charming and our best friend. Returning home, we would be greeted by his welcoming smile. Without Canyon's presence the house has felt empty, yet he has left our hearts so full of warm, loving, and beautiful memories.

~ Tara, Martin and family

Pets Remembered

Concrete & Placing

GULF COAST MATERIALS

Serving the Gulf Islands

- Concrete
- Concrete Pumps
- Sand/Rock
- Colour & Sealers

Call to schedule material.

All payments to be made by credit card over the phone.

345 Rainbow Road
250-537-2611

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

YOUR COMMUNITY
Your Classifieds

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

Michael O'Connor - Life Coach Astrologer

www.sunstarastrology.com 1-800-836-0648 sunstarastrology@gmail.com

TIP OF THE WEEK: READ MORE IN MY NEWSLETTER. SIGN-UP IS FREE ON MY WEBSITE.

Spring 2023 has begun. The general theme for the season includes significant new beginnings and rebuilding. Yet, these will also come in the context of both the dissolving influences of Saturn in Pisces and the powerful, revolutionary, and transformational impulses of Uranus in Taurus or Aquarius. These can be metaphorically compared to the laborious and painful process of giving birth. In this case, the baby is a 'new world order', whether we like it or not. Modern technology has made this direction quite inevitable. Regarding the baby, it includes both the beauty of it all, despite the pain, and the transformational reality, as with a mother giving birth for the first time and both parents undergoing transformations as new challenges and responsibilities, perceptions, self-concepts and attitudes are a new reality. Since the baby refers to the planet as a whole, the parents can be understood to be the two main hemispheres of our planet: East and West. Whether or not the parents will manage to work cooperatively and whether the birth will divide them is the big question now.

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19) The New Moon in Aries will activate the impulse to take new leads and strides early this spring. With your energy levels running high, you feel determined to capitalize. Yet, Saturn in Pisces is a caution flag to be extra careful regarding new ventures. It may prove wise to focus on existing projects first.

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20) Many new ideas and plans have entered a dynamic gestation phase. Allowing a month or so for them to sprout is probably the best approach. Yet, you can define and refine your strategy during this time. Stepping back to assess the returns that continue to flow in from years gone by will bring clarity.

Gemini (May 21 - Jun 21) Rediscovering yourself as the individual person that you are at this stage of your journey is in the spotlight now. Adapting and adjusting to the changing seasons of life is part of the plot for us all. One way or another, this appears to be a central theme now, so assess what is required and roll with it.

Cancer (Jun 22 - Jul 22) The pioneering impulse of Aries will prove especially strong for you. Out of the reflective reverie of Mercury in Pisces, which was strong earlier this month, you are now beginning to see much more clearly. A determined drive to venture forth is present yet includes mental clearing above all.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 23) The time has come back to see a bigger picture. However you do it, think about the results you desire over the long term and which will meet with both your creative aspirations and your sense of authenticity. A determination to break through old perceptions and attitudes may be required for success.

Virgo (Aug 24 - Sep 22) A short yet dynamic process of personal transformation has begun. It will continue for about a month. It emphasizes new assertions in your public and/or professional sphere. There may be alliances with new players as well which may have been initiated up to several weeks ago.

Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22) Engaging in a whole new quality of relationship interactions has been sparked by this New Moon. The key is to be willing to move forward with a sense of pioneering determination. Attending to the overall quality of your health all the while remains important and a learning curve is indicated.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21) The time has come to take a fresh approach to complete, improve and repair existing ambitions that have perhaps been set aside over the past few months. Your willingness to patiently give them the time and attention that probably requires and deserves is important.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21) Aries time tends to be one of excitement and playful enthusiasm for you. The energies of spring inspire the prospects of new adventures and this year the spirit is extra strong. Yet, you may have some inner work to do. This could include spring cleaning in your home or perhaps emphasizing your health.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19) The warrior spirit in you has heard the trumpet's call. Like a soldier waiting for the sign, you will likely jump into action impulsively and assertively. This could have mixed results in your relationship life, so don't make assumptions that everyone will feel as keen and determined as you do.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 19) Many new thoughts and perspectives are being activated by this equinox and Aries New Moon combination. A determined assertion to direct your mind to take the necessary preliminary steps is indicated. A willingness to do the work required should be quite evident, so harness it for productive ends.


Pisces (Feb 20 - Mar 20) A whole new impulse to get more traction on your activities is a central focus now. The time is right to brainstorm for creative ideas and strategies. You may have to change your attitude and reconsider your interpretations of things to be able to make the necessary adjustments.

Call today to reserve your advertising space in this award-winning 39th edition

THE Gulf Islander
250.537.9933

Reach your customers this tourist season

- accommodations • dining
- entertainment • retail
- studios • galleries
- outdoor adventures



Driftwood 250-537-9933 • 241 Fulford-Ganages Rd.
driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com
www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

*Words are few, thoughts are deep.
Memories of you
we will always keep.*

TIDE TABLES
at Fulford Harbour

MARCH 2023 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
22	0529	3.3	10.8	26	0149	2.5	8.2
	1136	1.5	4.9		0654	3.1	10.2
WE	1745	2.9	9.5	SU	1424	0.7	2.3
ME	2320	1.4	4.6	DI	2241	3.1	10.2
23	0551	3.3	10.8	27	0304	2.7	8.9
	1217	1.1	3.6		0711	2.9	9.5
TH	1854	2.9	9.5	MO	1511	0.8	2.6
JE				LU			
24	0004	1.8	5.9	28	0002	3.1	10.2
	0612	3.3	10.8		0522	2.8	9.2
FR	1258	0.9	3.0	TU	0710	2.8	9.2
VE	2005	2.9	9.5	MA	1602	0.9	3.0
25	0053	2.2	7.2	29	0111	3.2	10.5
	0633	3.2	10.5		1701	1.0	3.3
SA	1341	0.8	2.6	WE			
SA	2120	3.0	9.8	ME			

Driftwood 250-537-9933
241 Fulford-Ganages Rd,
Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2K7
driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com • www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com

COPPER KETTLE FOOD PROGRAM ACCEPTS FOOD DONATIONS AT ANY TIME.

Do you have extra food in your pantry that needs a new home?
We have folks who could use them!

Call Copper Kettle 250-537-5863
Copper Kettle Community Partnership
We'll come and get them. - Thank You!



PHILANTHROPY

SSELC wins funds

Outdoor child-care spaces to be enhanced

BY 100+ WOMEN WHO CARE

After three compelling presentations, including from Salt Spring Therapeutic Riding Association and the Salt Spring Film Festival Society, teacher Emily Keir's presentation on behalf of Gulf Islands Early Learning Society (GIELS) was declared the winner during 100+ Women Who Care's most recent meeting.

The organization was awarded the collected total of \$15,600 to go towards investing in Salt Spring Early Learning Centre's (SSELC) nature-based programming, outdoor play structures and staff training.

Initially opened as Salt Spring Island Daycare in 1978, the SSELC is a licensed group child-care centre that serves the community's families and children ages two-and-a-half until school age on a quality, full-day, year-round basis. Through a lifetime legacy donation from a family whose daughter had attended the program, the centre acquired its permanent home in 2009. The restored century home on Drake Road includes a large open yard, which was crucial in the pandemic as the centre rose to the challenge of remaining open but bringing its activities almost exclusively outside.

"During the pandemic, we increasingly felt just how much we rely on and support one another during these challenging times," explained Keir. "Young families have been hit hard by the uncertainties, and we hope to provide a safe and supportive community that can feel like an extension of their home."

While SSELC has always embraced a nature-based program, the COVID experience shone a light on some opportunities to create even more emphasis on the connection to nature.

The organization's five-minute presentation to 100+ Women Who Care on Feb. 13 focused on its goal of transforming its open grassy yard into a more dedicated, deliberate, interactive outdoor learning environment. The addition of nature-based play structures, such as logs, ramps and climbers, the extension of a covered outdoor space to shelter the group as they gather for activities and snacks, and the inclusion of fruit trees, boulders, food gardens, and looping pathways were all proposed.

"We were all absolutely thrilled and beyond happy to have won," says Jaylene D'Amboise, executive director of GIELS.

The Salt Spring branch of 100 Women Who Care was founded in November 2018 and has raised over \$228,000 for 13 causes.

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 7 - APRIL 28, 2023

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.

Join our Foster Caregiver Community!

There are children and youth in your community who need temporary, nurturing homes.

We have an urgent need for foster caregivers who are:

- First Nations, Metis, Inuit
- Interested in providing care for sibling groups
- Passionate about engaging and caring for youth
- Interested in supporting children and youth who identify as LGBTQ2S+
- Skilled in caring for children and youth with complex support needs
- Interested in providing weekend respite care for children and youth

To learn more about becoming a foster caregiver visit [FosterNow.ca](https://www.fosterbc.ca)



FOR BREAKING NEWS SEE:
[gulfislandsdriftwood.com](https://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com)

We oversee financial services for you

to ensure fairness, legality, and the prosperity of consumers and the province.

202
Insurance Companies

30,000
Real Estate Agents

5,900
Mortgage Brokers

636
Registered Pension Plans

54
Trust Companies

32
Credit Unions

LET'S PICK IT UP, Salt Spring!*

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS . . .

- 1 Pick a section of road, beach or neighbourhood that you'd like to rid of trash in April.
- 2 Phone or email us at the Driftwood with your name and the area you've chosen. driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com or 250-537-9933.
- 3 Pick up your Laurie's Recycling & Waste Services coupon from the Driftwood office and take your bag(s) to Laurie's, or otherwise dispose of what you've collected.
- 4 Also at our office, pick up your coupon for a free tea, coffee or hot chocolate from TJ Beans.
- 5 Enjoy being recognized in the Driftwood and the satisfaction of knowing you have helped make Salt Spring a cleaner and healthier place to live.

It's time for the Driftwood's annual island-wide clean-up campaign! Join your friends and neighbours in clearing litter and other debris from island roadsides and beaches.

*Recipient of the 2021 BC Media Industry Community Service Award

Driftwood
GULF ISLANDS
250-537-9933 • 241 Fulford-Ganges Road
www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com • driftwood@gulfislandsdriftwood.com



PHOTO BY BRUNO GONZALEZ
BACK AGAIN: A male Rufus hummingbird perches on a branch at the Langs Road property of the photographer Bruno Gonzalez on March 18, about the same time as usual for the island's north end, he says. Gonzalez also administers the Garden-variety Hummingbirds of Salt Spring Island Facebook page.

EVs

Charging failure probed

I have had reports of folks having issues with the new electric vehicle charger at Island Savings.



Jim Standen
EV SOLUTION

I suspect part of the issue comes down to manufacturing tolerances. Anything manufactured has a range of acceptable sizes. Light bulbs made by one manufacturer have to fit into sockets made by another manufacturer, so there are manufacturing specifications. But there is always some allowable variance or wiggle room. For EV charging wands and sockets, it appears that the allowable variance is quite small, but it exists, and together with some environmental factors, the connection can fail.

Here is a really good example of manufacturing tolerance (or maybe I should call it intolerance?).

We own two identical two-cup Pyrex kitchen measuring vessels. They are almost identical. Things were not working out well in our kitchen and I finally sourced an issue. If you lined up the vessels, they are not the same height. And the volume and measuring lines are incorrect on one. If you carefully measure one cup of milk into one, and then pour it into the other it is less than a cup, and if you pour it back, it is now a full cup. These were manufactured by two different companies, and one of them obviously got it very wrong. Such a simple thing, but the result is that it messes with my cooking.

As EV chargers came into the marketplace, they were constructed by different companies, opening the door to manufacturing slippage. What about the car socket? Each car manufacturer creates their own socket

in the car or sources it from a provider. Again, more room for slippage. To compound matters, new chargers have very little wear and tear, so the tolerances could be quite tight. Over time, the wands can get moisture and dirt in them, which can be transferred into your car. The dirt can increase wear and tear in the car socket and can accumulate. Chargers that used to work may be finicky, depending on the location.

If you plug your car into a charger and it is not fully engaged, it will likely sound a few warning sounds, flash blinking lights and not initiate charging. This happens if your wand is not fully into the socket and the rocker switch on the top of the charger does not click into place to let the electricity pass. One solution which could work is to "moderately" move the wand up and down to see if the rocker switch will click in. This has worked at some locations in the past. You should also periodically check your socket to see if there is any accumulated dirt. The EV Group encourages everyone to install a charger at home and then practise cleanliness best practices. Your home charger is less likely than a public charger to accumulate dirt.

I do know that Tesla engineered a really well-thought-out solution with no engagement rocker switch in 2012. I've never heard of a connection issue with a Tesla.

All the best and I hope this information is helpful. And thank you Islands Savings for providing this free service to your clients.

I encourage your respectful comments. I can be reached at jstanden@ucalgary.ca.



WorkBC will help you find training, resources and financial support to advance your career. Learn more at WorkBC.ca/FindYourPath.

Plus, get one-on-one job support at your local WorkBC Centre.



Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee Meeting

A Ferry Advisory Committee meeting will be held for your region on Friday, March 31. Public are welcome to attend and observe the meeting.

Date: Friday March 31, 2023
Time: 9:00 am - 11:00 am
Location: Mary Winspear Centre, 2243 Beacon Avenue

To attend the meeting, or if you have questions, please contact:

- **Co-chair:** Mary Greenwood, galianofacrep1@gmail.com
- **BC Ferries:** facinfo@bcferries.com

To learn more about engagement opportunities, please visit your community page at

- bcferriesprojects.ca/pender-island
- bcferriesprojects.ca/saturna-island
- bcferriesprojects.ca/mayne-island
- bcferriesprojects.ca/galiano-island

bcferries.com