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# Driftwood

GULF ISLANDS

Wednesday,  
 Aug. 10, 2022

62nd year  
 Issue 32  
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PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

**MULTI-TASKING:** Jack Garton plays trumpet and accordion at the same time during his band's rollicking performance in Centennial Park last Thursday, with guitar player Stephen Nikleva to his left. Garton is based on Galiano Island, and performed as headliner for the Summer Outdoor Concert Series event put on by Salt Spring Arts, with opening act T. Nile, also from Galiano. Free Thursday music in the park continues through August. Information about the next two Thursday concerts is on page 10.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

# Biker rescued from Mt. Sullivan

Cooperative effort leads to positive outcome

BY EMELIE PEACOCK  
 DRIFTWOOD STAFF

It took several hours and over a dozen people to get a mountain biker with a leg injury from a Mount Sullivan trail to safety last Wednesday.

Salt Spring Island Search and Rescue (SSISAR) manager Zeke Blazecka said many of the people who helped bring the stretcher down the steep trail on the south-end mountain with a number of washouts to contend with were "well soaked from sweat" by the time they reached the waiting ambulance. Participating in the medical rescue were 14 SSISAR members and crews

from Salt Spring Fire Rescue and the BC Emergency Health Services ambulance, "so it was really a cooperative effort," Blazecka said.

SSISAR was called out around 5 p.m. on Aug. 3 to assist ambulance personnel with a male biker with a leg injury after he was injured while mountain biking with two others. The SSISAR team proceeded to bring a stretcher uphill as well as attach ropes to tricky sections of the trail and to the stretcher as a safety precaution.

The carry-out began around 8 p.m. and involved around a dozen people, switching off.

"That's the kind of effort it takes in order to go down the hill safely with people spelling one another off on the stretcher," said Blazecka. "It's not so much the carrying the stretcher, because there was a stretcher wheel. That makes it a little easier — you don't actually have to lift it — but you have to keep balanced."

The rescue team had prepared to call in a helicopter with a long line, yet that was not needed as the team got the stretcher down and into a waiting ambulance before dark.

SAR continued on 2

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## TIDE TABLES at Fulford Harbour

**AUGUST 2022** PST (UTC-8h)

When using Daylight Saving Time, one hour must be added to the predicted time in the table

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
<b>10</b>	0043	<b>3.3</b>	10.8	<b>14</b>	0028	<b>2.3</b>	7.5
WE	1736	<b>3.3</b>	10.8	SU	0511	<b>2.9</b>	9.5
ME	2149	<b>3.0</b>	9.8	DI	1205	<b>0.6</b>	2.0
<b>11</b>	0151	<b>3.3</b>	10.8	<b>15</b>	0124	<b>2.0</b>	6.6
TH	0952	<b>0.1</b>	0.3	MO	0624	<b>2.7</b>	8.9
FR	1809	<b>3.4</b>	11.2	TU	1245	<b>1.0</b>	3.3
SA	2241	<b>2.8</b>	9.2	LU	1959	<b>3.3</b>	10.8
<b>12</b>	0257	<b>3.2</b>	10.5	<b>16</b>	0219	<b>1.7</b>	5.6
WE	1039	<b>0.2</b>	0.7	MO	0746	<b>2.6</b>	8.5
TH	1840	<b>3.4</b>	11.2	TU	1326	<b>1.5</b>	4.9
FR	2334	<b>2.6</b>	8.5	LU	2022	<b>3.3</b>	10.8
<b>13</b>	0403	<b>3.1</b>	10.2	<b>17</b>	0312	<b>1.5</b>	4.9
WE	1123	<b>0.3</b>	1.0	MO	0921	<b>2.5</b>	8.2
TH	1908	<b>3.4</b>	11.2	TU	1408	<b>1.9</b>	6.2
SA				LU	2045	<b>3.2</b>	10.5

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PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

Members of Concerned Residents of Canvasback (CROc) who live near the site of a proposed telecommunications tower chat with contractors hired by Rogers Communications to install the 40-metre-high structure on land owned by Onni Group last Tuesday. CROc members stress they are not against cell towers, improving cellphone or emergency communication services but point out this one does not meet the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) model protocol for location and the public consultation process. Residents and supporters have blocked access to the site during the mornings, with some construction taking place at other times of the day until all activity ceased Aug. 2. The LTC has asked for legal input on the matter, hoping that its March 27, 2022 decision to rescind a previous letter of concurrence can be respected by federal regulator Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada.

## Command vehicle funds needed

**SAR**  
continued from 1

SSISAR members also participated in an Aug. 1 search led by Cowichan Search and

Rescue for a man last seen July 27, and were on standby to go out again in the following days. Daniel Scott, 53, was located safe Aug. 3.

SSISAR is now fundraising for a new command vehicle,

a specially designed and outfitted vehicle that will cost over \$300,000. Blazeka said SSISAR has already raised around \$200,000 with support from organizations such as Country Grocer,

the Salt Spring Legion and 100 Women Who Care Salt Spring Island.

A fundraising push to gather the remainder needed will begin in earnest next month.

## KEEP SALT SPRING SUSTAINABLE - STOP BYLAW 530!

Concerned islanders should attend the final Public Hearing on Thursday August 18, 4pm at Harbour House

Bylaw 530 is *not* about affordable housing for Salt Spring families and workers. It says *nothing* at all about affordability.

Our trustees have ignored proven ways to free up rental housing. They have not even asked the Province to bring Salt Spring within BC's Speculation and Vacancy Tax, which raises funds for affordable housing! Their enforcement against short-term holiday rentals (Airbnbs, etc.) has been toothless.

### If passed, Bylaw 530 would:

**Change** zoning over most of the island, letting thousands of landowners double the number of dwellings and density. Most builds would likely become lucrative short-term tourist rentals, not long-term homes at rates locals can afford.

**Violate** Salt Spring's Official Community Plan, which states: "Zoning changes should be avoided if they would likely result in a larger island population... Exceptions to this policy are to be few and minor."

**Break** the "preserve and protect" mandate of the Islands Trust Act, passed by all parties half a century ago to save our natural beauty and rural character forever.

**Overload** wells and currently protected watersheds.

Bylaw 530 is being rushed through by our trustees in the last days of their term.

They have not released any estimate of the numbers at full build-out. Nor any studies of the impact on water, sewage, roads and ferries. Either they do not have this information, or are hiding it from the public.

What else you can do:

Contact trustees *Laura Patrick* lpatrik@islandstrust.bc.ca; *Peter Grove* pgrove@islandstrust.bc.ca; Trust Chair *Peter Luckham* pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca; and copy staff ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca.

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### Real Estate

#### House Inspections

Once a contract to purchase is accepted and "subject conditions" are in place, the buyer will require inspections that typically include a house inspection, checking boundary lines, electrical or pest inspection (if necessary) and having the septic field examined with a camera. Confirmation that the wood stoves and fireplaces comply with today's requirements for insurance as well as satisfactory water test results are often requirements for obtaining financing. Many buyers also review the status of building permits and title documentation with their lawyer and may need to confirm that their intended use of the property complies with zoning bylaws. If significant issues arise during the inspection process it may be possible negotiate a selling price adjustment or require that the problem be corrected in order to facilitate successful completion of the sale.

*As a Buyer or Seller ask your realtor to guide you through the inspection process.*

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## RECOVERY

# Community rallies for boat explosion survivor

GoFundMe campaign set up to help 'Beach Dave'

BY EMELIE PEACOCK  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

A fundraiser is going strong for David Kushneriuk, known to many as "Beach Dave," to help him as he recovers from severe injuries he sustained in a boat mishap.

The explosion aboard a vessel in Ganges Harbour on July 23 landed Kushneriuk in critical care, first at Lady Minto Hospital and then onto Victoria's Royal Jubilee Hospital. The accident was caused by a gas leak, which left Kushneriuk with second and third degree burns on 15 to 20 per cent of his body, explained Lisa Speirs via email.

After being transferred off-island, Kushneriuk has been in the intensive care burn unit at Royal Jubilee. He has undergone two surgical procedures on his legs, where he sustained the most severe burns. Second degree

burns on his hands and on one arm are being treated, and Speirs reported second and third degree burns on his face have healed well.

The recovery in hospital will likely continue for a few weeks, followed by visits to Victoria for appointments. While skin grafts are likely not needed, specialists said, recovery includes monitoring for infections, taking antibiotics, further treatment and managing pain. Speirs said his recovery has been amazing to watch, with Kushneriuk's condition improving so much from day to day.

"Dave has a very positive attitude towards his recovery and what the future holds for him. He has big plans to run some programs for the children of Salt Spring involving garbage pickup and arts and crafts from things in nature to make it fun," she stated. "He is collaborating with the maker space and hoping to get things up and running soon."

Speirs is behind a GoFundMe online fundraiser for Kushneriuk that had by Monday brought in \$3,885 of its \$5,000 goal, with 60 people donating since it was launched.

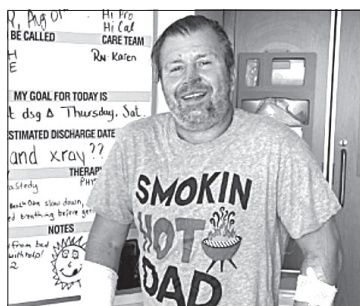


PHOTO COURTESY LISA SPEIRS

David Kushneriuk at Royal Jubilee Hospital, recovering from burns suffered in an explosion caused by a gas leak on a vessel.

Prior to the accident, Kushneriuk was known to many as the man who would collect litter from Salt Spring Island roads, parking lots, parks and beaches, armed with a bucket and a pick-up stick. He also works at

the Oystercatcher restaurant.

With his recovery time and the future of when he can return to work uncertain, Speirs stated that funds raised via GoFundMe will go to "medical expenses, travel expenses related to medical appointments and anything else needed to help him through this difficult time."

"He is really pushing his way through the pain to try to get up and walking again with a walker so he can return to this beautiful island we call home," she stated.

Speirs added that they are truly grateful for the contributions, which have helped lessen the financial stress of recovery, as well as the love, prayers and good thoughts people have been sending to Kushneriuk.

"It is really contributing to his positive outlook on healing and we truly want to thank everyone."

To view the fundraiser where Speirs is posting regular updates about Kushneriuk's recovery, search for "Fundraiser for David Kushneriuk (Beach Dave)" at goFundMe.com.

## ISLANDS TRUST

## Housing bylaws set for hearing

On Thursday, Aug. 18

BY EMELIE PEACOCK  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Public hearings are slated next Thursday for two bylaws aimed at increasing rental and farmworker housing on Salt Spring Island.

First up is Bylaw 526, which is written to allow additional farmworker dwelling units on land zoned Agriculture 1 and 2 as well as options for additional farmworker housing on large farms outside of these zones.

Next up is Bylaw 530, which aims to allow accessory dwelling units (ADUs), including secondary suites, cottages and garden suites, island-wide. The bylaw was one of several actions called for by the Housing Action Program Task Force, a volunteer advisory entity set up to help the local Trust committee (LTC) find solutions to the island's deepening rental housing affordability and availability crisis.

Pulling from data in other communities, supporters of 530 say it will not result in a lot of new ADUs yet will allow some would-be landlords to build ADUs as well as protect landlords and tenants currently renting what are now deemed illegal dwellings.

Opponents of the bylaw are concerned about population growth on the island, and that the bylaw does not include any provisions or assurances that future ADUs will be affordable and won't become short-term vacation rentals.

The hearing for Bylaw 526 starts at 11 a.m., followed by Bylaw 530 at 4 p.m. Aug. 18, both at the Harbour House Hotel. Anyone can attend and speak. Written submissions can be sent to [ssinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca) or dropped off or mailed to the Islands Trust office.

### Capital Regional District CRD

#### Notice of Nomination

#### 2022 General Local Election

Public Notice is hereby given to the electors of:

**Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island, and Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Areas** in the Capital Regional District,

and the electors of:

**Galiano Island, Mayne Island, North Pender Island, Salt Spring Island, Saturna Island, and South Pender Island Local Trust Areas**

that nominations for the offices of Electoral Area Director and the Office of Local Trustee respectively will be received between **9 am, Tuesday, August 30, 2022 and 4 pm, Friday, September 9, 2022.**

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, Legislative Services, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, BC. Originals of emailed forms must be received by 4 pm, Friday, September 16, 2022.

Representation will be as noted below and shall be for a 4-year term commencing November 2022 and terminating in 2026 after the election held in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act*:

#### ELECTORAL AREAS

**Juan de Fuca Electoral Area** - One Director

**Salt Spring Island Electoral Area** - One Director

**Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area** - One Director

(Galiano, Mayne, North Pender, Saturna, South Pender and Piers Islands)

#### ISLAND LOCAL TRUST AREAS

**Galiano Island** - Two Trustees

**Mayne Island** - Two Trustees

**North Pender Island** - Two Trustees

**Salt Spring Island** - Two Trustees

**Saturna Island** - Two Trustees

**South Pender Island** - Two Trustees

Candidates shall be nominated in writing by two qualified electors of the Electoral Area or the Local Trust Area, respectively, in which the candidate is running for office. To qualify, a candidate must be 18 years or older on voting day (October 15, 2022), 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/vote](http://www.crd.bc.ca/vote) and at:

**Capital Regional District**, Legislative Services, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 625 Fisgard St., Victoria, 250.360.3127;

**Islands Trust**, #200-1627 Fort St., Victoria, 250.405.5169;

**Islands Trust**, #1-500 Lower Ganges Rd., Salt Spring Island, 250.537.9144.

### Islands Trust



#### ISLAND LOCAL TRUST AREAS

The following constitutes the designated Island Local Trust Areas for the purpose of electing local trustees to the Islands Trust: **Galiano Island Local Trust Area:**

Galiano, Ballingall, Charles, Gossip, Julia, Lion Islets, Parker, Retreat, Sphinx, Wise, Lt 145 Whaler Bay. **Mayne Island Local Trust Area:** Mayne, Curlew, Georgeson.

**North Pender Local Trust Area:** North Pender, Boat Islet, Fane, Roe Islet, Lot 31 A & B Colston Cove, Lot 50 Grimmer Bay, Lt 176 Otter Bay, Lot 32 Bedwell Harbour, Arbutus, Brethour, Chads, Coal, Comet, D'Arcy, Forrest, Gooch, Goudge, Hood, Imrie, James, Knapp, Moresby, Portland, Pym, Rubly, Rum, Sidney, Tortoise Islets. **Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area:** Salt Spring, Acland, Bright, Burial Islet, Channel, Deadman, Goat, Grace, Hall, Hawkins, Idol, Isabella, Jackscrew, Mowgli, Norway, Piers, Prevost, Red Islets, Russell, Secretary, Secret, Sisters - First, Second, Third, Wallace, Lot 73 Long Harbour, Lot 349 Ganges Harbour, Lot 222 Long Harbour, Lot 344 Stuart Channel. **Saturna Island Local Trust Area:**

Saturna, Anniversary, Belle Chain Islets, Cabbage, Java Islets, King Islets, Lizard, Pine, Samuel, Trevor Islet, Tumbo, Lot 65 East of Samuel. **South Pender Local Trust Area:** South Pender, Blunden Island, Skull Islet.

#### CAMPAIGN PERIOD EXPENSE LIMITS

In accordance with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, for the 2022 general local election, the following expense limits for candidates during the campaign period apply:

Electoral Area Director (Southern Gulf Islands, Juan de Fuca)	\$ 5,398.92
Electoral Area Director (Salt Spring Island)	\$ 6,282.90
Islands Trust Trustee (Galiano, Mayne, North Pender, Saturna, South Pender)	\$ 5,398.92
Islands Trust Trustee (Salt Spring Island)	\$ 6,282.90

#### THIRD PARTY ADVERTISING LIMITS

In accordance with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, for the 2022 general local election, the following third party advertising limits apply:

Electoral Area (Southern Gulf Islands, Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island)	\$ 809.84
Islands Trust Trustee (Galiano, Mayne, North Pender, Salt Spring, Saturna, South Pender)	\$ 809.84

**Additional information on campaign financing and advertising rules** is available through Elections BC:

1.800.661.8683, [electoral.finance@elections.bc.ca](mailto:electoral.finance@elections.bc.ca) or [www.elections.bc.ca](http://www.elections.bc.ca).

**For further information on the nomination process**, contact Marlene Lagoa, Deputy Chief Election Officer, at 250.360.3127 or [elections@crd.bc.ca](mailto:elections@crd.bc.ca). Port Renfrew and Gulf Island residents may call toll free, 1.800.663.4425, local 3127.

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August 2022

Kristen Morley,  
Chief Election Officer

[www.crd.bc.ca/vote](http://www.crd.bc.ca/vote)  
[www.islandstrust.bc.ca/elections](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/elections)

# OPINION

2019 CCNA Awards  
Gold - Best Editorial Page | Gold - Best Feature Series (Gail Sjuberg)  
Bronze - Best News Story (Elizabeth Nolan) | Bronze - Community Service

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



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### EDITORIAL

## Flawed process

**T**he last thing residents of Canvasback Place on Salt Spring Island want is to end up with a criminal record.

But they feel so strongly about how the approval process for a 40-metre telecommunications tower proposed for their back yard has unfolded that they have been willing to flirt with that possibility by blocking contractors' access to the construction site in their neighbourhood.

Residents stressed last week they are not against cell towers and should not be portrayed as part of a "tin foil hat" club, referring to people who feel they can be protected from electromagnetic radiation by aluminum foil. They do not consider the site or installation a "government approved" one because in March of this year the Salt Spring Local Trust Committee (LTC) rescinded a previous decision to provide its stamp of approval, although the federal Industry, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) is the regulating body for telecommunications installations.

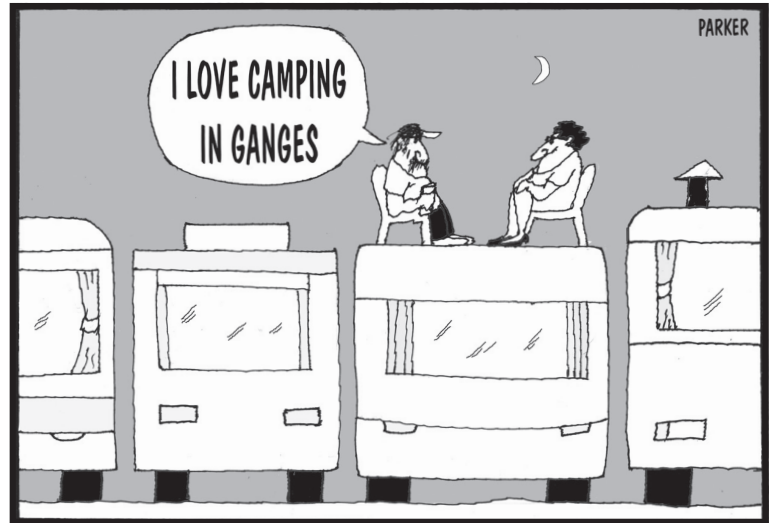
### THE ISSUE: Canvasback cell tower issue

### WE SAY: Model strategy should be used

Residents are dissecting various documents trying to pinpoint clauses or processes that will result in a different site being chosen, with some of those efforts having more potential impact than others.

Where they are absolutely right is that if the conditions laid out in an Islands Trust Model Strategy for Antenna Systems had been followed, Trust staff and the LTC may not have considered the site appropriate due to its close proximity to several residential dwellings — as close as 42 metres or 137 feet — and the environmentally sensitive Salt Spring Island Watershed Preservation Society lands. Rogers and its agent Cypress Land Services would have also been required to hold a public information session and have more direct communication with the LTC earlier in the process. The model strategy had not actually been adopted by the LTC when the original decision was made, although it was forwarded to Cypress Land Services and a letter from that firm states the protocol was followed in terms of the public consultation process. In making its original approving decision in July of 2021 the LTC relied on that incorrect information, contained as part of a staff report that recommended support for the application.

The LTC is now in disagreement with ISED about whether or not it can rescind its approval. As of this writing, the matter is with Islands Trust legal counsel and a positive resolution hopefully in sight.



## Too late to save Salt Spring?

BY FRANCINE CARLIN

As a result of years of fractured Salt Spring local governance, special/narrow interests and extreme voices consistently creating barriers to being able to sustain a diverse demographic and an economically thriving rural island community, it may be too late to save Salt Spring. Covid exposed more cracks and now coming out of Covid the community is experiencing the same narrow self-interests raising their heads once again.

The B.C. empty home tax, or speculation and vacancy tax (SVT) has been a remedy for communities smaller than Salt Spring Island for managing land grabbing for quick profit. For Salt Spring Island the increasing number of homes that have been purchased by offshore non-residents over the past years is turning Salt Spring into an Airbnb wasteland. What the Salt Spring Official Community Plan had planned for — small inns, conforming B&Bs — has been transformed by speculators who have and are purchasing home after home and renting them at exorbitant prices during the summer season as well as year-round. Salt Spring is becoming a haven for summer party houses with little regard for water or fire conservation.

Most visitors are unaware of the squeeze they are putting on our weak infrastructure. Residents and visitors complain about the traffic — the crowds — a result of the over subscription, during the summer season, of homes being used to house more people than the island can support.

Speculators from across North America and offshore know there is little Salt

### VIEWPOINT

Spring Island regulation and no consequences for their purchase for profit. The voices against a speculation and vacancy tax say it will hurt the long-time vacation home owners. This may be true, but it's time for these vacation home owners to say, "I'm willing to pay a tax for the pleasure of having a second home." It's time for these vacation home-owners to do their part to protect this community from becoming another Martha's Vineyard shipping workers in to serve the wealthy and the retired. Our lovely hospital may not survive. Medical staff, health workers, police, tradespeople, retail and service workers will not be able to live and work here. In fact, who wants to live in a community with no amenities? Of course those who bring their servants and food with them for a holiday don't notice!

So rise up, housing minister Selena Robinson, I urge you to act to commit to keeping Salt Spring Island from becoming a one-dimensional community, existing only for the rich and the privileged. You can make a positive difference for generations to come by extending the empty home-speculation tax to Salt Spring Island. By going beyond the ordinary and expected, you can rise up to act now to protect the rural nature and character of Salt Spring, and insure that for future generations our rural island community is a place where a diverse demographic resides, thrives and is able to sustain Salt Spring Island as a priceless social, cultural and economic asset for B.C.

*The writer is a full-time Salt Spring resident.*

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### THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Are you getting concerned  
about summer drought and  
wildfire risk?

☐ Yes ☐ No

### LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you think the  
Channel Ridge Rogers  
cell tower should go  
ahead?

66 222  
YES NO

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



# ISLAND VOICES

## LETTERS to the editor

### Trustees should represent silent majority

I'm writing to encourage our local Trust committee (Salt Spring Island trustees Peter Grove and Laura Patrick, and Thetis Island trustee Peter Luckham) to approve Bylaw 530 (regarding accessory dwelling units), which was recommended by the Islands Trust's own citizen volunteer Housing Action Program Task Force as a very preliminary step to address the gaping maw of housing inequity that is hollowing out our island's demographics and economy.

Allowing accessory dwelling units alone will not solve the housing shortage, but it will begin to expand our options. As our trustees are well aware, the vast majority of housing on Salt Spring consists of expensive single family homes, many of which have a large environmental footprint. Enabling Bylaw 530 will mark a small step forward in realizing a more equitable mix of housing types that will

better address the needs of all our community, not just the wealthy retired and executive classes, and it will allow us to do it in a way that is respectful of both the environment and the people.

The LTC and the Driftwood regularly hear from a very small and vocal group who who oppose every idea to increase housing options, yet offer no constructive solutions to the housing crisis themselves. It's easy enough to be swayed when these are the only voices who show up at public meeting after public meeting, but they don't speak for the silent majority whose interests our trustees must also represent.

Our all-volunteer Housing Task Force does represent our community; regular people from a range of age groups who are too busy going to school, working multiple jobs, raising families, running our local businesses, dealing with health issues, or ageing out of their single family homes to focus on the minutia of government process. It is for those people most that the LTC must vote YES on Bylaw 530.

**MAIRI WELMAN,**  
SALT SPRING

### Island needs resident property owners

I feel compelled to contest the assertion made by Susan de Stein in last week's In Response piece that the tax on speculation or empty homes is not needed here because "people do not buy here to speculate; they buy here to live here."

Her statement may apply to many people but it is far from the whole picture.

For example, about four years ago a couple from Hong Kong bought a very extensive property in our neighbourhood. Since then the residences and buildings have remained unoccupied and unmaintained. The buyers installed a permanently locked gate at the entrance, which also blocked the fire evacuation route for about 40 households. This is a matter of great concern to us as you can imagine, since the law apparently upholds the non-resident owners' right to protect their property over our rights to protect our lives.

My point is that the more we allow non-residents to buy up Salt Spring, the more it will negatively impact the quality of life of the permanent residents. The most glaring demonstration of this is the continuing erosion of services and amenities here due to the extreme shortage of affordable housing.

But there are numerous other less obvious ways in which permanent residents suffer from this trend, of which the example above is just one illustration.

Many things need to be done. One is to claim the protection that other communities already receive through the tax on empty homes and speculation, and to use that revenue to improve affordable housing options here. It seems reasonable for people who are wealthy enough to have two or more homes to contribute a little more to help provide for those who want to live and work here but cannot find any home at all. This would benefit our entire community.

**CHRIS BRADLEY,**  
SALT SPRING

**MORE LETTERS** continued on 7

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Bylaw 530 would not be the open floodgate some islanders fear but rather just a very modest sprinkler system servicing a housing-parched segment of our community."

STAN SHAPIRO, SALT SPRING RESIDENT, ON PROPOSED BYLAW 530

## Bylaw 530 just one step we can take to diversify housing options

**BY LAURA PATRICK**  
SSI ISLANDS TRUST TRUSTEE

In its Aug. 3 'Not the Answer' editorial the Driftwood states that "island-wide zoning changes lack the standard of good land-use planning." I respectfully disagree and here's why.

Housing solutions have been researched on this island for decades, and reports on this topic abound with the recognition that legalizing suites and cottages is an important action. How many more taxpayer-funded reports are necessary to conclude that legalizing suites and cottages for full-time residential use is beneficial? Bylaw 530 is considered "good-land use planning"!

Here is a list of many of the fact-based, professionally researched reports that I know of that are out there:

- 1994, Salt Spring Island Task Force Affordable Housing (Draft Report), Islands Trust Task Force on Housing and Accommodation.
- 2002, Crisis in Paradise - Accelerating the Provision of Affordable Housing on Salt Spring Island, Clare Heffernan.
- 2003, Options for Affordable Housing: New Solutions to the Housing Crisis in the Islands Trust Area, Local Planning Services.
- 2005, Community Housing Background Report & Recommendations, Salt Spring Community Housing Task Force, Salt Spring

Island Local Trust Committee.

- 2007, Population, Housing, and Settlement Patterns - Preliminary Policy Proposals, Official Community Plan Focus Group, Salt Spring Community Housing Task Force, Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee.

- 2009, Islands Trust Housing Needs Assessment - A Step Towards a Comprehensive Affordable Housing Strategy for Salt Spring Island, JG Consulting Services Ltd, Islands Trust.

- 2010, Jan. 28, 2010 Staff Report - Affordable Housing Project, Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee.

- 2010, Islands Trust Community Housing "Tool Kit" - A Guide to Tools Available to Support the Development of Affordable Housing in the Trust Area, JG Consulting Ltd, Islands Trust.

- 2011, Salt Spring Island Community Affordable Housing Strategy (CAHS) Action Plan, JG Consulting Services Ltd.

- 2015, Salt Spring Island Affordable Housing Needs Assessment, JG Consulting Services Ltd.

- 2016, Affordable Housing in the Trust Area - Baseline Report, Local Planning Services.

- 2016, Community Housing in the Trust Area, Local Planning Services.

- 2019 (Updated), Affordable Housing in the Trust Area - Baseline Report, Local Planning Services.

## IN RESPONSE

- 2019, Affordable Housing in the Trust Area Strategic Actions in the Islands Trust, Local Planning Services.

- 2020, Housing Needs Assessment, Salt Spring Island, CRD.

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Board recently received the Southern Gulf Island Housing Strategy' (2022), which describes the shared responsibilities for housing, including the Islands Trust, CRD, provincial and federal governments, non-profits, developers and private residents. The report states, "Residents have a role in supporting affordable housing by welcoming accessory units for rent on their own properties."

The CRD also conducted a Housing Feasibility Analysis (May 2022) for the Southern Gulf Islands (SGI). This report found that, among various actions, the renovation of an existing house to create a two-bedroom secondary suite is the most financially viable option. They did not assess adding a suite to an accessory building (e.g., garage), but similar financial viability can be expected.

The CRD also commissioned another report, SGI Updated Housing

Market Analysis Report (Feb 2022). This report found that:

- the gap between income and costs of housing is widening;
- the rental situation is impacting the local economy;
- there is a lack of primary rental stock;
- there is hidden homelessness as people live in their cars and boats, camp and couch surf; and,
- the housing supply is limited and lacks diversity.

The CRD's Southern Gulf Islands Housing Strategy is an example of a regional initiative to identify actions that can be taken by all who share responsibility to address housing in these rural islands.

Bylaw 530 is not being "sold" by the local Trust committee as the solution to housing. It is but one step we can take to diversify housing options, and to help island residents who want to house their fellow island residents. It is also a necessary step to legalize this type of housing for full-time rental before we can begin to regulate its use for short-term rentals.

The impacts and management of vacation rentals are also well supported with recent research. The report from the joint UBCM-Province Advisory Group (including Islands Trust representation) on Short-Term Rentals, 'Priorities for Action on Short-Term Rentals' (June 2021) includes a priority request to amend the Local

Government Act to allow regional districts to implement business licensing, by approval of the regional district board, as a tool to regulate short-term rentals. This report encourages local government to develop and implement policy options that address housing priorities and needs, including short-term rental regulation and enforcement.

A Toolkit for Canadian Local Governments for Regulating Short-Term Rentals (June 2021) is an excellent resource for step-by-step advice for implementation. Business licences are recognized in the toolkit as an important tool. You don't need to commission research reports to see if they work. Look to any B.C. municipality with a tourism economy and you will see that they have business licensing programs (e.g. Tofino, Penticton). Because we're not a municipality, we need the CRD to take action on this front.

I'm disappointed that the Gulf Islands Driftwood appears to have thrown its lot in with its letter writers who oppose well-researched remedies such as legalizing suites and cottages for full-time residential use (e.g., Bylaw 530) and, at the same time, continually fail to offer any evidence-based solutions. If any of you have good ideas, I am all ears.

[lpatrik@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:lpatrik@islandstrust.bc.ca)



# Bylaw 530 has environmental and social merits

First of two parts

BY RHONAN HEITZMANN

SALT SPRING SOLUTIONS +  
HOUSING ACTION PROGRAM TASK FORCE

I am writing this article to hopefully clear up any confusion about the environmental and social merits of Bylaw 530, permitting accessory dwelling units (ADUs) for full-time occupancy on more properties on Salt Spring Island.

First of all, everyone I know advocating for this solution recognizes that this is not the only answer to our complex housing problems, but merely one important step to address a portion of the wide spectrum of desperate need for housing on our island. Allowing full-time dwelling suites not only within principle residences, but also accessory buildings such as garages, shops, studios and even as small cabins or cottages is standard planning practice that is often adopted as a first step to address housing shortages in communities all over North America, and indeed in our region and islands.

For me this is well framed by being a featured solution in the Islands Trust's own 2003 commissioned report, Options for Affordable Housing: New Solutions to the Housing Crisis in

the Islands Trust Area, by Normandy Daniels.

She writes: "Perhaps the most readily available, and inexpensive, source of rental housing stock would be that created within existing buildings and residences on private land throughout the islands. As in larger or more urban communities (where legalization of suites is becoming more popular), secondary suites, garden suites, garage apartments, and the like are a way to increase human density without increasing development pressure on the land or requiring additional infrastructure."

The environmental benefit of ADUs are: They are low impact, small footprint, make use of existing buildings or doubling the use of planned buildings. It is cheaper to retrofit existing buildings than build new ones, requiring less new raw resources and energy to operate. No new subdivisions, no new roads or clear cuts required. Secondary infill is the opposite of rural sprawl, it adds a layer of

## INDEPTH

**It is cheaper to retrofit existing buildings than build new ones, requiring less new raw resources and energy to operate.**

Housing locally the people needed to serve our community is necessary for community resilience. We need to be less reliant on a commuting workforce...and, for those of us concerned about climate change, this reduces the significant and growing carbon impact of commuters, not to mention the strain on our already overburdened ferry system.

Water: sufficient water must be proved for occupation permit: no water no ADU. Rainwater harvesting is an option but there is an extra cost associated so still represents a barrier. Long-term occupants of small dwellings use less water, especially compared with vacationers, irrigation and the waste leakage of community water systems' failing infrastructure. A recent Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance study showed that average household use in Salt Spring's community water systems is around 230 litres per day. That is approximately

the volume of a 50-gallon rain barrel. Please end the fear that allowing a few extra small dwellings is going to somehow drain our aquifers dry.

I have a unique perspective being the person people call when they have a water shortage. I can tell you that no one has ever ordered water because their well has been negatively affected by a neighbour's tenant's use. We need to be careful in some areas, yes, but no one is more acutely aware of protecting their groundwater than those who have a low yielding well. Full-time occupants living with limited volume systems are the most frugal and conscientious users. It is unconscionable to try to place the burden of protecting our aquifers on the backs of the young families we need to support our community.

The merit of ADUs as a part of the solution to our housing crisis is proved by the fact that hundreds if not thousands are already housed by suites and cabins of some sort all over this island, despite the current nonconforming status. Smart planning recognizes what people are already doing to solve a problem, and we should empower this solution to be more broadly accepted and safer. If nothing else this bylaw will protect those that are already housed this way, and this is significant.

It is true that the cost of building will limit the creation of new rentals, and not everyone wants to be a landlord. This is why in order for this type of permission to be successful it should be extended broadly to all properties equally, in order to capture all those who are willing and able to participate. We need to end the fear that this bylaw will result in an environmentally destructive overrun of our population capacity. We would be lucky if we achieved 10 per cent uptake of new units over time. In order to be a more effective solution, we as a community, can also encourage more uptake of this style of housing once it is legally permitted by supporting would-be but nervous landlords with a landlord tenant matching service (to help support positive landlord tenant relationships) and advocating for the return of the right for landlords to have a fixed lease so that they can see how their relationship with a tenant goes before being essentially locked in forever. This is a significant barrier to the creation of private rentals that is often underestimated. We need to advertise publicly, engage our friends and neighbours that we are in a deep crisis and we need everyone to pitch in if we have any hope of salvaging a functional and resilient community capable of serving our own needs.

If we were to be included in the STV tax area, the stick of the tax could now legally become a carrot to incentivize vacant property owners to save thousands of dollars per year by housing someone legally in a "caretaker" ADU. Additionally, we could advocate for a tax credit incentive for property owners who provide a long-term rental.

For the second part of this piece, see [gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://gulfislandsdriftwood.com) or next week's Driftwood.

Capital Regional District 

Islands Trust 

## Notice of Advance Voter Registration & Availability of List of Registered Electors

### 2022 General Local Election

Public notice is hereby given that **Advance Voter Registration will be accepted until Tuesday, August 23, 2022** for Capital Regional District (CRD) List of Non-Resident Property Electors for:

**Juan de Fuca, Salt Spring Island, and Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Areas** in the Capital Regional District,

and the electors of:

**Galiano Island, Mayne Island, North Pender Island, Salt Spring Island, Saturna Island, and South Pender Island Local Trust Areas**

The Capital Regional District will be using the Provincial Voters List to determine who is eligible to vote as a Resident Elector in the CRD. If you voted in the last provincial 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 Electoral Area Directors, assent voting, School District Trustees, and Islands Trust Trustees in the CRD.

#### ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

**Resident Elector:** If you are 18 years or older on voting day (October 15, 2022), 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 (October 15, 2022), 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 August 23, 2022, 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.

You may register on voting day 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, Legislative Services, 625 Fisgard Street, Victoria, BC** from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holiday. 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, August 30, 2022, until the close of general voting on October 15, 2022, 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, September 9, 2022. 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 electors for the 2022 General Local Election. The application form to vote by mail is available at [www.crd.bc.ca/](http://www.crd.bc.ca/) vote and due no later than October 1, 2022.

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](mailto:elections@crd.bc.ca). Port Renfrew and Gulf Island residents may call toll free, 1.800.663.4425, local 3642.

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August 2022

Kristen Morley,  
Chief Election Officer

[www.crd.bc.ca/vote](http://www.crd.bc.ca/vote)  
[www.islandstrust.bc.ca/elections](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/elections)



## MORE LETTERS

continued from 5

## Whatever happened to love your neighbour?

Hopefully I am only one of many islanders who were both shocked and dismayed by the reaction to Bylaw 530 expressed by some contributors to last week's Driftwood.

Have we no sympathy for those on the island who cannot find a decent place to live? Why such opposition to a modest bylaw change, one that experience elsewhere suggests will at best over a decade create but a few hundred very modest dwelling units? Bylaw 530 would not be the open floodgate some islanders fear but rather just a very modest sprinkler system servicing a housing-parched segment of our community. Would we rather see those who each day now meet all our many needs in any number of ways replaced in the relatively near future by an army of robots?

Bylaw 530 is a very focused and environmentally friendly effort to make some small contribution to dealing with Salt Spring's housing crisis. It is at the same time an essential step in preserving and protecting Salt Spring Island as a place where all of us, not just the well to do, can afford to live and work. Yes, there are other actions that should also be taken to increase the supply of affordable housing but these must be in addition to, rather than in place of, Bylaw 530. Please join me in calling on our Salt Spring Local Trust Committee to do what is right for so many by passing this important bylaw.

**STAN SHAPIRO,**  
SALT SPRING

## Eliminate capital gains deduction

Okay, we get it. Susan de Stein doesn't like the NDP and is none too happy with Adam Olsen either ("SVT not part of housing solution," Aug. 3 Driftwood).

However, she proposes no solution whatsoever other than the status quo, which recently included blind bidding and money laundering, as the Cullen Commission found.

It might interest Ms. de Stein to know that there are actually many people who "work hard" and "manage their finances well" who cannot afford a house, let alone a second. These individuals and their families never have the excess income that would elevate them to the lovely benefits of TFSA's, RRSP's, RIF's, the dividend markup and, best of all, the capital gains deduction. And let's not forget the Bank of Mom and Dad.

If a modest speculation tax frees up thousands of domiciles, why not inhibit all the speculation by eliminating the cap gains deduction on domestic housing. Prices then would be determined by those who, in fact, need a place to live.

**CHARLES BRETH,**  
SALT SPRING

## Live within limits

As a modern person I know we want fast, easy market-driven solutions, and that many people still believe there are no limits to how much damage we can do before nature hands us the bill. Living on this fragile island has made me more aware of limits.

Do you know that many homes on Salt Spring already pay to get their water trucked in? Do you know that Bylaw 530 would open up even our currently protected watersheds to a doubling of dwellings and density? At the bylaw open house on July 21, one person who was actually building a

secondary dwelling (as the proposed bylaw encourages thousands of landowners to do) was there to ensure she could still get away with using it as a B&B. It was surreal to watch her receive assurances that, no, she won't be forced to rent to locals.

There's actually enough housing on Salt Spring for locals without building more or hauling in trailers or sticking families in garages as this bylaw intends. Between the hundreds of short-term tourist rentals that already crowd the island, and the estimated 1,000 empty houses, we could start tackling the housing shortage without making big new problems.

To hear urgent concerns about water, clear-cutting, car-dependent sprawl and the climate emergency dismissed as fear-mongering by this bylaw's promoters is to wonder if humans will ever grasp limits without learning the hard way. As natural systems collapse and the weather grows wildly unhinged, we continue to colonize every woodland and wetland, every lake and aquifer, the air and the farmland and almost anything else we can lay waste to, all to achieve short-term goals.

Well, we can't change the world, but we can save this island from misinformation and Bylaw 530.

**DEBORAH CAMPBELL,**  
SALT SPRING

## Bylaw 530 not the way to go

There is no conceivable way that Bylaw 530 could alleviate our housing crisis. Increasing allowable building densities in residential zones does absolutely nothing to address any of the causative economic factors contributing to our housing crisis.

Today's building costs are being quoted by insurance companies as between \$325 to \$375 a square foot. Taking a minimum construction cost and a minimum cottage size of 600 square feet, a small cottage will cost \$ 195,000 to build. This is hardly appealing as the old classic "mortgage helper." If a property owner is going to make that expensive an investment, it would seem patently obvious that the owner would want to maximize the returns.

It is a fact that commercial short-term rentals (STVRs and Airbnbs) will earn well over three times what a residential rental will yield.

Thus, if densities are increased, the results could well be an increase in tourist accommodation and not in providing housing for islanders who live and work in our community.

**SHARON MCCOLLOUGH,**  
WELBURY BAY

### COVID-19 IN BC

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**Salt Spring residents and businesses give thanks to their local detachment of the RCMP.**

# SALUTE

## New members and retirement at local RCMP

Salt Spring detachment provides annual report to the community

A Salute to the Salt Spring Island RCMP is an opportunity for this detachment to showcase some of its newest members and introduce them to our community through this article submitted by the local detachment.



RCMP Const. Ross Hobbs

Constable Ross Hobbs, a recent graduate from the RCMP training facility "depot" in Regina, Sask., has now made Salt Spring Island his new home.

Hobbs, who grew up in Victoria, was excited to be posted to Salt Spring Island, saying, "I grew up coming to Salt Spring and this island was a big part of my childhood."

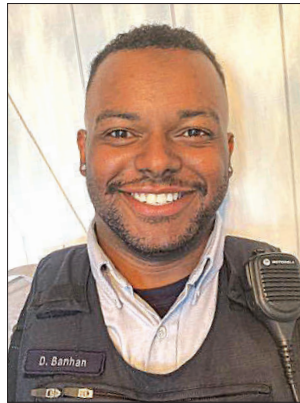
Having a variety of work and life experiences prior to becoming a mountie is always a benefit for an officer. Hobbs worked as a loss prevention officer in

Vancouver in 2016 and then as a bylaw officer on Vancouver Island for two years from 2018 to 2020. Sharpening his traffic enforcement skills in commercial vehicle safety enforcement on Vancouver Island, Const. Hobbs regularly conducted commercial vehicle inspections to ensure safe driving conditions on our roadways.

In addition to these enforcement roles, Hobbs was a security officer for four years for the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) and he volunteered for five years with the Armed Forces Reserves. Cst. Hobbs has now become a police officer with an exceptional skill set and knowledge base.

When not working, Const. Hobbs and his wife enjoy training dogs for both obedience and security training. Having both graduated from the Justice Institute of BC as Security Canine handlers, they are able to share their love of animals with others. Allowing a dog the freedom to learn in a safe and obedient environment is a joy they both share.

"I am looking forward to enjoying Salt Spring and its many unique places and offerings for years to come," said Hobbs.  
**Welcome to Salt Spring Island, Const. Hobbs!**



RCMP Const. Dan Banhan

Also new to Salt Spring Island is Constable Dan Banhan, who recently graduated from the RCMP depot in Regina.

Banhan brings with him years of experience in a multitude of enforcement roles in southern Ontario, including bylaw officer and loss prevention officer and loss prevention district training manager. Overseeing 70+ people in five teams helped him develop his interpersonal skills, a skillset he expects to bring to his investigations. Coupled with his enforcement work, Banhan

also volunteered in a soup kitchen for three years in southern Ontario.

Graduating from Brock University with a degree in political science and psychology with a focus on deception, Const. Banhan believes his education will greatly assist him during interviews and the enforcement of the law: "It will allow me to assess someone's behaviour to get to the truth."

Although very different from his home city in southern Ontario, Banhan is relishing the opportunity to experience life in a small west coast community. A slower pace of life, fewer traffic jams and the chance to "listen to the quiet" are opportunities that Banhan is looking forward to on Salt Spring Island. Sports, including soccer and volleyball, are major interests of his and he hopes to pursue these pastimes while here on island.

When asked why he joined the RCMP, Banhan said, "For me, a position with the RCMP allows me to work for Canada, and try to represent the very best of this nation. I'm looking forward to having a positive impact in my new community."  
**Welcome to Salt Spring Island, Const. Banhan!**



Loretta Rithaler, administration

speaking of her many years of service here on

As someone who grew up on Salt Spring with the people and nuances of this small island has been an invaluable resource for new residents and helping with the local climate. Knowing the location of "Central" or "Lee's Hill" or other local areas not on any map has allowed Loretta to impart years of knowledge to members, who are then able to respond quickly and efficiently to emergency calls.

Retirement will allow Loretta to spend more time with family and offer an opportunity to travel across Canada. As a detachment, we wish Loretta much joy and success in this next step, and thank her for her many years of service.  
**Good luck, Loretta, and Best Wishes!**

Working in unison with our valued RCMP members  
Thank you for your service



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# TO RCMP

Salt Spring residents and businesses give thanks to their local detachment of the RCMP.



## RCMP detachment

Having the Salt Spring RCMP family is Loretta Ripley, who has been in the Salt Spring detachment for over decades. In her 22 years of administrative service at the SSI RCMP detachment, Ripley has seen a lot of change. The introduction of various newly instituted electronic administration, changes to the 9-1-1 dispatch system and personnel changes over the years have become a way of life for Ripley. The only constant is change," she said, when in Salt Spring. Ripley is very familiar with the community, Ripley and her members coming in

On behalf of the entire Salt Spring Island RCMP Detachment, we are honoured by Salt Spring's support of us and our role here. Thank you for the opportunity to serve!

*Clive, Matt, Josie, Bruce, Dan, Felix, Hardip, Ross and Ted*



From left, Salt Spring RCMP detachment personnel Const. Ted Turgeon, Sgt. Clive Seabrook, Corp. Matt Crist, administrative service clerk Josie Ripley, Const. Hardip Gill, Const. Felix Charette-Thibault and Const. Bruce Verhaeghe on the boardwalk by Centennial Park on Remembrance Day last year.

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Thank you to the Salt Spring Island RCMP for your dedication and service.



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## CONCERT PREVIEW

# Balkan Shmalkan visits island

Aug. 18 concert in Centennial Park

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING ARTS

Next Thursday's concert in Centennial Park features a band known for its global music with local attitude.

Balkan Shmalkan is East Vancouver's sweet dance party orchestra. According to the group's website, their funky brass dance beats are rooted in the living aural traditions of the Roma and Klezmer of Eastern Europe and blended with a mixture of pop, funk and jazz. Group members sing in five languages, including Serbian, Romani and Italian. Colourful, vibrant and celebratory, the group of brass, drums and vocals is best enjoyed up close and personal.

"Balkan Shmalkan is exceptionally versatile and mobile, playing on and off stage with nothing more than the power of their lungs and a few horns."

The opening set for the Aug. 18 show, beginning at 6 p.m., features The Orchid Room. Soulfully sweet, luscious yet powerful; this recording artist surprises audiences with her own take on songs that people know and originals they want to hear again. Creations written in collaboration with talented musicians, The Orchid Room creates an atmospheric and captivating performance on stage. Unsigned Magazine says "The Orchid Room's debut album was 'exotic and erotic... this is music that you play when you're talking about life and philosophy and BIG THINGS. Julia Beattie is the brain behind The Orchid Room, and we thank our lucky stars for her."



BALKANSHMALKAN.CA

Ten-member Balkan Shmalkan band, which is the headlining act for next Thursday's Summer Outdoor Concert Series event in Centennial Park.

The Aug. 11 concert sees R&B artist Sadé Awele perform, with opening act musicians Bruce Cobanli and Craig McKerron.

The Thursday Summer Outdoor Concert Series of free/by donation music is presented by Salt Spring Arts with community and corporate support.

**BAND DIRECTOR WANTED!**

Are you passionate about community music? The Bandemonium Music Society is looking to hire a director to lead our concert band - an amateur, community-based wind ensemble. We need someone to program concerts, rehearse the band, and direct performances for the 2022-2023 musical season. We perform two formal concerts every year but also appear at several community events. This is a part-time position, largely taking place on evenings and weekends. Rehearsals will take place in the new music room in the CRD-SIMS building. Position starts in September 2022 but a later start date is possible. **For job requirements and further info, contact Kim at kim.saltsspring@gmail.com. Application deadline: Monday, August 22nd.**

**SUMMER OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES**

**AUG 11 SADÉ AWELE**

**SALT SPRING ARTS presents**

**BALKAN SHMALKAN**

**AUGUST 18 | 6 PM CENTENNIAL PARK**

**OPENER | THE ORCHID ROOM**

salt spring arts Island Savings HARBOUR HOUSE HOTEL Driftwood COUNTRY GROCER

**AUGUST 13 & 14, 2022 @ 2:00 pm**

**SALT SPRING BAROQUE MUSIC SOCIETY**

presents

**SUMMER BAROQUE IN THE TREES**

Carolyn Hatch (violin)  
Elyssa Lefurgy-Smith (violin)  
Kerry Graham (bassoon & recorder)  
Martin Bonham (cello)

BRITISH COLUMBIA ARTS COUNCIL BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Supported by the Province of British Columbia

**For venue info and tickets go to**  
**www.saltsspringbaroque.com**

## 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. Friday, July 22, 2022**  
**and 4:00 p.m. Friday, August 11, 2022**

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 September 12, 2022 and terminating at the end of the Annual General Meeting to be held in the year 2025.

The Election to be held on Saturday, September 10, 2022 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, September 7, 2022 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.

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 22nd day of July 2022

Anthony A. Kennedy  
Returning Officer

**STAY CONNECTED...**  
your local news, in print and online [www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com](http://www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com)



## TEA À TEMPO

# Roly Poly group brings fresh sound to stage

String trio performs on guitar, Celtic harp and koto

## SUBMITTED BY MUSIC MAKERS

The island's music lovers are sure to be enchanted by the upcoming concert in the Tea à Tempo series in All Saints by-the-Sea on Aug. 17.

Roly Poly String Trio will be offering music played on an unusual combination of instruments: classical guitar, Celtic harp and koto. The name Roly Poly comes from the family business of Japanese rice balls, now well known on Salt Spring and beyond. Their music making is also a family affair and, on this occasion, played by Aki, Akiko



PHOTO COURTESY MUSIC MAKERS

Roly Poly String Trio members, from left, Akiko, Anika and Aki Otsu, who will perform for Tea à Tempo on Aug. 17.

and Anika Otsu.

Aki Otsu learned to read music as a teenager and started play-

ing guitar during those years in Japan. He was soon playing an electric guitar with various bands,

which continued as a hobby for 30 years. He learned to play classical guitar in Vancouver after moving to Canada in 2004 with his wife Akiko and their daughter Anju.

Akiko Otsu began to play the koto, the Japanese harp, at the age of 10 in Osaka, Japan. After a hiatus during her high school years, she continued her studies in Vancouver, where she and her teacher were invited to play at a New Year's reception at the Japanese Consulate. The koto, the national instrument of Japan, is a beautiful stringed instrument made of kiri wood, about 180 centimetres in length and with 13 strings, strung over 13 moveable bridges. The strings are plucked using three finger picks. One of the highlights of the annual Blossom Festival on the island is Akiko

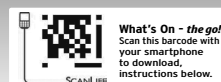
playing the koto.

Anika Otsu began playing the Celtic harp five years ago on Salt Spring Island, following in the footsteps of her older sister Anju. The Celtic harp has a wonderful acoustic sound. The instrument is distinguishable by the lever mechanism to change the pitch, and with its 26 strings, it takes dedication to master. This gifted young musician has done just that.

The delightfully eclectic program includes Japanese music, swing, as well as the well-known Pachelbel's Canon.

Music by donation begins at 2:10 p.m. Donations provide the honoraria for performers and contribute to the running of the Tea à Tempo series. Tea and treats will be served immediately following the concert in the hall.

## what's on this week



Wed. Aug. 10

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Tea à Tempo.**  
Women of Note perform in by-donation recital at All Saints. 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats.

**Daryl Chonka.**  
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Thur. Aug. 11

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Summer Outdoor Concert Series.**  
Sadé Awele is the headliner with openers Craig McKeron and Bruce Cobanli. Centennial Park. 6 to 8 p.m.

**Julia's Local Night / Going Away Party.**  
Mateada Lounge. 9 to 11 p.m.

**The Radio Grande.**  
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

**Sharon Bailey.**  
On the deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.

**Open Mic.**  
At the Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

Fri. Aug. 12

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Salt Spring Chamber Music Festival: Concert One – Deeper.**  
Faculty members present a concert of Debussy, Schnittke and Beethoven. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. with a preconcert talk at 7 p.m.

**Dance Dance Dance.**  
At the Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

**Bassos Rancheros & Andrew Interchill.**  
Mateada Lounge. 9 to 11:30 p.m.

**Luke Wallace.**  
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**ASK Salt Spring.**  
This week's guests are declared fall election candidates for the Salt Spring CRD position Kylie Coates and Gary Holman. United Church Meadow. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Fri. Aug. 12

## ACTIVITIES

**Friday Games Night.**  
Board games evening for ages 13 to 19 in the library program room. 7 p.m. Last one for the summer.

Sat. Aug. 13

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Summer Baroque in the Trees.**  
Carolyn Hatch (violin), Elyssa Lefurgy-Smith (violin), Kerry Graham (bassoon & recorder) and Martin Bonham (cello). 2 p.m. See [www.saltspringbaroque.com](http://www.saltspringbaroque.com) for venue info and tickets.

**Salt Spring Chamber Music Festival: Concert Two – Deepest.**  
Faculty members present a concert of Shostakovich and Brahms. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m. with a preconcert talk at 7 p.m.

**FRANKIEI.**  
Mateada Lounge. 9 to 11 p.m.

**Two Point Oh.**  
At the Legion. 7:30 to 10 p.m.

**Rough & Tumble.**  
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Saturday Market in the Park.**  
In Centennial Park from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sun. Aug. 14

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Summer Baroque in the Trees.**  
See Saturday listing.

**Jazz Jam.**  
At the Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.

**Alan Moberg.**  
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

**Sunday Artist Series.**  
Live music at Fernwood Road Cafe. 1 to 2 p.m.

Mon. Aug. 15

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Nicky MacKenzie.**  
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

Tues. Aug. 16

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**David Carl.**  
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Tuesday Farmers' Market.**  
Weekly market in Centennial Park. 2 to 6 p.m.

Wed. Aug. 17

## LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

**Tea à Tempo.**  
Roly Poly String Trio perform in by-donation recital at All Saints. 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats.

**Billie Woods.**  
Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.

## ACTIVITIES

**Family Adventures in Nature Program.**  
At Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve. Drop in from 1 to 4 p.m. for children aged 3 to 12 and their adult. Today's theme is All About Birds. Bird games, scavenger hunt and more.

## THE FRITZ CINEMA

• **Thor: Love and Thunder** runs from Wed., Aug. 10 through Thurs., Aug. 18 at 7 p.m. No Sunday matinee.

For more movie info, see [thefritz.ca](http://thefritz.ca).

## EXHIBITIONS

• **Susan Benson, We are Such Stuff as Dreams are Made On**, continues on the Showcase Exhibition stage at Mahon Hall daily until Aug. 22.

• **Impressions 7**, the annual show of new works by SSI Printmakers, is in the library program room until Aug. 26.

• **Johanna Hoskins** shows **Playing With Paper & Other Things** in the ArtSpring lobby through August. Tuesdays through Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and before theatre events.

• **Artcraft** show and sale of work by more than 100 Gulf Islands artisans runs daily at Mahon Hall from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through the summer.

• **Hazel Gardner**, a member of the SSI Painters Guild, is showing a selection of her animal portraits at **Salt Spring Coffee** until Aug. 15.

• **Sheri Standen** exhibits paintings at Fernwood Cafe through mid-August.

• **Cheryl Long** has a selection of landscapes in oil hanging at **Dragonfly Art Supplies'** gallery for the month of August.

• **Susan Gordon** shows dog portraits at the **Country Grocer** cafe this month.

## Family Adventures in Nature

**Blackburn Lake Nature Reserve  
Program for kids 3-12 and their adult.**

**AUGUST 17 AND 28  
Drop-in from 1 to 4 p.m.**

**THRIFTY FOODS**

**Ganges, Mouat's Centre 7:30am to 9pm  
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# ISLAND LIFE

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS

# Upcoming toy run in search of helping hands

Santa's Workshop fundraiser returns for Aug. 27 ride, BBQ and more

BY GAIL SJUBERG  
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Among well-loved island traditions returning this year after a pandemic-forced break is the Salt Spring Toy Run, which benefits the



DRIFTWOOD FILE PHOTO

Santa leads the 2017 Salt Spring Toy Run.

island's Santa's Workshop program.

According to the workshop's "head elf" Wendy Eggertson, the run first took place in 1996 under the leadership of Lil Irwin, with some 10 to 15 local bikers raising money for charity through a group run around the island.

The toy run eventually grew to be a multi-day event held at the Farmers' Institute, with many off-island motorcyclists attending.

"We recently had a turnout of 130 bikes and did dinners for over 200 people," said long-time run participant and "Santa" Kerry Butler.

This year the event will take place for one

day only, on Saturday, Aug. 27.

One thing that is definitely needed is more volunteers to help with planning, organization and all-important flagging duties.

"The flaggers control traffic and pedestrians and help things go smoothly and provide safety for everyone," said Butler.

About 40 people are needed, he said.

This year's run starts from the high school parking lot at 1 p.m. sharp. It will go through Ganges and down to Fulford via Cusheon Lake Road, arriving at about 1:20 p.m. It then goes back through Ganges and on to Fernwood, arriving there at about 1:45 p.m. Riders will then go up Malaview to North End Road and across Stark Road, arriving at the Royal Canadian Legion at about 2 p.m.

"The bikes will be travelling a little below the speed limit all the way," explained Butler, "all dependent on traffic, of course."

Everyone is welcome to enjoy a barbecue and live music at the Legion, with all proceeds benefitting Santa's Workshop.

"We provide about 95 per cent of their funding," said Butler. "We also provide some funds for islanders in the Special Olympics program."

More information is available at [saltspring-toyrun.com](http://saltspring-toyrun.com). Anyone wanting to volunteer can email [ssitoyrun@gmail.com](mailto:ssitoyrun@gmail.com).

## School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands) 2022 GENERAL LOCAL ELECTIONS NOTICE OF NOMINATION

Nomination Papers for the election of seven (7) School Board Trustees for a four (4) year term, (three (3) Trustees for Salt Spring Island and one (1) Trustee each for Pender, Saturna, Mayne and Galiano Islands) commencing on November 9, 2022 will be received by the Chief Election Officer, as follows:

By hand, mail, or other delivery service at the offices of School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands), 112 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2K3  
Attention:  
Chief Election Officer, Jesse Guy  
By email to: [jguy@sd64.org](mailto:jguy@sd64.org)

From 9:00 am on Tuesday, August 30, 2022, until 2:00 pm on Friday, September 9, 2022, on business days.

Appointments are strongly recommended, please call 250-537-5548 or email [jguy@sd64.org](mailto:jguy@sd64.org) to book an appointment.

Originals of emailed nomination documents must be received by the Chief Election Officer by 4:00 pm on Friday, September 16, 2022.

Interested persons can obtain information on the requirements and procedures for making nominations including nomination forms online at [Local Elections Resource Guides \(sd64.bc.ca\)](http://LocalElectionsResourceGuides(sd64.bc.ca)) or in person at the offices of School District No. 64 (Gulf Islands), 112 Rainbow Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2K3 between the hours of 9:00 am and 2:00 pm on business days, between August 30th and September 9th, 2022.

### QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

A person is qualified to be nominated, elected, and to hold office as a School Trustee if they meet the following criteria:

- Canadian citizen;
- 18 years of age or older on general voting day Saturday, October 15, 2022;
- resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day nomination papers are filed; and
- not disqualified under the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election in British Columbia or being nominated for, being elected to or holding the office, or be otherwise disqualified by law.

### CAMPAIGN PERIOD EXPENSE LIMITS and THIRD-PARTY ADVERTISING LIMITS

In accordance with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, for the 2022 general local election, the expense limit for candidates running in School District 64 (Gulf Islands) during the campaign period is as follows:

Trustee Electoral Area	Number of Trustee	Candidate Limits
Area 1 Salt Spring Island	3	\$6,117.66
Area 2 Pender Islands	1	\$5,398.92
Area 3 Saturna Island	1	\$5,398.92
Area 4 Mayne Island	1	\$5,398.92
Area 5 Galiano Island	1	\$5,398.92

In accordance with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, for the 2022 general local election, the expense limit for third-party advertising is \$809.84 and the cumulative third-party advertising limit is \$161,967.47.

For further information on the nomination process, please contact:  
Jesse Guy, Chief Election Officer, 250-537-5548, email: [jguy@sd64.org](mailto:jguy@sd64.org)  
Joan Axford, Deputy Chief Election Officer 250-415-2540

For further information on campaign period expense limits and third-party advertising limits, please contact Elections BC: Toll-free phone: 1-855-952-0280; Email: [lec@elections.bc.ca](mailto:lec@elections.bc.ca) Website: [www.elections.bc.ca/lec](http://www.elections.bc.ca/lec)

Jesse Guy  
Chief Election Officer



Islands Trust

HAVE  
YOUR  
SAY

When  
Thursday, August 18,  
2022 at 4:00 p.m.



Where  
Harbour House Hotel  
Crofton Room  
121 Upper Ganges Rd  
Salt Spring Island



Who should attend?  
Anyone affected by  
the proposed bylaw.



Enquiries?  
Louisa Garbo  
Acting Regional  
Planning Manager  
Islands Trust  
[ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca)  
250-537-9144



## Proposed Bylaw No. 530 Land Use Bylaw Amendment Accessory Dwelling Units

## PUBLIC HEARING

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

### What is Proposed Bylaw No. 530 about?

Proposed Bylaw No. 530 seeks to amend the Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw to allow Accessory Dwelling Units, such as secondary suites, cottages, or garden suites, to be established on an expanded number of properties island-wide.

### How do I get more information?

Copies of the bylaw, the Public Hearing binder and other information on the project is available for review on the [Salt Spring Island Current Project webpage](http://SaltSpringIslandCurrentProjectwebpage) and, at the Islands Trust office at #1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

### Submissions

Written submissions are welcome up until the conclusion of the Public Hearing and can be emailed to [ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca), mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 17, 2022. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.



## FUNDRAISER

## Radio station funds rise



PHOTO BY JIM MCNULTY

Members of the Rough & Tumble band play at a CHIR.fm fundraiser that brought in more than \$1,500 at the Legion on B.C. Day. The Gulf Islands Community Radio Society has raised just over 40 per cent of its \$50,000 fundraising goal.

## CRD grant helps boost CHIR.fm campaign

SUBMITTED BY CHIR-FM

The campaign to bring community radio to the Southern Gulf Islands has been boosted by a \$5,000 Capital Regional District (CRD) grant.

"This is a real shot in the arm for our fundraising program," said Damian Inwood, president of Gulf Islands Community Radio Society. "It means we have now raised more than \$21,000, or just over 40 per cent of our \$50,000 target for our main transmitter system. We are very grateful to the CRD for its support."

The grant was approved through the CRD Salt Spring Island Electoral Area's grant-in-aid program.

"A community-owned radio station can play such an important role on Salt Spring as a venue for the arts, as another local information source, and even in emergency situations," said CRD director Gary Holman. "It's

also great news that the society has been able to secure affordable rental space at the former middle school."

The society got approval in January from the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission for a community FM licence and has been given two years to get CHIR.fm on the air.

"Since then, volunteers have been working hard, selling merchandise, as well as vinyl records and CDs donated by our supporters," said Inwood. "We are also streaming live from the Saturday market every week."

More than 55 people have each donated \$107.90 as part of the group's Club 107.9 campaign and a GoFundMe campaign has raised more than \$1,300 for CHIR.fm so far.

A successful benefit concert, featuring four bands, took place at Legion Branch 92 on B.C. Day, which raised more than \$1,500.

Another fundraiser takes place on Friday, Aug. 19 at 7 p.m. at Beaver Point Hall, with DJs Dano Hammer, Boomtown and Andrew Interchill. Tickets are available at the door.

Anyone wanting to donate can also send an e-transfer to money@chir.fm, said Inwood.



Islands Trust

## HAVE YOUR SAY

## When

Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.



## Where

Harbour House Hotel  
Crofton Room  
121 Upper Ganges Rd  
Salt Spring Island



## Who should attend?

Anyone affected by the proposed bylaw.



## Enquiries?

Louisa Garbo  
Acting Regional  
Planning Manager  
Islands Trust  
ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca  
250-537-9144

Proposed Bylaw No. 526  
Land Use Bylaw Amendment  
Farmworker Housing

## PUBLIC HEARING

SALT SPRING ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

## What is Proposed Bylaw No. 526 about?

Proposed Bylaw No. 526 seeks to amend the Salt Spring Island Land Use Bylaw to allow farmworker units on Agriculture 1 and 2-zoned properties. The bylaw also proposes options for farms not zoned Agriculture 1 or 2 to build additional farmworker housing.

## How do I get more information?

Copies of the bylaw, the Public Hearing binder and other information on the project is available for review on the [Salt Spring Island Current Project webpage](#) and, at the Islands Trust office at #1-500 Lower Ganges Road, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 2N8 from the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.

## Submissions

Written submissions are welcome up until the conclusion of the Public Hearing and can be emailed to [ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca), mailed or dropped off at the Islands Trust office by 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 17, 2022. Written comments made in response to this notice will be available for public review.

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250-537-2770 • saltspringhospice.org

SUPPORTED BY COUNTRY GROCER

## Coming Events

**THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CENTRAL COMMUNITY HALL SOCIETY**

Wednesday Aug. 17, 2022  
at 7:00 pm  
in the lower hall  
at 901 North End Road,  
Public welcome.

## Storage

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**Venus entering Leo** is the hot headline now. The planet of desires, beauty, romance and love in the sign of fun, play, passion and sexuality is why this is a sizzling combination. With the Sun also in Leo, these themes are amplified. Jupiter in fiery Aries is trine by sign to the Sun and thanks to Venus there too adds plenty of verve to the vibe. Venus applying to an enthusiastic trine with Jupiter all week will ignite sparks and beckon us out to sing, dance and laugh and to explore new horizons. Mars in Taurus meanwhile is still closely aligned enough with Uranus to weave an added dose of something psychedelic, if wildly unpredictable. Coming full circle, this is especially due to Venus in the heart of Leo's fire. With so much drama and intensity in the world, taking a break from it all and having a bit of fun is good medicine so do what you can to fill your pleasure tanks.

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**Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)** An assertive push to create a greater sense of security is the backdrop to an otherwise playful mood. The deeper theme includes making key investments whether of time, energy or money. Expansion and increase are keywords and the target is your financial portfolio, but it could manifest as a larger waistline if you are not careful.

**Taurus (Apr 20 – May 20)** Centering your focus on home and family continues. This includes creating beauty, whether in your living environment or by way of quality time shared. A strong assertion of your will may manifest as radical measures. This includes covering a lot of bases.

**Gemini (May 21 – Jun 21)** A creative cycle continues and advances to the next level. Yet, it could just as easily manifest as an urge to play. Thanks to a strong desire to escape, you are likely to dive in deep which ever route you take. Doing the rounds with friends is also highlighted, but it depends on how you define the term.

**Cancer (Jun 22 – Jul 22)** A constructive cycle is yours to enjoy, even if it amounts to building sand castles by the shore. Devoting some of the energy to new projects or a new career perhaps is also likely. Yet, you are not in the mood to follow conventional paths. One way or another, you will break with convention.

**Leo (Jul 23 – Aug 23)** Entering new territory may not be strong enough to describe your mood. More likely, you want to practically barge in. Either way, something is changing in your public and professional life or your overall status. Adapting to the changing times is another way of describing it but you want to go to the next level.

**Virgo (Aug 24 – Sep 22)** You are in the process of seeing a bigger picture. This can include building for it as well. The time has come to step out of your usual pattern and break free from prior restrictions. Doing so will likely require commitment and perseverance but the current is already moving faster. Go big!

**Libra (Sep 23 – Oct 22)** Asserting your sense of individuality continues. Yet, on the other hand, you may want to lose yourself in whatever you are doing, or to escape your usual routine. Somehow doing so includes interaction with friends. Altogether, this could amount to a lot of fun. But it might prove wise not to drive.

**Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21)** You want to be seen and heard and perhaps heeded too. This is an expansive time, yet your focus is somewhat sober and serious. Obtaining new tools is part of the plot. Communications with others will be more direct and assertive. At deeper levels, facing and overcoming your fears is a driving force.

**Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21)** Leo shine in the summer time is a high point in the year. It tends to ignite your spirits, but sometimes it takes the melodrama to a whole new level. Practical affairs are activated as well, however, as you direct your critical eye towards possible investments.

**Capricorn (Dec 22 – Jan 19)** The time is right to break free from the usual routine. Certain key factors point to travel, if only for a short getaway. But, you could also find yourself escaping the heat and getting some practical affairs taken care of, such as cleaning the basement, which could qualify as a metaphor for clearing subconscious blocks.

**Aquarius (Jan 20 – Feb 19)** Life is inviting you out to play yet a bit longer this season, at least. You will soon be happy to dive back into work and other practical activities, but now is not the time. If you could make doing a bit of research a fun activity, then bonus, because it is also indicated. Just avoid any deep rabbit holes for now.

**Pisces (Feb 20 – Mar 20)** The sign of Leo lands on your solar house of daily routine and lifestyle. That is why it is so important for you to engage in creative activity as often as you can. Doing so can be understood as a form of therapy and uplift as you ride on the wings of imagination. Now is an especially good time to pay closer attention to the finer details.

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## BASEBALL

# Summer Games gold adds to ball season shine

Sisaye Patterson and Flynn Shugar part of top B.C. teams

### FAMILY-SUBMITTED ARTICLE

Two Salt Spring Island youth concluded an exciting season of baseball with a gold-medal win at the B.C. Summer Games.

Flynn Shugar and Sisaye Patterson started playing baseball together at age 10 with the Salt Spring Island Minor Baseball Association and that is where their love and passion for the game began.

One of their best memories from the early years was winning the U11 AA provincial championships with the Salt Spring A's. Last year the boys began travelling off island to play ball for the AA U14 Mustangs out of Ladysmith where they had a strong season and made it to the finals of the provincial championships.

In September of 2021 the boys trained with and played fall ball for the Nanaimo Pirates and then tried out and made their Premier Baseball League (PBL) U15 team. The PBL is the most competitive baseball league in B.C. The boys' strong skills, speed, effort and great attitudes quickly earned them starting positions on the team at second base, shortstop and third base. Their Pirates team had a strong season, narrowly missing a berth in provincials.

Shugar and Patterson have had a number of exciting highlights to their season. At spring break the boys travelled to Phoenix, Ariz. with a Big League Experience select team of players from across B.C. and Alberta for a week to train and compete in the West Coast Premier Tournament. Their team played spectacular baseball throughout the tournament against teams from Washington State, Colorado and Oregon and earned a silver medal against a very strong Southern California selects team. A bonus of the trip was they got to check out some MLB spring training games with their team, which was an unforgettable experience for both of the boys.

Another incredible highlight was their recent gold medal win with their Vancouver Island and Central Coast team at the B.C. Summer Games in Prince George. In May Shugar and Patterson tried out for the Summer Games team with 90 other boys and ultimately made the team of 16 players from Nanaimo, Victoria, Parksville and Sidney. The team flew to Prince George where they

joined 3,000 athletes in an incredible opening ceremony and then competed in a three-day tournament against some of the best players in B.C.

Vancouver Island finished 3-1 in their pool with some very close one-run games and this gave them a berth in the semi-final against Fraser Valley. The semi was a nail biter that went to two extra innings with Vancouver Island prevailing with a 8-7 win and earning a spot in the final against Vancouver Coastal A. From the first pitch to the last, Vancouver Island played their best ball of the tournament. They had outstanding pitching, fielding and hitting from the get go.

With Shugar starting at third base and Patterson at second with quick gloves, excellent batting and speed on bases, the Salt Spring boys helped their team dominate Vancouver Coastal A with a 5-0 score and capture gold.

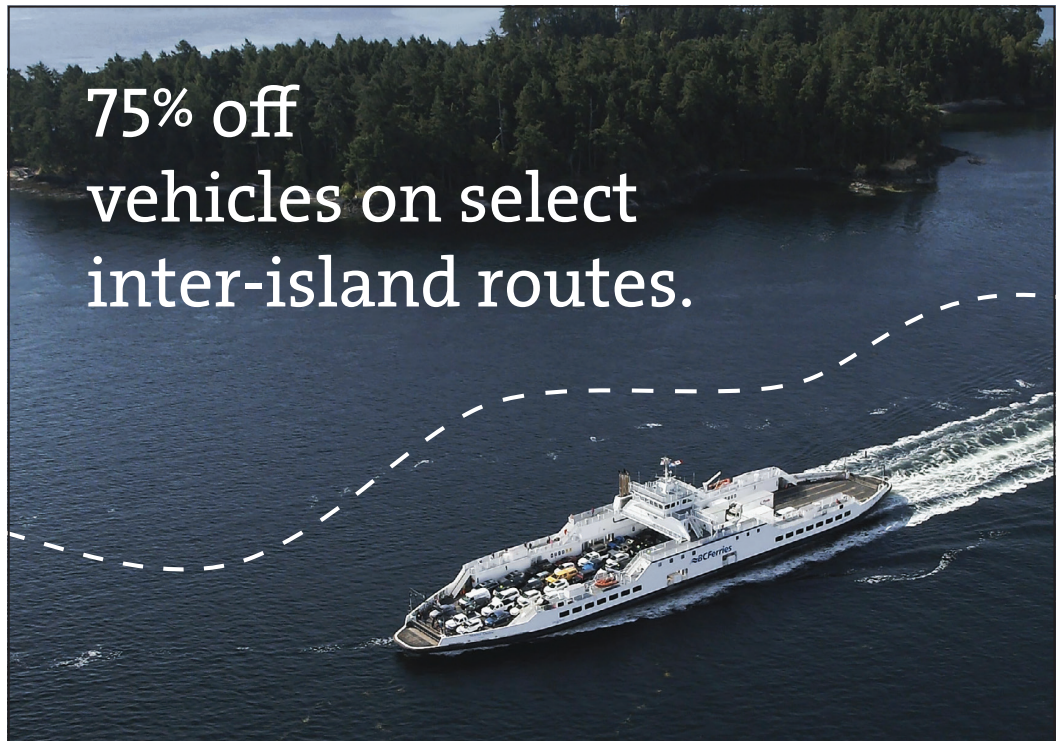
The boys would like to thank the Salt Spring Island Minor Baseball Association, all of the coaches they have had over the years and their parents for all of their support.



PHOTO COURTESY SHUGAR/PATTERSON FAMILIES

From left, Flynn Shugar and Sisaye Patterson with gold medals from the B.C. Summer Games held in Prince George in late July.

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## NORTH SALT SPRING WATERWORKS DISTRICT

### Maxwell Watershed Protection



THE NSSWD has owned property on the shore of Maxwell Lake for more than 100 years. In 2001, recognising the importance and sensitivity of Maxwell Lake (and watershed), additional land in the watershed was purchased for the purpose of protecting Maxwell Lake for drinking water. The "Save Maxwell Lake—Protect the Source" public campaign was launched by NSSWD, the SSI Water Preservation Society, the SSI Conservancy, and the Save Salt Spring Society, and in 2001, the funds raised were used to purchase an additional 50 acres of Maxwell Lake waterfront and 270 acres of Rippon Creek watershed (diverted to fill Maxwell Lake).

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, mountain biking or off-road vehicles such as motorbikes and ATVs. These activities slowly 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. These kinds of activities also increase the risk of wildfire during the summer months, especially in a drought situation, and could cause devastating and permanent damage to the watershed and the districts ability to supply water.

UNFORTUNATELY, in recent years, trespassing and vandalism in the Maxwell Lake watershed has escalated and become more frequent. It is extremely important that this watershed is protected as it provides drinking water for more than 700 properties including the downtown Ganges core. NSSWD has responded to the illegal activity by providing information in our newsletters, on our website, and placing information in the local paper. Also, the District has engaged the RCMP as well as increased monitoring (including security patrols and installation of cameras) and ticketing.



THE DISTRICT has also partnered with registered environmental charity Transition Salt Spring and experts and organizations from across the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone, including Raincoast Conservation Foundation, to provide a model for on-the-ground, multidisciplinary, multisectoral, and collaborative climate action plan. Funding has been provided by Environment and Climate Change Canada's EcoAction Fund. The District is not providing direct funding for this project, but rather contributing in-kind. The Maxwell Creek Watershed is critically important to all communities living on Salt Spring Island. It supports the water supply for over a quarter of the island's population and supports a diversity of native plant and wildlife species. This watershed-level study is a rare opportunity to improve understanding of shifting ecological baselines and study links between ecosystem conditions and preventative action to reduce risks of the most severe impacts of climate change.

THE TRANSITIONS SALT SPRING lead, Dr. Ruth Waldick, and her team are aiming to improve ecological integrity within local forests while simultaneously strengthening understanding of and addressing:

- the risk and spread of catastrophic wildfire
- water quality and supply
- vulnerabilities due to extreme weather and other climate change impacts

If you witness someone trespassing in the Maxwell watershed please call our office, or emergency line if it is after hours. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us educate visitors and islanders about the importance of protecting this watershed.



Together we can make a difference  
[www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca](http://www.northsaltspringwaterworks.ca)