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ISLANDS TRUST

LTC chided on ADUs, liveabards

Afloat or on land, non-conforming housing in limbo

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

As some islanders clamour to legalize one kind of lower-cost housing despite environmental concerns, others are seeking more regulation for a different kind of housing — at least partly in the name of the natural environment.

Proponents of these issues — plus a third contingent, who were dead-set against yet another cannabis business in Ganges — made for a standing-room-only crowd at Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting Thursday, June 22. The often-quiet public comment portion of the meeting was anything but, with more than 75 people filling the small space, and dozens ready to voice their opinions.

They spoke mostly in support of Bylaw 530 — the LTC initiative to permit small accessory dwelling units on many island properties — and of a citizen-drafted bylaw proposal, now called Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative (CASHI), which seeks to regulate liveabards in Ganges and other harbours.

Multiple islanders who self-identified as Salt Spring's "working class" pleaded with trustees to advance Bylaw 530, citing the lack of affordable housing and its follow-on effect upon the workforce. Recently, several high-profile community businesses and service providers have reduced their hours, or taken extraordinary steps to attract and retain employees as housing costs have risen; some larger employers have either purchased housing to rent to their staff, or have made deals with landlords to provide regular tenants.

For smaller businesses, those arrangements simply aren't financially viable, and lower-wage workers need to find their own way. Many seemingly live in "illegal" suites and cottages that Bylaw 530 would legalize — and despite environmental concerns, most recently expressed by Tsawout First Nation representatives in their opposition to the bylaw, the need for housing stirred deep emotions.

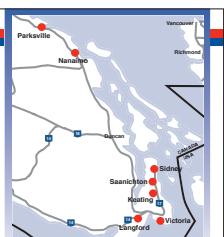
"I don't know if any of you that are standing against this can look at some of the people that are working on this island, look them in the eye and say 'there's no place here for you,'" said Dan O'Donnell. "I find it shameful."

While acknowledging the broader housing crisis, Tsawout First Nation had said it believed Bylaw 530 would significantly change the "environmental trajectory" of Salt Spring Island by pushing the living capacity past the standards originally outlined in the island's official community plan.

LTC continued on 2

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PHOTO BY GAIL SJUBERG

CHARRED: Salt Spring Island Fire Rescue firefighter Krystal Capranos and recruit Michael Birkett ensure a brush fire on The Cottages property on Bullock Lake is fully extinguished on Friday afternoon. Cottages manager Dayle Murray said SSIFR crews arrived quickly after staff and guests threw as much water as possible on the initially small blaze. People are reminded that all outdoor burning, including campfires, is currently prohibited on the Gulf Islands.

Consultation planned

LTC

continued from 1

Similarly — and also while insisting the goal was not to minimize Salt Spring's affordable housing crisis — proponents of new regulations for liveaboards in Ganges insist the environmental damage from unregulated housing on the water has reached a tipping point.

"The Trust has the responsibility to protect and preserve our unique amenities and environment," said Glenn Stevens, who has spearheaded the CASHI effort and officially presented the citizen-written bylaw proposal. "And, sad to say, that has not occurred."

Liveaboards, like many cottages and suites on land, are also currently illegal under Islands Trust land use rules — although as with on-land illegal housing, enforcement is rare. The CASHI proposal as-written would legalize liveaboards, while requiring boats in Ganges Harbour to — among other things — hold liability and indemnity insurance, be able to move under their own power, and dispose of waste in compliance with Transport Canada's Vessel Pollution and Dangerous Chemical Regulations.

That last, notably, treats waste from composting toilets the same as that from standard vessel holding tanks, in that both liquids and solids must be transported to shore and properly disposed of — another difficult ask even from those trying to "do it right," according to one harbour resident. Many vessels and houseboats are unpowered and, being on moorings, expensive to insure. As well, the \$10 "black water" pump-out station at Centennial Dock is closed through the winter, and was recently unavailable due to repairs.

"All of us that live on the water care about the environment we live in. None of us want to make things worse," said harbour resident Luna Owl. "But there are no good options for us."

Owl has lived on boats for more than 15 years, the last eight in Ganges Harbour — and like many in the liveaboard community has worked in town serving in bars, coffee shops and restaurants, currently working in the kitchen at the hospital. People on the water feel regular pressure "every few years" to move along from their affordable solution, according to Owl — and while it's not clear what traction CASHI's current effort has with the LTC, the damage may already have been done.

"Whether or not they manage to drive

these issues through, every time that they push these agendas, people get scared — and people move off the water," said Owl. "And most people aren't moving off to [more expensive accommodations] on Salt Spring — they're moving away."

At the LTC meeting, there was some effort at middle ground for the sake of the workforce; some speakers wanted the LTC to find a way to ensure a clean harbour without regulations that might "price-out" the current population. Trustees asked staff to review the initiative and report back at a future meeting, not expressly asking for a legal opinion but rather to determine whether getting one was appropriate. But, according to Islands Trust staff at the meeting, there is a relevant legal review currently taking place.

"That's already in process," said bylaw enforcement officer Warren Dingman. "We're getting a legal opinion on all these marine issues."

Trustees also directed staff to approach the Capital Regional District (CRD) to see about including Salt Spring Island in the new Saanich Peninsula Waterways Environmental Action Service, established through a 2021 bylaw to provide a forum for First Nations, community groups and government partners to collaborate about the environmental risks associated with near-shore waters — including contaminant runoff, bilge discharges from boats, habitat alteration and illegal dumping.

That service does not have regulatory authority, according to the CRD, instead focusing on outreach and engagement.

As for Bylaw 530, trustees directed staff to craft yet more communication material, outlining the substantial complexity and cost involved in new builds under the proposal — and highlighting their hope that the greatest effect will be felt by existing renters in non-conforming housing as they gain the protection of becoming legal tenants. It next heads to a public hearing — in September, rather than this summer, as trustees seek to more meaningfully engage with the Tsawout First Nation on the matter. For now, the housing future for many, on land or on water, will remain uncertain.

As for the new cannabis operation's retail licence, that application was declined due to it being an unsuitable location.

The LTC will hold its next meeting at 5 p.m. Wednesday, July 12, at the Legion's Meaden Hall. This meeting is a town hall only, to offer the public an evening opportunity to raise issues with trustees.

COURT

Bittancourt site injunction decision released

Four of six residents allowed to remain

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

In a court decision unlikely to satisfy any of the parties involved, a B.C. Supreme Court judge has ruled partly in favour of the Lady Minto Hospital Foundation (LMHF), and partly with current occupants of the former motel the foundation now owns.

The issue before the court was

an interlocutory one, brought in advance of the primary court case between LMHF and people remaining in the Seabreeze Inn building on Bittancourt Road. While that case waits for a full hearing, LMHF had sought an injunction that would have resulted in an eviction and restraining order, giving the foundation "vacant possession" of its building and allowing contractors to begin converting the rooms to hospital staff housing even while the case was being tried.

Without ruling on the broader

merits of the pending litigation, Justice Anthony Saunders dismissed the foundation's application against four of the hotel's current occupants, but ordered two of them to vacate the premises by noon Friday, June 30. The lawyer for the four still allowed to stay, according to the judgement written Wednesday, June 21, had alleged facts "more than sufficient to raise triable issues," and in Saunders' view their dispute required a complete hearing.

The two who must leave did not respond to the application,

according to Saunders' written judgement, and since LMHF had established a *prima facie* case that both only ever occupied their rooms as emergency shelter or transitional housing, "the plaintiff [LMHF] is entitled to the relief it seeks against them."

While Saunders awarded "ordinary" costs to the four occupants, he declined to award "special" costs requested by their lawyer, who had alleged LMHF's litigation was "plainly improper" and "an apparent attempt to bury the tenants in applications and affidavits."

"Notwithstanding the force of this submission [by the occupants' lawyer], I am not able to find that the plaintiff's conduct of this litigation has fallen to the level of an abuse of process," wrote Saunders. "It is indeed unfortunate that the chronic shortage of judges being experienced by this Court, arising out of a lack of sufficient judicial appointments for the Court to be at its full complement, led to the adjournment of the hearings scheduled for March, which could have resolved all matters on their merits."

HEALTH

Overall island radon risk determined to be low

Elevated levels in some homes may require mitigation

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Roughly one in 25 homes tested on Salt Spring Island show unhealthy levels of radon, according to just released data, but those owners may need to take steps to ensure a healthy living space.

Take Action on Radon's Pam Warkentin presented results from recently completed testing Thursday, June 22 at Salt Spring's Local Trust Committee (LTC) meeting. Radon is a

naturally occurring radioactive gas released when uranium breaks down in soils and rocks. Free test kits were distributed across the island in November through the 100 Radon Test Kit Challenge program.

Of 66 test kits successfully deployed, returned and interpreted, three of them tested above Health Canada's safe guidelines, according to Warkentin, with another 11 showing elevated levels.

Radon concentrations in air are typically measured in becquerels per cubic meter (Bq/m³) — where a becquerel (Bq) is equal to one radioactive decay per second. When released from the ground into outdoor air, it becomes highly diluted and not harmful — outdoor air typically has a radon concentration of less than 10 Bq/m³ — but radon is a health risk in

indoor settings where it can build up.

"We're finding that as more buildings are becoming airtight, that soil gas is coming into the building but not escaping," said Warkentin, "and we're seeing higher levels across the country in homes affecting people's health."

On Salt Spring, homes testing between 200 and 600 Bq/m³ represent 4.5 per cent of the total; 16.7 per cent showed levels between 100 and 200 Bq/m³.

"Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers," said Warkentin, "and it greatly increases a smoker's risk of lung cancer. Health Canada estimates that 3,000 Canadians per year are dying of radon-related lung cancer."

BCCDC hosts data from the BC Radon Data Repository, containing anonymized indoor

radon observations integrated from multiple datasets. Previous measurements taken in 2021 — 52 homes across the Southern Gulf Islands, in that case — found a median radon concentration of 30 Bq/m³, placing the region's risk category as "low" — although even then some concentrations were as high as 151 Bq/m³.

In response to questions, Warkentin said there was no geographic "clustering" among the higher results on Salt Spring, and — at least with the small sample size, about one per cent of residences — no clear trend resulting from the age of homes.

"From the data we've seen across the province, Salt Spring is certainly on the lower prevalence side," said Warkentin, "and also below the provincial average."

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OPINION

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EDITORIAL

Unreality

It's hard to argue with the logic of a proposal to regulate liveaboards in the name of creating "clean and safe" harbours on Salt Spring.

Who is in favour of seeing human waste and garbage floating in the water or washing ashore? Who thinks our harbours should be left to fill with decaying or burnt boat hulls until the Dead Boats Disposal Society and federal government can get around to removing them?

Unfortunately, it seems hard to believe that the Clean and Safe Harbours Initiative (CASHI) is primarily concerned with the long-term health of our harbours. Salt Spring's existing environmental organizations have not flagged this as a critical issue. The impetus seems to be coming from waterfront property owners who are impacted by noise and visual pollution, and others who have somehow conflated social problems in Ganges with unregulated liveaboards.

The CASHI initiative highlights a disconnect with reality on a few different fronts.

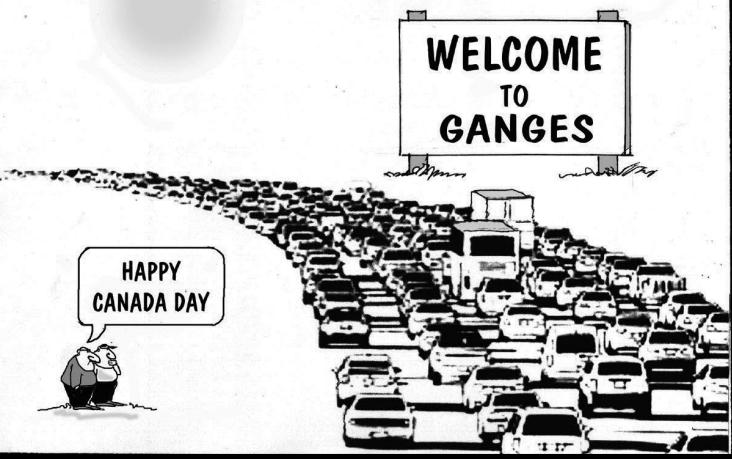
Firstly, we have an acute housing crisis. Many people who work on our island have been pushed to live in potentially unsafe housing on the water because it beats living in a vehicle or a tent. Enforcing the current illegality of those dwellings, or imposing regulations that people without means would not be able to meet due to the financial costs involved, would just exacerbate that crisis.

This island cannot afford to lose more people of working age. For the CASHI folks to say they don't want to eliminate liveaboards, just regulate them, is laudible, but not realistic. Many vessels would be eliminated by the proposed CASHI system.

The second place this initiative hits the wrong note is in our democratic process. Normally, candidates stake out their positions during election campaigns. Creating more housing for workers was stressed as a priority by the electorate. "Cleaning up" Ganges Harbour was not. For a behind-the-scenes process to produce a draft bylaw and detailed regulations that trustees have been pressured to consider eight months later is not acceptable. Lobbying government for action is one thing; doing its work is another. Still more unorthodox is a proposal to cover costs by creating a charity for that purpose.

The answer to the very real sewage and garbage issue is to create a workable system of dealing with it. At present the blackwater facility at Centennial Dock is only open in summer months, and it has just been repaired after a period of inoperation. Garbage collection facilities could be improved. Rather than running boat dwellers off the water with unrealistic demands, let's work with them to minimize the impacts that affect the environment and community.

PARKER



Abattoir needs support

BY ABEY SCAGLIONE

Local abattoirs help the environment by providing local food and decreasing our demand on fossil fuels. We cannot meet our climate goals without local food and in order to keep Salt Spring animal agriculture viable we need a local processing facility.

Local abattoirs save farmers time and money on transportation costs, which very well could be the deciding factor in whether a farm is able to produce food for their community. We need local farmers and specifically those producing meat, one of the most nutrient-dense foods there is and necessary for the long-term health of our population, both for the food itself and because well-managed animals enrich the soil and enhance biodiversity.

The need to support local agriculture is of utmost importance. We may never need a police officer or firefighter in our entire lives but we need a farmer three times a day to provide the meals we eat. We must take steps to support farmers and supporting local abattoirs is a very important step.

Local abattoirs provide resilience in our food system and are a vital resource that warrants the financial support offered to other community services such as the theatre and pool. While we applaud arts and culture in our community, we cannot survive without food and water.

At this time the Salt Spring Abattoir

VIEWPOINT

does not receive tax funding and therefore I am urging the community to support this community-run not-for-profit organization with a \$30/year membership e-transferred to ssabattoirpay@gmail.com (please include your full name and email in the comments box). While the abattoir is always looking for volunteers, you are not under any obligation as a member. All that membership requires is your financial support of \$30 per year.

The Salt Spring Abattoir faces rising costs that they don't want to transfer to the already struggling farmers.

The Salt Spring Abattoir faces rising costs that they don't want to transfer to the already struggling farmers. Staffing continues to also be an issue, not only in finding qualified staff but due to the issue of finding affordable housing on the island.

While the abattoir society continues to explore long-term funding opportunities through provincial, federal and local government, if just 10 per cent of our community population got a membership, that would mean approximately \$33,000 in funding that would allow the abattoir to take full advantage of the valuable infrastructure already in place in order to support local farmers who provide food security for our community.

We must keep animal agriculture viable on Salt Spring Island and in order to do this we must have a local processing facility.

The writer is part of the family that operates Ruckle Heritage Farm.

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Is having video cameras on buses a good idea?

Yes No

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you believe individual action can help combat climate change?



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ISLAND VOICES

LETTERS to the editor

Lower Ganges village speed limit

When Transportation Minister Rob Fleming visited Salt Spring Island on June 2 he seemed genuinely empathetic and concerned about the speed limit through the village at 50 kilometres per hour.

From there we threw out a "30-day challenge" to our newly elected local community commissioners for "30 Km in 30 Days." The reason and rationale was derived from a study by Drive BC in 2015, stating you have a 70 per cent better chance of survival being struck by a vehicle travelling at 30 km/h as opposed to 50 km/h.

We are currently at Day 24 of the challenge. Plus the fact that 300 local members of the community petitioned in the Legislature for this consideration three years ago with the help of MLA Adam Olsen.

Here's the thing: in about 2017, signage went up for those heading up Sunset Drive at Duck Creek Park for a recommended speed reduction to 30 km/h. The signage suggests school kids playing, but that's simply not the case. It's for the safety of dog walkers and their dogs while parked on the side of the road. No one knows how or whom initiated this speed reduction.

Meanwhile, the speed limit through Ganges village is 50 km/h.

I believe that with the stroke of a pen minister Fleming can reduce or recommend a reduction to 30 km/h through the village to protect our children, seniors, cyclists, tourists and everyone else in between. The studies have all been done in the name of public safety. It's time.

A sincere thank you on behalf of all who have campaigned over the past three years for positive change when it comes to safety.

DAVID COURTYNE,

SALT SPRING

Fuel research appreciated

Thank you and congratulations to Robb Magley for not just covering the details of the new Fulford ferry schedule but also for his research into what this means in the way of additional consumption of fossil fuel ("New Fulford schedule in effect June 28," in the June 21 Driftwood). Enough to drive a school bus round trip from Vancouver to Montreal more than 17 times!

That's a lot of oil that has to be pumped out of the ground, transported, refined,

stored and transported some more to eventually find its way into a small ferry serving a small island, especially since the early and late sailings will depart well under capacity — probably less than half full. Then there's the air pollution and the disruption to marine life as collateral damage.

It seems to me another example of how we do not behave in a manner consistent with the belief that we are in a climate emergency.

To Robb Magley and the Driftwood; please keep holding a mirror up to our contradictions.

FRANZ SCHERUBL,

SALT SPRING

Keep fire hall within budget

I have followed the development of the new fire hall with fascination. The latest report paints a picture of glowing success and progress.

After multiple referendums, the trustees received approval to build a new hall on a fixed budget and gave assurances that our fire tax rates would not increase for several years and that all contingencies, including

inflation, had been allowed for.

Since the referendum the trustees have made revisions to the proposed fire hall and are getting current construction costs this summer and plan to break ground in the fall.

We have been notified that our fire taxes increased this year to absorb unexpected fuel and wage costs. There is new office staff and the trustees have increased their remuneration, although small, by 40 per cent, if published information is correct. With construction costs soaring and having made building revisions, I believe the current construction cost will far exceed their budget.

If these new costs do exceed their budget, will the trustees inform the public and also make whatever alterations are necessary to stay on budget, or will they break ground and build at any cost?

I would like to see a new fire hall within the budget approved. The trustees were given a mandate to build a fire hall with all water, sewage and electrical connections within the very generous approved budget.

Let's see how they do and how transparent they are with islanders.

A new fire hall with a long-term debt beyond budget is not a legacy, but a burden.

H. KIRWIN,
SALT SPRING

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"I don't know if any of you that are standing against this can look at some of the people that are working on this island, look them in the eye and say 'there's no place here for you.' I find it shameful."

SALT SPRING RESIDENT DAN O'DONNELL, ON BYLAW 530 TO ALLOW ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS

No way to avoid riding the rails when it's a runaway-train bad day

You know this feeling. You've just opened a can of home-made mango chutney, helped yourself to a couple of spoonfuls, and are now ready to close up the jar and place it back in your fridge.

The only problem is that, no matter how hard you try, you can't seem to get the canning jar ring to screw back onto the glass jar. You get it halfway on and then it jams and won't turn any farther. You can see that the lid has a slight tilt relative to the neck of the jar, so you back it off and try again. This time the lid is leaning the other way. You tell yourself to breathe, just breathe. You make a couple of more attempts, one of which results in you dropping the lid onto the kitchen floor, interior side down, of course. You begin to doubt your sanity at this point, thinking that maybe you should be twisting the lid counter-clockwise instead to get it back on. You tell yourself that it won't really matter if the lid is securely in place as long as you keep the chutney refrigerated. It is only now that you discover you have cross-threaded the lid and cannot turn it in either direction; it is stuck where it is forever and the only way you will ever taste more of this yummy chutney is if you break the jar open

without getting any of the tiny glass shards and splinters caught in the mango preserve. What you are experiencing here is the beginning of a bad day.

Once your bad day begins, there is no way to slow it down or stop it. It's like you're riding on a runaway train and heading for the last stop, which is a ghost town called Disaster. All you can do is hold on and pray you will survive all the other spirit-breaking catastrophes about to befall you.

And yes, these demonic twists of fate are sure to pile on you as your day progresses. You should know better and probably ought to jump back into bed with your covers pulled tightly around you, but you delude yourself into thinking that the worst is over and your luck is sure to change.

You are partially right about your luck changing, but unfortunately it takes a turn for the worse. Maybe you realize, a moment too late, that the big bead of toothpaste you squeezed onto your toothbrush is actually antibiotic ointment. Or, perhaps, you open your chest freezer only to discover that all the identifying labels you had meticulously stuck on the various food containers inside have become unglued and are now



**Shilo
Zylbergold**

**NOBODY
ASKED ME
BUT**

gathered in a frozen heap at the bottom. How will you know if that Tupperware container is full of curried rice and chicken or pumpkin pie filling?

Poor labelling will also undermine you in the laundry room and pantry. Baking powder or Borax? They look the same. Why not give it the good old sniff test? Oops, right up the schnozz. From now on, anything you eat will smell like freshly swabbed hospital floors.

Just in case your bad day is not moving along fast enough for you, try a little visit to a public washroom. Invariably, all the motion sensors and detectors will have a mind of their own and will try to sabotage any attempt you may have to get in and out quickly. In the case of the old manual taps, you can be sure that the stainless shallow sinks combined with cranky water flow control knobs will

leave you with a big water stain right in the area of your body that you would least want to be so obviously soaked. Of course, as usual, you again forget to pull the paper towels from the metal dispensers while your hands are still dry, and so your wet fingers can only tear off tiny pieces of the tightly packed napkins, which will gather on the floor only to stick to the bottoms of your shoes for much of the rest of your miserably bad day.

Undoubtedly, at some point during the day, you will find that one of your gadgets or appliances will stop working. Luckily for you, this has happened before and you know exactly how to fix it. Not so lucky is the fact that the only socket missing from your tool box is the one you need for this repair. Even more distressing is the fact that the vise grips you use to take the place of the missing socket ends up stripping the nut you need to remove, but not before it flies off suddenly and catches you flush on the cheekbone, leaving you with a grossly colourful welt.

When it comes to finding the motherlode, or shall we call it the black hole, of precursors for having a bad day, you need look no further than your computer. Not only will cloud-bound

important files disappear into the ether, never more to reappear, but the one time you forget to save or do a backup is the time your computer will decide to turn itself off or simply crash. You will be so harassed by viruses, malware and ransomware, that you will mistakenly in your frustration hit the "send" button instead of the "cancel" for a delicately composed intimate email which will bring about the downfall of a friendship or relationship.

Nobody asked me, but there really is no way to avoid a bad day once you have started off on the wrong foot. You do have some options open to you, though. You can fight, tooth and nail, against every bad break the universe aims at you, but that often makes it seem as if the target on your back is getting bigger and brighter. You can adopt a Zen-like attitude to allow the universe to wash over you just as the tide flows in and out, but the next wave about to hit you may be of tsunami proportions. Or, you can kick back, open a bottle of bubbly, and wait for the clock to strike midnight which will herald the beginning of a new day. The choice is yours.

Meanwhile, why are all these little bits of cork floating in my glass?

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

New commission kicks off term

LCC sets early second meeting to hear from past volunteers

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Salt Spring's new Local Community Commission (LCC) met for the first time, making clear it intended to move quickly and — within the limits of legislative procedure — not bind itself to convention.

After what seemed a tacit agreement to use first names among the new commissioners, and with a full complement of local and regional Capital Regional District (CRD) staff on hand — including district CAO Ted Robbins and corporate services general manager Kristen Morley — commissioners Gayle Baker, Ben Corno, Earl Rook and Brian Webster were sworn in, with a round of applause from the dozen or so members of the public present.

Those among them hoping to gauge the tenor of Salt Spring's newest governing body didn't have long to wait.

Rook was swiftly nominated and acclaimed as chair, and CRD director Holman, in his role as fifth commissioner, as vice chair. The LCC decided the two will receive staff briefings and draft agendas together "at least to start with," said Rook, as new commissioners become accustomed to the job.

That administrative motion was just one of several resolutions the new commission passed quickly and unanimously Tuesday, June 20, including an expression of gratitude to the community members who worked toward — and voted in favour of — the establishment of the LCC, with nods to past members of the various advisory commissions, senior manager Karla Campbell, Holman (in his role as CRD director), Robbins and Morley.



PHOTO BY ROBB MAGLEY

From left, commissioners Gary Holman, Earl Rook, Gayle Baker, Brian Webster and Ben Corno after being sworn in as Salt Spring Island's first Local Community Commission members on Tuesday, June 20.

Next came a comprehensive statement of commitment to accessibility, transparency and accountability — including a promise to minimize the use of closed meetings and to hold meetings in ways easier for more community members to attend. That would necessarily include exploring options for evening meetings, according to commissioners, and staff were asked for a report on how best to accomplish this.

"There was nothing I heard more, or more intensely, from the community during the campaign than the importance of having open and accessible meetings," said Webster. "We need to work through whatever the implications, complications and challenges are to achieve that."

In that vein, the new LCC proposed a work-around for a procedure bylaw requiring delegations being allowed to speak only about items already on the published agenda, hatching a plan to have a broadly phrased item called "discussion of community issues and priorities" included at every meeting.

"I would rather err on the side of a few times saying 'geez, three more minutes on this?' rather than closing the door and having the community feel like 'oh, there isn't a place for us,'" said Webster. "This is the only body under the CRD where directly elected members do not have other meetings where this kind of input can happen."

Morley said while she appreciated the theme of being transparent — and giving the opportunity for a robust exchange of ideas — she worried there might be pitfalls.

"I think the commission has to be a little bit careful not to stray into just discussing things ad hoc," said Morley, "because that's where you get into that issue of not having [enough] notice to the community."

"We want to get this commission started on the right footing," said Robinson, adding that he agreed with the general intent. "[But] I think it would be difficult to be in conflict with the board procedures right out of the gate."

Ultimately the LCC asked staff to report back on how to "hold the door open," as Corno put it, for more public participation during meetings. In the meantime, the LCC will be able to waive some procedure requirements for delegations on a case-by-case basis with unanimous agreement — which seems to be the norm for the new governing body, where every vote has so far been 5-0.

"You may have noticed a sense like we're in a big hurry here," said Webster. "And we do feel that way. But on the other hand we want this to work."

Commissioners decided to extend an invitation to past members of the dissolved commissions whose business now comes under the LCC's purview. The hope, according to commissioners, is not only to set priorities going forward but also to maintain

momentum — and avoid the loss of knowledge and "lessons learned," according to commissioners, who were hoping for both attendance and written correspondence.

"I'm definitely in support of requesting they forward documentation to us in advance [of the next meeting]," said Corno, adding that he was aware at least one of those former groups was "moments away" from finalizing such a report for the new LCC.

But while the possibility of several dozen former commission members flooding a regular meeting certainly raised a few eyebrows among staff, a unanimous motion to add a special meeting to the schedule specifically for them — on July 11, one week before the next meeting scheduled for July 18 — seemed of little comfort.

"It's a real challenge," said Campbell. "We have multiple projects we're managing right now with a limited staff capacity. The challenge that you guys will have in working with us is to not be monopolizing that capacity, because we have a higher level of priority to water and sewer, [things] that affect people's daily lives. As much as we'd like to serve you, [and] we are here to get your business done, we do have a lot on our plate right now."

"The bylaw says clearly that the meeting times and dates are set by the commission," said Webster. "It's very difficult for us to have staff essentially saying we can't make [additional meetings] work."

Robbins said the biggest issue would be keeping enough time for staff to be able to report back on things the LCC brings to them.

"These are more comprehensive reports, typically that rely on not only the on-island team, but potentially advice from folks at corporate services, finance, whatever the case may be," said Robbins. "We've got to manage expectations here. It's going to be difficult for staff to turn around reports even on a four-week cycle — particularly if there's [unanticipated] business being generated through a meeting."

To help alleviate staff strain, commissioners opted to structure the July 11 meeting strictly for the purpose of feedback — no reports from staff would be needed before the July 18 regular meeting.

"It's just focused on the dissolved commissions, bringing them in, getting their feedback," said Baker. "Not a lot of pre-meeting prep, but having a conversation we really need to have before we make decisions."

The LCC also took first steps toward reinitiating the Harbourwalk Steering Committee by appointing Webster to represent the LCC there. They also directed staff to report on budgeting for at least some LCC members to attend the Union of BC Municipalities conference in Vancouver this September.

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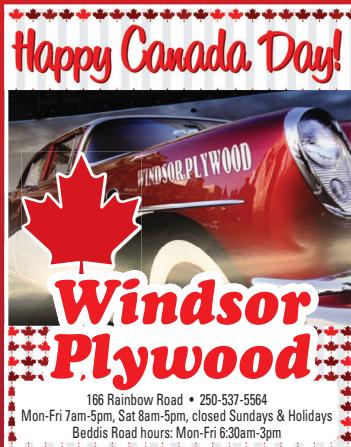
Canada Day at the Legion:

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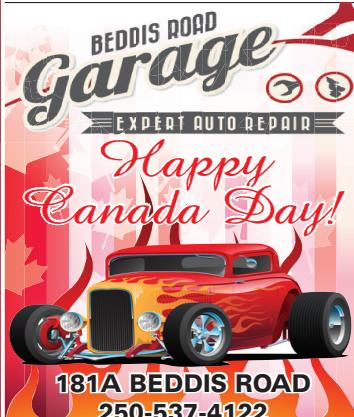
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PHOTO BY KAREN HUDSON

TELLING A STORY: Quw'utsun artist Charlene Johnny stands next to a new interpretative panel installed on the Indigenous-themed mural at the Salt Spring Public Library. Funded by the Salt Spring Island Foundation, the panel gives the names of mural elements in English and Hul'q'um'um' provided by local Indigenous elders. Johnny's words are also on the panel: "I painted this mural for the Salt Spring Island Public Library with a group of talented Indigenous Youth in August, 2021. Ganges Harbour was a place where we could harvest, known to us as Shiya'hwt - Place of Caution - in the Hul'q'um'um' language. We knew how to navigate in and out of the islands with ease and in harmony with Mother Earth. The mural shows some of the many creatures and places of Kwatl'kwa, the Salish Sea. Understanding the symbiotic relationship between art and protecting the land can transform the way we navigate within it. We are related to all beings, we are all one."



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- We invite people to send us their photos for our 2023 Day in the Life of Salt Spring Island feature.
- Photos must be taken between 6 a.m. on Saturday July 1st & 6 a.m. on Sunday July 2nd.
- Register in advance by sending an email to editor Gail Sjuberg at news@gulfislandsdriftwood.com for deadlines and details about how to submit.

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VISITING PERFORMERS

Baroque vocal specialists visit

First guest concert next Friday at All Saints

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING BAROQUE

Salt Spring Baroque is pleased to present Romanian bass-baritone Razvan Georgescu on Friday, July 7 at 7 p.m. at All Saints by-the-Sea Church.

Georgescu has performed major roles with the Romanian National Opera, San Francisco Lyric Opera, Brasov Opera and Opera Constanta, and countless performances with the National Philharmonic and National Radio Orchestra in Bucharest, Romania.

For this concert he will perform two Bach Cantatas, BWV 56 (Ich will den Kreuzstab gerne tragen) and BWV 82 (Ich habe genug). He will be joined by harpsichordist Bogdan Dulu, who regularly plays the piano, celeste, synth and harpsichord in the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra, and Victoria baroque cellist Martin Bon-



RAZVAN
GEORGESCU

ham. Bogdan will play a beautiful single-register harpsichord, based on a 17th-century Flemish instrument and built by Fabrizio Acanfora in Barcelona. Other Bach treats may be on offer.

Then from July 26 to 28, soprano Erin Bardua will visit Salt Spring to lead a vocal workshop. It will cover a range of topics related to vocal care and sustainability, as well as group singing and private lessons. All voice types, skill levels and ages are welcome.

Bardua is a frequent soloist and voice teacher, and is co-founder of Essential Opera, performing and creating opera in Ontario and Atlantic Canada. She teaches voice for classical, musical theatre, choral and solo singers, and other types of voice users. She helps students build a healthy, sustainable vocal technique; prepare for auditions and performances; increase musicianship and sight-singing

ability; and become well-rounded, expressive performers.

The session topics will include:

1. Vocal anatomy and function: what am I doing when I breathe and sing?
2. Vocal health and hygiene: caring for an irreplaceable instrument.
3. Voice changes throughout life, especially "aging" voices (which is all voices).
4. Warming up and cooling down: why and how to do both.
5. SOVT (semi-occluded vocal tract) exercises for happier voice use.
6. Bodywork and movement: voice beyond the larynx.

The workshop will conclude with a concert by Bardua on Friday, July 28 at 7 p.m. at All Saints by-the-Sea Church. She will be joined in this concert by violinist Elyssa Lefurgey-Smith, cellist Martin Bonham and lutenist Doug Hensley. The concert is open to the public and free for workshop participants.

More information on these and other events can be found on the saltspringbaroque.com website.

ARTS TALK

Classical pianist next Forum guest

Role of music and the arts spotlighted

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING FORUM

Jon Kimura Parker needs little introduction.

His journey from growing up in Vancouver to performing as a classical pianist in the great concert halls of the world is well documented. He is known for his dynamic performances and for his passion and enthusiasm for classical music, taking on roles advising and directing numerous festivals, lecturing at Juilliard and Yale, and teaching passionately as professor of piano at the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University. He is also an officer of the Order of Canada.

The Sunday, July 2 Salt Spring Forum discussion that begins at 7:30 p.m. will seek to explore his thoughts on the role of classical music, and of the arts more generally, in the contemporary



JON KIMURA
PARKER

world. Have the traditions of serious music become peripheral against a background of social turmoil, climate collapse and shifts to electronic realities? What enduring values does live performance have amid the proliferation of virtual experience?

While these are our overall thoughts about ideas we hope the evening will explore, the conversation may, and likely will, range more broadly. Jackie — as he is widely known —

brings a breadth of cultural experience and passion that set him in the first rank of major Canadian artists.

And since the Forum event will be at ArtSpring, Parker has offered to include a short performance on ArtSpring's fine Steinway piano.

Tickets are available through ArtSpring.



ISLAND LIFE

EDUCATION

Pender Islander awarded major scholarship

Beedie Luminaries
winner off to UVic

BY ROBB MAGLEY
DRIFTWOOD STAFF

Pender Island Grade 12 student Matthew Hinton is on his way to the University of Victoria in the fall, with a big boost: a scholarship that will provide up to \$44,000 towards tuition and related expenses.

Established in 2018, the Beedie Luminaries Grade 12 scholarship program is awarded to students who demonstrate strong academic potential and determination but face financial barriers to attending post-secondary. Hinton said such barriers were "not hard to find" on the Gulf Islands and was grateful to

have been selected.

"They want to focus on helping students who can excel in university, in post-secondary studies, but who don't have the financing for it," said Hinton. "For me, it's going to be really helpful, allowing me to explore my interests in music and physics, and really fly in university and not have to worry about working to pay for my schooling."

But funding is only part of the award; the scholarship also grants access to mentors, student coaches, paid internships and ongoing support from the Beedie Luminaries community, according to the foundation. Hinton said he is looking forward to exploring the support network, including a community of students — and former students — who have received the scholarship,



PHOTO COURTESY BEEDIE LUMINARIES
Matthew Hinton, a Beedie Luminaries Grade 12 scholarship winner.

ready to offer guidance and advice.

"I've just started to see what the scholarship has to offer," said Hinton. "But it does seem like it really sets students up for success."

In total, Beedie Luminaries is

awarding \$6.9 million in scholarships, delivered as \$11,000 per year, to 116 Grade 12 students, 10 refugee and immigrant students and 20 single parents in B.C. Hinton, the only recipient in the Gulf Islands, said while he had often been elsewhere for education — most recently attending Victoria's Pacific School of Innovation and Inquiry — he was always happy to get back to his island.

"My family moved to Pender when I was born," said Hinton, "and my dad built our house here."

Hinton said his ties to the community have only strengthened over time, most recently through live music performances — islanders will find him playing at Pender's Community Hall on several Fridays this summer — and through the

island's sailing club.

"Right now I'm the only sailing instructor at our club that's from Pender Island," laughed Hinton. "Half my waking time this summer is going to be spent teaching sailing students."

Hinton's advice for his younger peers is simple: follow your dreams.

"I really believe that if you love what you do — for me it was sailing, math and music for about as long as I can remember — you'll benefit a lot from pursuing it," said Hinton. "It makes it all worthwhile — the education, the working through everything, to get to the point where you can follow your own interests at university."

For more information about the Beedie Luminaries program visit beedieluminaries.ca.

what's on this week

Wed.	June 28	Fri.	June 30	Sun.	July 2	Wed.	July 5
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT		LIVE ENTERTAINMENT		LIVE ENTERTAINMENT		LIVE ENTERTAINMENT	
Tea à Tempo: Sue Cogan and Sue Newman. All Saints church. 2:10 p.m., followed by optional tea and treats.		Ange Hehr. Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.		Blues Jam. The Legion. 3 to 6 p.m.		Sharon Bailey. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.	
John Herbert. With a musical guest on the lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.		Fridays With DJ Boomtown. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. til 12:30 a.m.		Vixx. Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.		CINEMA	
Doug and His Buds. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.		Everyday People. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.		David Carl Band. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.		• Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse runs Wednesday, June 28 to Thursday, July 6 nightly at 7 p.m., plus a Sunday 3 p.m. matinee. Rated PG. 2 hours, 10 minutes. See thefritz.ca for more movie info.	
ACTIVITIES		Karaoke. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.		ACTIVITIES		EXHIBITIONS	
Bittancourt Museum. Open Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.		ACTIVITIES		Salt Spring Forum: Jon Kimura Parker. ArtSpring. 7:30 p.m.		• Live in Colour is an exhibition of work by Gillian McConnell and a residency at Salt Spring Gallery until July 5, with the gallery open Wednesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, July 2.	
VIA ZOOM		ASK Salt Spring. On hiatus this week.		Mon.		• Leslie Corry and Rosalie Matchett's Ingrained Patterns and Pathways is the Showcase Exhibition at Artcraft at Mahon Hall, running daily until July 10.	
Home Water Management Webinar. A Transition Salt Spring event titled Future-proof Your Home With Water Management: Save \$\$\$ Money and Improve Resiliency By Harnessing Your Water Resources with Erinanne Harper and Morgan Fraser. 7 p.m. Register at tinyurl.com/water-management		Friday Game Night. For ages 13-19 in the library program room. 7 p.m.		LIVE ENTERTAINMENT		• The Suitcase Project, a multimedia exhibit by Kayla Isomura, shows in the library program room through July 7.	
Thur.	June 29	Sat.	July 1	Tue.	July 4	• 55th annual Artcraft gallery and shop of work by 100 artisans is on at Mahon Hall daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. through the summer months.	
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT		LIVE ENTERTAINMENT		LIVE ENTERTAINMENT		• Art Jam at the Laundr-O-Mat is a show of work by Art Jam group members running through June 30.	
Morien Jones. Moby's Pub lower deck. 5 to 8 p.m.		Duck Creak Trio. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.		Ashton Bachman & Guest. Lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.		• Colton Prevost shows wildlife photography in the ArtSpring lobby through June.	
Ksar. Mateada Social Club. 8 to 11 p.m.		Canada Day Music at the Legion Outdoors. 12 noon: Swing Shift; 1:30 p.m., Everyday People; 3 p.m., Two Point Oh; 4:30 p.m. Doug and His Buds.		Country Band With Open Mic. At the Legion. 6 p.m.		Show & Shine	
Open Mic. At the Legion. 7:30 p.m.		The Coalition. Moby's Pub. 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.		Nicky MacKenzie. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.		Salt Spring Cruisers Canada Day car show at the Hydro Field. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.	
Craig's Karaoke. At Moby's Pub. 8 p.m. to midnight.		WIL. At Mateada Social Club. 8 to 11 p.m.		ACTIVITIES			
Auntie Kate Trio. Tree House Cafe. 6 to 9 p.m.		ACTIVITIES		Tuesday Farmers' Market. Centennial Park. 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.			
ACTIVITIES		Canada Day Show & Shine. Car show hosted by the Salt Spring Cruisers car club. Hydro field. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.		Paint Swatch Poetry. Workshop with Gillian McConnell. SS Gallery. 6 to 9 p.m.			
Green Drinks. SSI Golf Course. 5 to 7 p.m.		Saturday Market in the Park. Centennial Park market. 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.		Wed.			
Bittancourt Museum. See Wednesday listing.		LIVE ENTERTAINMENT		LIVE ENTERTAINMENT			
		Tea à Tempo: Caoimhe Merrick and Doug Thring. All Saints church. 2:10 p.m.		Tea à Tempo: Sue Cogan and Sue Newman. All Saints church. 2:10 p.m.			
		John Herbert. With a musical guest on the lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.		ACTIVITIES			
				John Herbert. With a musical guest on the lower deck at Moby's Pub. 5 to 8 p.m.			
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In loving memory of
Walter (Walt) Swing

We sadly announce the passing of Walter (Walt) Swing on Saturday, June 10th, at Lady Minto Hospital on Salt Spring Island, BC, in his 96th year. Surrounded by his loving and grateful sons, Steven (Glenna), Terry, Bill (Jenny), and Paul (on video from England). He is predeceased by his beloved wife Peggy and his 'favourite' brother Bob.

He was a fiercely proud grandpa to Scott (Niki), Simon, Megan (Andrew), Liam, and Cole, and great-grandfather (GG) to Brady and Sloan.

Walt grew up in Hamilton, Ontario, and became a successful Chartered Accountant. He, Peggy, and Terry retired to Salt Spring Island, his little piece of heaven, in 1985.

Walt was an active and engaged member of his community, supporting many causes, including the Special Olympics, and making many friends. He was a faithful (and award-winning!) golfer with his good buddies, the Fickle Fingers.

Our family is greatly indebted to special neighbours and friends, Camille and Martin Ogilvie, for more kindnesses than we can count, and Bronwyn and Graham Lorimer for their care and support.

Special thanks go to Dr. Ian Gummesson and Dr. Holly Slakov for their exceptional care, especially during his short battle with cancer, and both of whom he highly regarded. We are additionally grateful for the caring staff at Lady Minto Hospital. Walter chose to evoke his right to MAID, saying goodbye on his own terms and in his own time.

Cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will occur at a later date. To remember Walt, please be kind



and generous to each other! If so moved, a donation to Lady Minto Hospital would be appreciated by his family.



In Memoriam



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Coming Events

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2023 SUMMER ART SHOW & SALE!
Presented by Salt Spring Island Painters Guild
Location: Artspring Gallery - 100 Jackson Avenue, Salt Spring Island
OPENING RECEPTION:
Friday, June 23rd, 1pm to 4pm You are invited to come, enjoy a nibble, a drink and meet the artists.
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ARIES You'll take advantage of the summer holidays to get a few projects out of the way, both at work and at home. Don't forget to rest and make time for yourself.

TAURUS This week is all about fun! You'll have plenty of opportunities to celebrate in one way or another. Now is the time to choose what you'll be doing on summer vacation; the choice won't be easy. Be careful not to overlook certain responsibilities.

GEMINI Change is needed! You can't put it off any longer. You'll start a business project or look for a better job. It may also be time to update the decor in your home.

CANCER You'll attend training courses or conferences and participate in negotiations at work. If you're in a relationship, your partner must pull their weight. You can't wait on them hand and foot. With sympathy and understanding, you'll be able to change bad habits at home.

LEO Summer holidays are fast approaching! However, you may not be able to disconnect from work because certain tasks may require you to check in every so often. If you're single, you'll have to wait after a first date before getting back in touch.

VIRGO You'll tie up all the loose ends that have been bothering you and finish everything you've been putting off. Don't improvise your entire summer vacation. Some tourist spots sell out quickly, so make your reservations now.

LIBRA You'll want to spend your summer vacation at home. You'll fill your days off with landscaping projects, like redoing the flower bed or other fun activities. This could be how your vacation pans out.

SCORPIO Travel is on the horizon! Always make a list before you go grocery shopping. Otherwise, you may have to go back a few times. You'll be easy to talk to, but some people may be stubborn.

WEEK OF JULY 2 TO 8, 2023

The luckiest signs this week: Pisces, Aries and Taurus

SAGITTARIUS You love to travel and don't want to miss out on anything this summer. Make a budget so you can do everything you want! You must coordinate with work, family and your significant other to have your dream holidays.

CAPRICORN You'll be recognized for your sense of initiative. At work and in your social life, you'll create opportunities and exploit them to their full potential. You'll be bursting with energy during exciting activities.

AQUARIUS You may flip-flop on what to do before going on holiday. You have some anxiety about the cost of living. Don't forget that happiness is worth its weight in gold. Love will creep into your life when you least expect it.

PISCES You'll be reunited with loved ones. It's also time to slow down at work. For example, try taking a longer lunch break to socialize with colleagues, employees, bosses or associates.

**HAPPY
Canada
DAY**

Please note that the
Gulf Islands Driftwood office
will be closed on

Friday, June 30 - Canada Day
statutory holiday - and will reopen
9am - 4pm on Monday, July 3.

Advertising deadlines for the Gulf Islands Driftwood
Wednesday July 5 edition
will be Wednesday, June 28, noon



Driftwood
250-537-9933 • 241 Fulford-Ganges Rd
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www.gulfislandsdriftwood.com



SPORTS + RECREATION

SOFTBALL

Fastpitch team off to provincials

Exciting silver-medal finish to regular season

SUBMITTED BY SSI U17 GIRLS FASTPITCH

The Salt Spring Island U17 girls fastpitch team has been making their mark in the local softball scene, showcasing exceptional sportsmanship and dedication on the field.

To cap off an impressive season, the girls took home a silver medal in district finals on June 17-18 weekend, which earned them one of the two spots from the region to play in provincial championships once again.

During the tournament, held in Cordova Bay, the team won their first two games 19-9 and 5-4, and despite some of the best playing of the season they lost their final game 17-7. These girls played the best three games of their season and showed us what it takes to win, including a triple play against the gold-medal team!

They play with heart, have fun and demonstrate excellent sportsmanship. Many have been playing together since they



PHOTO COURTESY SSI U17 GIRLS FASTPITCH

Salt Spring's U17 girls fastpitch team and coaches with silver medals from district finals.

were five years old, so you can image the excitement of earning a spot at the provincials. Teams from across the province will compete in the BC Provincial U17 Fastpitch Tournament in Maple Ridge July 7 to 9.

The athletes' support for one another, friendship and dedication to the team and sport serve as an inspiration to both younger girls playing softball and T-ball. The next two weeks will be filled with

practices and fundraising as they looked forward to competing and proudly representing our island community!

In 2022 the U17 Salt Spring girls earned a bronze medal at provincials.

Donations to help with attending provincial championships are welcomed. Contact coach Bruce Dunbar at 250-661-6343 or email ssigirlsfastpitch@gmail.com for information on how to donate.

FUN RUN

Runners benefit The Circle

Five-kilometre fundraising event hosted by Sneakers running club

SUBMITTED BY SALT SPRING SNEAKERS

The Salt Spring Sneakers running club hosted an inaugural, non-competitive fundraising five-kilometre event for The Circle Salt Spring Education Society on Friday, June 23.

A small but merry band of walkers and runners enjoyed a spectacular evening jaunt along the waterfront from Fernwood Dock and back. The course headed southbound for 2.5 kilometres, turned around just past the Hen & Hound Farmstand and then returned to the Fernwood little library.

"The evening event was just perfect," said Sneakers coach Susan Gordon. "While low-key, it allowed us to pull our volunteer crew together and keep everything manageable, encouraging community, fitness and outdoor appreciation. It also helped raise funding for a vital organization that contributes much to to island youth and their families."

The club thanked the team from Salt Spring Search and Rescue for their presence, and the new Hen & Hound Brasserie and Off the Hook Restaurant in Fernwood for their generous support.

People can learn more about The Circle Education at thecircleeducation.org.

Anyone interested in running with the Sneakers can find us on our Facebook group page, and if you'd like to try fitness walking, check out the coach's new Walk This Way Salt Spring group on Facebook.

Salt Spring Tennis Association

SUMMER TENNIS CAMPS

KIDS! Learn to play tennis and play BETTER tennis with professional coach MUKUL.

PARENTS! Mukul is highly qualified.

Open to youth
7-10 yr
(1:00 - 2:30 pm)

11 yr & up
(2:30 - 4:00 pm)

Cost: \$150/pp/wk

Weeks:
1. July 3-7
2. July 10-14
3. July 17-21
4. July 24-28
5. July 31-Aug 4
6. Aug 7-11
7. Aug 14-18
8. Aug 21-25
9. Aug 28-Sept 1

Fun Afternoon Tennis Camps Each Week All Summer

To register email: coaching@saltspringtennis.ca

TIDE TABLES

at Fulford Harbour

JUNE/JULY 2023 PST (UTC-8h)

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

DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET	DAY	TIME	METRES	FEET
28	0710	1.2	3.9	2	0115	3.3	10.8
WE	1506	2.4	7.9	SU	0937	0.0	0.0
ME	1731	2.4	7.9	DI	1829	3.4	11.2
ME	2349	3.1	10.2	DI	2209	3.1	10.2
29	0742	0.8	2.6	3	0202	3.3	10.8
	1614	2.8	9.2	MO	1022	-0.1	-0.3
TH	1848	2.7	8.9	MO	1909	3.4	11.2
JE				LU	2307	3.1	10.2
30	0011	3.2	10.5	4	0256	3.3	10.8
	0817	0.5	1.6		1109	-0.1	-0.3
FR	1703	3.0	9.8	TU	1947	3.4	11.2
VE	2001	2.9	9.5	MA			
1	0038	3.2	10.5	5	0008	3.0	9.8
	0855	0.2	0.7		0352	3.2	10.5
SA	1747	3.2	10.5	WE	1157	-0.1	-0.3
SA	2108	3.0	9.8	ME	2023	3.5	11.5

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Heating and HVAC Services

NEW INSTALLS & MAINTENANCE



Heat Pumps

Air source heat pumps are one of the most popular methods of home heating on Salt Spring Island.

Split Systems

Ductless mini-splits are a great solution for home renovations.



Furnaces

A standard source of heat for millions of homes across Canada.

Ventilation Systems

Proper ventilation in the home ensures that you always have a fresh breath of air, no matter which room you stand in.

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Closed Sundays and holidays



BEDDIS ROAD

Mon to Fri 6:30am to 3pm



saltspring@windsorplywood.com



GREENWOODS ELDERCARE SOCIETY

Do you want to make a difference? We Need Your Help!?

Greenwoods Eldercare Society is seeking potential individuals interested in serving as a Director on our volunteer Board of Directors, commencing in August 2023. At this time, we are looking particularly for Director candidates who possess successful experience in coordinating and leading large community fundraising initiatives.

Greenwoods Eldercare Society is a community based, non-profit society. We operate two seniors care facilities and provide services to 50 long term care and 30 assisted living residents. We also provide related community service programs.

Serving on the Greenwoods Eldercare Society Board is an extraordinary opportunity for an individual to become part of a dynamic team. Our Directors have diverse backgrounds and work together to direct and provide operational oversight for one of Salt Spring's leading non-profit organizations.

We are accepting applications from individuals who possess the interest and passion for ensuring quality care for the seniors who benefit from our services.

Please send a confidential request for information, or submit a letter of interest to:

- Dorrie Ferster – dorrie.ferster@greenwoodseldercare.org
- Wayne Glover – wayne.glover@greenwoodseldercare.org

The Future of WINDSOR

Thank You Salt Spring! The future is looking bright.

WINDSOR PLYWOOD SALT SPRING is a full-service building supply company, offering everything from foundation to finish. What sets them apart from other building supply companies is the range of product offerings: everything needed for a new

build, decks, garages, garden products, hardscapes, windows and doors, plus electrical/plumbing/septic/irrigation/water collection/fence posts, tools and wire fencing.

Adam Geddes and Jessica Harkema are Windsor

Plywood assistant managers who joined Mike Stefancik, Ken Marr and Gordon McEwan on the ownership team of the Salt Spring franchise in May 2023. They share their experience and insights about being Windsor team leaders in the following Q&As.

ADAM GEDDES

Q. What led you to this career?

A. I started working in a hardware store as a part-time job while going to school. Eventually I had worked there long enough to have done every job possible and I realized that I enjoyed the feeling of helping people solve problems and build projects.

Q. Why should a client choose your business? What makes your business unique?

A. We try to provide personalized customer service. We are proud of our customer service, sales and purchasing teams. We can source a wide range of special order building supplies.

Q. What advice do you have for other local business owners?

A. It's the community that supports us. I think it's important to keep that in mind and give back if and when you can.

Q. What's your go-to productivity trick?

A. I'm an early riser. I get some of my best work done early before the store gets busy! Besides that it's a work in progress. I'm constantly trying to improve my multi-tasking.

Q. What do you like to do in spare time?

A. If I'm not working I'm usually working on projects around the house, walking the dog or throwing a disc golf!

Q. Is there anything else you would like to share with our readers about yourself or your business?

A. We are excited to get into our new building! As eager as we are to move out of the tent, we understand that during the rebuild phase things are going to be VERY tight at the Rainbow yard. We want to preemptively thank our customers for putting up with changes that will occur during construction. And a reminder that our Beddis location stocks the vast majority of our lumber and plywood.

Q. What advice would you have given your younger self when you were starting out?

A. When I was starting out in this industry, I very much treated it as a part-time placeholder job. It took me a while to figure out that I enjoyed what I was doing and that I could make a living doing this. If I was to give my younger self any advice it would've been to take things a little more seriously starting out.

Q. What is a big hurdle you have overcome and how do you run your business differently because of it?

A. In my relatively short time with Windsor the biggest hurdle we've had to overcome was the June 2021 fire. We learned a few things that day . . . data backups were a lifesaver! We have also moved to a cloud-based point-of-sale inventory system.

Q. What is your favourite part of running your business?

A. For good or bad, every day is different and I enjoy that. I don't think I would thrive in a situation where it's the same thing day in and day out.

JESSICA HARKEMA

Q. What led you to this career?

A. I never imagined being in the building supply industry. Though my education is in business, my background is in tourism hospitality. If you had told me five years ago that I would become an owner of Windsor Plywood Salt Spring, I would have called you delusional. But I love what we do, the company, our customers, our staff and the involvement we have in the community.

Q. Why should a client choose your business? What makes your business unique?

A. We're an independently owned company, with deep local roots in our community. We have been on Salt Spring since the 1970s. We employ approximately 55 locals year round. We have excellent customer service.

Q. What advice do you have for other local business owners?

A. Be good to your staff. Our staff are our number one asset. They're great and treat our customers so well and ensure they keep coming back. Being in business on Salt Spring is hard, so make sure you understand your financials and that there is a stable market for your product or service.

Q. What's your go-to productivity trick?

A. Get enough sleep and eat well. Whenever I'm very busy and/or stressed out, I always make sure to get enough sleep so that my brain is rested. Burning the candle at both ends will only result in burn-out.

Q. What do you like to do in spare time?

A. I spend a lot of time with my dogs, partner and our families. I also enjoy reading and when I have lots of time, cooking great meals.

Q. What advice would you have given your younger self, starting out?

A. Listen to your gut, don't pigeonhole yourself in a certain industry or career, and be open to opportunities that come your way.

Q. What is a big hurdle you have overcome and how do you run your business differently because of it?

A. Most people know about our June 2021 fire where we lost our retail store on Rainbow Road. We immediately pulled up our socks and got to work. Within three weeks we had the tent with a full floor, shelving and stock arriving. I would say it taught us that our customers and staff have our back.

Q. What is your favourite part of running your business?

A. Our staff and customers. They're what make coming to work every day worth it.

We employ the brightest people we can find and train them in all aspects of the industry.



Windsor Plywood

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