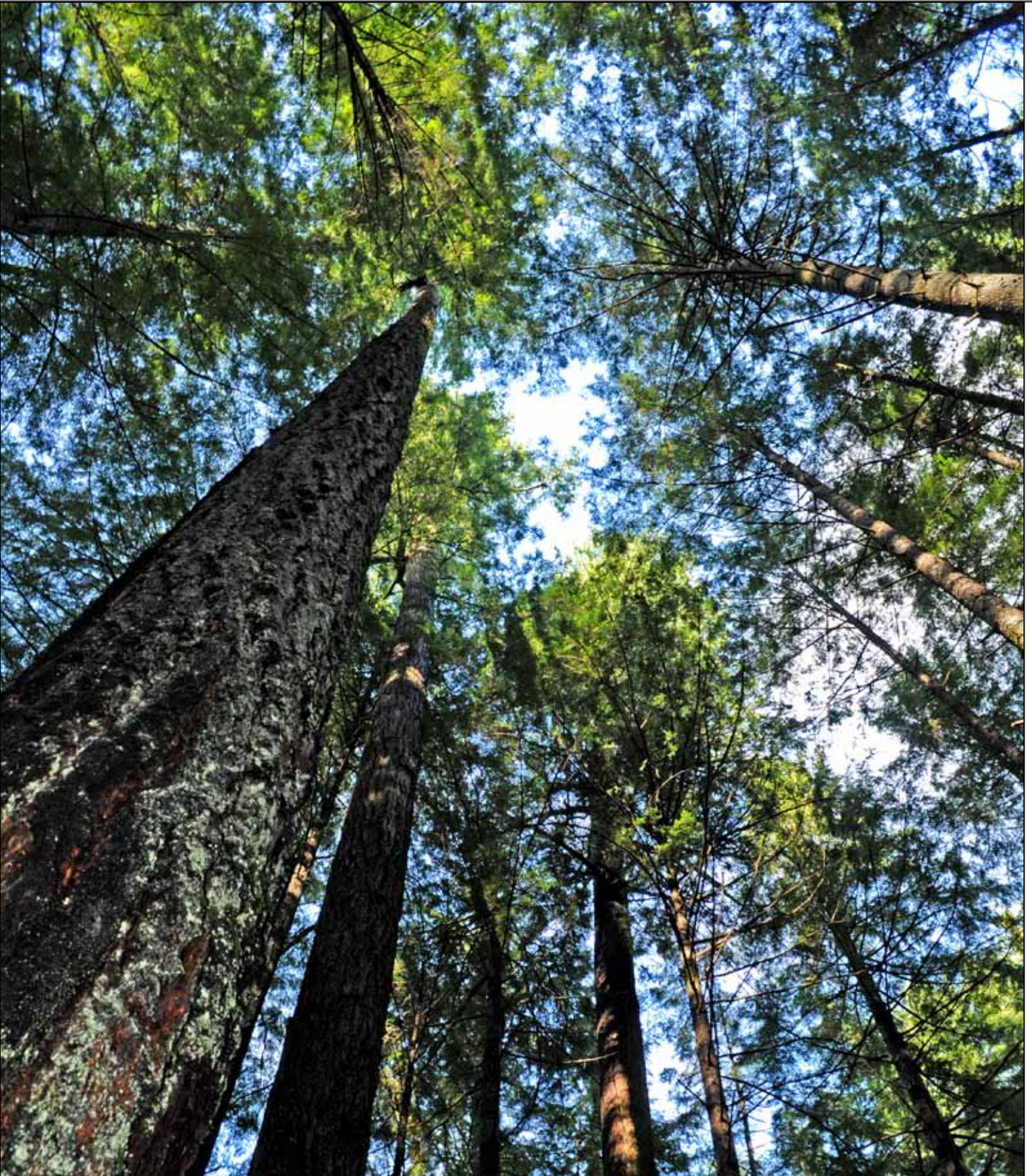


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ISLAND CALENDAR

Submit your news or event info, editorial runs free: email: news@discoveryislands.ca drop off 701 Cape Mudge Rd. or at Hummingbird

DAY TO DAY

Friday, February 4

Friday Flicks - Incendies - Doors open 7:30 showtime 7:45pm QICC

Saturday, February 5

The Gryphon Trio (piano, violin and cello) "One of the best of its kind in the world." (Globe and Mail) Quadra Community Centre 8:00 pm

Sunday, February 6

Geshe YongDong Speaks - 10 a.m., Q.C.C.

Monday, February 7

Gems for the Rock Garden QCC 7pm

Wednesday, February 9

U of Q Beyond Bacon making the most of your meat budget. HBI Pub 7 pm

Saturday, February 12

Valentines Dinner at Herons with Jazzberry Jam 6-9 pm HBI

Wednesday, February 16

U of Q Reflexology, foot massage with Lori Hewitt. HBI Pub 7 pm

Friday, February 18

Friday Flicks - House of Branching Love - Showtime 7:45pm QICC

Wednesday, February 23

QI Conservancy and Stewardship Society AGM - 7:30 pm at QCC

Friday, February 25






Trekking in Nepal - Sacred Valleys & High Passes 7:00 pm QICC

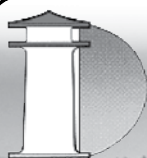
Saturday, February 26

Inuit Knowledge and Climate Change, 7:30 pm QICC

Herons Speaker Series Dinner with Victoria's Poet Laureate Linda Rogers

NEXT DEADLINE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH, 2011

Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
				
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THE REGULARS

MONDAY

Parent & Tots, QCC, 9:30am - 12pm

Low Impact, 8:30am, QCC

Yoga with Josephine, Room 3, QCC, 10 am -12 noon

Karate, 4 pm, QCC

Sing for Pure Joy! Room 3, QCC, 3 - 4:30pm, All welcome.

Alcoholics Anonymous, Quadra Children's Centre 7pm

1st Monday - Quadra writers group, 7 - 9pm 285-3656

TUESDAY

Gentle Yoga Flow with Marnie, Vitalis 9am - 11am

Quadra Children's Song Circle, Room 3, QCC3 - 4pm

Caregivers Support Group 10 a.m. QCC

Intermediate Yoga Flow with Megan, Vitalis 5:45pm - 7:00pm

Al-Anon Meeting, Quadra Children's Centre, 7:30pm

Folkdancing, QCC, 7:30, Sept 21-Apr 26

WEDNESDAY

Yoga with Carol Foort 9:30 am, QCC

Parent and Babes 11 a.m. QCC

Climbing Wall Teens 4:00 p.m. QCC

Yoga with Carol Foort 6:15pm, QCC

Climbing Wall Family 6:30 p.m. QCC

U of Q! HBI Pub, 7pm, free

Hand-drum Circle, Upper Realm, 7:45 - 9:15pm

1st & 3rd Wednesday Food Bank, QCC 1 - 2pm

Lifedrawing sessions, Firesign Studio, 7 - 9:30pm Nancy, 285-3390

THURSDAY

Gentle Yoga Flow with Marnie, Vitalis 9am - 11am

Parents & Tots, QCC, 9:30am - 12pm

Karate 4:00 p.m. QCC

Climbing Wall Kids 2:30 p.m. QCC

Intermediate Yoga Flow with Megan, Vitalis 5:45pm - 7:00pm

Prayer Meeting, Quadra Island Bible Church, 7pm

Drop in games and wing night, Legion, 7:00pm.

Karaoke rules! HBI pub 9:00pm (or after the hockey game)

FRIDAY

Blake-a-licious pub games, prizes and fun at the HBI, 9pm

SATURDAY

Legion Meat Draw 5pm, Steak Dinner 6:30pm

Open Mic with Mo, HBI, 9pm

SUNDAY

Centre for Spiritual Living Celebration, Willow Point Hall, 10:30am

Family Service, Quadra Island Bible Church, 10:30am

Quadra Sunday Painters, 11am - 2pm, 285-3390

United Church-11am, first Sun. of month-12 noon, 285-3163.

Buddhist meditation, QCC, 10am.

Country Music Jam with Steve Trayler in the HBI Pub 3:00pm



ISLAND FORUM

As I see it,

Quadra Island people have a long tradition of thinking about our island and trying to keep it pleasant and beautiful. We have volunteers to repair hiking trails, volunteers to clean up beaches, and amongst other citizens' groups we have an open forum to guide and plan Quadra Island's future growth and coming changes. A lot of effort and hours and hours of discussion went into planning a good future for our island. The result is the Quadra Island Official Community Plan (OCP). We happily live by our Community Plan. The first OCP was brought out in 1969, that is over 40 years ago, and we have a fresh new edition just finished in 2007, a thorough and very clear document. The introduction says:

"One of the primary functions of the Quadra Island official community plan (OCP) is to provide Quadra Island and surrounding peripheral islets ('plan area') with a guide for future land use and community development. The plan is an important statement of community values and goals."

And so it is and so it stands now. Note, it is a *"guide for future land use"*.

Mr. Schellinck acquired the D.L. 208 after complicated transactions. He had a troubled history as logger on Denman Island. He is proposing a subdivision on D.L. 208, a mainly Silviculture land on a peninsula at the south end of Gowlland Harbour. I am especially interested, as I love Gowlland Harbour. So I checked the OCP against the proposal and the Regional District's Staff report that is offered to our Directors.

It is good to remind ourselves of the process of altering

the zoning on a property. Everybody has the right to ask to amend zoning bylaws and the RB is obliged to accept applications. In the first phase of dealing with a request for zoning change our elected representative (Jim Abram and other Directors of Strathcona RB) are only making sure that the correct process is followed. They are - as they should be - uncommitted on the merits of any request. The RB staff examines and then reports on the application. Once the report is done and is published (at the moment on the website of the RB only) the application becomes public. Following the publication the Directors can receive comments and advice from all sort of sources. The final source of advice comes from the public at a statutory public hearing and the written submissions received up to the closing of submissions. At that time our elected Directors metamorphose into our elected judges, who on our behalf weigh the pros and cons, and allow or reject the application.

In this article I write about OCP versus the proposed subdivision.

The RD staff report on Mr. Schellinck's subdivision plan say that this proposal somehow fits in with the OCP. It says that:

"may be supported based upon general OCP policies"

"may be viewed as a natural transition in density..."

"may be considered an extension of existing settlement areas"

"may be viewed as supportive of the OCP aswill incorporate larger lot sizesalong the shoreline"

"it may be of some concern that the OCP goes father than the

potential over-designation of Silviculture lands"

"the designation of Silviculture may have inadvertently limited the usability"

"although the proposal is in conflict with existing OCP designation, support can be found within the OCP policies that may justify an amendment to the existing designation."

This is obviously stretching it and most Quadra Island folks may conclude that--IT MAY NOT BE VIEWED AS SUCH --. After all the OCP clearly stated that:

"Mobile home parks shall not be permitted within the plan area."

"Country residential lands will not be designated on land designated Silviculture."

"Rural residential lands will not be designated in --skip-- lands designated Silviculture."

"Quathiaski Cove and Heriot Bay --skip- two areas have been defined as village containment boundaries"

"To recognize the shoreline as a ribbon of shared aesthetics, heritage, and biological diversity, and to preserve the Island's scenic landscapes"

"To discourage high-density settlement patterns on the shoreline."

"To support the continuance of large lot sizes for shoreline areas, and to direct small lot densities to residentially designated areas in the interior of the Island."

The core design of Mr. Schellinck's plan is to get something like a seasonal Mobile Home Park and make plentiful "view lots" lined up on the top of the shoreline. These lots are narrow, long and

rectangular. Mr. Schellinck wants lot size averaging too, so that in exchange for larger lots inland, smaller lots may be put on the shoreline.

It is clear to me that this plan cannot be reconciled with the existing OCP and the existing designation of the area as Silviculture. This must be clear to Mr. Schellinck and his facilitator too.

So, let us nudge the OCP - after all "it may be of some concern that the OCP goes further than the potential over-designation of Silviculture lands" and the designation of Silviculture "may have inadvertently limited the usability".

There is a possible way out - a brand new Zone and a brand new land-designation for our Quadra Island, the amazing "Comprehensive Development Area"! that would let us re-designate D.L. 208 as a Comprehensive Development Area. HMMMM!!!

This would defeat the OCP counsel on desirable developments and would allow on our shores the cramming of view lots and something that could grow into a Mobile Home Park. It would permit lot size averaging and other goodies that run contrary to the OCP guidelines.

As I see it, this project is bad and needs to be defeated.

Yours truly,

George Barabás

**Have an opinion to share?
Submit your letter
to the DI by email:
news@discoveryislands.ca
Regular 'ol mail with a
stamp to Box 280 in the
Cove or fax it in to
250-285-2236**

Gowlland Harbour Views Development (GHVD): - Update

Last year following the two public information meetings held on Quadra Island, we gathered feedback from many individuals and we have made several positive changes to our development plans. There will be another public information meeting happening soon at the Quadra Community Centre hall to provide an update.

As our rezoning application advanced through the early steps of the rezoning process we learned the SRD planning staff had proposed a legal document for a stronger control structure in order to ensure clear direction of action. This legal document is called a "Master Development Agreement" and will be explained in detail at the next information meeting.

Our (GHVD) original plan was to do 4 strata plans in phases with sewage treatment plants on site. We had found good soils that would accommodate the treatment plants. However recently we learned that the SRD was working on a sewage treatment review and were planning expansion and upgrading. This important information is what triggered the first change in our plans. We now have the added option of creating fee simple lots connected to the local sewage treatment plant

Within the next month or so there will be a well advertised announcement for a public meeting on Quadra Island to present the proposed updated development plans. This open house meeting will be co hosted with the Strathcona Regional District staff (SRD) and the GHVD consulting team.

Our development plan has changed from the original proposal that was displayed to the public back in September and October of 2009. There are an additional 5 lots, a more detailed plan for the commercial area and an additional 4 acres of

park, but our total layout with roads, trails, park and greenspace is basically the same.

We have had some negative feedback and a few letters to the local Discovery Islander paper against our proposal. We have always told the individuals with concerns that we are available to meet and discuss the issues. We have welcomed constructive criticisms to help us evolve through this process and we have offered to all the negative authors an opportunity to sit down with us and discuss their concerns. At the open house coming soon we hope to have all the answers to meet everyone's concerns.

For all the Quadra residents who have written letters of support and met us on the site for a tour we thank you and invite you to come to the public information meetings to hear the latest updates.

Dan Bowen

Dear Editor,

Recently, my wife and I had the pleasure to visit Quadra Island.

We would like to express our appreciation to the volunteers who worked so hard to initiate and maintain the hiking trails on Quadra Island, including the signage and trail markings which prevented us from becoming lost.

The residents of Quadra are to be commended for stepping up to provide support for these wonderful assets.

As visitors, from the Okanagan, we both appreciated and envied the solitude and rugged beauty which was afforded to us, during our day on your beautiful island.

What a treasure you have.

Please, keep up the good work

Thanks

S & J Christopher

Vernon, BC

Apathy Should Reign

While watching the film *Water on the Table* the other night I was once again confused by both sides use of economic answers to what is a moral question. If allowing somebody to die because they can't afford water is morally reprehensible then it doesn't matter how rich water might make some people. The pro privatization people say they just want to help. They say governments can't insure universal access to water. The problem with that argument is that access to food, shelter and water is the government's only job. They're not there to get reelected. They're not there to make themselves, their friends or even the country itself rich. They're there to make sure the people in their country have access to food, water, shelter and health facilities.

How did we get here? How is it that even the noblest people feel the need to use an economic argument in defense of their lives? How is it that a country like Canada, governed by a political party that fancies itself as representing the religious/ moral high ground, has abdicated its moral responsibility? You'd think that a democracy would slowly evolve into a system that would elect a government that served the people, but the exact opposite is happening. Democratically elected parties are becoming more self-serving often in open defiance of the people who elected them. I have a solution.

I suggest we create a party called the Apathy Party. When elections come around, any person who doesn't vote has, by default, voted for the Apathy Party. If the Apathy Party wins in a riding then someone from the unemployed sector in that riding is chosen at random to become the member for that riding. This isn't to suggest that unemployed people are apathetic, it is just a way to insure elections actually reduce unemployment. If my solution appalls you then you should: a) vote; b) stop voting for people who lie to you; c) consider what is not best for you but what is best for your great grandchildren. You may not be affected by the monetization of morality but your children will be. Remember, there was a time when the phrase the buck stops here had a different meaning.

Chris Thompson

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Items for publication are welcomed on subjects of interest to the Discovery Islands community. Please help us by following these guidelines:

Please print handwritten material clearly.

Items sent by email do not need to be an attached file. Just send text in the body of the email.

Please spell check in Canadian English.

Please use the title of the item as email subject.

No MS Publisher, WordPerfect files or graphics in Word files please. Send imported graphics separately.

Please don't send original irreplaceable material.

Please remember to caption & credit photos and artwork.

Don't write on the back of photos, use labels or sticky notes.

While every effort is made to include all items submitted, errors and accidental omissions do occur.

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**NEXT DEADLINE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14**

REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Area C

by Jim Abram

February 4, 2011

Here we are at the last day of January! As cold as it was today, the signs of spring are all around. Soon it will be time to think about gardens again, although I am still thinking about mine from last year and all the things I didn't get time to do in the way of preparing for winter, let alone spring!

So, on to the topics for this report.

Rumours

It sometimes really surprises me at some of the things I hear though the "kelpvine" on this island. I write a detailed report twice monthly in this publication and on line with all of my contact information: phone number, fax number, email address and mailing address. And yet I am rarely contacted by people who have questions or concerns about rumours that they have heard about local government business. It baffles me. I am available. I return calls and answer emails as soon as humanly possible, usually in the same day. However, somehow, rumours seem to circulate that are not necessarily accurate or true. For those of you who read my reports, I would hope that the first thing you would do when a question comes up, is call me! Ask me what I know on the topic. Ask me anything that you like. I will tell you what I know or direct you to the person who might know more. No one seems to have a problem calling me up about pot holes, parking issues, animal issues,

RCMP issues and anything else you can imagine (none of which are in the jurisdiction of local government). I always do my best to help out no matter whose jurisdiction it is.

So, please, when you hear something that seems incredible or wrong or questionable, give me a call! I'll try to help you out. There is nothing more disturbing than to see my name in a letter to the editor suggesting that I am doing something that I have not done. I then need to wait two weeks to clear up the misconceptions. And who knows if the same people that have read the first bit of misinformation will read the correction?

Don't be shy. Call me!

Gowlland Harbour Views (Schellinck) proposal

This is the proposal that prompted me to write the above passage. There sure is a lot of "rumour" out there on this one. I have written I don't know how many articles on this proposal to try to keep people up to date. And I heard the other day that I was "shepherding" this application through. WRONG! I am trying to inform the public of what is being applied for and trying to make sure that due process is followed.

Just so you are aware of the latest, the proposal did not receive first and second reading at the Board

last Thursday. I met with all of the planning staff for almost two hours prior to the board meeting to try to sort out the questions that were being posed in the community. I worked out with staff a different process that puts the public at the front end, rather than having to wait for the public hearing to have your voice heard. I then went to the Board meeting and made a motion to refer the proposal back to staff and then to the Electoral Area Services Committee for further discussion. I also asked that **the public meeting, hosted by the applicant, be held as soon as possible and a date of March 3rd has been set to be held at Quadra Elementary.** Time to be announced (evening). It will be very well advertised both here on Quadra and in CR papers.

So I would like to clear up some commonly held misconceptions about our Official Community Plan (OCP) that I received in the meeting with the planners:

Since OCP's are policy documents, they cannot prohibit. They can strongly discourage or other similar language, but they cannot prohibit. That comes in the zoning bylaw, which is regulatory. Language to prohibit would fetter the discretion of the Board, and that is not allowed

Anyone can apply to change an OCP at any time. The staff then will tell the person if it is a good idea or not, but it is up to the person applying to decide if they will proceed. So, to say something is against our OCP, while factual, does not mean that it cannot be amended through the process. That is what this applicant has decided to "pay his money and take his chances" at: an amendment to both the OCP and the bylaw.

All applications must be considered by the Board as individual applications. So if the language in the OCP must be changed, to meet the requirements of the Act, that does not mean that all Silviculture land is open to the same provisions being applied for

by this applicant. Each one would need to be considered on a case by case basis on its merits.

According to staff, amendments to the Residential Rural and the Country Residential designations in the OCP are required since the existing policies are regulatory in nature and belong in the zoning bylaw, not the OCP. Any amendments that might be made, in no way mean that any applications will automatically be supported. The discretion remains with the Board.

And last of all, I will just mention that there is no "trailer park" applied for (as you will read in another letter to the editor) in this application. It is a campground, just to be clear.

I am sure that there will be plenty of discussion about this application and this is great. But let's have it in the open and please feel free to ask me any questions that you like about the process. I will be glad to assist you in staying informed.

Upcoming Public Meetings - Please make note!

In an effort to make sure you know what meetings are coming up so that you can plan them into your calendars, I provide the following:

Thursday, February 17th, there is a meeting tentatively scheduled for the Steering Committee members only, concerning the draft plan for the Quathiaski Cove Local Area Plan. This is not a public meeting. That will happen in the next month or so.

Thursday, February 24th, there will be a meeting to explain the Quathiaski cove sewer taxation issue. Senior staff from the SRD will be in attendance. This meeting will effect those people within the Q.Cove Sewer Specified Area. The meeting will be held at Quadra Elementary, time to be announced (evening)

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Thursday, March 3rd, Quadra Elementary, time to be announced (evening), will be the public meeting (not public hearing) for the Schellinck proposal which I talked about above. This would be the place to come and ask your questions and express your concerns and offer ideas.

Monday, March 7th, Quadra Island Community Centre, time to be announced (evening), will be a meeting to discuss the Q. Cove sewer expansion for 47 lots on the edges of the existing sewer service area. The costs and options will all be there for those effected by this expansion. this has been a long time coming and has been asked for mostly by the residents in the area that want to be on sewer. We are now ready to begin the official process if that is what people in the area want.

I have one night in February when I don't have a meeting! And all of the days are taken also. March is not much better. I cannot believe how much activity there is right now. Yet I am glad that there is, because it means we are getting things done. I have been waiting for this time and I am not complaining. It is exciting! I hope you will join me in the excitement. But most of all I hope that you will pick up the phone and call me when you need to know something.

I hope you have enjoyed the read! Feel free to call me between the hours of 8:30 am and 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday (please, not on weekends, folks!) at 285-3355, or you can fax me at 285-3533 or you can email me anytime at jimabram@xplornet.ca, or by mail at Box 278 in the Cove, V0P 1N0... Lots of choices.

Please note my new email address.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Abram

Director, Discovery Islands - Mainland Inlets (Area C), SRD

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Quadra Children's Centre 2011 wall calendars. High quality, large format, local! Bold, Beautiful and Beneficial! Still Available @ Sidelines at the HBI, Quadra Crafts, Book Bonanza (ask for it) and the Children's Centre. Thanks for the support of the community thus far it is much appreciated.

Show Jenece We Care!

The Passages Day Program, part of Community Living, Campbell River is again this year collecting pennies for Jenece & her charity 'The Sick Children of B.C'. Last year with your help we raised \$717.00. You can drop your pennies at our local stores, 'True Value Food' at Heriot Bay & also at the Cove. They will be collected by February 15th, 2011.

Thank you so much for your support!

Patricia & The Passages Day Program.

Newcomers to Quadra Island Welcome

New to Quadra? The Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce and local businesses welcome you with a gift bag. Please contact Judy at 285-2150.

Handmade Card Contest!

Pick up your blank card at Hummingbird. Create your own design. Paint, Stamp, Collage, Fabric, Glitter, Glues, Metals and more! Let your imagination run wild!

Starts Monday Jan 31st ends Monday Feb 14th. Draw date Feb 18th.

A Big Thank You

To readers who have made a supporting contribution to the DI and always to our loyal advertisers - it helps keep the ink flowing.

fun every weekend

Open Mic

with Mo

Saturdays

9 pm - midnight

Every Sunday 3-6 pm

Country Music Jam

with Steve Trayler

U of Q

7pm in the pub

February 9

Beyond Bacon

February 16

Beyond Bacon

Fridays

Karaoke

with 'BigBad' Blake



Herons is open every day

8 am-8 pm Sun-Thurs, 8 am-9 pm Fri and Sat.

Valentines Dinner

with Jazzberry Jam, Fresh Sheet or 5-Course Set.
Saturday, February 12, 6-9 pm Reservations required.

Heriot Bay Inn Island Adventure Resort

Herons/Inn 285.3322 Pub: 285.3539

The Cortes Island 2011 Challenge

- Weigh in Cortes!!!

Objective:

1. - To collectively lose 2011 lbs. of excess body fat from Island residents by Cortes Day - that's only 2 lbs/ resident;

2. - A fun(d)raiser for the Cortes Island Food Bank - let our loss be their gain!

Food for thought:

- Weigh-in and registration will be during the month of January; you can weigh-in and register at the medical clinic, or you can e-mail your weight and goal to jumarcortes@msn.com.

- Weigh-out will be on Cortes Day, where we will have a booth and sell tickets on the best guess as to the total weight loss achieved.

- Individually participants may obtain sponsors (and much needed psychological support) for your efforts; e.g. - get \$ pledges from friends and family, or outright donations.

- Confidentiality: your weight will not be disclosed; only your stated weight-loss goal and the amount you actually lose will be announced. The registration record will be kept in confidence.

- A support group will be formed consisting of each other, and various participating health professionals

- The onus, and means of achieving your goal, rests with you.

Contact: Marcel & Julia - 935-6681; jumarcortes@msn.com

Challenge # 1 - Marcel will lose as much as the total combined weight loss of Nancy, Frank, Ray, Julia and Emelia.

Challenge # 2 - Cortes is challenging Quadra, and other Island communities, to match our efforts.

Challenge # 3 - ???

Geshe YongDong Speaks

Geshe YongDong, a Tibetan Monk, is leading a meditation and speaking at the Quadra Community Centre on Sunday, February 6 from 10 a.m. to Noon in the upper room. Geshe YongDong is a popular speaker both on Quadra and on Cortes island. Suggested donation is \$10. However, you may pay what you can afford. See you there. Any questions, call Steve or Danielle at 285-3323 after January 17.

Colour and Fibre Workshops at Firesign Studio

Vancouver artist, Marjorie Turnbull AFCA, will teach you to Broaden Your Colour Horizons Feb. 28-March 4; Cedar Wallace from Hornby Island brings all materials needed to teach her Fibre and Felting weekend workshop March 11-13. All skill levels, for information and pictures : www.firesignartanddesign.com, Nanci 250-285-3390

Hand Drum Jam

The hand drum jam finishes it's Christmas Break and we are back in action on Wednesday, January 19 at 7:45 p.m.

Most of our regular drummers are currently experiencing "withdrawal symptoms" because drumming in a circle has it's positive addictive qualities, especially the "high" when all the drums become just "One Drum."

If you have a hand drum just sitting somewhere at home, why not swing into action and come on down to the Upper Realm in Q. Cove on any Wednesday night, starting on January 19. If you don't have a drum, no problem, we can supply you one for the evening. There is a \$5 drop in fee to help pay for the rent. Call Steve at 285-3323 after January 17th for more information.

Free Spiritual Stuff

Free material stuff, like food & money & firewood makes life a little easier. But Money & material things can't buy happiness. Non-material things like wisdom & love often work better to create lasting happiness. Therefore, Quadra Island has free spiritual stuff too, some of which is listed below. But really the material & spiritual go together. It's difficult to meditate on an empty stomach, that's making all kinds of noises.

So, therefore, there is an Introduction to Buddhist Meditation course on Monday nights at 7:30 p.m. Call Don McEachern at 285-2193 to register or just drop in.

There is an Introduction to Taoism course on Tuesday nights starting February 1 at 7:30 p.m. Call Ray Grigg at 285-3298 or just drop in

There is a hand drum Jam on Wednesday Nights at 7:45 p.m. Call Steve Moore at 285-3323 or just drop in.

Finally, There is a Meditation Course on Thursday nights at 7:30 p.m. Call Dave Asshton at 285-3871 or drop-in.

All the courses are free or by donation at Spirit Books in the Upper Realm at Q. Cove. Donations help with rent & xeroxing & other expenses.. And be sure to be on time for the meditation courses. If you want to teach a course involving peace, love, wisdom or the creative arts, call the phone number listed below.

There is also a free intensive reading course covering 12 books on the ultimate wisdom of the human race & love. For example, the first four books are :: Piero Ferrucci, The Power of Kindness, Victor Frankel, Man's Search for Meaning, Leo Buscaglia, Love and Eckhart Tolle's, A New Earth. This is not a book club; you can read at your own pace and then discuss each book with Steve Moore, B.S in Education, M. A. in History, self-proclaimed PH.D. in Poetry. Finish the 12 books and you receive a graduation diploma from the Free University of the Upper Realm (FUUR). Plus, the money that you spend on the books is totally refunded. In short, the books and the course are free. Call Steve Moore at 285-3323 to begin.


Don't worry about Steve. He's not totally flipped out on Free Stuff (see the other article) or lost in the clouds of the spiritual realms. Now that's he's back from Cuba, he's still down to earth enough to have a temper tantrum & take out the garbage & clean the bathroom in the Upper Realm

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Celebrating Literacy

Thanks to everyone who joined us for this year's Literacy Festival on January 23rd. The puppet theatre, young artists centre, Inventors' Centre and games area were scenes of playful involvement. The fragrance, soft music and inviting collection of poetry welcomed many into poetry play. Banners were painted and drummers engaged. "The Festival was alive with adult joys and intense, if by contrast, quiet interests among children. Each child was so important, as was each adult. I arrived home feeling terrific," emailed one participant. A special thank you to all the facilitators who helped to make this event a success.

Kudos

to Melissa Miller-Fedorikie and Kim Ellis for their Social Media workshop last Sunday. Their comprehensive presentation on using Facebook, Twitter and blogs met the diverse needs of the 20 people participating in the workshop. Well done!

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Seniors Housing News

A quick reminder. For seniors interested in being a tenant in Quadra Seniors Housing the deadline for applying for the next two units is February 15th. Applications available from Jeanne 285 2835 evenings.

The Board would also be interested in hearing from you if you would like to apply in the next few years. There will be an invitation to the community, in March, for tours of the new units. Watch for dates and times for a visit to this completed community project before all of the suites are occupied.

Free Firewood

Free Firewood is available for elders on fixed income and/or with serious health issues, unemployed workers, folks on Gov't assistance, single parents, new residents who are renting a house with an empty wood shed, and anyone suffering from the cold because they are currently receiving the lowest minimum wage in all of Canada, i.e., B.C.'s eight dollars an hour and/or suffering from the increased cost of B.C. Hydro.

If you have a vehicle, we can fill it up with dry wood. No vehicle, no problem, we can deliver. Just call Steve at 285-3323 or Allen at 285-3544.

If you got the cash, Steve can refer you to local wood suppliers. And contributions to this community effort can be made by putting money in the Free Wood Association account at the local Coastal Credit Union at Q Cove next time you go to the bank.

Free Money

The next free money happening is at the Quadra Community Centre on Wednesday, February 2 at 11:30 am to Noon, just before the Community Lunch.

Anyone short of cash is welcome to pick up a book for each and every human being you are supporting at home. A 10 dollar bill is on page 100 of each book selected.

If anyone out there has just a little bit more cash than they really need, one can contribute to the free money program by placing money in the Free Money Association Account at the local Coastal Credit Union in Q Cove.

Call Steve for more info at 285-3323. Thanks to everyone on Quadra for your positive comments about my interview on CBC Radio about the Free Money Program on Quadra.

Qapirangajuq: Inuit Knowledge and Climate Change

This profound and unforgettable film helps us to appreciate Inuit culture and expertise regarding environmental change and indigenous ways of adapting to it.

The documentary is the first to ask Inuit elders to describe the severe environmental changes in the Arctic they are seeing and to do so in their own language. The tone of the film is intimate. The elders aren't trying to cross a language barrier, or even speak to the Southern scientific community. They're simply imparting their expert knowledge and wisdom – and the result will undoubtedly cause controversy.

Presented by Sierra Quadra on Saturday, February 26th at 7:30 pm

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What's On at the HBI

Love music? The HBI Pub does too... Open Mic with Mo happens SATURDAY evenings, 9pm – midnight. SUNDAY afternoon there's a country jam with host Steve Trayler 3 – 6pm. Our local players are stars, come see them shine!

Karaoke: Friday nights with your host Mr. Big Bad Blake! Bring your voice and sing your heart out or just come out and be the audience that all stars need. 9 pm in the pub. It's free!

U of Q: Expand your brain with awesomeness in the HBI Pub. Feb 9... Beyond Bacon... making the most of your meat budget. Feb 16... Reflexology, foot massage like never before! With Lori Hewitt. 7 pm. It's free!

Bring your love to Herons for sweet songs and delicious food with Jazzberry Jam Saturday Feb 12. Regular menu, fresh sheet or a decadent five-course Valentine dinner. (Five courses 69.00/pp, advance reservations required), 6 to 9 pm. 250.285.3322.

Super Bowl in the HBI Pub February 6: great food and drink specials, and free swag too. We're watching the Superbowl on the eight foot screen and plus three tv's in the HBI Pub. See you and everyone you know at the HBI!

Heron's Speaker Series Dinner Saturday February 26 with Victoria's Poet Laureate Linda Rogers, musician Rick van Krugel and author Harold Rhenisch. Enjoy an evening with entertainment and a delicious three course set menu. \$39.00, add wine pairing \$20.00. Reserve: 250.285.3322.

Calling all Aquarians. Your birthday party awaits! Saturday February 5, 9:00 at Mo's open mike. Nick, Normand, Ron, Ryan, Sonny, Tina...we'll see you at the HBI. Birthday cake for all and prizes for Aquarians.

Folk Night February 20: Michelle Hannah is hosting, and it's really "Of the Folk, By the Folk" because all are invited to participate! Sing and play together: some ukuleles and guitars provided, or bring your own. 8-10pm; \$8 sliding scale.

Attention camera owners: Quadra through a Lens 2nd meeting is in the Fireside Lounge of the HBI February 12 at 2:30. How are you doing on this project? Have you begun? Are you interested in participating? Bring photos, share ideas.

Soul, funk, reggae & rock with Vancouver's FREEFLOW: Friday February 25 at the Heriot Bay Inn. \$10 at the door, includes drink ticket. Check them out: www.freeflow.ca.

Bath salts, soaps, silk and silver: these and more Valentine delights can

be found on the shelves at Sidelines on the Bay, open 9-5 every day.

Gems for the Rock Garden

On Monday February 7th 7pm, the Garden Club welcomes Gordon Mackay owner of Alba Plants in Cowichan Bay. Specializing in rock gardens, Gordon propagates as much as possible on site, using sustainable practices. Alba Plants uses very little peat in their operation and they do not use herbicides. Gordon will share with us his understanding of the 'art' of horticulture. With 25 years of gardening experience, he has plenty of inspiration to share for planting those rocky outcroppings or even the large mountain of rocks you have removed from your veggie garden. Adorn your snake condos with some living green gems.

For the show and tell table, bring a spring bouquet, include some of your vegetable greens. The Hellebores are budding up. Has anyone seen an early crocus, winter aconite or snowdrop - or is El Nina holding back our late winter flowers. Drop ins welcome \$2 at the door or buy a membership \$10 annually.

FRIDAY FLICKS

Tonight!

Incendies - Canada

Doors 7:30 showtime 7:45

QCC adm: \$5 adults \$4 snr/stu

Incendies is a family drama/mystery of mythic proportion. An adult brother and sister search for the brother and father they knew nothing about in life. It is the last request of their mother, a woman who was an enigma to her children, that they fulfill this task. Their quest leads them on a labyrinth journey and across the world to Lebanon (shot in Jordan) where their mother's story is incrementally revealed. It is a profound and stunning moment when the ultimate mystery is finally revealed.

Next at Friday Flicks

February 18th

House of Branching Love

Same time, same place.

Finland, 2009, English subtitles, rated 18A

Premiering at the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival, director Mika Kaurismäki's rambunctious comedy The House of Branching Love is the sort of "Divorce, Finnish Style" that follows the breakup of a thirty-something professional couple.

Juhani is a family therapist, and his wife, Tuula, a successful business trainer. They're determined to keep things amicable until they sell their house, but when Juhani brings home a girl he picks up at a club, Tuula loses it. The very next day, she brings home her own conquest in retaliation. Emotions long thought dead reappear, and the war escalates precipitously when Juhani begins searching for someone to make Tuula equally jealous.

A wonderfully offbeat comedy rife with deadpan absurdity, The House of Branching Love provides ample proof that there's nothing funnier, or scarier, than matters of the heart.

"A hilarious and harrowing exercise in marriage prevention"- John Anderson, Variety



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Seniors Social Lunches

Seniors are invited to come as participants or helpers to the weekly Social Lunch, an opportunity to enjoy some company on the grey winter days. We especially encourage those who seldom get out perhaps because of disability or lack of transport, and newcomers to the Island, to come and join us. People who feel a bit overwhelmed by the bustle and numbers at the Wednesday Community lunches may prefer the relative quiet and intimacy of the Friday lunch, though some attend both. Transport can be arranged. (Omit bit re helpers)

Lunch is on Fridays at 12 noon, preceded by armchair aerobics exercises at 11.30, in the basement of the Bible Church on West Road. It is organized by Quadra Circle, a committee of the Quadra Recreation Society. The Circle appreciates the generosity of the Church in donating the use of their space. Contact Joan at 3377 or Karen at 3064.

QICSS AGM

QICSS will hold its annual general meeting 7:30 pm, February 23 in Rm 1 Quadra Community Centre. All interested persons are encouraged to attend this event.

QICSS or Quadra Island Conservancy and Stewardship Society is a nonprofit society whose purpose is the preservation, protection and enhancement of the human and natural environment of the area. The society owns the only private property fronting on Morte Lake. A covenant on this property protects it for present and future generations. As well, we consider ourselves the stewards of the whole Morte Lake watershed and will speak up on any proposed developments that could impact that area. QICSS also holds covenants on other properties on Quadra and Cortes.

QICSS strives to educate citizens and businesses alike in conservation and sustainable practices appropriate for our area. Come to our AGM to learn more about the society and to help us keep Quadra an environmentally friendly place to live and do business.

Sing For Pure Joy!

"The only thing better than singing is more singing" to quote Ella Fitzgerald. Mamma Mia has come and gone from Quadra Island but there are so many songs to sing! Join Mary Dennison in Room 3 at the Community Centre beginning Monday February 14th from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. Songs, chants and rounds are taught in the traditional method of call and response. No written music is used - just the desire to raise our voices in harmony and build community through song. \$56 for the Winter Term. Sliding scale available by request.

I will be attending a Community Choir Leadership Training Retreat in Victoria during the first week of February. A blissful week of work-shops, song-sharing and singing! New songs to share with you when I come home!

Children's Song Circle begins on Tuesday February 8th from 3:00 - 4:00.

Please call Mary @ (250) 285-3764 or e-mail at mmadennison@telus.net.

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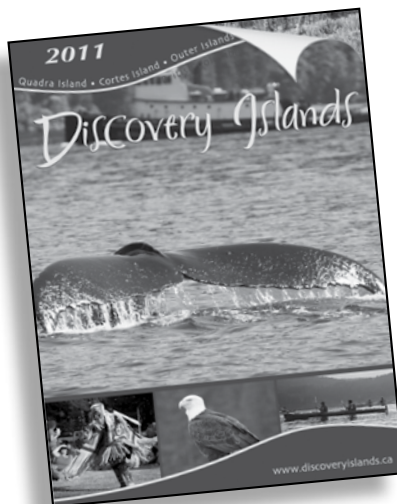
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Quadra Community Centre Update

As we are zipping through the year, there are so many people to acknowledge and appreciate for their support of programs at the Quadra Community Centre and here are a few to mention this month. Regional Director Jim Abram for constant, solid endeavours promoting recreation and community whenever asked. (Which is often.) The Emergency Preparation people whose work and encouragement has resulted in a new generator located at the emergency "reception centre" aka the community centre. The amazing folks at the Community Kitchen who create a healthy lunch every Wednesday for all to eat. The parents and friends who, over the last four years have fundraised for a playground in Blenkin, and whose work will be fully manifested this Spring. The Quadra Literacy Now initiative which supports our Parent and Tots program Mondays and Thursdays so parents can access it free of charge. Also for funding the Children's Centre educational support of Parent and Tots on Mondays. Pat Charlesworth for re-building the community events sign at the Cove, Leslie Mathews for the art work and the Quadra Builders for supplying the lumber. Tru Value Heriot Bay and Q. Cove food stores for their consistent support through bottle drives and Spirit Points and all the people who use #252 as their Spirit Point number when purchasing their groceries. Precious Coleen Swanson and the Fire Chief Sharon Clandenning for teaching, free of charge, 1st Aid to our grade 5 and 6 students. We are all so lucky to have such generous people in this community!

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Quadra Island Seniors-Br. 91, B.C.O.A.P.O.

We are all very sad, regarding the loss of our President Robert Brown, who passed away on January 24, 2011. Bob was a very active person on Quadra Island. He was our Pres. for two years but very busy as a Director on the executive for many years. He was also President of the Royal Canadian Legion, a member of the Ferry Committee Council, and on the Board of the Fire Emergency Program.



We would like to convey, our condolences to Bob's wife Shirley, sister Christine, family in England, sisters, Rene & Doris also brother George. Bobs children Jenesse, Karen & Una & families, Stepchildren, David, & Charlene, & families, many grandchildren and great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. Bob took an active part, in our senior activities and his chuckle and his twinkle in his eyes will be missed. Bob was also very helpful & patient teaching Seniors to use a Computer.

By the time this news reaches, the paper, we will have enjoyed our Valentine Pot-Luck Party.

On March 2nd, we will have Sharon Clandenning & Colleen Swanson educate us on Earthquake Shakedown, and what to do, if we are faced with this problem. Our Wed. Activities will start up again soon, Armchair Aerobics and Carpet Bowling, and maybe cards.

On March 23 Our Regional Meeting will be held at Halbe Hall in Black Creek at 11:00 a.m. Good & Welfare, contact Muriel @3216, Memberships are due for 2011 contact Ruth @3801 or Chris @2207. Walk with Peter on the Rebecca spit on Sundays 11:00a.m from the launch ramp, or call Peter@3237.

Backyard Birds of Campbell River

The Museum at Campbell River will host author and columnist Christine Scott on Saturday, February 5, at 2 pm. Scott will deliver a talk entitled 'Wild Bird Enjoyment 101' and will focus on the 'backyard birds' of this region. Scott describes the talk as a "safari into the backyard to enjoy a casual chat-style info-session on the basics of bird-watching – one of North America's most popular nature activities. Learn how to get a handle on bird identification, feeder types and hanging tips, how to attract birds to your yard, binocular choices and bird photo hints". This talk will be an excellent lead-in to the 'Backyard Bird Count' that will take place in February. Christine Scott is the 'Island Wild' columnist for the Campbell River Mirror and author of the trail guides 'Nature Campbell River' and 'Nature Strathcona'. To reserve a seat for this talk please call the Museum at 287-3103. The cost is \$6.00.

Multicultural and Immigrant Services Changes Name

For almost two decades, the Campbell River and Area Multicultural and Immigrant Services Association (MISA) has been striving for ensuring that immigrants and diverse populations feel welcome and included in the community. Now, as it is moving towards 2011, the Board of Directors and Staff announce that it will join the three 'sister' agencies on Vancouver Island and change its' name to "Immigrant Welcome Centre of Campbell River".

The other three Immigrant Welcome Centres include the Intercultural Greater Victoria (Inter-Cultural Association of Great Victoria), Duncan (Cowichan Intercultural Society) and Nanaimo (Central Vancouver Island Multicultural Society).

"We are very excited about the next steps of this cooperation, which will allow for greater collaboration and a stronger presence for Vancouver Island's attraction of newcomers," said the Executive Director Rachel Blaney. "This agreement encourages staff collaboration and will increase the capacity within our organization, including support for communities without access to services."

A leader in providing services for immigrants and in promoting diversity in the community, Immigrant Welcome Centre of Campbell River is a non-profit, community-based organization that works with individuals and businesses. For almost two decades, it has developed and delivered programs and services for newcomers, and worked with the community to promote multiculturalism to the Campbell River and area.

Countdown to Emergency Power at the Quadra Community Centre



Photo: Don Mottershead

After more than three years and the support of dozens of people and several organizations, a 50 kilowatt portable generator was officially unveiled at the Quadra Community Centre on January 19. The generator, which is a joint undertaking of the Quadra Emergency Program and the Quadra Island Recreation Society, will power a Reception Centre in the event of major storm, earthquake, wildfire or other disaster. The purpose of a Reception Centre is to provide a safe place where people evacuated from their homes can find help with food, transportation, housing, clothing and other practical support.

The generator project cost nearly \$45,000 which required a sustained commitment by Quadra volunteer fund-raisers. Starting with a kick-off donation from the Ken Munn Memorial Fund, local fund-raising included a contribution by the Quadra Garden Club, and several well-supported events including a barbecue, spud gun shoot, silent auction and raffles. Many individuals and businesses contributed raffle and auction items as well as cash donations and services. The Campbell River Christian Ministerial Association, the Quadra Legacy Fund of the Coastal Community Credit Union, the Joint Emergency Preparedness Program, and Strathcona Regional District all made grants for the project. Several representatives of sponsor organizations joined Judy Hagen, Director of Quadra's Emergency Program and Jim Abram, Area C Regional Director, at the Community Centre to help celebrate this important community project. (Photo A -stage)

Judy thanked Jim Abram and Russ Hotsenpiller the SRD Emergency Program Coordinator who each worked to obtain major grants and Jim paid tribute to the many

Quadra volunteers who have contributed so much time and skills to the generator project. Eileen Mackay and Frank Wallace were particularly recognized for their efforts.

(Photo B – Generator)

Judy noted that the fund-raising story is not yet over. "While the generator is set up to automatically provide backup power here at the Community Centre, we are still raising funds to enable the generator to be used at other locations," she said, "this will equip us to assist neighboring communities if necessary".

Quadra Emergency Program is one of the most vigorous in the province with over 100 volunteers. A current project is to improve emergency radio links to remote areas of the islands and to train amateur radio (ham) operators for long distance communication. Information on the program is available at 250-285-2150 or 285-3590

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Exploring Difference & Its Impact on Providing Services for Clients

The world is becoming increasingly small, with the help of technology and efficient transportation, meeting people with different backgrounds has become a reality. To facilitate this engagement with diversity, whether you are a business owner, manager or staff, it is important to learn about how to bridge differences. Campbell River's Multicultural and Immigrant Services Association (MISA) is hosting a FREE workshop called "Exploring Difference & Its Impact on Providing Services for Clients."

Colleen Hanley, who is currently the Associate Director of North Island College International, will facilitate this exciting training. She has been working in international education for 15 years. "In my travels and my work with people from cultures other than my own I have come to understand that the truth lies somewhere in between; in between what I know and what they know. Having the skills, the attitude and the knowledge to explore a situation from a vantage point other than my own continues to be the challenge in working and living inter-culturally. I'm looking forward to exploring these with people from the business and service community," Colleen shares.

This fantastic and FREE opportunity welcomes all business members of the community from all interests and backgrounds. It is also greatly beneficial for businesses that want to improve and have more successful customer relations in the workplace. When a business is working with customers and employees from other countries, the business can benefit from recognizing, understanding and appreciating the differences, which will emerge. This workshop will help you build awareness and consider responses to differences.

The workshop takes place on Tuesday, February 15 from 9:00 – noon in the Robron Centre Library at 740 Robron Road. For more information or to register, contact CRMISA at 250.830.0171 or info@crmisa.ca

The Gryphon Trio Return to Quadra

The Quadra Island Cultural Committee is delighted to announce the return of The Gryphon Trio, to play on Saturday Feb. 5th at 8pm. This brilliant ensemble, made up of violinist Annalee Patipatanakoon, cellist Roman Borys and pianist Jamie Parker, have been visiting here for many years and invariably give outstanding performances.



As the Winnipeg Free press said of them, "These consummate artists are masters at interweaving their voices, blending together, then singing out on their own when the music calls for it. Their enviable intonation sets a standard for which other ensembles should strive. There's not a loose end to be found. Years of playing together have made this a remarkably polished musical partnership -- marked by highly simpatico performances." The BBC Music Magazine headlined a review of their recording of the Beethoven Archduke Trio "The King of Archdukes," and Gramophone magazine said of their recording of the Mozart piano trios, "A new front runner for the title of Best Trios Set."

The Trio's live performances and recordings have been broadcast extensively on CBC and around the globe on NPR (USA), Radio France, RTBF (Belgium), Radio Bremen, Hessischer Rundfunk (Germany) and Finnish Radio, and on Canadian, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Russian and French television networks.

They are all on the faculty of the University of Toronto School of Music, and teach at the Claude Watson School for the Arts, where they encourage young students to compose their own pieces for trio. They are passionate about promoting new music and have commissioned numerous pieces, including "Constantinople" a multimedia piece which has been performed in Toronto, New Haven Conn. and London England following its debut at the Banff School of Fine Arts. They also collaborate with Jazz musicians, and have made a recording of Tango Nuevo, so they are remarkably versatile.

For their Quadra concert, the trio will perform Beethoven's Op. 11 in B flat Major, one of the piano trios from their latest CD. In addition, they will perform Brahms' monumental piano trio, Op. 8, No. 1 in B Major. To round off the program they will also feature works by Steven Gellman and Astor Piazzolla.

The concert is to be held at the Quadra Island Community Centre at 8 PM on Saturday, February 5th. Advance tickets are available for \$17 at Hummingbird Office and Art Supply and Quadra Crafts on Quadra Island, and at the Music Plant in Campbell River; and for \$20 at the door. Students under 16 are admitted free when accompanied by an adult. This is not a concert to be missed.

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Study shows: Racism Persists in the Country

Campbell River and Area Multicultural and Immigrant Services Association (MISA) hosted an Anti-Discrimination Response Training workshop on January 15 with great success. Many participants shared their experiences and feelings and the community should pay more attention to these experiences. Canada admits many immigrants from different parts of the world every year, which is why Canada is regarded as a multicultural country. Ideally, if we could transform our country into what British social philosopher, Thomas More, called "Utopia", where everyone can live peacefully and equally, Canada would definitely be an unbeatable attraction. In reality, we are quite far from that.

A recent survey done by the Association of Canadian Studies and Canadian Race Relations Foundation shows an interesting trend. 46% of interviewees believe racism is on the rise, while 45% disagreed. When they were asked if they had witnessed a racist incident in the last year, 38% of Canadians in this survey said yes.

In fact, during the A.R.T workshop, all participants also expressed they had experienced racism. The Project Coordinator of MISA Vienna Yeung says, "All participants have faced discrimination, including Caucasians, First Nations and visible minorities. Many participants agreed that the community should pay more attention to fighting against racism. Sometimes, they are not sure what to do when they witness discrimination. Education and awareness are very important in the community."

Racism is found more often than many people think. Some people like making racist jokes and find these funny, but in fact they are not. Vienna Yeung also expressed that some First Nations participants are really disappointed with the fact that many people have bias against them. "They feel frustrated when they experience discrimination. We cannot ignore the fact that they also have contributed to the country. And they are as important as everyone in the country. They deserve respect," Vienna Yeung continues. "Why do we discriminate people when we don't want to be discriminated?"

The Annual Walk Away from Racism will take place in March. It is time for everyone to think about what effects racism have on us, and what we can do to completely eliminate it.

For further information, please contact:

Rachel Blaney, Executive Director
250 830-0171

A114 - 740 Robron Road, Campbell River, BC
V9W 6J7

www.crmisa.ca Rachel.Blaney@crmisa.ca

Friends of Strathcona Hosting Meeting

The Friends of Strathcona Park (FOSP) are hosting a meeting in Courtenay for several groups concerned with protecting our environment and parks. Executive members from the various groups will discuss ways and means for encouraging governments to deal better with fragile natural areas.

Some recent happenings which have prompted the coming discussion are threats of increased logging and mining in Clayoquot Sound, and harmful commercial activity in the Bedwell Valley area of Strathcona Park. Discussion topics will include possible court proceedings against the government, alliances with native groups, and the pros and cons of civil disobedience. Non-violence workshops will be on the agenda. One thing that won't be on the agenda is politics. Karl Stevenson, a director for FOSP, says FOSP is strictly non-political because no government, at least so far, has shown itself to be much better than another when it comes to respecting the environment.

In 1988, the Social Credit government threw open large areas of Strathcona Park to commercial/ industrial exploitation. This sparked a blockade lasting several months and resulting in huge publicity and a subsequent reversal of government actions. In the election which followed, the Socreds lost to the NDP. Ironically, the NDP promptly went down an almost identical path and suffered much the same fate when they announced major logging plans for Clayoquot Sound. The public once again turned out in force, hundreds of arrests attracted worldwide publicity, and the NDP reversed its position, but not before it was badly hurt politically. Although these civil disobedience actions had favourable results for the environment, they were very costly for all concerned, including the governments, and no one wants a repeat. One major purpose for the upcoming meeting is to fully explore all other possible options.

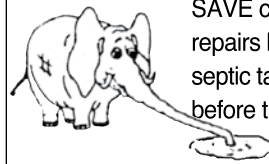
In regard to non-violence training, Stevenson says, "One of the biggest truths about the Strathcona Blockade is that it was absolutely no fun. We tried very hard to avoid that blockade, and we definitely don't want another. But one thing that kept things so totally peaceful in 1988 was the non-violence training we received beforehand. If people feel compelled to stand up for the park again, there may be little time for training. If we train now and never need it, that's great. In fact, we couldn't hope for anything better."

The January meeting is intended as an intensive strategy and training session, involving only the executive members of FOSP and other participating groups. It will form the basis for future workshops and meetings, open to all who wish to attend.

For more information: friendsofstrathcona.org

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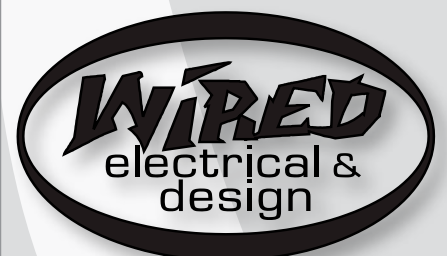
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WRITER'S BLOCK



WRITERS CLUB MEETING

tr. Queensly Amis

The following is an abridged translation of a writers meeting held in an unknown place somewhere in England in 1601. The meeting lasted about two and a half hours but almost all of the meeting was taken up with gossip and social chatter. While the gossip might be of interest to historians, we have not included it unless it is germane to the discussion at hand.

STAN Did anybody bring anything to read?

LIZ I have a poem and Bill brought a new play.

STAN Oh, God! I hope this one doesn't have faeries in it.

FRANK You haven't read it then.

STAN He's the son of a labourer for pity's sake.

LIZ My godson Jimmy thinks quite highly of him.

FRANK As does the Lord Chamberlain.

STAN With all due respect LIZ, your godson is from Scotland and the Lord Chamberlain thinks doggerel is an advanced form of cateral.

FRANK I don't know. I don't think I'd mind taking credit for some of the things he's written.

STAN I went to see one of his plays. Bottom? I think I'm enamored of an ass? That kind of humor is fine for Italians and for the rabble down in front, but he doesn't exactly write for gentlemen of breeding.

ED Sorry I'm late. Just finished Bill's latest. When is he going to learn penmanship? I have chickens that write with a better hand.

FRANK Perhaps, but what he writes is more important than how it looks.

ED True enough. I think this one has some potential. It needs a little fixing up, but is quite good in some places.

STAN Tell me he hasn't included another of those boring, philosophical soliloquies. I just can't stay awake through them. Ah, here he is now. Bill, we were all saying how much we liked your latest effort. With a little work, you'll give Kit a run for their money yet.

BILL Liz, loved your newest sonnet, though if I could be so bold as to suggest that eye and symmetry don't rhyme. Perhaps in a few hundred years tastes might change and it will not even raise a brow. Just learned that John has been put in prison.

STAN The poet priest? What has he done now?

ED Nothing except get married.

FRANK His wife showed me his letter. It said, 'John Donne, Anne Donne, undone.' Hopes I can use my influence.

LIZ I'll see what I can do. Maybe we should start with Bill. Your writing, as ever, is exquisite, I'm a little worried about the theme. Is this really the time to be writing about Regicide and faithless queens? Granted it takes place in Denmark, but who knows, your future king may need to seek a bride there. It's a small quibble, but I think an important one. I have real problem with Ophelia. She is just so... I don't know...flat. When you finally get around to the graveyard scene I don't see the audience being with you. You need to have Ophelia being stronger if Hamlet is going to do that fight scene with her brother. It just doesn't work for me. The same with the speech about Yorrick, a character we never even meet. Alas poor Yorrick, I knew him Horatio. Nobody is going to remember that a second after they leave the theatre unless Yorrick appears earlier in the play.

ED And what about poor Rosencrutch and Gilderberg. You meet them for a few seconds and then they die off stage. Why bother having them in the play at all. Speaking of them you have them say.... where is it, I wrote it down...yes: 'Faith her privates we.' You just can't refuse a lewd reference can you? I understand that to fill the theatre you need to draw in the lower classes, but you have a chance to be almost as good as Marlowe if you'd refrain from such bawdy writing. I know you hate me asking this but who do you see as your target audience? This is all over the map.

STAN All over the map. I like that.

ED The other problem is that you sometimes start to think of yourself as a philosopher and not a playwright. All the philosophy we need is in the bible, although we could use a better one.

LIZ I think that is something Jimmy is interested in. Perhaps you should talk to him about it (then there is a long discussion about the bible ed.)

ED This play is a tragedy, hmmm, that came out wrong. What I mean is it has too many diversions. Those long ramblings about existence just slow things down. Plot, plot plot. Ben gave a good workshop on this very thing. This whole to be or not to be nonsense.

Ok, fine, we get that Hamlet is sad...move on, nobody cares.

STAN I'm not sure I completely agree with ED. A little philosophy is a good thing, but the words have to be catchy. When you come from a play you need to have people quoting from it. If you hear somebody quoting from a play you think it must be a good, important thing to see. I haven't read the whole thing, but I have skipped through it and I must say there are not a lot of lines that stick out for me. The fight scene is good, although I think having everybody die is a little too German for a English audience and I agree with Liz that encouraging Regicide is irresponsible. Better that the king lives and maybe sends his wife away or something of that nature.

FRANK I couldn't agree less. I, as you know, tend to be more scientific than artistic but I found a lot to like in this work. I don't think the women necessarily have to be strong characters. Hamlet has some problems with women, something I have had some experience with, and the weak women are a reflection of his outlook. As far as quotes, how about: 'I have heard of your paintings too, well enough. God hath given you one face and you make yourselves another.' Brilliant that is. As to the matter of minor characters dieing off, well that's true to life. We have minor characters dieing around us all the time.

LIZ Speaking of minor characters dieing. I have a little meeting with Lord Essex. A friend of yours, isn't he Frank?

FRANK I used to know him quite well, but we have lost touch recently and I fear he might have fallen into bad company.

[ed. the next half an hour was taken up with finding a date for their next meeting and then they all left.]



Beyond Organic

The Gathering Place Trading Company

Our family journeyed to South Africa this winter where we worked, played and visited family for three wonderful months. Traveling as a family was a special time; seeing the landscape through five pairs of eyes, rather than just my own. My mind and my heart were opened to so much, I could fill many pages, but for now I will tell you about one of our many great farm visit experiences.

One of our main missions in traveling was to meet, in person, our Honeybush tea farmer, inspect the farm and understand the process that the Honeybush goes through from "field to cup". Previously, our Rooibos farmer was sourcing our Honeybush for us, sometimes from this farmer, as we now know, and occasionally from other farmers. One of our most valued company mandates is "knowing the farmer" or more accurately "shaking the hand of the farmer". We feel this is crucially important and what is lacking in the global food movement. Knowing our products intimately, seeing first hand that they are 100% organic, ethically sound and always the freshest harvest is the most rewarding part of our business. We can deliver to you, our customers and friends, the absolute highest quality product and if there is ever a question about it, we can pick up the phone and call the farmer. This farmer-direct relationship is the backbone of our business.

With Honeybush as a main pursuit on the trip, the Langkloof Valley was one of our first travel destinations. After touring and meeting numerous Honeybush farmers, we can say that the farm that impressed us the most and is now our permanent supplier is Nooitgedacht Farm owned by Quinton and Eunice Nortje.

As we traveled over three mountain passes to get to their farm, on single-track dirt roads with no railings, we realized just how remote this farm was. After the third white knuckled pass, we came into a beautiful valley, with a meandering river and a few dwellings. We wondered where to stop, but were soon greeted by a smiling farmer



HERIOT BAY TIDES (PST) | LINK TO TIDES AND WEATHER WWW.QUADRAISLAND.CA

DATE	TIME	m.	ft.
04 Friday	00:04	1.3	4.3
	07:13	4.9	16.1
	13:10	2.9	9.5
	18:12	4.2	13.8
05 Saturday	00:40	1.5	4.9
	07:39	4.8	15.7
	13:47	2.7	8.9
	19:02	4.1	13.5
06 Sunday	01:15	1.8	5.9
	08:05	4.7	15.4
	14:25	2.5	8.2
	19:52	4.0	13.1
07 Monday	01:49	2.1	6.9
	08:31	4.6	15.1
	15:04	2.3	7.5
	20:46	3.9	12.8
08 Tuesday	02:23	2.5	8.2
	08:55	4.5	14.8
	15:44	2.1	6.9
	21:48	3.7	12.1
09 Wednesday	02:58	2.8	9.2
	09:19	4.4	14.4
	16:27	1.9	6.2
	23:04	3.7	12.1
10 Thursday	03:37	3.2	10.5
	09:41	4.3	14.1
	17:14	1.8	5.9
11 Friday	00:42	3.7	12.1
	04:23	3.5	11.5
	10:07	4.2	13.8
	18:09	1.7	5.6
12 Saturday	02:25	3.9	12.8
	05:30	3.7	12.1
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13 Sunday	03:30	4.1	13.5
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	20:05	1.3	4.3
14 Monday	04:11	4.3	14.1
	08:59	3.8	12.5
	12:59	4.2	13.8
	20:55	1.1	3.6
15 Tuesday	04:42	4.5	14.8
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	14:09	4.3	14.1
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16 Wednesday	05:11	4.7	15.4
	10:37	3.4	11.2
	15:14	4.4	14.4
	22:24	1.0	3.3
17 Thursday	05:40	4.8	15.7
	11:18	3.1	10.2
	16:18	4.5	14.8
	23:07	1.0	3.3
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	23:50	1.2	3.9

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on the side of the road. Happily giving us a tour, he showed us his Honeybush processing facility, which was the cleanest work building I had ever seen. You could eat off the floors!

They brought us to their home for a delicious, all farm lunch and of course numerous cups of Honeybush tea! Over lunch they shared with us detailed information about Honeybush, and their farm, an absolute education in a few hours.

There are actually three varieties of Honeybush. The one they produce is called *Cyclopia Intermedia* and is known as Mountain Tea, as it grows wild on the slopes of the mountains in the Kouga Mountain Range. Mountain Tea is the cream of the crop, with the best flavour and overall antioxidant and mineral content of any of the three varieties. It is a slow brew tea, meaning you have to brew for some time or simmer it on the stovetop to get all the goodness of the plant into your cup.

After lunch, we climbed into Quentin's 4X4 or bakkie, as they are called in South Africa. The kids in the back, we started to drive up and up, all the way to



Honeybush Drying

the top of the next mountain. We stopped there, with an incredible panoramic view and examined the first plants of Honeybush we had seen in the wild. The farmer pointed three mountains further and explained that was where he harvested the Honeybush. A place where there is no houses, no roads, just a dirt track and wild Honeybush everywhere! All their tea is wild crafted and hand harvested by traversing mountain slopes. They rig up 1km zip lines to transport the tea from the high slopes down to a waiting tractor and trailer. When asked how much tea he wild crafts in a year, Quentin told us 20 tonnes. He said he could harvest double that, but doesn't want to over harvest the wild stock and delicate ecosystem, as the land has been in his family for generations. We were all amazed and impressed by this farm, by far the most sustainable we had seen. Two words described our experience, "Beyond Organic". We thank our lucky stars for organic farmers, for

farmers who care for the earth, for farmers who footsteps are the best fertilizer.

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by Lovenia Harvey



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