

# Discovery Islander

SINCE 1993

ISSUE 876 • FEBRUARY 20, 2026 • COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS FROM QUADRA & THE DISCOVERY ISLANDS



**The Quadra Island Beach Clean Dream Team's weekly Wednesday beach clean hikes** begin at 10am March 4th from the house at the Lighthouse. Bring your gloves, bag, and pocket knife.

**New this year:** There will be a hike on the **first Saturday** of the month up until early June. To get on the notification list, join the Facebook group Quadra Island Beach Clean Dream Team or email [QuadraBeachClean@gmail.com](mailto:QuadraBeachClean@gmail.com)

And don't forget – **#319** for your Spirit Points at either TruValue grocery store fuels us later!

Do what you can, where you can, when you can. And please – don't pollute!

stay safe.

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## QI Medical Clinic Update

**THE QIHS BOARD**, operators of QI Medical Clinic and Dr Steve Hughes, would like to advise that at this point, from April 1st, the Quadra Island Medical Clinic will remain open 5 days a week, and will be staffed by Dr Hughes on a short term part-time basis.

We are advertising for other physicians on a contracted basis; details to be worked out.

Existing patients of Dr Hughes who are residents on Quadra Island can continue to book appointments for the next few months

Other positions at the clinic – the social worker, our Mental Health worker and the new RN, Ally – will continue to be scheduled as is normal for them. The Lab will continue on Wednesday and Friday, and Foot Care on Mondays can be booked as usual.

## QUADRA LITERACY

### Celebrate Family Literacy Day!

**EXPERIENCE LIGWILDA'XA** Storytelling and Culture on Saturday, February 21, 3:30 to 6:30 pm at Quadra Elementary School.

**3:30 - 4:50** Welcome, crafts, activity centres, scavenger hunt, workshops, book giveaways

**5 - 5:45** Dinner by PAC by donation

**5:45 - 6:30** Ligwiltach stories and dancers

Free • Family-friendly • All ages welcome

Come learn, connect, and celebrate together!

*Brought to you by Quadra Literacy, Quadra Children's Centre, Quadra Elementary staff, PAC, and We Wai Kai Nation*

## Big Dreamer StoryWalk

**FAMILIES** are warmly invited to enjoy a StoryWalk– a fun, free outdoor activity that brings 'Big Dreamer' to life as you walk together. Stroll along, read a story page by page, and enjoy time connecting through movement, reading, and conversation. Perfect for children of all ages, a StoryWalk encourages family literacy, curiosity, and a love of stories – while enjoying the fresh air together.

This bilingual LiK'ala/English story by Sophia Dick, will be installed around the Quadra Elementary Garden from February 17th to 24th.

## Way to Go Meeting

**JOIN US** Monday February 23, from 3 to 4:30 pm, QCC Room 3, for a time of sharing, presentation on wills, discussion, and business. Info or zoom link at way2go.ca, or 285 3298. Bring \$2 for the rental. Next meeting March 16.

698 PLAZA RD. \*JUST LISTED!\*

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- Quathiaski Cove home w/ 2 attached carports & workshop on 1.09 acres!
- Split entry layout with main level on upper floor. Kitchen has door to arbour-covered back deck with steps to back yard.
- 3 bedrooms & 3 bathrooms on main level, including primary bedroom & 3pc ensuite.
- Daylight basement with 1 bedroom & 3pc bathroom, small workshop area, laundry room, family room & hobby room.
- 2 attached carports & garage/shop. The shop & 1 carport are overheight.
- Beautifully landscaped property with established irrigated gardens.
- Located a short walk from the shopping plaza in the Cove!



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QUADRA ISLAND REAL ESTATE TEAM

## Cortes Radio

Drop in and tune out

NEXT DISCOVERY ISLANDER DEADLINE FOR ISSUE 877:

Monday, March 2 @ 7pm

For publication Friday, March 6

# Island Calendar Day to Day

## Saturday, February 21

- Family Literacy Day: Ligwilda'xa Storytelling & Culture at Quadra Elementary, 3:30-6:30pm
- Bingo at the Legion, 7pm

## Monday, February 23

- Way to Go meeting on Wills, QCC Room 3, 3 to 4:30pm

## Friday, February 27

- Friday Flicks presents Sentimental Value, 7:45pm at QCC
- Karaoke at the Legion, 8pm

## Sunday, March 1

- 'Seedy Saturday' 10am at QCC

## Saturday, March 7

- Night of comedy at the Legion, 8:30pm, \$20 at the door

## Sunday, March 8

- Journey to Peace - Dharma talk and meditation, 10am to noon at QCC Room 3

## Monday, March 9

- Garden Club presents Dorothee Kieser, speaking about Plant Propagation, 7 to 9pm at QCC, details page 7

## Regulars

### Sundays

- Meditation Group: Quadra Children's Centre, 10am

### Mondays

- Pickleball at Cape Mudge Hall, 10am, drop-in \$3
- CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO HALL RENOVATIONS.  
THIS APPLIES TO ALL DROP-INS including Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

### Monday & Friday nights

- Open AA meeting, at Cape Mudge United Church, 7:30-8:30pm

### Wednesdays

- Poker Night: Quadra Legion 7:30pm

### List your event in our Island Calendar

Email news@discoveryislands.ca **Drop off** your item at *Inspirations* in Quathiasi Cove **Bring** it to our office at 701 Cape Mudge Road

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Come down, get involved and be part of YOUR community!



## WHAT'S HAPPENING at QCC February 20 to March 6

### THIS WEEKEND: February 20 - 22

**FRIDAY:** 8:30 Fitness with Jeannie; 9:30 Men's Fitness with Jeannie; 10 Spinners and Knitters; 10:30 Friday Painters; 12

noon SMART Recovery: to join contact Jude: smartrecoveryquadra@gmail.com; 3 After School Yoga

**SATURDAY:** 9:30 Beginner Tai Chi with Nicki; 10:30 Intermediate Tai Chi with Nicki; 10:30 Ping Pong

**SUNDAY:** 10 Community Sewing Bee

### THIS WEEK: February 23 - 27

**MONDAY:** 8:30 Fitness with Jeannie; 10 Parents and Tots; 10 Feldenkrais; 1 Sing for Pure Joy; 1 Jewelry Making - Quadra Circle; 1:30 Way To Go; 7 Photography Club; 7:15 Candlelit Flow Yoga with Kate

**TUESDAY:** 9 Quadra Quilters; 9:30 Pilates; 11 Balance, Core Strength & Bone Health - Quadra Circle; 2:30 Rec and Sports with Dave; 3 Good Grief; 3 Sewing Crafts for Kids; 6 Adult Indoor Soccer - School Gym; 7:15 International Folk Dancing

**WEDNESDAY:** 12 Community Lunch; 1 Mosaics; 3 Ping Pong; 4 Intermediate Basketball with Dave; 5:45 Warm Flow Yoga with Elizabeth, text 778 681 7527 to register

**THURSDAY:** 9:30 Pilates; 10 Parents and Tots Dance with Kate; 11 Fall Proof - Quadra Circle; 12:30 Shakespeare Discussion; 5 Core Strength and Stability with Nicki; 6 Indoor Floor Hockey for Kids - School Gym; 6:30 Quadra Singers; 7 Indoor Floor Hockey for Adults - School Gym

**FRIDAY:** 8:30 Fitness with Jeannie; 9:30 Men's Fitness with Jeannie; 10 Spinners and Knitters; 10:30 Friday Painters; 12 noon SMART Recovery: to join contact Jude: smartrecoveryquadra@gmail.com; 3 After School Yoga; 7:45 Friday Flicks - Sentimental Value

### NEXT WEEKEND: February 28 - March 1

**SATURDAY:** 9 Community Gardens AGM; 9:30 Beginner Tai Chi with Nicki; 10:30 Intermediate Tai Chi with Nicki

**SUNDAY:** 10 'Seedy Saturday'

### NEXT WEEK: March 2 - 6

**MONDAY:** 8:30 Fitness with Jeannie; 10 Parents and Tots; 10 Feldenkrais; 1 Sing For Pure Joy; 1 Jewelry Making - Quadra Circle; 2:30 Cares Together Group - Quadra Circle; 7:15 Candlelit Flow Yoga with Kate

**TUESDAY:** 9:30 Pilates; 11 Balance, Core Strength & Bone Health - Quadra Circle; 2:30 Rec and Sports with Dave; 3 Sewing Crafts for Kids; 6 Adult Indoor Soccer - School Gym; 7:15 International Folk Dancing

**WEDNESDAY:** 12 Community Lunch; 1 Mosaics; 1:30 Cancer Support Group; 3 Ping Pong; 4 Intermediate Basketball with Dave; 5:45 Warm Flow Yoga with Elizabeth, text 778-681-7527 to register

**THURSDAY:** 9:30 Pilates; 10 Parents and Tots Dance with Kate; 11 Fall Proof - Quadra Circle; 12:30 Shakespeare Discussion; 5 Core Strength and Stability with Nicki; 6 Indoor Floor Hockey for Kids - School Gym; 6:30 Quadra Singers; 7 Indoor Floor Hockey for Adults - School Gym

**FRIDAY:** 8:30 Fitness with Jeannie; 9:30 Men's Fitness with Jeannie; 10 Spinners and Knitters; 10:30 Friday Painters; 12 noon SMART Recovery: to join contact Jude: smartrecoveryquadra@gmail.com

**Go to our website [www.quadrarec.bc.ca](http://www.quadrarec.bc.ca)** to view the latest Rec Guide, OR navigate to REC DESK to register for kid's programs or see what's happening each day on the community calendar. <https://quadrarec.recdesk.com/Community/Calendar> Click on the calendar for more details! Phone the Community Centre at # 250-285-3243. Or E-mail: info@quadrarec.bc.ca

The DI is published every two weeks. Our current edition and upcoming deadlines are available online:  
[www.discoveryislander.ca](http://www.discoveryislander.ca)

## CONTACT US

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hours Monday–Thursday: 10-4

Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors and are not the views of the publisher.

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We welcome items for publication on subjects of interest to the Discovery Islands community.

- **250-300 words** is a good length for community announcements.
- Send articles in the body of an email.
- **Canadian spelling** please: *centre, colour, favourite etc...*
- **Please use the title of your item** in the email subject line.
- Remember to **include credits and captions** for photos & artwork.

WHILE EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO INCLUDE ALL ITEMS SUBMITTED, ERRORS AND ACCIDENTAL OMISSIONS MAY OCCUR.  
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## NEXT DEADLINE

**7pm Monday, March 2**  
**for publication on**  
**Friday, March 6, 2026**

## Journey to Peace with Lama Geshe Yong Dong

**WE ARE** happy to welcome Lama Geshe Yong Dong back to Quadra for a morning Dharma talk entitled Journey to Peace and meditation on Sunday, March 8th at the Quadra Community Centre, Room 3 upstairs, from 10am to 12 noon.

Through these two-hour teachings, we will explore how to let go of anger, release the grip of attachment and transform our perception. By understanding the roots of anger, we begin to let go of its grip on our lives. Attachment often fuels anger, so we will hear how to release these bonds and embrace impermanence. We will also delve into how shifting our viewpoint can lead to inner peace and compassion. Through a guided meditation we will gain tools to cultivate a calmer, more balanced mind.

Geshe Yong Dong Losar (Geshe-la) is a Buddhist master originally from Tibet. He currently lives in Courtenay, BC where he began teaching in 2002. In 2003 he established and began directing Sherab Chamma Ling, the only Tibetan Bon Buddhist Centre in Canada. He teaches in many centres, communities and universities around the world.

This session is offered by 'Dana' or donation and all are welcome. We look forward to you joining us for this enlightening exploration of healing and growth. For further information contact Carol Foort at 250 285 3035 or [cfoort@yahoo.com](mailto:cfoort@yahoo.com)



## Friday Flicks February 27

**FEBRUARY 27** Sentimental Value (Norway, Germany, Denmark, France, Sweden, United Kingdom). Joachim Trier returns with a poignant, darkly comic portrait of fractured family ties and artistic ambition. A fading film director (Stellan Skarsgård) disrupts the lives of his estranged daughters when he returns to their childhood home with plans to shoot a deeply personal biopic. As old wounds resurface, Nora (Renate Reinsve), a celebrated actress battling anxiety, and Agnes, a steady but scarred mother, must confront the legacy of abandonment, art, and emotional manipulation. An intimate, moving, and often funny film about family, time, and how we sometimes need to rewrite the stories we tell about ourselves in order to survive.

## Meditation

**WE MEET** Sundays at the Quadra Children's Centre at 10 am for a 45 minute sitting meditation, followed by a short break. There is a reading of a book based on Buddhist perspectives and meditation practices, and then a discussion. Everyone is welcome, a small donation is appreciated. For more info call Don at 250 285 2193 or Kai at 250 850 9245.

## Open AA Meetings

**MONDAY AND FRIDAY** nights, 7:30 to 8:30pm at Cape Mudge United Church at 29 Tekya, Cape Mudge. Everyone welcome!



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# Common Misperceptions

What a cooperative is and what it isn't

**WHILE A GROUP** of people pooling money to buy bulk groceries and dividing them up in someone's garage may be co-operative, it is not a Co-operative business. It is a short-term response to rising food prices or product choices. Those informal, "backyard" buying groups often fade quickly because they rely heavily on individual effort, convenience, and sustained personal interest. All of which are difficult to maintain over time.

A true co-operative is an incorporated business. It operates within provincial and federal regulatory frameworks, follows tax and reporting requirements, and is accountable to its members-owners. In a co-op, the owners are the members, and the members are the shoppers.

Co-op membership is not the same as a gym membership or a warehouse membership like Costco. Those memberships provide access to a store in exchange for discounted purchasing. A co-op, by contrast, is open to the public—anyone can shop there without paying a membership fee.

Membership in a true co-op is about ownership, not access. Members receive benefits beyond those of the everyday shopper because they are owners of the business and are invested in its success.

Member perks are designed to align with the financial stability of the co-op and must never place undue strain on the business. These benefits are introduced thoughtfully, with long-term sustainability always in mind.

Co-op members own shares, have voting rights, and help guide the business within clearly defined governance and financial frameworks. This structure ensures accountability, transparency, and decision-making rooted in community benefit, rather than distant corporate priorities.

At its core, a co-operative is a sustainable, community-owned business model designed to serve the long-term needs of the people who rely on it, not a short-term solution to raising prices.

If affordable food matters to you, be apart of the journey:

- Follow the Co-op on Facebook for updates
- Sign up for Co-op monthly mini newspaper
- Ask questions and share your ideas
- Stop in and see what's changed

*Quadra Island Community Food Co-operative*  
*qipantrycoop@gmail.com*

## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST GRANITE BAY WHARF AND GROUNDS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES

The Strathcona Regional District is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) to provide inspection and maintenance services for the Granite Bay Wharf infrastructure on Quadra Island.

Contract Term: May 1, 2026, to April 30, 2027, with a possibility of renewal to April 30, 2030.

EOIs must be submitted by Friday March 6, 2026. An optional site meeting will be held at the Granite Bay Wharf at 11:00 am on Friday February 27, 2026.

For more information regarding the EOI requirements and scope of work visit the SRD's website at: [www.srd.ca/bid-opportunities](http://www.srd.ca/bid-opportunities) or contact [procurement@srd.ca](mailto:procurement@srd.ca) / 250-830-6722.



301-990 Cedar Street  
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250-830-6700 | 1-877-830-2990  
Fax: 250-830-6710

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

## New to Quadra?

The Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce and local businesses welcome you with a package of local incentives.

**Contact Carol Ann T. at:**  
[carolannt@telus.net](mailto:carolannt@telus.net)

## Your Submissions to the DI are Welcome!

We especially appreciate submissions to be sent by email to:  
[news@discoveryislands.ca](mailto:news@discoveryislands.ca)

# WORDS & NOISE

## WEEKEND SONGWRITING WORKSHOP

MARCH 27 – 29, 2026

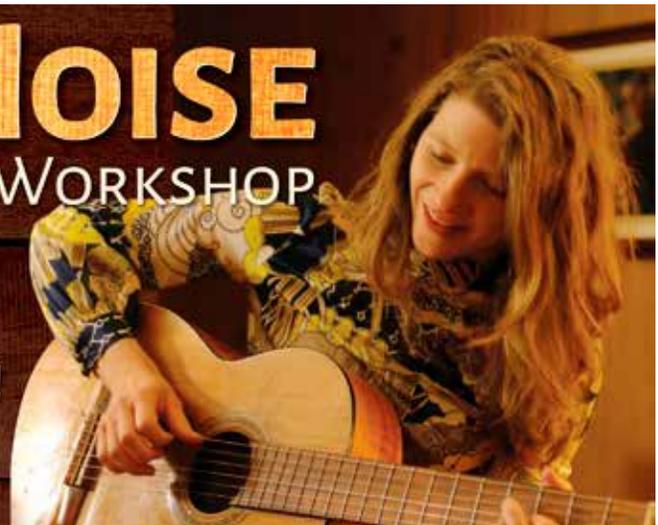
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[www.heriotbayinn.com/songwriting-workshop](http://www.heriotbayinn.com/songwriting-workshop)

## Heriot Bay Inn

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HBI Pub: open 12pm-late 7 days/week! | Call 250.285.3539 for takeout  
We're cooking: 12-7pm daily | Breakfast in Herons: Sat & Sun, 9-11am



# Heriot Bay – Whaletown Terminal Upgrades

## Hello Quadra and Cortes Island community members,

I would like to start by sharing a sincere thank you for the patience, flexibility, and resilience you have shown during the berth closures and temporary suspension of regular ferry service. I know this disruption has not been easy.

I'm happy to share the following updates on the work being completed during the berth closure period.

### Construction

#### Whaletown

The remaining structures from the old berth are being removed, the new rip-rap (shoreline rock) will be installed, and prefabricated steel elements will be lifted into place. We will then connect power and hydraulics to make the berth operational.

**It is expected that ferry service to Cortes will be returned to the community from March 2nd, 2026.**

#### Heriot Bay

Work is nearing completion on the electrical/hydraulic systems as well as on the new buildings – the waiting room and ticket booth. The final marine structure will be installed along with the final piles and the floating dolphin. The demolition of the old berth is expected to be completed by the end of March.

### Alternate service

A reminder that information about alternate services, including a comprehensive, downloadable **Alternate Service Guide** can be found on the **Heriot Bay-Whaletown Terminals project page: [bcferriesprojects.ca/heriot-bay-whaletown-tp](https://bcferriesprojects.ca/heriot-bay-whaletown-tp)**



### Customer support

For any questions regarding the alternate service information, **please contact Customer Care at 1-888-BC FERRY (1-888-223-3779) or email the Customer Relations team at [customer.relations@bcferries.com](mailto:customer.relations@bcferries.com).**

We recognize the impact the berth closures have on the community and want to thank you once again for your understanding and patience as we work to provide safe and reliable ferry service to Quadra and Cortes Islands for years to come.

Thank you,

**Jeffrey Li**

Project Manager, BC Ferries



# QI Rec Announces New Pavilion and Public Consultation

**JUST OVER** 40 years ago the Quadra Island Community Centre had its official opening.

After years of hard work, fundraising, blood sweat and tears by a dedicated group of Quadra Islanders, the Quadra community had a proud new space to gather, play, learn and build community.

Today, the Community Centre is entering into its 5th decade of service to the people of Quadra Island. The Quadra Island Recreation Society is taking this opportunity to check in with the people of Quadra Island to ensure that the Community Centre and its grounds is ready to serve the community for at least the next 20 years.

We have one more piece of exciting news. The QIRS, in partnership with the SRD has secured the funding to construct a new Pavillion in Blenkin Park.

Could this be the future home of Shakespeare in the Park? Might the Chamber Music Concert series be able to host outdoor concerts? Could a young couple see this as an ideal wedding venue? Could it be the perfect place to host your next family reunion or picnic? What design characteristics should this important new addition to QCC campus include?

Now that the funding is in place for this pavilion, we are looking to the community and the Community Centre's user groups to help us ensure it is built to suit our island community's needs.

From now until March 1st, we have opened a website to gather input from the community which will help us shape the future of the Community Centre, its campus as well as the form of our new Pavillion.

We have established an online survey to capture the community's input. You will also receive a postcard invitation to participate in this consultation. Please feel free to visit [www.YourCommunityCentre.ca](http://www.YourCommunityCentre.ca) and answer our short questionnaire. For those who prefer to submit their perspective in written form, please feel free to come by the Community Centre and we will have a hard copy available for you.

After we have received all the written submissions, we will then organise an in-person open house to further the ideas that the public provides.

Thank you in advance for taking 10 minutes or so and by sharing your ideas with us!

Media Contact Marc Doll

Vice Chair Quadra Island Recreation Society  
Chair, QIRS Expansion Committee

THE QUADRA ISLAND GARDEN CLUB PRESENTS

## Propagation: Seed, Division, Cuttings, Rhizomes, and Runners

With Dorothee Kieser  
Monday, March 9th, 7 to 9pm  
At the Quadra Community Centre

**THE QUADRA ISLAND GARDEN CLUB**

welcomes Dorothee Kieser from the Vancouver Island Master Gardener Association. Come and learn all the best practices when it comes to propagating plants from your garden. Knowing how to propagate is a wonderful way to expand your garden with your favourite plants or share them with your friends. It's also a great way to produce plants to sell at our Annual Plant Sale on April 25th! Dorothee will be sharing her immense knowledge in a PowerPoint as well as doing demos and answering all your questions.

### ABOUT DOROTHEE KIESER

Upon retirement as a biologist, Dorothee wholeheartedly embraced gardening. She maintains her own large garden, growing rhododendrons, fruit trees, and vegetables. Being a Certified Master Gardener, she teaches practical gardening through hands-on and theoretical sessions. She is currently President of the Nanaimo Rhododendron Society and the Lead Mentor of the Vancouver Island Master Gardeners Association. She also regularly volunteers at the Nanaimo Community Garden and at Milner Gardens and Woodlands.

The Quadra Island Garden Club meets monthly to exchange gardening knowledge, promote sustainable and productive practices, and foster friendship among island gardeners.

Everyone welcome! Members FREE, Guests \$5. Come early to renew your annual membership (Individuals \$20/Family \$30), chat with fellow gardeners, and enjoy some coffee/tea and goodies. Doors open at 6:30pm. Stay to the end for your chance to win a great door prize!

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## QICSS AGM Notice

**QUADRA ISLAND** Conservancy and Stewardship Society is holding its 35th Annual General Meeting on Saturday, March 14 at 1pm in the Green room of the Quadra Community Centre. We will give an update on our activities of the last year which include: Covenant inspections, Native Plant Greenhouse, Morte Lake property, Fundraising, as well as other conservation topics. This will be followed by the election of stewards. There is room for 2 new stewards this year. This is an opportunity to find out what we do and what we would like to do. Everybody is welcome. Contact Michael Mascall at 250 202 1968 for any further information, or go to [info@qiconservancy.ca](mailto:info@qiconservancy.ca)

## At The Legion

**SATURDAY FEB 21** @ 7pm, Bingo; @ 5pm The Clove joins us with their delicious Beef Dip! 4:30 to 7:30pm.

**FRIDAY FEB 27** @ 8pm, it's Karaoke, with not only True hosting but Audrey is also going to be joining in! Sure to be a blast.

**SATURDAY MARCH 7** 8:30pm, B.A. Johnson Spectacular Spectacle, returning to the Legion for a night of comedic delights. Joining him is Pooched, The Swamp City Bog Goblins ,also guest appearances by Grimace, Noface and Quadra Island's Mystical Beast, Jethro Paul! \$20 at the door

**SATURDAY MARCH 7** @ 5pm, Yellow Rose will be serving up their awesome Pulled Pork Sandwiches!

**FRIDAY MARCH 13** Jeremy Walsh, details coming soon

**SUNDAY MARCH 29** Pool Tournament \$20! Register with Ira Sanderson, email [ira@greenmail.net](mailto:ira@greenmail.net)

## Quadra Island Land Trust Society AGM

**THE QUADRA ISLAND** Community Land Trust Society invites all interested community residents to attend our first Annual General Meeting on Saturday March 21, 2026 at 1pm in Room 2, Quadra Island Community Centre, 970 West Road.

Join us to hear updates, elect board members and help shape the next phase of our community-led land stewardship and climate resilience initiatives on Quadra Island.

Everyone is welcome. For more information please contact QILTS Secretary Claire Heffernan Call/Text 250 880 0791, email [islandhome2015@gmail.com](mailto:islandhome2015@gmail.com)

## Quadra Island Cat Rescue

**QUADRA CAT RESCUE** offers a lower-cost spay-neuter program for people needing assistance to get cats or kittens fixed.

Please complete the form at: [quadracatrescue.com/spay-neuter/](http://quadracatrescue.com/spay-neuter/)

## Celebrate 40 years with CR Genealogy Society

**JOIN US** for a one-day, in-person seminar on Saturday, April 18, featuring this year's theme: Migration Trails.

We're excited to welcome four well-known Vancouver Island speakers and authors: Chief Wedlidi Speck, Vanessa Winn, Jeanette Taylor, and Dave Obee.

Your \$55 registration includes: A full day of engaging presentations, a catered luncheon, and door prize draws .

Seating is limited to 100 participants, so be sure to register early.

For full event details and online registration, visit: <https://www.crgenealogysociety.ca/>

You may also register in person at the CRGS library, located inside the Maritime Heritage Museum by the Pier.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

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Inspirations 

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### Important Information

#### Cortes Island Transfer Station

## February 9 - March 1

### Please DO NOT Bring Items to the Transfer Station

### Use the Curbside Pickup

During the BC Ferries closure at Heriot Bay and Whaletown terminals Comox Strathcona Waste Management (CSWM) will not be transporting waste and recycling off Cortes Island.

CSWM is requesting that Cortes Island residents limit visits to the transfer station until ferry service resumes. We appreciate the cooperation and support of the community.

## Thank You!



For more information visit: [cswm.ca](http://cswm.ca)

# Regional Director's Report

Hello,

This report is a round-up of info on road concerns & related advocacy, SRD committee news, and kelp.

But first, my thoughts are with the Tumbler Ridge community as they reel from an unconscionable tragedy. My heart breaks for the lives lost, the lives irrevocably changed, and the community in shock and suffering. If you or loved ones are struggling, there are supports available: reach out to the Mental Health Crisis Line at 310-6789 or the Kids Help Phone at 1-800-668-6868.

## ROAD CONCERNS & AN ADVOCACY UPDATE

As you likely know, roads in electoral areas are managed by the Province through the Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MoTT). However, folks often write or call me with their road concerns which I share with MoTT.

At my recent meeting with our MoTT Area Manager we discussed a wide-ranging list of community concerns, and I advocated for improvements based on community feedback. Our conversation included ferry traffic congestion challenges, crosswalks, Rudder Road, Valdes Road, better signage advising visitors of what to expect on island roads, and road speeds.

Road speeds are the issue I hear about most frequently, and consideration of area-specific changes I've repeatedly raised. Specifically, there has been community concern that the 60km/hr 'island speed' is unsafe in QCove, Heriot Bay, and the road from Heriot Bay to Rebecca Spit, areas which experience a lot of busy-ness and human activity. So, I'm happy to share that there is a speed assessment underway and an engineer is assigned to the project. YES! Quadra Island road speeds are being reviewed, and updates will 'potentially' be in place in 2026.

FYI, sometimes there are road issues which are more of a maintenance nature, like deep shoulder drops or cavernous potholes. Mainroad North Island Contracting has the contract to manage local roads, and they have a toll-free number for reporting maintenance concerns: 1-877-215-7122.

## SRD FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS

After a hiatus, the SRD recently filled the role of First Nations Liaison, welcoming Liz Carter of the Kwikwasut'inuxw Haxwa'mis First Nation to the SRD. This role is important to advance the SRD's strategic priorities of building relationships with First Nation communities, exploring areas of shared focus & interest, and taking meaningful steps toward reconciliation. It's super to have someone with governance experience filling this role.

## SRD COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The Strathcona Regional District has several committees which provide recommendations to the Board, include the Electoral Area Services

Committee and the First Nations Relations Committee (both which I sit on). I'm grateful to my Board colleagues for electing me vice-chair of both these committees this year.

## NVI MARINE PLANNING PARTNERSHIP

In addition to Board committees, the Board appoints Directors to external agencies. I represent the SRD at the North Vancouver Island Advisory Committee of the Marine Planning Partnership (MaPP). MaPP is a provincial initiative in collaboration with First Nations which makes recommendations for developing & maintaining resilient marine ecosystems and sustainable economies for North Vancouver Island communities.

Kelp species are widely considered 'indicator species', sentinels of the health of the overall marine environment. If kelp aren't thriving, the stressors impacting kelp are likely also impacting other species and habitats in the marine environment and, in turn, coastal communities. So, monitoring indicator species like kelp is an important part of planning and implementing ecosystem-based management (one of MaPP's goals).

There is a very interesting storymap about kelp monitoring which shows where & how it's being monitored, partners in the project (including Hakai Institute), and how data is being used to inform kelp harvest licensing & management decisions. If you (like me) love kelp, you can dive into the storymap here: [bit.ly/KelpStory](http://bit.ly/KelpStory)

## CONNECT

You're welcome to connect with me with questions or concerns: email [RMawhinney@srd.ca](mailto:RMawhinney@srd.ca), or call 250.203.2468. Visit [RobynMawhinney.ca](http://RobynMawhinney.ca) for links to helpful community resources and 'back issues' of Director Reports. Visit [srd.ca/government/agendas-minutes](http://srd.ca/government/agendas-minutes) to keep up to date on SRD governance happenings.

*Until next time,*

*Respectfully,*

*Robyn Mawhinney*

## NEXT DISCOVERY ISLANDER DEADLINE

Monday, March 2 @ 7pm  
For publication Friday, March 6

## DI Submissions

The Discovery Islander welcomes written submissions of interest to the Discovery Islands community: news, events, opinion and musings are fair game.

In the interests of efficiency please email your text and or photos to:  
[news@discoveryislands.ca](mailto:news@discoveryislands.ca)



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**Cliff Mooney**  
ELECTRICAL

250-895-9020

LEL 0202893 [mooneycliff@gmail.com](mailto:mooneycliff@gmail.com)

## The Devil is in the Details

**AFTER READING** last issue's Regional Director's Report, I feel it is necessary to expand on some of the details that were not mentioned but will have an impact on all residents of Area C.

The main topic mentioned in the section I am referring to is the Regional Grants in Aid service.

Grants in Aid have been historically, and in the Local Government Act, basically the only 'discretionary' funding power that an Electoral Area Director has at her/his disposal. It is intended for the Director to, through an application process, be able to help out in a small way groups that benefit the entire community through their work. There is a cap set on how much money can be requisitioned for this service, which I believe is still at \$0.10 cents per thousand dollars of assessment. This is not a lot of money. During my term it was usually in the neighbourhood of \$25,000 per year. Any excess (which there usually was) would be carried over into the next year. So in that year it would only be topped up to \$25,000, keeping taxes lower. The Grants were used for groups on the island, and in Campbell River (CR), that many people benefited from: the Children's Centre, the Senior's Tourism booth, the Conservancy, the Museum at Cape Mudge, the Canoe that was carved and the carving shed at Cape Mudge, the Cat Rescue group, the Surge Narrows Community Association, the Stuart Island Community Association (Salmon enhancement of Phillips River), our Salmon Enhancement Society Educational Centre, The Museum at CR, the Maritime Heritage Centre for a specific event, the Beacon Club, the Women's Centre, the Ann Elmore House, the CR Art Gallery and others. All of these benefited the residents of Area C and provided employment for some. The Grants were small but were greatly appreciated.

We are told by our Director that a Regional Grants in Aid program is being considered by the Board. This of course will mean that the entire Board will decide if it will be adopted. In other words it will be since the majority of the votes are in CR as in all things. So our opinion will not matter and our vote won't count. So, why am I concerned about this? Well, the answer would be that if it is a regional service, it will take in the grant requests for all of the SRD area. CR would have the most requests for Grants and since the Board would decide who would get the Grants that are put forward for consideration, that vote would always be weighted in the favour of CR and those grants would rise to the top of the list for approval, leaving ours further down the list. When the allotted money (which would be decided by the Board vote) ran out, that would be it. The rest of the applicants would be out of luck.

This is why the Regional concept does not work as long as the weighted vote is in the favour of CR. The even scarier part is that they will be making it a Service Bylaw, having far less flexibility than a policy of the Board. So whatever they decided would be law.

The mention of Regional service has been made many times in past reports or in the Board minutes. They would include, but not be limited to, the following: Regional Economic Development, Regional Tourism, Regional Housing, Regional Transportation, Regional Recreation (say goodbye to our autonomy in OUR Community Centre).

Each of these would be another line item on your tax bill and there would be very little likelihood that we would see any benefit from any one of the Regional Services. The tax rate would be set by the SRD Board once again, controlled by the vote of CR.

These details have not been shared with you but you need to know what the term 'Regional' does to the meaning of each service, no matter how good the concept may sound. The full story is not a pretty one.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Jim Abram, Former Director of Discovery Islands-Mainland Inlets, Area C*

## Wei Wai Kum Acquires Majority Stake in CR Whale Watching and Wildcoast Adventures

**THE WEI WAI KUM** First Nation is proud to announce the acquisition of a majority interest in the Campbell River Adventure Tours Group which includes Campbell River Whale Watching and Wildcoast Adventures. This marks the transition of one of the region's premier adventure providers into an Indigenous-owned business.

While the Wei Wai Kum First Nation assumes majority ownership, current owners Stephen Gabrysh and Tyler Bruce remain on as partners, continuing their leadership roles in daily operations. This ensures business continuity and the retention of the deep operational expertise that has made the companies industry leaders, while establishing a clear pathway for the Nation to assume full ownership in the near future.



For the Wei Wai Kum First Nation, this acquisition is a major step in a broader economic sovereignty strategy. It secures a robust revenue stream to support community programs, infrastructure, and social services. More importantly, by owning a leading marine ecotourism operator, the Nation reasserts its presence and guardianship over its traditional marine territory, ensuring operations align with Indigenous stewardship values.

"This partnership is about more than business; it is about the stewardship of our waters and the future of our people," says Chief Chris Roberts of the Wei Wai Kum First Nation. "Stephen and Tyler have built an incredible operation that has always operated with a deep respect for this territory. By bringing these companies under Wei Wai Kum ownership, we are expanding our presence in the marine sector, creating career pathways for our youth, and ensuring that our history and culture will be shared authentically with the world."

For Campbell River Whale Watching and Wildcoast Adventures, this partnership offers the ability to develop an immersive, culturally grounded guest experience. The integration of authentic Wei Wai Kum history and storytelling into future tours meets the growing global demand for meaningful indigenous tourism experiences.

"We are incredibly proud to partner with the Wei Wai Kum First Nation," says Gabrysh. "This evolution allows us to deepen the connection our guests have with this land. It ensures that the business remains locally rooted, stable, and committed to success for generations to come."

This transaction serves as a tangible example of reconciliation in action, demonstrating how successful private enterprises can transition into Indigenous ownership to benefit the entire regional economy. It solidifies Campbell River's reputation as a global destination for Indigenous marine tourism and signals a market shift toward regenerative tourism - where commercial success is tied directly to ecosystem health and community prosperity.

# The Architecture of Deception: Navigating Digital Disinformation

## (Part 2 of 2)

**I OFTEN FIND MYSELF** challenging friends and acquaintances on social media when they post memes or articles that seem suspicious. I'll ask a few simple questions: "Where did you get that information?" or "Did you fact-check this?"

Scrolling and sharing memes may seem harmless, but disinformation can cause real damage. It isn't always the result of misunderstanding — it is often created deliberately with harmful goals. As mentioned earlier, false information can deepen political division, manipulate markets, damage reputations, or undermine trust in medicine and science.

To keep your news feed reliable, you must move beyond passive scrolling and start actively verifying what you see. This means combining helpful tools with a healthy dose of skepticism.

### THE TOOLKIT OF THE MODERN FACT-CHECKER

We've reached the point where "seeing is believing" no longer applies. Digital tools can help you check content that feels off.

#### 1. Spotting AI Text and Video

When a headline or video seems suspicious, scan it. Tools like GPTZero.me (text) or Sensify.ai (deepfakes) act like digital forensic assistants.

- Copy and paste suspicious text or video into the tool.
- They search for digital irregularities humans might miss.
- The result is an authenticity score indicating whether content may be AI-generated.

#### 2. Tracing the Source (Reverse Search)

Sometimes media isn't fake — it's taken out of context.

- Google Lens: Reverse-search images to see when and where they first appeared.
- InVID: Break videos into frames to check their original source.

#### 3. The Fact-Checker's Quick Checklist

Before sharing, ask:

- Provenance: Where did this actually come from? (Use Google Lens/InVID).
- Pattern: Does the text sound robotic or repetitive? (Use GPTZero).
- Consistency: Are the shadows or skin textures in the video slightly blurry? (Use Video Authenticator).

Using these steps turns you from a passive scroller into an informed investigator.

### MASTERY OF LATERAL READING

Technology is a great shield, but your best weapon is the habit of lateral reading. Most people read 'vertically' — they stay on one website and try to guess if it's honest by looking at the 'About Us' page or how professional the design looks. But in 2026, scammers can make a fake site look perfect in just minutes.

Lateral reading means you leave the suspicious page immediately to do your own research. If a story feels "off," it probably is. Open new tabs to see if trusted news outlets or the International Fact-Checking Network ([www.poynter.org/ifcn](http://www.poynter.org/ifcn)) are reporting the same thing. If only one unknown site has the story, it's likely a plant.

### VERIFYING THE 'WHO' AND THE 'WHY'

Look beyond the message to the motive. Ask:

- Who is paying for this? Use sites like OpenSecrets.org or Media Bias/Fact Check to see if a news site is funded by a political group or a foreign government.

- Do they give people a "Right to Reply"? Real news stories always try to get a comment from the person or group they are criticizing. If a post attacks someone without mentioning their side of the story, it's a major red flag.
- Is it an 'Outrage Loop'? If a post is designed to make you feel instant anger or fear, it was likely made to go viral, not to inform you.
- Does the author allow for questions? People who are truly sharing knowledge are usually open to discussion. If a source claims they are the only ones telling the truth, be very careful.

Information meant to inflame emotions spreads quickly — but speed is not accuracy.

### BUILDING A RESILIENT FEED

Algorithms tend to reinforce what we already believe. To avoid echo chambers, follow credible voices with differing perspectives. A wider range of viewpoints helps paint a clearer picture.

Checking information isn't about finding one perfect source — it's about cross-referencing reality. Truth today is something we actively assemble.

### PRACTICAL FACT-CHECKING HABITS

Here are simple steps anyone can use when evaluating online information:

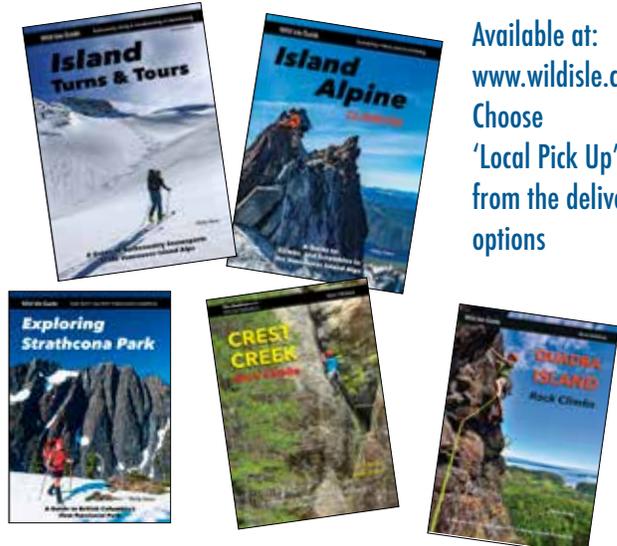
- Check the date — old stories are often reposted as new.
- Read past the headline — titles can exaggerate.
- Look for original sources.
- Search the claim with the words 'fact check.'
- Compare multiple reputable outlets.
- Notice emotional manipulation.
- Consult trusted fact-checking organizations.
- Ask a librarian, educator, or expert if unsure.

As always, I welcome feedback on my articles and am happy to help anyone learning to navigate the digital world. I can be reached at [dave@quadraliteracy.com](mailto:dave@quadraliteracy.com).

For general literacy questions or help finding an affordable device, contact Kathie at [kathie@quadraliteracy.com](mailto:kathie@quadraliteracy.com).

*Dave Tomblin*

## Your Guides to Island Adventure



Available at:  
[www.wildisle.ca](http://www.wildisle.ca)  
Choose  
'Local Pick Up'  
from the delivery  
options

## Update from the Philippines

**THE FOLLOWING** is a recently received letter from Zeah Mae Paclay, the youngest of the two sponsored students from the northern Philippines whose educations Quadra Islanders have been supporting over the past years through the Giant Garage Sale. She updates us as to her current situation and thoughts as she moves into the new year.

Dear Sponsors of Quadra Island Community,  
Hello my beloved sponsor! How are you? I hope you are doing well at your place in Canada. As of now, we are experiencing cold weather here. I want you to know that my family and I are always praying that you are fine and healthy. I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. It's always a pleasure to connect with you and share updates on my life.

I wanted to let you know the reason why you haven't heard from me for a while. This past year was very tough academically, to be honest. I felt very overwhelmed at times, and it has affected my studies more than I would like to admit. So I ended up taking a break from my studies during the past year. It was a tough decision, but I felt I needed to step back and recharge. There had been moments when I felt like I was not meeting expectations which was very stressful. This was affecting my mental health and my passion for learning, so I needed to take a break.

Now I have been taking time to focus on myself and figure out how to approach my studies in a healthier way. It has been a journey and I am hoping that this break helps me to come back stronger. I have decided to continue my studies this coming school year! I am looking forward to learning new things, meeting new people and working towards achieving my goals. It is a fresh start and I'm feeling positive about the opportunities ahead. I would love to catch up and share more of my plans with you.

I also wanted to share with you how I celebrated Christmas and the New Year with my family and relatives. My family celebrated a simple Christmas. We just cooked sticky rice and pancit noodles. My parents told us that the importance of celebrating Christmas is having complete family members together and especially everyone having good health. It was so special to spend quality time with my family and focus on what really matters. This made the holiday more memorable. We cherished each moment together sharing laughter. We had a blast together!

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt thanks for the cash gift you gave me for Christmas. It really means a lot to me and my family and I am so grateful for your generosity and your kindness. As we move into this new year, I am excited about the possibilities ahead and appreciate your continued support. Wishing you a year filled with laughter and cherished moments with your loved ones. May God bless you and your families.

*Submitted by Carol Foort*



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The Society gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.

## The Unseen Chapter After Death

*This article was written by Reena Lazaar from Willow End-of-Life Educators, summarized by Margaret Verschuur*



**WHEN SOMEONE DIES**, this is how it often unfolds: A number is called. Often it's a funeral provider the family already knows, or the one the hospital suggests. Someone arrives. Your person is taken away. And then – silence.

For many families, the next time they see their loved one is either in a casket at a funeral or when cremated remains are returned in an urn or a simple cardboard box. What happens in between is rarely explained, rarely questioned, and often assumed to be fixed and unavoidable.

But it isn't.

There is an entire middle chapter after death that most of us never see, and it is full of choices.

The part we're not taught to think about

In the early days of shock and grief, families are often overwhelmed. Decisions come quickly, and unfamiliar systems take over. Questions about after-death care rarely surface – not because they don't matter, but because no one tells us they exist.

And yet, this unseen time can include choices about how your body is handled and by whom, how long loved ones can stay with you, who is present, what rituals are possible, how natural changes are supported, and how much involvement family and community can have.

When these decisions are left unexamined, they're usually made by default, according to timelines, traditions, or institutional routines that may not reflect who you are or what matters to you. This is where so much missed opportunity lives.

Why would you want to know?

First: because you can have a say.

Understanding what's possible opens the door to meaningful choice. Even small preferences, named ahead of time, can shape a gentler and more personal experience.

Second: because clarity often brings peace.

For many people, learning what happens after death doesn't create fear – it creates calm. I recently supported a woman who wanted to understand every detail of what would happen to her body. Not out of anxiety, but because knowing brought her a deep sense of peace. That knowledge allowed her family to make thoughtful, unconventional, and deeply meaningful choices.

Third: because it offers an opportunity for connection and love.

Talking with family, friends, and care providers about your wishes can be an act of tenderness. These conversations often create closeness, trust, and a shared sense of purpose during a time that can otherwise feel overwhelming.

And finally: because it often leads to a better goodbye.

When after-death care reflects someone's values and beliefs, ceremonies tend to feel more honest, grounded, and personal. People leave feeling that the farewell truly reflected the life that was lived.

In a culture that often avoids conversations about death, choosing to look closely, ask questions, and speak openly is a quiet act of courage. By becoming more aware of what is possible, we give ourselves and those we love the gift of intention, care, and a goodbye that feels true.

*Margaret Verschuur*

# To SRD Planning Department

## The Ecological and Social Cost of Growth-Dependent Development in Area C and all of rural British Columbia

**I BROUGHT UP THE ISSUE** of having a thorough capacity study done for our OCP prior to moving forward on any of the topics. The following relates to that request. Please add it to that comment at the Settlement and Housing meeting.

I am writing to request urgent consideration of the ecological and social consequences of our current growth dependent economic model in British Columbia.

This submission should be considered in each of the groupings that you are looking at and presenting to the community. Please add it to each one as a submission.

Our prevailing development system assumes perpetual human population growth, consumption and land conversion. This model is incompatible with ecological limits and is destabilizing our environment and communities. Examples follow:

### 1. THE MEASURABLE ECOLOGICAL COST OF ONE ADDITIONAL RESIDENT

Every additional resident carries a measurable ecological footprint. Using Canadian averages:

- CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions: ~14–15 tonnes per person per year
- Electricity Use: ~14,000–16,000 kWh per person annually
- Water Use: ~220–250 litres per person per day 80,000–90,000 annually.)
- Solid Waste: ~700–800 kg per person annually.
- Land Footprint: When accounting for housing, roads, food systems, energy infrastructure and imported goods, the average Canadian ecological footprint exceeds 7 global hectares per person far beyond the Earth's per-capita regenerative capacity. Growth multiplies these impacts. (You can do the math for a community of our size – 3,000+/- ) A city that grows by 10,000 residents does not simply add housing demand, it adds:
  - 140,000+ tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> annually
  - Hundreds of millions of litres of additional water demand
  - Massive increases in land clearing, wildlife fragmentation, and infrastructure expansion

### 2. LAND CONVERSION AND BIODIVERSITY LOSS

From once small, artistic communities like Tofino, the Gulf Islands, the Discovery Islands, Cowichan Valley, and Tsawwassen to

important agricultural areas in the Vancouver area like Delta:

- Forests are cleared for speculative development.
- Mature trees are removed despite their irreplaceable carbon sequestration capacity.
- Wildlife corridors are fragmented.
- Shorelines are hardened.
- Wetlands are filled or degraded.

Each condominium project may appear small, but cumulatively these developments dismantle complex ecosystems built over centuries.

British Columbia's natural landscapes are not vacant lots: They are functioning carbon sinks, water filters, biodiversity reservoirs, and climate stabilizers.

### 3. THE GROWTH • SPECULATION • DISPLACEMENT CYCLE

A secondary but equally destructive cost is social displacement.

Historically, artists, musicians, gardeners, small scale builders, and community minded residents pioneer and steward emerging communities. These residents:

- Restore heritage buildings.
- Create cultural identity.
- Build local food networks.
- Volunteer.
- Strengthen social cohesion.

Once a community becomes desirable, speculative capital enters:

1. Land is purchased at scale.
2. Property values rise rapidly.
3. Taxes increase.
4. Rents escalate.
5. Long-term residents are displaced.

The result is not “vibrant growth.” It is cultural erasure and social fragmentation.

I spent 35 years of my life as Director for this area promoting “vibrant, controlled growth” and trying to preserve and protect the reasons we all moved here in the first place.

Communities that once reflected shared stewardship become investment portfolios.

Housing becomes an asset rather than shelter. Neighbourhoods become transient rather than important communities and safe places to have families.

This displacement carries measurable consequences:

- Increased commuting distances
- Loss of volunteer's and artists
- Mental health strain from housing insecurity
- Reduced local small businesses and diversity
- Collapse of intergenerational continuity and culture

### 4. THE MYTH OF INFINITE GROWTH

Our current municipal financing model often depends on:

- Development cost charges
- Property tax expansion

- Continuous real estate appreciation

This creates a structural incentive to approve perpetual development.

However, infinite growth on a finite land base (like our island) is mathematically impossible without:

- Ecological degradation
- Infrastructure strain
- Housing inflation
- Social destabilization

We must acknowledge ecological limits in planning frameworks.

### 5. POLICY REQUESTS

I respectfully request that decision makers consider:

1. Ecological Carrying Capacity Assessments Require local governments to calculate sustainable population thresholds based on water, energy, biodiversity, and waste infrastructure.
2. Full-Cost Accounting: Incorporate ecological cost per resident into planning approvals.
3. Speculation Controls: Strengthen vacancy taxes, anti-flipping measures, and limits on corporate residential ownership.
4. Heritage and Mature Tree Protection: Implement strict no-net-loss policies for mature trees and heritage structures within your jurisdiction, where possible
5. Community First Zoning Models that Support co-ops, land trusts, and non-market housing over investor driven condo models.
6. Growth Stabilization Targets: Explore policies that stabilize rather than accelerate population growth in ecologically sensitive regions.
6. A Call for Responsible Stewardship: British Columbia's landscapes are not commodities. They are living systems.

A responsible government must ask:

- How many residents can this ecosystem sustainably support?
- What is the true carbon and water cost of each approval?
- Who benefits from this development?
- Who is displaced?
- What is lost that cannot be replaced?

The current trajectory is not neutral development it, is the replacement of the most vulnerable.

We can choose differently: based on stewardship, stability, and community resilience rather than speculative expansion.

I urge you to reconsider policies that prioritize perpetual growth over long-term ecological and social well-being.

*Respectfully,*

*Jim Abram*

*Quathiaski Cove, Quadra Island*

*jimabram@xplornet.ca*

# Thoughts on Sustainable Tourism Engagement Plan

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the Chamber of Commerce for their recent (and ongoing work) to create sustainable tourism on Quadra Island (a very subjective topic to say the least).

I am encouraged to see a movement from just increasing tourism to our area to a plan that will support long-term economic vitality while protecting the environmental, social, and cultural values that make Quadra Island unique and a process that is not about attracting more visitors at any cost but instead, it will carefully consider local capacity (quotes from the release). Further quotes from the release that I applaud, "“This plan will be about balance — supporting livelihoods while respecting our environment, our capacity, and our quality of life.” These are all qualities that I wholeheartedly promoted during my 35 years as your SRD Director and worked on with Carol Ann during that time.

Jason Wilson, We Wai Kai Nation, said it well: “This planning process is an opportunity to work together to ensure tourism supports community wellbeing, honours culture, and protects the lands and waters that sustain us all.” These are great comments to hear considering the numerous RV and camping opportunities on the Island. This I’m sure will follow the principles stated above regarding capacity and bring the community into the discussions regarding capacity before any further development occurs. The RV/camping culture has a huge impact on the capacity of our ferries and other infrastructure. I am optimistic that discussions will take place at the planning stages of any developments with the We Wai Kai. The Chamber would be a good place to start.

The one group I do not see present in this discussion is the ever growing eco-tourism

sector. They are a vibrant and successful part of our island culture. I hope that someone from that community will join in with the Chamber to help inform the discussion.

Overall, I am heartened by the fact that the Chamber and the We Wai Kai are working together on this issue of importance to all of us as we continue through the process of revising our OCP. They are related. I look forward to the public forum in March and further updates in our local media.

Thanks to all involved for your work as volunteers.

*Respectfully,  
Jim Abram*

*Former Director for Discovery Islands-  
Mainland inlets, Area C*

## ISLAND FORUM In Reply...

**HI JIM,**

Thank you very much for your thoughtful letter and for taking the time to engage so deeply with this work. I truly appreciate your kind comments and your long-standing leadership on issues of community capacity, sustainability, and balance – principles that continue to guide this project.

As you noted, we are being very intentional about how this work unfolds. We have engaged Dr. Farhad Moghimehfar, BC Regional Innovation Chair of Tourism and Sustainable Rural Development at Vancouver Island University, to support the process. With his guidance, we have built a project database and developed a list of individuals and sectors that need to be at the table. This includes representation across tourism, infrastructure, community services, and stewardship.

Public input will be an important part of the process through surveys and broader engagement; however, the plan itself will be shaped by the industry and the community – by Quadra, for Quadra – with a strong emphasis on local knowledge, lived experience, and practical realities.

We also deliberately completed the Economic Diversification Plan first, as it provides the documented guidance and framework for this work (attached). It clearly identifies sustainable tourism as a priority that must be approached with care, collaboration, and respect for local capacity.

You raise an excellent point about the eco-tourism sector. We agree – it is a vibrant, innovative, and important part of Quadra Island’s economy and culture. Representation from that sector is both welcomed and needed, and we hope members of the eco-tourism community that are invited will join

# Ferry Schedule

Leave Quathiaski Cove	Leave Campbell River
6:05 am	6:30 am
<sup>†</sup> 7:00 am	<sup>†</sup> 7:30 am
<sup>††</sup> 7:30 am	<sup>††</sup> 8:00 am
8:00 am	8:30 am
8:30 am	9:00 am
9:00 am	<sup>**</sup> 9:30 am
9:30 am	10:00 am
10:00 am	10:30 am
10:30 am	11:00 am
11:00 am	11:30 am
11:30 am	12:40 pm
12:40 pm	1:05 pm
1:05 pm	1:30 pm
1:30 pm	1:55 pm
2:00 pm	2:30 pm
2:30 pm	3:00 pm
3:00 pm	3:30 pm
3:30 pm	4:00 pm
4:00 pm	4:30 pm
<sup>**</sup> 4:30 pm	5:00 pm
5:00 pm	5:25 pm
5:25 pm	5:50 pm
5:50 pm	6:15 pm
6:15 pm	6:45 pm
7:10 pm	8:10 pm
8:40 pm	9:05 pm
9:30 pm	9:55 pm
10:20 pm	10:40 pm
<sup>*</sup> 11:05 pm	<sup>*</sup> 11:30 pm

Schedule in effect September 3, 2024 to March 31, 2025 - last updated here 25 Sept, 2024  
<sup>\*</sup> Fridays & Saturdays only      <sup>\*\*</sup> Tuesdays: Dangerous Cargo, no passengers or cars  
<sup>†</sup> Daily Except Sundays      <sup>††</sup> Daily Except Saturdays and Sundays  
 Schedule may be subject to change check BCFerries.com for Service Notices

the process and help inform the discussions as the plan develops. I provided those leaders with a ‘save the date’ quite some time ago.

I am encouraged, as you are, by the collaboration between the Chamber and the We Wai Kai Nation, particularly as these conversations intersect with broader planning efforts, including the OCP review. We look forward to our first consultation in March and to continuing to share updates through local media as this work progresses.

Thank you again for your engagement and continued interest.

*Warm regards,*

*Carol Ann Terreberry*

*President*

*Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce*

*(On behalf of the Sustainable Tourism Plan Project Team)*

## SUPPORTING SUBSCRIPTION

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## THE QUADRA PROJECT

# A Matter of Degrees

**EFFORTS TO HIGHLIGHT** the significant dangers of global warming do not seem to be successful. Levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), the principal cause, have combined with methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) and nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) to speed the increase, despite decades of warnings. Global temperatures are rising, scientists are desperately trying to focus our attention on the seriousness of the problem, and despite international pledges, national targets, corporate promises and individual efforts, little of significance has been accomplished.

Significant strides in renewable energy sources have been made, however much of this added power is not replacing fossil fuels but supplementing them. The International Energy Agency has predicted that oil consumption could peak about 2030. We have made some progress by averting the worst of the worst future climate possibilities. But humanity has now surpassed the 1.5°C first target of temperature rise proposed in the Paris Agreement of 2015, and the pre-eminent American climate scientist, James Hansen, was prescient enough even a year ago to declare the 2.0°C target “dead.” (The Guardian Weekly, February 4, 2025).

We have been aware of the rising levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere from the pre-industrial level of 280 parts per million to the current level of 427.67 ppm as of February 5, 2026, up from 426.70 ppm in the previous year. (Readings after February 5 are “unavailable,” presumably because of constraints imposed by the Trump administration.) This rise in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> concentration correlates directly to the rise in global temperatures. But it has not significantly changed human behaviour. Something about the information has not caught our attention and not triggered the concerted effort that the situation demands. Not even the intensification of storms,

floods, droughts and weather anomalies have sparked the panic that should now be motivating all humanity with the unified urge to address this ominous problem. Is the information too disconnected from human experience? Or, perhaps, too abstract to mean anything?

Statistics can be lethal to insightful understanding. Comparing 280 ppm to 427.67 ppm does not convey much useful information to most people. Well, here's another way of considering the problem.

Earth's average temperature, without any

global warming from greenhouse gases, would be -18°C. That is the amount of warming that we get directly from sunshine. The comfortable zone for normal life comes from the greenhouse effect of radiant heat reflecting back to the Earth's surface. Before the Industrial Revolution, the temperature of the planet remained fairly stable at about 13.84°C. This 13.84°C is Earth's normal temperature. In the last half century it has increased rapidly. The global average temperature in 2020 was 15.11°C, a rise of 1.27°C, according to Climate Change Tracker. And the global temperature in 2025, according to Berkeley Earth, rose 1.44°C, bringing the Earth's global average to 15.28°C.

That statistic, alone, should be alarming because it is simple, clear, and we can feel and notice it as milder winters, hotter summers, later autumns and earlier springs. We can also experience it as more unusual weather. But that temperature increase of 1.44°C is the global average, calculated from the measurements at thousands of stations around the planet. Locally, however, some days are much hotter than usual, while others are much colder. A 1.0°C temperature increase raises humidity by 7% but causes a 14% increase in precipitation. But this phenomenon is not transferred directly to the local situation. So some places will get months of rain in hours, then may get no rain for months. The damaging cycle of floods, droughts and fires becomes more common. Agriculture becomes more difficult. The reduced temperature differential between the tropics and the poles slows the jet stream, causing exceptionally cold weather to wander farther south than

normal, or causing very hot southern weather to track to high northern latitudes. All weather can now potentially become abnormal. And a hotter planet means hotter oceans, which translates to storms becoming more intense more quickly, making predictions more difficult and warnings less timely.

Would it help to influence human awareness and change human behaviour if, instead of citing the concentrations of carbon dioxide, the global average temperature became the standard measure of warming on our beleaguered planet? Maybe the current numbers, compared with the previous year's numbers, would correlate more closely to our experience and elicit more concern. Advertise the pre-industrial 13.84°C with the current 15.28°C as a reminder of what is actually happening here on Earth.

We could post 15.28°C throughout 2026 in prominent places in every town and city so that everyone becomes aware of the number and what it means, perhaps as a reminder of the storms, floods, droughts, fires and weather extremes that might have affected us. Maybe designate the first day of February 2027 as an annual Earth's Temperature Day. Should the average global temperature come down or go up, then we would be duly instructed. Imagine all humanity expectantly waiting for that special announcement, as they presently do for the New Year's countdown.

We need an accurate and meaningful measure of what we are doing on this planet, and what the consequences will be. Our future is really just a matter of degrees.

*Ray Grigg for Sierra Quadra*

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PASSAGES  
Richard Baxter



**RICHARD BAXTER** passed away peacefully at home in Victoria, surrounded by the love of his family.

He lived on Quadra Island from 2007 - 2018 before relocating to Victoria.

He really missed Quadra Island and the many wonderful friends that we had there.

His obituary can be found on the Arbor Memorial website.

## Eulogy by Bob Hogarth who died January 23, 2026

I was born in Vancouver and raised there until grade one when we moved to Edmonton. In Vancouver Mom walked me to school and I made it back home before she did. Good memories of Uncle Charlie and Grandpa on moms side. My grandparents were from Wales. On Dad's side Grandpa Jim was from England. Both grandmothers had already died. My grandmother on dads side was Metis. She was a Bruce. Every generation back to the original Scottish York Boat Bruce married a native woman. I also had a step grandmother who gave me 2 more Uncles and an aunt. I am closest to Aunty Brenda.

Life was ok in Alberta. As a teenager I got into hunting. Dad would go out once a week after work hunting birds. Our family dog and I would go hunting with Dad. Uncle Harvey's gun from the states got me my first big game; a deer.

Was friends with Ronnie Johnson right out of high school. Hunting and fishing was my

life until I met Donna in 1994. I roamed from Saskatchewan to BC and from Montana to Texas with lots of stops in Colorado. Met lots of people through hunting; famous and not famous. From 1994 till 2024 fished a lot in the Salish Sea.

Had all kinds of jobs. One of the longest was at the water treatment plant for the University of Alberta for 19 and a half years. I worked at Walcan Seafood from 1997 till about 2017; from the bottom of boats to assistant Quality Control. Met lots more people.

Made some good fishing buddies. The best from our own neighbourhood. Lots of adventures.

**From Donna Hogarth:** I would just like to add that Bob was recognized by people many years later, and I came to know that out of the blue someone would be thrilled to see him from former people in the fishing industry to waitresses from famous restaurants. A founding member of our golf course, he enjoyed it!

Bob became a step father in 1995 to Luis and Maritza and grandfather to Wanita. He would be so proud of all they have done these past weeks. We had a great life.

## Many Thanks for Your Help!

Dr. Stephen Hughes for compassionate and excellent care during the last 9 days of Bob's life & also for many years prior.  
Mrs. Tina Hughes for figuring out what I was talking about and all the respectful care shown to me.

Luis, Maritza and Wanita who all helped fearlessly in many ways.  
Hughie Ross for daily help that is just slowing down.

Way to Go: Margaret and Tucker for getting us ready months ago and following up as needed; Joanna, Linda and Heather for their excellent work with us.

Betty Doak and family – what essential and

timely help!

Maureen Leech for one-day insurance.  
Our personal friend the nurse, and also all the VIHA nurses who were here.

Mignon (Mimi) Smienk, United Church Minister, for so much care; making and putting out posters, her message and conducting a wonderful service.

Mary Dennison and Threshold singers;  
Mary reading Steven Moore's poem and the Dennison family and Dirtco for the flowers!  
Betsy for reading Bob's Eulogy.

Jane Kane for painting the eagles on the extra cloth above Bob's shroud.

The Foorts for Rosemary and much more care the whole time.

The Pall Bearers: Mike and Neal from CR, Russel B, Hughie and Liam R Quadra and brother Bruce from Alberta.

The Eastlands, The Hartleys; Sherry & Carl Peterson, Brian and Emily Islandsapes; the Cemetery Crew and Vic, so easy to work with.

The Legion Auxiliary workers for sandwiches and goodies for relatives leaving Quadra right away. Amy at High Point Resort for all you did to help.

Carly and staff at Kameleon who made dinner for some of us.

What a wonderful community!

Love from Donna Hogarth



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## Heriot Bay Tides

DATE	TIME PDT	M.	FT.
<b>20</b> Fri	01:05	1.770	5.8
	07:45	4.927	16.2
	14:05	2.163	7.1
	19:54	4.322	14.2
<b>21</b> Sat	01:46	2.184	7.2
	08:10	4.874	16.0
	14:48	1.791	5.9
	21:00	4.257	14.0
<b>22</b> Sun	02:29	2.664	8.7
	08:35	4.786	15.7
	15:36	1.483	4.9
	22:16	4.199	13.8
<b>23</b> Mon	03:17	3.157	10.4
	09:03	4.677	15.3
	16:29	1.267	4.2
<b>24</b> Tue	23:50	4.203	13.8
	04:15	3.600	11.8
	09:37	4.553	14.9
<b>25</b> Wed	17:31	1.138	3.7
	01:35	4.324	14.2
	05:40	3.923	12.9
	10:22	4.418	14.5
<b>26</b> Thu	18:41	1.055	3.5
	02:58	4.517	14.8
	07:54	4.008	13.1
	11:32	4.289	14.1
<b>27</b> Fri	19:51	0.982	3.2
	03:55	4.689	15.4
	09:20	3.866	12.7
	13:03	4.223	13.9
<b>28</b> Sat	20:51	0.940	3.1
	04:37	4.810	15.8
	10:14	3.618	11.9
	14:21	4.230	13.9
<b>01</b> Sun	21:43	0.970	3.2
	05:11	4.883	16.0
	10:56	3.317	10.9
<b>02</b> Mon	15:30	4.273	14.0
	22:29	1.094	3.6
	05:41	4.916	16.1
	11:33	2.990	9.8
<b>03</b> Tue	16:34	4.326	14.2
	23:11	1.312	4.3
	06:08	4.912	16.1
	12:09	2.664	8.7
<b>04</b> Wed	17:32	4.369	14.3
	23:52	1.610	5.3
	06:34	4.870	16.0
	12:45	2.361	7.7
<b>05</b> Thu	18:26	4.385	14.4
	00:32	1.967	6.5
	06:59	4.790	15.7
	13:21	2.101	6.9
<b>06</b> Fri	19:17	4.362	14.3
	01:10	2.354	7.7
	07:23	4.675	15.3
	13:57	1.900	6.2
	20:10	4.299	14.1

# Discovery Islander Classifieds

## Home & Garden

### PRUNING, SOIL CARE, AND FABULOUS GARDENS AND ORCHARDS OF ALL SORTS

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## Help Wanted

### BOOKKEEPER PART TIME WEEKENDS

Heriot Bay Inn, send resume to [lois@heriotbayinn.com](mailto:lois@heriotbayinn.com)

### TAKU RESORT & MARINA

Taku Resort & Marina is seeking Docks & Maintenance, and Housekeeping Team Members  
**Position Overview:** We are looking for a hardworking and reliable Team Members to join our crew. These positions are perfect for someone who enjoys working outdoors, staying active, and taking pride in keeping the property clean, safe, and well-maintained.

The maintenance role includes a variety of tasks such as yardwork, general repairs, garbage and recycling collection, cleaning, basic maintenance as well as marina operations.

The Housekeeping position includes the cleaning of our beautiful guestrooms, public areas, and laundry.

[info@takuresort.com](mailto:info@takuresort.com)

**What we are seeking:** A strong work ethic, positive attitude, and willingness to learn and have fun.

**What We Offer:**

- Competitive hourly wage
- On-the-job training and learning opportunities
- A fun and supportive work environment
- Beautiful workplace on the coast, surrounded by nature.

**We'd love to hear from you!**

Send your resume and a short introduction about yourself to [info@takuresort.com](mailto:info@takuresort.com)

## Wellness

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## Services

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### NOTARY PUBLIC

Notary Public on Quadra located inside Sacred Pulse at Quathiaski Cove shops, we offer notarial services, personal planning documents wills, powers of attorney, representation agreements. Call 1.855.204.6277 toll-free email [info@quadranotary.ca](mailto:info@quadranotary.ca)

### QUADRA SEWIST & TAILOR

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