



Saltair District Residents Association
(SDRA)

www.sunnysaltair.ca

January 2023

What the SDRA is planning in 2023:

Some of the things we've been discussing are:

- Who will speak / present at our annual General Members Meeting in April
- Will we have another Yard Sale in June or July
- Can we organize a safety program for bicyclists this spring? (youngsters to seniors on e-bikes)
- Going back to partnering with our Regional Director on bursaries for two high school grads (deferred due to Covid)
- Following up on CVRD plans for managing water runoff in all our areas – resident initiatives?



What else should we be thinking about – what should our priorities be?

Please see **the survey** on the last page of this newsletter – print it, fill it out and mail it **OR** copy the text to your own document or email, fill it out and send it to us via email – deadline **February 28, 2023**

By mail: SDRA, 10885 Sea Vista Rd, Ladysmith, BC V9G 1Z8;

By email: milder@shaw.ca

We very much need your input – and those of your friends and neighbours in Saltair – please share!

Quick CVRD Update:

1. CVRD Tipping Fees – UP as of December 23, 2022

Due to increased costs of collecting, transporting and landfilling solid waste materials, the CVRD Board has approved an increase to tipping fees at its collection centres beginning January 1, 2023. While the minimum tipping fee for disposal of garbage at CVRD collection centres will not increase from the current cost of \$7.00, the cost per tonne will increase to \$192. The disposal of commercial organics (food waste) will increase to \$135 per tonne.

Construction and other business costs going up – roadside collection too? How about cost to transport to the U.S. to burn it? Stay tuned...

2. OCP Open House / Presentation

The next public meeting for feedback, questions and a presentation on the Official Community Plan – and for issues specific to Saltair – is an open house on Friday, February 10, 2023 at the Saltair Community Centre, South Oyster Road, from 4 pm – 8 pm (Presentation at 6 pm) Please post to your calendar!

3. **Volunteers Wanted for Commissions!**

Want to have a say in Parks issues? Help with land planning? The CVRD is asking check the links here:

<https://www.cvrld.ca/3130/Advisory-Planning-Commissions>

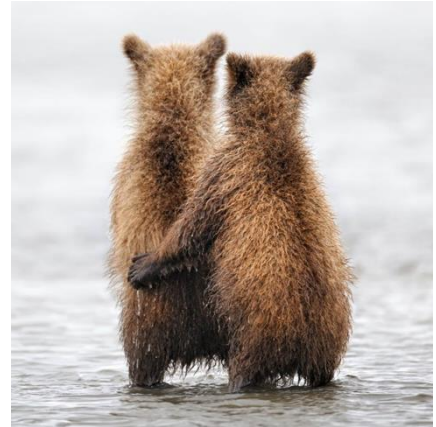
<https://www.cvrld.ca/276/Parks-Advisory-Commissions>

Did you know about - 49th Parallel Grocery receipts

The 49th Parallel grocery in Ladysmith donates \$25.00 for every \$1000.00-worth of clients' receipts that are handed in to the Ladysmith Resource Centre to the LRC. Similarly, they donate 1% of the value of grocery receipts that are handed into the Ladysmith Secondary School to them in support of their programs. In either case, close to the main office/receptionist there is a box for receipts. So many people tell the cashier not to give them their receipts! Please reconsider this approach and collect yours to drop off at either facility.

CARE about a BEAR?

There was bear sign before Christmas in Confederation Park (several small deposits of feces around the ballpark field) – observed about 4 in 3 weeks. Naturally, didn't see anything when there was a lot of snow. Last week, another small deposit noted – the dog is REALLY good at finding these. So baby bear is wandering again. No idea where s/he sleeps or why up so early – but keep the lids on your garbage or, even better, keep it in the garage or other closed place so the little guy doesn't become a nuisance and stick around.



Request from a Neighbour

Please don't put out poison for your mice or rat problem. They don't die on your property – they die on someone else's. And whether yours or a neighbour's property, potentially a pet could get at one – and die. Or a child could handle it – and become exceedingly ill. Or an eagle, hawk, racoon, or other predator could ingest it – and die. If you don't care about pets, wildlife, birds or any other collateral damage, there is a special place reserved for you in the outer ring of the seventh circle of hell. For the mouse/rat? Use a live trap and drown it if it hasn't already perished.

ANOTHER DATE FOR YOUR CALENDAR!

Saltair Seedy Sunday

Plants, Seeds, Masonbees, Seedlings,
Birdhouses, Feeders, VIMGA
Mastergardeners, Swap, Sell, & More!

Tables are: \$20 each Book at
info@saltaircommunitycentre.ca

Sunday, March 5th 10am to 2pm
Saltair Community Centre
3850 South Oyster School Road

Admission: Cash Donation for FoodBank



Gypsy Moths a Threat on the Island

From the Globe & Mail, Jan. 14, 23

The B.C. government is planning an insecticide spraying program this spring to target invasive spongy moths, formerly known as **gypsy moths**, primarily in the Greater Victoria area, Courtenay, Campbell River and Port Alberni. A record number of male spongy moths were trapped across B.C. last year.

The spraying is aimed at minimizing the risks posed to forests, farms, orchards and trees and to prevent moths from becoming permanently established. Spongy moth caterpillars defoliate many species including Garry oak, arbutus, fruit, nut and ornamentals.

The biological insecticide Foray 48B will be used; it is used in organic farming; has been approved for use in Canada since 1961 and poses no threats to people or animals.

Pictures: hatched caterpillars; a hatching in progress; third picture is an egg sack of a tent caterpillar (also invasive). Egg sacks can also appear on base, branches or trunks of trees, even on foundations; they look like beige spongy growths.

Whatever you do, **DON'T**

- let them get to the ground – eggs or caterpillars
- try home remedies – there are government approved sprays, if you can find them

DO:

- If on a flat surface, scrape the eggs into a bucket full of very soapy water and let them soak for a couple of days minimum
- Over a ground sheet, cut nests down, taking a good perimeter of branches as well, and either burn immediately or put in a garbage can full of very soapy water.
- If they're already spreading from the nest, pick up as many as you can find, dump in soapy water
- Report infestation to the Ministry of Environment

If want more information on what to do if you have an infestation – these are accredited sources:

<https://waterfordmi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/542/Locating-and-Destroying-Gypsy-Moth-Egg-Masses-PDF>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/pest-control-tips/gypsy-moths.html>

And there are whole rafts of YouTube videos – but some require a large dose of salt with them....



Emergency Preparedness – Opinion

This opinion is mine and mine alone. If you have a topic on which you'd like to express an opinion, or ideas to share, please do forward. Rules are simple: short (about 400 words or less), no expletives or insults.

Grants for Emergency Preparedness – Emergency Operations Centres & Training

Maybe for 2024, we should be ready to go for some of this – it is annual funding for regional government to get ready for a catastrophic event. We already know, unless you live on the north side of the lagoon bridge, that exiting this area could be either fraught or outright impossible. If we start now, maybe we could have a solid case for a grant next year! From past experience CVRD has little interest in supporting us

The funding streams include: • Disaster risk reduction - climate adaptation • **Emergency operations centres and training** • Emergency support services • Extreme heat risk mapping, assessment, and planning • Indigenous cultural safety and cultural humility training • Public notification and **evacuation route planning** • Volunteer and composite fire departments equipment and training.

In 2023, the maximum amount is \$30K per centre. I checked eligible expenses and did a blue-sky scenario. So, what about.....

- Establish an “emergency support” team of local residents and train them (BC program)
- Buy a used container or trailer and fill it with an emergency generator, BBQ, thermal blankets, a couple of fans, a frame tent – there are several “kit” descriptions that could be used as guidelines – and make the container secure from vandalism
- Maybe we could park it behind the snack shack at Confederation Park and modify the snack shack to be a “soup kitchen” or dispensary (Negotiation with the Parks Commission required)
- See if arrangements could be made with Ma Maison to be the auxiliary centre at that end of Saltair
- Negotiate with CVRD to plan and implement an alternative route out of Saltair – say, extend Rand Road to the intersection of Old Victoria Road and Chemainus road (with the intersection a traffic circle – thereby eliminating the sad eyesore on the south-west corner there).
- (Note: the alternative route should NOT be the ridiculous idea North Cowichan came up with)
- Is there an opportunity to partner with Thetis organizations to establish an emergency centre there?

I'll bet there are experts out there that could come up with all kinds of embellishments to the above that would be satisfactory to the CVRD and serve our residents.

Any and all feedback most welcome! Please reply by email to the sender. Writer: S. Miller

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED FILE FOR THE SURVEY – HELP US OUT AND FILL IT OUT!

Send via mail to: SDRA, 10885 Sea Vista Rd, Ladysmith, BC V9G 1Z8

By email: milder@shaw.ca