

# Saltair District Residents Association (SDRA)

www.sunnysaltair.ca

## February 2023

## **Coming in March**

## Saltair Seedy Sunday

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

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

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

Admission:Cash Donation for FoodBank

Don't forget **Seedy Sunday** at the Saltair Community Centre on March 5<sup>th</sup>!

The SDRA will have a table there with all manner of neat things – and we're looking for more to raise funds for this year's activities. If you have corms, tubers, bulbs, starter plants, or starter kits in excess of what you need, we'd love to redistribute them.

Stop by and see us – stop by and help out for a few minutes but whatever you do, come in to take part in this great community activity! Admission is a cash donation to the Food Bank.

See you there.....

## **COMING IN APRIL**

## Annual General Meeting 2023

Tentative date, pending confirmation of availability at the Saltair Community Centre, is **April 27**. Please reserve this evening in your calendar.

This will be for our membership – current or new – all residents from any of Saltair's many neighbourhoods are welcome to join. Bring your friends and neighbours!

As usual, we'll be asking our current members to renew their memberships and pay their dues.

But we've made a big change for this year: all NEW members who sign up this year will have their dues deferred to next year – first year free!

We're working on potential speakers and our agenda which will be detailed in the next newsletter.

We'll also be confirming June 17<sup>th</sup> as the date of this summer's



Okay, Ralph .... let me 'splain it you again. You're big. I'm little; BUT!!! you're dog. I'm cat ..... that makes me the boss. Got it ??

**Neighbourhood Yard Sale** So look for that announcement coming soon. As we did last year, the SDRA will collect the names of the streets where folks wish to take part and then we'll do the advertising and

## Quick Reminder: Please send in your survey

Copy attached with this newsletter. Open the document in WORD, and save it as a Word document – then fill it in and send it back to us attached by email (millder@shaw.ca) or mail it to SDRA at 10885 Seavista Rd Ladysmith BC V9G 1Z8

## **LOOKING for a LOGO**

We're thinking about a new logo – and here are some alternatives we've come up with. Below are the same logos in newsletter size and as letterhead size – and in this case, the latter does matter.

We're looking for feedback - PLEASE - what do you think?



## Cost of Chicken & Eggs?

https://www.theweathernetwork.com/en/news/nature/animals/bird-flu-continues-alarming-global-spread

In late 2021, experts <u>sounded the alarm</u> on the rapid spread of H5N1 or the avian flu. By April 2022, experts <u>warned</u> the virus was "rapidly becoming a global concern." Now, well into 2023, H5N1 continues to proliferate, with the recent detection of avian flu in mammals like foxes, otters, minks, and grizzly bears, according to recent reporting by <u>Agence France-Presse</u> (AFP).

Europe is in the midst of its worst H5N1 outbreak on record, while South and North America have been hard hit. In Canada, about 200 flocks encompassing roughly 3.5 million birds had been infected as of November 2022. Globally, tens of millions of birds have been culled due to infection or exposure. Migratory birds are responsible for some of the recent outbreaks, creating the potential for additional cases when birds return to Canada for the summer.

Bird flu can be fatal for some domesticated birds, including chickens, ducks, and turkeys. It is possible to transmit H5N1 to humans, but cases are rare. Experts say, H5N1 would have to mutate significantly to spread to humans.

**Risk to humans?** The current outbreak is not a risk to healthy people who are not in contact with infected birds.

Between 2003 and 2022, there have been 868 cases of human infection with the avian influenza virus reported from 21 countries, as per the World Health Organization.

**Precautions:** People with backyard chickens are advised to pay attention to signs of excessive thirst and decreased appetite in their flocks. Members of the public should avoid feeding wild birds by hand. Bird feeders should be regularly cleaned and maintained.

## **Hold out a Hand**

We haven't mentioned it in a little while, but Ukraine is entering yet another critical phase in its self-defence efforts against Russia – and there is no lack of need for help. If you have a little to spare, please donate through your favorite



(legitimate) charity. Here's a list of worthy organizations – some working on the front lines and others in support of citizens:

United24 Doctors Without Borders

Razom for Ukraine Project HOPE

Prytula Foundation International Rescue Committee

World Vision Heart to Heart International

International Medical Corps CARE International Save the Children Voices of Children

Action Against Hunger

## Some Climate Change Notes

#### Implementation of old growth recommendations underway (UBCM)

Work is underway by the Province of B.C., in partnership with First Nations, to implement the 14 recommendations identified in the Old Growth Strategic Review (OGSR), which will include the co-development of a Declaration on Ecosystem Health and Biodiversity by April 2023.

With the acceptance of all 14 OGSR recommendations, the Province has adopted a new, holistic approach to protect old growth forests that will result in the creation of the Declaration as well as an action plan. Both documents are to be codeveloped by the Province and First Nations, with input from a variety of interests including local governments.

Recognizing the significant impact that this new approach will have on BC local governments, specifically resource-dependent communities, UBCM Forum attendees encouraged the Province to follow up and directly engage with BC local governments. UBCM emphasized that the Province needs to hear from local government leaders on the approach, how it will affect their communities and its overall impact on land and resource management in their region.

### Building codes are out of date, inconsistent, and ill-prepared for climate change

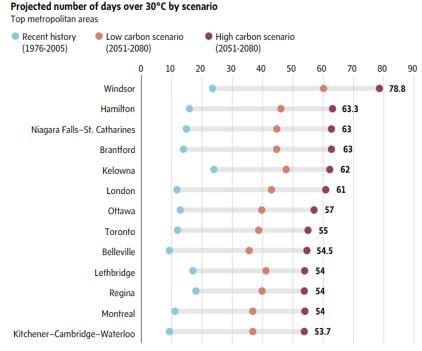
From: <a href="https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-houses-extreme-weather-building-codes/">https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-houses-extreme-weather-building-codes/</a> and <a href="https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-extreme-heat-wave-buildings/">https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-extreme-heat-wave-buildings/</a>

NOTE: building codes built into our "updated" OCP may not be prepared for climate change either. The statistics given are mostly for eastern Canada, but are indicative of western Canada as well.

Given that a changing climate will cause increasingly hotter weather, the NRC panel also brought up a new recommendation: that the 2024 edition of the B.C. building code requires new homes to have features that lessen the impact of extreme heat. This could be accomplished either through passive cooling, such as using sun-reflecting materials, or active cooling systems. "Current building codes in British Columbia do not consider cooling in the same manner as heating requirements. As building codes are revised they will need to reflect the latest climate science and consider cooling needs," the panel's report said.

That same observation could apply as well to construction rules in other parts of the country. A months-long Globe and Mail examination of building codes and bylaws across Canada shows that they lack provisions to help new buildings cope with the increasing rate and severity of hailstorms, floods, wildfires, tornadoes – and extreme temperatures.

The purpose of building codes is to set out the minimum standards to construct a safe building. Canada has a National Building Code, but it is only a template that provinces and territories use to enact their own binding codes. Some provinces adopt the national code in its entirety, while others add some modifications to draft their own rules. Municipalities can also have their own construction bylaws.



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

#### Green projects are boosting UK growth - CBI report

The transition to a greener economy is worth £71bn and has brought jobs and investment to parts of the UK experiencing industrial decline. Those are the key findings of a new report written by the Confederation of British Industry (CBI). Titled Mapping the Net Zero Economy, the report looked at the parts of the UK that have benefited most from policies aimed at curbing greenhouse gas emissions.

The drive to reach net zero emissions involves more than 20,000 businesses, it calculates and some 840,000 jobs are linked to sectors ranging from renewable energy to waste management.

https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-64440827

### Putin discusses Russia's claim to giant chunk of Arctic Ocean seabed

(and develop the oil reserves there, threatening everyone's arctic waters)
<a href="https://www.theglobeandmail.com/world/article-putin-discusses-russias-claim-to-giant-chunk-of-arctic-ocean-seabed-2/">https://www.theglobeandmail.com/world/article-putin-discusses-russias-claim-to-giant-chunk-of-arctic-ocean-seabed-2/</a> Globe & Mail, Jan. 28, 2023

President Vladimir Putin held talks on Friday with top security officials about the status of Russia's efforts to legally expand the outer boundaries of its continental shelf in the Arctic Ocean.

Russia in 2021 filed a submission to the United Nations seeking to redefine its continental shelf, which is believed to contain vast untapped reservoirs of oil and gas. Moscow said at the time it wanted much more Arctic seabed, a move that has implications for Canada and Denmark who have their own claims.

A continental shelf is defined under international law as an area of typically shallow water bordering a country's shoreline that is considered an extension of its territory, allowing the country to exploit its natural resources.

"We have several important issues today, colleagues, concerning both the domestic agenda and the issue of the outer limit of Russia's continental shelf in the Arctic Ocean. Let's get to work," the Kremlin website cited Putin as saying.

Russia's neighbours in the Arctic have become increasingly concerned about Moscow's ambitions in the strategically important region since it sent tens of thousands of troops into Ukraine in February last year.