



Saltair District Residents Association (SDRA)

www.sunnysaltair.ca

MARCH 2023

Kids Moving Back In?

Or maybe you have multiple generations with grandparents, parents and children all wishing to be together. (Look closely at that pic....)

One of the action items prioritized by residents was changing the bylaws in Area G/Saltair so that secondary suites could be developed to increase density, offer a financial resource for people who wish to age in place and, most importantly, ability for a homeowner to support an aging parent, a sibling or offspring who need temporary or more long-term assistance in the form of housing.

Will we have a referendum? Might we hear an update at this year's AGM!

Picture from the Comedy Wildlife Photography Awards



Agenda for the Annual General Meeting, April 27 – SCC – starting at 7 pm

Please put us on your calendar for April 27; members only vote on the new SDRA board – volunteers welcome! New members welcome! Come to the Saltair Community Centre a little early and have a chat....

Agenda is:

- a) Elections of new SDRA Board
- b) Business / Announcements
 - i. Presentation of Gavel – handmade, to honour past Board Members for their efforts
 - ii. Announce new fee structure (1st year free)
 - iii. Neighbourhood Yard Sale – June 18
 - iv. Survey Results – what are next steps to action them
 - v. Fundraising efforts to pay for events – ideas?
- c) Climate Crisis and Net-Zero Emissions Deceptions Seminar with Dr. Geoff Stron
- d) Update on CVRD questions – Jessie McClinton
- e) Questions from the floor

REQUEST from the Board: please send in your survey (another one attached to this newsletter) so we have lots of feedback to present at the AGM. And lots of direction on what we should focus on.....

Special Presentation at the AGM – Handmade Gavel by David Thomas



One of our past Presidents, David Thomas, who now lives in Nanaimo, has donated a considerable amount of time and effort to make the amazing gavel shown here. The gavel will be presented to the current SDRA as a commemorative symbol of all the time and effort contributed to the community by past boards and members.

All past board members are invited to attend this year's AGM. There are some folks who we may not be able to track down. If you know one of our previous directors, please give them a call and invite

them to attend, or direct them to our current President at 250-701-1065.

Growing Communities Fund – one time allocation for infrastructure (<https://news.gov.bc.ca/>)

Local governments are receiving a \$1-billion boost through one-time funding to address the needs of their growing communities. These grants will support projects that each community needs the most, like new affordable housing, child care facilities, road improvements or recreation centres. Grants will be distributed to municipalities and regional districts using a funding formula that reflects population size and growth. For regional districts:

The adjusted population method ensures that rural areas of regional districts receive greater per capita funding. This is in respect of the higher cost to provide services to rural areas.

Each regional district's allocation is the **sum of**:

- A flat funding amount of \$500,000;
- A funding amount based on the regional district's total population (population multiplied by approximately \$17);
- A funding amount based on the regional district's rural population (rural population multiplied by approximately \$30); and
- A funding amount based on the growth of the regional district's rural population, where applicable (rural population increase between 2016-2021 multiplied by \$1,000).

Will Saltair / Area G receive a part of this funding and will it be significant? This is another case where the relative size of Area G population within the CVRD works against us; would we be better amalgamating with (for example) Ladysmith?

Come On Out! – Easter Egg Hunt - Sunday, April 10

Saltair Centennial Park – up the path from the north end parking lot – **11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Sponsored by the SDRA, all Saltair residents invited - please see the Poster at the end of the newsletter

March is FRAUD AWARENESS MONTH

(From the Victoria News March 10: <https://www.vicnews.com/news>)

Coast Capital Savings issued a fraud alert to its members after a scam website duped members regarding a spoofing attempt: fraudsters replicated the real website with a fake in hopes of gaining members' account information.

Coast Capital advised members to not use Google or other search engines to locate Coast Capital's website as using the credit union's app or typing its verified URL directly into the browser are more secure ways to access online banking. If you do use Google for any reason, check that the URL that you get is the real one before you perform any transaction on the site.

The spoofing issue with scam websites is not specific financial institutions, but impacts all organizations with e-commerce functions. Always be observant and careful about what sites you visit and what information you share with them. The existence of a website does not mean you are looking at a real business.

For more tips from the Canadian Bankers Association, go to cba.ca/cyber-security-toolkit.

ALSO READ: [Island RCMP remind people to 'know the signs' of common frauds and scams](#)

In case you missed it: New Code of Conduct Implemented for Ship Anchorages

(Cowichan Valley Citizen – March 5) The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority's new code of conduct for ships anchoring at the port and other locations, including the Southern Gulf Islands and off Cowichan's coast was implemented on Feb. 15. A press release from the VFPA said the code of conduct is intended to help mitigate the impacts of ships at anchor on the environment and neighbouring communities, including from noise, light, and overside discharges. VFPA's statement said the code of conduct will be part of its Port Information Guide and will apply to all ships anchored at the Port of Vancouver. It will be strongly recommended for ships calling at anchorages managed under the Interim Protocol, which are temporary measures, put in place by Transport Canada in 2018 to help reduce the impacts of large vessels at anchor outside B.C.'s ports. There are 33 commercial vessel anchorages located throughout the Southern Gulf Islands, including six in operation in Cowichan Bay and six near Ladysmith and Saltair harbours.

NOTE: where in the documentation is there any mention of oversight and consequences of non-compliance? And what about those incidents of noise accompanied by the overwhelming stench of rotting garbage – an obvious dumping situation – where is the complaint process??

Ottawa to propose emergency order to protect northern spotted owl BC habitat



[WENDY STUECK](#) Globe & Mail FEBRUARY 25, 2023

Picture: Northern Spotted Owl Breeding Program (NSOBP) near Hope, B.C.

The federal Environment Minister has determined the northern spotted owl, a species already declared an endangered species, is facing imminent threats to its survival. There are only three – two from a breeding program – known to be in the wild in B.C. A fourth is [recovering](#) after it was injured, possibly by a train.

NOTE: A spotted owl recovery strategy was announced in

2006. In March, 2021, the B.C. government put in place temporary one-year logging deferrals for the Spuzzum and Utzlius watersheds. In March, 2022, those deferrals were renewed for another one-year period; however, no permanent protection of these watersheds is in place. Critical to its survival, the owls depend on the old growth corridors targeted for logging. A federal cabinet order is required to accomplish the requisite emergency order under SARA.

Good news, but a Band-Aid: BC has stopped all logging in the old growth forest discussed above – for 2 years. Think they can get their act together in that timeframe to make it permanent? And maybe extend it as first nations advocates wish?

More money invested in natural disaster preparations (UBCM)

B.C.'s government is dipping into its record [\\$5.7-billion surplus](#) to nearly double a fund that prepares First Nations and municipal governments for future natural disasters and mitigates risks these events pose to their communities.

Premier David Eby and Bowinn Ma, whose Emergency Management and Climate Readiness Ministry was created in December, announced Tuesday that the province was adding \$180-million to a community emergency preparedness fund. These funds will look ahead to try to avert worse outcomes from disasters made more frequent and severe by climate change, they said, and do not go toward the reconstruction in municipalities.

These funds will assist in the planning of evacuation routes as well as in flood mitigation infrastructure, like dikes, it will aid emergency operation centres and provide equipment and training for volunteer fire departments.

OPINION: Repeating a previous opinion piece: we should formulate our application for next year's funding to prepare Saltair for emergencies – have our own operation centre (because the CVRD isn't going to help), additional water retention/reservoir, emergency radio resources, and an evacuation route from Saltair to Highway 1 (avoiding the vulnerable lagoon bridge and the long trip back to the other side of Chemainus.)

Tales from Cowichan Valley Logging Roads

This one is worth reading all of: <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-what-ive-found-on-remote-logging-roads-speak-volumes-about-our-respect/> If you know of such incidents, report them. The only way they'll stop if people are held accountable. The excuse "everyone does it" is destroying an area we can't replace. Snippets from the article:

"I found plenty of crime scenes, including numerous sites where trees, including valuable western red cedars, had been poached." "The illegal harvest of wood is one issue. Leaving behind a mind-bending array of garbage – if one can rightly call it that – is quite another. At one illegal campsite, I harvested 119 beverage containers."

"Another time in a forest near Ladysmith, to the north, I reported an individual actively cutting wood. The town investigated, told me they caught him in the act, but let him go with a warning."

"I found the hide of a black bear discarded at one unlawful campsite. Another served as a low-budget, open-air slaughterhouse for black-tailed deer – a grisly pile of hooves, bones and pelts, right next to a toddler's portable high chair. Use of firearms is prohibited in the area."

"In North Cowichan the Municipal Forest Reserve falls within the coastal Douglas-fir forest – one of the most imperiled forest types in Canada, along with Southern Ontario's Carolinian forest. The Forests Ministry of British Columbia chairs a group of more than 40 conservation groups and all levels of government actively trying to save what's left of this forest type. North Cowichan is not among them – so far." Let's hope North Cowichan becomes more enlightened, and quickly.



EASTER EGG HUNT



April 9, 11am – 1pm



Come and enjoy an egg hunt, crafts &
refreshments

SALTAIR CENTENNIAL PARK

Sponsored by the Saltair District Residents Association (SDRA)

January 2023 SDR Survey - Priorities

For each of 4 questions below, rank the response choices. Add your own & rank them too.
 Complete and scan this text into an email and send to: saltairresidentsassoc@gmail.com OR
 Print and mail to: SDR Survey 10885 Sea Vista Rd, Ladysmith, BC V9G 1Z8
 Responses please by March 31, 2023

Topic / Query - choices in no particular order		Rank	Sub-rank
What makes Saltair special, that should be protected for the long-term:			
1	Diversity of geography - forest, farms, peoples, waterfront		
2	Low density of development		
3	Health of and access to parks and green areas		
4	Dark skies (no high street lights, downward-directed home lights)		
5	Community Centre		
6	Add your own:		
What should the SDR's short term focus centre on?			
1	Monitor CVRD: bylaws, spending, budgets, projects impacting Saltair		
2	Community education - on topics of interest to residents		
3	Local environmental initiatives (e.g. invasive species, green corridors)		
4	Roads & ditches		
5	Add your own:		
6	Add your own:		
7	Community activities - please rank each:		
	Picnics in the park - with music?		
	Neighbourhood Yard Sale		
	Group sport day - e.g. frisbee golf, badminton, scavenger hunt, etc)		
	Waterfront/wilderness nature hike		
	Movie night		
	Add your own:		
What should the SDR's longer term action plan include?			
1	Emergency Planning		
2	Bylaw changes to give residents options for housing, aging in Saltair		
3	Preservation of parks' integrity and health - expansion?		
4	Environmental protection, climate change mitigation and adaptation		
5	Water system upgrades, improved supply (climate change)		
6	Add your own:		
7	Add your own:		
Suggest strategies to engage more of the community, promote community spirit			
1	Regular (bi-monthly?) general meetings covering local issues		
2	Improve avenues of communication		
3	Environmental support (e.g. ivy & broom removal, tree planting, etc.)		
4	Find out what people would like to engage in - open house?		
5	Add your own		