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Surge Narrows Community Association AGM via ZOOM

Date and time: *Saturday October 3, 2020, 10:30 AM*

How to: *Ensure you have Zoom downloaded on your device prior to the meeting.*

Enter the meeting between 10:20 AM – 10:25 AM by control-clicking on: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81581892556?pwd=SDhHd0JXQ2JhKytleGV6UGdNVWNDdz09>

Local dial in phone number 778-907-2071

Meeting ID: 815 8189 2556

Passcode: K1x2u4

2

AGM – Agenda

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER – 10:30 AM

Logistics comments – Sheila Hollanders

AGENDA APPROVED & REVIEW MINUTES OF PRIOR YEAR AGM – September 13, 2019

Motion to approve the agenda, motion to approve prior year minutes

REPORTS

Report of the Chair – Sheila Hollanders

Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements – Ginny Vassal

Presentation & discussion of funds

Motion to approve the financial statements

Other reports

SNFA, introduction of David McDonald, Wilderness International



ELECTION OF DIRECTORS – 3 positions - Ginny Vassal (Secretary), Sheila Hollanders (Chairperson), Jim Mallis

Director nominations, followed by motion to close nominations

Vote or acclamation

NEW BUSINESS

Brief comments, Fred Schaub, Principal, Quadra & Surge Narrows School

Brief comments, David McDonald of Wilderness International

Updating SNCA's constitution (Rosie)

Presentation of Lot 302 Quilt

*Any other new business (see note below**)*

ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn

*Note ** Any new business requiring a motion: the full wording and context must be circulated to the entire membership a minimum of 14 days in advance. This is a new BC Societies requirement for non-face-to-face AGM meetings during COVID.*



CHAIRPERSON'S AGM REPORT 2020

INTRODUCTION:

Hello everyone! This certainly has been a wild year in the big wide world and I think we are feeling more aware than ever at how blessed and lucky we are to live in a place where the community works together to build and create local solutions to broader world challenges.

I'm going to do my best to keep this Report short and will focus on 3 areas:

Outlining SNCA achievements of the last fiscal year (July 31,2019 - July 31, 2020).

Looking forward to the future.

Thanking the many amazing volunteers who helped make SNCA's achievements possible.

SNCA BOARD ACHIEVEMENTS:

1. Maintenance and Improvements to Community facilities

In addition to regular maintenance and (dock/park) inspection duties, the Board:

Worked with Strathcona Regional District (SRD) staff to ensure that the beach work at Hoskyn Channel Dock was as effective as possible.

Built a new staircase and entrance way to the Surge Narrows Medical Clinic (because the School foyer may no longer be used).

2. Supported and Coordinated Community Events and Projects

Worked with the SRD and consultants to host the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP) event at Surge Narrows to make sure our unique community voice was included in this overarching regional Plan.

Liaised with SRD staff and consultants to develop a Fire Protection Plan and worked to ensure that the plan covered all of the Surge Narrows Community (not just Read Island as the original plan planned to cover).

Purchased a Zoom account to enable community groups such as the Surge Narrows Forestry Advisory Committee, Book Club, and SNCA Board to meet virtually. Zoom was also used to facilitate several "coffee houses" in the spring during the Covid lockdown, making it possible for .



community members to get together virtually to talk about Covid and how it was affecting the community and services

Built a website for SNCA (snca.ca) which gives information on what the organization does as well as providing useful information for the community (such as meeting dates, linking to the Message Board etc).

Coordinated a fundraising campaign to buy Lot 302 which raised over \$115 000, which included creating a GoFundMe site and conducting media interviews.

Purchased Lot 302 from the D'Altroys, to protect and preserve this mature mixed forest for future generations.

3. Communicated and Liaised on behalf of SNCA and the wider Surge Narrows Community

Sent out communications and updates regarding community events, via email to the community and via the monthly Current Newsletter.

The Forest Advisory Group (SNFA) met with local woodlot owners to discuss their plans on Read Island woodlots and ensure community voices are heard in decision making processes.

Applied for numerous grants and successfully received several (so far):

SRD delivers care (Grocery Delivery Program)

United Way (Aging in Home)

Campbell River Foundation (Firewood Program)

Island Health (Storytelling Project).

LOOKING AHEAD:

Supporting future community led Visioning and Planning events (which will feed into our future Official Community Plan (OCP) and bylaws, as well as any future development down at Surge Narrows (on the SRD property/Lease).

Working with the SRD on the development of the areas OCP and accompanying bylaws for this area, as well as the overarching ICSP, to ensure that the Surge Narrows Community voice is fully heard and included.

Liaising with SRD on development plans for the SRD's upland property and foreshore lease.

Making improvements in SNCA operations and policy:

Updating SNCA Directors Binders which provide Directors, SNCA members and other interested parties with information regarding SNCA policies, business and operational procedures.

Explore ways to make SNCA more effective/sustainable as an organization (creating a recruitment plan and strategy to ensure the SNCA Board has enough willing and capable Directors to keep the organization going into the future, as well as reviewing the SNCA Constitution to ensure it's in line with the current scope of SNCA business).

THANK YOU'S:

On behalf of the SNCA Board and all our entire Surge Narrows Community I would like to thank all the incredible volunteers who have helped make all the above projects come to life. It never ceases to amaze me how such a small group of people can do so much! Not to mention how people out here are willing to give their time to help make this community and place better for everyone.

Big thanks to everyone who helped make this past year so great! Special shout out to the following folks:

Steve and Kathy - for conducting the Hoskyn Winter inspections.

Kathy - for publishing the Current each month which helps keep members of our community connected.

Sally - for helping write several successful grant applications and for being a key person in administering these grants (Aging in Home, Firewood, Storytelling)

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David Cox (with support from Sally) - for continuing his work on improving elder care on the islands through the Aging in Place Program

Lise Bacheller - for providing Homecare and food to needy elderly folks

Judith - for organizing and coordinating the grocery ordering system (which has been so SO useful and critical in avoiding town trips during Covid)

Sally and Kathy - who helped Judith sort groceries rain or shine

Lannie, Coady, and Maya - who have worked hard to make SNFA a successful SNCA Committee

Doug and Rhonda Webber, and Renate - who helped ensure the Medical Clinic was clean and cozy last winter/spring.

Jim Abram - for working so hard on our community's behalf and representing our interests at the Regional District (and beyond!)

Merlin - for building the beautiful entry to the Medical Clinic

Rockford - for creating a great website for SNCA

Thanks to the entire Board for their community service

Goodbye and a huge thank you to Ginny who has served the Board for a decade, putting in countless hours to move so many community projects forward. There's really too many projects to name here that she has been involved with but Ginny was instrumental and a key force behind the Fire Prevention Plan, the purchase of Lot 302, and the successful application of the grants received thus far. On behalf of the Board and community I want to thank you Ginny for all your hard work!

CONCLUSION:

Let me now end by summarizing the main points of my Report:

The SNCA Board worked hard on many different projects and issues this past year. I'm especially proud of the fact that we were able to purchase Lot 302 for the community.

Looking ahead there will be a lot going on for the Board and we hope that people will step forward to help make it all happen.

A big humungous thank you to the many amazing volunteers who helped make these projects possible!

Have a great fall and hope you will join us at the first ever online SNCA AGM on Saturday October 3, 10:30am (more details in this edition of the Current). If you have any questions you can contact me at fashedo@hotmail.com or bring it up at the AGM.

Respectfully submitted by Sheila Hollanders

September 30, 2020



Reports on Funds

TREASURER'S REPORT REGARDING LOT 302

Although the SNCA Financial Statements and full Treasurer's report can't be published in the Currents as the statements are for members only, some of the financial back-story of Lot 302 is included here.

On December 2, 2019, I had the exciting honour to deliver a certified cheque of approximately \$150,000 to our legal – land transfer agent, and shortly after receive the SNCA title documents to Lot 302, parcel ID 009-663-045. This in just 7 months....

Each member of the fundraising committee brought their skill set to the table – Rosie became leader and inspired & administered the GoFundMe platform; Rockford brought our story to Facebook, and created the SNCA.ca website; Lannie spread our appeal to Quadra and other islands; Roberta supported with enthusiasm, and I provided financial, admin and legal. I take my hat off to this hard working team; the hours put in were significant, the results unparalleled; the generosity of area homeowners, friends & families, and those who had never heard of us before but wanted to help, amazing.

Not only did Ralph & Lannie donate \$50,000 of the purchase price, but they kindly loaned SNCA \$36,000 towards the purchase so we could meet the committed timeframe. It was truly a celebration to complete loan repayments on February 7, 2020, and hold clear title.

The true measure of this success story is that more than the purchase price was donated and fund-raised. This gives us the nest egg in order to make an investment in protecting the land. We are at the very beginning of considering protective covenants to be registered on title and held by reputable 3rd parties. Meanwhile, Ralph & Lannie have led the trail building process, a lovely walking trail that highlights the unique features of the land and the beautiful big veteran fir and cedar trees.

And we continue to learn about holding and protecting land – from the 11 page Permissive Tax Exemption filed with SRD in July to exempt us from property taxes, to the recent BC Assessment required reporting by buyer and seller, there continues to be an opportunity to learn.

I've been asked – where did the donations come from? Look for some interesting analysis in a future issue of the Currents.

Respectfully submitted

Ginny Vassal CPA CA – Secretary Treasurer

September 28, 2020

HOME SUPPORT

The Outer Island Home Support program has been funded for the last year and four months by donations from private donors and from organizations such as the Quadra Island Health Society and others. We are now very close to having a contract with Island Health which will ensure funding for one year. Kim Barnes will join Lise in seeing clients over the winter months. If you would like assistance in your home, or know of someone who does, please be in touch with Lise: lululise08@gmail.com

FIREWOOD PROJECT

Funded by the Campbell River Community Foundation, our firewood cutters have provided firewood for seniors over the summer. They've supplied split wood to many residents and have worked on-site at other homesteads to process a clients' own wood. The crew will continue to fill current orders for the next month or so. When complete, at least 16 or more individuals (or couples) will have received assistance and a total of seven individuals have done the work. If you have any questions about this project you can contact Sally: sallyotg@gmail.com

STORYTELLING PROJECT

This project has really captured the imagination of some of our community members. The grant we received from United Way ends on March 31st so Zephyr, Sheila, Lise, Johanna and Sanoe will be out and about interviewing and recording residents of the outer islands in their seventies telling stories *about* the seventies. You may be approached to tell your tales--we know there are some good ones out there! Hopefully a podcast, or even a book, will result from their work. For more information contact Zephyr: Zef_13@hotmail.com

Sally Davies

September 29, 2020

HOSKYN CHANNEL LANDING - REPORT TO THE SURGE COMMUNITY

The Hoskyn Channel fund was created over 10 years ago by resident's donations, and has been used in past years for repairs to the pathway, creating a cement ramp from the trail to the ribbons, the tires and anti-slip cover on the dock and gangway, wheelbarrow, etc. A small amount of the fund (approx \$50) was used this past year for a repair to serious erosion at the top of the cement ribbons.

Inspections by volunteers (Ginny, back up Kathy or Steve) have been done of the dock and surrounding area at least bi-monthly for approximately 5 years. SNCA receives \$2,000 / annum from this, the full amount goes in to SNCA general revenues.

2020 Improvements

With the help of SRD, a number of danger alder trees were taken down.

The SW corner of the dock was dry at low tide more frequently due to sedimentation from stream run-off. SRD efforts to move the sediment during the February 2020 DFO window weren't as successful as hoped as the tide wasn't low enough; however the run-off stream was redirected enough to stop the problem from worsening. On July 4th, the next fisheries window, a 2nd attempt was made to move sediment build-up with much more success.

In process

Proposal that the Surge Narrows Trailhead be moved to the upper parking lot; our SRD contact was enthusiastic when presented this idea, the benefit being safety of hikers, who often walk in the middle of the road looking for the trailhead; and less tearing up of the road to the lower lot by 2-wheel drive visitors. Regrettably, our SRD contact resigned shortly after. Discussions have begun with the Quadra Trails group, who are responsible for the trail under BC Parks (FLNROD)

Proposal that the cement ribbons be extended further up the hill. This community members suggestion was received recently and will be presented to SRD with the September monthly inspection report.

PARKING The shortage of parking has raised significant frustration in our community this year.

The Parking Issue

The situation worsened this year; at the end of March, when COVID resulted in resident-only cars to be parked, over 40 cars were counted. In other words, the lower lot was full and the upper lot nearly full before visitors, hikers, and tourists arrived.

Jim Abram had worked on this issue at our request for a number of years, and was able to get a few additional spots at the far end of the upper parking lot approx. 2 years ago. Jim believes he can't get more.



One of the challenges we understand is jurisdictions – SRD does not have and doesn't want to have a license of occupation on the parking area. So 66' wide of roadway and parking is held by MoTI (BC Ministry of Transportation), the remainder is crown land under FLNROD (BC Ministry of Forests).

Our MoTI office has been contacted, discussions are underway on what might be possible.

Respectfully submitted

Ginny Vassal, September 28, 2020

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS REPORT

COVID provided a unique opportunity for successful funding applications for worthwhile local initiatives. We were successful in obtaining the maximum grant of \$5,500, that paid for over 3 months of grocery delivery costs to the Surge dock and an honorarium for the team involved. We also obtained funding from the federal government New Horizons program via the United Way for a number of months operations of the Aging in Home program. The success of these applications inspired other grant writing in the community.

A trial was done October 2019 to have the annual fall flu shot day provided by NP Pat instead of the Campbell River public health nurses. We learned in this process that Quadra Medical clinic doesn't provide school children's vaccinations, so have returned to offering the clinic with public health nurses effective 2020.

The school children and moms received a special 1st aid training day with Shaun Koopman, SRD Protective Services Coordinator in fall 2019; interested adults are receiving the 2-day Wilderness 1st Aid from Wilderness Medical Associates at a discounted price.

Shaun also assisted in making possible the funding for the Surge Narrows Community Wildfire Protection Plan under the IBCM. With this report in place, we are eligible for fire related funding, a grant application has been made for 2021.

Emergency preparedness paid for the replacement battery for the cell/VHF communications set up at Hoskyn Channel Landing (approx.. \$200).

Respectfully submitted

Ginny V – Emergency Preparedness

September 28, 2020

SNCA Board Positions Available and other community notices

As you have probably heard, the SNCA AGM is coming up soon and there will be three Board positions opening up as Jim, Ginny, and my terms are ending. Jim and I are willing to stay on for another term if our members choose to re-elect us, but Ginny hopes to move on provided another individual is willing to stand.

While we will of course miss Ginny, the Board is excited about the idea of some new fresh energy and voices joining the team. We hope there are/is some community minded individual(s) who would like to work in a team setting to manage the affairs of SNCA.

The scope and range of the work SNCA does has broadened beyond just managing the community buildings. While this has increased the workload for Directors and Volunteers, it has made the work more interesting and rewarding in terms of seeing the positive impacts in the community.





Some of benefits of serving as a Director:

- Developing transferrable skills in leadership, budgeting, and project planning etc.
- Working in a team setting where you get to know community members in a different way.
- Contributing proactively to the future of the community.

Some of the roles and responsibilities of SNCA Directors include:

- Ensuring SNCA buildings are maintained and in good order
- Attending SNCA meetings (minimum 4 per year)
- Reading and responding to SNCA business via email
- Participating in SNCA led projects and initiatives
- Working with other Directors to make decisions on SNCA business

If you are interested in joining the SNCA Board please consider putting your name forward for nomination at SNCA's AGM on Saturday October 3, 2020. I would ask anyone who has not yet served on SNCA's Board to consider doing so. The organization can only continue to be successful if every one of us is willing to do our part and share the responsibilities across the community.

If you have any questions you can contact me at fashedo@hotmail.com

Sheila

SNCA Board Update September 2020

SNCA AGM additional notes

- The agenda is included again in this issue, as well as many of the reports as recommended by BC Societies for Zoom AGMs – to make them both efficient and inclusive.
- Prior year minutes were published in September Surge Currents.
- As mentioned in September, our financial statements have been prepared but are not included in the Currents as they are for members only. As required by BC Societies, the financial statements will be presented at the meeting for approval by the membership.

Please rejoin SNCA 2020 - 2021

- Annual membership remains \$10.
- Many ways to pay your membership – by e-transfer to surgenarrows@gmail.com; by cheque or cash mailed to SNCA at Box 52, Surge Narrows, BC V0P 1W0; or drop your cash or cheque in an envelope with NO STAMP in the post office mail slot. We appreciate first and last names to make sure all are spelled correctly.
- Please continue to support the work of our community association.

*Board of Directors
Surge Narrows Community Association
Sheila, Rosie, Steve, Jim, Ginn*

Community notices

Provincial Election

Saturday October 24th at the Bunkhouse, hours will be confirmed by our polling staff.



From Emergency Preparedness

Adult flu shot clinic and children's vaccinations at the Bunkhouse on Friday October 16th. See details in this edition.

Open burning is permitted effective Friday September 25th. A poster explaining fire sizes and when a permit is needed: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/wildfire-status/fire-bans-and-restrictions/ofr_poster_email_distribution_72dpi_no_bleeds.pdf

Medical Clinic October

The clinics have returned to Wednesdays. Dr. Steve Hughes will be in the clinic on October 14. That will be the only clinic for the month.



Our NEW and IMPROVED Shopping Experience

Several weeks ago the small grant that the Grocery Delivery Service was receiving ended. At the same time Save-On could no longer accept a pick-up order that wasn't input on-line. Judith had to find a different way of doing things.

Two weeks ago we began ordering groceries for ourselves on the Save-On web site. (After a short time spent signing up and acclimatizing to the site I found it pretty easy to use.)

The staff at Save-On shop our orders separately and gather the Surge orders for pick up by Bee Line Taxi at eleven on Friday mornings. (Judith emails

the staff a list of the people ordering and arranges the transport.) The groceries go straight to the water taxi, Way West, which usually arrives at the Surge dock around one o'clock. The last two deliveries have worked seamlessly.

The Save-On staff have been amazing. For example, last week my order included bagels and 750 g. of cream cheese. I got this note with my delivery: "*We're being shorted cream cheese. Gave you a small Philly, no charge. Can't have bagels without cream cheese. J*"

Ordering on-line for ourselves means that the many hours of work collating orders, doing the billing and sorting all the groceries is eliminated. Now the orders arrive in boxes labelled with the recipients' names. We take them off the boat, weigh them, and they're ready for pickup. (The reason for weighing is to determine the amount each recipient owes for the water taxi.)

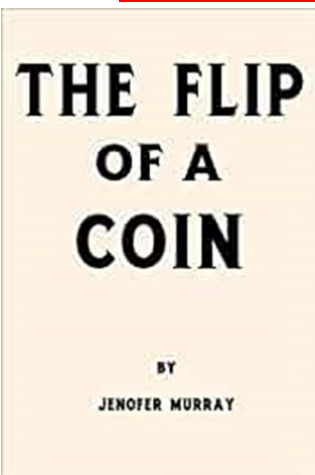
This new process means that the Grocery Delivery Service can likely carry on indefinitely with volunteers because the time spent running things has been greatly reduced.

Judith is planning on doing some more Costco/Gunter and Superstore runs as well—they're popular.

If you'd like some assistance setting up your Save-On account please contact Lise at lululise08@gmail.com. She has a young colleague by the name of Tasia who's happy to assist.

Any questions about getting groceries?

Judith judithwright@hotmail.com or ask Kathy Barnes or me, Sally.



'NEW' OLD BOOK

The *Flip of a Coin* is a book written by a woman who lived on Read Island with her husband, from 1929 to 1939, while riding out the Depression. She provides a wonderful historical record of those years and it's amazing how little (and at times how much) things have changed since then. The author changed the names of the people she wrote about – we're working on a key that will reveal the real names.

Because this book is out of print the Read Island Book Club has re-published it and we're offering copies of the book at cost (\$10) to anyone who's interested in purchasing it.

Please contact Sally at sallyotg@gmail.com or 250-204-8466 to order copies.

SNFA September Report

BC Forest March, Quadra Sept 18

Islanders participate in a province wide event

Forest Summit videos that are still available:

Youth vision for the future

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ytQXKSjosL8&feature=youtu.be>

Why public subsidies to the wood pellet industry have to stop and why we must speak out to protect remaining primary and old growth forests from being cut for pellets

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWmKBstNmCQ&t=3124s>



Read Island Activity Update

SNFA met once during the month of September for planning and strategy development. We have asked several times for meetings with the Woodlot Licensee, David Graham, and his forester, Len Apedaile, but so far have not been able to secure a date. We also await information regarding the long overdue Waste Assessment on one of David Graham's woodlots.

Independently, SNFA members surveyed both the recently completed cutblock, and the much larger cutblock currently underway on Evening Mountain. We have several recommendations to bring to the Licensee. We are also concerned about the cutting of Old Growth forest on the larger cutblock. We counted over 300 growth rings on several trees, and it is clear that this site has not been previously logged. Not all the very old trees are very large, some have extremely small, tight rings. We hope to bring our recommendations and other items for discussion to the Licensee and his forester very soon.

Could forests be our best strategy for COVID-19 recovery and reducing future pandemics?

Deforestation and forest degradation have played an important role in triggering the pandemic. According to a new study in [Nature](#), the populations of animals hosting [zoonotic diseases](#), like the coronavirus, are up to 2.5 times higher in degraded places, and the number of species carrying these pathogens has increased by up to 70 per cent, compared to undamaged ecosystems.

The world's forests act as shields, protecting humans from emerging infectious diseases. But as we are now witnessing, their destruction can have devastating consequences for global public health.

Saving and restoring our forests will deliver jobs, improve livelihoods, contribute to the climate change response, all while reducing the risk of future pandemics.

Read more at:

<https://www.nationalobserver.com/2020/09/29/opinion/could-forests-be-our-best-strategy-covid-19-recovery-and-reducing-future>

Herb Hammond's action plan for saving our forests:

Hedley Creek Headwaters at Brent Mountain Park in the Okanagan, Timber mining Time lapse 1994 – 2020

https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=2w8M_Chppz4&feature=youtu.be

In response to this video Herb made the following suggestions which we believe are universal and are a summary of the conclusions of the Forest Summit that happened this month online.

1. Remove control of public forests from timber companies by revoking tenure arrangements. With few exceptions, these tenures that have privatized public lands were *given* to private interests, who have profited immensely at the expense of the land and the people of BC. Timber companies also profit from their tenures by selling them among themselves. Read private companies profiting from selling public resources, which were given to them under the promise of protecting the public interest. The only socially and economically responsible decision is to re-assume public ownership of public lands.

2. Legislate *principled ecosystem-based standards* for forest protection and use. This is not to be confused with the discretionary, incomplete standards put in place in the Great Bear Rain Forest. Principled standards need to embody an approach that recognizes, respects, and applies a reciprocal relationship with Nature.

The standards are focused on achieving ecological sustainability and social equity from our relationship with forests, by first ensuring that forests continue to provide the multitude of benefits needed for our survival and the survival of other life forms---pure air, clean water in moderate flows, carbon capture and storage, biological diversity, and a moderate climate. These goals are achieved through Nature-Based Plans that designate networks of protected ecosystems across the forest landscape from large watersheds to small patches. Where ecological limits and community decision making processes indicate that forestry is an acceptable and desired use, ecoforestry practices are carried out in ways that ensure continuous forest cover. Clearcuts and tree plantations become things of the past. Community-based forest protection, restoration, and production of value-added wood products provide for high levels of meaningful work.

3. Abolish professional reliance, placing the responsibility for planning and use of forests in the hands of Community Forest Boards (CFBs) under the overarching requirements of ecosystem-based standards and a government agency that provides administrative and technical support. Forest professionals are held to account by plans prepared and endorsed by a community forest board and the government agency that oversees forest planning and use. Community forest boards (CFBs) not only ensure the protection of ecological integrity and biodiversity, but also collect forest user fees for various forest uses sanctioned under Nature-Based Plans. Where timber is cut on public forests, the timber is auctioned through regional log sort yards managed by CFBs. Revenues from log sort yards are shared between CFBs and the central government agency responsible for forests.

The climate emergency gives urgency to making these changes before public forests are further degraded as our most important terrestrial carbon regulators by short-term profit taking by the timber industry.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mWmKBstNmCQ&t=3124s&authuser=0>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2w8M_Chppz4&authuser=0

*Respectfully submitted for the Surge Narrows Forest Committee by Maya Wenchelt.
September 30, 2020*

UPDATES FROM JIM ABRAM ON ISSUES NEAR AND DEAR/ SURGE NARROWS STORE AND IPP

Meetings with Ministers

Every year at the UBCM conference, we have the opportunity to try and get meetings with various Ministers and Ministries to discuss issues of concern to you, my constituents. In the past, it has always been in person. Well this year UBCM is conducting its entire conference virtually! It is taking place this week and each session will have a number to call in and partake. I will only be doing a few that have relevance. However, they did provide us with the opportunity to meet with ministers this past week, ahead of the convention. It worked out great because the Ministers had a bit more time to take calls and were able to fit more in each day.

I met with Minister Anne Kang on Monday the 14th concerning the Connected Coast Initiative which we have been working on for the past two years to provide backbone fibre cable from Prince Rupert to Vancouver, sub-sea, and of course to lots of Area C. So now that we have all of that funding in place and in action, we are also asking for more funding in the way of “last mile” funding... that is the funding required to actually bring it to your door. The presentation was well received and the assumption coming out of the meeting was that we will get the funding. Very exciting, since it will service the more remote areas.

I met with Minister Selina Robinson (our Municipal Affairs Minister) on Tuesday, the 15th, to discuss the \$2.2 Million grant that we have in the works for the outer islands, mainly Surge Narrows Infrastructure. We applied for this last year and were unsuccessful due to the number of applicants and limited amount of money available at that time. So we were assigned a Ministry person to work with us to make the application perfect and resubmit to this round of funding. From the discussion at my meeting, it sounds very hopeful, but I wouldn't want to jinx it! The process is open until the end of October and we will know shortly after that.

I then met with Minister Doug Donaldson regarding the 17 IPP run-of-the-river projects that have been applied for by a Turkish company in the Bute and Toba Inlet areas. These are very similar to the ones that were applied for in 2009 through 2011 that we had to put an incredible amount of energy into to defeat. And now a new applicant wants to do it

all over again. So I appealed to the Minister to just outright deny the tenure application. The NDP in the last battle was adamantly opposed to the project and they have said (various Ministers) that this will never go forward. So I went to the deciding force and asked that he do the right thing. His comments were very positive and he asked me to get the Homalco Band (who have opposed it all along) to let him know. That will do it. I have since spoken with the Chief (as I did a number of times before my call). He will notify the Minister. So, fingers crossed.

Each of these meetings had the Deputy Minister and Asst. Deputy Minister present so I was getting to the right audience. Very stressful half hour meetings, but well worth the time spent in preparation and lost sleep!

Please do not use my residential phone number for SRD calls. **All business calls should be on 285-3355. Many thanks!**

Emails and phone messages received over the weekend or on holidays will (hopefully!) be returned promptly on the next regular work day.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Abram, Director, Discovery Islands-Mainland inlets, Area C, SRD

Sneak peak pics of the Ocean Legacy beach clean up project - more in the November Current

Photos submitted by Rockford Royko



October 2020

Point Atkinson

Day	Time	Metres	Feet	jour	heure	mètres	pieds
1	0457	4.0	13.1	16	0442	4.3	14.1
	1107	1.8	5.9		1041	1.9	6.2
TH	1725	4.3	14.1	FR	1647	4.7	15.4
JE	2342	2.1	6.9	VE	2322	1.3	4.3
2	0540	4.0	13.1	17	0541	4.4	14.4
	1140	2.1	6.9		1127	2.2	7.2
FR	1747	4.2	13.8	SA	1718	4.7	15.4
VE				SA			
3	0012	1.9	6.2	18	0004	0.9	3.0
	0623	4.1	13.5		0640	4.5	14.8
SA	1214	2.3	7.5	SU	1214	2.6	8.5
SA	1807	4.2	13.8	DI	1751	4.6	15.1
4	0042	1.7	5.6	19	0047	0.7	2.3
	0707	4.1	13.5		0742	4.6	15.1
SU	1247	2.6	8.5	MO	1305	2.9	9.5
DI	1827	4.1	13.5	LU	1825	4.5	14.8
5	0112	1.6	5.2	20	0132	0.6	2.0
	0755	4.1	13.5		0848	4.6	15.1
MO	1322	2.9	9.5	TU	1405	3.2	10.5
LU	1848	4.0	13.1	MA	1902	4.3	14.1
6	0144	1.5	4.9	21	0220	0.7	2.3
	0847	4.1	13.5		0955	4.6	15.1
TU	1403	3.1	10.2	WE	1518	3.4	11.2
MA	1909	3.9	12.8	ME	1944	4.0	13.1
7	0220	1.4	4.6	22	0312	0.9	3.0
	0947	4.1	13.5		1103	4.6	15.1
WE	1453	3.3	10.8	TH	1653	3.4	11.2
ME	1932	3.8	12.5	JE	2035	3.7	12.1
8	0300	1.4	4.6	23	0410	1.1	3.6
	1053	4.1	13.5		1209	4.6	15.1
TH	1604	3.5	11.5	FR	1834	3.2	10.5
JE	1959	3.7	12.1	VE	2152	3.4	11.2
9	0349	1.4	4.6	24	0514	1.4	4.6
	1202	4.2	13.8		1308	4.5	14.8
FR	1754	3.5	11.5	SA	1950	3.0	9.8
VE	2041	3.6	11.8	SA	2338	3.3	10.8
10	0448	1.5	4.9	25	0624	1.7	5.6
	1305	4.3	14.1		1357	4.5	14.8
SA	1931	3.4	11.2	SU	2038	2.7	8.9
SA	2203	3.5	11.5	DI			
11	0556	1.5	4.9	26	0118	3.3	10.8
	1358	4.3	14.1		0731	1.9	6.2
SU	2016	3.2	10.5	MO	1437	4.4	14.4
DI	2348	3.4	11.2	LU	2114	2.4	7.9
12	0706	1.5	4.9	27	0234	3.5	11.5
	1440	4.4	14.4		0830	2.0	6.6
MO	2051	2.9	9.5	TU	1510	4.4	14.4
LU				MA	2145	2.2	7.2
13	0123	3.6	11.8	28	0333	3.7	12.1
	0809	1.5	4.9		0920	2.2	7.2
TU	1515	4.5	14.8	WE	1537	4.3	14.1
MA	2125	2.6	8.5	ME	2213	1.9	6.2
14	0239	3.8	12.5	29	0423	3.9	12.8
	0905	1.5	4.9		1003	2.4	7.9
WE	1546	4.5	14.8	TH	1601	4.3	14.1
ME	2202	2.2	7.2	JE	2241	1.7	5.6
15	0343	4.1	13.5	30	0507	4.1	13.5
	0955	1.6	5.2		1043	2.6	8.5
TH	1616	4.6	15.1	FR	1624	4.2	13.8
JE	2241	1.7	5.6	VE	2309	1.5	4.9
				31	0550	4.2	13.8
					1120	2.8	9.2
					SA	1645	4.2
					SA	2336	1.3

The best poem *ever*

by *Brian Doyle*

November 7, 2016

What if, says a small child to me this afternoon,
 We made a poem without using any words at all?
 Wouldn't that be cool? You could use long twigs,
 And feathers, or spider strands, and arrange them
 So that people *imagine* what words could be there.
 Wouldn't that be cool? So there's a different poem
 For each reader. That would be the best poem *ever*.
 The poem wouldn't be on the page, right? It would
 Be in the air, sort of. It would be between the twigs
 And the person's eyes, or *behind* the person's eyes,
 After the person saw whatever poem he or she saw.
 Maybe there are a *lot* of poems that you can't write
 Down. Couldn't that be? But they're still there even
 If no one can write them down, right? Poems in
 Books are only a little bit of all the poems there are.
 Those are only the poems someone found words for.

What do poems *do*?

by *Brian Doyle*

January 29, 2015

I was, no kidding, a visiting writer in a *kindergarten* recently,
 And the children asked me many wry and hilarious questions,
 Among them *is that your real nose?* and *can you write a book*
About a ruffed grouse, please? But the one that pops back into
 My mind this morning was *what do poems do?* Answers: swirl
 Leaves along sidewalks suddenly when there is no wind. Open
 Recalcitrant jars of honey. Be huckleberries in earliest January,
 When berries are only a shivering idea on a bush. Be your dad
 For a moment again, tall and amused and smelling like Sunday.
 Be the awful wheeze of a kid with the flu. Remind you of what
 You didn't ever forget but only mislaid or misfiled. Be badgers,
 Meteor showers, falcons, prayers, sneers, mayors, confessionals.
 They are built to slide into you sideways. You have poetry slots
 Where your gills used to be, when you lived inside your mother.
 If you hold a poem right you can go back there. Find the handle.
 Take a skitter of words and speak gently to them, and you'll see.






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