

Issue 433

October 24, 2008

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# *Discovery* **Islander.ca**

**Community News and Events from Quadra Island, Cortes Island and the Outer Discovery Islands**



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

# Discovery Islander

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**Next Deadline: Nov. 3, 7pm**

## Book Bonanza at-the-Cove

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your reading at  
**Book Bonanza**  
at-the-Cove



### Book launch

for Jeanette Taylor's  
new book "Tidal Passages"

A History Of The Discovery Islands  
Published by Harbour Publishing

at the Community Centre  
Wednesday, November 19th 7PM

This book will cover the islands excluding  
Quadra Island, which will have its  
own book in 2009 also authored by  
Jeanette.

The book will be rich in historical and  
contemporary photos and will be a  
wonderful addition to anyone's coastal  
library and a perfect Christmas gift.

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## On the cover



Bryan Smith surfing the Okisollo Wave  
photo: Ralph Keller

# Dear QCU members;

New Federal Government legislation affecting all Canadian Financial Institutions took effect June 23, 2008 with the enactment of the Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act and Regulations (Canada), commonly called PCMLTFA. Quadra Credit Union, along with all Credit Unions and Banks, is required to comply with the provisions of the Act.

The Act requires us to collect certain personal information in "transacting" with a member; some of this information has been routinely collected and recorded in the past, but in many instances new questions will be asked of you when making some transactions. An example of this is that you will now be asked the "Intended Use" for the account you are opening, or when making an investment.

We feel it is important for members to understand that we are not being nosy, nor are we collecting data for any use by QCU itself.

This information is required, by federal law, to be recorded and retained, and failure of the institution and/or an employee to do so can result in significant criminal penalties and fines. We trust members will appreciate we must comply with the law.

Members are encouraged to contact the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC) with any questions or concerns they may have. They can be reached at

1-866-346-8722 or [www.fintrac.gc.ca](http://www.fintrac.gc.ca).

Thank You.

*Steve Halliday*

Quadra Credit Union

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# Island Calendar

**Submit your event:** eMail: [news@discoveryislands.ca](mailto:news@discoveryislands.ca) • fax: 285-2236 • drop-off: 701 Cape Mudge Rd.

## The Regulars

- **Quadra Legion** - Now open Saturdays only at 4:00pm
- **Every Monday** - Parent and Tots 9:30 am - noon Q.C.C.  
- Kidz Klub QI Bible Church grades 1-6, 3 - 4:40 pm
- **Every Tuesday** -Yoga Classes 9-11 am and 5-7 pm with Brenda Dempsey at the Upper Realm, QCove. 285-3054 or 203-1575 Drop ins welcome \$12  
- Live Jazz at April Point 7 pm  
- Alanon meeting, 7.30 pm at the Children's Centre
- **Every Wednesday** - Moms and Babes 11 am - noon Q.C.C.  
- Life Drawing Sessions with model at Firesign Studio 7-9:30 pm  
Call Nanci 285-3390
- **Every Thursday** - Parent and Tots 9:30 am - noon Q.C.C.  
-Yoga Classes 9-11 AM and 5-7 PM with Brenda Dempsey at the Upper Realm, QCove. 285-3054 or 203-1575 Drop ins welcome \$12.  
- Prayer Meeting, 7:00pm at Quadra Island Bible Church  
- Quadra Singers 6:45 pm Thursdays starting Sept.11 QCC
- **Every Saturday** - Farmers' Market 10 am - 2 pm behind Quadra Credit Union  
- Legion Meat Draw 5:00pm to 6:30pm
- **Every Sunday** - Sunday Service QI United Church 11:00 am (Sept.-June)  
- Family Worship Service 10:30am Quadra Island Bible Church  
- Buddhist Meditation 10:00 am Upper Realm  
- Live Jazz at HBI 6:30 pm
- **1st and 3rd Wednesday** - Food Bank 1-2 Community Centre
- **3rd Sunday of Month** - Raw Food Pot Luck 5 - 7pm 285-3827
- **Last Saturday** - Bonus \$50 cash draw or gift certificate. Quadra Legion 6:30 pm

**Next Deadline: Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008**

## This Month

November 7 - 29th - 'Campfire Chronicles' - Davyd Oram at DRAW Gallery

Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
12°C 6°C	12°C 4°C	12°C 3°C	13°C 3°C

## Tanya Storr

B.A. English

Freelance Writing  
& Editing



**285-3937**

[tstorr@connected.bc.ca](mailto:tstorr@connected.bc.ca)

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## Day by day

### Friday, October 24

- Friday Flicks: The Band's Visit Q.C.C.  
doors open 7:30 pm film starts at 7:45 pm

### Saturday, October 25

Fish Farm Protest Port McNeill  
1pm  
Hal Douglas and Steve Moore Cafe Aroma  
\$5 Cover Doors 7:00 p.m. Show 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

### Sunday, October 26

- Sacred Circle Dance Q.C.C.  
1 pm rm 3  
-Halloween Luminari making workshop Q.C.C.  
2 pm rm 1  
- Jim Chisholm childrens interactive music event HBI  
3:00 pm \$10.00\pp 25.00\family babes in arms free. Includes snacks.  
-Sierra Club: Colin Campbell Q.C.C.  
BC's Oceans: Time to Act 7:30 pm

### Friday, October 31

- Halloween Fun Night Luminaries Q.C.C.  
6:30 pm Tomas the Magician 6:45 pm Fireworks 8:30 pm Blenkin Field

### Saturday, November 8

- Motus O Dances "Variations on Love" Awesome Q.C.C.  
Quadra Cultural Committee 8 pm

### Wednesday, November 19

- Book launch for Jeanette Taylor's new book Q.C.C.  
"Tidal Passages" A History Of The Discovery Islands 7 pm

### Friday, November 28

- Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour Tidemark Theatre CR  
Tickets from Tidemark Box Office 250-287-7465

### Saturday November 29th

- Christmas Craft Fair Manson's Hall  
11 am - 3 pm  
- Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour Q.C.C.

Island Calendar online: [www.discoveryislander.ca](http://www.discoveryislander.ca)



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# Discovery Islander

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(\* includes GST)

## Submission Guidelines

Items for publication are  
welcomed on subjects of  
interest to the Discovery Islands  
community. Please help us by  
following these guidelines:

- Please print handwritten  
material clearly.
- Items sent by email & must be  
saved as Word or rtf formats. Please  
spell check in Canadian English.
- No MS Publisher, WordPerfect files  
or graphics in Word files please. Send  
imported graphics separately.
- Please use the title of the item  
as email subject.
- Please don't send original  
irreplaceable material.
- Please remember to caption &  
credit photos and artwork. Don't  
write on the back of photos use  
labels or Postits™.

*While every effort is made to  
include all items submitted,  
errors and accidental omissions  
do occur and the Discovery  
Islander should be only one part  
of your publicity efforts.*

## Next Deadline

Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>

## EVENT CLASSIFIEDS

### Indoor circus jam.

Poi, hoop, staff, juggling, etc.  
\$5 drop-in fee. Nov. 5 & 12th  
and then bi-weekly starting  
Dec. 3. 7-9pm at Quadra  
Community Centre. Poi lessons  
offered(\$10). Drummers  
Welcome. Angela: 204-2486

### Explore Wine With All Your Senses

during a great series of wine  
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wine consultant Rica Gebert  
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### HALLOWEEN.

You know where the party is!  
Duffy Live at the HBI. Wear, or  
apply your best costume, there  
will be some crazy competition  
for great prizes! Fireworks at  
midnight! See you at the HBI!

**Yoga Classes** Tuesdays  
and Thursdays, 9AM-11AM  
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## In David's Memory



Friends and associates of David Smith gathered to toast David's  
memory and cut a ribbon, symbolizing the opening of the tot's play  
area at the entrance to the community centre. A beautiful brass plaque  
made by Richard Pielou, adorns the rock wall commemorating David's  
extensive volunteer commitment to the Recreation Society. Many people  
donated money in his memory to be spent on the community centre.

## EVENT CLASSIFIEDS

We had so much fun last  
time we're going to do it again!  
Christi, Lois and Lara along  
with Ann McLean and Wil  
are going to fill your day with  
new creative adventures at  
the 2nd annual Crafty Arts  
Workshop with Hummingbird  
Office and Art supply. Hosted  
by the Heriot Bay Inn.

Watercolour, Kaleidoscope  
Photo Art and Cardmaking.  
Three - two hour clases and  
lunch, all supplies included,  
\$125.00 Sunday November 9.  
Sign up at Hummingbird or  
phone for details 285-3334.  
Class size limited.

## EVENT CLASSIFIEDS

Are an ideal way to advertise  
your 'for-profit' event or  
workshop. Cost is \$10 (includes  
GST) for up to 40 words. Longer  
ads are \$10 per column inch.

The DI loves free running  
editorial too but paid ads help  
the ink hit paper. Email your ad:  
ads@discoveryislands.ca or call  
250-285-2234 for more info

## Discovery Islands Chamber Of Commerce Event

**NEWCOMERS WELCOME:**  
Wednesday, November 19. You are  
invited to a Chamber sponsored  
wine and appetizer social event  
from 5-7 p.m. in the lounge of the  
Heriot Bay Inn

Newcomers to Quadra will  
be invited to meet each other, as  
well as members of Discovery  
Islands Chamber of Commerce.  
(A newcomer can be defined as  
anyone who is relatively new to  
the island and would like to meet  
more people)

Pre-registration by Nov 15 is  
required. Please contact Judy at  
250-285-2150 or Susan at 250-  
285-2556 to preregister.



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# News and Events

Submit your event: eMail: [news@discoveryislands.ca](mailto:news@discoveryislands.ca) • fax: 285-2236 • drop-off: 701 Cape Mudge Rd.

## Open Mike with Mo

HERIOT BAY INN October 25 The Dining Room and Lounge are reserved for a Private Function this evening. Please enjoy our great pub fare and entertainment: Open Mike with Mo.

## BC's Oceans: Time to Act

Colin Campbell, PhD., an ocean scientist with world-wide experience and an advisor to the Sierra Club of BC, will be giving an illustrated presentation on the state of BC's West Coast marine ecology at the Quadra Island Community Centre on the evening of Sunday, October 26th at 7:30 pm.

Marine ecologies are crucial to the overall environmental health of our West Coast and to the economic well-being of many coastal communities, including Quadra. All our interactions with our local ocean, from commercial fishing to the many forms of ecotourism, depend on a healthy and vital marine ecology. With our marine resources under stress on a variety of fronts — including climate change — we should know the factors contributing to this situation so we can design and encourage remedies. The present challenges facing our oceans prompt Colin to urge an "integrated management regime" that he will outline in his presentation.

Colin's international experience has convinced him that the oceans are the most neglected system in conservation efforts around the world. He will offer a frank and realistic assessment of our marine ecology with practical things we can do to assure its future health.

The informative and thought-provoking evening, sponsored by Sierra Quadra, will allow time for a question-and-answer dialogue on this critically important environmental subject.

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

## Cafe Aroma Open Mic Night

Audience, performers and staff have had so much fun over the summer that we are going to keep it going once a month over the fall and winter. It's free, family entertainment and a chance to share your secret talent with your fellow islanders and visitors to our island paradise.

So, drop in for some coffee, music and poetry... on the first Thursday of every month. Doors open at 7PM and music starts at about 7:30PM. Next event is Dec 4 jot it down on your calendar and we'll see you there.

## Creative Writing Group

New group on Quadra Island

All genres welcome, novice to experienced 1st Monday of the month starting on Nov. 3rd from 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Phone Debbie at 250-285-3656 for details.

## Monthly General Meeting

The Legion Executive would like to remind all members that we need your support and that the monthly General Meeting is held on the third Wednesday of every month at 8:00pm sharp. See you at the Legion!

## Christmas Crafts

Mark Friday, November 21, 4-9 and Saturday, November 22, 10-3 on your calendar to enjoy the Christmas Craft Fair at the Quadra Community Centre. Craftspeople: there are a few tables left to rent, call 285 3669 to reserve.

## Recycling Corner

Cardboard is the most popular recycled material on Quadra. An extra bin has been added to reflect this fact. However, even with this extra bin, boxes still end up on the ground before pickup day. Please remember to flatten all boxes before putting them in the bins. Plastic windows and styrofoam inserts must be removed.

Businesses need to make other arrangements to recycle their cardboard. The depot is for household recycling only.

Mike Windrim

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## November at DRAW

'Campfire Chronicles' new works by Davyd Oram featured artist for the month of November at DRAW Gallery. Openings at DRAW Gallery are always First Friday of the month. This Exhibit Opens on November 7th from 6 to 8pm. You are invited to attend and meet the Artist.

".....Running, walking, sitting, hiking, exploring, by asphalt, by water, by wood and by sail. We'll take to the forests or go it by sea. This coastline is carved by the worn hands of generations past and while we can't live those days again we can gain understandings & adventure in the explorations their fossiled footprints & handiwork present. This is a summers worth of paint splatterings, ink sketches and battle worn hands. And it's made from every summers growth before this one too. Every tressle we've uncovered, every rail track or overgrown grade we've recognized stuck in mid-step beneath the salmonberrys and broken up alders in the middle of nowhere, B.C. Every collapsing out cabin and handworked claim."

The Gallery is open Thursday through Saturday from Noon to 6pm. DRAW Gallery is located on Quadra Island at Village Square, in the rear - just follow the signs. Drop by and see the show next time you are at the Square. Everyone welcome. Call 250.285.2008 for more information.

## Celebrate With Win - 100 on Nov. 23

A big celebration is coming up on Quadra in November for our beloved Win Goldstraw who will be 100 years young. On Sunday November 23rd from 4:00pm until 8:00pm at the Community Centre.

(Please no presents but handmade cards would be highly appreciated). It will be a potluck supper with concert program.

Everyone is invited to come and celebrate with her on this exciting occasion. See you there. Questions? Call Hilda- 3458 Carrie-2295 Eileen-2434

## Lecture - History of the Comox Valley

On Sunday, November 2, from 1:00 pm to 3:00 p.m., the Museum at Campbell River will host a lecture by noted historian and biographer Richard Mackie on "The Resettlement of the Comox Valley, 1862-1938." Mr. Mackie has written several books on BC's history, three of which are set in the Comox Valley. His book 'Island Timber' was a Canadian bestseller and won the Lieutenant-Governor's Prize. He is now completing a sequel to Island Timber, entitled 'Mountain Timber', which will be published in the spring of 2009. His next project is a biography of the Comox environmentalist Melda Buchanan (1924-2004).

During his illustrated slide show, Richard Somerset Mackie will trace the history of the Comox Valley from the start of British colonial settlement in 1862 to the devastating "Great Fire" of 1938. In these years, reserves were established to house the First Nations survivors of the smallpox epidemic of 1862 and the traditional territory of the Comox and Pentlatch people was made available for colonial use. Mackie will trace the arrival and settlement patterns of the colonists, the main industries of farming, mining, and logging, as well the origins of the main towns in the Comox Valley: Comox, Courtenay, Union (Cumberland), and Merville.

The admission fee is \$ 6.00 per person. To reserve a seat or for further information please contact the Museum at (250) 287-3103.



## Senior Housing News

We just received our 25th member of the 1000 Club - way to go Quadra! Several people have promised, so we expect at least 3 more as the checks come in...

Don't forget the Evening With Dr. David Suzuki at 8 PM on Wednesday November 26th at the Community Center. Admission is by donation, so please be generous and help get the senior housing project off (on) the ground in 2009. - Submitted by Bob Lasby, Publicity and Fundraising

## Indoor Fire Dancing And Circus Jams Are Starting!

Spice up those winter months by practicing the super fun art of fire-spinning (without the fire) and the circus arts! Bring your hoop, poi, staff, double staff, swords, juggling clubs, contact juggling balls, devil sticks, flags, etc., etc.

This will be a space to learn from each other, practice, pick up a new toy, a cool new move, dance, play and have big fun! Beginners are most welcome as there are always friendly faces willing to share their love of the art. \$5 drop-in.

For those wishing to learn poi for the first time, poi lessons for beginners will be offered for the first four sessions to get you off and running. The poi will be provided for with the option to buy a pair of sock-poi of your very own! \$10 gets you an hour lesson, and then stay for the jam. Hoop lessons will be offered in Jan.

Phone first if interested in lessons (number below). The jam kicks off with two consecutive Weds and then runs every other Wed through the winter (except Dec. 31). 7-9 pm at Quadra Community Centre, 710 West Rd.

Drummers and other musicians are most welcome to come and provide a tribal vibe for dancing! (by donation to help pay for space). If interested in lessons, or for any other info., call Angela @ 204-2486."

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# Motus O Comes to Quadra

It is strange to think how a gymnast, a sheep shearer and a figure skater could have their paths meet and eventually become Co-Artistic Directors of a dance theatre company in Canada. Yet, as it turns out, that diversity has become the essence of MOTUS O, a dance company whose name means "way of movement". If you like street theatre, enjoy a romantic movie that dances around the edges of eroticism, and either are looking for or have found love, Motus O's Variations on Love is for you.

In his review in the Kitchener-Waterloo Record, Stephen Preece writes, "Within the simple theme of love, the program is rich in its variation. Presented in 13 separate segments (ranging from 30 seconds to 10 minutes) a spectrum of relationships is explored. From goofy boys ogling women on a beach, to the tingling excitement of new romance, to the love lost in the death of a nephew, a series of poignant sketches express some of our deepest human needs and emotions. A strength of the performance is the group's unabashed approach to humour: ranging from all-out slapstick to more subtle devices, some kind of lightening comedic turn is never far out of reach".

The eight dancers use the skills of their varied backgrounds – from mime to figure skating, theatre to acrobatics – to explore themes of smoldering sensuality, relationship dependency, raw jealousy, seduction, and vanity. Various dancer combinations contribute to the variety, including solos and duos up to the full ensemble, each dancer bringing a unique body type and style to the performance. The company also engages a full range of props, multimedia, lighting, sound, and costumes to express its art.

Physical inventiveness, lightning action, grace, and raw energy are all trademarks of their evolving style. Toronto's Globe and Mail reports, "MOTUS O was the star turn of the

night. An innovative and high energy troupe performing works that were imaginative and physically risky." Debbie Slade, Managing Director for the St Catherine's Ontario Centre for the Arts, states: "A dynamic and innovative company. Their repertoire is fresh, exciting and accessible and their energy is amazing." And in Kitchener, "MOTUS O's performance of "Variations in Love" brought the capacity audience to its feet."

Since their formation in 1990, MOTUS O has created ten full-length productions for both family and adult audiences. The troupe continues to tour throughout North America, Europe and the South Seas, bringing with them their innovative and highly visual works to both small and large communities alike. Quadra Cultural Committee has worked for two years to bring them to the Quadra Island Community Centre on Saturday, November 8th at 8PM. Advance tickets at \$17 are available at Hummingbird and Quadra Crafts and the Music Plant in Campbell River. Tickets will be available at the door at \$20. For more information, call 250 285 3245.



# Disaster Exercise on Quadra Island.

Quadra Island Emergency program, along with local Fire, Police and Ambulance will be conducting an EXERCISE of the Quadra Emergency Plan on Saturday November 01/08. The main purpose of this exercise is to practice the skills that most of the volunteers in the Quadra Emergency Program have been studying during the past 12 - 18 months.

The province of BC has mandated that all communities prepare to handle the local effects of a disaster like an earthquake, a large forest fire, or major flooding. It is felt that many communities like ours will be "on their own" for up to a week. To address this, our Regional District established the Northern Communities Emergency Program, to assist in developing plans in the communities north of Comox/ Courtenay. Quadra's Emergency Program was organized by a group of 4 volunteers in Feb of 2007. Supported by Reg. District, with direction from PEP and many hundreds of volunteer hours, it has grown steadily since then to approximately 80 persons today.

Through attendance at courses offered by the Justice Institute, Can. Red Cross and Salvation Army, volunteers have gained skills in setting up and running a reception centre to register evacuees, refer them for assistance with shelter, food, clothing and transportation for 72 hours, and support family reunification. Volunteers at RCs also provide drinks, snacks, first aid, emotional support, child and pet care where needed for the evacuees.

On November 01, our Reception Center will be the Community Centre on West Rd.

As part of the exercise, an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) will be established at Fire Hall # 1 in Cove, to coordinate the local response to the disaster by Fire, Police, Ambulance and Regional District of Strathcona. The emergency services will ID areas of damage, homes to be evacuated, and local needs. The committee at the EOC based on information communicated from the "scene" will order set up of Reception Centre, assessment of evacuees, and arrange their transportation to and from Reception Centre and coordinate needed resources from on and off island.

During the exercise we will be using our local communication VHF radios, some Family Service Radios and Cell Phones. We will be identifying at intervals that this is a PRACTICE not a real disaster, but public awareness of the event will assist with decreasing possibility of misinformation.

The set up of Reception Centre will begin before 1000 hrs ( 10 AM) and evacuees will arrive at the RC after 1300 hrs ( 1 PM) The exercise will be completed about 1500 hrs (3 PM)

Everyone is welcome. Anyone interested in participating as a volunteer, an evacuee, or an observer, or wanting more info, please contact Judy Hagen 285 2150 or Betty Doak 285 3590.

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or for more info call

**285-2234**

email [news@discoveryislands.ca](mailto:news@discoveryislands.ca)

## Blues Symposium

Blues Symposium with Hal Douglas and Steve Moore. Cafe Aroma presents a night to hear the blues, hear about the blues, and try your hand at writing some blues lyrics. Sing your song with the band or have Hal sing it. Great food, drink, music and prizes. Saturday, October 25th. Doors 7:00 p.m. Show 7:30 - 9:30 \$5 Cover

## Annual Golf Tourney Thanks

The Quadra Island Annual Golf Tourney would like to offer a huge thank you to the following businesses for their generous and continued support:

Quadra Credit Union  
Quadra Landscaping and Foxglove Farms  
Fermentations  
Quadra Building Supply  
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Quadra Harbour Authority  
Tsa-Kwa-Luten Lodge and Resort  
Walcan Seafoods  
The Music Plant  
Heriot Bay Tru-Value Store  
Quadra Foods  
Peoples Drug Mart  
April Point Resort and Spa  
Storey Creek Golf Course  
Campbell River InsuranCentre – BC Land and  
McKenzie Coastland  
Quadra Links Ltd  
Russ Burke and Canadian Western Bank  
Gorden Street  
Labatt's  
Tannis and Lawrence and The Landing Bar  
and Grill  
Mary Pirie

This year's event was a huge success and your contributions and efforts were a big part of that. Thank you.

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## Quadra Seniors—

### BRANCH 91 B.C.O.A.P.O.

Our North Island Regional meeting was very well attended, and lots of fun and prizes, delicious lunch and an informative meeting.

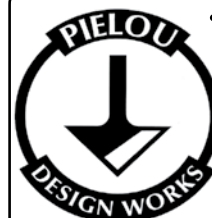
Our next meeting will be on Wed. Nov. 5th/08. The theme will be Remembrance Day, photos, stories, and songs. Flu inoculations should be in Nov. We have had a lot of Seniors with Pneumonia, so ask your Doctor about Prevention.

We are very sorry to have the bad news of the passing, of a long-time member Grace Krygsveld. On Thursday Oct. 16th/08. Grace was a delightful lady, and a very hard worker for the Quadra Seniors. Always bright and cheery. She will be sadly missed by the members, of our branch.

Our regrets go out to Kathy Young and family. She will always be remembered. At the R.C. Legion on Wed. Oct. 22nd/08 10:00 am, Exercises, with Ann & Music, 11:30 am, Carpet Bowling, with Chris 1:00 pm. Singing with Lillian and Ruth Walk on Sundays with Peter and Lloyd 11:00 am- from the Rebecca Spit Launch ramp, or meet them around 11:20 am at the Parking lot.

Our Nomination committee-Martin Amiabel, Marg Lasby and Daphne Young are busy, phoning our members. Results will be at our next meeting. "Our Renown President will be back soon". Membership is due for 2009, see Cliff at our Next meeting, or contact Marshall -3226, Bob-2907 Or Ruth-3801

Make sure you are on the Christmas Luncheon List-event is on Mon. Dec. 1st/08—contact Bob.-2907—or Ruth 3801



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## Purple Martins

This year purple martins were back at the Heriot Bay public wharf by the middle of May (beginning of May in Campbell River). At least two of the boxes on the pilings seemed to be occupied in June, but unfortunately the lowest box was hit by a boat at high tide on July 1st, fell off and was lost.

Ed Silkens came over from Campbell River to help Richard Calver and me band the babies on August 20th - there were 4 young in Box 2, one was dead, probably from starvation, one escaped - they were ready to fly - so we banded two. We found a nest and 3 eggs in Box 3 but by the end of the month it appeared it had been abandoned.

Although the nesting success wasn't great here, it was poor all the way down the coast as far as Washington State, probably due to the cold wet spring and lack of insects. Still, we've got an established colony now and we'll almost certainly hear their distinctive warble again next May.

Anyone interested in checking martins or making their own martin box please give me a call. Further info on the purple martin re-establishment program can be found at [www.georgiabasin.ca/puma.htm](http://www.georgiabasin.ca/puma.htm).

Lyn Paterson  
250-285-3337

## Art At The Inn

Since August this past summer, the Heriot Bay Inn has displayed a rotation of exhibits by local island artists, in the lounge area and dining area. "It's one way we can support island art, and we're very pleased to do so", stated Lois Taylor.

The first display in August, contributed by Christina Munck and Janet Veitch, was a combined exhibit of quilts and acrylic paintings. Following that were paintings by Louise Lavalee, and a photography exhibit by Lawrie Bowels. Perrin Sparks displayed portraits and landscapes in oils and pastel. Currently, watercolour and acrylic paintings by Perry Johnston are hanging.

For the month of November, Marna Disbrow will show her mixed-media work. Quadra Quilters will contribute quilts with a seasonal theme for December. Many of the pieces displayed will be for sale; a fine gift from Quadra.

Summer exhibits rotate every two weeks, but in the quiet season, displays will be changed on a monthly basis. "We appreciate the interest and enthusiasm of the artists to share their work with others, and we invite islanders to come and enjoy the work of their friends and neighbours". See you at the Heriot Bay Inn!

## Call for Submissions!

Annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Market

Campbell River Art Gallery

Looking for a market venue for your creations this Christmas season? Campbell River Art Gallery is calling on artisans to submit their work for the 9th Annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Market and they would like to extend a special invitation to new artisans whose work has not yet appeared been a part of the at the market.

The market runs from November 14th to December 24th and operates on a consignment basis. Staff and volunteers manage displays, inventory control, sales and promotion, keeping the work of the artisan as hassle-free as possible.

Some customer feedback last year suggested an interest in items for children. Proven favorites of shoppers include glass, jewelry, textiles, woodwork, pottery and sculpture. There is room for new ideas, so pass the word to artisan friends who have been keeping their work close to home. If you're a veteran Market artisan, you may want to dream up some new ideas to add to your usual stock. Last year, total sales climbed by over fifty percent.

Entry into the Market is juried and application forms are available at the Gallery in Tyee Plaza, Tues to Sat, 12 to 5:00. Call 250-287-2261 or visit our website at [www.crartgallery.ca](http://www.crartgallery.ca) for more info.

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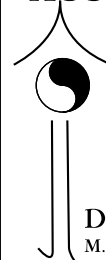
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**Cheezies** 2 for **\$4.00**  
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**Cheese Singles** **\$4.98**  
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**Instant Noodles** 4 for **\$1.00**  
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**Laundry Detergent** **\$5.98**  
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**Popcorn** **\$1.98**  
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**Puddings** **\$3.68**  
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Pomegranate Blueberry, Apple  
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Honey  
**Ham** **\$1.48**  
/100g

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140g

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**Sausage Rolls**  
Beef, Chicken  
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Salted or Unsalted  
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Dan-D-Pak  
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Dan-D-Pak  
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Bottle Returns in October will be Donated to the Quadra Island Quilters

**Fall Hours- 7am -**



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\$7.23 / kg

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Discovery Islander #433 October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008

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## B.C. Ferry Authority Call for Nominations

Individuals interested in being considered for nomination to the BC Ferries Board of Directors are requested to complete the nomination form available at [www.strathconard.ca](http://www.strathconard.ca). Completed nomination forms may be forwarded to the Strathcona Regional District office via postal mail to the manager of legislative services, 600 Comox Road, Courtenay BC V9N 3P6, via fax through 250- 334-4358 or via email through [administration@strathconard.ca](mailto:administration@strathconard.ca) by 4:30 p.m., Friday, October 24, 2008.

We thank you for your interest; however, only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

## Intro To Sacred Circle Dance

Sunday October 26, 1-4 PM

Q.C.C. Room 3

Experience the fun of dancing with others, invite sacredness into your life and create a sense of well being and community. Everyone, regardless of dance experience, can easily learn these dances, which encompass modern choreographies and traditional / folk dances to a mix of music from classical to contemporary. No partners required !

Wear comfortable clothes and bare feet or soft soled shoes - no heels or runners. Suitable for teens and adults. Cost: \$15 each session, concessions for teens.

Lola Murray is a skilled facilitator who likes to build community by singing and dancing in circles. She danced SCD for many years in Edmonton where she also hosted and taught seasonal dancing celebrations. Quadra participants thoroughly enjoyed the September workshop.

Ferry pick-up available for Cortesians by prior arrangement to email below.

Info? email [lolaquadra@yahoo.ca](mailto:lolaquadra@yahoo.ca) or register with the Community Centre: 285 3243. Come join the dance!

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## Halloween Fun Night

New energy is fuelling the planning for Halloween Fun Night at the Quadra Community Centre on October 31. A "luminara" contest, Tomas the magician, games, haunted house, bon fire and fireworks are in the making. But wait, what is luminara and what can I win, you say. It is a gathering of imaginative creations made of tissue paper, wire, stick, etc. with lights inside. The form is up to the creator and magic is made when all the different creations are lit up. (We will use led lights, not candles.). As for the prize, we are offering a cash prize for the best childrens' and adult lanterns.

This Halloween will be just a hint of what we could do, if this idea takes off. Come to the free workshop, Sunday October 26 at 2:00-4:30 in room1 and see what it is all about. Register at 285 3243 so we know how many people to prepare for. Basic materials will be supplied but feel free to bring any special items like leaves, fancy papers, and sparkly stuff.

Then on Halloween night, all the forms will be hung up on the south side patio area for all to view. Thank you Quadra Island Builders for supporting the new luminara contest and workshop. Check out these web sites or google luminara for more info.

[http://www.fovp.org/lantern/make\\_a\\_paper\\_lantern.htm](http://www.fovp.org/lantern/make_a_paper_lantern.htm)

<http://www.fovp.org/lantern/balloonLantern.htm>

Come celebrate Halloween at the Quadra Community Centre Friday, Oct 31st

6:30 pm - Activities start!

6:30 - 8:30 pm - Luminary contest

6:45 - 7:00 pm - Spooky magic show with Tomas Sohlberg

8:30 pm - Fireworks start

  
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# Save The Waves Local Tidal Rapids Need Protection

There are new applications for tidal power production around most of Quadra Island. These applications are part of a recent gold rush of private claims staked for potentially profitable energy sites all over BC. Labeled "green," some may be benign, but most come with environmental and social consequences. Permits can be issued with minimal public notice, scant information, and no public discussion regarding environmental impacts and existing community use. Permit approvals offer developers economic momentum that can overshadow community concerns...

As citizens we are supposed to take care of our local environment, and that is a reasonable responsibility -- we know about the area, we care about the area, and we live with the outcomes -- so being NIMBY's can be part of our duty. Sometimes we need to say "Not Here!" or "Not That Way!"

Okisollo Wave and Surge Narrows, both on the north shore of Quadra Island, have been applied for as places to site tidal power generators. This means harnessing the energy that creates the waves, and building industrial infrastructure to collect and transport the power. This conflicts with existing use. Okisollo and Surge Narrows are part of an already-strong local economy, based on wild natural features of the land and ocean.

Σ Application # 1413161 (Surge Narrows)

<http://www.arfd.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/viewpost.jsp?PostID=9798>

Σ Application #1413121 (Okisollo)

<http://www.arfd.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/viewpost.jsp?PostID=9464>

Application # 1413161 is on the boundary of the Surge Narrows Marine Park, recently designated to protect the area's high concentration of marine life. There are no major studies about power turbines and aquatic environments, but we can assume impacts would be significant, including loss of tidal current (food supply), disturbance to fish nurseries and other marine life, toxic antifouling

agents, mechanical/industrial disruptions, electromagnetic fields, transmission lines including loss of trees and forestland, danger to migratory birds flyway... to name a few. This is too much risk to a marine park! Buildings, noise and powerlines associated with a tidal power facility would also mar the natural beauty of the remote Quadra shoreline and impact Quadra's newest (and very popular) Surge Narrows Trail.

Surge Narrows is also a well-used kayaking path and play area. Summer 2008 saw more than 1500 people kayaking in Surge Narrows, Okisollo and Octopus Islands. As a navigation channel used by large number of boaters, it is one of few access routes to the very popular Octopus Islands Marine Park. Any industrial obstruction would present a hazard to navigation and significant danger to paddlers.

Okisollo Channel generates major economic benefits for our community. This is a valuable tourism destination used by dozens of local companies. Some island businesses depend on the Okisollo and Surge Narrows tidal rapids; and BC colleges, universities, and private schools use these rapids for outdoor leadership and kayak skills training. The area has received highest praise from from two world-freestyle champions and many professional paddlers, and gained international recognition and a large audience of kayakers thanks to magazine articles and dvd's featuring the area's natural beauty and dramatic tidal features -- especially the amazing Okisollo Wave at Cooper Point (application # 1413121 Okisollo) This is a unique place, like nowhere else in the world!

Orca Power, the applicant, is a new company, recently purchased by by Creation Casinos, Ltd. They are a speculative venture capital company with casino operations in Lithuania, and no previous investments in power production. <http://www.creationcasinos.com/news.html>

If these applications are approved it might be difficult to stop industrial developments in the Okisollo Channel. If you believe this area should remain wild, please send just a quick email to express your concerns!

Email: [simone.engels@gov.bc.ca](mailto:simone.engels@gov.bc.ca) Simone Engels, Land Officer, Integrated Land Management Bureau, 142-2080 Labieux Rd. Nanaimo V9T 6J9

cc to: [claire.trevenamla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:claire.trevenamla@leg.bc.ca) Claire Trevena, MLA

[abramfam@oberon.ark.com](mailto:abramfam@oberon.ark.com) Jim Abram, Strathcona Regional District

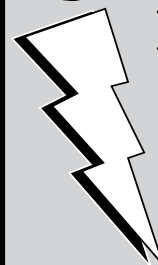
[okispac@gamil.com](mailto:okispac@gamil.com) Okisollo Planning Advisory Committee

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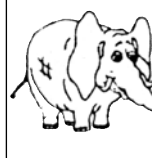
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# Area C Regional Director's Report

October 24, 2008

by Jim Abram

I would like to start this report by thanking all of you, my constituents, for continuing to allow me the honour of representing you as your Regional Director for the next three years. I feel privileged to live in this community and care deeply about the future of our area and the people who live here. I commit to you that I will do my very best to continue to represent you in an effective manner and will deal with your issues as promptly as possible at all levels of government. I look forward to working with you and to your involvement in initiatives that come up in the coming months and years. I will remain accessible, as always, at the contact information at the end of this report.

## Some congratulatory comments

I would first of all like to congratulate our other locally elected representative, Helen Moats. Helen was elected by acclamation to the School District #72 position for Quadra and the outer islands. She has done a great job representing our views to the School Board and has been wonderful for me to work with on various issues. I look forward to our future collaboration.

## The new Strathcona Regional District

We are now having our committee meetings at our new office in Campbell River, located at 301 - 990 Cedar Street. We have a receptionist, a Parks Planning technician and our Interim Chief Administrative Officer located in this office. The office also houses our Emergency Program Coordinator and his assistant, for the Strathcona Emergency Program (formerly the Northern Communities Emergency Program). Our Board meetings are still held at the Maritime Heritage Centre, due to the size of the room that we require for the entire Board. As soon as we can, we hope to be moving a partition wall in our new office to accommodate the entire Board and then all of our meetings will be held there.

We were notified by the Minister of Community Development that our bid to have the previous Minister's misguided decision to amalgamate Area G and Area H reversed, had been denied. So, the two areas are now one with only one director. This reduces our rural

representation at the Board to four instead of five directors. The area letters for each area have been changed due to this. the new amalgamated area is Area A, Cortes Island is Area B, we (Discovery Islands - Mainland Inlets) are Area C (no longer Area J), and Oyster Bay - Buttle Lake is still Area D.

Area C (formerly Area J), now represents 48.6 % of the entire SRD land base of 2,187,022 hectares for a total of 1,064,167 hectares.

It will be interesting to see what our new Board of Directors looks like after the elections on November 15th. Only a few of us were acclaimed and will return to the Board table. The others will depend on who gets elected and who gets appointed from the municipal councils. Should be interesting! I will work with everyone at the table to fulfil the needs of Area C.

## Village project

I am told by the SRD that the request for proposals closes on October 31st and a consultant will then be chosen. The discussions with the community will take place regarding the "village concept" for the Cove from the beginning of January until the end of March. I will have more details after the close of the proposal process.

## Meeting with our Minister

I will be meeting with our Minister, Blair Leckstrom, at 4:30 on Tuesday, October 21st, in Campbell River to discuss issues of concern to our Board. I will be bringing our applications for grants regarding the Q. Cove and the Heriot Bay sewer issues to his personal attention along with the new funding that has been announced regarding "Connecting Communities". I have requested that the SRD apply for \$50,000.00 to extend our high-speed internet services to areas that are not currently connected. I am hoping that his support of the above items will help them get approved.

## Parks grant

Our Manager of Parks has applied for funding from the Community Tourism Fund to replace the aging sign that is at the entry to Blenkin Memorial Park. This will be a nice addition to our wonderful Community Centre. Another grant will also be forwarded on behalf

of the Quadra Island Chamber of Commerce, from the same funding source.

## Plutonic Power consultations

An issue that is front and center in our area, is the proliferation of "run-of-the-river" power projects and the hundreds and hundreds of kilometers of power transmission lines. There are more than 800 applications for projects in BC, many of them in the Toba Inlet and Bute Inlet areas. These are areas that are still "wild" and are home to many critters other than humans. These areas are also the base for many of the eco-tourism / tourism businesses that have established throughout Area C. Most of the big projects are applied for by a company known as Plutonic Power. We all want to see more renewable "green energy" come onto the market. But that is not what we are talking about here. We are talking about mega-corporations establishing mega projects, diverting rivers and streams and clearing swaths 240 feet wide to put up transmission lines. How this is "green" is beyond me.

The BC and Canadian Environmental Assessment has begun and will be reaching the public comment stage soon. When it does, I hope that you will educate yourselves on these projects and the detrimental impacts to our environment and our socio-economic situation and that you will participate, in person, in writing and in any other way that you can. There will be ads in the media and I have requested a meeting on Quadra Island.... They were reluctant to do that, thinking that Campbell River was good enough, until I explained where Quadra was (they didn't know), and how difficult it would be for islanders and outer islanders to attend a CR venue. We will see if they take my request seriously.

## Regional Zero Waste Strategy

I would like to fill you in on what the SRD and the CVRD (Comox Valley) have been doing in regards to reducing waste. I asked Leigh Carter, our General Manager of Corporate Communications to put this together for me after some questions from constituents.

- We have completed the conceptual design for an organics composting facility which has the potential to divert over 30 % of household



waste from our landfills. The board has recently approved application to the province for proceeding with preliminary design of this facility.

- The addition of curbside recycling in Campbell River and the move to blue boxes in the CV has increased the diversion in 2008 of recyclable materials and the RD is working in partnership to increase education on diverting these materials.

- The Comox Valley Regional District manages over 84,000 tonnes of solid waste each year within the district boundaries. This waste, which includes a mix of household, business, hazardous and industrial wastes, is collected, transferred, managed, and landfilled by the CVRD.

- Our facilities include two regional Waste Management Centres that serve the Comox Valley and Campbell River, as well as a range of transfer stations and smaller waste handling and recycling facilities for Tahsis, Gold River, Zeballos, Kyoquot and the islands of Denman, Hornby, Quadra and Cortes.

- An important part of solid waste management is the act of diverting waste, or working to reduce the amount of waste that needs to be dealt with. When items can be reused or recycled this means they are diverted from the waste stream, which prolongs the life of our landfills.

- The CVRD oversees an extensive multi-material recycling program and has active re-use and re-purposing programs in place at each of our landfills. At present, 32 % of solid waste generated in the district is diverted through these programs.

- We also provide a wide range of educational programs - dozens of in-classroom and public sessions each year - that encourage household waste reduction through recycling and backyard composting efforts.

I know this is a long way from "zero", but it is evidence that the RD is working hard to approach this ideal goal.

I think that is about it for this issue. Feel free to call me between the hours of 8:30 am and 7:00 pm, Monday through Friday (not on weekends, folks!) at 285-3355, or you can fax me at 285-3533 or you can email me anytime at [abramfam@oberon.ark.com](mailto:abramfam@oberon.ark.com), or by mail at Box 278 in the Cove, V0P 1N0... Lots of choices!

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Abram

Director, Discovery Islands - Mainland Inlets (Area C), SRD

## Friday Flicks Tonight! The Band's Visit

Doors 7:30-Showtime 7:45

Q.C.C. Adm: \$5 - \$4 stu/snr

Charming audiences at festivals in Cannes, Toronto and London, this delightful film follows the exploits of an Egyptian police band who are slated to perform at the inaugural ceremony of an Arab arts center, but instead get dropped off in a middle-of-nowhere town in the Israeli desert. The Egyptians meet a handful of curious Israelis amid the dust and wind. With degrees hospitality, the townspeople offer them shelter, food, and fleeting companionship.

A story about isolation and communication, the film unwraps the idiosyncrasies of human relationships and offers up much wry comedy in the process. At first, the Egyptians and the Israelis circle one another warily. While love doesn't exactly bloom in the desert, human kindness and unarticulated longing does.

Come early and indulge in one of our ever-changing homemade desert options, as well as fresh popcorn with real butter, fresh coffee with real cream, and fresh volunteers with real spunk.



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## Next @ Friday Flicks Kardia (rated PG)

November 14th , Q.C.C.

Same time, place, price.

Director Su Rynard delivers a beautifully crafted piece about love and what the absence of it can do to the human body. Elegantly shot with effective mood scoring and dreamlike pacing, it is a story about the limits and potential of the body's most important muscle.



The picture's frame scene is the sudden collapse of middle-aged pathologist, Hope. From this point, the film lays the details of Hope's unusual past against her present day work. We meet the war veteran who rescued and raised her after she was abandoned in infancy. We witness his participation, as blood donor, in the historically significant open-heart surgery in 1955. Hope's tender memories of early childhood recall an attentive father-figure, a stark Toronto and a Scottish caregiver named Florrie.

Meanwhile, in her adult workaday life, Hope becomes the vicarious participant in the turbulent love affair of her co-workers and is drawn further into speculations of the mysteries of the human heart. Hope binds these memories and musings to her own heart as an adult, but the science never quite reconciles with the personal folklore she has woven.

Hope makes the fateful decision to uncover more details about her own early life, including the heart surgery she had at eight months of age. Through beautifully re-created operation scenes interspersed throughout the story, viewers gradually come to wonder if her blood donor was really as she remembers him.

There are many points of departure on Hope's enigmatic journey to reconciliation of what she believes with the truth she discovers. Director Rynard's artistry delivers this metaphor for love and emotion, as contemplated under the microscope of science, straight to the heart.

(Variety, Jam!Movies, Quipster's Reviews)



# Halliday's Viewpoint

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## Fair Fares?

by Steven Halliday

According to Wikipedia, BC Ferries (BCF) was established by the Social Credit government of W.A.C. Bennett (fondly remembered as Wacky) in order to provide a marine extension of the provincial highway system. That system was improved and expanded through the construction of new highways and bridges, and paving of existing highways and provincial roads. Growing up during the 60's and 70's I distinctly remember the ferries as being regarded as a part of the highways system, whether you were riding a distinctive big ferry from Tsawwassen to the Island or a puddle jumper from Village Bay to Montague Harbour. The northern routes, including ours here on the Discovery Islands, were run under the auspices of the Ministry of Highways before being folded into what is now the British Columbia Ferry Services Inc. (still BCF). A major difference between then and now is the discontent of the general populace, who, in the 70's, took great pride in being owners of the largest private ferry fleet in the world, with a safety record second to none. Today, the major reaction of regular resident ferry users (or "customers", as they would have it) towards the Corporation is primarily anger. With pretty good reason, I would say.

Now, as then, we have every reason as taxpayers and citizens to be proud of our ferry system – it a wonder of the world in efficiency and managed complexity that delivers good service in a demanding environment. It provides an essential service to a large percentage of the population, contributes uncounted dollars to the economy via tourist traffic, and furnishes good employment to a large number of coastal residents. And last year the Corporation made about \$48 million net...not a bad performance at all. Why then are so many coastal residents angry at BC Ferry Corporation? Maybe it is because we feel like we are being picked upon.

I have been a regular customer of the ferry system in one form or another since 1983, but my wife has been a full time commuter (i.e. twice a day, 5 days a week) since 1997. I honestly don't remember - nor can I locate any information related to – the average monthly cost of the ferry to our household back then. Today my wife's daily employment-necessary commute, were she to drive every day (which she does not) would cost us approximately \$525 per month. Through alternative transportation she brings this cost

down to, on average, perhaps \$200 per month. This is ferry cost alone, of course. It took about \$3,000 to fund the vehicular green alternative Norma has chosen; losing the missing comfort of a vehicle on a rainy windy day heading north of Campbell River is an intangible cost. But my point is that Norma, like many other Island residents, depends on the ferry as a mode of public transportation, which is exactly the model, I believe, Wacky had in mind back in 1959 whilst dreaming up the concept.

A common rationale for constantly raising ferry fares is that we, as users, have made a lifestyle choice to live where we live. One cannot refute the logic because, of course, we did. Or many of us did, since there are a significant number of Island residents who were born here, thus having little choice in the matter. But having agreed we do choose to live here, am I wrong to understand the Charter of Rights and Freedoms grants us that right to choose where we live? And if that indeed is the case, do we not have exactly the same rights to the provision of highway services as do residents of Anahim Lake, Beaverdell or Stewart, BC? As far as I know, residents of those towns do not pay any extra tolls, tariffs or fares to utilize their highway system, in spite of the fact the provision and maintenance thereof is subsidized in the millions of dollars by BC taxpayers very year.

Or how about the people of the Arrow Lakes region, who involuntarily lost their road access through their deep valley countryside alongside scenic Columbia River tributaries? The 1961 Columbia River Treaty and subsequent damming required the provincial government to provide ferry services in lieu thereof, which service is - to this day - provided free of charge by the government (albeit via private contractor). Those people choose to live there...why shouldn't they pay their fair share of the ever-increasing running costs of their marine highway?

A recent news clip of Premier Campbell, announcing the end of the Coquihalla tolls (complete with coverage of the next day's dramatically enacted destruction of said toll booths) was met with dismay by my wife and I. Again, we see a portion of the highway system being "fiddled with", to borrow an old ancestor's phrase. Apparently we Island dwellers have become elitist, requiring services above and beyond those envisioned by the ferry systems creators and therefore unworthy

of equal (or at least equitable) treatment as beneficiaries of publicly funded transportation. When do we stop paying our "toll", being the amount over and above a reasonable fee to subsidize our marine highway? When will the "fuel subsidy" that BCF seems desperate to keep collecting be entirely reversed? When will we ferry riders get a break?

It is important to note that when our provincial government funds travelling tourism roadshows - costing millions of tax dollars - all around the world promoting the glories of BC, our ferries and the magnificent destinations they serve are major "hooks" in the message. Our coast and the communities it embraces are a large part of what British Columbia is. We are an integral part of the fabric of British Columbia, and it is patently unfair that we are seeing our "transit" fares rise at double digit annual rates while our asphalt dependant neighbours only see higher costs in their fuel taxes. Which taxes, by the way, we pay as well.

The time has come to look to the past for guidance, which is so often the case. Transportation in all of its forms used to fall under the auspices of a provincial Ministry of Transportation – kind of makes sense, don't you think? If we are to accept the Charter rights as a given, then it is incumbent upon our government to find an equitable manner of distributing the costs of providing transportation services to our residents and our visitors, no matter what the destination if it is already a part of our provincial highway system.

By the way, in the course of researching I was unable to find any information whatsoever as to the cost of provision of our inland ferries system, most of which are cost-free to the user. I spent many fruitless hours searching government records but apparently the information is not posted for public consumption. Might I respectfully suggest that our MLA, being a significant user of the ferry system and representing a constituency largely the same, take it upon herself to determine how much it costs us to subsidize our inland ferry riding residents choice of a home? I suspect that the number will be a significant one, and if brought to the public eye might stimulate a healthy debate about appropriately distributing the cost of living in paradise, a distinction which every British Columbian shares no matter where they choose to live.



# For Whom the Fare Booth Tolls

by John Sprungman, Chair,  
Ferry Advisory Committee

A month ago Premier Gordon Campbell announced that tolls would be removed immediately on the Coquihalla Highway, eliminating \$57 million in annual provincial revenue and putting “literally hundreds of dollars in the pockets of British Columbians who regularly use the highway.”

The Ministry of Transportation said 2.7 million passenger vehicles and 700,000 trucks travelled the Coquihalla last year. Trucks paid more than half the total toll revenue, Campbell said. “It will mean thousands of dollars in annual savings for truckers.”

Wouldn't it be nice if he would develop a similar appreciation for the plight of British Columbians who depend on BC Ferries as an integral part of the provincial highway system on the coast?

BCF's annual report says its ferries transported 21.7 million passengers and 8.5 million vehicles in the year ending March 31. The cost of ferry travel obviously affects a significantly more people than the number who use the Coquihalla where tolls could be justified by the fact that there were alternate, though slower, highways people could travel for free.

The BC Ferry Commissioner has just produced charts indicating that users of the ferries between Vancouver Island and the mainland have been paying 110% of the annual cost of operating those routes since 2003. However, most smaller ferries are far from self-supporting, and the extra income from the big ships cannot be used to cover their costs under Campbell's Coastal Ferry Act. It divided BCF's routes into four groups and outlawed cross-subsidization. The “surplus” is being used to make BC Ferries look profitable to its private financiers.

The Commissioner says that since 2003 the percentage of user pay has increased from 71% to 93% on the Horseshoe Bay-Langdale route and from 35% to 43% in the 18-member minor route group, which includes Quadra and Cortes.

“In the Northern route group,” the Commissioner said, “increased provincial funding on amortization and the cost of capital on new ship and terminal investments, paid via higher transportation fees, plus provincial contributions towards extraordinary fuel costs, meant that user pay declined from 41% to 31%.”

The transportation fee is the annual amount  
[www.discoveryislander.ca](http://www.discoveryislander.ca)

the province gives BC Ferries to support service where fares do not cover costs. BCF has been allocated \$71.5 million annually from 2003 through 2012 for the minor routes. As costs increase, the Commissioner has had to follow the government's rules and allow BCF to raise fares and impose fuel surcharges when marine diesel exceeds a set price.

## Keep On Truckin'?

These fare hikes have not only taken hundred of dollars a year out of ferry users' pockets, they have also resulted in substantial increases in the cost of goods and services in ferry-reliant communities. Among those 8.5 million vehicles on BCF's decks last year were an unspecified but obviously large number of commercial trucks which supply island communities with food and manufactured goods. Trucks also haul the produce of farming, aquaculture, forestry and island manufacturing to the lower mainland.

Commercial fares are a major factor in the cost of living and doing business across the water. Since 2003, freight costs have increased as much or more than fares for passengers and private vehicles.

Michael Gibbons, who operates Cortes Transport, says his 42-foot semi, “Pearl,” made 102 roundtrips from Cortes to Vancouver in 2003 at an average cost of \$350. After the August 1 fuel surcharges, the same trip cost \$741. “Pearl” hauls oysters and other shellfish to processors on Vancouver Island and in the Lower Mainland. Michael has to pass increased fuel and ferry costs through to his customers.

“We've lost a lot of shellfish business in the last three years,” Michael said in an email. “The main reason is growers cannot recover the increased cost of doing business. We've cut one trip per week to Vancouver. The only thing saving us is the huge increase in freight we are hauling to Cortes Island.”

And that is happening largely because it is now cheaper for Cortesians to use services like Cortes Transport and the Cortes Connection than to make the trips themselves.

On the other side of the equation, BC Ferries notes in its 2008 annual report that it is “witnessing increased competition in the commercial sector where three companies, including ourselves, are vying for different segments of the freight transport business between Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland.

“To maintain and potentially increase our market share,” BCF says, “we plan on improving operational efficiency and customer service on our three major routes by increasing capacity for both commercial and passenger vehicle traffic with the assignment of one Super C-class vessel to each route.”

But it's obvious that cost is the driver for freight companies, and the government's insistence that the major routes pay their own way is creating a situation where private companies can compete. This, of course, fits right in with the Liberals' love of privatization, except for the fact that BC Ferries has just spent hundred of millions of dollars on the three new Super C ferries, and taxpayers ultimately will be on the hook for that debt if BC Ferries can't pay for them out of the fare box.

## Here Come The Cuts

Right after the Thanksgiving weekend, BC Ferries started cutting sailings on both the major routes and between Horseshoe Bay and Langdale because of a 12% drop in traffic in September following a decline in July and an average August. Early Sunday morning sailings were the first to go, and part of the plan involves parking the new Super C's and using the smaller, older C Class ships.

“When you see traffic drop off,” BCF spokesman Mark Stefanson said, “you don't need a larger ferry.” The Campbell River Mirror responded to this news with an editorial titled “Another Ferry Fiasco Brewing.”

While it's no doubt true, as BCF President & CEO David Hahn argues, that high gas prices and the early stages of the economic meltdown had an effect on BCF's traffic, there's also little doubt that high ferry fares are keeping people closer to home.

It is notable that no fare reductions were mentioned in connection with cutting back on service, and FAC chairs for the Southern and Northern Sunshine Coast were quick to protest the fact that there was no consultation with them about dropping sailings between Horseshoe Bay and Langdale.

Now gas prices and BCF's fuel costs have both come down, and last week the BC Ferry Commissioner “allowed” BC Ferries to cut the August 1 fuel surcharges by 50%, effective Tuesday, November 4.

For a car and driver, that will reduce the cost of a Campbell River-Quadra roundtrip by \$1.50 and of a Cortes town trip by \$3.55

whether you pay cash or use an Experience Card. It will also cut in half the commercial vehicle surcharge which is 37 cents per foot from Campbell River to Quadra and 55 cents per foot for trucks from Quadra to Cortes.

While the reduction is definitely in order, it is hardly reassuring when one looks at the big picture.

## Meeting the Minister

The FAC Chairs recently submitted a discussion paper to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Kevin Falcon titled "Towards A Minor Route Strategy for Coastal Ferry Service," and three of us went to Victoria yesterday (October 23) to meet with him. I'll report on that meeting in the next issue.

The discussion paper offers the FACC perspective on a wide variety of topics and points out that the Coastal Ferry Act was introduced "to provide a financially stable transportation system intended to ensure modest and predictable fare increases, to promote enhanced economic development and to support tourism while protecting taxpayers from financial risk and debt."

The paper acknowledges that the "new business model has enabled more efficient service delivery and effective capital planning," but it notes that "the following were not anticipated: increasing operational costs, especially those related to fuel; high capital costs to remedy the lack of previous investment in infrastructure; and resulting fare increases at a level that undermines the capacity of the system to promote economic development and to support tourism."

It suggests a strategy that could include "promoting increased traffic through tourism marketing initiatives, pursuing cost reductions through innovations and service adjustments, and mitigating fare shock through transportation fee adjustments."

It's important locally to remember that these ideas are the synthesis of the thinking of people who represent 22 ferry routes on the coast. Web masters willing, the entire document will be posted on [thegumboot.com](http://thegumboot.com) and [cortesisland.com](http://cortesisland.com) in the next few days.

You can email me at [sprungman@twincomm.ca](mailto:sprungman@twincomm.ca).

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# Island Forum

Say your piece: eMail: [news@discoveryislands.ca](mailto:news@discoveryislands.ca) • fax: 285-2236 • drop-off: 701 Cape Mudge Rd.

## To the community of Quadra Island.

As most of you know the Goodliffe family has been through a major upheaval in the recent weeks following the tragic accident and subsequent loss of John. At times I don't know how we have managed to get through the days, but we did. My parents flew to my side from the UK at the beginning of this nightmare and have remained steadfast ever since. I could not have managed without them and am eternally grateful.

This family has been embraced by the community of Quadra in the most remarkable way. People have called, sent cards, dinners (all very yummy!!), offers of support with transport and much more. I cannot begin to tell you all how much it has meant to myself, Spencer and Finn.

Last Saturday, we celebrated John at April Point. He would have loved it and so did we. Once again I have never been hugged so much and it felt great! To Neil and the staff at April Point who did so much on that day...thanks!

Everyone has been wonderful but there are a few that went above and beyond...Lynne and Jim, Mary and Suzanne who were there from day 1 and of course Elan who is always such a support to me and the children.

Blaine, Tina, Quadra children's centre, Quadra Elementary school and to everyone that I have not mentioned, sorry but this would be four pages long!

We never expected this nightmare and we wish we were not living it. This community helps to make it easier to carry on.

Rachel Goodliffe

## Dear Editor,

Another election date has come and gone. Once again, I have exercised my right Not to vote. Does this make me a bad person, with malicious intent? That was the impression I received from several people, when I freely expressed my opinions on the matter. I wish I could say that pride was part of my decision. I wish I could have voted, put my support behind people operating a system of equality and compassion. Sadly, the things I hold dear are far from the childish name calling and finger pointing these elections are comprised of. To cap it all off, almost a million Canadians voted for the Green Party. This is where I would have stood, yet they somehow didn't receive any seats. So a million votes were thrown away on wishing for a better future?

It seems like the change I'm looking for will not be coming from within the government. I wonder where we'll find it?

Benedict Leonard

## Dear Islanders,

So little room and so many people to thank!

The recent federal election campaign was truly a great experience. Made all the more so by the overwhelming expressions of support from people all over the North Island and the dedication and hard work of many volunteers.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to one and all for all your efforts. It is fantastic to be part of such an inspiring and positive team.

A special thank you to all those that stuck with their convictions and voted green in the face of the ongoing and increasingly undemocratic 'strategic' voting sham. If only those advocating such a misguided use of our democratic right put as much effort into developing real and up-to-date policy!

The Green Party was the only party to increase their share of the vote on October 14 (doubling the 2006 showing in our own riding). That is exactly the sort of encouragement and demonstration of progress for our ideas that spurs me on to continue championing the green movement in our region.

Sincerely

Philip Stone

Articles, letters and artwork are all welcome for publication in 'Island Forum'

Opinions & endorsements expressed herein are those of the contributors and do not represent the views of the publisher. If you would like to see an alternative point of view represented submit something yourself. We reserve the right to edit for space and content.

**Next deadline 7pm November 3rd**

# Classifieds

## Island Tides

### STORES

**Hummingbird Office & Art Supply Celebrates World Card Making Day** Saturday October 4th with a new Card Making Contest. Come in today and get your blank card and supplies to make your creation! Open 9am - 5pm Monday - Friday & 10am - 5pm Saturdays. Call 250-285-3334 or email qcopies@telus.net."

**AMPED ON NUTRITION** - Quadra Island's Health Food Store and Deli. We carry vitamins, supplements, alternative groceries and more. Energize yourself with our delicious, organic vegetarian deli delights. Combining what you need with what you want. Open 10:00 am - 6 pm every day except closed Sundays and Mondays 250-285-3142

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### For SURGE NARROWS Oct. 24 - Nov. 8

Date	Time	m	ft.
24	02:11	3.6	11.8
Friday	08:19	1.9	6.2
	15:19	4.7	15.4
	21:55	2.2	7.2
25	03:37	3.8	12.5
Saturday	09:24	2.1	6.9
	15:56	4.7	15.4
	22:35	1.8	5.9
26	04:48	4.0	13.1
Sunday	10:22	2.4	7.9
	16:28	4.6	15.1
	23:12	1.5	4.9
27	05:48	4.3	14.1
Monday	11:15	2.6	8.5
	16:57	4.6	15.1
	23:48	1.2	3.9
28	06:43	4.5	14.8
Tuesday	12:04	2.9	9.5
	17:22	4.5	14.8
29	00:23	0.9	3.0
Wednesday	07:35	4.7	15.4
	12:51	3.2	10.5
	17:44	4.4	14.4
30	00:57	0.8	2.6
Thursday	08:26	4.8	15.7
	13:36	3.5	11.5
	18:03	4.3	14.1
31	01:31	0.7	2.3
Friday	09:16	4.8	15.7
	14:21	3.7	12.1
	18:20	4.3	14.1
01	02:06	0.8	2.6
Saturday	10:07	4.8	15.7
	15:10	3.8	12.5
	18:37	4.2	13.8
02	02:41	0.9	3.0
Sunday	10:58	4.7	15.4
	16:07	3.9	12.8
	18:54	4.1	13.5
03	03:19	1.0	3.3
Monday	11:46	4.6	15.1
	17:22	3.9	12.8
	19:11	3.9	12.8
04	03:59	1.3	4.3
Tuesday	12:30	4.6	15.1
	04:44	1.6	5.2
	13:08	4.5	14.8
05	20:17	3.4	11.2
	21:19	3.4	11.2
06	05:37	1.9	6.2
Thursday	13:38	4.5	14.8
	20:37	3.0	9.8
07	05:38	2.2	7.2
Friday	13:06	4.5	14.8
	20:05	2.6	8.5
08	01:20	3.3	10.8
Saturday	06:45	2.5	8.2
	13:33	4.5	14.8

Pacific Daylight Time (+7)

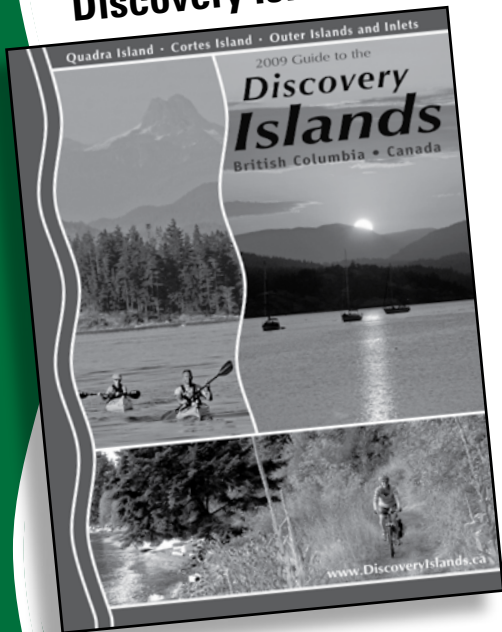


# Advertising Information for 2009 Now Available

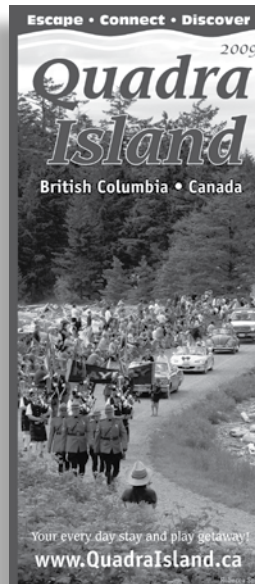


*Discovery Islands*  
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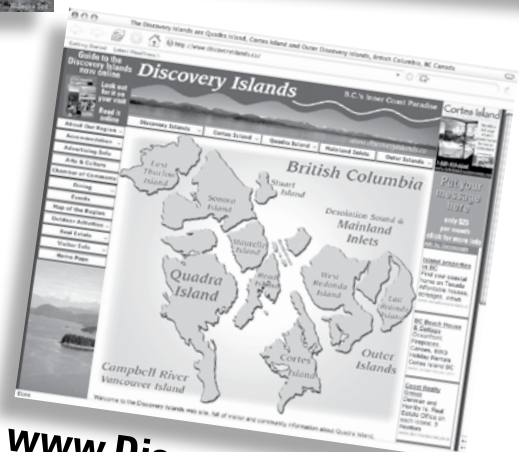
**Quadra Island  
Map - Brochure**



**Discovery Islander  
news and events**



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



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For more inquiries and/or to receive an information package  
call: 250-285-2234 or email [ads@discoveryislands.ca](mailto:ads@discoveryislands.ca)  
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