

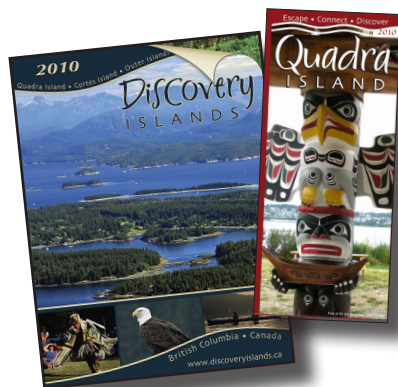


Discovery Islander

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



Advertising Deadline Reminder



**The deadline for booking
space in the 2010 Guide
to the Discovery Islands is
January 30th, 2010***

**Listings in the Quadra Map
are a bit more flexible but
best bang for buck is booking
now. So don't delay!!!**

** give or take a bit ;-)*

**Call Philip Stone
at 285-2234 or email
ads@discoveryislands.ca
for more information log on to:**

www.DiscoveryIslands.ca/Advertising

NOTICE REGARDING PARCEL TAX ROLLS

Public Notice is hereby given that the parcel tax rolls for the following services are available for inspection at the office of the Strathcona Regional District from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday:

- Craig Road Water Service - applicable to part of Electoral Area D (Oyster Bay-Buttle Lake)
- Electoral Area J Streetlighting Service - applicable to Quadra Island and the remainder of Electoral Area C (Discovery Islands-Mainland Inlets)
- Walter's Cove Water Supply Service - applicable to part of Electoral Area A (Kyuquot-Nootka/Sayward)

Any person who owns a parcel included on a parcel tax roll listed above may make a written request that the roll be amended as it applies to that parcel if there is an error or omission respecting the inclusion of the parcel, an error or omission respecting the name or address associated with the parcel, or that an exemption has been improperly allowed or disallowed. The deadline for receipt of written requests by the Regional District is 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2010.

Further information regarding this matter may be obtained by contacting the office of the Strathcona Regional District.

B. Reardon,

Chief Administrative Officer



**Strathcona Regional District #301
990 Cedar Street, Campbell River
BC V9W 7Z8**

Tsolum Mobile proudly welcomes Dr. Yaela Gleusteen

Tsolum Mobile proudly welcomes Dr. Yaela Gleusteen from 21 years of equine specialty practice in Southern California. Originally from Calgary, AB and graduating from Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatoon, SK, Dr. Gleusteen did an extended Internship at the world – famous Alamo Pintado Equine Medical Center in Los Olivos, CA. Her duties included management and treatment of all hospitalized horses (including critical care cases), anesthesia, assistant surgeon, ultrasound, Xrays, endoscopy, NMR (bone scan), and training Veterinary students. The following 3 years were spent at Conejo Valley Veterinary Clinic (the practice started by Vet, cartoonist, foal imprint trainer Robert M. Miller, D.V.M.), an extremely busy field practice where extensive lameness work-ups, pre-purchase examinations, reproductive and medical work-ups were routinely done.

Since then Dr. Gleusteen has had her own very successful equine practice. She has worked with horses of most disciplines (including Dressage, Jumpers, 3 – Day Eventers, Trail and Endurance, Cutting and Roping horses, Gaited, Pleasure and Miniature horses) and done repro. work for Peruvian Paso, Warmblood, and Quarter Horse breeding operations ... all for a very demanding and well –educated clientele, which included many of Hollywood's big celebrities ! Dr. Gleusteen is a certified acupuncturist and arrives with her own ultrasound (tendon and repro. probes), Xray machine, manual tooth floats and her valuable connections to California's top equine veterinarians. Tsolum Mobile (250-897-0304) is excited to have her on our team !



TSOLUM
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Island Calendar

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

The Regulars

- **Quadra Legion** - Now open Thurs & Fri at 7 pm and Saturdays at 4:00pm
- **Every Monday** - Parent and Tots 9:30 am - noon Q.C.C.
- Sing for Pure Joy! 3 - 4:30 pm Room 3 Q.C.C. All Voices Welcome.
- **Every Tuesday** - Pilates 9:30-10:30am QCC from 12 Jan. 285-2930
- Quadra Children's Song Circle - 3 - 4:00 p.m. Room 3 Q.C.C.
- Kidz Klub 3- 4:30 pm Quadra Island Bible Church
- Al-anon meeting, 7.30 pm at the Children's Centre
- Folkdancing QCC-7:30 pm Sept-April
- **Every Wednesday** - Moms and Babes 11 am - noon Q.C.C.
- Community Lunch noon Q.I.C.C.
- **Every Thursday** - Parent and Tots 9:30 am - noon Q.C.C.
- Pilates 5-6pm QCC from 14 Jan. 285-2930.
- Prayer Meeting, 7:00pm at Quadra Island Bible Church
- Life Drawing Sessions with model at Firesign Studio 7-9:30 pm
- **Every Saturday** - Pilates 9:30-10:30am QCC from 16 Jan. 285-2930.
- Legion Meat Draw 5:00 pm, Steak Dinner at 6:30pm
- **Every Sunday** - Centre for Spiritual Living Celebration 10:30 am Willow Point Hall
- Family Worship Service 10:30am Quadra Island Bible Church
- Quadra Sunday Painters, 11 AM- 2 PM, call Nanci 250-285-3390
- Quadra United Church-11 am, except 1st Sunday of month at 12 noon
- Buddhist meditation 10 am Q.I.C.C., everyone welcome
- Live Jazz at HBI 6:30 pm
- **1st Monday** - Quadra writers group - 7:00 to 9:00 pm 285-3656
- **1st and 3rd Wednesday** - Food Bank 1-2 Community Centre

Next Deadline: Monday, February 8th, 2010

Island Calendar is a list of on island events. Please submit separately for the **Island Calendar** and **News & Events** or indicate in your submission if you would like your event placed in both. **Following the text order exactly as above for email submissions is appreciated** (month, date, day, title, place and time), use the title as your email subject. Current advertisers welcome to submit events but not-for-profit items will be given priority. Thank you for understanding.

For links to the latest weather, tides, currents and marine weather forecast log on to
www.Quadraland.ca

Day by day

Friday, January 29

- Our Oceans, Our Future Q.I.C.C.
Sierra Quadra event, 7:30 pm

Saturday, January 30

- Our Oceans, Our Future Q.I.C.C.
12:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Friday, February 5

- Friday Flicks presents - Tokyo Sonata Q.I.C.C.
Doors open 7:30 pm Show starts 7:45 pm

Saturday, February 6

- Raven Stole the Sun, by Red Sky Performance theatre/dance company.
8:00 pm. Presented by Q. Cultural Committee. Q.I.C.C.

Sunday, February 7

- Quadra Literacy Festival Q.I.C.C.
1:00 - 3:00 pm

Monday, February 8

- The Garden Club presents Ellen Presley Q.I.C.C.
from Anderton Nurseries What's New in the Plant World 2010 7pm

Wednesday, February 10

- Quathiaski Cove Village Plan Public Meeting Q.I.C.C.
7 pm

Thursday, February 11

- Quadra Photography Club Inaugural Meeting Q.I.C.C.
7 pm suggestions and/or info Don @ 285-2142

Saturday, February 13

- "I Love Books" Valentine's Day Coffee House Q.I.C.C.
8 pm

- Valentines Dinner/Dance with Valentino's Black Book Herons @ the HBI
Dance lessons 6-6:45 pm Dinner 6:45 pm Music starts 8 pm, reservations -3322

Tuesday February 23

- QI Conservancy Stewardship Society AGM Q.I.C.C.
7:30 - 9:00 pm

Saturday - Sunday, February 27-28

- Friends of Bute Inlet and Trickster Theatre Q.I.C.C.

Island Calendar online: www.discoveryislander.ca

5 Day Weather Forecast: RAIN!!! 8°

Voice of the Islands' Business Community

2009 Volunteer & Business Recognition



Is there a Quadra business or volunteer you would like to have recognised for making a difference in our community?

Complete the following form and mail to:
DICC PO Box 790 Quathiaski Cove, BC V0P 1N0
Or email your wishes to: chamber@discoveryislands.ca

For your nomination form

email: chamber@discoveryislands.ca or call 250 285 2750

Closing date for excepting nomination is Feb 28, 2010

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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 **do not need to be an attached file** - just send text **in the body of the email**. Please spell check in Canadian English.
- Please use the title of the item as email subject.
- No MS Publisher, WordPerfect files or graphics in Word files please. Send imported graphics separately.
- 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, February 8th



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

Islander Forum

Dear Editor,

Here on Read Is. one thinks about how to sustain ones existence in paradise and it is never as easy as one in town imagines.

So sustainability has a political resonance about it as one aspires to and observes the outer world. One must persevere in paradise.

It may explain why Bill Wheeler is still trying to elicit a response from our Ottawa M.P. John Duncan about peace and justice. I'm sure Mr. Duncan would have to confer with the Prime Minister first about the words used before speaking to a commoner about such a simple issue.

One language I notice he speaks very well is the money language. It is accompanied by photo ops showing Mr. Duncan giving money away in the taxpayer funded newsletter.

This money must originate outside the province for if the province had to rely on a sustainable fisheries and forest policy we'd be bankrupt. So one may conclude our leaders in power are trying to attract outside financial capital to make up for a failed sustainable economy. Hence the philosophy behind the 9 billion dollar Olympic party is to attract dollars.

Invite GE/Plutonic Power and fund the company 400 million as they have the money. Promise the people jobs. Its such a clever strategy, for with such vast sums of money floating about who can even think.

A pragmatic approach with a vision about what it means to live in a sustained economy. Huh? We could easily harness geothermal power and use natural gas, of which we have copious amounts of, to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and make us happy, as well as keeping us warm and driving a primary industry economy which has a large carbon footprint. Two facts the environmental debate neglects to mention about the northern climes.

I have no idea who is going to pay for all this flakiness. The abstract concepts such as the GST, Carbon Tax, Property Tax may do the trick. What do you say Mr. Duncan? Is there any truth to what I say? yours

Hugh McNab

Editor

Discovery Islander,

The Rebecca Spit road from the park gate to the boat ramp is in its usual winter shape - disastrous! Many people I've talked to agree that it is ridiculous, vehicle-swallowing shape.

Several loads of gravel and a grading, preferably with a bit of a crown for drainage, would improve the situation, (grading is \$110/hr.).

Chip sealing in the summer, of the entire road with speed-bumps as needed, would solve the problem on a long-term basis, and eliminate the dust also. This is probably dreaming, as the Park's branch budget shrinks yearly!

Does the Parks branch not know that the park is well used year 'round?

Arne Liseth.

Quadra Islanders Stop the Insanity!

I am referring to the Coast Guard plan to do a major soil remediation at the lighthouse.

Read Jim Abram's report - January 15 Discovery Islander.

Imagine:

- The ferry line ups, 300 trips to Victoria.
- Another 300 trips back with soil replacement.
- The pollution and waste of fuel running dump trucks.
- The prohibitive cost of removing all the contaminated soil.

They plan to pack the soil in barrels in Victoria and then shipped to Swan Hills, Alberta!

The cost of this could help pay for much-needed lighthouse keepers on our coast.

It seems pointless for all of us to try so hard to help the environment, if unnecessary mega-pollution projects like this are still allowed to happen.

Shame on the planners of this make-work programme.

E.J. Thompson

Quadra Literacy Now

Quadra Elementary students enthusiastically celebrated Family Literacy Day by 'singing for literacy' at Aroma and at the village in Quathiaski Cove. Their joyful voices brightened the day.

Please join us for the second annual **Quadra Literacy Festival at the Community Centre, Sunday Feb. 7 from 1:00 to 3:00**. Sing for Literacy is the theme. Don't miss the opening, as there will be special performances and sing-a-longs led by some of our local talent and dedicated emergency services personnel.

There will be activities for children, families and the young-at-heart including a Scrabble tournament.

Drop-in Games and Wings at Legion

Drop-in games and wing night at the Legion, Thursdays at 7:00. Come and play a game of Darts, Pool or Ping Pong and enjoy some chicken wings. Barbeque steak or chicken dinner Sat. Jan. 30th 6:30 for \$15.00

Valentines at the Legion Saturday February 13th. Meat draw & Canada's women's hockey game at 5:00. Roast beef or Chicken dinner at 6:30pm for \$15.00 and dance with the Iron Pyrites 8:30pm-12:30am \$5.00 cover charge. Sure to be a great night

The Legion will be open for the Super Bowl game Sunday February 7th at 3:30pm and for the Men's hockey game Canada versus the U.S. Sunday February 21st 4:30. Complimentary snacks available so come by and enjoy the games.

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Ladies Auxillary

Kay Dubois Memorial Scholarship available to students, descendants of Canadian Veterans, entering post-secondary education. Awarded by the Quadra legion Ladies' Auxiliary and based on academic & citizenship criteria. Apply (before May 31) to: Box 242, Heriot Bay, BC V0P 1H0

Free Firewood

Free firewood is available for single parents, elders, unemployed & low income families & individuals. Bring your vehicle & we'll load it up or if you don't have wheels, we can deliver.

Call Steve at 285-3323 for an appointment.

Hand Drum Jam

We got a nice drum circle of about 8 people, including Scott on flute & marimba. We drum, we get a "natural high" & we drink tea. That's all.

\$5 drop in fee. Some instruction offered for beginners. Call Steve Moore for more info at 285-3323. Time: 7:45 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Place: Upper Realm, Q. Cove. Date: Every Wednesday night. P.S. former members of BeatRoot are invited to come on out too!

Buddhist Retreat

Buddhist retreat with Dharma teacher Robert Beatty at the Quadra Community Centre Fri. Mar. 19 (evening), Sat. Mar. 20 and Sun. Mar. 21.

This is a non-residential retreat offering sitting and walking meditation, Dharma talks and conversations with the teacher. Registration is \$50.00.

Donations to the teacher are welcome. Contact Don McEachern at 250 285 2193 or dmceach@telus.net for details.



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News and Events

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

Thanks!!

Thank you to everyone who attended the first Wilderness trekking presentation at Q.C.C. on Monday night (January 25). Over a hundred people were on hand to it a very special event. We raised \$510 for the Umbrella Project Orphanage in Kathmandu. Thanks for this very generous support and we look forward to a very exciting future here on inspirational Quadra Island

Pilates

Re-connect with dormant core muscles. Align your spine and correct your posture. Simple, Effective mat based Pilates classes starting from 12 Jan.

Tuesdays & Saturdays 9:30-10:30am, Thursdays 5-6pm at Q.C.C. \$100/10 classes.


Visit www.practicalpilates.ca or call Natasha on 285-2930.

Heat And Eat

Frozen meals are available at the Community Luncheon, which at the Community Centre every Wednesday, from 10am to 1pm. Cost of meals is \$5.50 each. If you wish further information, contact Karen at 285-3064 or Lynda at 285-3205.

Youth Group

Happy New Year from the Youth Group, a brand new program sponsored by the Quadra Recreational Society. Youth Group is a program designed for youth between the ages of 11 and 15. The Youth Group creates activities that provide a comfortable atmosphere for teens, that are interest related and ultimately fun. Youth Group meets every Saturday at the Community Center at 1pm. Keep an eye open for the posted bulletins or email Lisa Murphy for more information. You can reach Lisa at: lisa_rec_society@yahoo.ca



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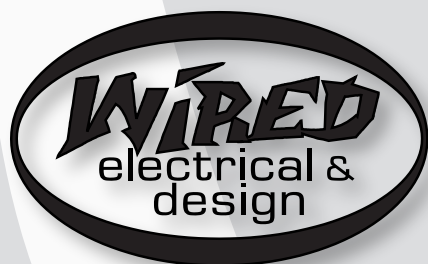
7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Monday — Friday

285-3511

www.quadraisland.ca/qcc

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Call Jane 250-285-2882

Kidz Klub

Kidz Klub is back at Quadra Island Bible Church. We will meet on Tuesdays this year, from 3:00 - 4:30 pm. Children in grades one to six are invited to join us at 1281 West Rd. for snacks, games, Bible lessons, crafts and singing. Everyone welcome! For more information call 250-285-2020.

Preparing for British Columbia's Biodiesel Requirements

As You may be aware last December the Government of British Columbia mandated that diesel sold in British Columbia after January 1, 2010 must contain an annual average of 5 % renewable content (such as biodiesel). This letter is to advise you that we began delivering up to 5 % biodiesel commencing January 1 2010.

All diesel handlers should ensure their equipment is suitable for diesel containing 5 % biodiesel. It is your responsibility as the equipment owner to take any corrective measures necessary to ensure your tank materials and filtering equipment are compatible with biodiesel.

Biodiesel has a heavy solvency effect and can cause water pick up. If the debris of water from tanks were to be picked up it can cause premature filter plugging, corrosion, and vehicle damage. Therefore, it is imperative all tanks be clean and dry. Since biodiesel may pick up residues and may also contain low levels of insolubles from plant matter it should be considered mandatory to use dispenser filtration. Filters used or conventional diesel are typically inadequate for biodiesel blends containing 5 % biodiesel.

At this time, we are not aware of a Government of British Columbia website or call centre that provides information regarding the implementation of biodiesel in the province. Alternatively you can visit the sites below for information regarding biodiesel conversions in other jurisdictions:

www.biofleet.net/documents/

www.nrel.gov/vehiclesandfuels/

www.biodiesel.org/resources/reportsdatabase/

In Memory of Florence Muriel Booth

Nov. 12, 1923 - Dec. 23, 2009



Florence passed away at the Campbell River Hospital, in her 86th year. A long time resident of Quadra Island, Florence will be remembered for her great sense of humour, her strength and wisdom, and her passion for gardening. Florence's garden was a work of art that brought great pleasure not only to Florence, but to family, friends and visitors.

Florence had served with the Canadian Women's Army Corps and had been a long-time employee with Family Services in Campbell River.

A special thank you to Dr. Graham, all the wonderful Community Health Workers and Home Care Nurses on Quadra Island for all your personal care and support. Thank you to the Doctors, Nurses and Day Care staff at the Campbell River Hospital.

Please join family and friends on Sunday, February 28th at 2:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, 1530 West Rd., Quadra Island to Celebrate Florence's Life.

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Building Relationships, Embracing Diversity - A Community Dialogue

Community members are invited to join in a dialogue on Saturday January 30, 2010 exploring the ways we can enjoy the richness that comes from building relationships across difference and embracing diversity.

"Communities are complex webs of relationships; expanding our capacity for having relationships across difference is key to transforming our community," says Maria Gomes, Human Rights Advisor at Vancouver Island University. Campbell River is an increasingly diverse community. We live, work and play in a place with people of different colours, abilities, cultures, economic conditions, languages, sexual orientations, family structure, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, immigrant and Canadian born. In sharing our stories, we can create a community that everyone can call home.

"As Campbell River becomes increasingly diverse," stated Rachel Blaney, Executive Coordinator of Campbell River and Area Multicultural and Immigrant Services Association (CRMISA), "it is important that we continue to keep communication lines open. Curiosity is the cornerstone of an Inclusive community. As we express our curiosity about difference the more aware we become our similarities. The dialogue is a method to help us on that journey."

This free community event, including lunch, is hosted by CRMISA and led by the Ministry of Attorney General in partnership with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development. Dialogues are occurring around the province. Supported through the Simon Fraser University's Dialogue Programs, the methods used are

highly developed and researched. As Joanna Ashworth, director of the SFU Dialogue Programs stated, "Dialogue is a powerful way to learn about each other. It's a conversation among peers to gain new understanding; a way of taking the energy of our differences and using it to create something new." CRMISA hopes that you will participate in creating something new in our community.

Participants must pre-register by January 25, by contacting Multicultural Services at 250 830-0171 or info@crmisa.ca. For further information please call 250 830-9065.

Beat the February Blahs!

Last fall the Community Centre a group met for an overview of the book 'Happiness' by Mattieu Ricard. This book is a thoroughly researched, valuable source of insights into human behaviour. It helps to identify those habits which promote a long term sense of well-being, those that detract from it, and how to progressively 'accentuate the positive and eliminate the negative'. Cue for a song?

In February a group will be meeting on Wednesday evenings to study the book in-depth and encourage discussion and practice of what we learn.

This is to benefit you, but ultimately the lives of those you touch too.

Copies of the book are available at Book Bonanza for \$16.99. The meetings are free and start Wednesday, 10th of February at 7:15 pm for 10 weeks.

For location and further info call John at 285-2958.

Climb On!

The Quadra Vertical Climbing wall will be opening in the new year. Whether your new to climbing or are an old pro the wall is a great place to get in some winter exercise or start training for the real thing come spring. Open dates will be January through April every Sunday from 2 - 4 pm, with the exception of January 2/17/31 and February 7/28.

The fee is \$5 for drop in or \$25 for a Quadra Vertical annual membership, both of which gets you a rental harness, belay instruction and lots of encouragement! If you are interested in volunteering or otherwise becoming involved (or donating used climbing shoes!)

Contact Matthew at 285-2543 for more info.

Uniting Island Businesses



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- Coordinating island promotion.
- Low annual membership dues

FOR MEMBERSHIP INFO

www.discoveryislands.ca/chamber

Contact the Chamber by eMail chamber@discoveryislands.ca

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Quadra Island Seniors--- Branch 91-- B.C.O.A.P.O.

Is Spring coming? Bulbs are coming up. Trees are almost ready to bud.

And is Cupid around, on Quadra Island? Ask Bob Brown our President.

Well on February 3rd/10, our Seniors are having a Pot-Luck Luncheon. Before our General Meeting, we will hear some "Love Storys", and look at photos of our spouses, and loved ones. Come along and have some fun.

On March 17th/10, our Branch is hosting the North Island Regional Meeting. We expect approximately about a hundred members, from Fanny Bay, Union Bay, Cumberland, Black Creek, Campbell River and Port Alice, and of course, Quadra Island. We are having a interesting speaker, Prizes, and a delicious lunch.

The Theme will be St. Patricks Day. We are looking towards a fun day. Come on Wednesdays, to our Armchair Aerobics with Ann Lawrence at 10:00 am.

Carpet Bowling with Chris Dyson at 11:30 am, and after snacks, coffee or Tea, or what ever suits your fancy. Then join our Glee Club and sing with Lillian Melton, joined with Judy Hagen on Bells and Helen Swanson at Piano, at 1:00 pm.

Walk on Sundays with Peter Gregg & Lloyd McIlwain, meet them on Rebecca Spit by the Launch Ramp, or catch up at the Big Parking Lot.

For Membership contact Muriel Krook at 3216.

Senior Housing News

Ken Duncan and John Toelle met with Regional District staff on Jan .20th to present amendments to the development permit which reflect the changes made to building and site plans - they report that the meeting went well and that our amendments were well received.

The Quadra Garden Club has confirmed that their donation of \$2000 + interest will be available to the Society to help with landscaping, and more importantly, several members of the Club have volunteered to help plant trees come Fall. Another example of the community support so essential to "make the project happen".

It is not too early to think about the Annual Meeting scheduled for April 19th at the Community Center, since we will be requiring some additional citizens to join our Board of Directors. If you are inclined to become involved and contribute your time & energy, or if you know someone who is enthusiastic about senior housing, please contact Ken Duncan at 3787, Val at 2841, or Tucker at 2166.

There will soon be constructed on site a large display board to recognize all those volunteers who have contributed time and equipment to advance the project, including of course Bill O'Connor who generously gave the land to the Society. Watch for it, and watch our fundraising thermometer for a "temperature" rise to \$188,000.

Tokyo Sonata

Drama – PG 13

Friday, Feb 5, Q.C.C.

Doors 7:30 – Showtime 7:45

Admission: \$5 stu/snr: \$4.

An afternoon breeze blows through an open doorway under the opening titles of Kiyoshi Kurosawa <<http://www.villagevoice.com/related/to/Kiyoshi+Kurosawa>>'s Tokyo Sonata. It portends a coming storm and violent winds of change about to uproot the lives of the movie's characters, just as the economic implosion of Japan anticipated our own.

The film centers on Ryûhei, a 46-year-old middle manager for a Tokyo medical equipment company whose entire department is outsourced to China. Ryûhei guards the news from his wife, Megumi and their two sons, continuing to don his suit and tie for a daily triathlon of dead-end job interviews, soup-kitchen lunches, and afternoons at a public library.

Ryûhei is not the only one adept at deception. Megumi continues to play the part of the obliging homemaker. Youngest son Kenji pockets his lunch money for piano lessons. Eldest son Takashi calmly announces that he's joining the military no matter what anyone says.

Kurosawa here uses the microcosm of family to reflect a changing Japanese society—one that he sees staggering awkwardly into the 21st century, weighed down by faltering notions of tradition and a profound lack of internal communication. Kurosawa's abiding concern has always been the alienation of modern life. Using the domestic milieu, he shows the subtle fissures in society which threaten to short-circuit people.

Kurosawa shows the collective yearning for renewal, then pushes Tokyo Sonata and everyone in it to the brink. It appears the world has been turned on its side. It is here that the considerable beauty of this recession-era tonic grows deeper and more personal, as something oddly like hope arrives in the guise of chaos.



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Quathiaski Cove Village Development Plan Public Meeting.

The first public meeting for this exciting project is scheduled for Wednesday Feb. 10 at 7pm at the Community Centre, an opportunity for the public to learn more about the project and to meet and interact with the Steering Committee and the consultant, David Rousseau. The planning is designed to be a community driven process and your input is requested.

What do kids love most? Their parents reading to them!

Recent studies show that children are hungry for bedtime stories; almost two-thirds of children want their parents to spend more time reading to them before bed. Storytelling is a powerful learning and emotional resource in children's lives. Storytelling is ranked higher than television or video games among pastimes for kids, and reading a story to your child before bed can help them sleep better, according to a survey of 500 children aged three to eight in Britain.

The best storytellers are parents who use funny voices to illustrate different characters or make their own special sound effects to keep the story moving. In today's busy schedules it can be very difficult for parents to find the time to read with their children, but these moments can help build strong bonds and play a vital part in your child's development. Children who are read to know more about the world have bigger vocabularies and are more interested in learning how to read.

Submitted by Cheryl Jordan, Success by 6 Coordinator, Campbell River Region

QICSS AGM Feb 23 7:30 pm at QCC

Many newcomers to Quadra are probably wondering what the heck is QICSS. QICSS is short for Quadra Island Conservation and Stewardship Society. It was formed in 1990 to purchase and preserve the only private property fronting on Morte Lake. This 57 acre property has a covenant registered on it stating that it is to remain in its natural state except for the two existing trails. QICSS is responsible for maintaining the property and ensuring that the covenant is followed. We also feel it has the right to monitor and comment on all commercial activities in the Morte Lake watershed. In fact the first purpose listed on the incorporation document is "To preserve, protect and enhance the quality of the human and natural environment of the area".

As a stewardship society QICSS, can hold covenants on other properties. Restrictive covenants are a way to control what happens to a property in the future. They can be simple such as stating "no subdivision" or they can specify specific conditions for multiple areas of the property. We presently are a covenant holder on Linnaea farm on Cortes, and two properties on Quadra. As the covenant holder we are required to do regular inspections of those properties to ensure that the covenants are being followed.

QICSS is looking for two or three new stewards to replace retiring members. The work is easy and the meetings are generally bi-monthly. If you are interested in helping, please call the election committee chair Ken Roxburgh at 250-2580. Even if you don't wish to serve at this time, please come to our AGM Feb 23, 7:30 pm at QCC.

What's New in the Plant World for 2010

The introduction of new plants each year is a very dynamic part of horticulture. Collecting plants was a passion in the Victorian era, and as in the past, plant hunters today are paid to travel the world finding new species. In addition, many of the 21st century varieties of ornamental plants are created in a petri dish. The science of plant genetics creates brilliant colours and complex textures to dress up our gardens. No matter how a plant is introduced, it is always fun and entertaining to have a look at the new selection.

On Monday February 8th 7pm, the Garden Club welcomes Ellen Presley, owner of Anderton's Nursery in the Comox Valley. Anderton's is one of the largest greenhouse operations north of Nanaimo. With sixteen greenhouses and thirty four staff it is a growing gardeners' mecca. When visiting their garden centre have a look at the non profit, independently run Anderton Therapeutic Gardens adjacent. Ellen is also known for the garden column she writes for the local paper, The Echo.

Her talk will be focused on how to use perennials in the garden with emphasis on the attributes of each plant discussed. A handout will be available for a reference when you go shopping this Spring. Ellen will give us information on which plants to use for deer, rabbit, disease and drought tolerance. Choosing the 'right plant for the right place' will give you a luscious garden, reducing the amount of time spent caring for your plants. It will also save you money when you get it right the first time.

Join us for an interesting slide show presentation of the new perennials introduced this year to the local garden centres. Ellen will also show a series of Vancouver Island photos created by a very talented flower photographer. To quote Eileen, 'This will give us all a shot of summer colour'.

For the show and tell table, bring a spring bouquet, include some of your vegetable greens. The Hellebores are budding up and the early crocus, winter aconite and snowdrops are out. Drop ins welcome \$2 at the door or buy a membership \$10 annually.

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Sadly, one in four British Columbians cannot read this sentence. More than 48 % of working age people in BC have difficulty reading, which makes it difficult for them to be a part of our changing economy.

Be a part of the solution! The CR Community Literacy Association has students who need tutors.

Volunteer tutors work one-on-one with adults wanting to improve their English skills. The service is free and private. Everyone is welcome.

More tutors are needed for two programs. Adult literacy tutors work with youth and adults whose skills range from learning sound-letter relationships for the first time to reading at a junior high level.

ESL tutors work with adults who are learning English as their second language.

The Literacy Association offers adult literacy support, evening ESL tutoring sessions and youth literacy mentorship. All programs are free, thanks to funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development.

Training for volunteer tutors will be held next month. If you are interested in becoming a tutor for either program phone 250 923 1275 or email Sherry Bujold at info@literacyforall.ca for more information.

Valentine's Day Coffee House

Valentine's Day is for human lovers & book lovers too!

Bring the love of your life and your most beloved book to the Valentine's Day Coffee House at the Quadra Community Centre on Saturday Night, February 13 at 8 p.m. It's by donation at the door.

Hop up on stage & read a few paragraphs from your favorite book. You'll be in good company with Maureen Macardell & Heather Kellerhals & Gabriel Lessard-Kagen & Rena Patrick & Paul Puddy & Steve Moore & Eileen Sowerby & Ray Grigg & Jeannette Taylor & Maureen Fox.

There will also be a vocal art auction to raise money from the stage & live music by Castaway, Quadra's new music group playing danceable reggae & funk music.

The purpose of the Valentine's Day Coffee House is to raise \$1500 to purchase books for the new book shelves in Room #1 at the Quadra Community Centre. A dozen copies of CBC's Best Canadian Fiction Book of 2008 (The Book of Negroes) and Echart Tolle's The New Earth & other books are currently available. We also just added Jeanette Taylor's book on Quadra Island cause we "Love" this island.

Come join us for a relaxing & entertaining community event.

If your loved ones are book lovers & you want a night out on the town, what could be better than this? Staying home & watching a Hollywood movie, made in the USA, is just not a comparable option.

And it's for a good cause! Call Steve Moore at 285-3323 for more info or if you have something you would like to read.

Free Money

Free money is available on Wednesday, February 17 just before the community lunch from 11:30 a.m. to Noon. Many thanks to the weavers & knitters & Amped on Nutrition & Book Bonanza for providing funds for February & March. Looks like we'll have enough money to finish the season in April if we can obtain another \$500. Donations can be placed in the Free Money Association account in the Credit Union. Thanks again, Steve Moore 285-3323

Quadra Photo Enthusiasts

QCC - Thursday, February 11, 7:00 p.m.

Do you enjoy photography? Would you like to enhance that enjoyment by getting together with like-minded shutterbugs? A photography club is a great opportunity to share knowledge, to provide inspiration and encouragement, and to enjoy each others' images. Novices, experts and everyone in between are welcome.

A kick-off meeting will be held at the Quadra Island Community Centre at 7:00 p.m., February 11. Let's get together and discuss the kinds of activities and focus you would like to see in a local photo club. Slide shows, educational sessions, group photo outings, fun photo "assignments", and constructive feedback are among the possibilities.

If you have any questions or suggestions prior to the meeting, please contact Don at 285-2142 or don.mottershead@gmail.com. See you on February 11!

Campbell River High School Reaching Out

The earthquake that hit Haiti has caused a devastating amount of destruction in both human lives and infrastructure. There is undoubtedly no amount of aid and money that can makeup for the country's losses. Being there in a time of need is what is most important now; so how can you help?

Simple. From one island to another. Raising money for shelter boxes is just what one Campbell River high school is doing to aid those most destitute (shelterbox.ca). Carihi's Interact, Leadership, Peer Support, and The Crew groups have brainstormed a way for the greater Campbell River community to get involved by hosting a coffee house. The coffee house is a student centered initiative, promoting, quite simply—that "Carihi cares."

The coffee house will be hosted at Carihi's multipurpose room (MPR) Tuesday, February 9, from 6:30pm-9:00pm (to match the ferry schedule). A small \$2.00 donation is all that is needed to come and enjoy live acoustic entertainment; Campbell River's Rotary Club is matching all donations made from the event. In addition, professional and student band groups will be playing throughout, including the EDM choir. There will also be a silent auction with delightful appetizers to enjoy.

Please come and support this impactful fundraising initiative with a small donation and a smile!

Tickets can be purchased at Carihi, or upon arrival. We hope to see you there!

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Raven Stole the Sun

Raven, the mythical and magical bird of the Canadian West Coast, speaks to us in an ever-changing voice that has inspired artists and writers over centuries with its tales of creation and re-creation. Toronto theatre/dance group Red Sky Performance will stage its critically acclaimed production of *Raven Stole the Sun*, based on a traditional West Coast Tlingit Nation story about this mischievous, larger-than-life bird with its ability to shift-shape, at the Quadra Community Centre on Saturday, February 6th at 8:00 pm.

Red Sky Performance was founded in 2000 by Sandra Laronde, a member of the Temagami-Anishnaabe (People of the Deep Water) in Temagami, Ontario. As an Honours graduate in Arts from the University of Toronto, Ms Laronde's vision for Red Sky is "... to create an international company that shapes contemporary world Indigenous performance while making a significant contribution to the artistic vibrancy of Canada and the world." Acting as Director of Aboriginal Arts at The Banff Centre for the Arts, Ms Laronde has acted in many television series and documentaries with the CBC and is producer, director, choreographer, actor and dancer with Red Sky Performance.

Raven Stole the Sun enchants audiences of all ages with its upbeat music, clever narrative, traditional costumes and inventive sets. Joined on stage by the witty and physical actor Michael Dufays and the stately Carlos Rivera, Ms Laronde's natural gift draws in her audience from the opening lines. In *Raven Stole the Sun*, Ms Laronde has managed, with the help of story-teller Sháa Tláa Maria Williams and stage-interpreter Drew Hayden Taylor to produce a beautifully innocent tale with traditional song and dance, engaging humour, and some minor infusions of contemporary theatrics such as hip-hop.

Critics from 8 to 88 agree on the quality of this feel-good performance: "I loved having Red Sky come here. I wish it never ended!" wrote Hailey, 8 years old, Buckingham Elementary School. And from the Theatre of the World Festival, San Diego State University: "Our faculty at the Theatre of the World Festival, who are leaders and innovators in the world of family drama, absolutely fell in love with your production. Your work was enchanting and inspiring to our children, students and adults. I am sure that Red Sky will enrich the lives of all who see it in the future. We welcome you back anytime!"

Advance tickets for *Raven Stole the Sun* are \$17 Adults and \$40 Family, and are available at the Music Plant in Campbell River and at Quadra Crafts or Hummingbird Office and Art Supply on Quadra Island. Door prices: \$20 Adults and \$45 Family. For more information, call 250-285-2580 or visit the group's website www.redskyperformance.com

Who Knew? Now You Will Too, at the U of Q!

University of Quadra! Wednesday January 27: Barb Mindell, learn all there is to know about sprouts and sprouting. Next week: Feb. 3: How-to, safety & tool techniques for the wood router with Sue Smith of Kenwood Designs. Thanks to Sharon Hatelt and congratulations to the many GRADUATES of Quadra Island Weather 101 from the halls of U of Q !!! Learn something new from the people that know, every Wednesday night in the HBI Pub. One hour class. 7:00pm. n\c.

History Comes Alive

Seats are filling up fast for the **HBI history and dinner with Jeanette Taylor** in Herons. Jeanette recounts juicy stories from her newest book, *The Quadra Story*. Four course dinner and stories \$29.00. Saturday January 30. 6pm. Reserve now! 285-3322

Photos and newspaper clips are pouring in for the **Heriot Bay Inn family photo album**. Thank you! Any and all who have entered this wonderful place have become part of the history and family of the Heriot Bay Inn. We can all partake in creating the families photo album for this ever growing family. Find pictures of you yours from days past and take them to Hummingbird for printing no charge. Questions or assistance call Deb HBI 285-3322 or 285-3200

Swing on Down to the HBI

Hérons presents: Valentine's, a dinner\dance. **Saturday Feb 13.** Dance band: Valentino's Black Book. Bonus! Couples social dancing class, East coast swing step taught by our own Sharon and Barry Hatelt. Lessons 6:00-6:45pm. Dinner seatings 6:45-9:00pm. Music 8:00-10:00pm. \$35pp, limited seating. 285-3322

Lovely Specials at Herons

February 14: medium rare love in Herons, Chateaubriand for two. \$70 per couple, must be pre-ordered by February 12. Our regular fabulous Herons fresh sheet available also. Love the love at the HBI!

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Museum at Campbell River Tracks and Trains

Hey Campbell River – All Aboard! It's that time of year again – the North Island Model Railroaders annual show at the Museum at Campbell River is back! I hear those trains are coming. On Saturday and Sunday, January 30-31, from 12 noon to 5 pm (12 – 4 pm on Sunday), come on over to the Museum to witness the excitement of model trains. Everyone that sees this show walks away impressed and this year's show will prove to be as interesting as ever. There is something for the whole family. A 'Scavenger Hunt' is featured this year and many new prizes will be drawn. Incredible displays of model railroad equipment, scenery and miniature buildings will all be available for 'looking and learning'. The electric Lego train will be back. Questions are always encouraged as many Railroader members will be on hand to introduce you to the field of model railroads. The cost is \$6.00 per person or \$15.00 for the whole family. Kids under six are free. Call the Museum at Campbell River at 287-3103 for more information. Discover for yourself why this fascinating hobby is popular all around the world!



Photo: Example of Model Trains - North Island Model Railroaders, Jan. 30-31 at the Museum at Campbell River

Campbell River Social Planning Committee

Supporting our Social Mosaic: A Community Planning Workshop

Our community is actively working on preparing a Social Development Strategy for the City of Campbell River. A Social Development Strategy aims to create a coherent, collaborative and practical approach to addressing local social issues. We are looking for input from the community and inviting interested members of the community to attend a free 1½ day planning workshop that will be held on Friday, February 19th in the afternoon (2 pm to 5 pm), and Saturday, February 20th (9 am to 4 pm) at North Island College in Campbell River. The goal of the workshop is to identify gaps in our health and social services and prioritize actions to address those gaps.

The agenda for the February 19th afternoon session is based on a panel discussion with local representatives from a range of sectors followed by questions and comments from workshop participants. The agenda for the 20th includes seven separate workshop tables, with each table addressing one of the following social development areas:

- Social inclusion, accessibility and food security
- Public safety
- Training, employment and income security
- Housing, shelter and homelessness
- Health and well being
- Children, youth, seniors and families
- Community development

This process will be assisted by local artists who will be creating artwork reflecting the discussion at each workshop table.

The Campbell River Social Planning Committee is comprised of volunteer members representing different service providers who support the importance of social development planning for our community. We have been meeting since May 2003 and participation has been encouraged from as many agencies, groups and interested individuals as possible.

It has been a slow but worthy process. In May of 2009 the Campbell River Social Planning

Committee hosted the "Ann Elmore's Legacy: Preparing for Social Change" event with the expert assistance of the Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia (SPARC BC). With SPARC BC's assistance once again, the upcoming workshop on February 19th and 20th, 2010 is intended to build the consensus, commitment, cohesive collaboration and detailed content needed to create an effective and inclusive Social Development Plan for Campbell River. We welcome anyone who wishes to participate.

Our vision is that Campbell River encourages and provides access to opportunities and resources for all residents to meet their basic needs and realize their full potential.

Our Objectives are:

- 1) To develop a social plan for the community of Campbell River.
- 2) To collaborate with those who have a vested interest in the social health of this community and work together to establish a healthy community that will attract others.
- 3) To ensure that provincial government agencies, the Municipality and Campbell River agencies, groups and residents contribute to and endorse the social plan.

Please mark February 19 and 20, 2010 on your calendar and plan on attending. Refreshments will be provided. To register, please email Brenda Wagman at crworkshop@telus.net or call Katie Hine at 250-850-2110 by February 12, 2010. Late registrations may be accepted if space is available.

Judi Malcolm

Chair, Campbell River Social Planning Committee

How to Safely Offer Physical Assistance to the Elderly

Monday, Feb. 15 at 11 am Room 1 Quadra Island Community Centre. Quadra Circle.

Many of us are faced with aging parents or relatives who need a hand to help with the physical activities of life. We all would like to help but some hesitate because unsure of just how to do it properly.

Quadra Circle invites anyone interested in learning how to knowledgeable and safely extend a supportive hand to come to a presentation given by Colleen Swanson. Colleen is a community health worker with years of experience working with the elderly. She has a keen interest in teaching and has many tips to share with us on such things as safely helping someone get out of a chair or into a car, with toileting etc.

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Quadra Island Medical Clinic Update/Changes

Over the past year there have been a few changes at the clinic that we thought we'd share.

These include a few new services and a change to our booking system.

New Services:

1. LABORATORY SERVICES

As many of you are aware, the Campbell River Hospital Lab is now working out of our office on Wednesday mornings from 7am-10am for drop in lab collection.

2. INTEGRATED HEALTH NETWORK

The Integrated Health Network, a team of dietitians, nurses and social workers come once per week for appointments with patients with chronic diseases.

3. PHYSIOTHERAPY

Klari Varallyai, Physiotherapist from Campbell River Physiotherapy is here on Wednesdays seeing patients in the clinic and Vitalis Gym. Appointments are booked through our clinic at the regular phone number.

BOOKING CHANGES:

1. Many of our patients prefer to be seen by the doctor the same day they call for an appointment. We try our hardest to ensure patients who need to be seen the day they call are accommodated. Please indicate if your problem may be urgent when calling.

2. We start booking appointments at 930 am each day and fill the schedule as we get calls.

Our same day bookings are meant for responding to one urgent problem only and they are booked as 5-10 minute appointments.

3. If you are calling for an appointment such as a complete physical, biopsy, consultation PAP smear, review of chronic illness or form completion please book ahead of the day you wish to be seen and ask for a longer appointment. These appointments are 20-30 minutes long. Longer appointments are usually not booked for the same day you call.

4. Changing to this system has proved to be a positive move for most patients. We can accommodate most requests to be seen the day a patient calls however, some days this isn't as easy to do as others. Two days per week we have two doctors working on the same day, giving us more appointment slots on those days. If a Doctor is out of the office to attend a

meeting or when we have holidays or illness, we have less coverage than a normal week and it may be more difficult to get in when you want.

5. How can you help to make sure this system works for you? If you have more than one problem that needs to be discussed, book a longer appointment by planning ahead and booking a few days in advance. Our same day appointments are for one problem and are meant for short appointments. It seems lately there has been some confusion that we do not book appointments. If you are working, live off Quadra Island or find it difficult to call the same day, you can book a longer appointment ahead, but you may need to wait a few days or possibly a week, as we only leave a few long appointment slots per day.

6. We are working hard to make this system work and appreciate your feedback. We have reduced the number of no show appointments significantly by getting patients in the same day rather than having patients forgetting appointments booked in advance. Another positive outcome from same day appointments, is that you can deal with a problem right when it is bothering you instead of coming in with a list of things that may not be as pressing at the time of your appointment.

We hope you find this information helpful and please feel free to call Linda at the Clinic 250-285-3540 if you have any concerns or questions.

Regional Hospital District Elects Chair/Vice Chair

The Comox-Strathcona Regional Hospital District (CSRHD) board of directors has again elected Charlie Cornfield as its chair and Paul Ives as its vice chair.

"Health care remains a significant issue for all our residents, no matter where they live in the region," said Cornfield. "The past year has been a demanding one as we grapple with serious and long-ranging issues, and I am hopeful that we will come to resolution on those issues in the year to come. I know that I am up to the challenge and look forward to working with the vice chair and the board to ensure the best choices are made for our future."

In addition to dealing with the general issues around health care facilities in the region, the board will turn much of its attention to the proposed new hospitals in Campbell River and the Comox Valley.

Charlie Cornfield is the mayor of Campbell River and Paul Ives is the mayor of Comox. Both are also directors on the board of the Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital District.

The CSRHD provides capital funding, cost shared with the provincial government on a 60/40 basis, with the hospital district portion being 40 percent. The facilities that the CSRHD funds are: Campbell River & District General Hospital, St. Josephs Hospital, Cumberland Regional Hospital Laundry Society, Gold River Health Clinic, Zeballos Health Clinic and the health centres on Cortes and in Kyuquot and Tahsis.

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Show Jeneece and the sick children of BC that Quadra Island cares!

'Passages' the day program part of Community Living Campbell River, where I work, has been, for the last two years, collecting pennies and small change for Jeneece and her charity 'VanCity and the Children's Hospital'.

In 2007 we collected \$263.00, in 2008 our total was \$649.00. We are hoping to beat this number this year.

If you would like to help us in our fund raising you can drop your pennies at Fun Knits in the Cove Plaza and at Heriot Bay Tru-Value. Pennies will be collected up in February to be rolled and counted, then sent to Jeneece.

Thank you for your support
Patricia Casquet
Day Programmer,
Community Living Campbell River

Celebrating Strathcona Park

With all the Olympic hoopla reaching fever-pitch, 2010 is already shaping up to be a very special year for British Columbia. And there is more cause for celebration to come. In 2011 the Province will be celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of our world-renowned Provincial Parks with a year of events and initiatives.

The story of BC Parks began the preceding year, in 1910, by an expedition led by the Commissioner of Lands Price Ellison into what became Strathcona Park.

Plans are afoot to re-enact Ellison's expedition in the summer of 2010 including an ascent of Crown Mountain, a seminal point on the party's journey. The Lt. Governor has issued a proclamation marking the **Strathcona Centennial Expedition** as the official re-enactment.

The event is combined with the launch of a Legacy Fund that will raise and manage funds for stewardship, infrastructure, land acquisition and rehabilitation for the park. For more information log on to: www.sce2010.ca

New Year – New Art Classes At C.R. Gallery

Make a creativity commitment to the new decade and take advantage of our array of community arts programming at the Campbell River Art Gallery.

Tamara Tutt, will teaches jewellery-making at both ends of the spectrum. A new Monday evening series of introductory classes begin on February 1st. She'll also lead "Further Adventures," an advanced class, Wednesday evenings, beginning on Feb. 3rd. Tamara's skill and enthusiasm, and her beautiful jewellery have made her classes very popular.

Sandra Lamb, award winning painter and cartoonist, teaches the art of making and embellishing acrylic transfers. Her painting "Coming Home," which won an award of excellence at the 2009 Members' Show used this technique, which adds depth and variation to 2D work. The workshop takes place on two Sundays: Feb 7 & 14.

Live model figure drawing happens every Tuesday from Feb 9 till March 15. Richard Calver hosts Open Studio, which runs from 6:30 – 9pm. Bring your own drawing or painting materials; the Gallery supplies the model. A four week punch card is \$40 + gst - \$10.50 for drop in.

Our first exhibit of the year provides inspiration for after school children's classes. Me, Myself and I, is a self-portrait class with Katherine Douglas Knappett, beginning Feb 3rd. Portraits will be drawn, painted and collaged over four Wednesday sessions. Angela Hanuse will lead 7 – 12 year olds through drawing and painting portraits after touring and discussing the Telling Stories exhibition. Classes run 4 Tuesdays from 3:30 – 5pm, beginning Feb 2nd.

Teens (12-17) will develop essential drawing skills and fill a sketchbook with fun. Drawing Tools for Teens, with Katherine Douglas Knappett, runs 4 Wednesdays from 4:30-6pm starting Feb 3rd. Classes for children of all ages include all supplies. Just bring your zest for art.

For more information on these and other classes, drop by the Art Gallery at 1235 Shoppers Row and pick up a brochure or call us at 250-287-2261. Hours of operation are Tuesday through Saturday, 10am to 5pm.

Monty Python meets the Monkey Wrench Gang

Theatre – Community – Art – Media – Science – Politics – Activism

Join Friends of Bute Inlet as we partner with Trickster Theatre (www.trickstertheatre.com) to stage a creative community activist extravaganza at the Quadra Island Community Centre, February 27 and 28.

We'll use a fast and fun physical theatre process developed by Trickster Theatre as we create short action-statements with friends and community. Some of these acts will be crafted specifically for youtube, in a thought-provoking style somewhere between Monty Python and David Suzuki.

We can be innovative and irreverent as we expose the issues and contradictions of our time: big business vs environment, government vs community, rivers vs power, greed vs need... Over the course of the weekend we'll also document the process of creating community theatre, produce some live action commercials, invent whiteboard animations – and have lots of imaginative fun!

We're looking for Community Energy:

Advance Preparations: We need a few folks to help locate and devise props and costumes, test and check equipment, and some people to help with logistics and food.

Brainstorms for Skits: Serious - silly - shocking - funny - wacky... No holds barred! Send an email or give us a call with your creative ideas.

Trickster Weekend: We're looking for everyone who wants to help and have fun. We're looking aspiring actors, artists, musicians; for costume and prop people. We welcome people with camera, audio, and computer expertise; and folks who want to learn and direct our whiteboard animation 'studio'. We need soup and cookies, too.

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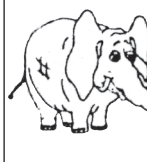
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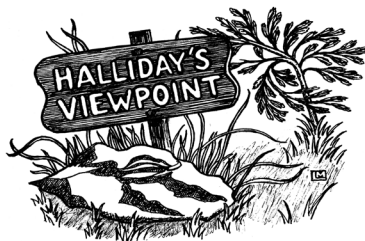
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Halliday's Viewpoint

by Steven Halliday

Is Our Children Learning?

The other day my wife attended a birthday party for one of our grandchildren, a task she has faithfully carried out for almost every one of the seven birthdays that occur annually...a task from which I have been mostly, and thankfully, excused. This party provided an example of why I am so grateful for my absence from such events, since our birthday boy and his little brother misbehaved terribly by anyone's standards, horrifying their mother and grandmother and putting a real damper on the event. Of course, the boys were disciplined severely enough to warrant second thoughts about their behaviour in future...at least so one would hope. Of course, all of our grandkids are little angels most of the time, just like your kids and grandkids. OK, at least the majority of the time most of them behave...well, some of the time, anyway. However, if my siblings or I had ever misbehaved in the variety of ways I have seen each and every grandchild perform (at least once)...frankly, it's simply unimaginable we would have done so in the first place. In our household, the word "No" was reserved for our parents use alone, and punishment was always delivered as promised. But of course we were raised a lot differently in the 50's and 60's, and our parents were only one generation removed from a world where child labour was socially acceptable.

I was fortunate to have a stay-at-home Mom, back in the days when the nuclear family – six of us, in our case – could comfortably survive on one working parent's (most often the father) full time income. Since then, we have seen the family unit change dramatically, with most households now having to rely on outside child care to allow both parents (if indeed there are two) to work, even with a significant reduction in average family size – 2.5 persons according to the 2006 census. Often the cost of child care consumes well over 50% of the income generated by the now-working parent, creating a frustrating financial treadmill for the family. Arguments about strained finances and necessary divisions of responsibilities are probably the largest source of friction for young couples, and exposing kids to family friction is quite simply a bad thing. Numerous studies have demonstrated the net overall value of providing good quality early childhood care, both to the family unit and to society as a whole, is tremendous. Now that the demand for such care has become an urgent societal need it is time for all levels of government to reexamine their commitment and funding to early childhood development.

No one would ever deny the benefit to society of a population of well adjusted, socially skilled kids that have an interest in (if not a thirst for) learning, and who understand the basic rules and expectations of society. None of these attributes are inherent in our genes – they must be taught to us, and the sooner a child is exposed to an environment charged with teaching them such essentials the better: be it at home from a full-time home caregiver, at a daycare facility or at a preschool. With the odds being very high that today's child is a member of a single parent or a dual income family, the lower the odds of getting adequate teaching at home, making the need for additional, better and cheaper child care immediate and urgent.

A September 2009 report commissioned by the Child Care Resources Sector Council (Workforce Shortages Socio-economic Effects Report – Robert Fairholm) examines the economic value of child care to society, or more specifically the economic stimulus effect of investment in early learning and child care. The study indicates that every dollar invested in child care programs provides \$2.30 in economic output, or put another way, every \$1 million of investment would create 40 direct and indirect jobs. In comparison, a \$1 million investment in construction projects (the biggest present beneficiary under typical government economic stimulus programs) only generates 10 jobs. Clearly an investment in social infrastructure, particularly one with such obvious and varied benefits, is vastly superior to our past reliance on investing in physical infrastructure on a dollar and sense basis alone.

In the same vein, a paper released by the UK-based New Economics Foundation (whose motto is "Economics as if people and the planet mattered") entitled "A Bit Rich: Calculating the real value to society of different professions", indicates a similar cost-benefit scenario. In their report they conclude, "Both for families and for society as a whole, looking after children could not be more important. As well as providing a valuable service for families, childcare workers release earnings potential by allowing parents to continue working. They also unlock social benefits in the shape of the learning opportunities that children gain outside the home. For every £1 they are paid, childcare workers generate between £7 and £9.50 worth of benefits to society."

The same report concluded the following about accountants – "Determining the right amount of tax payable is a specialist skill

and often requires professional support. However, some highly paid tax accountants' sole purpose is to help rich individuals and companies to pay less tax. We found that the positive benefits to society of these activities are negligible. However, every pound that is 'avoided' in tax is a pound that would otherwise have gone to HM Revenue. In our model we looked at how this lost revenue could have been better spent. For a salary of between £75,000 and £200,000 tax accountants destroy £47 of value for every pound in value they generate."

Canada's child care sector is in terrible shape right now, yet the Federal government is exacerbating the problem by cutting funding. The Chair of the Child Care Advocacy Association of Canada, Jody Dallaire, made this observation about the situation. "Canada has, in fact, a triple market failure. We have the lowest child care access rates in the industrialized world, with regulated spaces for fewer than 20% of children. Parent fees are among the highest anywhere, often exceeding the annual cost of university. And quality is constantly undermined by low wages and poor retention rates for early childhood educators." In 2006 there were approximately \$950 million in Federal dollars dedicated to improving child care spaces and services – the program figure for 2009 is \$600 million. In 1999, Ottawa promised such funding to reach \$1.55 billion by the year 2008. Understandably, our child care advocates are worried about the direction in which we are headed, as should be anyone who cares about the future of our kids and grandkids.

Today's kids will face a world that is bound to be far more economically challenging than the world of 2010, particularly in view of our shrinking birthrate and declining educational quality. Children in other nations such as Japan and China are going to have an incredible leg up on their Canadian counterparts due to the importance placed by these countries upon early childhood development. Canada's economic future will depend on our children being able to effectively communicate, compute and compete, yet our present policy is to cut funding at every level of education. We owe it to the kids to do better by them – and we owe it to society to ensure our kids are the best we can make them. We have to do better, and early childhood education is a critical first step.

Title courtesy George W. Bush – "Rarely is the question asked – is our children learning?" - January 11, 2000

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Date	PST	m	ft
29	06:03	5.0	16.4
Friday	11:24	3.6	11.8
	15:51	4.5	14.8
	23:10	0.5	1.6
30	06:36	5.1	16.7
Saturday	12:12	3.3	10.8
	16:58	4.5	14.8
	23:55	0.7	2.3
31	07:08	5.2	17.1
Sunday	12:59	2.9	9.5
	18:02	4.5	14.8
01	00:38	1.0	3.3
Monday	07:40	5.2	17.1
	13:47	2.6	8.5
	19:05	4.4	14.4
02	01:22	1.4	4.6
Tuesday	08:11	5.1	16.7
	14:35	2.2	7.2
	20:09	4.2	13.8
03	02:05	2.0	6.6
Wednesday	08:42	5.0	16.4
	15:24	1.9	6.2
	21:18	4.0	13.1
04	02:48	2.5	8.2
Thursday	09:12	4.8	15.7
	16:14	1.7	5.6
	22:39	3.9	12.8
05	03:34	3.0	9.8
Friday	09:43	4.6	15.1
	17:07	1.5	4.9
06	00:20	3.9	12.8
Saturday	04:28	3.4	11.2
	10:16	4.4	14.4
	18:04	1.5	4.9
07	02:02	4.0	13.1
Sunday	05:52	3.7	12.1
	10:56	4.3	14.1
	19:05	1.4	4.6
08	03:17	4.2	13.8
Monday	07:55	3.9	12.8
	11:52	4.2	13.8
	20:02	1.3	4.3
09	04:09	4.4	14.4
Tuesday	09:18	3.8	12.5
	12:59	4.1	13.5
	20:52	1.2	3.9
10	04:49	4.5	14.8
Wednesday	10:13	3.7	12.1
	14:01	4.1	13.5
	21:37	1.2	3.9
11	05:22	4.6	15.1
Thursday	10:53	3.6	11.8
	14:59	4.2	13.8
	22:18	1.2	3.9
12	05:51	4.7	15.4
Friday	11:27	3.4	11.2
	15:54	4.2	13.8
	22:56	1.2	3.9

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