

Discovery Islander

SINCE 1993
AND BEYOND

ISSUE 882 • MAY 15, 2026 • COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS FROM QUADRA & THE DISCOVERY ISLANDS



MAY DAY
2026

SAT. MAY 23
REBECCA SPIT
PARADE STARTS AT 10 AM

Quadra Island Recreation Society May Day Saturday May 23 Schedule of Events



...who does what, when, where...

We invite the whole community to LAUNCH into the theme and get creative!

Join your friends and neighbours in a big community picnic at Rebecca Spit, Saturday May 23th, 2026. Celebrate the coming of spring and summer with colour, costumes, floats, and music – the more zany and bizarre the better! Let your imaginations soar and unveil your creativity! The best way to get to the end of the Spit is on a float!

MAY DAY is a volunteer-powered, non-commercial, community event first held on Quadra in 1898. The Recreation Society thanks the many dozens of people who contribute to the event in big and little ways and wishes everyone a happy, joy filled, sunny day!

SCHEDULE:

- 8:30am** Gates open for parade entries
- 9 & 9:30am** Shuttles starts at the HBI (thanks to Spirit of the West!)
- 10am** Parade starts at Rebecca Spit
- 11am** Official ceremonies in the big field
- 12-ish** Face painting & grease pole open
- 12-ish** Box Lunches – live AND silent auction this year
- 12:30-ish** Cosmic Sound Journey with Sound Seed Yoga
- 1-3pm** Driftwood Sculptures (NO FORTS PLEASE)
- 12:30-ish** Foot races and volleyball begin
- 2 & 3pm** Shuttle departs from Spit, back to the HBI (please bring your own infant & child car seats, for shuttle)

REMINDERS:

- Please leave all chairs around the centre circle free and clear for seniors and people with mobility issues; children and younger folks please sit down in front of the chairs or stand behind.
- **PLEASE LEAVE YOUR DOGS AT HOME**
- Please PICK UP any litter, pack out garbage and all float decorations, and NO Scotch Broom on floats please!

POSTERS: See posters by Sarah James Design up around the Island.

PARADE: Get your neighbourhood, business, or group together and challenge other groups to out-do your float! There is the prize money for floats, costumes, bike, walkers. Many say the best fun of May Day is in the parade line up...so come on and get involved.

PARKING: On arriving at Rebecca Spit, please do not park beyond the park gate,

as the parade floats will need room to set up. All floats will end up in the parking lot after the parade so please don't expect to follow the parade up to the parking lot, as it will already be full! If you have any physical challenges you may ask permission of the gatekeeper to drive to the parking lot. Please pay attention to the parking lot attendant at the other end as well.

GREASE POLE: No pyramids please. Note at the top tells the winner to collect \$50 from Doug Peters.

GRADE 5 PICNIC: May Day is a time to honour the Grade 5 class which will be leaving for Campbell River next year. Thanks to the Coastal Community Credit Union for donating their tent.

MONARCH AND COURT: Speech contestants in Grade 5 deliver a speech at the Community Centre 2 weeks before May Day. The winner is the May Monarch and runners up are in the Royal Court. Former May Queens are the speech contest judges.

STAGE: Thanks to Mel & Ross Doak for supplying and setting up the stage; and grade 5/6 parents for decorating it. Special thanks Mel and Ross, for also donating the porta-potties!

MAY DAY DEDICATION: Each year a citizen or group who has given positive service to the community over a lengthy period of time is honoured.

MAY POLE DANCERS: Instructors: Mandy Hart, Lunabelle Loiseau-Tremblay and helper Fern James prepare the Grade 3 and 4 dancers for the traditional May Pole dance. Musicians: Fern Kornelsen and Miray Campbell. Thank you also to the staff of Quadra Elementary. Bravo!

BOX LUNCH AUCTION: Please support all the local businesses who donate magnificent "box" lunches each May Day. This is a big fund-raiser for next year's May Day. Get your friends together to bid and have a marvelous picnic lunch.

RACES: Thank you to Marnie McMahan and her 'dream team' of friends for helping!

ENTERTAINMENT: Thanks to Sarah Sopracolle of Sound Seed Yoga for showering us all in a Cosmic Sound Bath on the main stage, right after the Box Lunch Auction wraps up. Come lay on the grass and enjoy an otherworldly meditative sound experience.

DRIFTWOOD SCULPTURES: Barbara Mindell and friends organizes this for the kids, from 1 to 3pm on the Drew Harbour side of the Spit. Kids will comb the beach for items, and then build sculptures with their findings. People can vote on their favourite by buying a flag for a loonie (all money goes to the kids); voting is from 2 to 3pm.

VOLLEYBALL: Katie Field, Brandon Pirie and family will start you off!

PHOTOGRAPHERS: The members of the Quadra Island Photo Club are the official Q Rec photographers this year, thanks Photo Club! We would also like YOU to be a May Day photographer! If you get some good shots, please send them to: info@quadrarec.bc.ca and be part of our archives.

EQUIPMENT GUARDIANS: Thanks to Jane and Jamie Swanson and family for caretaking the set-up over night.

PARK OPERATOR: A big thank you goes out to Rebecca Spit Park Operators for all the extra work they put into the park before May Day!

CLEAN UP AND RECYCLING: Thanks to Waste Management for donating dumpsters and recycling bins. Please do your part in helping to keep the park clean. Please pick up litter when you see it.

Have a great May Day and thanks to all who made suggestions for themes and put them in the theme suggestion boxes, and to the theme selection committee; and of course HUGE appreciations to all the volunteers!

Thanks from Quadra Community Centre staff:

Jane West, Bradford Vinson and Daniel McMurdo • 250 285 3243

Island Calendar Day to Day

Friday, May 15

- Summer beats with DJ Technautica, at The Legion.

Saturday, May 16

- Farmers' Market, 10am - 2pm, beside Café Aroma. Music by Railroad Tye.
- At The Legion: Potluck dinner 6pm and Memorial Dance for Ma Marie Ewen.

Friday, May 22

- Live music with For Pete's Sake, HBI Pub, 8pm, no cover.

Saturday, May 23

- Farmers' Market, 10am - 2pm, beside Café Aroma. Music by Cole Clandening.
- May Day at Rebecca Spit: Parade starts at 10am (page 2).
- The Quarantones at QCC, 2:30pm, \$25 (page 8).
- May Day Dance at QCC, 6pm.
- Funky Space Dance at The Legion with Zonnis & the Afterparty, DJs.

Wednesday, May 27

- Theatre Quadra Auditions for the musical 'Boo' at the HBI Bay Rm, 6-9pm.

Friday, May 29

- The Ryder Bachman Band, HBI Pub, 8-12pm.
- The Unfaithful Servants & Shari Ulrich, dinner 5pm & show 7pm in Herons, HBI. Call to reserve seats, 250 285 3322.

Saturday, May 30

- Library Party, noon to 2pm, at the Library in Quathiaski Cove
- Unveiling of Natural Burial monument, Quadra Island Cemetery, 2-4pm (page 10)

Sunday, May 31

- Theatre Quadra Auditions for the musical 'Boo' at the HBI Bay Rm, 1-4pm.

List your event in our Island Calendar

Email news @discoveryislands.ca **Drop off** your item at *Inspirations* in Quathiaski Cove **Bring** it to our office at 701 Cape Mudge Road

Next deadline (Issue 883)

Monday May 25 for publication on Friday May 29

Quadra Library Party!

OUR LIBRARY has expanded! We're throwing you a party to celebrate! Join us Saturday, May 30th from 12noon to 2pm for food, drinks, prizes, facepainting, activities, poetry, and more! Everyone is welcome.



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What's Happening at QCC May 15-29

THIS WEEKEND: May 15-17

FRIDAY: 8:30 Fitness with Jeannie; 9:30 Men's Fitness with Jeannie; 10 Spinners and Knitters; 11 Friday Painters; 12 noon SMART Recovery: to join contact Jude: smartrecoveryquadra@gmail.com

SATURDAY: 9:30 Beginner Tai Chi with Nicki; 10:30 Intermediate Tai Chi with Nicki

THIS WEEK: May 18-22

MONDAY: 8:30 Fitness with Jeannie; 10 Parents and Tots; 10 Yoga with Josephine; 1 Sing for Pure Joy

TUESDAY: 9:30 Pilates; 2:45 Intro to Softball, QCC Field; 5 Hatha Yoga with Trinity

WEDNESDAY: 10 Gentle Yoga with Trinity; 3 Ping Pong; 4 Intermediate Softball, QCC Field; 5:50 Hatha Flow Yoga with Elizabeth

THURSDAY: 9:30 Pilates; 10 Parents and Tots Dance with Kate; 5 Core Strength and Stability with Nicki

FRIDAY: 8:30 Fitness with Jeannie; 9:30 Men's Fitness with Jeannie; 10 Spinners and Knitters; 10:30 Friday Painters; 12 noon SMART Recovery: to join contact Jude: smartrecoveryquadra@gmail.com

NEXT WEEKEND: May 23-24

SATURDAY: 9:30 Beginner Tai Chi with Nicki; 10:30 Intermediate Tai Chi with Nicki; 10 MAY DAY • Fly Me To The Moon • Join The Cosmic Carnival; 6 May Day DANCE

SUNDAY: 2:30 Quarantones

NEXT WEEK: May 25-29

MONDAY: 8:30 Fitness with Jeannie; 10 Parents and Tots; 10 Yoga with Josephine; 1 Sing For Pure Joy; 2:30 Cares Together Group • Quadra Circle; 7 Photography Club Meeting

TUESDAY: 9 Quadra Quilters Guild - Sewing Bee; 9:30 Pilates; 2:45 Intro to Softball, QCC Field; 3 Good Grief; 5 Hatha Flow with Trinity

WEDNESDAY: 10 Gentle Yoga with Trinity; 3 Ping Pong; 4 Intermediate Softball, QCC Field; 5:50 Hatha Flow Yoga with Elizabeth

THURSDAY: 9:30 Pilates; 10 Parents and Tots Dance with Kate; 5 Core Strength and Stability with Nicki

FRIDAY: 8:30 Fitness with Jeannie; 9:30 Men's Fitness with Jeannie; 10 Spinners and Knitters; 12 noon SMART Recovery: to join contact Jude: smartrecoveryquadra@gmail.com; 7:30 Documentary - Green Valley

Go to our website www.quadrarec.bc.ca to view the latest Rec Guide, OR navigate to REC DESK to register for kid's programs or see what's happening each day on the community calendar. <https://quadrarec.recdesk.com/Community/Calendar> Click on the calendar for more details! Phone the Community Centre at # 250-285-3243. Or E-mail: info@quadrarec.bc.ca



Cortes Radio

Drop in and tune out

The DI is published every two weeks. Our current edition and upcoming deadlines are available online: www.discoveryislander.ca

CONTACT US

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hours Monday–Thursday: 10-4

Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors and are not the views of the publisher.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

We welcome items for publication on subjects of interest to the Discovery Islands community.

- **250-300 words** is a good length for community announcements.
- Send articles in the body of an email.
- **Canadian spelling** please: *centre, colour, favourite etc...*
- **Please use the title of your item** in the email subject line.
- Remember to **include credits and captions** for photos & artwork.

WHILE EVERY EFFORT IS MADE TO INCLUDE ALL ITEMS SUBMITTED, ERRORS AND ACCIDENTAL OMISSIONS MAY OCCUR. COPYRIGHT 2026 ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

NEXT DEADLINE

7pm Monday, May 25
for publication on
Friday, May 29, 2026

QI Outdoor Club Upcoming Events

With summer around the corner, here are the upcoming trips:

21 May, Thursday – Kayaking in Main Lakes Park

27 May, Wednesday – Hiking to Mt. Seymour

3 June, Wednesday – Hiking the Elk Falls and Canyon View trails

10 June, Wednesday – Hiking to Mt. Lolo

We have a great mix of classic and less visited sites coming up in the next month, and kayaking as well as hiking. Join us if you can. The details for these outings can be found at the new summer schedule: <https://qioutdoorclub.org/schedule-summer-2026/>

For more information about the Outdoor Club, please visit qioutdoorclub@gmail.com.

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Audition Time

THEATRE QUADRA is holding auditions for the musical **BOO** to be held in November. We are seeking individuals for acting and singing, dancers for the stage, and for background positions.

- Wednesday May 27, 6 to 9pm at the Heriot Bay Inn Bay Room.
- Sunday May 31, 1 to 4 pm at the Heriot Bay Inn Bay Room.

Come and join us! Call Trudy at 250 201 6017 for information.

At The Legion

FRIDAY MAY 15 A night of Summer Beats and great music with DJ Technautica! By donation.

SATURDAY MAY 16 Memorial Dance for Ma Marie Ewen! Potluck dinner at 6pm followed by local band, Salt Water Cowboys.

SATURDAY MAY 23 8pm Keeping with this year's May Day theme, a funky space dance party featuring Zonnis and the Afterparty along with DJs. Don't forget your costume! \$20 at the door.

SATURDAY JUNE 6 8pm Band Swap fundraising event for Crash Harm Reduction. Donate what you can and come even if you can't!

FRIDAY JUNE 26 9pm Cosmosaurus, 5 piece alternative rock band from Nanaimo, with a style that is a unique blend of funky space rock and an emphasis on vocal harmony.



SATURDAY JUNE 27 8pm The L.A. presents a Comedy evening fundraiser for the Legion featuring Vancouver based Erica Sigurdson. Erica has performed at every major comedy festivals in Canada and internationally! Tickets on sale at Inspirations, Copper Coast and the Legion, \$20.

Scholarship For Students

A monetary award for students entering their first year of post-secondary education is offered by the Quadra Island Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

Applications for the annual Kay Dubois Memorial Scholarship are now being accepted and should provide information on both the academic achievements and community activities of the student.

The scholarship fund has been assisting island students for almost 30 years. It has helped those seeking their degree and others opting for vocational training.

Email your application letter to HeidiRidgway@royallepage.ca or mail to Box 129, Heriot Bay V0P 1H before May 31, 2026.

Your Submissions to the DI are welcome!

We especially appreciate submissions to be sent by email to:
news@discoveryislands.ca



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Quadra Island Pantry: Looking at Community Solutions

ON MARCH 1, 2026, Federated Co-operatives Limited (FCL) held its 97th Annual Meeting with representatives from more than 150 local co-operatives across Western Canada. Opening the event, the CEO of FCL, Heather Ryan commended the Co-operative Retailing System for its resilience and unwavering commitment to co-operative values during uncertain times. She went on to say:

“2025 brought challenges and instability beyond our control...we were built for this—built by our members, to support our members, their families, and the communities we call home... Despite economic uncertainty, we stood together as Canadians, but more importantly as a co-operative grounded in our values-based approach to business. With that, we are proud to return \$261 million in patronage to local co-ops and co-op members across Western Canada.”

After reading the full article in Western Grocer’s May edition, I felt an even greater sense of pride in what the QICF Co-op is building here on Quadra Island. This is the foundation we are building on—a truly Canadian model where people, community, and shared success come before profit. It’s about neighbours helping neighbours, keeping groceries affordable, and building something that belongs to the people who live here.

Across island communities, rising food costs are being felt at every kitchen table. For communities like Quadra Island, finding local solutions is no longer just a good idea, it’s becoming a necessity.

Quadra Island has always found its strength in community, whether its volunteers stepping up, neighbours lending a hand, or local businesses supporting one another. A co-op is simply that island spirit put into action.

As someone involved in this work, I’m reminded every day that building a co-op isn’t just about shelves and groceries. It’s about having the courage to dream, the determination to build, and the belief that when a community comes together, we can create something that will serve Quadra Island. Something our kids and grandkids can count on.

Join the conversation and receive your copy of Co-op Times, our monthly print newsletter, delivered right to your inbox. To request your copy, email us at qipantrycoop@gmail.com.

Quadra Island Salmon Enhancement Society

Annual General Meeting
June 11, 2026

7pm at the Community Centre Boardroom

All members and interested public welcome

The Discovery Islander returns to Portugal!

*Reading beneath the
Pont d Luis bridge
Porto Portugal.
Hola from Captain
Esther Allen (retired).
Note the issue of DI!*

Happy 90th Birthday, Ann!

COME TO THE open house at the HBI’s Bayview Room on June 4th, between 1 and 4pm, for Ann Graham’s 90th birthday. Come by to wish her greetings, have a visit, and share some snacks and birthday cake!



Herons Dining Room & Deck



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Pub Menu 11:30am–8pm
For Takeout,
call 250.285.3539

*Furry friends are
welcome on the Lawns!*

Heriot Bay Inn

a beautiful place to spend time

Community Centre's Summer Recreation Guide is Here!

THE 2026 KID'S SUMMER REC GUIDE is packed with ways to play, move, create, and connect throughout the community this July and August.

A snapshot of the calendar is available at www.quadrarec.bc.ca under the "Recreation Guide" tab. Paper copies can also be picked up at the main doors of the Community Centre and from the brochure rack in the Cove between the post office and Tru Value Foods. Registration for programs is open on Rec Desk (link on our website).

This summer's lineup includes a mix of returning favourites and exciting new programs for kids, teens and adventurous families.

There are multiple opportunities to try Fish Printing with Lucas from Son of a Fish, learn the growing sport of Disc Golf at Blenkin Park with course creator Dave ("Good Enough Dave"), or spend some time on the indoor Climbing Wall with Tony (sessions available for both younger and older kids).

Creative teens can dive into Thrift to Fashion, a hands-on upcycling and sewing program where second-hand clothing is transformed into bold new designs. There is also an opportunity to get officially certified in the Babysitting Course (which fills quickly every year), or head out on a real Quadra fishing adventure complete with a BBQ lunch back at the Community Centre.

Young nature lovers will find plenty to explore this summer through Camp GNOME, a playful three-day wilderness adventure filled with nature games, art, storytelling, and exploration of local flora and fauna.

Another new addition this year is Wild Craft Play – Summer Adventure Program, an immersive outdoor experience for ages 8–108. Participants can explore archery, map making, storytelling, crafting,

collaborative quests, and imaginative adventure games in a welcoming village-style setting rooted in creativity and connection.

Teens and adults looking for something truly unique can also join the Shadow Play Program on Tuesday evenings this summer at the QCC stage. Using overhead projectors, shadow puppetry, movement, music, and improvised storytelling, participants will create short films and live performance pieces together in a fun and welcoming atmosphere.

For those seeking a slower pace before the school year begins, the Yoga Spa Day with Anita offers mindfulness, movement, herbal foot soaks, sun tea, and calming self-care practices designed to support confidence and well-being.

From outdoor adventures and creative arts to skill-building and community connection, this year's Summer Rec Guide is FULL of opportunities to try something new, make friends, and create lasting memories. There are many, many more programs to choose... this article is just a little taste of what is available.

We hope to see you out there this summer! For more info reach out to us at the QCC office: info@quadrarec.bc.ca or call 250 285 3243.

*Yours in Community,
Jane West and Bradford Vinson*

Free Digital/Tech Support Available on Quadra until May 30

QUADRA LITERACY is pleased to offer free Digital Support Outreach services for adults on Quadra Island through May 30. Our Digital Support Outreach Worker, Grant Holland, provides friendly one-on-one help for anyone wanting to build confidence with technology. Whether you're learning the basics, setting up a new device, or trying to solve a frustrating tech problem, support is available.

Grant can help with:

- Smartphones, tablets, laptops, and desktop computers
- Setting up new devices
- Email and internet basics
- Downloading and using apps
- Sending photos and documents
- Accessing online services such as banking, medical portals, and government forms
- Video calling with family and friends
- Privacy and security settings

Support is available in your home or community locations.

Contact Grant at digitalsupport@quadraliteracy.com to arrange an appointment. Tech Help is also provided by Quadra Island Library by appointment and drop-in on Saturday afternoons.

*Kathie Landry
Quadra Literacy Outreach Coordinator
quadraliteracynetwork@gmail.com*



The Ladies Auxiliary #154 presents
for the Quadra Island Legion a . . .

COMEDY NIGHT FUNDRAISER

For an evening of laughs with
Erica Sigurdson

'From CBC radio's The Debaters and Just For Laughs'

Admission \$30
Tickets available @

- Copper Coast Gallery & Gifts, Heriot Bay
- Inspirations, Q Cove
- Legion Branch #154

Saturday June 27th
Doors open 7:30pm
Show @ 8:00pm

At the Quadra Island Legion Heriot Bay

Cliff Mooney
ELECTRICAL

250-895-9020

LEL 0202893 mooneycliff@gmail.com



Quadra Island Farmers' Market

THE QUADRA ISLAND Farmers' Market and Bazaar is off to a wonderful start with fabulous live music, art, hand made clothing and jewelry, rare books, gluten free and otherwise baking, handmade chocolates, fresh early garden produce, and plant starters to get your veggie garden growing, and alot more! Saturdays 10am to 2pm on the field beside Café Aroma where you can find excellent coffees, fresh baking, and yummy breakfasts.

MUSIC LINE UP:

MAY 16 Railroad Tye

MAY 23 Cole Clandeney

VENDOR FEATURE: Jim Smith Quadrasmith photography is back from a recent trip to Mainland Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands where he caught some gorgeous shots of exotic birds. Come by and check out his booth in the upper end of the field.



At Cortes Museum

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, May 23 and 24, Kintsugi workshop in Yuka Morino, \$400/person

Saturday, June 20, 10 am to 4 pm

Cortes Island Creative Spaces Garden and Studio Tour, \$20/person. More details for both events on our website,

www.cortesmuseum.com

What If We Actually Fixed the Forestry System?

The New Forest Act: A Public Presentation
A proposed new framework for how forests are managed in British Columbia.

Saturday, June 13, 7pm

Quadra Island Community Centre
Presentation and Q&A

with Jennifer Houghton, New Forest Act Project,
Campaign Director

Details at: boundaryforest.org

ACROSS BRITISH COLUMBIA, people are paying attention to what is happening in our forests as they see the effects in their day to day lives.

On the coast, that often shows up in very real ways. Streams do not behave the way they used to. Salmon runs are under pressure. Local groups are constantly monitoring, restoring, and trying to respond. A lot of people are doing good work. But there is a question underneath it all.

Why are communities managing the impacts instead of fixing the system that is causing them?

That question led to the development of the New Forest Act, a full legislative proposal

designed by citizens to replace BC's current forestry framework.

This is not about small changes or better guidelines. It is a proposal to restructure how decisions are made, how forests are managed, and how communities are involved. The focus is on ecological limits, long term stability, and keeping forestry working for people on the ground.

In June, I will be traveling across the province presenting the New Forest Act in a series of public meetings. Quadra Island is one of those stops.

This is not a protest or a panel discussion. It is a focused presentation and Q&A centered on the New Forest Act itself: how it works, how it would change decision-making and forest management in B.C., and how it is designed to produce different outcomes for watersheds, ecosystems, forestry workers, and communities. The presentation explains the structure of the proposal, including its Protect, Restore, and Harvest framework, and how the current volume-based system would be replaced with management based on ecological limits and long-term public benefit.

If you have been following forestry issues or dealing with the impacts in your own community, this offers something that is often missing. A clear and practical alternative.

Jennifer Houghton

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Fund Peace Not War

Quadra Island advocates for peace would like to thank the Friday Flicks organization and all of the volunteers who assisted with the screening of the film *The Voice of Hind Rajab* at the Quadra Island Community Center on Friday April 10. Almost one thousand dollars was raised and will be used to directly support families in Gaza.

The film was introduced by Keith Simmonds, a minister from the Campbell River United Church who was a human rights observer in Bethlehem in 2020. He provided some insight into the living conditions in the West Bank which has been under an oppressive Israeli occupation since 1967 and he also brought some delightful crafts made by Palestinians artisans.

The academy award nominated docudrama was preceded with a video address by Hind's mother Wesam Hamada who said the film gives dignity to her daughter and conveys the voices of all children in Gaza to the world. The film attracted support from executive producers like Brad Pitt and Alfonso Cuaron.

The film was a remarkable dramatization of an attempt by Red Crescent workers to rescue six year old Hind who was trapped in a car in Northern Gaza surrounded by her deceased relatives. Rather than using a script and actor, Hind's recorded voice was utilized to convey how she bravely communicated her dire circumstances to the emergency response team in Raffa.

The actors, who were hearing her voice for the first time during the film production, were

understandably alarmed at the life and death implications of the situation they were bearing witness to. The main theme of the film focused on how unarmed civilians, medical staff and other non combatants have become the main target in these types of conflicts rather than soldiers who are trained and equipped to defend themselves.

In times of war, children are frequently targeted through various forms of violence and exploitation, which the United Nations Security Council classified into six critical violations. They include: killing and maiming children, recruitment and (ab)use, attacks on schools and hospitals, kidnapping, sexual violence and denial of humanitarian access to children – all features of life in places like Gaza where an estimated 18,000 children have been killed – 12,000 of them under the age to twelve. Gaza has the highest rate of child amputees in the world. Many children are malnourished, suffer deep psychological wounds and many have starved to death as Israel has blocked vital aid for months to the besieged territory.

These acts are considered war crimes and are monitored to hold perpetrators accountable. However, no one has yet been held responsible for the death of Hind, her three young cousins and her aunt and uncle or the two paramedics who were killed attempting to retrieve her from the battered car that had been riddled with 355 bullets.

For those who were unable to see the film but are interested in various related activities, there are a number of options. There is a peace meditation every Thursday morning at 11 am

at the Quadra United Church in Cape Mudge village. There is also a vigil every Thursday afternoon at 2pm outside the office of MP Aaron Gunn, just a five minute walk from the Campbell River ferry terminal at 427 10th Avenue, Campbell River.

And you can still make a donation to support the Gaza families by contacting Carol Foort at cfoort@yahoo.com or 250 285 3035. *Claire Heffernan*

Quarantones at QCC May 23

THE QUARANTONES Male Chorus returns to the Quadra Island Community Centre for the third time on May 23 at 2:30 with *Brothers Sing On*, a vibrant program full of variety and character that will appeal to a broad audience.



Musical Director Denise Marquette has drawn the repertoire from a wide range of musical traditions, including classical, contemporary, folk, gospel and doo wop. From the serenely beautiful 'Beati Mortui' by Felix Mendelssohn to the dark and menacing country-western classic '(Ghost) Riders in the Sky' by Stan Jones, explores the rich expressive range of male choral music. Audiences will delight in *Io Vivat*, a lively student drinking song celebrating health and friendship and in the lush and expansive folk classic 'Shenandoah'. Familiar favorites are given fresh life through striking arrangements of 'Bye Bye Blackbird' and 'When You Wish Upon a Star', showcasing the ensemble's versatility and charm.

"What excites me most about this program is its breadth and emotional range," says Ms Marquette. "The music truly showcases the versatility of the Quarantones with our signature blend of musicality, warmth, and storytelling. She adds, "And what Quarantones concert would be complete without a sea shanty? This concert's offering, 'The Kraken' by Jon Eiche, delivers in full force. It's a rollicking tale of sailors lost at sea who must face the dreaded terror of the deep."

Tickets are \$25 and are available online or at the door. For more information, please visit: www.quarantonesensemble.com

GALVANIZED CONCRETE MESH

4' x 8'

QUADRA Island BUILDERS

\$14⁹⁹

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Regional Director's Report

Hello,

The buzz of bees in blooms has been welcome and the buzz around the community is increasing as spring days warm and lengthen. This report shares news about Quadra's recycle depot (it's opening May 30!), ongoing advocacy re: Quadra Island – Strathcona Gardens assent vote, and Board support for investigating a First Responder Service for the Outer Discovery Islands.

STRATHCONA GARDENS SERVICE

A quick update about the SRD taxing Quadra properties for Strathcona Gardens Recreation Service. Subscribers to the email version of this report received all the details of the April 29 meeting, you can read the recent update here: [RobynMawhinney.ca/directors-reports/](https://robynmawhinney.ca/directors-reports/).

A sincere thank you to the hundreds of Islanders who've cc'd me as they respectfully request the Minister orders a separate assent process (binding referendum) for Quadra Island residents, rather than aggregating the results of Quadra's votes with the 40,000+ of Campbell River and Area D. This follows results of the April 29 Board votes on Bylaw 643 and SRD staff stating it was 'ultimately up to the Minister's discretion' to determine if an assent vote (binding referendum) would be separate for Quadra Island.

I look forward to discussing Quadra residents' concerns with the Inspector of Municipalities at an upcoming scheduled meeting -- and I'm advocating for a discussion with the Minister herself. I'll report back with an update following my meeting. [RobynMawhinney.ca](https://robynmawhinney.ca) has a search function: search 'Strathcona Gardens' and the reports/press release I've written as this has unfolded will pop up.

RECYCLE DEPOT OPENING!

Yes, the recycle depot on West Road is opening and May 30 is the first day of operations. The depot's regular schedule is Friday thru Monday, 9am – 3pm, open on statutory holidays. Our new depot will have an operator on-site during business hours.

From May 30 to October 2026, the current mixed recycling bins will be at the new depot and will be supplemented with cardboard bins plus Recycle BC pop-up events for flexible plastics of many descriptions, glass and foam. Check cswm.ca/quadradepotconversion for the details on acceptable materials.

The delay in onboarding the Quadra Island Recycling Depot as a full Recycle BC depot is due to a province-wide Recycle BC Request for Proposals regarding transporting recycling. I'm grateful to CSWM staff for securing Recycle BC pop-up events twice a month until October 2026, when Quadra will be a full Recycle BC depot.

Upcoming Pop-Up Dates (save these!): May 30–June 1; June 12–15; June 26–29; July 10–13; July 24–27; August 7–10; August 21–24; September 4–7; September 18–21.

OUTER ISLANDS FIRST RESPONDER SERVICE INVESTIGATION

The Surge Narrows Community Association (SNCA) recently submitted a request to the SRD for investigation of what a First Responder Service could look like for the Outer Discovery Islands. The service area proposed by SNCA for exploration is Read Island, Maurelle Island, North Rendezvous Island, and southern Sonora Island (Owen Bay and Busby Island).

The Board supported a report being prepared with options and analysis regarding establishing such a service, with the research and report done by in-house SRD staff. This is a 'heads-up' that this investigation is underway; there will be more details in the future.

APPRECIATION FOR QUADRA'S BIG-HEARTED VOLUNTEERS

It's been 'AGM season' lately, and I've taken the opportunity to attend several AGMs on Quadra Island as they fit into my schedule. There are so many big-hearted people doing great work on volunteer boards, leaning in, finding opportunities for collaboration, making nuanced decisions, and taking care of aspects of our community in so many ways. I lift my hands in gratitude to the volunteer board members and team members making so much good happen. Truly, thank you!

CONNECT

You're welcome to connect with me with questions or concerns: email RMawhinney@srd.ca, or call 250.203.2468. Visit [RobynMawhinney.ca](https://robynmawhinney.ca) for links to helpful community resources and 'back issues' of Director Reports. Visit srd.ca/government/agendas-minutes to keep up to date on SRD governance happenings.

*Until next time,
Respectfully,
Robyn Mawhinney*

New Pool Night at The Quadra Legion!

Weekly 8-Ball Pool + more. Monday 8 PM start time, 10\$ entry fee. All Skill levels welcome.

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NEXT
DISCOVERY ISLANDER
DEADLINE
Monday, May 25 @ 7pm

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Unveiling the Natural Burial Monument: A Community Gathering at Quadra Island Cemetery

ON THE AFTERNOON of May 30, from 2 to 4 pm, the community is warmly invited to gather at the Quadra Island Cemetery for a special event: the unveiling of the Natural Burial monument. This gathering is a collaboration between the Quadra Island Cemetery Society and Way To Go, offering an opportunity for islanders to come together, honour those buried there, and deepen our connection to this important community space.

More than simply a burial ground, the cemetery is a place of memory, history, healing, and belonging. Having a cemetery within one's own community offers profound benefits. It gives families and friends a place close to home where they can visit, reflect, and remember their loved ones. It also preserves the stories of those who have helped shape the life of the island across generations.

The history of the Quadra Island Cemetery stretches back more than a century. It was formally established in 1915, though some grave markers predate that year, having been moved from family homesteads. The oldest marker belongs to Frederick Charles Yeatman, who died in 1903. One of the earliest stories held by the cemetery is that of Alice Bryant, who died of diphtheria at age sixteen in 1913 and was later reinterred when the cemetery was ready for use.



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For generations, the cemetery has been generously cared for by island volunteers. In the 1920s, the Women's Institute took on its stewardship, later followed by a community board, and since 2018, the Quadra Island Cemetery Society has continued this tradition through the dedicated work of local trustees.

In recent years, the cemetery has evolved to include a Natural Burial area, created in response to growing community interest in green burial practices. Established in 2019, with the first natural burial taking place in 2021, this area has become an increasingly meaningful option for many families. There are now almost 20 loved ones buried in this section, a reflection of the community's embrace of family-led and environmentally conscious end-of-life choices.

The natural burial area offers a gentle and ecologically respectful way of memorializing loved ones. Individual graves may be marked with biodegradable adornments, which over time return naturally to the earth and become part of the surrounding landscape.

The newly unveiled Natural Burial monument will provide a permanent place of remembrance. A memorial pole has been installed where a plaque bearing the name of each person buried in the natural burial area can be placed. This creates a lasting space for commemoration while honouring the restorative nature of the forest setting.

The May 30 gathering is an invitation not only to witness the unveiling of this new monument, but also to get to know the cemetery better as a place where memory, grief, history, and belonging are woven together into the life of our community.

Margaret Verschuur

Win Big While Giving Back!

THE QUADRA ISLAND Senior Housing Society Spring Raffle showcases the best of island life, with prize packages filled with local flavour, relaxation, and community spirit. With only 800 tickets printed, this is your chance to win big while supporting affordable housing for local seniors.

Here's a closer look at our prizes:

SOMETHING'S FISHY - FOODIE DREAM!
The ultimate coastal culinary experience – a prize package that's truly a seafood lover's fantasy. Includes 30 lbs of premium seafood from Triple M Fishing and a \$500 gift certificate from Tantrum II Seafood, famed for top-quality, locally sourced catches; plus a \$500 gift card to Heriot Bay TruValue. For inspiration, enjoy a beautiful cookbook

from the Quadra Children's Centre; and savour two bottles wine of your choice from SouthEnd Farm & Winery. Total prize value: \$1600

QUADRA ISLAND SHOPPING SPECTACULAR

It's the perfect island getaway and shopping experience! Start with a one-night escape at Quadra's beautiful Gowlland Harbour Resort with a \$400 gift certificate. Then get ready to shop, dine, and indulge with an incredible collection of gift certificates from some of Quadra Island's favourite local businesses: A \$75 gift card to Amped on Nutrition plus \$75 to spend at The Pantry; a \$50 certificate for local art and gifts at Inspirations; a

[continues next page](#)

Three Sets of Questions

To Ask Your Health Care Team when Facing a Serious Illness

ANY OF US could and many of us have received a diagnosis of a serious illness. At first, the emphasis is on treatment then dealing with side effects and other symptoms. The goal is to beat the illness. We are guided by our health care providers about next steps. We may be surprised and overwhelmed when we are told that no more can be done. What if we understood our illness and its expected course from the beginning? What if we are an active part of decision making from the beginning?

The goal of the Waiting Room Revolution movement is to put the human back into health care. The founders of the movement are Dr. Hsien Seow, PhD and Dr. Sammy Winemaker, MD. They have developed many tools to help us be our own best advocates. This article is a summary of a tool called "3 Sets of Questions to ask your Health Care Team when facing a Serious Illness". Hearing you have a serious illness can be overwhelming. Often people don't know what the journey will look like. These questions are meant to help people communicate with their health care team and provide key questions to make sure they (and their support team) understand their illness.

1. What does it mean to have this serious illness?

Not all serious illnesses are the same. Some can be cured while others can't. A person might have the illness their entire life. And some serious illnesses will get worse over time and shorten the person's life. It is important to know the nature of the illness.

Ask your health care team:

- Is the illness curable?
- Will it get worse over time?
- Will it shorten my life?

continues from previous page \$125 gift basket from Allie B Hair Salon; a \$50 gift card to The Cove Pharmacy. Book lovers can browse with \$30 to Volume Two Bookstore and \$100 to the Quadra Thrift Shop. Garden lovers will enjoy getting their hands in the soil with \$75 in goodies from On Root. And of course there's food! Enjoy lunch at Kameleon with a \$25 gift certificate, then wrap up the day with a pizza night thanks to a \$50 gift card from The Clove. Total prize value: \$1000+

By purchasing a ticket, you're not only entering to win these incredible prizes, you're also supporting the Quadra Island Senior Housing Society and helping provide safe, affordable housing for local seniors. Check out our website to see the description of the other three prizes at www.qiseniorshousingsociety.ca/2026-spring-raffle



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The Society gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance of the Province of British Columbia.

2. What can I expect now and in the future?

Every person's experience is unique. But each serious illness has a general pattern based on the many people who have had it before. Thus, it's possible to learn what the illness looks like in the early, middle and later stages. Having a general sense of this pattern will help you understand where you are at in your illness and what you can expect in each stage.

Ask your health care team:

- Can you explain the big picture and the different stages of the illness?
- Am I currently in the beginning, middle or later stage of my illness?

3. How can I prepare for what might come next?

Throughout the illness there will be times when you need to make important decisions about what to do next. Combining information about what to expect, where things are now and what is most important to you will help you work with your health care team. Doing this will help you make decisions about your care that are right for you and those closest to you.

Ask your health care team:

- Can you explain what milestones and decision points are ahead in my illness and how we can plan for them?

Ask yourself:

- What's most important to you and those closest to you?

Share this information with your health care team. Speaking your mind and asking questions can be intimidating but can help you and those closest to you understand your illness journey. These three sets of questions will help you be more informed, have more choice and control, and be more hopeful and prepared.

Please check out our website: <https://www.quadracircle.ca/compassionate-community>

Other Resources:

- Information on serious illness and palliative care in Canada: canada.ca/palliative-care
- Waiting Room Revolution: for information and resources to help patients and families who are facing serious illness (English only): waitingroomrevolution.com
- Waiting Room Revolution books: Hope for the Best, Plan for the Rest. Copies of the book and workbook available at the Quadra Circle office by donation. Office hours: Wednesday & Friday 11 to 3.
- <https://aboutgrief.ca/>



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Harmony by the Sea: Quadra Island Festival of Chamber Music

June 22-26, 2026

THIS JUNE, the sounds of world-class chamber music will once again fill the forests, shores, and community spaces of Quadra Island. From June 22 to 26, the Quadra Island Festival of Chamber Music invites audiences to experience an intimate and inspiring celebration of live performance surrounded by the island's natural beauty.

The festival brings together exceptional musicians from across Canada and beyond for four days of concerts, collaborations, and community spirit. Audiences can look forward to innovative programming that pairs beloved classics with fresh contemporary works — all performed in the festival's signature warm, informal atmosphere.

"The magic of this festival comes from the closeness," says Phil Hansen, artistic director. "You're not sitting in a concert hall; you're sharing the space with the artists, hearing and feeling every note."

Highlights of the 2026 season include:

- The Monday opening concert titled "Serenade" at the Quadra Island United Church on June 22, setting the tone with a vibrant mix of Beethoven, Faure' and Saint-Saens, Persichetti and Glass.
- Tuesday's "Intimate Conversations" at the Quadra Community Centre will include pieces by a trio of composers – Paul Reade, Debussy and Schubert.
- For those who managed to snag the bundled tickets for the week, "A Classical Panorama" on Thursday will have everyone at the SouthEnd Winery swaying to Piazzola, enraptured by Rossini and Kummer, and intent on Mayazumi and an original piece by Phil Hansen.
- Friday ends the week with "Spark, Shadow and Shimmer," from Mozart, Bruch and Ravel, again at the Quadra Community Centre.

From piano to accordion, cello, violin, viola, flute and clarinet, the

festival will include a harpist on several of the days, with many favourite performers from previous concerts and a couple of new faces.

When audiences first encountered Yuuto Matsumura McKee at the Quadra Island Festival of Chamber Music in 2023, it was clear they were witnessing something special. At just seven years old, Yuuto took the stage with remarkable poise, musical sensitivity, and a level of artistry far beyond his years. His performance was a highlight of the festival, capturing the attention and admiration of audiences and fellow musicians alike.

Now, Yuuto returns to the Festival on Tuesday, June 23, no longer just the youngest performer to watch, but an emerging artist continuing to grow in confidence and expression. His return marks not only a personal milestone, but also reflects the festival's commitment to nurturing young talent alongside established, internationally recognized musicians.

Tickets are now selling on Quadra at Inspirations in Quathiaski Cove or Copper Coast in Heriot Bay. Online tickets may be purchased at the Tidemark Theatre. Early booking is recommended, as seating is limited.

Immerse yourself in the beauty of music and nature this June on Quadra — where every performance is a conversation, every note part of the landscape, and every guest becomes part of the festival family.

Dale Preston Odin Rolfsen

February 3rd, 1942 to April 26th, 2026
Squamish, BC

With deep sadness, we announce the passing of Dale, who was born on February 3rd, 1942 and passed away on April 26th, 2026 in Squamish, BC, Canada. His final days were spent with loved ones around him.

Dale was born in Chicago and came to Canada in 1970 via a year in India. He had previously burned his draft card and was one of many great minds crossing the border to start a new life in Canada rather than participate in the Vietnam war.

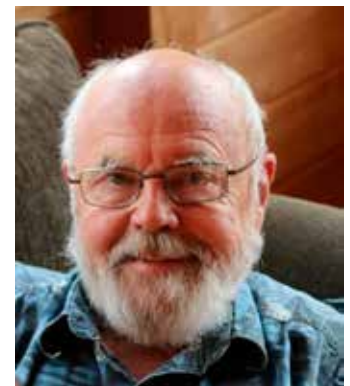
Dale worked at UBC in the mathematics department from 1972 until his retirement in 2012. He served as head of the department from 1989-1994. He specialized in topology and knot theory - the mathematical study of shapes, spaces, and knots. He is the author of the well-known book *Knots and Links*.

In 1974, Dale became a member of Rosen Lake Farm, a remote slice of orchard and wilderness on Read Island, BC., where he built a wonderful home overlooking the lake. Dale met his wife, Gloria, there, as they were both company members. They became best friends for 6 years before falling in love and marrying at the lake in 1980. From then on they spent as much time on Read Island as they could, surrounded by friends, kids, dogs and horses, including his pony Jay Boy.

Dale and Gloria raised their daughters, Catherine and Amy, in Vancouver. The family led an adventurous life as his career took them on sabbaticals to places like England, Hawaii, Switzerland, Australia, Mexico, the U.S. and France. Dale played fiddle in Scandinavian folk bands, appreciated jazz, sailing, and a corny joke, but he loved nothing more than being at the lake. That love has been passed on to his grandchildren Elsa, 12, Greta, 11 and Freddie, 9. His son in law Guthrie also has a great love of the lake.

Dale will be deeply missed by his wife, daughters, their families, and his extended family in Illinois. Everyone remembers his gentleness, spirit of exploration, and love of music and learning.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to one of Dale's favourite non-profit organizations, Amnesty International.



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'Sacred in All Forms' at the CRAG

'SACRED IN ALL FORMS: Artists Reclaim the Divine Feminine Across Bodies, Lands, and Worlds' is a new group exhibition at the Campbell River Art Gallery featuring works by Sandeep Johal, Xiaojing Yan, Kourtney Jackson, and Aaron McIntosh, on view through August 8, 2026.

The exhibition brings together artists whose practices engage the sacred as a living, relational force rather than a fixed identity. Moving beyond narrow or essentialized definitions of "the feminine," the works assembled here trace lineages of creation, care, embodiment, and cosmology that both precede and exceed patriarchal frameworks of gender and divinity.

The artists in Sacred in All Forms reclaim and reimagine these expansive cosmologies through culturally specific and embodied practices: Xiaojing Yan engages the divine through a Taoist lens grounded in material transformation and energetic flow; Sandeep Johal centres the fierceness and complexity of motherhood through an Indo-folk feminine aesthetic that holds both suffering and resilience; Kourtney Jackson employs hybridized and experimental forms of storytelling that permeate the interiorities of Black queer womanhood; and Aaron McIntosh mines the intersections of material culture, family tradition, sexual desire, and identity politics through his quilted works.

Sacred in All Forms does not seek to define the divine feminine. Instead, it asks what becomes possible when the sacred is understood as plural, embodied, and already within, around, and in relation to us—and what it might mean to live in accountability to those relations.

In the Satellite Gallery, Sacred in All Forms invites you into the artistic process.

Sandeep Johal's preparatory work for *Beast of Burden* offers a glimpse into how an artwork takes shape—through sketching, reflection, revision, and experimentation.

Check the CRAG Events page for updates on our exciting exhibition programs! <https://www.cragallery.ca/events/>

See Sacred in All Forms at the CRAG, Tuesday to Saturday 10 to 4 from May 7 to August 8, at 1235 Shoppers Row in downtown Campbell River.



You Can Have Too Much of a Good Thing!

Quadra Cat Rescue is urging islanders to get pets fixed, donate empty beverage containers

QUADRA CAT RESCUE volunteers are crossing their paws and hoping this year will be different—that instead of being swamped with kittens, a record number of people will sign up to get their cats spayed and neutered.

"Each spring, we brace for the influx of kittens that fill our limited number of foster homes," says Valerie van Veen. "Please, everyone, help spread the word that Quadra Cat Rescue can help get pets spayed and neutered, and let's get those cats fixed before they reproduce."

For 17 years, Quadra Cat Rescue has been working to reduce the number of homeless



cats on our island—primarily by spaying and neutering strays and through a lower-cost program to fix pet cats.

"Still, every year, kittens born on Quadra outnumber local homes looking to adopt them," van Veen adds. "We have to keep on top of this because just one unfixed pair of cats and their offspring can produce 500 kittens in three years. The best time to spay or neuter is before kittens are five months old."

People can support Quadra Cat Rescue's veterinary and fostering costs by donating

empty beverage containers. Drop off empties for Quadra Cat Rescue at 637 Cape Mudge Road. For pick-up, from homes or businesses, please message or call Sun Smith at 250 285 2145. Quadra Cat Rescue is also registered to receive proceeds at Return-it Depots throughout BC.

Ways to help Quadra Cat Rescue:

- Donate TruValue Foods Spirit Board points (#280 at both Quadra Island stores).
- Purchase TruValue gift cards for either store at Inspirations in the Cove.
- Donate to Quadra Cat Rescue (provide phone number, email, mailing address for tax receipts!); E-transfer via email to quadracatrescue@yahoo.com; through the CanadaHelps or PayPal link at quadracatrescue.com; mail a cheque (Box 192 Heriot Bay, V0P 1H0); through Coastal Community Credit Union; donate beverage containers (at Return-It depots or 637 Cape Mudge Road).

You can also:

- Volunteer to temporarily foster or become a neighbourhood monitor;
- Adopt an already-fixed adult cat from Quadra Cat Rescue to free up foster space;
- Sponsor a kitten's healthy start (\$400 covers vaccinations, neutering, and fostering);
- Spay or neuter before kittens are five months old.

More information is available at quadracatrescue.com. Please let us know about stray cats that need help, by email to quadracatrescue@yahoo.com or telephone 250 285 CATS (2287).

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Digital Literacy

Data Plans: You Get What You Pay For (Sometimes) - Part 1

ON A RECENT camping trip, I noticed my wife was not parked in front of her device as she often does in the evening. She had mentioned that due to her limited data plan, she was avoiding using her phone.

More and more these days, we rely on our devices to cope with our daily life activities. My recent visit to the post office to mail a parcel to the USA confirmed that. Canada Post requires a form that provides a QR code to scan, after which you have to fill out the online form. If you are not in possession of a smartphone or connected digital device, you have few choices. Our lovely postmistress suggested I might get help at the library if I was stuck.

WHAT'S THE PLAN, MAN?

Looking through several cell phone offerings online, I found several providers I had never heard of, but with very affordable Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) plans:

Fido/ Virgin Plus: \$19/month

Data: 250 MB (3G Speed)

Best For: Bare minimum emergency use and occasional texting.

Public Mobile: \$21/month

Data: 1 GB (4G Speed)

Best For: Light users who primarily use Wi-Fi. (Requires Auto-Pay)

Fizz: \$23/month

Data: 25 GB (4G/LTE Speed)

Best For: Overall value, especially with their data rollover feature.

Chatr: \$25/month

Data: 25 GB (4G Speed)

Best For: Reliable prepaid service on the Rogers network.

Koodo: \$25/month

Data: 20 GB (4G Speed)

Best For: Mid-tier data users wanting Telus network coverage.

Freedom Mobile: \$35/month

Data: 25 GB (5G Speed)

Best For: Entry-level 5G and those who want US/Mexico roaming included.

IMPORTANT DETAILS

Auto-Pay: Most of these prices include a \$5 discount for setting up automatic payments.

Activation Fees: You can usually save the \$60 connection fee by setting up your account online rather than in a retail store.

Regional Pricing: Brands like Fizz and Freedom often have aggressive 'introductory' pricing in British Columbia that can be lower than national averages.

Free WiFi: On Quadra Island, there are several reliable spots to access free WiFi, where you can borrow a few bytes:

Quathiaski Cove

- Vancouver Island Regional Library, Quadra Island Branch: Located in the Cove Centre mall. This is one of the most stable connections on the island. They offer free WiFi and have public computers available for 30-minute sessions. Closed Sundays and Mondays.

- Aroma Cove Cafe: A popular coffee shop in Quathiaski Cove that provides free WiFi for customers in a cozy, laptop-friendly environment.

- Kameleon Food and Drink: Another great option in the Cove, this relaxed café generally offers WiFi for guests and is well suited for anyone looking to connect online while enjoying a meal or drink.

- Quathiaski Cove Public Wharf: Managed by the Harbour Authority, this location lists WiFi among its amenities for visitors and guests.

Heriot Bay

- Heriot Bay Inn & Marina: This historic inn offers free WiFi in the pub and restaurant areas. If you are arriving by boat, the marina also provides wireless high-speed internet access for guests.

- Java Bay Café: A popular coffee shop located at the Island Market in Heriot Bay, this is a common stop for a quick connection while enjoying food or drink.

CONNECTIVITY TIPS FOR THE ISLAND

- The 'Parking Lot Trick': Since many of these locations are in central areas (like the Cove Centre), you can often catch the WiFi signal from your vehicle if the building is closed, which is helpful if you just need to quickly download a map or sync your email.

- BC Ferries: While the Quathiaski Cove terminal itself doesn't have a dedicated public network, some of the newer ferries on the Campbell River route occasionally offer limited WiFi, though it can be spotty in the middle of the passage.

In Part 2, we will look at ways to conserve data on your device so you aren't wasting any of the precious bits.

As always, I welcome any feedback on my articles. I am happy to help anyone who wants to learn how to navigate the digital world. You can reach me at dave@quadraliteracy.com

To book an appointment with our new Digital Support Outreach Worker, contact Grant at digitalsupport@quadraliteracy.com.

If you have general questions about literacy or need help finding an affordable device, please contact Kathie at Kathie@quadraliteracy.com

Dave Tomblin

Ferry Schedule	
Leave Quathiaski Cove	Leave Campbell River
6:05 am	6:30 am
7:00 am	7:30 am
^{††} 7:30 am	^{††} 8:00 am
8:00 am	8:30 am
8:30 am	9:00 am
9:00 am	^{**} 9:30 am
9:30 am	10:00 am
10:00 am	10:30 am
10:30 am	11:00 am
11:00 am	11:30 am
11:30 am	12:40 pm
12:40 pm	1:05 pm
1:05 pm	1:30 pm
1:30 pm	1:55 pm
2:00 pm	2:30 pm
2:30 pm	3:00 pm
3:00 pm	3:30 pm
3:30 pm	4:00 pm
4:00 pm	4:30 pm
^{**} 4:30 pm	5:00 pm
5:00 pm	5:25 pm
5:25 pm	5:50 pm
5:50 pm	6:15 pm
6:15 pm	6:45 pm
7:10 pm	8:10 pm
8:40 pm	9:05 pm
9:30 pm	9:55 pm
10:20 pm	10:40 pm
[*] 11:05 pm	[*] 11:30 pm

Schedule in effect September 3, 2024 to March 31, 2025 - last updated here 25 Sept, 2024

* Fridays & Saturdays only ** Tuesdays: Dangerous Cargo, no passengers or cars

[†] Daily Except Sundays ^{††} Daily Except Saturdays and Sundays

Schedule may be subject to change check BCFerries.com for Service Notices

New to Quadra?
The Discovery Islands Chamber of Commerce and local businesses welcome you with a package of local incentives. **Contact Carol Ann T. at:** carolannt@telus.net

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The Quadra Project

The Dark Tetrad - Part 2

IN GOLIATHS CURSE: *The History and Future of Societal Collapse*, Dr Luke Kemp attributes the cause of civilizational failures in 400 societies over the course of 5,000 years of history to the contaminating effects of leaders who possess the “dark triad” of narcissism, psychopathy and Machiavellian manipulation. A related but equally intriguing perspective comes from Dr Leanne ten Brinke, a professor of psychology and director of the University of BC’s Truth and Trust Lab, who has done extensive studies on the behaviour of convicted criminals (University of British Columbia Magazine, Spring/Summer 2025, “The ‘Strongmen’ Who are Breaking Democracies” by Jared Downing.)

This is explored in more detail in her book, *Poisonous People*. Dr ten Brinke adds sadism to Kemp’s “dark triad” to make a “dark tetrad”, an added attribute that can be easily spliced into the other three. As a psychologist rather than a historian, her conclusion about the corrosive effects of this type of personality on social order offers a more contemporary explanation that is useful in explaining what is happening in our present world.

Because this dark personality is a spectrum disorder, about 20% of people have noticeable traits of it, she contends, and about 1% are psychopathic, so both types can be found throughout society. They are “likely to strive for high positions,” goals that are often obtained “through lies, manipulation, and intimidation.” These positions of power tend to entice dark personalities, people who are inclined to experience interactions as competition rather than cooperation. And their quest for control and domination promotes conflict and reduces the likelihood of social benefits.

“I hesitate to make a definitive statement [about Donald Trump],” said ten Brinke, “but if you think about what makes up psychopathy, his behaviour would suggest that he’s high in many of these traits.” He seems to act impulsively, manipulates by lying freely without apparent guilt, demonstrates persistent antisocial behaviour by violating accepted rules and etiquette, and makes grandiose claims to elevate his sense of self-worth. Since psychopaths focus on themselves rather than on others, they tend to be poor leaders. A study that ten Brinke co-authored found that, “Psychopathic leaders can be charming and persuasive, but are poor performers who mismanage, bully, and engage in unethical behaviour.” Other historical studies have shown that these “strongmen”, who are noted for sponsoring fear and bloodshed, are not competent economists, either. They may organize competently for their own purposes, but not for the protracted benefit of others. Their indispensability is an illusion of their own invention.

Why, then, do societies keep getting these dark personalities as leaders?

The answer is in the trust that is inherent in people. Although this is the human trait that allows societies to function harmoniously, it is exactly the trait that dark personalities exploit. As ten Brinke explains, “When people are uncertain and a little scared, if there’s economic uncertainty or military conflict, and we feel like we need a strong person to stand up for us, those kinds of conditions can increase the likelihood that you get support for that person who adopts a dominant approach to leadership, as opposed to a more respect-based approach.” In such stressful times, the negative attributes of “impulsivity, ruthlessness and deceit” in the dark triad-tetrad get reinterpreted as “decisiveness, strength and cunning.”

The consequence can become a downward spiral in social order, cooperation, social cohesion, stability and affluence. The very traits of the dark personality that were supposed to remedy a society’s problems can actually make them worse. Abetting this collapse is the tenacity

with which dark personalities try to keep control and power. This situation is made even worse by their resistance to being changed. The psychopathy, narcissism, manipulateness and sadism of such leaders tend to counteract their receptivity to reform. According to ten Brinke, some of their worst attributes can be adjusted by rewarding them with what is considered “good” behaviour, but significant change as an actual “cure” almost never occurs.

For societies and for entire civilizations, leadership by these dark personalities commonly ends badly. So they collapse, either partially or totally. Those who survive eventually reconstitute some semblance of order with their inherent human inclination to trust, cooperate and share. That is the happy ending to the human saga.

Unfortunately, as a psychologist, ten Brinke measures reality somewhat differently. About 10 to 20% of the people who are on the dark personality spectrum have a propensity for “eroding ethical standards and sowing fear and mistrust” (Sally Adee, “Defence Against the Dark Arts”, *New Scientist*, 7 March 2026). As for the remaining 80%, careful studies have shown that many of them in “a culture of rot” can be converted into “situational psychopaths,” and that “kind and empathetic people are prone to infection by dark personalities.” Extreme fatigue, heat, stress, fear and group dynamics can change the character of most decent people—the term for a sports “fan” is derived from the word “fanatic”.

Hopefully, our best defence against becoming “poisonous people” is being aware of these personalities and how we might fall victim to them. Sadly, our historical record is not promising. But maybe, with awareness, we might improve.

Ray Grigg
for *Sierra Quadra*

Socks for Literacy

QUADRA LITERACY is putting its best foot forward with a fun new fundraiser: Socks for Literacy, available at Quadra Thrift for a limited time, beginning May 21.

Featuring colourful, high-quality socks from Blue Sky Clothing, the sale offers bamboo dress socks and bamboo activewear socks for \$8 a pair or 3 for \$21, and ankle socks for \$6 a pair or 3 for \$15. Available in men’s and women’s styles, the socks are known for their comfort, breathability, and playful designs.

Community members are invited to stop by, browse the selection, and support local literacy programming while picking up something practical and fun for spring.

Please note that payment is exact change, cash only.

For more information, contact Quadra Literacy at quadraliteracynetwork@gmail.com
Kathie Landry, Quadra Literacy Outreach Coordinator
quadraliteracynetwork@gmail.com

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News From a Century Past

The new family referenced in our columnist's spring 1896 report was likely the Yeatman family, English immigrants who moved here from Ladner. Their homestead was halfway down Smith Road. Museum at Campbell River photo 5219.

OUR ANONYMOUS Quadra Island columnist opened with continuing complaints about sporadic mail service in a mid-March 1896 report, followed by observations of spring:

“Like the migration of the feathered bipeds that other biped, the bachelor settler (we can't call him 'farmer') when the Spring arrives puts his shack in shape, with a flour-sack inside against the window, to hide the interior from the gaze of the inquisitive; and hies him away, with his blankets on his back, in search of – what? – well, in some cases, it is work, or rather money. He must work to support his ranch; he knows not yet how to make his ranch support him, or he has not courage enough to stay with it and try. In other cases it is lonesomeness; he is tired of batching and wants to get away, after living alone all the Winter; and it is ever the same, year after year. He goes out in the Spring and returns in the Fall again, with the geese, with perhaps enough to support him through the Winter. Of course, there are exceptions; not all the bachelors migrate; some stay on their places all the year around, but the majority are off half the time. Perhaps if they had helpmates they could be induced to stay on their claims and cultivate them, etc. It would perhaps be a good thing if the Government could see some method of arranging a way whereby we could have an influx of those Nova Scotia women there is so much writing about in the 'Montreal Star.' Anyway, the country will never be much agriculturally until there are more women on the farms.”

In his May report, our chronicler was concerned about the need for better docks. “Another settler with his family and stock arrived here a short time ago. He brought with him some of the best stock that has ever been on this island, but unfortunately in landing them in slings from the steamer one of them slipped out and fell back into the hold dislocating both hips. A wharf is badly needed on the east side of the island [at Heriot Bay], where the weekly steamer calls. There is one now on the west side at Quathiaski Cove, which is neither useful nor ornamental. Anything that is landed on it has to be taken off again by either raft or boat and there is a rumor that the Government intends repairing it this Summer, which will be only throwing money away.”

Jeanette Taylor, April 2026

Making Island Life Better

THAT IS the Mission of the Quadra Island Foundation.

For over 6 years now the Volunteer Board has been working- building strong links in the Social profit community along with overseeing the distribution of hundreds of thousands of dollars aimed at enhancing and building a sense of community and belonging here on Quadra Island.

Strong communities require community infrastructure to bring people together, strong relationships, a shared sense of belonging, and a deep understanding of how a community defines itself.

Community Foundations play a vital role in nurturing these connections by bringing people together around common goals, supporting local initiatives, and creating lasting resources that strengthen communities over generations. Your Quadra Island Foundation has, over the last number of years, worked hard in all of these areas.

For example, the First Quadra Island Foundation Vital Signs project is now complete and will soon be available at the Quadra Library on the Foundation website and a number of other targeted locations..

Foundations also act as both stewards of local philanthropy and catalysts for collaboration, helping communities move from isolated efforts toward collective action.

Those who understand the historic limitations that the Canadian Revenue Agency has traditionally placed on Charities know how difficult it can be for charitable agencies to be of service in some of the areas most required by a Community. After two years of hard work, your Island Foundation has been successful in rewriting its Charitable Purposes to enable us to be a partner to a wide array of organizations or groups that share our vision of 'Making Island Life Better' for the residents of our Island.

Over the next couple of weeks you will see these new Charitable Purposes in action and a new partnership between your Island Foundation and an important local Society will be revealed.

Keep your eye on this space for more information about this important project.

We at the Foundation are dedicated to our vision and are happy to explore ideas with all islanders on how we can 'Make Island Life Better'.

Partnerships, connecting Island volunteers, distributing targeted grant funding, collecting important community data and the extension of our Charitable umbrella are all ways the Quadra Island Foundation has been working for this community since its creation just 6 years ago.

Over 60 Community Foundations exist in BC and together they are trusted financially with the stewardship of many millions of locally invested dollars.

Foundations are a place where people who want to invest in their community can ensure their contributions remain local, continue growing over time, and create lasting benefits for today and future generations. If you are interested in investing in your island or wish to create a personal legacy on Quadra, please feel free to reach out to us.

Marc Doll,

Chair, Quadra Island Foundation

Board Members: Mich Hirano, Ann Sutton, Karen Sveinunggaard, Kent Macaulay, Kristen Nammour, David Dalton

The DI welcomes written submissions of interest to the Discovery Islands community: news, events, opinions, and musings. Please keep your item to 750 words for longer articles. Email text and photos to:

news@discoveryislands.ca

Island Forum: Strathcona Gardens Expansion and Bylaw 643

Thanks to the volume of mail submitted by DI readers on this issue, we've created a special 5-page Island Forum to share the letters they wrote to the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs. Thanks to Mike Gall and Jim Abram for their comprehensive submissions. Thanks to Paul Leeson whose letter to the Minister appears on page 21. Paul invites islanders to use his letter as an inspiration for their own; the relevant addresses appear below his letter. Remember that individual letters sent by postal mail generally have more impact with government recipients!

Quadra Residents Mobilize Over Controversial Strathcona Gardens Expansion and Its Potential Impact

A GROWING NUMBER of Quadra Island residents are raising concerns following a controversial Strathcona Regional District (SRD) vote that could see Island property owners taxed for decades to help finance the \$131 million redevelopment of the Strathcona Gardens Recreation Complex in Campbell River, including the Rod Brind'Amour Arena and the Strathcona Gardens Pool complex. Of that total, approximately \$121.7 million is proposed as long-term borrowing expected to be repaid over an estimated 25- to 30-year period.

The April 29 SRD Board decision passed by a narrow 7-6 margin and would commit Quadra taxpayers to long-term participation in the project's financing structure. Final approval of Bylaw 643 — an amendment to the existing Strathcona Gardens service bylaw — now rests with the Inspector of Municipal Affairs in Victoria.

For many residents, the issue extends well beyond recreation itself. Friends of Area C, FOAC, say recreation, community wellness, and outdoor living are central to life on Quadra Island and remain widely supported. The growing concern is about governance, taxation fairness, accountability, and whether residents were given any meaningful opportunity to decide on major long-term financial commitments that could affect the community for generations.

Community opposition has been significant and sustained. Over the past two years, residents point to two petitions — including one with more than 1200 signatures — along with more than 300 letters submitted to the SRD and approximately 650 survey responses opposing Quadra's inclusion in the proposed taxation model.

LEGAL CONCERNS AND NEXT STEPS

A major focus of the opposition centres on whether the process followed the intent and provisions of British Columbia's Local Government Act. Many residents believe Quadra Island should have been given the opportunity for a separate vote or assent process before being committed to decades of borrowing and taxation connected to the project.

In response, a FOAC working group of Quadra residents has retained legal counsel experienced in municipal law to challenge the process through appropriate provincial and legal channels. The group has engaged L. John Alexander, Associate Counsel to Cox and Taylor. He brings more than 30 years of experience in land use law, municipal litigation, administrative law, and proceedings before the BC Court of Appeal.

FOAC members argue the implications extend beyond a single recreation project. They believe the outcome could establish an important precedent for how the SRD and regional districts across British Columbia make major financial decisions involving communities with differing levels of participation and representation.

Supporters of the initiative say the recent SRD vote is not the conclusion of the issue, but potentially the beginning of a broader regional governance dispute that could shape local government decision-making well into the future.

PUBLIC MEETING AND COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

A public meeting for all Quadra residents and business owners has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, from 7 to 8:30pm at the Quadra Community Centre.

Organizers say the meeting will provide an overview of the project and its financial implications, legal process, anticipated timelines, projected costs, fundraising efforts, and the next steps that should be taken by the community.

The evening will also include a video presentation featuring excerpts from the April 29 SRD Board meeting — proceedings many residents described as emotional, contentious, and revealing. FOAC members say the presentation is intended to give residents a clearer understanding of how the decision unfolded and why many in the community believe greater public scrutiny is necessary.

Legal Defense Fund and Community Support — this is the key!!! To support the initiative, a legal defense fund has been established through our local credit union. Organizers are encouraging residents who are concerned about Bylaw 643 to contribute through e-transfer or cheque donations. Legal representation is expensive and we need broad participation.

E-transfers can be sent to: friendsofareac@yahoo.com. Cheques can be made out to Friends of Area C — legal defence fund. Receipts are available but not tax deductible.

FOAC points out, shared legal costs today will be substantially lower than the long-term financial impact residents may face under the proposed borrowing structure if Bylaw 643 proceeds unchanged.

Tell your friends: FOAC is encouraging residents to remain informed, engaged, and involved, describing the issue as one of the most consequential governance decisions facing Quadra Island in recent years.

“This is ultimately about ensuring Quadra residents have a meaningful voice in decisions that shape the financial future of our community for decades to come.”

Friends of Area C

Mike Gall

Denial of Bylaw and Ministerial Review - Strathcona Gardens

May 6, 2026

Minister Christine Boyle:

Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs, HMA.minister@gov.bc.ca

Inspector of Municipalities:

Governance and Structure Branch, LGGovernance@gov.bc.ca

CC: Director Robyn Mawhinney, SRD Area C, rmawhinney@srd.ca

RE: REQUEST FOR MINISTERIAL REVIEW AND DENIAL OF BYLAW #643 – STRATHCONA GARDENS SERVICE AREA EXPANSION TO INCLUDE QUADRA ISLAND

Dear Minister Boyle and Inspector of Municipalities,

As the previous SRD Director for Area C (which includes Quadra Island) for the past 35 years, I respectfully ask that Bylaw #643 from the SRD be denied and that an order is given to conduct a separate referendum on Quadra Island alone, with the results counted separately from any on Area D or Campbell River.

[continues next page](#)

Island Forum: Strathcona Gardens Expansion and Bylaw 643

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I was also on the UBCM Executive for 14 years and President in 2000/2001. I am still active in the UBCM and AViCC.

I was also chosen by the Minister of the day, to participate in the year long process to create the Community Charter. So I am very familiar with the workings of Local Government. I have worked closely with your Ministry in the past and continue to do so.

I ask that this bylaw not be approved. It is going to cause extreme hardship on all residents of Quadra, many of who are seniors and on limited, fixed incomes. The tax increase could be as high as 66% which is totally unrealistic and criminal in any jurisdiction.

The voting structure at the SRD is such that no Electoral Area can ever carry a vote against the number of votes assigned to the City of Campbell River.

The structure must change!

Quadra Island residents deserve a fair, transparent, and legally sound process before any new ongoing tax obligation is imposed. Especially one that will cost us an estimated \$38 million in the first 30 years alone (In my case). Additional costs could increase this amount over time. I respectfully ask that you act.

I am a Quadra Island resident, homeowner, and have never used Strathcona Gardens, am ferry-dependent for access to Campbell River, and on a fixed or limited income. I am writing to ask you to review the Strathcona Regional District Board's March 25, 2026 and April 29, 2026 decision to add Quadra Island to the Strathcona Gardens recreation service area.

This decision was made by a 7-6 board vote without a separate referendum for Quadra Island residents, without Quadra ever having been included in the decade-long planning process that led to this point, and in a voting structure where Campbell River's five directors hold significant (total) influence over regional decisions affecting rural communities.

MY SPECIFIC CONCERNS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The consultant's analysis relied on ridiculous information such as cell phone mobility data, BC Ferries traffic counts, and registered membership accounts — none of which constitute verified, Quadra-specific usage data. No actual count or direct usage survey of Quadra residents was conducted. The board made a permanent financial decision affecting Quadra households based on methodology the consultant acknowledged could not isolate Quadra Island residents specifically. This is wrong!
2. The 45-minute catchment area used to place Quadra Island within the Strathcona Gardens service area was a threshold chosen by RC Strategies — not a provincial standard — and was calculated using Google Maps travel time but not from areas that are 20 to 30 minutes travel time just to get to the ferry. This methodology does not account for ferry wait times (a regular occurrence in tourist season), sailing schedules, frequent break downs, or the full cost of a visit including ferry fares for all passengers, fuel, and admission. BC Ferries fares increase annually under the Coastal Ferry Act framework, making this burden grow over time.

The cost of the ferry for two adults, two kids over 12 and the car is = \$66.95. Cost of fuel at today's prices = \$20.00 (+/-)
The cost of admission to the facility for two adults and two kids over 12 yrs = \$23 (plus out-of-area fee).

So the total actual cost for an outing to Strathcona Gardens for a swim is \$109.95!!! We cannot afford to use the facility! Period! It is totally

unaffordable and was never taken into account by the consultant nor the decision makers at the Board.

On a personal level, I want you to understand that this tax would be a real financial hardship for my household, the ferry makes accessing this facility impractical for my family. I have what I need for recreation right here on Quadra.

I'm on a fixed income and this increase is significant. I'm concerned this will affect my ability to afford to stay on Quadra. I have children and grandchildren whose futures on this island are affected by this.

This decision was made without asking us — that's not how democracy should work, this process has destroyed my trust in how regional decisions are made. This process is being driven as a way to pay off an extravagant expense that we had no say in.

It is being driven by the CAO and Chair of the SRD and Campbell River, and Area D, the other participant with CR.

The staff have not followed proper process and have manipulated the entire process to make it 'look fair' for when it goes to the Inspector. These are the realities behind this issue for Quadra Island residents.

I am asking you to exercise your authority under the Local Government Act. Specifically, I am asking Minister Boyle to order that Quadra Island residents vote separately as the primary electorate on this question, as provided under Section 349(5), and I am asking the Inspector of Municipalities that should this come to your desk, to carefully review this bylaw for legislative compliance, and deny it when reviewed. It is unfair and unaffordable and does nothing but erode the trust in Local Government decision making.

As our Minister and Inspector, I respectfully request that you uphold the principals that I spent 35 years of my life defending at the Local Government level.

*Respectfully,
Jim Abram*

Formal Request for Review - Strathcona Regional District Bylaw 643 Proposed Expansion of Strathcona Gardens Service to Electoral Area C (Quadra Island)

TO:

Inspector of Municipalities
Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs
Province of British Columbia

CC:

Hon. Christine Boyle

FROM:

Michael H. Gall
Resident, Quadra Island, British Columbia

DATE:

May 5th, 2026

PRIMARY REQUEST

That the Inspector of Municipalities:

- Reject Bylaw 643 in its current form;
- Require a Quadra Island-only referendum prior to any inclusion in the Strathcona Gardens service; and
- Ensure any future participation is based on lawful process, verified usage data, and fair, proportional funding principles, excluding legacy debt not incurred with Area C participation.

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Island Forum: Strathcona Gardens Expansion and Bylaw 643

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ISSUE SUMMARY

On April 29, 2026, the Strathcona Regional District Board advanced Bylaw 643 through three readings by a 7–6 vote. The bylaw proposes to:

- Add Quadra Island (Electoral Area C) to the Strathcona Gardens Recreation Complex service area;
- Impose taxation obligations associated with approximately \$122 million in project debt; and
- Subject Quadra Island residents to a combined referendum structure in which their voting influence is outweighed approximately 20:1 by Campbell River and Electoral Area D voters.

This has occurred without a Quadra-specific referendum despite prior representations that such assent should occur before any advancement of inclusion within the service.

BACKGROUND

I have been a resident of Quadra Island for 18 years and have been actively involved in the community through:

- Service as a Captain with the Quadra Island Fire Department (QIFD);
- Roles as Director-at-Large with several local organizations and charitable groups; and
- Ongoing advocacy for transparent, accountable, and lawful governance at both the local and provincial levels.

Professionally, my background is in Senior National Account Management with a large multinational global enterprise, where I was responsible for high-level client relationships, complex negotiations, strategic planning, and accountability within structured governance and regulatory environments.

CONTEXT FOR REVIEW

This submission raises serious concerns regarding:

- Compliance with the Local Government Act (British Columbia);
- Procedural fairness and elector consent;
- Use of insufficient or unreliable evidentiary justification;
- Disregard for clearly expressed community opposition; and
- Departure from established regional cost-sharing principles.

The decision to impose both ongoing costs and substantial legacy debt obligations on a previously non-participating community, without meaningful assent or representation, warrants careful and independent review.

PURPOSE OF SUBMISSION

This submission is intended to assist the Inspector of Municipalities in determining whether Bylaw 643:

- Meets statutory and procedural requirements;
- Reflects principles of fair governance and elector consent; and
- Should be approved, rejected, or returned for reconsideration subject to specific conditions.

RE: Request for Review of SRD Bylaw 643 – Strathcona Gardens Service Expansion to Electoral Area C (Quadra Island)

Dear Inspector,

I respectfully request a formal review of the Strathcona Regional District Board decision of April 29, 2026, in which the Board voted (7–6) to advance Bylaw 643 through three readings and include Electoral Area C (Quadra Island) within the Strathcona Gardens Recreation Complex service area.

If approved, the bylaw would impose a significant and ongoing tax burden upon Quadra Island residents, including obligations associated with approximately \$122 million in previously authorized project debt, despite the fact that Quadra Island residents had no role in the approval, planning, governance, or financing decisions associated with those liabilities.

1. ABSENCE OF REQUIRED ELECTOR APPROVAL

On November 1, 2024, the SRD Corporate Services Manager advised that a referendum in Electoral Area C should occur prior to any further advancement of inclusion within the service area.

Despite this, the Board proceeded without providing Quadra Island residents with any referendum or assent opportunity specific to their community.

Under the Local Government Act (British Columbia):

- Establishing bylaws require elector approval within participating areas;
- Participating area assent is foundational to service legitimacy; and
- The Minister retains authority to require approval within specified participating areas.

These principles have not been meaningfully satisfied in relation to Electoral Area C.

2. STRUCTURALLY INEQUITABLE ASSENT PROCESS

The Board resolved that elector approval would be sought through a single, combined referendum conducted across the existing and proposed service area during the 2026 local government election.

This structure creates a substantial imbalance:

- Approximately 40,000 residents (actual electors TBD) within Campbell River and Electoral Area D;
- Approximately 2000 (actual electors TBD) residents within Quadra Island.

This creates an approximate 20:1 voting disparity and effectively removes any meaningful capacity for Quadra Island residents to determine the outcome of the assent process affecting their own taxation obligations.

An amendment proposing a separate assent vote for Quadra Island was introduced and defeated.

This structure undermines both the intent and integrity of elector approval provisions under the Local Government Act.

3. CLEAR AND DOCUMENTED COMMUNITY OPPOSITION

There exists extensive, measurable, and sustained opposition within Quadra Island regarding inclusion within the service under the proposed structure.

This includes:

- Two petitions submitted during 2025, including one containing 1226 signatures requesting a Quadra-only referendum;
- More than 300 written submissions expressing concern regarding the proposed taxation burden; and
- Significant public attendance and opposition expressed during the April 29, 2026 SRD Board meeting.

Additionally, a 2026 community survey involving 626 respondents over a 16-day period found:

- 95% considered a Quadra-only referendum “exceedingly important”;
- 87% reported rarely or never using Strathcona Gardens; and
- 94.9% supported a Quadra-only assent process.

Despite this exceptionally high level of one direction engagement and clarity of public position, the Board proceeded without meaningfully incorporating or addressing this input.

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Island Forum: Strathcona Gardens Expansion and Bylaw 643

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4. RELIANCE ON INSUFFICIENT AND UNRELIABLE EVIDENCE

The SRD retained RC Strategies to support the proposed inclusion of Quadra Island within the service area.

The resulting analysis relied substantially upon:

- Cellular “ping” location data near the facility; and
- BC Ferries traffic volumes.

Arbitrary assessments and interpretations without quantifiable data. These indicators do not reliably establish actual facility usage by Quadra Island residents, particularly given:

- Approximately 100,000 annual visitors to Quadra Island;
 - Additional Cortes Island traffic movements; and
 - The absence of differentiation between residents and non-residents.
- Even members of the Board acknowledged that actual proportional usage could not be reliably determined and that conclusions ultimately relied upon subjective interpretation.

Such evidentiary foundations are insufficient to justify imposing long-term taxation obligations and legacy debt liabilities upon a previously non-participating community.

5. FAILURE TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHED, PROPORTIONAL MODELS

Comparable Vancouver Island communities demonstrate the viability of equitable and proportional contribution frameworks for regional recreation services.

Examples include:

- Denman Island contributing approximately \$33,000 annually toward the Courtenay Recreation Centre; and
- Gabriola Island contributing approximately \$100,157 annually toward recreation services in Nanaimo based substantially upon usage.

Gabriola Island possesses more than double the population of Quadra Island, yet contributes significantly less than the approximately \$754,491 annual burden proposed under Bylaw 643.

These models demonstrate that:

- Usage-based contribution systems are practical and established;
- Proportional funding arrangements are common regional practice; and
- Legacy debt is not ordinarily imposed upon non-participating areas retroactively.

These alternatives were presented during the April 29th SRD Board meeting by the Area C director but were dismissed and not meaningfully considered.

6. IMPOSITION OF LEGACY COSTS WITHOUT PARTICIPATION

Since the establishment of the Strathcona Gardens service in 1971, Electoral Area C (Quadra Island) has not been a participating area within the service structure established under the Local Government Act. Quadra Island has not contributed toward the capital planning, borrowing authority, or debt servicing obligations associated with the facility, nor has it exercised any governance role in relation to the approval or administration of those financial commitments.

The debt obligations now proposed to be imposed upon Quadra Island through Bylaw 643 arise substantially from prior borrowing authorities established under SRD Bylaw No. 342 and SRD Bylaw No. 607.

Bylaw No. 342 authorized borrowing of up to \$64.6 million, while Bylaw No. 607 authorized a further \$57.1 million, for a combined borrowing authority of approximately \$121.7 million. In both instances, the participating service areas identified within the bylaws were limited exclusively to:

- The City of Campbell River; and
- Electoral Area D.

Electoral Area C was not included as a participating area within either bylaw, was not afforded elector approval rights in relation to those borrowing authorities, and did not assume any corresponding liability for those obligations at the time they were incurred.

The legal and governance significance of this distinction is substantial. The service area framework established under the Local Government Act is intended to ensure a direct and transparent relationship between:

- Participating areas,
 - Elector assent,
 - Governance representation, and
 - The financial obligations arising from service establishment and borrowing bylaws.
- Even the SRD CO recommended Elector assent should be sought prior to the establishment of the bylaw through staff report to the Board but was rejected.

That framework exists to ensure that communities assuming long-term debt obligations are those that:

1. Were identified as participants at the time the liabilities were created;
2. Had representation in the associated governance and approval processes; and
3. Provided elector assent, either directly or through legally authorized approval mechanisms.

In the present case, the debt obligations associated with Bylaws 342 and 607 were lawfully established on behalf of the participating areas identified at the time – namely Campbell River and Electoral Area D. Quadra Island was neither a participant in those approvals nor a beneficiary of the governance structure under which those liabilities were incurred.

The subsequent attempt, through Bylaw 643, to extend those pre-existing financial obligations to a previously non-participating area raises significant concerns respecting:

- The integrity of the service establishment framework under the Local Government Act;
- The principle of informed elector consent;
- Procedural fairness; and
- The lawful allocation of long-term public debt obligations.

Put plainly, Bylaw 643 does not merely propose future participation in a regional recreation service. It proposes the retroactive extension of approximately \$121.7 million in previously authorized debt obligations to a community that neither approved nor participated in the creation of those liabilities.

Such an outcome would represent a material departure from the foundational principles underlying regional service area governance in British Columbia and risks establishing a precedent whereby debt obligations incurred by one defined service area may later be transferred to non-participating communities absent direct assent or original inclusion within the borrowing framework.

For these reasons, the proposed inclusion of Electoral Area C within the Strathcona Gardens service area, in a manner that incorporates legacy debt obligations established under Bylaws 342 and 607, warrants careful review and reconsideration by the Inspector of Municipalities.

7. GOVERNANCE CONCERNS

The SRD Board has publicly identified “good governance through proactive engagement with communities” as a strategic priority.

In this instance:

- Hundreds of residents expressed concerns;
- Formal survey data was provided;
- Comparable funding models were presented; and
- A separate referendum option was proposed. [continues next page](#)

Island Forum: Strathcona Gardens Expansion and Bylaw 643

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These concerns and alternatives were either dismissed or not meaningfully addressed during the decision-making process.

This raises broader concerns respecting procedural fairness, transparency, and adherence to stated governance principles.

8. COMPETING LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES

Quadra Island faces significant local infrastructure needs, including:

- Wastewater servicing within Quathiaski Cove;
- A Vancouver Island Health Authority–approved water system for Quathiaski Cove;
- Limited fire protection capacity in portions of the island;
- Ongoing reliance by most residents upon independently funded water, septic, and utility systems.

These realities further reinforce the importance of preserving local control over taxation priorities and infrastructure investment decisions.

REQUEST

In light of the foregoing, I respectfully request that the Inspector of Municipalities:

- Reject Bylaw 643 in its current form;
- Require a Quadra Island-only referendum prior to any inclusion within the Strathcona Gardens service; and
- Ensure that any future participation framework is based upon:
 - verified and objective usage data;
 - proportional or user-pay contribution models; and
 - exclusion of legacy debt obligations not incurred with the participation or assent of Electoral Area C.

CONCLUSION

This matter raises serious concerns respecting statutory compliance, procedural fairness, elector consent, and public confidence in local governance processes.

The proposed extension of substantial legacy debt obligations to a previously non-participating community, without meaningful assent or original inclusion within the applicable borrowing framework, warrants careful and independent review.

I respectfully request that the Inspector of Municipalities exercise the authority available under provincial legislation to ensure that the principles of lawful governance, elector consent, and fair allocation of public financial obligations are properly upheld.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this very important matter.

Respectfully,

Mike Gall

mickeeg@gmail.com

Next Steps

Public Meeting and Community Presentation

A public meeting for all Quadra residents and business owners is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, from 7 to 8:30pm at the Quadra Community Centre.

The meeting will provide an overview of the project and its financial implications, legal process, anticipated timelines, projected costs, fundraising efforts, and the next steps that should be taken by the community.

Re: Request for Ministerial Order – Separate Assent Vote for Quadra Island, Bylaw No. 643

TO: Minister Christine Boyle

Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs

HMA.minister@gov.bc.ca

CC: Director Robyn Mawhinney, SRD Area C

rmawhinney@srd.ca

Dear Minister Boyle,

I am a resident of Quadra Island, writing to respectfully request that you exercise your authority under the Local Government Act to order that Quadra Island vote separately from Campbell River and Electoral Area D on Bylaw No. 643 – the Strathcona Gardens Recreation Centre Service Amendment Bylaw.

The SRD board has approved an assent voting process that aggregates the votes of all three areas into a single combined count. Campbell River and Area D together represent a population of over 40,000. Quadra's population is approximately 2500. SRD Chief Administrative Officer David Leitch confirmed on the record at the April 29 board meeting that the Minister has the authority to order that each area vote separately. A separate vote would allow Quadra residents a meaningful and independent say in a decision that, once made, is permanent.

In essence we were never included in the planning or approvals for these expenditures, and now that they are placing an excessive burden on the citizens of Campbell River, the Regional Directors, dominated by members from the municipality, have decided to go looking for others to fund these discretionary excesses. This is taxation without representation, full stop. I protest vehemently, and sincerely hope this is the start of a serious overhaul of the legislation governing Regional Districts in this Province. These governing bodies should exclusively represent those without a current voice in local government (rural residents only), and municipalities, who already have their own council, mayor, and administration, should be entirely excluded. If rural Regional Districts then required cooperation with neighbouring municipalities on any material issues, we could negotiate mutually acceptable resolutions, on equitable terms. Rural residents do not have comparable needs, wants, or desires, and are already burdened with their own unique and costly challenges. We should not be victims of a system where the majority can overpower our wishes.

Quadra Island residents were not consulted or included in the planning and financial decisions that created this obligation. We are asking for a fair process – one that gives our community a genuine voice. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Paul Leeson

Heriot Bay, BC

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Inspector of Municipalities – LGGovernance@gov.bc.ca

Minister Christine Boyle – HMA.minister@gov.bc.ca

CC: Director Robyn Mawhinney – rmawhinney@srd.ca

POSTAL ADDRESSES

Minister Christine Boyle

PO Box 9074, Stn Prov Govt

Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Inspectors of Municipalities

PO Box 9490, Stn Prov Govt

Victoria, BC V8W 9N7

Heriot Bay Tides

DATE	TIME PDT	M.	FT.
14 Thu	03:51	4.590	15.1
	11:00	1.274	4.2
	17:46	4.321	14.2
	22:52	3.115	10.2
15 Fri	04:15	4.608	15.1
	11:33	0.854	2.8
	18:41	4.644	15.2
	23:45	3.388	11.1
16 Sat	04:41	4.619	15.2
	12:09	0.516	1.7
	19:32	4.891	16.0
17 Sun	00:38	3.607	11.8
	05:13	4.609	15.1
	12:49	0.292	1.0
	20:23	5.041	16.5
18 Mon	01:32	3.757	12.3
	05:50	4.559	15.0
	13:33	0.199	0.7
	21:15	5.096	16.7
19 Tue	02:31	3.826	12.6
	06:34	4.449	14.6
	14:20	0.243	0.8
	22:08	5.078	16.7
20 Wed	03:39	3.795	12.5
	07:25	4.267	14.0
	15:09	0.420	1.4
	23:01	5.017	16.5
21 Thu	04:55	3.639	11.9
	08:24	4.008	13.1
	16:00	0.722	2.4
	23:52	4.938	16.2
22 Fri	06:10	3.353	11.0
	09:38	3.697	12.1
	16:52	1.129	3.7
23 Sat	00:39	4.856	15.9
	07:17	2.971	9.7
	11:17	3.422	11.2
	17:47	1.606	5.3
24 Sun	01:22	4.775	15.7
	08:16	2.540	8.3
	13:08	3.328	10.9
	18:49	2.102	6.9
25 Mon	02:00	4.693	15.4
	09:05	2.111	6.9
	14:48	3.452	11.3
	19:58	2.563	8.4
26 Tue	02:34	4.607	15.1
	09:48	1.724	5.7
	16:17	3.726	12.2
	21:09	2.951	9.7
27 Wed	03:05	4.517	14.8
	10:25	1.400	4.6
	17:28	4.063	13.3
	22:16	3.258	10.7
28 Thu	03:33	4.428	14.5
	10:59	1.144	3.8
	18:23	4.382	14.4
	23:19	3.489	11.4

DISCOVERY ISLANDER CLASSIFIEDS

Services

NOTARY PUBLIC

Notary Public on Quadra located inside Sacred Pulse at Quathiaski Cove shops, we offer notarial services, personal planning documents wills, powers of attorney, representation agreements. Call 1.855.204.6277 toll-free email info@quadrannotary.ca

QUADRA WASTE SOLUTIONS

Local. On-Demand. Occasionally. Weekly. Servicing Heriot Bay and South. Enquire about our Seniors' Driveway Service. Call/Text/Email. quadrawastesolutions@gmail.com 250.202.9182 Tariff-Free since 2023

SHORE PINE SIGNS & DESIGN

Custom signs for home and business, boat/vehicle decals, picture framing. Open Mon & Fri 9-2, Tues-Thurs 9-5. Next door to Q Builders. 250-285-2815 shorepinesigns@gmail.com

SMALL ENGINE REPAIRS

in Q Cove. Lawn Mowers, Tractors, Chainsaws, Trimmers, Generators etc. Also some electric power tools. Please call Don @ 250.285.3960.

ROOFING

Professional Roofing Services www.javaroofing.com Call JAVA ROOFING at 250.204.2638

Wellness

SOUL SOLE MASSAGE

by 'foot pressure' is an ancient Ayurvedic modality that uses the feet to deliver the massage. Expect deep tension release, increased mobility, relaxation and healing. Studio in Quathiaski Cove. Call/Text Jen 250 285 0070 www.soulsole.ca

MASSAGE

Massage is an exceptional tool that aids in alleviating stress and tension of body and mind. Trinity Gogolin specializes in many styles of massage from Deep Tissue and Trigger Point Release to Swedish Style and Relaxation Massage. U.S. Trained, with over 15 years experience. Offering a beautiful studio location, comfortable and conveniently located close to Q-Cove. Call or Text 250 203 4529 email: trinitygogolin@gmail.com

Home & Garden

LOW-PRESSURE IRRIGATION

specialist installing new low-pressure systems and repairing/maintaining all irrigation systems. Drip systems, troubleshooting leaks, pressure issues, and upgrades. Many years of experience with Quadra Island's unique conditions. Practical, reliable, efficient solutions tailored to your property. Kai 250-850-9245 ggpropertycare@gmail.com

GARDEN IMPROVEMENT

Looking to make dramatic improvements to your food or ornamental garden? Horticulturist Ryan Nassichuk can help. Visit www.nassichuk.com, call/text 250-202-2326, or email nassichuk@gmail.com to get in touch.

COMPOST TEA SALE FOOT FORWARD FARM

Actively Aerated Compost Tea available Sunday May 17 from 12-2 @ 512 Walker Rd. \$20/gallon One gallon enough for a typical garden or orchard.

SUPPORTING SUBSCRIPTION

Local Voluntary Subscriptions are welcome to help support the DI, suggested: \$30 per calendar year Find more details online at www.DiscoveryIslander.ca

Summer Jobs

SUMMER STUDENT JOBS AT QUADRA CHILDREN'S CENTRE

Quadra Children's Centre is hiring 3 Summer Students to support childcare and administrative programs. These are 8-week positions starting at \$21/hour, with potential for extension. A great opportunity for youth interested in childcare, outdoor programs, or administration! Full details: www.quadrachildrenscentre.com/careers

Events

QUADRA CHILDREN'S CENTRE 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION & AGM

Join us Sunday, June 14, 3-5pm at the Community Centre. Families are welcome for refreshments, children's activities, and a short AGM at 3:30 pm, followed by a family-friendly DJ dance party. All families and community members are welcome! Come celebrate 40 years of the Quadra Children's Centre.

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for Issue 883

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- upper floor has inviting open floor plan w/ vaulted ceilings, woodstove & sliding door to the upper floor deck overlooking the ocean. There are 2 more bedrooms & a 3pc bathroom also on this level.
- Panoramic views across Hoskyn Channel & fenced established gardens with greenhouse and hot house.



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