

WHY SHAWNIGAN LAKE?



Netta Bos
Shawnigan Resident

By January many of us are ready to wish the rain and snow away in anticipation for those long summer days of summer at Shawnigan Lake.

But not one of us could have expected the pandemic, and the impact that it would have on life as we knew it. COVID took a lot from us including our “busy” in exchange for stillness. Here we rediscovered ourselves, each other and new memories. We found the time to be, and to be with each other.

And the community of Shawnigan Lake came together as it always does.

The heart campaign through the Shawnigan Residents Association successfully raised money for Nourish Cowichan.

As a community we have much to be proud of. We are recognized for our ability to mobilize and work together. Community groups throughout Cowichan reached out to the SRA asking how they could support the campaign. To quote one organization, “We are in awe of Shawnigan, of how you are able to mobilize so quickly. We have people that are willing to support your campaign - we just can’t do it like you can. What can we do?”

Our community groups continued to find ways to come together. For example, the Shawnigan Lake Community Association organized a scavenger hunt on Canada Day. Traditionally held at Elsie Miles Park, this year participants traveled to different venues to find clues with the hope of winning prizes.

The Focus published a special feature issue which highlighted the goodwill within our community. An initiative by our local director, Sierra Acton, it has grown to include a campaign dedicated to supporting local businesses within Shawnigan Lake, Mill Bay and Cobble Hill. Supported by the SRA, the “Go Local” directory can be found at www.theSRA.ca/directory and is promoted through social media under the tagline #heyLOCALgoLOCAL.

Moving forward, local businesses became inventive and found ways to provide services giving us back a taste of the life we enjoyed prior to COVID. Shawnigan Lake is resilient and as we support each other, we are slowly finding our way. The question is...as we come back to the new normal will

we remain the quiet town of Shawnigan, or have we grown in popularity?

Albeit quiet to start, summer activity found its way to the lake. Instead of travelling to the mainland, or to places like Salt Spring Island, many families from Victoria, the Cowichan Valley and beyond choose Shawnigan Lake as its vacation destination. Vacation rentals saw an increase in booking requests. As guests arrived the story became familiar, “I’ve been born and raised Victoria, and this is my first-time to Shawnigan Lake. We had no idea the lake is this big!” or “Why is it that we never considered Shawnigan as a vacation destination?” or “Can we make a reservation for the same 2-weeks for the next five years?”

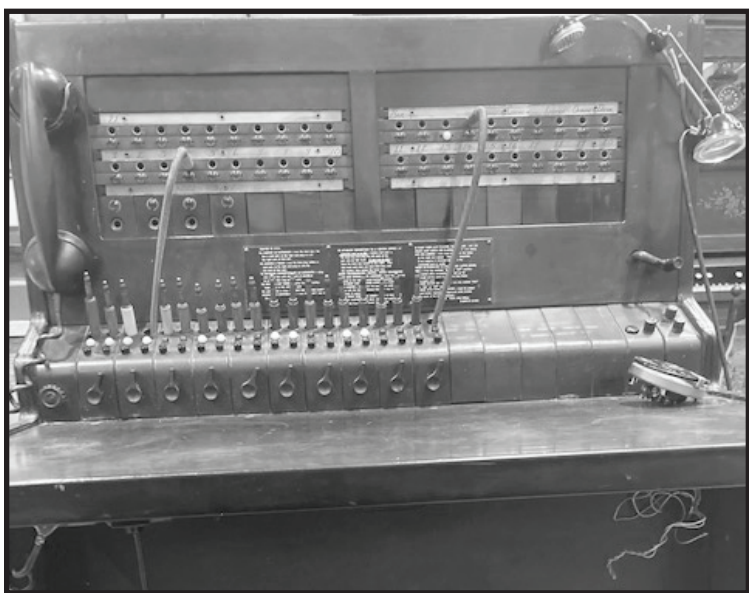
And as a result, Shawnigan Lake has grown in notoriety because of COVID, as summer vacation plans limited travel and trips were cancelled. Instead of looking further afield, people began to look to Shawnigan Lake as a place to invest in vacation rental properties or as the place to relocate exchanging the city for rural.

Proprietor Tracey Otto, of the West Coast Vintage, is reminded repeatedly how special Shawnigan Lake is through the comments guests to the area share with her. They remark on the “feeling” that is Shawnigan Lake, the quaintness, the history, the beauty of the area and all that it has to offer i.e. the lake, Kinsol Trestle, Mt. Baldy etc. Many have just moved to the area from other parts of Canada and the USA.

LOVE
GRATITUDE
HOPE



LOVE
GRATITUDE
HOPE



What's inside?

Paige Henry
Shawnigan Lake Museum

Making the "Switch"- A Short History of the Switchboard

Making a phone call is something we hardly have to think about. We tap a button or activate our Google Assistant, and we're connected in seconds. What some may not know is that there was once a person coordinating the process- the switchboard operator.

The telephone was introduced in 1876 by Alexander Graham Bell. It was a revolutionary invention, but its limitations kept it from seeing widespread use. The lack of a network meant that phones could only function in pairs, and their range and transmission quality were poor. Despite improvements, it could not compete with the telegraph, the most popular form of communication at the time.

The switchboard, also known as the telephone exchange, established the phone as a household instrument, allowing communication over greater distances and with significantly more people. In January 1878, the first commercial switchboard opened in Connecticut. It served 21 subscribers and was made of "carriage bolts, handles from teapot

lids and bustle wire."

Switchboard operators were responsible for answering callers and transferring them to the correct subscriber. When someone picked up their phone, a light on the switchboard turned on, informing the operator of the incoming call. They asked for the desired number, then made the connection by plugging cables into the appropriate sockets on the switchboard.

The stereotypical image of a switchboard operator is a pretty young woman with a pleasant voice. However, the first operators were teenage boys, who became notorious for rude and disorderly behaviour. Emma Nutt, the first female operator, was hired in September 1878. Her soothing voice, politeness, and easy navigation of the switchboard suggested that women were more fitting for the job. They soon dominated the profession, and were praised for being faster and more reliable than male workers- though they received a fraction of the earnings.

Early switchboards often served small numbers of subscribers, creating a sense of familiarity between customer and operator. The operators didn't just trans-

fer calls, either. They could also provide the weather, news, sports scores, and local gossip.

The first automatic dialing system, which allowed people to call each other directly, was installed in 1892. Manual switchboards stayed in use for much of the 20th century, but gradually became obsolete as technology progressed. The role of switchboard operator became that of telephone operator, receptionist, and, in its most modern form, automated answering system.

The Shawnigan Lake Museum displays its own switchboard, manufactured by the Western Electric company. Originally housed by the Hope Hotel in the town of Hope, B.C., it now stands among other tangible reminders of yesteryear.

The switchboard evokes nostalgia for many. The digital assistants of today might be more efficient, but lack the human connection that used to be commonplace. As we advance into an age where everything is becoming faster and more convenient, it's important to remember the devices- and the people- that used to make our world run.

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South Cowichan Library

The **South Cowichan Library in the Mill Bay Centre** is now open with limited services. You'll see designated "stations" to wait until the way to the next location is clear. You can browse a small collection of novels, DVDs, magazines, CDs, children's material, nonfiction, Grab & Go bags, and books-on-CD.

Holds and browsed items can be checked out at our touchless self-checkout machine—library card required! Or you can check out with us. Our photocopier is available for self-service.

You can place your requests online at **virl.bc.ca** or by calling **250-743-5436**. You'll get an automatic notification when your item arrives and then can drop by with your library card to pick it up.

Tue: 1-3pm & 5-7pm

Wed to Sat: 10-12pm & 2-4pm

Closed Sunday and Monday

We're not yet able to offer a

place to sit, public computers, or a washroom. If you're not comfortable coming in, let us know and we'll give you a time to meet us at the front door to pick up your items

The **book return slot is unlocked from Tuesday 12pm until Saturday 5pm**. The slot is locked Saturday evening to Tuesday noon.

Items are quarantined 48 hours before being checked in. This will result in a delay in your returned items being removed from your account.

All overdue fines are waived at check-in.

If you need more help than you can get quickly during your visit, please call or email us at **southcowichan@virl.bc.ca**. We can help you place holds order the next in a series get started with eBooks learn how to access online newspaper and magazines and more

We hope to see you soon!

Shawnigan Lake Museum: It's good to be back!

Lori Treloar
Museum Curator

The Museum re-opened on July 2nd with limited hours compared to most summers and with Covid precautions in place. The number of non-related visitors in the Museum at one time is three. We have two sanitation stations, floor decals to direct traffic, ropes to restrict access to some parts of the museum and masks are mandatory.

Unfortunately, the hands-on activities are not available at this time. QR codes have been added for some of the displays for visitors to learn more about specific aspects of Shawnigan history.

In spite of the restrictions, we have had a great summer with visitors. Numbers are down considerably compared to other

summers but that was to be expected. Many people have expressed their appreciation that we are open.

The Gift Shop is open if you are looking for gifts or Shawnigan specific items. There is also an online store that can be accessed on the museum website: shawniganlakemuseum.com

This is one way that the community can help support the Museum during this unusual time.

Other ways that you can help: visit the museum, attend our online speaker events, spread the word if you have enjoyed a visit to the museum and/or consider making a donation. This can be done easily and safely through the Canada Helps button on our website.

The monthly giving program is an easy way to help and even \$5 per month helps. Canada Helps will automatically provide a tax receipt at the end of the year.



Meet me at the museum!

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Making Connections

Sonia Furstenau
Green Party MLA

As the smoke from the fires decimating the entire west coast of the US is stinging my eyes, I am reflecting on 2020. We have learned, at the very least, that we are highly adaptable.

Snow and flooding to start the year? We've seen that before, and we can overcome. A global pandemic unfolding, and we need to stay home? Out come the pots and pans, first for cooking more homemade meals, then for banging in appreciation of frontline workers. A global anti-racism movement, after the senseless killing of George Floyd? We're putting on our masks and standing together,

because Black Lives Matter. Easing back into our busy lives, while trying to keep ourselves and others safe from a virus that shows no sign of abating? Hand sanitizer and masks on hand, we socially distance our way through our days, resisting the impulse to shake hands or hug the people we are so happy to see again.

Adaptability is one of our greatest strengths. It is remarkable that we can seemingly continuously reframe our lives to match the circumstance around us.

And at the same time, our adaptability can stop us from acting to prevent the kind of circumstances we're seeing in this year – a year that is unlike any other.

For decades, climate scientists have presented data and the modeling, urging decision-makers to take action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. But we have not heeded their warnings, and emissions have steadily climbed, and in the western US today, half a million people are evacuated from their homes and firefighters have to contend with fire tornados, while temperature records break over and over again. How many tipping points have we passed while governments have chosen to prop up the fossil fuel industry with subsidies and tax cuts?

Epidemiologists and scientist have also sounded alarms about zoonotic

diseases for decades. COVID-19, SARS, H1NI, Ebola, HIV, and the Spanish Flu are all diseases that originated in animals and transferred to humans – and we don't want to have to adapt to the next one. We want to prevent it by changing how we interact with the animal world, including recognizing that the industrial model of raising and slaughtering animals for meat contributes to the rise of viruses and bacteria that we may be reckoning with in the next pandemic.

And in our communities, we have to lean in to connection. It's not enough for us to not be racist – we have to work to be anti-racist. Difference and diversity do not diminish us – they strengthen

us. We're going to need each other more and more in the years ahead, and if we build the strong social connections in our neighbourhoods and communities today, we will be better prepared for the challenges that we will face in the months and years to come. Lean into empathy, compassion, curiosity, and kindness – these are the essentials for a resiliency.

We have adapted to our altered world, but we can also choose to reshape our future world so that it will be more predictable and more stable than this year has been. Let's start where we live and each of us make the choice to create an even more deeply connected community.

E&N Railbed being put to good use

Glenn White
Shawnigan Resident: Opinion

For years now since the CPR donated the E&N rail corridor to the province, and in return received a 750 million dollar tax credit, the line has continued to decline and deteriorate. We need to stop and realize that the communities along the line do not want a railway but the railbed which they would use to encourage community activities and to develop safe walking/biking etc. trails within the community.

We also know that when the trail is available, people will use it as was evidenced by Ken Arbor, a hiker from Victoria, who spent several days hiking to Lake Cowichan staying in Shawnigan Lake and Duncan B&B's putting dollars into the communities. Imagine this 10 or 100 fold increase in similar people who would use the trail for short walks

in their communities or longer trips like the hiker from Victoria. This trail is an excellent example of how we can take a useless piece of real-estate that is simply draining money from the communities (via crossing fees paid for with taxpayer dollars) to keep the pipe dream of a select few alive, but not functioning in any capacity.

Building more trails is the best use of this land and will add value to all the communities. Chemanius has done a similar repurposing of the rail bed for a useful benefit to the community and encourages healthy lifestyle and activities.

I am very happy Shawnigan Lake is taking advantage of this asset which is lying there deteriorating and turned it into a wonderful addition to our community.

Keep up the great work and we may end up connecting at least the Cowichan Valley communities.

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With the support of the Province of British Columbia



The new E&N Rail Trail, currently under construction, will connect Mason's Beach with the Village. Photos by Janet Neilsen

Book Review

Marcy Green
 Shawnigan Focus

The Huntress

by Kate Quinn
 Published by William Morrow
 Copyright 2019 by Kate Quinn

What do you read in a pandemic? If you're like me, it's an opportunity to explore new genres, but also a chance to revisit one's favourite authors. I made sure I stayed away from the dystopian, the scary and the downright miserable books that are available. After all, one can get all of this by tuning in to the daily news. The world has presented us with a new reality and it is frightening, to say the least.

Escapism seemed like the ticket, but the light reading I tried seemed a bit too lacking in substance. So I went to the latest historical novels, many of which recaptured WWII stories of intrigue and courage. Perfect for these trying times, I thought. After all, the generation before us dealt with all kinds of upheaval and uncertainty, and perhaps it was time to look to our parents (or grandparents) for inspiration and wisdom.

I have a stack of these books here on my desk and they all warrant a mention and recommendation:

- ★ The Mistress of the Ritz by Melanie Benjamin
- ★ The Queen's Secret by Karen Harper
- ★ The Spies of Shilling Lane by Jennifer Ryan

But the one that stayed with me, and the one I felt was the best-written, was Kate Quinn's marvellous book, The Huntress.

If you read The Alice Network, you may

already be a fan of this writer.

This new novel has several storylines which eventually come together in an exciting and nail-biting climax. The first, dealing with a squadron of ferocious and daring female Russian combat pilots, is not a piece of history I was familiar with. The Night Witches, named for their fearful bombing of Hitler's defences, wreaked havoc on their targets. Their lives were perilous and fueled with pills and adrenalin taken in order to stay awake through their multiple raids.

The subplot is about a group of Nazi hunters determined to bring the most dangerous war criminals to justice in the Nuremberg Trials. Their tale is absolutely gripping. Here, we revisit one of the main characters from Quinn's previous war novel, as he continues to operate undercover as a cool-headed British spy. There is also a cameo appearance from the battle-scarred heroine of the same novel. I was happy to see them both included.

The story culminates in post-war Boston when a young photojournalist suspects there is a suspicious foreigner in her familiar circle. She bravely joins with the other protagonists in matching wits with, and eventually outing the dangerous assassin. There are several scenes where we fear for her life, but all receive their just rewards in the end.

Recommended for those who enjoy a good spy and adventure story, based on solid research and actual events. The characters are well-drawn and believable and the build-up of suspense, along with several satisfying love stories, will hold your attention right to the end.

Rating: 4.8/5 stars

Shawnigan Basin Society



The Shawnigan Basin Society strives on! Over the past several months, during general meetings, directors and members reviewed the hard decision of the society's future and the ability to keep its doors open. Grant applications closed, grant applications that were pending reached a halt, Government financial programs were offered, but SBS did not fit the criteria for such funding, and in-community fundraising became exceedingly difficult. Our team nurtured strong, self-reliant individuals with expanded capacity for accomplishment to move forward. The unhindered and continuous efforts from volunteers, members, our community and our directors following health regulations and advisories set by the Ministry of Health ensures that we are able to move forward with campaigns to raise funds, keeping the doors open.

Bottle Drives over the summer were a success, nearly reaching \$1500. Drives are now located in the village during office hrs Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 12 pm to 4pm. Pick up available.

Thank you to each individual and business that has made it possible to continue working to protect and secure the long-term health and safety of the Shawnigan Lake Community Watershed and the drinking water it provides.

- ★ A succinct list of projects underway:
- ★ Water Sampling Program
- ★ Liquid Waste Management Plan
- ★ Lands and Public Trust Initiative
- ★ Milfoil Action
- ★ Foreshore Restorations
- ★ Volunteer Program
- ★ NatureKids BC Club

Our volunteers are out in the community assisting with inquiries and resolutions on a regular basis. If you have any questions or concerns, we can be reached at 250- 929-4076 or by email info@Shawniganbasinsociety.org

Shawnigan Weather

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network

Reported by Grant Treloar

2020: The Slow Start Summer

	June	July	August	up to Sept 10
Sunny days	7	17	16	10
Days>20°	17	20	21	10
Days >25°	3	15	17	10
Days >30°	0	6	3	3
Hottest Day	26.1° (30 th)	34.7°(30 th)	34.1°(16 th)	33.4°(10 th)
Days<10°	15	4	2	0
Coldest Day	5.6°(1 st)	9°(13 th)	8.3°(13 th /30 th)	10.8°(8 th /9 th)
Average Temperature	15.2°	18.0°	17.9°	18.°
Compared to Normal	(-)0.1°	(+)0.3°	0°	n/a
Days with Rain	15	5	6	0
Wettest Day	24.6mm(9 th)	7.9mm(3 rd)	13.5mm(20 th)	-
Total Rain	60.6mm	12.6	26.4	0
Compared to Normal	(+)20.6mm	(-)10.6mm	(-)1.5mm	-
Longest period without rain	3 days	19 days	12 days	10 days

Data courtesy of the UVic Weather Network and Environment Canada.

The summer of 2020 was pretty close to normal overall. After a damp June, the sun finally came out in strength by mid-July. The longest dry stretch began August 21st and stretched all the way into the 2nd week of September. Smoke from forest fires to the south arrived with a vengeance on September 10th.



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Decoration Mock Up



LOVIN LAKE LIFE T shirts are also available for donations of \$25.

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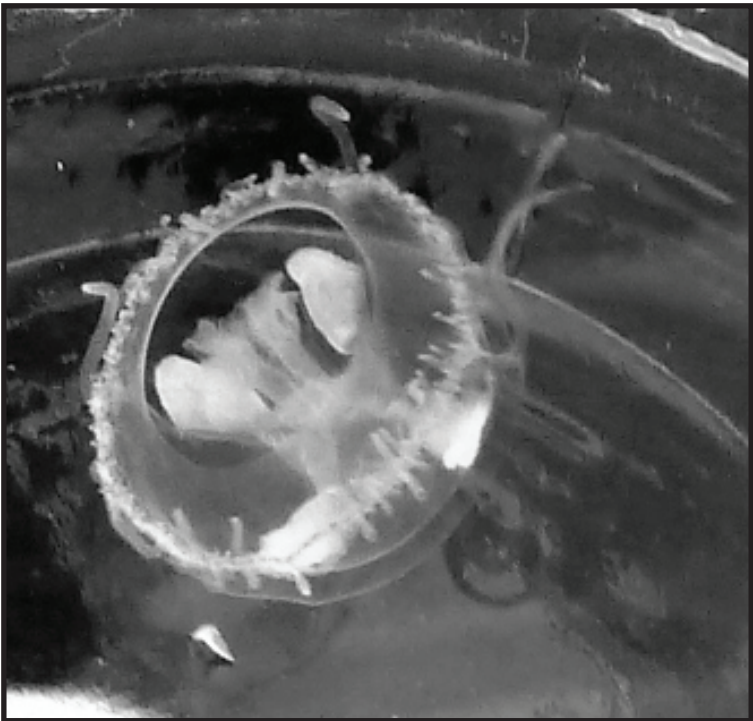
The Wild Side: Freshwater jellyfish revisited!

Dave Hutchinson
Shawnigan Focus

On August 27th CHEK News ran a story with the heading **“Invasive jellyfish from China discovered in a small Saanich lake”**. The Times Colonist also printed an article. Both quoted Florian Luskow, a graduate student and marine biologist at UBC who was evidently “dumbfounded” to “discover” a thriving population of *craspedacusta*, a freshwater jellyfish. The reports made it sound like this was a new and recent discovery.

I was compelled to resurrect our “Wild Side” article from October, 2013 and forward it to Florian. I pointed out that, from anecdotal accounts, there have been sightings in Shawnigan Lake dating back to the 1940’s. Official documentation for other lakes begins in 1990 and reported sightings are evidently on the rise. There have been no reports of them in Shawnigan since 2013. When decades go by it can seem like a new phenomenon each time. It would be interesting to know what life cycle processes determine these intervals. Hopefully Florian and his colleagues can shed some light on this with their research.

We have reprinted much



Freshwater Jellyfish in Shawnigan Lake – Photos by Dave Hutchinson

of the 2013 “Wild Side” article below:

Back around Labour Day, 2013, after finishing a ski and settling into water, Lee Curtis was amazed to find himself surrounded by hundreds of jellyfish. Lee, the president of the local Ski Club, was astonished. He and Pauline started spreading the word and doing some research.

I spoke to Lee on October 6th and he said they were still around. Sure enough, after rowing over to the east side near Old Mill Park, we found dozens of the creatures. About the size of a

quarter they were easily seen near the surface.

At lunch, with an old friend of the family, I brought up the subject. Sue used to swim here with my mother and has a childhood memory of my grandfather cautioning the two of them to “watch out for the jellyfish!” “They really were there”, she said. This would have been the early 1940’s.

It turns out that Shawnigan is not alone. A quick on-line search returns many results. “Freshwater Jellyfish Blooms Cause Sensation in North America” reads one article from 2010. The culprit is

Craspedacusta sowerbii, a species of freshwater jellyfish. One theory is that it was transported out of China in the 1880’s while attached to lilies.

Some Details:

There are three species of freshwater jellyfish, but only this one has become established around the world in every continent except Antarctica.

The freshwater jellyfish feeds on microorganisms in the water column so they are competing with other organisms which feed on the same sources. Large numbers may impact native populations although, currently, there is no data to support or refute this.

Just like salt water jellyfish they do have stinging cells. However, these cnidocytes cells are used for paralyzing very tiny prey and have not been proven to have the capacity to pierce human skin.

The collective name for a group of jellyfish is a “fluther” or a “smack”.

They have been discovered in both pristine and heavily polluted waters. One Pennsylvania study found that the only thing significantly impacting their presence was the level of chlorine in the water.

C. sowerbii begins life as a tiny

polyp, which lives in colonies attached to underwater vegetation, feeding and asexually reproducing during spring and summer. Some of these offspring are the sexually reproducing medusa (the jellyfish form we easily notice). Fertilized eggs develop into larvae called planula which settle to the bottom, and develop into polyps. During winter, polyps contract and become resting bodies, called podocysts. It is believed that podocysts are transported by aquatic plants or animals to other bodies of water. Once conditions become favorable, they develop into polyps again.

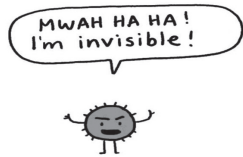
The medusa’s appearance is sporadic and unpredictable from year to year. It is not uncommon for very large numbers to appear in a body of water where none have been previously observed.

Blooms of the species are common in late summer when lake temperatures are optimum. The species prefers still water to moving water.

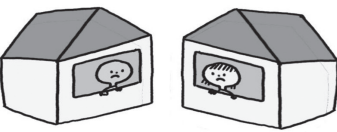
www.freshwaterjellyfish.org reports several nearby sightings including: Florence, Glen, Maltby, and Kilarney lakes near Victoria; Beaver Lake near Cowichan Lake; and Enos Lake near Nanoose Bay. Shawnigan Lake is not listed.

WHAT’S UP WITH THIS CORONAVIRUS ?

The coronavirus is a germ. It’s so small that we can’t see it.



To slow down the virus and to keep it from making too many people sick, many schools are now closed and people are asked to stay home as much as possible.



Even when we don’t feel sick, we can help slow down the virus by washing our hands often, coughing into our arms and avoiding crowds.



When kids get this virus, most of the time it’s no big deal. But adults and especially older people can get really sick.



People who are sick are asked to stay at home alone to keep the virus from spreading to new people.



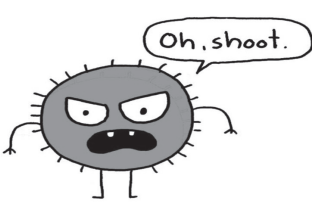
When we slow down the virus, we give scientists and hospitals more time to find a cure and to take care of sick people.



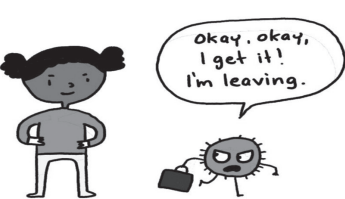
The Coronavirus travels from person to person if they touch or come close together. It can spread to many people very fast.



It’s hard not to be together but it makes it even harder for the virus to spread to new people.



If everyone makes an effort, we can protect each other and save many lives!



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Malahat Legion Branch 134



Gloria Solley
Malahat Legion

WE MADE IT ...

THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY AND LEGION VOLUNTEERS

A BIG THANK YOU to the community for coming to our aide by dropping off bottles, cans, etc. to the Legion Bottle Drives. All proceeds went directly to the Legion to help cover our essential monthly bills and start-up expenses. The non-sorting bottle drives will be continuing due to the uncertainty of the virus at this time. More to come with the September announcements from the PHO.

Our Legion members were out and about shopping and delivering food and medicines not only to our veterans but anyone who needed help.

In May, the Legion teamed up with the Y.S.A.G.S.' Quilting Club so that we could distribute the 2100+ masks that they made. Thanks to Fran and her club for all the hard work they put in. In fact they are still making them. The Garth Home Society's Director just picked up 85 masks at the Legion.

Legion members Jeff Lydiatt developed a web page so masks may be ordered and any donations received can be deposited on-line and Virginia Bauder organized the masks for pick up. Masks were distributed free of charge but donations were accepted to purchase new supplies.

We are now only open for the Meat Draws on Saturdays until further notice. Our Galley is open with a new awesome menu. Some changes have been made in accordance with the Co-vid-19 safety rules. All money raised will help local charities.

We could not have re-started without the support of our community and our volunteers.



Shawnigan Lake
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Phone: (250)743-2096
Non-emergency
Phone: (250)812-8030
shawniganfire@shaw.ca



AUGUST REPORT

*Department Members
Attended 16 Incidents in August.*

- ★ Monday, August 3 – Burning Complaint off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Tuesday, August 4 – Burning Complaint on Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Thursday, August 6 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd @ Recreation Rd
- ★ Saturday, August 8 – Assistance on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Wednesday, August 12 – Bark Mulch Fire on Skylar Circle
- ★ Saturday, August 15 – MVI on Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Saturday, August 15 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, August 15 – MVI on Deloume Rd
- ★ Sunday, August 16 – Burning Complaint on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Monday, August 17 – Bush Fire on W Shawnigan Lake Rd @ Butler Rd
- ★ Monday, August 17 – Burning Complaint on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Wednesday, August 19 – Alarms Activated on Pillow Rd
- ★ Sunday, August 23 – 1st Responder off Gregory Rd
- ★ Wednesday, August 26 – Burning Complaint on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, August 28 – Burning Complaint on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, August 30 – Bush Fire on Cameron-Taggart Rd

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COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton**
Email sacton@cverd.bc.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)** Meetings TBA
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month.
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**
Meetings TBA. Held at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre
- ★ **Shawnigan Improvement District**
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- ★ **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)**
For info: check www.thesra.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA)**
Contact: bburr@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**
Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Tues, Thurs & Sat 12-4. General Meetings at 7pm 1st Tuesday of the month. Contact: info@shawniganbasinsociety.org
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: blog.ysag.ca - email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Open Thursday to Sunday - 10:30-4. Contact: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca
www.shawniganlakemuseum.com 250-743-9675
- ★ **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**
Contact: 250-929-7222 - www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca
- ★ **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**
Saturday Meat Draw 3:00-5:00pm. Contact: Gloria.gsolley@shaw.ca
- ★ **South Cowichan Healthcare Aux.** every second Tuesday from 1 -2pm. at Mill Bay Community League Hall. southcowichanhealthcareaux@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Quilters** - Wed. 9-2 at Lion's Hall (former Sylvania School)

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LOST - FOUND

GENERAL INTEREST

PROPERTY SERVICES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOME SERVICES

FREE

WANTED

OPINION:

*Do you have something to say about our community?
Share it with us!*

shawniganfocuseditor@gmail.com

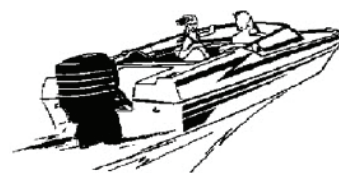
What Is It? Where Is It? Why Is IT?



*One lucky respondent with the correct answer will be randomly selected to win two Specialty Coffees at Shawnigan House.
Reply to: editor@shawniganfocus.ca*

IT'S BEEN A WHILE
The last winner was way back in March and we are pleased to resume the "What is It" contest!

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Shawnigan Cemetery



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Dr. Denise Phipps DVM

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shawniganvet@gmail.com

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"Serving Shawnigan Lake and South Cowichan for over 20 years"

Community protecting community

Constable Ian Wetzel Eden
Shawnigan Lake, RCMP

We are living in unusual and unprecedented times! With school reopening and life seeming to return to some normalcy, we need to bear in mind that a global pandemic is active in our communities. The key to maintaining healthy communities is cooperation, respect and coming together for the greater good. It is time for us to put our personal preferences and biases aside so that we can all strive to eradicate this virus.

Lately we have been inundated with news stories of people hosting large parties, the outcome being the propagating of the virus. Statistics are clear; the virus is on the upswing in BC and these types of gatherings are putting individuals and communities at risk.

On August 21, 2020, it was announced by Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety, and Solicitor General that additional powers were granted to police and other public safety officers to enforce the BC Government response to COVID-19 through the Emergency Program Act (EPA). Those powers relate to enforcement through violation tickets of up to \$2,000 for those planning large gatherings contrary to the Provincial Health Officer Order (PHO) issued on August 7, 2020. The order relates to an "event" being hosted, that can include anything, whether a house-party, wedding, funeral, or any reason for people to get together. In summary: only gatherings of up to 50 people are allowed; access must be controlled; space must permit distancing; sanitation must be available; and names and phone numbers of all attendees must be obtained and kept for a minimum of 30 days. Event planners and facility hosts can face fines up to \$2,000. Unruly participants or those refusing to follow distancing

guidelines can also face fines of up to \$200. Minister Farnworth stated it best, "These orders will help us put a stop to the selfish acts of a small minority of British Columbians who are threatening to erode the progress our province has made in controlling COVID-19." It was an unfortunate step but a necessary one. If you are planning on hosting an event, it would be recommended that you read the PHO:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/covid-19/covid-19-pho-order-gatherings-events.pdf>

I would also suggest that everyone review the Public Health Officer Orders and the information readily available to the public on the BC Centre for Disease Control site:

<http://www.bccdc>

The South Cowichan Community Policing Office moved at the end of March, during COVID-19 early stages. The new location is 845 2B Deloume Rd, Mill Bay V0R 2P2. Contact: 250-929-7222 or sccp@shaw.ca. At this time the office remains closed for access to the public. However, they continue to service our community through telephone, emails, social media, Block Watch, Free Friendly Phones calls to seniors, Speed Watch, Road Safety – Slow Down Signs and ordering High Visibility House # Signs.

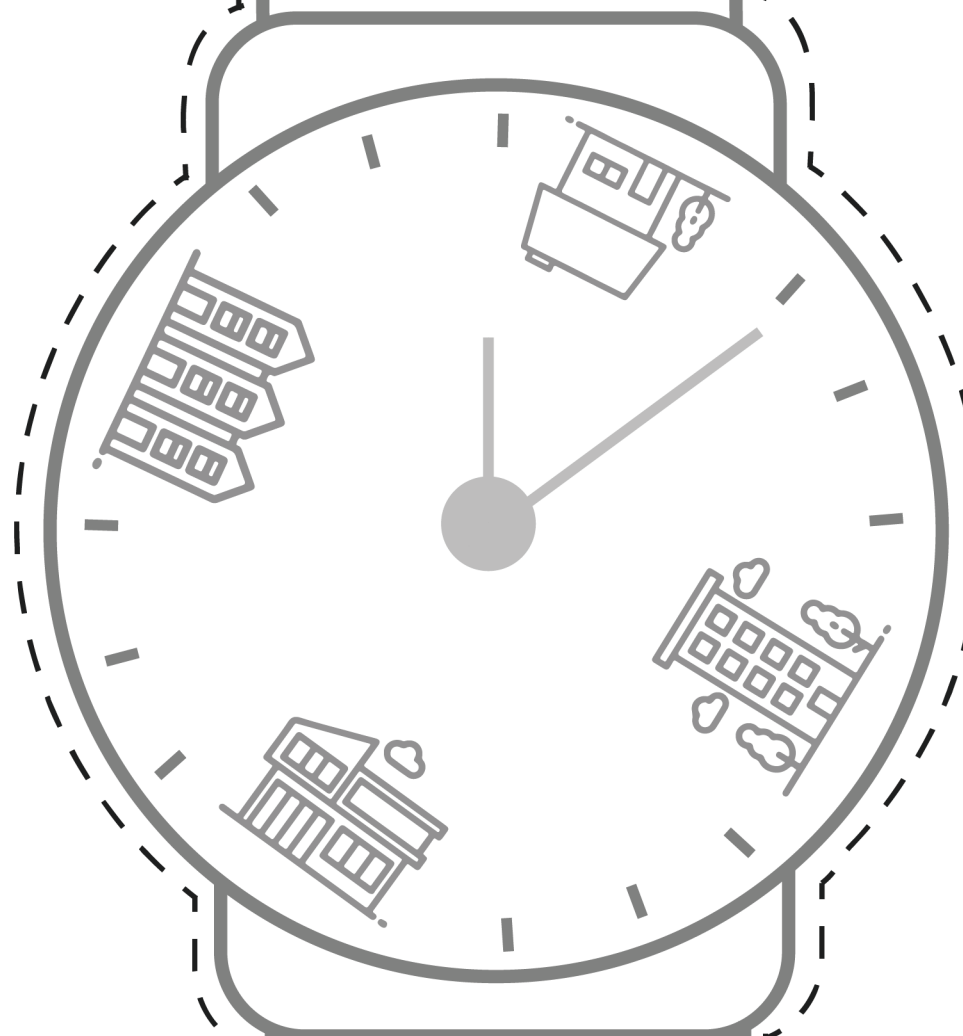
You may have noticed that Speed Watch – COVID-19 Friendly - is active again in response to our community's road safety concerns. SCCPAS looks forward to the day when their doors are open and they can welcome you all with a Grand Opening.

Our aim is to protect our friends, family, neighbours and community. If we all make healthy choices, then we all benefit.

It's time to assess our regional housing needs.



The countdown is on!
Complete the CVRD
Housing Needs Assessment
Questionnaire before
September 30th.



Visit
cvrd.bc.ca/HousingNeeds
or
Contact the CVRD at
250.746.2500 if you
require other
accommodations.

Zucchini Bisque

A family favourite! And a great way to use up all those zucchinis...

Ingredients:

- ★ 2 tbsp Butter
- ★ 1 medium Onion
- ★ 1 cup Carrot, thinly sliced
- ★ 4 cups Zucchini, diced
- ★ 1 can Chicken broth
- ★ ¼ tsp Marjoram

Directions

Melt butter. Add onion, carrot and zucchini. Cook until the onion is limp. Stir in broth and marjoram. Cover and simmer until tender. Use a blender or immersion blender to puree until smooth. Freezes well. Serve with a spoonful of whip cream stirred in.



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