



Shawnigan Focus

Volume Eight- Issue Five

May 2017

A Non-Profit Community Publication

RESPECTFUL USE OF THE LAKE FEEDBACK WANTED:

A couple of years ago, a Community dialogue about recreational lake use began with a presentation of a “100 metre” perimeter map of suggested areas for large wake activity. This was presented in the Shawnigan Focus Newspaper.

This discussion continued to include the Area Director, Sonia Furstenaus. She

wanted to get more feedback from Shawnigan residents and moved this to the agenda for a Director’s meeting last fall.

After a couple of delays, the topic of Respectful Use of the Lake” was presented and discussed at the March and April 2017 Director’s Meetings.

At the community meeting in March, the 100m perim-

eter map was presented to help drive a conversation on respectful use of the lake.

After the March meeting a group of about a dozen or so community members worked to improve on the 100m perimeter map by revising it, based on the comments, concerns and questions from the approximately 75 members of the audience at the meeting.

Please share this map widely. It is hoped that the Shawnigan Community will create a dialogue, along with comments, questions, concerns and input can be used to make all activities on the lake an enjoyable experience for everyone. A large, colour PDF version of this map can be downloaded at:

<https://tinyurl.com/msmtg28>.

Please, your input is needed!

Send your thoughts, concerns, questions, suggested revisions, etc. to the following address: shawniganlakewatch-group@gmail.com.

In the upcoming weeks, there will be more announcements regarding further updates and meetings on this issue.

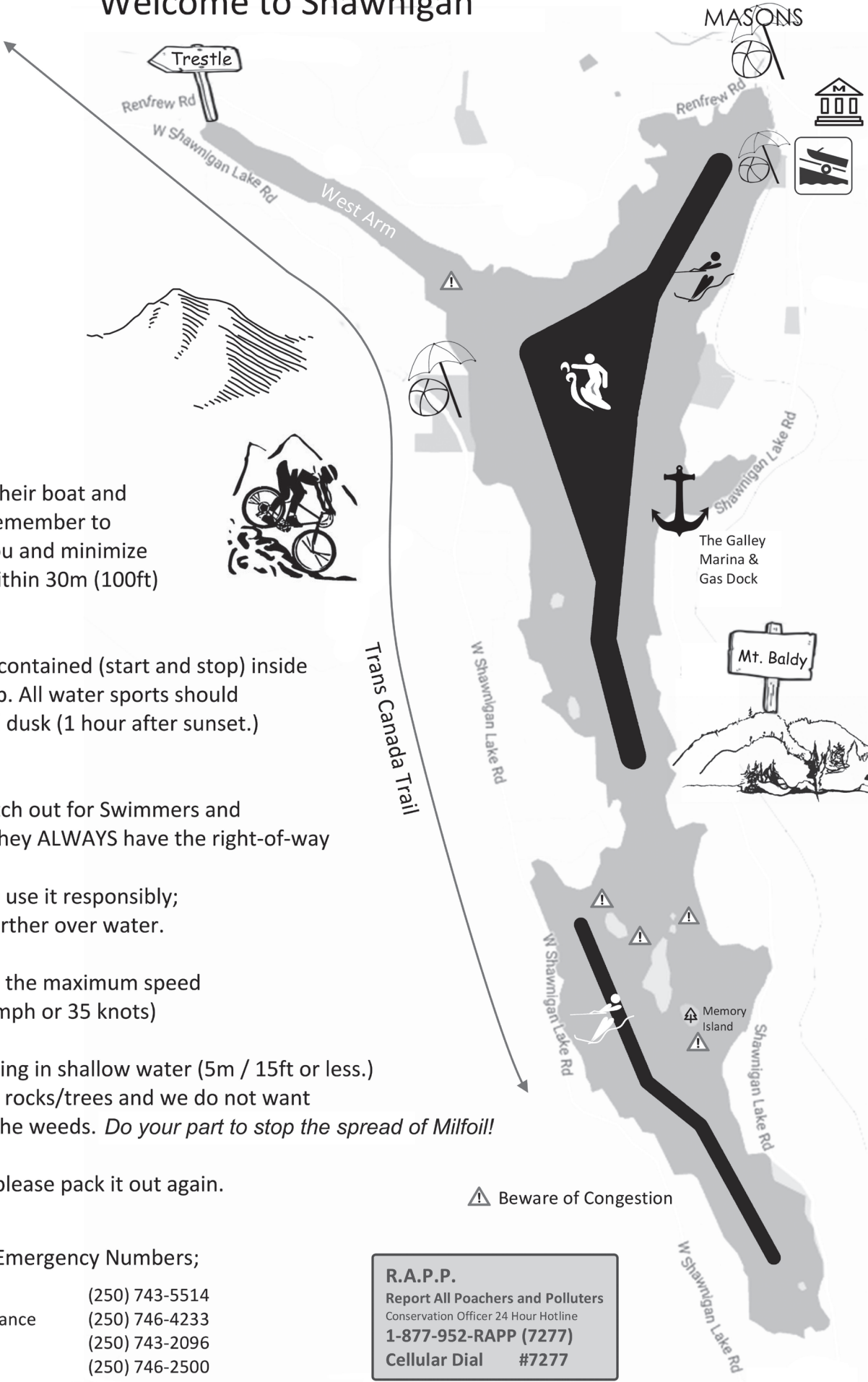
Things to Do

- Kinsol Trestle
- Mason’s Beach
- Shawnigan Museum
- Shawnigan Wharf Park
- Provincial Park
- Hike Mt Baldy
- Trans Canada Trail
- Memory Island Park

On the Water

- Everyone loves cruising in their boat and looking at houses. Please remember to occasionally look behind you and minimize your wake when you are within 30m (100ft) of shore.
- Big Wake sports should be contained (start and stop) inside the **BLACK** areas on the map. All water sports should happen between dawn and dusk (1 hour after sunset.) Enjoy!
- Please make space and watch out for Swimmers and Non-powered watercraft; they ALWAYS have the right-of-way
- If you have a stereo, please use it responsibly; Loud music travels much further over water.
- Got a fast boat? Be advised the maximum speed on the lake is 65 km/h (40 mph or 35 knots)
- Please limit your maneuvering in shallow water (5m / 15ft or less.) There are lots of unmarked rocks/trees and we do not want to disturb the fish beds or the weeds. *Do your part to stop the spread of Milfoil!*
- If you brought it with you, please pack it out again.

Welcome to Shawnigan



Non-Emergency Numbers;

RCMP	(250) 743-5514
Ambulance	(250) 746-4233
Fire	(250) 743-2096
CVRD	(250) 746-2500

R.A.P.P.
Report All Poachers and Polluters
Conservation Officer 24 Hour Hotline
1-877-952-RAPP (7277)
Cellular Dial #7277

SHAWNIGAN FOCUS MAY 2017

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ABOUT THE FOCUS

The Shawnigan Focus is
an independent, local,
non-profit publication,
produced by the volunteer
Focus team. Shawnigan
Focus endeavours to
inform; promote involve-
ment in the community;
and interest a broad cross-
section of the residents of
Shawnigan Lake.

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*Views expressed in articles
and letters are not the
opinions of The Shawnigan
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Additional copies are
available in The Village.

MAILING ADDRESS:

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331, Shawnigan Lake,
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Illegal Sawmill update

Dave Hutchinson
Shawnigan Focus

We have had several inqui-
ries about the status of PM
Mobile Milling operated
by Patrick Stack at 3172
Shawnigan Lake Road.

Mr. Stack has been operat-
ing the mill for over six years
and has gradually increased
the size and scope of the
facility. The property is
zoned Suburban Residential
(R-2) which does not allow
a permanent sawmill opera-
tion. Neighbours, some who
have lived next door for over
forty years, are bothered by
noise, dust and traffic. Mr.
Stack applied to have the
property rezoned but was
denied by the CVRD based
on feedback from a Public
Meeting held last May. It
was clear at the meeting
that there was support for
the operation, but not at
this site. Last November the
CVRD initiated an action
with the Supreme Court of
BC against Mr. Stack be-
cause the mill has continued
to operate with impunity. It
appears that the CVRD has
no bylaw enforcement abil-
ity other than litigation.

In the meanwhile Mr.



PM Mobile Milling attempting to become more permanent

Stack has expanded the
operation. The CVRD has
paradoxically granted the
necessary building permit.
Ross Blackwell, General
Manager of CVRD Land
Use Services states:

*Mr. Stack was issued a build-
ing permit to enclose a structure.
He complied with all of the nec-
essary requirements so a permit
had to be issued. The land use
(zoning) is a completely different
process and although intuitively
related, it is not legally. Al-
though Mr. Stack is entitled to
have a structure located on the*

*subject property (subject to zoning
requirements), he is entitled to
use it only for those uses permit-
ted under the zone (which is not
and is the reason for the current
litigation). Local government
does not have the legal author-
ity to refuse to issue a building
permit if the proposed structure
complies with the siting/ coverage
and other physical requirements
of the zoning bylaw.*

Mr. Stack appears to be
gambling that he will prevail
in the courts. The case is
scheduled to be heard the
week of May 2nd, in Victoria.

Creativity - a value worth nurturing

Sierra Acton
Artist

I once read *"You can survive with-
out creativity in your life, but you won't
thrive."* This rings true for me.
Creativity is a value to be truly
nurtured. In today's world, true
innovation begins

when creativity is applied
to thinking, problem solv-
ing, leadership, marketing,
etc. However, society does not
seem to value the importance of
art anymore. I've witnessed kids
with a pencil and paper that
cannot even start to draw
because they are too scared
to "make a mistake." These
children were never allowed
to take a blank sheet of paper
and just do what they want,
represent what they see or feel.
They were not encouraged to
explore their world through art.

When I was growing up, I
heard many mixed messages
on the value of art. Society
declares that if you want to be
an artist you will be a starv-
ing struggling artist until you
die and maybe after that your
art will be valued. My Dad told
me I would never be able to get
a job as an artist, so I stumbled
around looking for something
else. My university art profes-
sor once told our class, "it is un-
likely that anyone in this room

will make it [as an artist]." I
tried to get a loan from a bank
to help pay for school and the
banker mumbled what a waste
of money art school was. I
actually can't recall anyone
encouraging me to study art, so
it has been a "hobby"
that was rarely practiced un-
less I miraculously had some
free time. For years I allowed
work, family and other obliga-
tions to take priority.

When I moved to Shawnigan
Lake something came alive in-
side me. Suddenly I was fighting
for our water and that fight
made me want to make art. I
fell in love with the natu-
ral beauty of Shawnigan and
the Cowichan Valley. My spirits
were raised every time I looked
at the lake, rain or shine, all
year round. This feeling has
led me to painting landscapes
of the area, which is something
I've never done before. This
feeling of freedom also led me
to use materials I had very little
experience with, like oil paints
and oil pastels. The more
I allow myself to indulge in
creating, the more joy I feel in
my life. Just looking around
I see possible subject matter
and marvel at its beauty. My
favourite thing to do is go on a
long hike, and pack along some
art materials, so that I can stop

halfway to just sit and create.

There is something that
takes over while I am paint-
ing or drawing. It is very hard
for me to describe this feeling,
but I do feel connected to the
landscape as I am painting. I
can see everything chang-
ing and moving as if in a time-
lapse film. Even the negative
space, as the wind moves a
branch, is as important as
the leaves around it. I cannot
stay this focused for long so my
paintings are quick and hold
some of that movement. For
me painting becomes a
moving meditation, espe-
cially when done in plein-air
(painting outdoors).

I am so excited that, this
month, I have my first solo
show at Damali Lavender &
Winery on May 20th and 21st. I
hope you can stop in, say
hello and sample their wines.
The winery is located at 3500
Telegraph Rd right by Arbutus
Ridge Golf Course.

The Cowichan Valley Wine &
Arts Tour will showcase more
than 30 artists, artisans and mu-
sicians while being taking place
at 9 Valley Wineries.

For complete list of artists and
musicians please visit <http://cowichansoutharts.weebly.com/>.

Upcoming Community Events

South Cowichan Library (Mill Bay Centre) Programs in May

Parent and Child Mother Goose - ages 0-4

- ★ Wednesdays April 19 - June 7, 10:30-11:30am Playful,
social time of rhymes, songs and storytelling for babies
and toddlers, with a caregiver. Presented in partnership
with the Cowichan Valley Mother Goose Community.
Collaborative. Please register during your first session.

Houseplants for Your Health

- ★ Saturday May 6, 1-2 pm. Join gardening expert Shirley
Bellows and learn how houseplants can improve indoor
air quality and offer other benefits. Potting, fertilizing
and propagation will also be covered. Please pre-register
by calling the branch. 250-743-5436

Shawnigan Pavilion project

- ★ A steering committee has been working on an exciting
project to build a multi-purpose timber frame shelter in
Elsie Miles Park. We need volunteers, sponsors, event
coordinators and people (who are interested in joining
the organizing team). If you are interested, please
contact Angus at angusandsarahmckay@gmail.com if
you are interested.

READ PAST ISSUES ON OUR WEBSITE:
[SHAWNIGAN FOCUS.CA](http://SHAWNIGANFOCUS.CA)

Safer roads start with me

Sarah Davidge
Program Coordinator
SCCPAS

Part 2 - How Can I Help? You Ask

As our beautiful community thrives and grows so does the use of our roads, highways, driveways, school zones and shopping centres. With all this growth comes both positive and negative impacts, as we are all very aware. Our community has many attractions that draw tourists and the working city commuters looking for the perfect place to find rest and peace and why not? There is so much beauty to be shared by all.

Road Safety, excessive speeding, visibility and space limitations have begun to impact our community. With these impacts also come the potential pitfalls and dangers of being “the little commu-

nity that grew”. Residents of South Cowichan Area, Sonia Furstenau our CVRD Area Director, RCMP as well as representatives from the Ministry of Transportation & Highways and South Cowichan Community Policing have had several meetings to get a bigger picture on some of the road safety concerns of our community. These include speeding, aggressive driving, crosswalks, line painting, posted speed limit signs, lighting, sidewalks, school crossing safety, school zone safety and a plethora of other growth related factors.

Our awesome Speed Watch volunteers are actively working with the RCMP on creating awareness in the community on the posted speed limits and the actual speeds vehicles are traveling on our side roads and high traffic areas.

As a policing commu-

nity, working together with the RCMP, we are looking at solutions to these growing concerns. We receive emails daily of people passing school buses stopped to pick up or drop off our “little treasures”. Tailgating seems to have become a sport of intimidation for some drivers.

For some drivers, double solid line markings that used to indicate no passing have now become an opportunity to break the law on a regular basis; time of course is so limited you must risk your life or that of others to get where you are going. Speed and fast paced lifestyles are encroaching on the quiet and serenity of this beautiful community.

The community is working hard to come up with solutions, however we must all do our part. The reality is that we all have a part in making this community mutually respectful and safe for all.

Ask yourself questions like:

- ★ Can I make a difference?
- ★ Should I leave a little earlier?
- ★ Do I pay attention to other drivers on the road, who have just as much right to be there as I do?
- ★ Have I stopped to enjoy the view?
- ★ Do I ensure road ways are clear (from vehicles or outdoor recreation equipment)?
- ★ Do I leave space for others?

The South Cowichan Community Policing Office, together with residents, is embarking on a safety campaign aimed at Safer Roads for All.

Please stop and consider what your part is? How you can help? Please continue to support your RCMP by decluttering your roads, reporting law breakers, voicing concerns and being active in the solution.

Contact the South Cowichan Community Policing office at 250-929-7222 or visit our new website at: www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca



Take A Hike!

Robin Massey
Shawnigan Focus

Due to the moody weather of the winter season, prior to the relief of spring, we generally took to sticking to our home trails and avoiding casualties.

One day, while trotting along on what I call the Ceylon trail, paralleling Renfrew Road from Ceylon Rd in the direction of the Kinsol Trestle, I was entranced by the squishy muddy earth beneath the fabulous boots that Santa brought and in full appreciation of the soothing sensation on my body and joints provided by the softness of the earth. I then reflected on the contrast of how hard packed surfaces such as concrete or asphalt feels and it made me think about why a lot of us might instinctively prefer softer terrain over the harder surfaces. Perhaps it is not just for the benefit on our psyche but tangibly on

our physicality as well.

Yes, trail walking can be considered a precarious and risky escapade for some. And for good reason. If you have balance, mobility or alignment issues the uneven surfaces can certainly create a potential for a fall injury.

I am of the opinion, my opinion only, that this is what helps us keep those things healthy and in check. Provided you are of relative sound body, encountering uneven surfaces may encourage your body to challenge its core strength and balance repeatedly – a use it, or lose it, scenario. With the natural nuances created on nature trails, your body is constantly motivated to adjust to the uneven strikes on the soft ground.

Incidentally, let's talk about impact. When walking, we apply incredible amounts of pressure onto our bodies and joints,

and over time it can create stress and breakdown. Softer striking surfaces can offer more shock absorption, hence less stress.

There are a myriad of valid reasons people fear nature paths – be it topography, climate, or hidden critters. However, perhaps one can start on a grassy field or a rubberized track to reap similar benefits.

In the past I have made reference to a few hikes not being ‘flip flop’ worthy. And although a lot of us would never attempt a hike in flip flops, you’d be surprised. Footwear is an essential piece of equipment for any length of walk/hike. Ensure that you have something appropriate and supportive for the environments you explore. And if, like me, you are never quite sure when the call of the naturescape will occur – it can't hurt to keep a spare pair in your vehicle!

Did you know?



CANADA 150
1867-2017

Canada's Hudson Bay Company is the longest, continuously operating company in the world. It was incorporated in 1670. At it's height, it was also the largest landowner in the world. By the mid 19th century, the company had evolved from a fur trading company to a mercantile business selling furs and fine home ware.

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JULY 2017
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GRADES K - 5



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Retraction of Article “Déjà vu for Shawnigan?”

Editors
Shawnigan Focus

Last month, in our April 2017 issue, we published an article entitled “Déjà vu for Shawnigan?” In the interest of ensuring complete accuracy, the Shawnigan Focus is retracting the article as published.

Foreshore to forest

Bruce Fraser
Shawnigan Basin Society

A 50 Year Plan for the Shawnigan Watershed

An Initiative of the Shawnigan Basin Society

Our two largest landowners in the Shawnigan Watershed are Timberwest and Island Timberlands. In the normal course of forestry planning, these two firms must project the current status of their timberland holdings forward for at least the length of a rotation, and in many cases for several rotations. In order to pursue forest management over such lengthy time scales they, out of necessity, have developed very comprehensive inventories of the physical and biological characteristics of their land base. This information is much more specific and much better recorded than almost any other aspect of the Shawnigan Basin environment.

Because the forest holdings of the two major companies have just passed through the harvest phase of the last rotation it will now be approximately 50 years before the next harvest phase is likely to take place. In the meantime, maintaining reforestation success and road network stability, tracking market demands and regulatory requirements and estimating the effects of changed physical conditions on forest health must continue as their resource base is managed for the long term.

The context for upland forest management in the Shawnigan Basin extends well beyond the direct land base and tree growth considerations of a forest company. In the next fifty years, climate change on the east coast of Vancouver Island is projected, by the University of Victoria, to create increasingly volatile changes in hydrology, including longer and more severe summer droughts and milder winters with more frequent and intense rainstorms.

These changes will have direct impacts on the viability of both natural and planted forest species, the stability of road systems on steep slopes, vulnerability to pests and pathogens and risks of major wildfires. They will have impacts on the stability of upland forest and shoreline areas that provide domestic and ecosystem sustaining water supplies. They will also have reverberating effects on public health, the aquatic ecology of the lake and the attractiveness of its surroundings for recreation and sustained property values.

Over the next 50 years, the Shawnigan Basin will see growth in population, increased water demand, increased impact of habitation, increased extraction of gravel, more dense housing tracts, more sewage, more fertilizer usage, more domestic chemical pollutants, more invasive aquatic species, more road development, more recreation intensity and much more public concern for the environmental security that underwrites their health, their property values and their investments. All this will occur in a relatively small and crowded basin held largely in a multitude of private hands. Compounding this complexity is the numerous agency jurisdictions that are largely independent of one another and lack any established mechanism for dealing with cumulative impacts of the human footprint. Even our local government Official Community Plans are expected to lose relevance in a single decade.

Shawnigan is a classic case history of the march of cumulative impact in which each user of their portion of the area pursues the exploitation of their “entitlement” without a requirement to assess the overall outcome for the basin or the lake and certainly without measures to address it as it emerges. So, how do we proceed to bring a sense of the whole basin and the

integrity of the lake into everyone’s thinking when there is no single formally mandated authority to conduct the process?

Timber West and Island Timberlands have agreed to collaborate as partners in this challenge. The Shawnigan Basin Society’s responsibility will be to reconvene the Shawnigan Roundtable initiated in 2012, inviting land owners, government agencies and the public to participate in preparing a 50 Year Plan for the Basin. It will use the generation-spanning, rotation length of forestry planning as the model and add in the climate projections, the ecological information, the technical advice and the public interests already assembled by the Society.

To begin with, the forest companies will undertake to illustrate how their fifty-year rotation plans are constructed and what they reveal about their environmental change assumptions. Then, each other participant will be invited to project their interests forward for fifty years, considering what changing conditions are expected to apply to them and how they will need to respond.

What could arise out of this thinking is that all parties would begin to think of Shawnigan as a whole, how their aspirations interact and what they each must contribute to ensure that in 50 years we will still have an environment that serves our many existing interests.

Of course, we will also have to anticipate that new interests will inevitably emerge as conditions change and that any plan will have to be adjusted accordingly.

Creating a 50 Year plan for the Shawnigan Basin is a magnificent challenge of multigenerational vision. Our grandchildren will inherit our results. Let’s turn what could be a burden into a gift.

NEW HALIBUT CHOICES



HALIBUT & CHEESE Stuffed Corn Tortillas
A delicious combination of Halibut, bell peppers, onion, seasoning and Shredded Cheese wrapped in a Corn Tortilla and deep fried. Topped with sour cream and salsa. 3 Stuffed Tortillas served with hand chipped fries and coleslaw.
\$18⁵⁰

TERIYAKI HALIBUT Rice Bowl
Steamed Rice topped with Grilled Halibut, bell peppers, onions and Teriyaki Sauce.
\$18⁵⁰
... add Baby Shrimp for only \$2.50


Also - make your **Mother's Day** reservation before May 13th and Mom gets a **FREE Dessert**.



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HEALTHY BEGINNINGS

A Free Drop-In at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre



Healthy Beginnings is a friendly, relaxed group for moms and dads with babies and toddlers from birth to 3 years of age.


No registration is required, just drop-in to visit and share a cup of coffee or a snack.

We will be discussing a wide range of topics.

Toddler Group starts at 9:30 AM
Infant Group starts at 11:00 AM


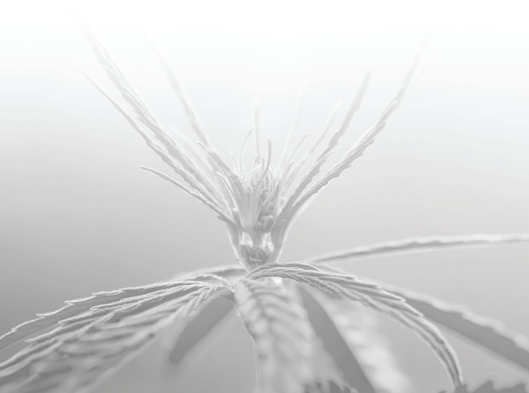
Every Thursday except the weeks with a statutory holiday.

INFORMATION : Rhoda - 250 709 3050
EMAIL : rhoda.taylor@viha.ca
FACEBOOK : Healthy Beginnings Cowichan



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Email: info@warmlandcentre.ca
Web: www.warmlandcentre.ca
Hours: Open daily 10am - 6:30pm

"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible." ~Dalai Lama

The risks of Eurasian Milfoil

Kelly Musselwhite
Shawnigan Basin Society

Social, Environmental, and Economic – to Shawnigan Lake are both Extensive and Long-Term...

As such, the Shawnigan Basin Society will be hosting a workshop to inform Shawnigan Lake foreshore residents and lake users about appropriate methods of control on Saturday, June 24, 2017 (details made public soon!).

The following excerpt was taken directly from the Eurasian Milfoil Control Program, 2016 Annual Report, Christina Lake, BC. It was completed by Phillip Maki, Milfoil Control Program Supervisor, in November 2016 and brings insight relevant to our community:

Introductory Information Regarding Eurasian Milfoil, It's Introduction and Proliferation

Sometime during the mid-1980s, and due to a lack of education and awareness of the plant, milfoil was introduced and spread to many other lakes and streams in BC.

It is predicted this occurred when a plant fragment, attached to a boat, was transported from an infested lake.

Eurasian Milfoil is now found across

most of North America, and is recognized as a noxious weed.

A single viable fragment could have started off the colonization, as Eurasian Milfoil's reproductive strategy is largely a vegetative and fragmentation process.

Once a fragment sinks and settles it can then grow its own roots and begin another life cycle.

In optimal temperatures, such as those exhibited in summertime waters, milfoil can grow up to 30cm per week in depths up to 10m.

This allows the plant to further spread and begin to compete with native aquatic species in the lake for territory, where it usually wins out.

Dire Consequences to Ecology, Recreation, Property Values, and Increased Taxation

Large infestations can have detrimental consequences to the biodiversity of the aquatic plant life in the lake as the milfoil chokes out other species, which in turn can disrupt the natural ecology of the organisms that call it home.

If Eurasian Milfoil is given the time to spread and grow, swimming, boating, and fishing becomes much less appealing.

Dense surfacing milfoil patches can negatively affect waterfront property values

First Annual Shawnigan Lake Shore Clean-up Day

9:00am - 12 Noon
Saturday, May 20th



To Volunteer or for more info:

Ron Cuthbert:
cuthbertconstruction@telus.net

Rebecca Frostad:
shawnigancleanup2017@gmail.com

as swimming and boating are hindered, aesthetic values are reduced, and decomposing plants in fall season can produce foul smelling gasses.

All of these factors make control of milfoil a top priority in the lake.

Due to provincial cutbacks, local taxpayers in Christina Lake are required to provide 100% of the management costs through personal property taxes.

The 2016 year-to-date total expenditures for Eurasian Milfoil management for Christina Lake reached over \$213K!

Factors Contributing to the Growth and Spread of Eurasian Watermilfoil

Natural environment factors affecting the growth and spread of Eurasian watermilfoil in the lake include temperature, turbidity, nutrient levels and wind.

Human activity also largely contrib-

utes to the spread and growth of milfoil, which include increased plant fragmentation due to boating and various water activities, human-made obstructions to the flow of water, and nutrient/sediment loading along the shoreline.

Although human contributions can be reduced through conscious efforts, those contributed by nature are out of our control.

Because watermilfoil cannot be eradicated, the importance of monitoring and managing this invasive plant both appropriately and annually cannot be overstated.

Doing so, will require the effort of EVERYONE who uses the lake.

Please join us on Saturday, June 24, 2017 to learn how!

Website: www.shawniganwater.org
Contact: info@shawniganwater.org.

The Galley Grill

@ Shawnigan Marina

**PAT & JACK,
WANT TO WELCOME YOU BACK
FOR ANOTHER SEASON
OF GREAT FOOD
& FRIENDLY SERVICE !**

MAY SPECIALS

☛ **THURSDAY NIGHT : 1/2 PRICE BURGER NIGHT**
AFTER 5PM ALL BURGERS 1/2 PRICE, CHOOSE FROM
BEEF, GRILLED CHICKEN, DEEP FRIED COD, SALMON FILLET, VEGGIE

☛ **FRIDAY NIGHT : FISH NIGHT**
2 PIECE COD & CHIPS OR SALMON FILLET WITH RICE,
SHRIMP SALAD OR SHRIMP & AVOCADO SALAD : **\$10.00**

☛ **SATURDAY NIGHT : HOMEMADE SPECIAL NIGHT**
SIDE SALAD, CHOICE OF 2 ENTREES,
DESSERT & NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE : **\$12.00**

☛ **SUNDAY NIGHT : FAMILY NIGHT**
KIDS EAT FREE! ANY CHILD UNDER 13 WITH AN ADULT (2 PER ADULT),
PICKS A FREE DINNER FROM OUR KIDS MENU!

☛ **MONDAY NIGHT : HAPPY HOUR 4PM - 7PM**
ALL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES 1/2 PRICE!

MAY HOURS

Thursday thru Monday **10AM - 7PM**
Tuesday & Wednesday **CLOSED**

250-896-1364

2346 East Shawnigan Lake Road
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Book Review

Marcy Green,
Shawnigan Focus

The Woman in Cabin 10

by Ruth Ware
Published by Simon & Schuster,
Copyright 2016

I am sometimes asked, “Do you only review books that you like?”. Fair question, as I don’t usually like to pan a book, especially if it’s a local author. So I chose this book as I am ambivalent about it and wanted to see if I could explore why.

Do you remember the main character of “Girl on the Train?” I described her as a “hot mess” and a “miserably flawed protagonist.” Well move over, train girl, because

we have a new addition to the dysfunctional heroine club. Lo Blacklock is a travel journalist assigned to cover the maiden voyage of a small luxury cruise ship. She has anxiety issues, complicated by a burglar break-in before she leaves for the trip. This is made worse by lack of sleep and far too much alcohol. Oh, and she’s not sure if she and her current boyfriend have split up, or if they’re still together. In short, Miss Marple she is not.

On the plus side, Ruth Ware has picked a wonderful setting in which to place a murder mystery. The boat is small, enclosed, and heads out to sea in heavy swells. Some of the spaces below the water line

are claustrophobic and one can feel the thousands of pounds of water pressure pressing against the hull. The wintery coast of Norway and the remote towns contribute to the sense of isolation. Northern lights shift and shimmer over the dark shadows.

Our journalist thinks she observes a woman’s body being dumped into the ocean with a splash in the middle of the night. She also believes she sees blood on the deck, but when she inquires about the identity of the woman in Cabin 10, whom she briefly met the day before, she is told and shown that the cabin is empty. This is a classic case of “gas-lighting” where the person is

made to feel she is crazy and wrong-footed. No one seems to believe there was a victim and Lo is treated kindly but carefully, as one would treat a mentally fragile person.

As there are only 10 passengers and a crew, the suspects shift and at one point or other, everyone is acting strangely. Clues disappear and threatening messages begin to appear. As the plot builds and begins to speed along, the suspense becomes unbearable. This is where the story grabs us and it becomes hard to put the book down. The red herrings, twists and turns are well done.

The ending is a frantic capture and escape for the heroine and, yes, I did find

myself rooting for her and her safety. The final twist was so confusing to me that I had to go online to figure out what I had missed. It appears that I was not alone, but maybe you’re smarter than most of us. I do think an extra sentence or two would have been helpful. I grasped the “who” but not the “how”.

Finally, here is one of the book blurbs, which seems to sum it up: “Cabin 10 just may do to cruise vacations what Jaws did to ocean swimming. You’ll be afraid to go out on the water.”

Recommended for mystery fans.

Rating: 3.5/5 stars

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Allison Vliet
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Young Entrepreneurs Rise

If you lived in the 1800’s, you may never have gotten to have your dream job...right? If you don’t agree, that’s okay. This year, in 2017, we got to do just that!

We got to learn the basics of starting a business and creating any product we chose. We did this with a program called Young Entrepreneurs.

Young Entrepreneurs...wow! That’s a big word, isn’t it? It means young builders, or creators. In this class, we had to make our own products to sell, create

a business plan, have a loan, give to a charity or our choice, and create the business of our dreams selling any product!

In my opinion, this is a great way to encourage students, such as myself, to learn and create a business of our own.

Royal Canadian Legion - 134

Win Teague
PR Coordinator

The photo shows the Wounded Warriors arriving at the RC Legion Branch 134, Shawnigan Lake in late February.

Legion members welcomed them warmly on the cool, wet night. The runners were wet and weary and sat down with our members to share in some very good chili and buns. Thrifty Foods, Mill Bay, donated the food.

The Wounded Warriors picked up a total of \$2180 to add to the donations they had received from Port Hardy to Shawnigan Lake including \$200 from Mill Bay Lions \$200, \$200 from YSAGS, \$100 and from the Defenders Motorcycle Club. The remainder came from the Malahat Legion and the sale of the hot chili.

The Wounded Warriors also brought in some service dogs that were in training - beautiful and very expensive dogs



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Department Members
Attended 10 incidents in
April 2017



- ★ Sat, Apr 1st – Chimney Fire on Peerless Rd
- ★ Tues, Apr 4th – Assistance at Kinsol Trestle & Burnt Bridge
- ★ Mon, Apr 10th - 1st Responder off McIntosh Rd
- ★ Mon, Apr 10th - 1st Responder off Cameron-Taggart Rd
- ★ Sat, Apr 15th – Burning Complaint on Berger Rd
- ★ Sat, Apr 15th – Alarms Activated on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Mon, Apr 17th – Burning Complaint on London Rd
- ★ Fri, Apr 21st - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Fri, Apr 21st - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Wed, Apr 26th – Burn Pile on Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sonia Furstenau**
Office hours by appointment. Email sfurstenau@cvrd.bc.ca For meeting updates check www.soniafurstenau.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)**
Meeting TBA at Watershed office: #4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Rd. **Contact:** jenniebruce1@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month. 7pm at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre.
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**
TBA as needed. 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
- ★ **Canada Day - 150 Celebration meeting** May 25th at 7pm in the Basin office
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA)**
Contact: bburr@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**
1st Tuesday of the month in Watershed office: Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Contact: luvlife@shaw.ca
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: www.ysag.ca email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Open Fri. - Sun. 10:30-4 For info contact: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca
- ★ **South Cowichan Community Policing**
Contact: 250-929-7222 - www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca

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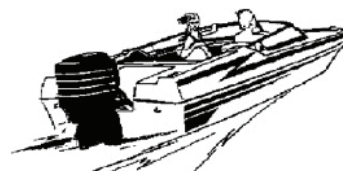


One lucky respondent with the correct answer will be randomly selected to win two Specialty Coffees at Shawnigan House.
Reply to: editor@shawniganfocus.ca

Congratulations!!!

The winning answer for April was submitted by Richard Gilker who recognised the sign for the "West Gate" entrance to Shawnigan Lake School which provides access to the Charlie Purdey Arena.

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Shawnigan Lake Community Association

Marian Davies
SLCA

Members of the Shawnigan Lake Community Association would like to thank all who attended, and volunteered at, our Easter Event on Easter Sunday! The weather co-operated and the crowds were the biggest ever!

Our next celebration will be Canada's 150th Anniversary on Saturday, July 1st! We would like to make this a day to remember and to show our colours proudly!

The day will begin with a pancake breakfast in the Legion Hall followed by an exciting parade that will wind along

Shawnigan Mill Bay Road to Elsie Miles Park.

The parade assembles at about 10:30 at Cairn Park (across from the firehall). All participants, including children on foot or on decorated bicycles are welcome to join in.

After the parade, join the masses at the Park to sing our national anthem as the flag is raised! This opens an afternoon of family fun – entertainment, games, DIY projects, inflatables, birthday cake, food and so much more! Thank you to all of the groups: Rotary, Shawnigan Fire Department, Legion, Mill Bay Lions, 4-H Club and South Cowichan Recreation for making it all possible!

The Shawnigan Lake Community Association puts the fun in your community!! Grants through the Province of BC support our events.

Come and check out the plans for a new Pavilion to be constructed in the Park and contribute to the construction. This will be Shawnigan's legacy to 150 years of our great country, Canada!

Bring the whole family, or the whole neighbourhood, and celebrate with the whole community!

If you wish to help plan or volunteer on the day please email shawniganmom@gmail.com. All are welcome!



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Shawnigan Weather APRIL 2017									
Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ compiled by Grant Treloar									
	April Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016
Average High	13.2	12.5	18.1	12.5	17.6	12.9	18.3	12.7	17.5
Average Low	3.5	4.3	6.8	3.7	6.6	4.5	7.1	3.7	6.2
Extreme High	30	16.9	27.8	16.6	28.4	18.0	29.2	16.5	27.5
Extreme Low	-5.6	-0.8	2.4	-1.6	2.6	-0.3	3.2	-1.0	3
Precipitation	65.2	127.5	19.8	113.7	17.3	90.4	14.4	97.7	16.8
Days w precip	15	20	9	21	9	20	8	23	8
Year Precip	556	620.6	654.1	582.0	699	504.8	451.8	565.5	498.2
Precip since Oct 1	1084.1	1371.9	1147.5	1305.5	1310.1	1163.5	1111.2	1103.0	1240.6
(data up to April 28) Rank since 1914: 49 th coldest, 13 th wettest									
Lake Temperature: April 2 nd : 7° April 9 th : 8° April 16 th : 8° April 23 rd : 11°									
Lake Level Change: April 2 nd : -2.5cm April 9 th : -10cm April 16 th : -2.5cm April 23 rd : -18cm									

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