

ELECTION CANDIDATES - VOTE OCTOBER 20TH!



Bill Savage has been a resident for more than 20 years. From 2005 until now he has spent extensive time on the parks commission and the Shawnigan basin society and has never missed a meeting at either table. He has dedicated himself to the community and continues to be an advocate for the lake

Please state and justify your position on the upcoming referendum questions regarding affordable housing and water protection.

Many or all of the public have received a mail out from the CVRD regarding the referendum. I urge everyone to read it thoroughly and do your due diligence before marking your ballot. I don't recall affordable housing being the problem that it has become today. In the 1970's era the CVRD created a number of zoning bylaw restrictions to better control and balance residential and industrial use. A better solution, rather than another tax increase, would be to change or amend zoning to better reflect present day challenges and encouraging more affordable housing.

In regards to water protection in our region. The CVRD is asking the public for a huge amount of money, yet they have no plan other than to spend a third of the money collected to hire two new staff members and create a new department. Where exactly does the other money go? The answers aren't given. I firmly believe that if you are going to ask the public for more tax dollars you should be able to tell them exactly where and how those dollars are going to be spent.

There are currently a number of organizations working on water protection and they are doing a fabulous job educating the public and coming up with 21st century solutions. There are many simple changes that can easily be enacted in order to address the milfoil issue and help the water crisis that may happen as a result in our climate changing. If the public decides to vote in favour of the two upcoming referendums, if elected I will do my best to make sure that your hard earned tax dollars are managed appropriately.

Please comment on the proposed CVRD solid waste management plan and whether you agree with mandatory curbside garbage collection. Do you support private sector provisions of waste services such as pan disposal and Fisher Rd recycling.

I attended a recent public meeting in Cobble Hill regarding the CVRD solid waste

management plan. There was a full house with more than 200 residents attending. I believe that the consensus was abundantly clear. The two local businesses handling solid waste pick up and disposal are providing a great service at a very affordable rate. They are privately owned, environmentally responsible, and employ local residents. If it's not broken then there is no need to fix it. Why would the CVRD want to even think about expanding in this area? I believe that we should encourage, welcome and support local businesses instead of trying to replace them with government jobs.

What is your position on whether the Shawnigan area would be better served if it were a separate municipality? What do you see as possible incorporation options?

Incorporation of Shawnigan Lake is clearly the decision for its residents. The question has been explored and discussed for a number of years with no resolution because a proper study with a cost/benefit analysis has never been done. The largest negative response I've heard over the years is that property taxes will increase. My only answer to that is "*an increase in taxes that gives an identifiable benefit is not a bad thing*". Our problem is that our taxes keep going up and we see no improvement in services.

We have many significant issues here that relate only to those who live in this watershed. As a community I believe that we can solve and resolve them in a more efficient manner on our own, rather than have non-residents making those decisions for us. Taxes on the other hand are a more delicate matter. Do we need or want sidewalks and street lights? Do we need or want to hire a large management staff? There are many decisions that we as a community have to make.

I am a firm believer that we can take this step and can keep our taxes reasonable. A proper study must be undertaken to provide answers for the question "*Can we afford it?*". Working with the residents, I would press for that study to be done. More information must be gathered in order to decide on municipality status. I think it is long overdue.

How should the milfoil problem in the lake be managed?

Milfoil has become a serious problem and a real threat to the lake. Unchecked, it has spread rapidly over the past three years. Concerns over safety due to the high concentration of various pollutants, mostly from surrounding properties, has also become a real worry. There is no easy solution to remedying this invasive species, however it can be controlled if the resources are provided from the various levels of government. New initiatives are being explored and efforts are being made to attack the problem. The Shawnigan Basin Society, of which, I am a board member, has sacrificed many hours to find a solution. Leadership from an informed area director, such as myself, who has spent thousands of hours working on and enjoying the lake, is imperative and could yield positive results in a shorter span of time.



Sierra Acton: Current CVRD Director for Shawnigan Lake

Please state and justify your position on the two upcoming referendum questions regarding Affordable Housing and Water Protection.

I (like you) have only 1 vote for each Referendum Question

The person you elect to represent Area B cannot change the outcome of this referendum. I know the people of Shawnigan care about each other, our local environment and the ability to have safe affordable housing for children, youth, families and seniors. These are important decisions and it is up to the voters to decide. Please prepare to make an informed choice on these two important referendum questions. For more information, please visit: www.cvrld.bc.ca/drinkingwater & www.cvrld.bc.ca/housing

Please comment on the proposed CVRD Solid Waste Management Plan and whether you agree with mandatory curbside garbage collection. Do you support private sector provision of waste services such as PAN Disposal and Fisher Road Recycling?

This matter will be brought forward to the current Board. As the Area Director for Shawnigan Lake, I have one vote out of 15. I am a representative of the community and the community has been very clear in their wishes. I believe we are a unique community that deserves some unique and creative solutions. Mandatory garbage is NOT one of them at this time. I have been working closely with our Local Provider, PAN, and I am working as hard as I can to ensure that they will not be impacted by the Board's decisions.

What is your position on whether the Shawnigan Area would be better served if it were a separate municipality? What do you see as possible incorporation options?

Most of our issues are almost impossible to deal with as an Electoral Area. The tools that Regional districts have are very limited. Many

of the issues that I hear about such as water protection, soil dumping, roads, pedestrian safety, infractions on riparian, littering, lack of police resources (to name but a few) could all be better managed if we were incorporated. I would definitely support doing a governance study (which is the first step). This is an important initiative - if the community wants to strive for incorporation, I would support it at the Board table and I know my request would be respected by the CVRD Board. About 6 months ago I spoke with Minister Selena Robinson and she informed me that her Ministry is very focused on Affordable Housing right now, but would work with us if we had enough of an appetite for incorporation. It is interesting to note that the last city to incorporate was Abbotsford in 1995. As for Area B, I would suggest Shawnigan and Mill Bay go in together, but that is just a suggestion. More research work needs to be done if we as a community wish to incorporate.

How should the Milfoil problem in the lake be managed?

With the help of Shawnigan Lake School, I was able to get a Professional Environmental Plan developed that clearly outlines steps we can take as a community to manage the milfoil problem. In addition, the CVRD has placed the Milfoil weed on their Invasive Species List and will allocate funding to that function. Therefore, we will have the support of CVRD environmental services and any grant money or funds required can go through that function. I have also been working with the Basin Society and the Shawnigan Residents Association who are in the process of creating the framework and options for lake front owners to monitor and start dealing with the weed themselves. Unfortunately, once Milfoil has become established in a lake it cannot be eradicated. Our only choice is to manage it the best we can.

South Cowichan Library News:

Paws 4 Stories is on Wednesday, October 3, 17, 24, and 31. Young readers can sign up for a 15-minute reading session with Kit Kat, a trained therapy dog, between 3:30 and 4:30pm. Please stop by or call the library at 250-743-5436 to register.

Parent-Child Mother Goose is happening again, 10:30 - 11:30am on every Friday in October. Use songs and play to learn new ways to connect with babies and toddlers while meeting others in your community. Snack is provided in this free program. Offered in association with Island Health.

LEGO® Club meets on Wednesday, Oct 10, 3:30-5:30pm. We provide the LEGO (and Duplo) and you provide the imagination, on the second Wednesday of every month. This is a free, drop-in event best suited for children 6 to 12 years but

anyone old enough to resist eating LEGO is welcome.

Family Storytime is Saturday, Oct 13, 11am to noon. Join us for stories, rhymes, songs, and crafts on the second Saturday of every month. For children aged 2 to 6 and their adults. Free.

Photo Editing: an introduction to enhancing and editing photos with Photoshop: Brigitte Furlonger will be leading this free workshop from the Cowichan South Arts Guild. Bring your own laptop or tablet with 5 photos to work on—you may want to download a one-month trial of Photoshop ahead of time. Please drop by or call to register.

Chess Club: 1 - 4pm on Friday, October 26. This drop-in group for chess players meets on the last Friday each month. New players welcome. Free.

Book Review

Marcy Green
Shawnigan Focus

Train to Nowhere
(One Woman's War: Ambulance Driver, Reporter, Liberator)

Anita Leslie
Published by Bloomsbury Caravel in 1948
Republished in 2017
Copyright by the estate of Anita Leslie 1948

A friend told me I'd be amazed at this book. And I have to say it has changed my perception of what happened during the Second World War, as it's such a remarkable first person account.

Great Britain has a bright tradition of intrepid, intelligent women, whether queens, explorers or adventurers. This is a story of another one, an aristocrat, the cousin of Winston Churchill, who joined the army during World War 11 to "do her bit". She wrote this memoir of her years in North Africa, the Middle East, Italy, France and Germany, covering many battles and seeing many tragedies and deaths. Her writing is full of sardonic humour, matter-of-fact accounts of unspeakable conditions and a sense of camaraderie, particularly with her French Army compatriots and fellow female ambulance drivers.

Early in the book, the author writes lightly of one of her friends, "Prince Peter and his Greek soldier drove me across the Sinai Desert. We lunched on caviar and chocolates-which caused the soldier to be sick-but Prince Peter proved good company and mended punctures with speed and skill."

This is just one charming passage, with many others telling of her lunches with Churchill in Chequers and France, and meetings with Generals and other high-ranking soldiers, all because Anita was so well-connected, being the daughter of a Baronet.

The contrast in recounting her experiences with dignitaries and then her reports of hauling gravely wounded soldiers out of battlefields like Anzio and Monte Cassino, sometimes under fire, is startling, and gives a crazy-quilt texture to the whole book.

Her testimony of the massacre of the French Resistance "maquis" and the reprisals

on French citizens who harboured them is haunting and shocking. The terrible devastation of France and the final drive into Germany with the miles of destroyed buildings in Berlin and the long lines of grey-faced refugees is also chilling.

And then she switches back to sitting on the dais with Churchill and Anthony Eden reviewing a military parade, and her excitement in being present in Potsdam where Stalin and Truman met with Churchill to hammer out the agreements for the end of the war.

Her ability to shift the focus from meeting with the generals and world leaders to literally slogging through the mud and blood with the wounded and dead makes for a book that is sometimes jumbled and bewildering. But, on reflection, that was the reality of her war, which she mostly wrote about with a jaunty, devil may care spirit. Her battle stories are also mixed with funny incidents with her female companions as they tried to sleep and eat on the run, remembering to put on lipstick to "keep up the spirits of the men."

However the deaths of beloved companions in arms, and the experience of entering the concentration camp of Nordhausen in Germany, while the chimneys were still showing wisps of smoke, were the events that momentarily broke her brave front.

After transporting the shattered and dying survivors she writes, "As the sun set with unusual beauty and the rich fields glowed in golden light, such a nausea came over me I could hardly drive, and looking at God's lovely earth I felt it would have been better if life had never crept out of the sea, better if the whole earth remained desolate as the moon if this is all mankind can make of it."

What vivid stories this author tells and how fortunate that she survived the bullets and the bombs, and lived to be such an eloquent witness to this brutal war.

And then, like women of her time, privileged or not, she went home, got married and raised a family. And, luckily for us, she started writing.

Recommended for those who love history and tales of brave and fearless heroines.

Rating: 4.5 stars

Support the Shawnigan Lake Museum
Mark your calendar for our Burger and Beer fundraiser
Nov. 17th at the Malahat Legion from 2-7pm
More info: www.shawniganlakemuseum.com

Arbutus Ridge Art Club Show and Sale

Arbutus Ridge Art Club Show and Sale on Sat. November 3rd and Sun. 4th

Location: Arbutus Ridge Golf Club/Satellite Bar & Grill

Time: 10:00am until 4:00pm

Address: 3515 Telegraph Road, Cobble Hill.

Arbutus Ridge Art Club would like to invite you to their show and sale at the Arbutus Ridge Golf Club/Satellite Bar & Grill.

At this biannual show and sale, timely presented in advance of Christmas, we present works from members of an art club that meets weekly to share ideas, techniques, explore vari-

ous media and attend workshops. This then translates into a multi media presentation of works in oils, acrylic, water colour, pen and ink, prints and more.

There will be a good cross section of painterly subjects, and some great gift items: packages of cards, hand painted bookmarks and some unframed works for sale.

Please join us in viewing large and small impressions of our west coast, the surrounding landscape, our flora and fauna, and still life paintings..

For information contact Karen Gray: gkmgray@shaw.ca



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Shawnigan Stargazer

Colin Frostad
Shawnigan Focus

October: Luna the Moon

What better object to focus on for the spooky month of October than the Moon.

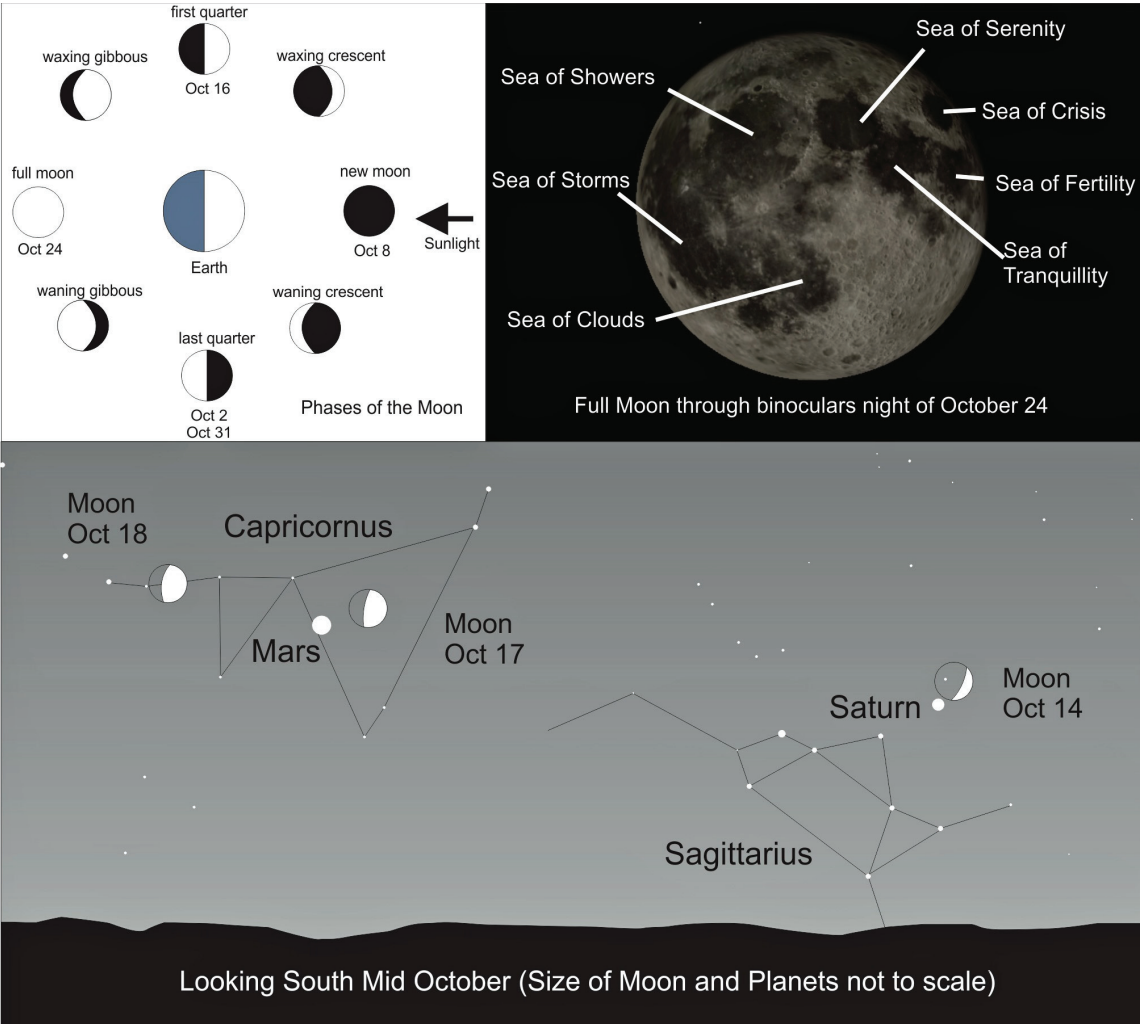
Formation: It is widely accepted that the Moon formed about 4.5 billion years ago as result of a violent collision between Earth and a Mars sized planet called Theia. The Moon was created as the ejecta from that collision coalesced around the Earth and became trapped in Earth’s gravitational pull. This collision was so intense that the material from Theia, and the material from Earth, completely amalgamated so that the rocks we find on the Moon are very similar to the material found on Earth. The impact is most likely responsible for creating the axial tilt that Earth has relative to the Sun, creating seasons on our planet.

Phases: It takes roughly 29.5 days for the Moon to orbit around the Earth. Not by chance the rotational period of the Moon is also 29.5 days, causing the same side

of the Moon always to face Earth. As the Moon makes its way around the Earth, its relative position with us and the Sun causes the phases of the Moon we witness on a monthly cycle. A new moon is when the Moon lies between the Sun and the Earth. A new moon is not visible because the face to us is completely in shadow. Since the orbital plane of the Moon is not directly in line with the Earth’s, we do not experience a solar eclipse every time there is a new moon as the shadow of the Moon misses Earth. After a new moon we see a waxing phase, or when the Moon is progressively getting brighter. First, waxing crescent, then first quarter, and then waxing gibbous. A full moon is obtained when the Earth lies directly between the Sun and Moon, causing the entire side of the Moon facing us to be lit.

The full moon always rises in the east after sunset. After a full moon we see the waning phase, when the Moon gets progressively darker. First, waning gibbous, then last quarter, and finally waning crescent.

Observing the Moon:



Even with your naked eye you can make out light and dark patches on the Moon’s surface. The dark patches are called maria (Latin for sea), and are more recent flood basalts caused by lava from particularly large impacts. Use the diagram and see if you can spot the “Sea of Tranquility”, the

site of the first Moon landing by Apollo 11. With binoculars you can clearly see that the dark maria are relatively smooth compared to the older crater filled lighter rock. With a telescope you can see amazing detail of the lunar surface. Try using a telescope around the first and last quarters to

get more visual relief on the lunar surface, when the Moon is full the craters do not cast any shadows.

Planets: After sundown, Saturn is moving progressively lower on the southwest horizon, while Mars is still prime for viewing, about due south.

Letter to the Editor:

RE: PAN Disposal - Garbage and Recycling Services
Glenn White

The local provider of those services, PAN Disposal does an excellent job.

As a free enterprise business it must and does offer good reliable service at a fair and reasonable price for the service. Like all of us, their costs keep going up and the rates need to increase to accommodate higher fuel prices etc.

What we do not need is more government provided “services” in place of a very competent free enterprise provider. We already have that government “service” in spades with so many restrictions on what can and cannot go into the blue bins and what we have to handle on our own by taking it to one of the depots.

As a small household we do not generate a lot of garbage and compost so we do not need weekly pick up. I can buy tickets to use for pick up when I need the service. This kind of flexibility along with good quality service is what we need. If it is working, then why fuss with it? There is no need to add another layer of employees and capital investment in the CVRD to grow and increase our taxes.

It works well as it now stands and serves our needs and employs people in our community so leave it alone.



Please vote on October 20th for the Area B REPS & Referendum.

YOUR VOTE MATTERS!

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Saturday, October 27TH 6:00-8:00 pm - Shawnigan Lake Community Centre

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Put on your costume and play under the Palm trees!

Sponsored by the Shawnigan Lake Community Association and the BC Gaming Commission

Hi, my name is Jacci, my family and I are new to Shawnigan Lake and have gotten to know the community from my morning coffee and workouts, to family fishing at the lake and Wing-(DATE)-Night at The Black Swan. Our eldest graduated from Frances Kelsey this past June and our second daughter is in grade 12 this year. Both the school and community have been very welcoming and made it feel like home almost instantly.

Having grown up in small town Saskatchewan with a father that was a small business owner, I have an appreciation for supporting local; that is why I chose to work for Pemberton Holmes. Pemberton Holmes was established in 1887 and continues to be a family run (sixth generation) business that is unique to Vancouver Island. Being a Real Estate Agent is more to me than a job, it is about getting to know my clients; listening, patience, and achieving the goal of purchasing a property that not only fits the needs of a family but also the wants. I look forward to working for you.

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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.

It all begins at 10:30 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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“Every moment is a fresh beginning.”
~ T.S. Eliot

South Cowichan
Community Policing
Advisory Society

Welcome our New President – Bob Collins

Bob Collins moved his family to Shawnigan Lake in the summer of 2001. His 3 boys were in grades 3, 4 and 6 and all went to Discovery School, then George Bonner then Frances Kelsey. Bob and his wife were in the Casino business in Victoria. Bob retired from the Casino business in 2015 and then chose to make people safer on the roads by becoming a Lane Closure Technician, which he currently does. He was Security Manager at the Casino and has provided security and safety at many community events such as Sunfest, the 24-hour Relay and Jr B hockey games. This season will be the 16th year that Bob has provided Security for the Jr B team.



Bob is a long-time member of community associations such as the Legion and Malahat Freemason Lodge, as well as a past President of Kerry Park Minor Hockey Association. He is still a member of the Kerry Park Minor Hockey Disciplinary Committee.

Bob is looking forward to serving the community in his new capacity as President of South Cowichan Community Policing Advisory Society.

Contact me at 250-516-3946 or BobCollins.sccp@shaw.ca or call Sarah Davidge, Program Coordinator 250-929-7222 to set up a time to meet with me.

The Collins family administers the Nick Collins Memorial Trust fund, which pays for local kids to play hockey whose parents can't afford it. They organize a midget hockey tournament each year to fund the Trust. Bob's family lost their son Nick in a tragic pedestrian accident on Renfrew Road, so safety on our community's roads is very much a priority for him.

As well, they have been a billet family for Jr B hockey players each season for the past 11 years. As this is 17 to 20-year-old boys and they host 2 to 4 billets each year, Bob has a lot of experience dealing with youth and their issues.

Welcome our new Vice President - Karen Adams

Karen Adams has recently been elected to the position of vice president of the South Cowichan Community Policing Society. She is a new resident of the valley and resides in Arbutus Ridge, Cobble Hill.



Karen comes to the position with 28 years of police service with the RCMP and was part of the first troop of women to be accepted into the organization in 1974. In 2002, Karen graduated with a Master's Degree in Adult Education from University in Regina. She was immediately hired by MacEwan University in Edmonton as an instructor in the Police and Security Program, Aboriginal Policing Program and Emergency Communications and Response Programs.

In 2015, Karen retired from the University to write her memoir documenting her journey as a Canadian pioneer.

Karen is an accomplished public and motivational speaker, sharing her passion for up lifting people all over North America.

She hopes to continue this work with the

publication of her book, Woman in Scarlet this fall.

Karen is a single parent to daughters Jasmine (husband Kurtis) Charchun of Burnaby, BC and Whitney (husband Matt) London of Sydney, Australia.

Besides volunteering with SCCPAS, Karen loves to sing and performs with the Performing Arts Group in Arbutus Ridge.

Shawnigan Weather September 2018

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ compiled by Grant Treloar

September was close to normal, temperature wise; the hottest day on the 6th and the coldest on the 18th. Precipitation was double normal, the wettest day on the 20th/21st. Yearly precipitation remains below normal.

	Sept Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Average High	20.5	19.7	22.5	20.1	22.3	19.7	22.2	19.3	22.3
Average Low	9.3	9.9	11.3	10.1	11.0	10.8	1.8	9.5	11.4
Extreme High	34.0	29.1	33.1	27.8	33.7	27.7	11.7	27.5	34.0
Extreme Low	-3.9	6.1	6.5	5.4	5.5	7.4	6.1	6.5	7.0
Precipitation	33.3	86.5	28.6	71.0	25.9	64.6	27.0	64.5	25.7
Days w precip	8	15	10	15	11	12	65	12	11
Year Precip	716.1	685.1	758.6	649.6	701.0	602.6	617.0	688.3	686.8
Rank since 1914: 51 st coldest, 31 st wettest									
Lake Temperature:	Sept 2 nd : 20"	Sept 9 th : 19"		Sept 16 th : 18"		Sept 23 rd : 17"		Sept 30 th : 16"	
Lake Level Change:	Sept 2 nd : -2.5cm	Sept 9 th : -2.5cm		Sept 16 th : 0cm		Sept 23 rd : +1.3cm		Sept 30 th : 0cm	
Surface Elevation:	115.93m	115.90m		115.90m		115.92m		115.92m	

Referendum on Proportional Representation

Aaron Padolsky
Mill Bay Resident

This fall, on October 22 to be exact, BC voters will get a chance to change the way we vote. We will receive an envelope in the mail from Elections BC containing two questions, the first asking if we want to change to a proportional system, and the second giving a choice of three types. There will be a stamped, self-addressed return envelope and a deadline of November 30 for this mail-in ballot. The results will be binding for the government to implement, and there will be a panel of representatives from all parties to fine-tune the system chosen, should the YES side win. We will also have the option of returning to the current first-past-the-post (FPTP) system after two election cycles by means of another referendum if we are not satisfied.

The advantages of pro-

portional representation are indisputable. No party will get 100 % of the power with less than 40 % of the vote. Almost every voter will help elect an MLA, so there will be few wasted votes. Voting negatively (or strategically) to prevent a certain person or party from getting in will be unnecessary, so one can vote one’s conscience. Parties will be forced to work together, and candidates will be obliged to earn their victories as there will be fewer safe seats. The political campaign board game of targeting swing ridings and ignoring everyone else will become a thing of the past.

In addition, the Attorney General of BC has guaranteed that in all three of the proportional systems offered, no region, including rural, will have fewer MLAs, and MLAs will still be accountable in their area. There will be no significant increase in MLA numbers overall nor redrawing of elec-

toral boundaries more than is usual between elections. Ballots will be relatively straightforward, with candidates chosen by the electors not the party brass. There will be a 5% threshold to get a proportionately allocated seat.

So what are the disadvantages – what is the NO side saying, and why?

- 1. It is too complicated. Well the truth is you might have two x’s to fill in, one for the local rep and one for a regional party one. You might also have to rank your choices from a list of different party candidates, but nothing you have not seen before in any club or organization, and certainly not rocket science.
- 2. It hurts rural voters. Well, with pro-rep, no party will be able to sweep a region and leave many voters without their own

party’s representation.

- 3. Instability and paralysis in government. Well, 80 % of OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) countries that is, richer, developed countries, similar to ours, use pro-rep and report no greater frequency of elections as well as much success in parties having to work together to solve problems.
- 4. Leads to an explosion of fringe parties with extremists getting elected. Well, there is that 5% threshold to cross, and all fringe parties together now only make up about 1% of the vote. As for extremism in government, one only has to look at the election of Donald Trump in the U.S, Steven Harper in Canada, and Doug Ford in Ontario, all elected under FPTP to...

well I rest my case.

The current first-past-the-post system reduces the role of the average citizen to that of betting on a winner-take-all horse race. It discourages cooperation, disillusion voters so that they do not see the point of voting at all, and is a throwback to the 19th century British system of Grits and Tories. It is advantageous only to those that seek unchallenged power and to corporate lobbyists who prefer dealing with one party that serves their interests. We in BC have an opportunity to be the first province in Canada, with Quebec and PEI not far behind, to modernize our electoral system.

There will be a free public meeting to discuss pro-rep, with speakers Sonia Furstenuau, Elizabeth May, and Jean Crowder on Saturday October 13 from 7 to 9 pm at the Arbutus Ridge Golf Club, 3515 Telegraph Rd. in Cobble Hill. It promises to be a fun evening.

Alice Cogitates

Bruce Fraser
Riverpool Farm

“Far be it from me”, says Alice, “after all I’m only a goat, but it seems that you humans have kind of lost the thread. What thread, you say, well it’s the thread of life that seems to be sundered in your haste to occupy the earth and dominate all its creatures”.

Take me and Amber for instance. We like to keep things vegan simple: local hay, thimbleberry cuttings, alder leaves, grain feed, clean water, some kelp

meal and minerals and maybe for a treat some black oil sunflower seeds, kale or alfalfa. We don’t drive a hybrid haywagon, use heart monitoring treadmills, watch YouTube goat videos, check hen tweets from the coop twenty times a day, follow the spectacle of Trump at the UN or take umbrage at Meghan closing her own car door.

Our entertainment is climbing on a wooden platform to survey the barnyard and some friendly head butting to keep in

trim. Lying in the sun, or with our noses out of the barn door when it rains, gives us time to think about things, like the upcoming election dance that amuses you humans.

According to their election platforms our aspiring candidates are going to fix everything that is wrong with our lake, turn our village into a mecca of consumption, discipline the CVRD tax and spend syndrome, send by-law officers into every nook and cranny, build nice inexpensive barns for everyone and bypass the Malahat. It’s hard for us goats to get a grip on this

agenda. We just see it as more humans, more roads, more subdivisions, more boats, more water pollution, more logging, and less free range pasture. And, by the way, likely more barking dogs!

Couldn’t they just promise more tranquility, more open space with edible wild salmonberry bushes and fewer fences? What about getting rid of the October gunshots and firecrackers that send us goats running for the back of the hay barn in panic? What about letting the deer and elk browse without just seeing it as fattening them up for

the table? What about walking in the woods instead of mud-bogging, or kayaking the lake with one person power instead of wakeboarding with four hundred horses? What about letting the forest grow old instead of clear cutting it all? What about a referendum on banning bacon and sausages? What about giving us goats a proportional vote? Think of it, Nanny Goats with the Balance of Power in the Big Barn. We’d vote for that!

Alas, it seems, for now, that maybe the billys expect us to just stop bleating, eat our milfoil, raise the kids and pay our taxes.

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G. J. Solley
Malahat Legion

Each month the Malahat Legion posts a calendar of events. Be sure to pick one up at the Legion or check our website or our facebook pages.

Phone: 250-743-4621
email: rcl134@shaw.ca
web: www.Malahatlegion.Com

Or join us on facebook: Royal Canadian Legion BR 134

Help is needed on Wednesday, October 10th at 1:00 pm to help stuff the 9,000 poppy envelopes and we are inviting everyone to attend the Annual Memorial Service at the Cobble Hill Cenotaph For Canadian Military who have lost their lives in a non-combative role whilst in the service of their country: Saturday, October 20th, 2018 at 11:00 am.

Attending the service again this year will be members of the Army, Navy, And Air Force Cadets. Several of our local politicians including MP Alistair Macgregor and CVRD Area B Director Sierra Acton, MLA - Green Party Sonia Furstenuau, and other dignitaries have con-

firmed their attendance again for this year. Refreshments will be served at the Malahat Legion on Shawnigan / Mill Bay Road (next to the fire hall) after the service.

It has been almost four years since Canadian Armed Forces Corporal Nathan Cirillo was shot and killed when he stood guard at tomb of the unknown soldier at the national war memorial in Ottawa. 48 hours earlier, warrant officer Patrice Vincent was murdered in a hit and run by an Islamic-extremist in Quebec.

On the Saturday closest to October 22nd, the day the Corporal Cirillo died, the Royal Canadian Legion Malahat Branch #134 honours the 2,600 Canadian Service men and women who have lost their lives in a non-combative role whilst in the service of our country. We have all 2,600 names listed in two books which are kept in the display cabinet at the front entrance to the legion.

Bob Collins, a former member of the Queen's own in Winnipeg, and James Baird, a former member of the Royal



Canadian Navy along with cadets from Nanaimo, will be standing vigil once again at the Cobble Hill Cenotaph on Saturday from 7:00 am until the ceremony is over and will stand on guard on Sunday from 6:45 am through 11:00 am on Monday the 22nd.

The Annual Poppy Campaign starts on Friday, October 26th. Help is needed to man the various stations around South Cowichan to collect poppy donations. All money collected from the poppy campaign goes directly to our Veterans and

Veteran families in need.

On Saturday November 3rd, starting at 11:00 am, members of the Legion assist with laying of crosses at the Shawnigan, Heritage Church and St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church cemeteries.

November 11th - Remembrance Day Ceremony will take place at the Cobble Hill Cenotaph on Fisher Road (across from the Cobblestone Inn) with refreshments being served across the street at the Cobble Hill Farmers' Institute Hall.

SHAWNIGAN LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Non-emergency
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shawniganfire@shaw.ca

Department members attended 27 incidents in September

- ★ Saturday, Sept 1 - 1st Responder off S Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Sept 1 - Burning Complaint on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Sept 1 - Burning Complaint on McKernan Rd
- ★ Sunday, Sept 2 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Sept 3 - HazMat on Timber Ridge Rd
- ★ Monday, Sept 3 - Lift Assist off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Sept 4 - Mutual Aid Smoldering Fire w/ Malahat Fire
- ★ Thursday, Sept 6 - Burning Complaint on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, Sept 7 - 1st Responder off Ravenhill Rd
- ★ Saturday, Sept 8 - MVI on W Shawnigan @ Renfrew Rds
- ★ Sunday, Sept 9 - Hydro Lines on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, Sept 9 - Burning Complaint on Treit Rd
- ★ Sunday, Sept 9 - MVI on Shawnigan Lake @ Northgate Rds
- ★ Monday, Sept 10 - 1st Responder off Thain Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Sept 11 - Burning Complaint on Meadowview Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Sept 12 - Mutual Aid MVI w/Malahat Fire
- ★ Wednesday, Sept 12 - Burning Complaint on Royce Rd
- ★ Thursday, Sept 13 - 1st Responder off Thain Rd
- ★ Thursday, Sept 13 - Burning Complaint on Gibson Pl
- ★ Sunday, Sept 16 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Monday, Sept 17 - Vehicle Fire on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Sept 18 - Structure Fire on Wooden Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Sept 19 - Burning Complaint on Baden Powell Rd
- ★ Friday, Sept 21 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Saturday, Sept 22 - Burning Complaint on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Sept 22 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Sunday, Sept 23 - Assistance on Butler Ave
- ★ Sunday, Sept 23 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Sept 24 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Sept 24 - Burning Complaint on Pinder Plc
- ★ Monday, Sept 24 - 1st Responder off Colman Rd



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For October 2018 - Please send copy in by September 25th as an email attachment using Microsoft Word, text, or pages.
ShawniganFocusEditor@gmail.com - Hard copies can be left at The Chippery: 1- 2740 Dundas

Want to get an ad in the Focus? AD SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

Contact Kim at: shawniganfocusads@gmail.com. Ads should be sent in correct sizing, B&W, high resolution, and as a JPEG or PDF.
Kim is available to help create or reformat your ad. CLASSIFIEDS: \$10 (under 30 words)

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton**
Office hours by appointment. Email sacton@cvrd.bc.ca Next Director's.
For more info check Facebook at Sierra Acton Area B
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)**
Meetings TBA at Shawnigan Lake Community Centre
Contact: Bruce at 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**
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**
1st Tuesday of the month in Watershed office: Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Office hours: Tues & Thurs 11-1 Wed 6-8. Contact: luvlife@shaw.ca
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: blog.ysag.ca - email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Open Friday to Sunday - 10:30-4 Contact: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca
- ★ **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_ksolley@shaw.ca

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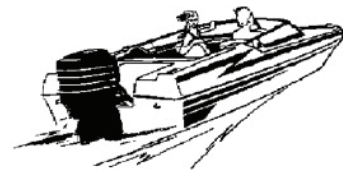


One lucky respondent with the correct
answer will be randomly selected to win two
Specialty Coffees at Shawnigan House.
Reply to: editor@shawniganfocus.ca

CONGRATULATIONS

The winner for September is Kim
Brett who identified the sign for the
new "Compass Mexican Bistro" in
Shawnigan Village. The Pulled Pork
Tacos are pretty good!

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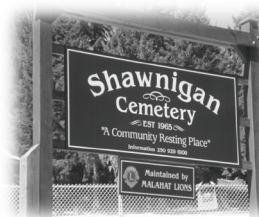
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Shawnigan Focus

Walk Talk

Robin Massey
Shawnigan Focus

Have you been to Bright Angel within the last couple of years?

Originally the park was established about 50 years ago by an initial land donation from the Fleetwood family then, growing upon further donations, it grew to reach its current 55 acre size.

It has been a magical place for a lot of us at any age. From the trails, to the park, to the rope swing and old growth trees, there really is something for everyone to enjoy.

In 2015, the CVRD revealed

the park's rejuvenation project, featuring many improvements such as washroom facilities, a rather large picnic area, amphitheatre and a new fitness/playground park.

There are some things that do remain the same however, like the big beautiful Douglas fir and cedar trees, the river and the access to great swimming holes, and of course the iconic suspension bridge. Sadly, the riverside rope swing was removed a few years back – assuming for valid reasons.

Thinking back to those days of past, parking was sort of an issue within the park and often



we would haphazardly find a spot to abandon our vehicle and run off to play. The newly added parking areas provide plenty of organized and structured parking. However, on a hot summer day you might still be hard pressed to find a spot.

From the second parking lot (closest to the suspension bridge)

you are welcomed by a new grassy area complete with picnic tables. It is a very appealing spot to have a get together with family and/or friends.

The mini network of trails can keep you going around and around in all sorts of directional loops. My favorite is to cross the bridge then follow the trail

to the right, all the way down to the end and onto the sandbar. After enjoying some river time, turn back and proceed past the bridge and, if the weather is on the dry side, you can cross over the low creek bed and catch the park's outer loop. In addition, I often partake in spontaneous deviations to loop in and out of the connector trails with my "bestest" care not to double back – heaven forbid! I find this a good use of time to stretch my stay there.

Summer is over and although swimming is a little unappealing at this time of year, go instead to Bright Angel Park and visit the amazing trees in their fall glory!

Check out pictures from this hike and more at the OM Tree Facebook page.

Will Premier Horgan protect Shawnigan water?



Shawnigan Research Team

"All you need is two eyes to see it's a bad idea to put toxic soils in a watershed looking down on the drinking water for 12,000 people." John Horgan, speaking to the Save Shawnigan Water rally at the BC legislature in 2015.

John Horgan holding a bottle of runoff from near the SIA dump site in Shawnigan Lake, January 2016.

A huge pile of 100,000 tonnes of contaminated soil sits in a quarry a few kilometres above Shawnigan Lake, awaiting a government decision. The soil contains hydrocarbons, sulphur, arsenic, chromium, lead and other heavy metals, all known to

be dangerous to human health. About 12,000 people rely on the Shawnigan watershed for their drinking water.

In January 2017 Justice Robert Sewell of the BC Supreme Court found so many deficiencies with the Shawnigan site's permitting process that he ordered the permit to be sent back to the Environmental Appeal Board. The government cancelled the permit soon after Sewell's decision, but it put off the decision on whether to remove the mountain of contaminated soil at the site.

Over eighteen months later, as the approaching rainy season brings increased risk of leaching, government inaction is making the Shawnigan community increasingly anxious.

Sewell found that the conduct of quarry owner Cobble Hill Holdings (CHH) and its silent partner Active Earth Engineering *"compromised the integrity of the approval process"*. He also found that CHH co-owner Martin

Block *"was not being truthful in the evidence he gave with respect to the nature of the relationship between Active Earth and CHH."* *"It is quite clear that the information provided to the [Environmental Appeal] Board by Mr. Block was false."*

Justice Sewell's findings confirmed the secret 50/50 partnership between the company and the engineers which had been revealed by a whistleblower's brown envelope. Mr. Block had denied this under oath.

The Shawnigan community is united in wanting the soil removed, and the long delay has many residents worried. *"The contaminated soil should never have come here in the first place."* said Sierra Acton, Shawnigan Area Director at the Cowichan Valley Regional District. *"It was completely opposed by the community even before the misleading evidence found by Justice Sewell. If the soil is not removed, it isn't a question of if*

poisons will leach into the Shawnigan community drinking water, it's a question of when. The community will not stand for it."

Where does the NDP government stand on this? Premier Horgan is on record against the contaminated site at Shawnigan numerous times.

The big question now is will Premier Horgan be as good as his word? Will he order the removal of the contaminated soil to safeguard drinking water, as his government should?

Or he do nothing, and leave the soil where it sits, setting the stage for much more expensive remedial action down the road.

This much is clear: the government may have changed, but it is *"business as usual"* at the Ministry of Environment. Despite the obvious conflict of interest, the Ministry still does not require that engineers be in-

dependent from the projects they are monitoring for the government.

The site monitoring reports posted on the Ministry of Environment website are stamped by an engineer who was a partner at Active Earth Engineering at the time of the secret agreement denounced by Justice Sewell. The Ministry still appears to see no potential *"conflict of interest"* with this monitoring arrangement.

Will Premier Horgan walk his talk and order the soil removal himself? Clearly, the fate of Shawnigan drinking water is in his hands.

The Shawnigan Research Group has been monitoring the contaminated soil dump above Shawnigan Lake since 2012.

<http://bcndpcaucus.ca/news/statement-new-democrat-leader-john-horgan-shawnigan-soil-dump/>



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Although not confirmed, we have a tentative date from the Engineers of October 15-30th 2018. As soon as we know for certain, we will be communicating this to the public through signage and social media.

We appreciate your patience during this Temporary interruption regarding Fuel Services and we look forward to serving you and your needs with improved access to the pumps soon!

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