

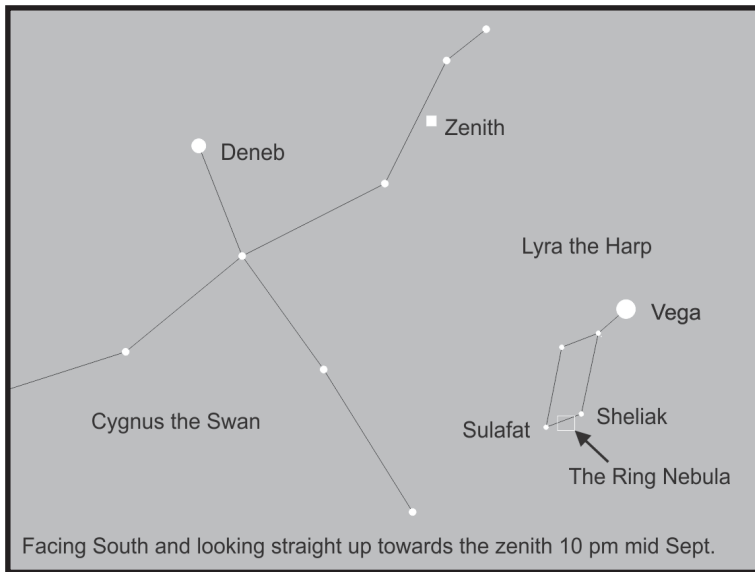
# Shawnigan Stargazer

**Colin Frostad**  
*Shawnigan Focus*

## September: Lyra the Harp

Hopefully you enjoyed the Perseids last month. I was fishing out of Ucluelet mid-August and witnessed a brilliant green one with a long tail that lasted for several seconds. That with a couple springs, couple coho and a halibut made my day to say the least.

This month we will go back to focusing in on a single constellation, Lyra the Harp. To find Lyra you will first have to locate its brightest star, Vega. Around 10 pm mid-September look due South and then look straight up (straight up in the sky is referred to as the “zenith”). Looking towards the zenith two stars will be



brighter than all the rest, Deneb and Vega, Vega being the brighter of the two and towards the south (we will leave Deneb and its constellation Cygnus the swan for another day). Once you locate Vega keep looking south and the

4 next brightest stars of the constellation makes a perfect parallelogram (see star chart)

Vega is a close star to Earth at 25 light years away, hence why it is so bright. Since the Earth’s rotational axis wobbles our celestial pole

actually changes. Right now our celestial pole is pointed towards Polaris hence it is “the North Star” (see March Focus). Around 12,000 B.C. as the Earth was coming out of its last glacial maximum our celestial pole was directed toward Vega, making it the “North Star” at the time. It will once again regain that title in around 14500 A.D.

With a large enough telescope one of the coolest objects in Astronomy is within Lyra, The Ring Nebula. To locate the Ring Nebula find the two end stars of the harp Sulafat and Sheliak. The Nebula is located almost halfway between the two stars, slightly towards Sheliak. This type of nebula is created when stars like our sun die, they shed off the gases of their outer

envelopes. The remaining star collapses in itself creating what is called a white dwarf. The hot surface of the remaining white dwarf emits UV radiation that makes the surrounding gas glow. Even if you don’t have a telescope, google the Ring Nebula on the internet, it truly is a beautiful object.

Planets and Moon: With the evenings getting darker earlier Jupiter is still hanging around on the western horizon at dusk, setting shortly before 10 pm mid-month. Saturn and Mars are due south and slightly to the south-east respectively at dusk and track to the west throughout the night, again early sunsets will allow for some longer viewing of the planets. New Moon is on September 9th, Full Moon is on the 24th.

## Walk Talk

**Robin Massey**  
*Shawnigan Focus*

Our lovely little group has been going to Oliphant Lake for years. Typically we made our way there during the summer to not only enjoy the trail but also for a dunk in the lake. We always looked forward with anticipation to the trek from Spectacle Lake through the temperate rainforest to the protected watershed.

Some time ago there was talk of the deforestation that impacted our beloved trail but it didn’t really sink in until we saw it for ourselves. This June we met at our usual rendezvous point at the Spectacle Lake parking area. We meandered as per usual around about half of the lake and slipped onto the creek bed trail for a moment when it hit us - the vast openness, logging roads as far as the eye could see and...no trees. Honestly, it broke our hearts and displaced some fond memories of past hikes.

As a group armed with

various electronic devices we managed to navigate our way through the logging roads in search of the watershed and found, very thankfully, that the immediate area surrounding the lake remained unchanged. We enjoyed ourselves as always, but emotionally scarred I vowed to find another way that was more pleasing to the nature seeker.

Fast forward to the end of August which provided me the opportunity to follow through with my promise. And although I’m quite sure many of you may be aware of the access to Oliphant Lake from the backside of the Spectacle Lake mobile home park, for me this was something new.

The path in is essentially a network of logging roads with forest bordering all around. Albeit, not quite as picturesque as the rainforest trail, that is deeply rooted in our memories forever, but the end result is the same and just as beautiful as ever.

As you drive to Spectacle Lake Park, rather than entering the



park stay left toward the mobile home park.

Once past the fire hall, heed left and travel along until an orange gate with a no trespassing sign presenting itself. This is a must mention - best to set out on this adventure during the weekend when it is less likely of active logging to be in progress.

Because I am familiar and had the sense of direction for

the destination, finding the area was not difficult. However, I can see for a newbie it could be challenging due to the number of rights and lefts that must take place.

For this reason I created a photo log to follow should anyone be interested.

All in all, this route did not make the hike much longer but certainly more scenic

than the route of destruction. My tracking stated that from the orange gate to Oliphant is approximately 4kms - one way.

Robin Sharma says “Change is hard at first, messy in the middle and gorgeous at the end.” Truth.

Check out pictures for this hike and more at The Om Tree facebook page.

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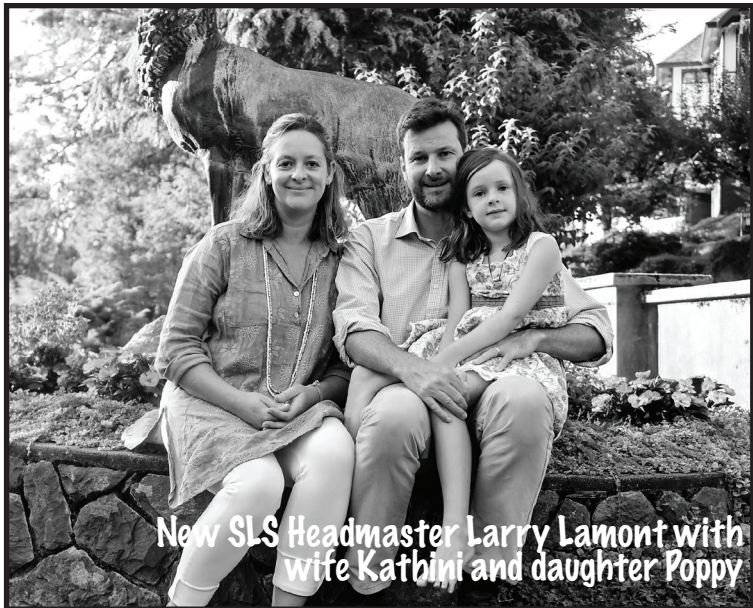
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# A warm welcome to the new Headmaster



New SLS Headmaster Larry Lamont with wife Kathini and daughter Poppy

### Christina Chant Shawnigan Lake School Communications

Spending time with Larry and Kathini Lamont is an exercise in the value of multiculturalism and the benefits of time spent living and working amidst different cultures and people. It's clear that their six years at UWC Red Cross Nordic in Norway have not only shaped who they are as individuals and the values they uphold as a family, but have changed their outlook on the world, on education, and how they think and act as community leaders.

From the Norwegian concept of friluftsliv, or open-air living, to the Finnish idea of sisu, a notion encompassing strength and perseverance in the face of adversity, the Nordic region has made an indelible mark on the Lamont family. "We see some echoes and symmetry between Norway and Canada. The Nordic region feels closely aligned with Canada in terms of values," Larry explains. "In many ways, it feels like a natural transition."

Their professional lives as part of the international United World College (UWC) family had already brought them to Vancouver Island on several occasions and led to the opportunity for Larry to apply for the position of Headmaster at

Shawnigan. "It looked like a really exciting brief," says Larry. "Both the boarding school element, as well as the co-education piece, as those aspects reflected my experience at Marlborough College in the UK, UWC Waterford Kamhlaba in Swaziland and at UWC Red Cross Nordic in Norway."

With 18-year-old daughter Phoebe graduating from high school, the timing was right for them to make a move with their younger daughter, 6-year-old Poppy, and Scandinavian-born whippets, Isben and Fossen.

"I was incredibly fortunate that the search committee and the Board of Governors thought it was the right match," says Larry. Kathini adds, "I think Larry was very mindful about everything. And we were very excited and incredibly honoured when he was offered the position as Headmaster."

For both Larry and Kathini, it is a combination of their prior professional, leadership and community experiences, as well as their personal beliefs and passions, that will help inform and guide them in their approaches here at Shawnigan.

"I'll be throwing down anchors and opening doors," Kathini explains, noting that she's keen to focus initially on making a home for the family on campus before widening her scope. "I think I'm going to let my role

evolve rather than just jumping in everywhere."

For Larry, his initial approach is to embrace a thoughtful and intentional process combining listening, learning and reflecting, drawing on prior experience and considering the possibilities.

"A good boarding school has to have those elements of conversation, compassion and community," he explains. "I don't think of us as just a five-year production line; it's about all the interactions between every member of our community, and it's about training our students to make a positive impact in whatever professional and personal communities they join in their lives. If I was going to take it to a level beyond, I also think that we should be creating the ethical leaders of tomorrow. As a parent, I want Phoebe and Poppy to be happy and live fulfilling lives, but I also want them to be community builders and to make ethically responsible, inclusive decisions. That's really what I want Shawnigan students to feel at Closing Day and beyond: that the Shawnigan experience equipped them for the world ahead, to make a significant impact in a positive way, in whatever community they join."

While Larry has been captured by the magic of Shawnigan, by the School's history, traditions and legacy, he's also mindful of balancing this with a focus on the future and the importance of preparing our students for the increasingly diverse and global world that they will enter as independent adults.

"I'm a product of classic boarding schools myself, so I have great respect for the traditions that underpin them, but at the same time we can't be handcuffed entirely to the past—and what we can't be is a bastion of elitism, which I think is quite dangerous. There's always room for growth. The landscape of education is forever changing—the question is how does Shawnigan move with those times and strive always to be an exciting, inclusive and relevant place at which to study?"

## Announcements:

### St. John's Anglican September Festival:

Celebrating 131 years in the Community

† 3295 Cobble Hill Road - Free admission

Food Court, Silent Auction, Plants & Preserves, treasures at the Giant Yard sale (over 50 tables), Books, Clothing Sales outside, Jewellery and Better Buys, with interesting displays inside the Hall.

Activities for the kids while you shop.

Reduce, reuse and recycle  
at this Zero Waste Event.

Credit/Debit Cards accepted.

Phone: 250-743-3095

[www.stjohnscobblehill.ca](http://www.stjohnscobblehill.ca)

### Hike and Bike Event

Saturday, September 15 from 11-1

Hosted by friends of Rails to Trails and Trails Vancouver Island who invite you to come out and learn about their concept for converting the E&N rail corridor into a multi-use, non-motorized recreation trail. Learn more at [www.fortvi.ca](http://www.fortvi.ca)

Live music - free soft drinks - prizes

Shawnigan Wharf Park - on Heald Rd. below the Shawnigan Lake Museum

"What we think,  
we become."  
-Buddha

## South Cowichan Library

Monica Finn  
South Cowichan Library

**Family Storytime** is Saturday, Sept 8, 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.

**LEGO® Club** meets on Wednesday, Sept 12, 3:30-5:30pm. We provide the LEGO 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. We now have DUPLO for the younger crowd.

Drop by for our monthly event calendar to find out what sort of **creative workshop** the Cowichan South Arts Guild has planned!

# Malahat Legion

G.J. SOLLEY  
Malahat Legion

September is not only the start of the new school year, but the start-up of many regular activities at the Malahat Legion.

Membership is now open to anyone over 19. Non-members must sign our Guest Book. Children are welcome when the kitchen is open. The kitchen will open again on September 8th.

Recreational and League darts and pool are available. Drop-in Crib starts on Wednesday, September 12th at 7:00 pm. Contact Sharon for more information ([wilgra@telus.net](mailto:wilgra@telus.net))

Wednesday's soup & sandwich lunches are served at noon. Dinners will be held at 5:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Friday of the month. Please reserve by the Wednesday prior by contacting us by

phone (250-743-4621), or sign up in person at the Legion. September 7th is a Salisbury Steak Dinner. Our popular BBQ Steak Night will be held on the 21st, and everyone is welcome to stay for the "Turnip up the Beet Jammers".

Our meat draws continue every Saturday from 3:00 – 5:00 pm. Special meat draws are held once a month. Please remember that all proceeds go to local charities.

Come and enjoy yourself and help our local charities.

A monthly calendar is available each month. You can pick one up at the Legion, 1625 Shawnigan Lake-Mill Bay Rd., Shawnigan Lake, B.C., or visit our website [www.malahatlegion.com](http://www.malahatlegion.com)

Facebook page - Royal Canadian Legion Br 134 send us a message [rc1134@shaw.ca](mailto:rc1134@shaw.ca)

Please mark Saturday,

October 20th on your calendar. We cordially invite everyone to attend a Special Memorial for Military who have died on Canadian Soil at the Cobble Hill Cenotaph.

DID YOU KNOW that you can rent the Legion Hall and you can also arrange food for your event with our kitchen staff. For more information, please call the office (250 743-4146) or email us at ([rc1134@shaw.ca](mailto:rc1134@shaw.ca))



# October Referendum – Be informed

**Ian Caesar**  
*Shawnigan Resident*

On October 20, the CVRD Board is seeking elector assent for two new service functions: 1) Housing, and 2) Water. Under the Local Government Act, the Board must obtain elector assent to establish new services that have a tax requisition from property owners. The Act protects tax payers from a CVRD Board that may choose not to be accountable to the majority of electors. ([http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/lc/statreg/r15001\\_04#division\\_d0e17294](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/lc/statreg/r15001_04#division_d0e17294)).

Bylaw No. 4228, Cowichan Housing Association Annual Financial Contribution Services, is a minimum requisition of \$765,000 annually from tax payers for a financial contribution to Cowichan Housing Association (CHA) to provide regional programs and services related to affordable housing and homelessness prevention.

Bylaw No. 4229, Drinking Water and Watershed Protection Service, is a minimum requisition of \$750,000 annually from tax payers to support regional programs related to drinking water and watershed protection.

You can see the Board discussion and agreement on the bylaw synopsis and referendum wording at: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHc\\_W0H9PIU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xHc_W0H9PIU). The meeting minutes are available at: <https://cvrld.primegov.com/portal/#/>. The Board support for these two bylaws is not unanimous. One third of the fifteen board members do not support them.

First, a couple of points for both bylaws. The minimum amount comes from the bylaw synopsis wording shown below that ties the tax requisition to the “greater of” the numbers above or a fixed mill rate applied to your property assessment. This means that your

annual tax payment for each of these two services will rise with your property assessment. Separately, the new service functions may also have their tax requisition raised even further after five years under the Local Government Act. Do not expect to see the tax implications in the referendum wording – the Board decided not to include it.

“CVRD Bylaw No. 4201 – Cowichan Housing Association Annual Financial Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw, 2018” will allow the CVRD to annually requisition up to the greater of \$765,000 or an amount equal to the amount that could be raised by a property value tax of \$0.04584 per \$1,000 of net taxable value of land and improvements within the service area to assist the Cowichan Housing Association with costs associated with providing programs and services related to affordable housing and homelessness prevention in the Cowichan Valley.”

When the CVRD annual budget is approved, the task of the CVRD Treasurer is to determine the mill rates used for calculating the taxes you pay. For each service function, the required funding and the total of all current property assessments are used to determine the service component tax mill rate for the next year. When the tax mill rate is applied to your property assessments the formula works in reverse and determines what tax you have to pay for the service. This is what allows the tax you pay for a service to remain the same when your property assessment increases; the CVRD needs to obtain the funding required for each function and adjusts the mill rates down to offset increases in your property assessment. When the CVRD writes a bylaw with a minimum amount, they may keep the mill rate fixed and continue to increase your tax

payment as your property assessment increases.

The CVRD portion of my taxes rose 7.9% this year after increasing 15% over the past five years. The total of all increases for these years goes to 32% when the school tax is included.

The word “regional” is the agenda of the Board and staff to have more programs funded regionally so that everyone is paying even if the programs are only required centrally or just in Cowichan Lake or just in Shawnigan Lake. The regionalization of programs is to have more tax payers sharing the cost even if they do not use or need the services in their area. Good (agenda-serving) words are used to justify regional programs even if they do not benefit you because you live outside the area where they are needed. It is the “big-city” service and taxation approach for the Cowichan Valley which is clearly not a big city anywhere. We are here because it is rural and not a big city.

Area B Shawnigan Lake pays only \$100,000 per year for the Island Savings Centre because it is not well located for its use and Shawnigan Lake is already a participant in the Kerry Park Recreation Centre (which when combined with Shawnigan Lake Community Centre account for over 30% of the CVRD portion of your tax bill). Will the cost of unused recreation services increase for Area B residents with the regionalization of recreation services or decrease? The District of North Cowichan has already implemented at least one affordable housing project and now they may be paying for a CVRD regional program as well.

Now let’s dig a little deeper. When the Provincial Government develops a program and includes it in the budget there is a requirement for a service plan.

Every government ministry develops and maintains service plans annually. You can view them at <http://bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2018/serviceplans.htm>.

Each service plan describes the ministry goals and objectives and the service delivery strategies. Performance measures are identified that relate to the service objectives and you can read (with a reasonable level of detail) what is planned to be accomplished and the delivery approach. These plans are important documents for government accountability.

The CVRD has a strategic plan (<https://www.cvrld.bc.ca/DocumentCenter/View/76405/CVRD-Strategic-Plan-May-2016?bidId=>) and the word “housing” does not appear anywhere. There are a number of watershed management objectives that resemble the work that has been done in Shawnigan Lake by the Shawnigan Basin Society at the cost of Shawnigan Lake tax payers. It appears that the Board feels their staff can do a better job of developing a watershed management plan (perhaps for Cowichan Lake) and that all CVRD tax payers should fund it.

What’s the real problem here? There are no service delivery plans. There are two proposed bylaws for referendum and the service scope and delivery plans are unspecified – there is no description of what will be delivered when nor what area will receive the benefit from services. This is not the norm for business: to plan to spend \$1.5 million dollars annually on new service delivery and not know exactly what will be delivered.

This is the norm for the CVRD. It leads to consultation, reports and study on need, more Board activity, more staff hiring, public communication and more growth in spending on something that originally

gave us no idea about what it was really going to achieve when we voted for it. If it turns out that there is not enough funding in the Housing bylaw to actually build or acquire housing then the funding is likely to be used as rental housing grants – CHA identifies affordable rental housing as the greatest need in the CVRD and my assumption is that this need is primarily in Duncan.

In a Housing bylaw public consultation meeting, two thirds of the funding was said to be for direct housing cost and the other third for CHA operational funding. All of this is going on when the Province is managing the delivery of a \$500 million program for building affordable housing. A project in Kelowna had land and construction paid for by the Province and the facility will be managed by the John Howard Society. There are projects described at <https://www.bchousing.org/news> that do not require local government funding or even participation. When I spoke with CHA they were not aware of the contact at BC Housing for Vancouver Island. I recommended they call her and begin to develop projects without CVRD involvement.

The City of Langford has had a framework for developing affordable housing units through developer projects for more than 15 years and continues to improve their approach. See <http://www.langford.ca/EN/meta/city-hall/affordable-housing-program.html>. The program buys down the cost of housing using developer amenities, grants or other sources of funding. It is easy to manage and provides the flexibility to supply housing at a rate matched to the availability of funding (other than tax payer requisition). The CVRD has accomplished nothing over this time period and responds now with a proposal to outsource the

*Story cont. on page 6*

## The Shawnigan Basin Society would like to help!

**Kelly Musselwhite, MEP**  
*Executive Director, Shawnigan Basin Society*

### Looking for Information About the Coming Referendum?

There is a municipal election scheduled for Saturday, October 20, 2018 and the CVRD Board has already voted to have two referendum questions added to the ballot: one seeks support for affordable housing and the other for drinking water and watershed protection. Both are asking voters to consider a newly implemented regional tax of \$750,000 each. Although both are important issues, the focus of the

SBS, not surprisingly, is on the latter.

Shawnigan Lake is both a reservoir and a playground. It faces climate change, population growth, recreation loading, and land use pressures now and in the future. Consequently, the Shawnigan Basin Society is recommending twelve active practical measures for keeping Shawnigan Lake in good condition for drinking water and recreation.

Sharing your local knowledge and integrating them with the significant body of scientific data collected by the Shawnigan Basin Society is crucial to understanding, developing, and implementing a watershed masterplan. Please come and discuss the

state of our basin at the Village Watershed Office (#4-1760 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd, across the street from the Shawnigan Coffee House and Oma’s Bakery) between Thursday, August 9 and Thursday, October 18. We will be open as follows:

- ★ Tuesday from 11 am. to 1 pm.
- ★ Wednesday from 6 pm. To 8 pm.
- ★ Thursday from 11 am. to 1 pm.

For information, visit our website at <http://shawniganwater.weebly.com/>

Or send an email to [info@shawniganwater.org](mailto:info@shawniganwater.org).



# SIA final closure plan: Remove or repair?

**Brent Beach**  
*Shawnigan Focus*

### A Brief Recap

The Landfill Permit appeal before the Environmental Appeal Board was deemed flawed by Justice Sewell because of the secret dealings between the Engineers and SIA/CHH (the company). Justice Sewell sent the permit back to the Environmental Appeal Board (EAB) for a rehearing of the appeal.

The Ministry of Environment (MoE) cancelled the Landfill Permit because the company had failed to post a bond.

MoE issued a Spill Prevention Order (SPO) directing the company to remove the waste or present a plan to close the site while meeting or exceeding the Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste 2016.

The company hired a consulting firm which presented a Final Closure Plan (FCP). This FCP was vigorously opposed by the community. MoE hired a consulting firm to review the FCP. This review also was vigorously opposed by the community.

### Removal Cost

MoE guesstimated the removal cost at \$25 million and the repair cost at \$10 million. When asked, at the previous meeting, for the documents on which these estimates were based, MoE said they had no documents. It was back of the envelope calculation. Your reporter may have lost his usual cool at that point and asked how they could possibly make a decision that could result in the

spending of millions of dollars with no written analysis.

The community decided to get a firm estimate of the removal cost and hired a Qualified Professional (Gary Hamilton). Our consultant costed the removal process, talking to the companies who do the work for each stage of the trip from Shawnigan Lake to the nearest licensed disposal facility that can accept this type of waste (in Oregon). His total was under \$12 million. Our consultant was paid using CVRD community funds guided by Director Acton through the Shawnigan Residents Association. When we presented this estimate to MoE at the most recent meeting, MoE still had no written analysis of its own for either the remove or repair option.

### No BC Landfill Will Accept PCT Waste

Our consultant also reported that some of the waste sent to the Stebbings Road landfill was from Pacific Coast Terminals (PCT) in Port Moody. PCT also sent waste to Princeton where it was dried and used to cover mine tailings. It was subsequently discovered that the Princeton PCT waste, when wet, reacted in a way that made it unsuitable for the Princeton site. It was further discovered that there was no landfill in BC that would accept the PCT material from Princeton. The PCT material was moved from Princeton to a suitable site in Oregon.

While this was news to us, it should not have been news to MoE. MoE knew the PCT

waste was shipped to Princeton and, after being found to be unsuitable, was moved to the Oregon site. MoE knew that there was no landfill in BC that could accept the PCT material. MoE was still prepared to approve retention of PCT waste in a badly constructed landfill in a community watershed. What are they thinking?

The qualified professional who approved the shipping of the PCT waste to the landfill on Stebbings Road was a member of the engineering firm that worked on the Stebbings Road landfill permit. The secret profit-sharing agreement meant that this QP would directly benefit from the transfer of the PCT waste to the Stebbings Rd landfill. How can that not be a conflict of interest?

### No Engineering Documents

The other highlight of the most recent meeting with MoE was provided by SRA lawyer Sean Hern. You may remember Mr Hern from his work for the Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA) before the EAB and on the appeal of the EAB decision. His point in this meeting was that in his decision on the appeal of the EAB decision, Justice Sewell cited the undisclosed conflict of interest to effectively disallow all the evidence from the engineering firm. MoE is aware of the Sewell decision.

### The Repair Option

To date, the repair option is defined by the Final Closure Plan (FCP). It is based largely on documents provided by the company, which Judge Sewell deemed tainted.

The FCP determined that all of the existing components of the landfill that were not buried under contaminated waste had to be replaced. Those components include: the leachate collection piping, the leak detection piping, the contact water collection systems, the shape of the landfill itself, and the plastic used to cover the waste. All are currently defective. The FCP includes new designs for these components.

The FCP determined that all of the existing components of the landfill that were buried under the contaminated waste, which they could not inspect, not only met the requirements for closure but exceeded those requirements. Since the FCP consultants could not inspect those buried components, they based their opinion on documents provided by the company. The very documents disqualified by Justice Sewell.

The Shawnigan Research Group (SRG) first pointed out this glaring inconsistency to MoE over a year ago. MoE still has no answer.

### The Waste Pile Leaks

Surface water leaving the site and ground water in the well on the site nearest the contaminated waste (called MW6) both show contaminant concentrations 6 times higher than that shown in other wells. The SRG feels this is clear evidence that contaminants are already leaking from the waste.

A consultant hired by MoE plotted contaminant levels for MW6 on different graphs from those for wells farther away. The relative levels of the various contaminants are similar in all cases, but 6 times higher for MW6 and surface water. This presentation of the data obscured the clear differences in contaminant levels.

MoE accepted this report and denies the site is leaking. They appear to be unable to grasp that a factor of 6 is significant. Perhaps if we cut their salaries by a factor of 6 they would begin to understand.

### Base Repair

Repairing the landfill before closure requires the complete rebuilding of the layers under the contaminated waste. There is not enough room in the quarry or anywhere on the site to store the contaminated waste while this repair takes place. The contaminated waste must be moved from the site to a temporary site permitted to store contaminated waste of this type while these first stages of repair take place. These lower stages will have to be built to conform to the 2016 Landfill Criteria for Municipal Solid Waste, as required by the Spill Prevention Order.

Once the new base layers are in place and have been tested, the contaminated waste could be brought back onto the site. This time the waste must be placed into properly engineered cells as defined by the permit rather than simply dumped into the quarry and spread around by excavators as was done the first time.

MoE continues to insist that closure in place should be handled in the same way as would the closure of any landfill in the last years of its life. They seem to be unable to understand that this landfill has no permit and sits on land not zoned for a landfill. They refuse to admit that the landfill already leaks as shown by the elevated contaminant levels in MW6 and in surface water.

This is not business as usual. MoE must stop pretending that this is like any other landfill in the province.

### Foreclosure

The Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC) is fore-

closing on its first mortgages on the land. Those first mortgages are over 7 times the assessed value of the land. In addition to the first mortgages, there are 4 other mortgages and 2 liens against the land. The value of the first mortgages far exceeds the assessed value of the land. The value of the other 4 mortgages also far exceeds the value of the land.

BDC, a Canadian Crown Corporation, styles itself as a "Venture capital financing company." It could well be the owner of the land before any decision on Remove or Repair is made by MoE.

### Next Steps

The NDP government must immediately take three steps to rebalance the risks and rewards of mining and landfiling in BC.

1. Mines must insist that mine reclamation bring the land back in conformity with the current zoning of the land. If a contaminated waste landfill is not permitted by current zoning then it must not be permitted as mine reclamation.
2. Environment must insist that no permit for a contaminated waste landfill be awarded unless a contaminated waste landfill is allowed by the current zoning of the land.
3. The EAB appeal process must be changed to require that all expert on whose work a permit is granted be required take the stand to defend their expert work. The failure to give appellants an opportunity to cross-examine the proponent's experts was precisely the flaw in the National Energy Board hearing on the Trans Mountain pipeline proposal that so angered opponents. How can the government both disapprove of the NEB process and approve of the EAB process?

With these three essential changes to BC law and regulations, no future EAB panel will be asked to rule on this question and no BC Court of Appeal judge will reverse a learned justice on the basis of a false, incomplete and misleading information from the company involved.

In the particular case of this permit, MoE must first send the permit back to the EAB to rehear the Shawnigan Residents Association appeal.

### Future Meetings

MoE does not expect any progress on the Remove or Repair decision until after current lawsuits brought by the company against the Crown are finished. This will not happen before November. MoE expects to provide advice to the Minister on Remove or Repair in early 2019.

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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](mailto:rhoda.taylor@viha.ca)  
FACEBOOK : **Healthy Beginnings Cowichan**



Director's Report - Summer happened so fast!

Sierra Acton  
Director Area B

Love it!

Nothing is more important than our health and access to excellent health care facilities is a very important part of that. In October 2016, the Cowichan Valley regional Hospital District finalized the purchase of three properties on Bell McKinnon Rd. Just recently, the Concept Plan was approved by the Hospital Board for our new hospital, which is scheduled to open in the Fall of 2024. The next phase is to prepare a detailed business plan - this being the most important part of the planning process. It will engage stakeholders at all levels including planners, architects, engineers and other experts who will complete the detailed plans for the hospital. Business planning will also include a review of the loca-

tion choice as well as a final decision regarding the selection and recommendations for placement of the hospital within the selected site. Without a doubt, improvements to our health care and support services are needed in the valley. I feel very blessed for our community that it's on the way.

Share it!

The Community and Shawnigan Lake School have a long history of collaborating and sharing this community and it's LAKE. They stood with community and aided our battle to stop the contaminated soil dump and, most recently, provided a professional plan to help manage the milfoil as a community. I met the new Head Master, Larry Lamont, at the end of August. He has a great sense of humour and complements former Headmaster Robert-

son's philosophies, especially his appreciation for working with the community. Headmaster Lamont is open to even more outreach and sharing of resources in the community, which is an exciting opportunity for all of us.

I look forward to our next meeting, once he is more settled in the role. Unfortunately there has been some recent confusion about the School, Rowing Canada and their RFP for a new National Training Centre. The school has no intention of suggesting that they (or anyone else) have priority over any other lake users, they simply hope to continue to enjoy the lake in a respectful and courteous manner as we all have for decades. However, if Rowing Canada continues to train here, it would now be official as part of three facilities that Team Canada calls home. Person-

ally, I love seeing people enjoy the outdoors and the lake all year round and I wish Shawnigan Lake School much success in sharing their rowing facility and our community.

Protect it!

I will be voting Yes on election day, October 20th, on the referendum questions presented on the voting ballot. One, an asset important to all of us, is clean water. The other is Affordable housing, which is another necessity and can potentially affect us all. Please learn more about the referendum questions at [www.cvr.bc.ca/drinkingwater](http://www.cvr.bc.ca/drinkingwater) & [www.cvr.bc.ca/housing](http://www.cvr.bc.ca/housing)

Another initiative that is underway is the updating of the Solid Waste Management Plan, which is a regional project that is looking at future Municipal Solid Waste requirements based

on regulatory requirements, best management practices and local needs. This project includes an interactive planning process with a Public Advisory Committee, a Board Oversight Committee and a technical committee.

The CVRD team is in the process of engaging with the public to receive your feedback, which will continue until Sept 15th. There are three Open Houses scheduled to gather feedback from the public, the closest being at Cobble Hill on Sept 11th. Your input would be greatly appreciated.


Enjoy your fall everyone! Please connect and share your views on many important issues like the referendum questions and the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Cell/text (250)-715-6763  
[Sacton@cvrd.bc.ca](mailto:Sacton@cvrd.bc.ca)  
[iloveshawnigan.com](http://iloveshawnigan.com)

Shawnigan Weather August 2018 - Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ compiled by Grant Treloar

The Dry Summer


The combined rain totals for July and August were the third driest since 1914 (8.4 mm). Only last year(5.3 mm) and 1914 (5.3mm) were drier.

	August Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017
Average High	23.6	26.8	28.1	26.0	27.0	25.6	26.9	25.5	27.0
Average Low	12.0	13.4	13.8	13.7	13.5	13.7	13.5	13.1	13.6
Extreme High	36.1	35.6	33.8	33.9	34.3	33.8	35.1	33.5	34.5
Extreme Low	3.3	11.1	10.6	10.1	9.9	11.4	11.1	10.5	10.5
Precipitation	27.9	2.2	4.8	8.2	4.8	9.0	4.2	6.6	4.4
Days w precip	6	4	2	4	2	4	5	4	1
Year Precip	682.8	598.6	730.0	578.6	676.0	538.0	645.7	623.8	661.1
Rank since 1914: 10 <sup>th</sup> warmest , 23 <sup>rd</sup> driest									
Lake Temperature:	August 5 <sup>th</sup> :25"	August 12 <sup>th</sup> : 24"		August 19 <sup>th</sup> : 23"		August 26 <sup>th</sup> : 21"			
Lake Level Change:	August 5 <sup>th</sup> :-4cm	August 12 <sup>th</sup> :-4cm		August 19 <sup>th</sup> : -4cm		August 26 <sup>th</sup> :-2.5cm			
Surface Elevation:	116.05m	116.02m		115.98m		115.95m			

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## October Referendum – be informed cont’d

service function to Cowichan Housing Association.

The story goes something like this: the CVRD asked Cowichan Housing Association to give them “a proposal to address this issue”. CHA organized a number of workshops and provided materials and information to the Board. This was followed by a CHA proposal to the Board. The outcome is the Board proposing a new bylaw to “address this issue” through a contribution agreement with Cowichan Housing Association. A bylaw proposal is born and the Alternative Approval Process (AAP) is chosen by the board. What a great approach: select and fund a strategic outsourcing partner when you do not know what will be delivered! We have more clarity about what will be delivered when we order coffee!

The AAP is a process that can be used to sneak through elector assent without holding a referendum. When a number of electors turned up at a board meeting for this decision and spoke against the bylaw and the use of the AAP process, the board followed with a vote to go to referendum. This is good but the switch from the AAP to a referendum is very interesting. The Board was caught off

guard by the community rejecting the AAP. Why is that? Is it acceptable? We need a CVRD board that:

Clearly understand their mandate to manage the scope of essential services for planning and land development, engineering services, parks and recreation, and some outsourced or less core mandates like transit or libraries.

Feels a very strong responsibility to operate only the regional services the majority of the electorate require and since it is expensive to develop, promote and gain approval for new services, only proceed with new regional service development and an AAP or referendum when there is a very clear mandate for them – they should use these processes only when they know they are going to have the electorate support the new service. Why should we ever have to tell our CVRD Board to “Stop it!”?

Knows that every good idea or community need is not their mandate or justification for a new service.

Feels a heavy weight of responsibility to know the electorate majority perspective on need; asking a few supporters, holding consultation meetings

with a few hundred people, or using social media is not sufficient (especially when people turn up to public information sessions and in [www.Plac-eSpeak.com](http://www.Plac-eSpeak.com) and strongly reject funding a Housing bylaw – 90% in the public information session I attended).

The Board assumed elector support for an AAP and were wrong. Selected Board member comments to me following the vote to change to a referendum suggest that several did not expect a referendum to succeed and this is even more shocking.

A third of the Board (mostly Area Directors) do not support the new bylaw yet the others are not questioning the integrity of proceeding. This is the same scenario we see repeatedly from reckless and irresponsible government: new regional services are to be funded by all tax payers when many live in areas that do not require or desire them and Board members opposed to the services cannot opt out. Two-thirds of the Board have their own agenda to establish a new service function regardless of elector support.

Do not get me wrong. I am not against affordable housing. I am against the CVRD doing it – directly or through a

strategic outsourced partner (CHA) when \$500M Provincial funding is assigned to it and successful projects are being delivered without local government funding. To be sure, I called the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and also to BC Housing to confirm that there is no prerequisite local government funding contribution required to make use of the Province’s program.

As for the Water bylaw, you should start by searching for a service delivery plan. If you cannot find the service delivery plan for what will be delivered, when and how, then vote against it. The Shawnigan Lake community through the community organizations they formed (with only \$50,000 annual CVRD funding) have developed watershed management plans for Shawnigan Lake. This approach has been successful and operates separately from the complication of multiple authorities for a watershed. The CVRD does not have legislated authority over water and does not need to manage this either.

On October 20, vote “NO” to both the Housing and Water bylaws and tell the CVRD to “Stop it!”.

### SHAWNIGAN LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Fax: (250)743-2096  
Non-emergency Phone: (250)812-8030  
[shawniganfire@shaw.ca](mailto:shawniganfire@shaw.ca)



*Department members attended 27 incidents in August*

- ★ Thursday, Aug 2 – 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Friday, Aug 3 – Burning Complaint on Island on Lake
- ★ Saturday Aug 4 – Burning Complaint on Island on Lake
- ★ Saturday, Aug 4 – Burning Complaint on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Aug 4 – Burning Complaint on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, Aug 5 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, Aug 5 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, Aug 5 – Hydro Line Incident on Dunwick Rd
- ★ Monday, Aug 6 – Smoke Report on Baldy Mountain Rd
- ★ Monday, Aug 6 – Smoke Report on MacDonald Rd
- ★ Monday, Aug 6 – Burning Complaint on Fern Ridge Dr
- ★ Wednesday, Aug 8 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Thursday, Aug 9 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Aug 11 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Aug 14 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Aug 15 – Alarms Activated on Evergreen Rd
- ★ Friday, Aug 17 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, Aug 17 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, Aug 17 – Burning Complaint on Thain Rd
- ★ Sunday, Aug 19 – Alarms Activated on Radway Rd
- ★ Sunday, Aug 19 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, Aug 19 – Burning Complaint on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, Aug 24 - 1st Responder off Deloume Rd
- ★ Saturday, Aug 25 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Aug 28 - 1st Responder off Deloume Rd
- ★ Thursday, Aug 30 – Burning Complaint on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, Aug 30 – MVI on Meadowview Rd



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[ShawniganFocusEditor@gmail.com](mailto:ShawniganFocusEditor@gmail.com) - Hard copies can be left at The Chippery: 1- 2740 Dundas

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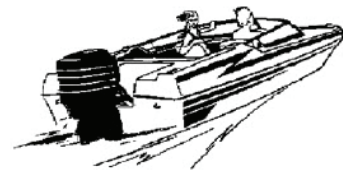
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## COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton**  
Office hours by appointment. Email [sacton@cverd.bc.ca](mailto:sacton@cverd.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](mailto: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](http://www.thesra.ca)
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA)**  
Contact: [bburr@shaw.ca](mailto: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](mailto:luvlife@shaw.ca)
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**  
Contact: [blog.ysag.ca](mailto:blog.ysag.ca) - email: [ysagssl@gmail.com](mailto:ysagssl@gmail.com)
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**  
Open Friday to Sunday - 10:30-4 Contact: [shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca](mailto:shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca)
- ★ **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**  
Contact: 250-929-7222 - [www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca](http://www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca)
- ★ **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**  
Saturday Meat Draw 3:-5:00pm. Contact: [Gloria\\_gsolley@shaw.ca](mailto:Gloria_gsolley@shaw.ca)

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## CONGRATULATIONS

The winner for August is Kate  
Roberts who was one of several  
who recognized the bottom of  
the Kinsol Trestle as viewed  
from the ground below.



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# People of this Place - Pete Cadorette

Written by:  
Marie Cadorette

Anecdotal story of settling in Shawnigan Lake as told to his son, Raymond

I was born in a sod hut on the wind swept Prairie on September 5 1920 in Tessier, Saskatchewan.

I first came to Shawnigan at 18 on a whim. As a young guy from Zenon

(Zenon Park, Sask. – a small French speaking community) where I lived I said, “I’m headin’ to Vancouver Island. Do you wanna come?” We headed out on the CNR (Canadian National Railway) and by CPR ferry (Canadian Pacific Railway). There were quite a few French speaking people from Zenon in Shawnigan in those days.

I boarded with the Rabies who rented a house by the Quarry. I got a job at Shawnigan Saw Mill. We were sawing wood for England and beams for grain elevators in Saskatchewan. I worked as Second Dogger. The sawyer got drunk and injured my right foot. I was off on com-



pensation for three months. The sawyer got fired.

As I wasn’t doing much just as the war started in ’39, I headed back to Zenon. There, I had to go in for Basic Training at Dundurn Military Base. After my 30 days and discharge, I told myself, “I’m not

born to be killin’ people. I’ll be travellin’.” So I headed to Saskatoon to apply to the Animal Husbandry program at the University of Saskatchewan.

I went from Saskatoon back to Shawnigan and then on to the Queen

Charlotte Islands. I was using a Swede saw to fall logs. The mosquitoes

and black flies were so bad I lasted three days, and headed back to Vancouver, then back to Zenon Park with Ernest Raby. In Zenon, my parents let me know the police were

looking for me, I took the first train out to Saskatoon, then on to Vancouver where I went straight to the unemployment office. I borrowed \$10 to get back to Queen Charlotte’s where I hired on as a knotter cutting limbs off logs, then moved on to working on rigging and from there to a deck hand on a 50 foot by 14 foot boat. All told I worked in the Queen Charlotte’s four years and saved \$1,500. I went back to Zenon when the war was over in 1945.

I married my wife, Amy, on August 30 1947. We married in Prince Albert and settled outside of Zenon Park on a quarter section for a few years. I farmed pigs on a homestead where there was no running water, an outhouse and no power. Five of my seven kids were born there.

In the summer of ’55, Amy and I decided to head to the West Coast. So we packed up the kids, the dog and a few of our belongings. We landed in Nanaimo where we stayed for a month. I had thirty-five bucks in my pocket. We moved, in 1956, to the Shawnigan property on Dundas Street where I’m still living at 98 years of age.




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Pete Cadorette

# 98

years

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