



Shawnigan Focus

Volume Ten - Issue Eleven

November 2019

A Non-Profit Community Publication

WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WAR EFFORT



(Information gathered by Gloria Solley from various VETERAN websites.)

We often hear about the women in Canada who stepped up during the First and Second World War to work at jobs that were usually held by men in manufacturing munitions, factories, farming, and other roles.

Women have been involved in the war efforts both at home and in combat since 1885 when they served as nurses during the North West Rebellion.

During the First World War (1914-1918) more than 3,000 women served with the Royal Canadian Medical Corps. 2,500 were stationed close to the front line hospitals, on ships and in combat zones. Not included in these numbers is a Volunteer Aid Detachment nurse trained by the St. John Ambulance Brigade in Vancouver Island. Dorothy Twist, from Shawnigan Lake, is the only woman listed on the Cobble Hill Cenotaph. Dorothy was a Volunteer Aid Detachment nurse. She died in service in September 1918.

In 1938, a group of women from Victoria, headed by Joan Kennedy, formed a volunteer organization eventually known as the B.C. Women's Service Corps. At their own expense they learned Morse code signalling, map reading, regulation infantry drills, first-aid, motor mechanics and military clerical duties. They repeatedly lobbied Ottawa to form an official women's auxiliary services claiming that their members would make excellent recruits. In Montreal, members of the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) of Canada trained the Women's Volunteer Reserve Corps in arms drill and physical conditioning.

In 1939, the Air Transport Auxiliary (ATA) had 166 women, five of whom were Canadian. Pilots delivered six categories of planes, from single-engine trainers to seaplanes and four-engine aircraft. They transported mail and supplies for the British military, but their duties expanded to include transporting warplanes. Women could fly the planes to England but had to take sea vessels to return to Canada.



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Letter to the Editor

In response to Mr. Chadwick's letter to the Editor in the Thursday October 31st Times Colonist

Thank you Mr. Chadwick for speaking out on the endless assault on our beautiful part of the world, and for cautioning the good people of Victoria and our other Island neighbours...that the SIA/CHH contaminated dump site our NDP government is babysitting, sits "bubbling" just uphill of their precious watersheds.

Today 5,000 tonnes of elemental sulfur is on the site. Since sulfur-laden soils can be oxidized into sulfuric acid, no other landfill site in BC will accept it.

Leachate collected from the SIA/CHH dump site has indicated the presence of poly-aromatic hydrocarbons.

It's difficult not to see the appearance of conflicts of interest when the engineering firm brought in by the Ministry of the Environment to develop a Final Closure Plan was owed

approximately \$100,000 from the dump owners (CHH), when the Plan was developed.

For so long we've been standing against an assault which was born in the minds of greedy businessmen, endorsed by the Liberal government, and is now being forgiven by our NDP government. When Premier Horgan campaigned against the Liberals, he came to our community declaring his stance against such a dump aimed at our drinking water. He looked down at us during a helicopter ride as our community stood on the road to block dozens of dump trucks dripping with contaminated waste.

We believed then that he would keep his word.

Thanks again Mr. Chadwick from Halton Hills, Ontario. It's real nice to know a voice from afar stands with us...now if only we could get more from just down the road to speak up.

~Paul Jolicoeur



Arm wrestling challenge in Shawnigan Pavilion

Where the wild things are...

Did you know that the Shawnigan Lake Museum has had a gift shop since it opened in 1983?

There are many great 'Shawnigan' memorabilia items including books, T-shirts, wild animals and much more. Check it out for Christmas ideas.

Visit - Thursday through Sunday 10:30 - 4:00 until Dec. 22nd for Christmas shopping.

Check out gift shop items on our website: <http://shawniganlakemuseum.com/Gifts.php>

Or, you can contact us at: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca

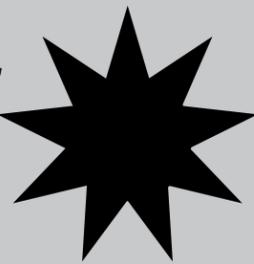


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250-743-2122
www.shawnigangarage.com



South Cowichan Library

Do you have with questions about computers, tablets, or smartphones? Ask about 1-on-1 help from Teen Tech Tutors!

Paws 4 Stories happens 3:15 - 4:15pm on most Wednesdays. Young readers can sign up for a 15-minute reading session with Kit Kat, a trained therapy dog. Ask how!

Teen Games Night is from 5:30 to 8pm on Thursday, Nov 28. Come with friends or on your own. Play our games or one of yours. Just grab a table and start gaming!

Book a Librarian! Have a research project? Looking for family history? Interested in online books/magazines/movies/music? Schedule a 30-minute session. Appointments Tuesdays 2-3pm...or another time as arranged.

Watercolour Workshop with the Cowichan South Arts Guild: 6 - 8pm on Thursday, Nov 14. Free, supplies will be provided. Call or stop by the library to register!

LEGO® Club meets every Wednesday, 2-5pm. This free, drop-in event

is best suited for children 6 to 12 years but anyone old enough to resist eating LEGO® is welcome. DUPLO available too.

Tablet Workshop is on Wednesday, November 6, 6-7:30pm. Learn how to use the tools in your tablet to access digital resources from the library. Just bring your tablet.

Parent-Child Mother Goose Program meets Fridays through November 22, 10:30-11:30am. Songs, rhymes, and stories for children 0-4 and their adults. In partnership with Island Health.

Family Storytime happens every Saturday in November, 2 - 2:30pm. Join us for books, stories, and songs. For children aged 2 to 6 and their adults.

French Conversation Group meets on alternating Thursdays (November 7 & 21) from 6 to 7pm. Come by and practice parler en francais with a native French speaker.

Chess Club: This drop-in group for chess players is on Friday, November 29, 1-4pm. Meets on the last Friday of each month.

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RMFT
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vicki@vickibridge.ca

LOCATION : **ACCENT INN - Victoria**
3233 Maple Street, Victoria

DATES : **SESSION ONE**
November 19, 2019 - 9 AM to 4 PM
SESSION TWO
November 21, 2019 - 9 AM to 4 PM

COST : **\$325 + GST**
Per Session

LIMITED SPACE - REGISTER NOW

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION @ www.drackenziebrooks.com

Shawnigan Stargazer

Colin Frostad
Shawnigan Focus

November: Pisces “The Fishes”

This month we are going to challenge ourselves a bit and try to pick out the faint constellation of Pisces (the Latin plural for fish). Pisces is located in an area of the sky known as “the Sea” because many of the constellations in the region relate to water, such as Aquarius “the Water Bearer” and Cetus “the Whale”. Most of these constellations were named by the ancient astronomer Ptolemy (100-170 AD).

To find Pisces first we will need to find the Great Square of Pegasus. At roughly 10pm,

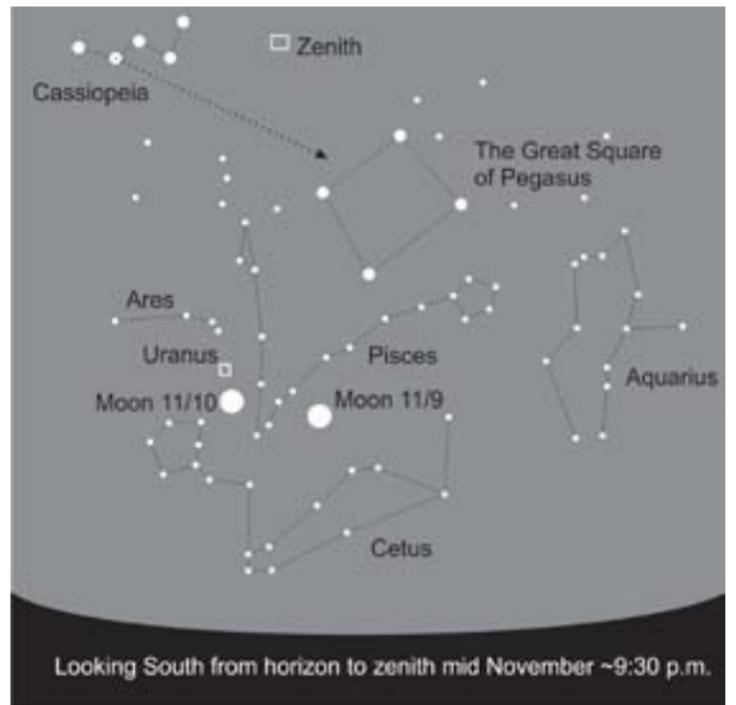
throughout the month of November, look due south and straight up to locate the familiar W of Cassiopeia (see November 2018 Stargazer).

Trace the left limb of Cassiopeia roughly halfway to the horizon; there you will find four equally spaced stars that make up the Great Square of Pegasus. If you are able to see this, Pisces is relatively easy, as it makes a large V shape that wraps around the southern part of the square (see star chart). If you are having trouble, wait until the evenings of November 9 and 10, then look up to the near full moon. On the night of the 9th, the moon will be to the right of the vertex of the Pisces V. One night later, the Moon will have crossed over

to left side of Pisces. From that reference point, you should be able to use star charts to locate the rest of the constellation.

If you have a good pair of binoculars or a backyard telescope, take note of where the moon is on the night of the 10th. Later in the month, once the bright moon has vacated that area, try to find the distinctly green-glow of the planet Uranus, just to the left of Pisces’ vertex and slightly towards Ares from where the moon was.

Planets and Moon: If you have a clear view to the low southwest horizon, keep a keen lookout for Jupiter setting at dusk. Through the nights of November 22-24,



Looking South from horizon to zenith mid November ~9:30 p.m.

bright Venus will pass right by the gas giant. Saturn will also hang low on the southwest horizon in the early evening throughout the month. If you are an early bird, Mars has

made its trip from behind the Sun and can be seen glowing red, low on the southeast horizon, just before sunrise. Full Moon is November 12, New Moon is November 26.

Picking up the torch

Thomas Lupton
Shawnigan Residents Association

When Greta Thunberg arrived in Alberta at the end of October old rich men, invested in the oil industry, predictably went bonkers. Who is this young woman? How dare she tell us what to do with our oil? Who is backing her? The idea that she might just be speaking on behalf of a generation of young people who are seriously concerned about the planet seemed largely irrelevant. Rather, the narrative about whose special interests she actually represents made up the bulk of the debate in the excitable province to our right.

This is not a debate about the extent to which Greta Thunberg is the voice of a generation or a fraud, backed by a radical left-wing agenda. Rather, it is more about who speaks for us. The recent general election in Canada should really have left no one satisfied. The Liberals got knocked back a peg (the Conservatives won the popular vote) but they received 36 fewer seats. The NDP lost support in Quebec and the Green Party, with 6.5% of the popular vote, got less than 1% of the seats (6.5% roughly translates into 22 seats in a pro-rep system). Is anyone out there actually happy?

What is interesting is that the further one gets away from local politics, the less impact it actually has on one’s day to day life. If it is true that decisions made in Ottawa will have a much less profound impact on the life of a Shawnigan resident (and that is true) than decisions made in Victoria, then it stands to reason then that the closer to home the

decisions are made, the more we will feel it.

We need to seriously consider incorporating. If we want to have more control over the environment (both ecological and economical) in which we live, then exploring incorporation is the most direct way to get there. We can create all of the committees and societies and neighbourhood groups and think tanks we want, but none of it compares to the strength of an incorporated village with a mayor at the helm who will represent our interests. Would it mean more bureaucracy? Possibly, but a community council made up of elected officials from the fine people from Shawnigan Lake would still be a better option that waiting by, toothless as we are now, and begging for scraps from Duncan’s table. It’s time to take matters into our own hands

Will it be all good if we incorporate? Certainly not. Will the good outweigh the bad? Possibly. But the time has come for someone out there to take this on. There is an intolerable number of toxic land-fills and illegal dumps, too many mismanaged properties, pot-holed roads, and neglected lakes, and more than enough abandoned buildings to last a lifetime. Let’s get some answers to these questions.

It’s time for someone who has the time to pick up this torch from failing hands and lift it high, and when they do...I am sure a bright sun-lit future would emerge, because after all, one should “never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.” - Margaret Mead-

Mill Bay Craft and Gift Fair

Mill Bay Community Hall 1035 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd, Mill Bay BC

Hosted by South Cowichan Healthcare Auxiliary

Saturday November 23rd, 2019 10 AM to 2PM

Free admission

Baking, sewing Crafts, Artisans, draws, mini-auctions, prizes, tons of fun!

250-748-5910 for more info

Christmas in the Village

Sunday, December 1ST ❄️ 4 - 6:30pm

Shawnigan Lake Community Centre

❄️ Inside & Outside ❄️



Santa will be dropping by to meet the Kids!

HINT... bring your letter for Santa’s mailbag or write one while you're here!



FREE admission!

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Fun for the Family! * Dress for the Weather!

We will be collecting for the CMS Food Bank!



Sponsored by the Shawnigan Lake Community Association and the Province of BC




Seniors Wellness & Safety Day

Visit face to face with the people in your community who provide safety, recreation, wellness and health services for seniors living in your area.

Thursday, December 5TH
10:30AM to 3:00PM

Cobble Hill Community Hall
3550 Watson Avenue
Cobble Hill





- ◇ Home Care Resources
- ◇ CVRD Emergency Preparedness
- ◇ Personal Safety for Seniors
- ◇ ICBC Seniors Drive Smart
- ◇ Mill Bay/Cobble Hill Fire Station
- ◇ Cowichan Caregiver Support Society
- ◇ South Cowichan Seniors Network
- ◇ YSAG Young Seniors Action Group

& more to be confirmed . . .

For more information call South Cowichan Community Policing @ 250 929 7222
Or the Cowichan Seniors Community Foundation @ 250 715 6481

Walk Talk

By Robin Massey
Shawnigan Focus

It is quite challenging to stay indoors during the fall season. Not only because of nature's vibrant color display, but also knowing about what kind of weather is just around the corner for us can be motivating.

A fun place to visit this time of year is the Qualicum Bay area - in particular, the Lighthouse Country Regional Trail (LCRT). LCRT is a pretty fabulous trail and fully K9 friendly - which I like very much. In fact, I almost recommend bringing doggy company if you plan to incorporate the double loops in your visit as the backside (North Loop) is a bit remote and has less company.

The main attraction begins at Lioness Boulevard with plentiful parking and wash-room facilities. It also features a big and bright map for reference as you embark onto the trail.

And, as alluded to above, there are two loops on the LCRT. The one from Lioness Boulevard is known as the South Loop which is a beautifully constructed and relatively manicured 2.5km trail that is flat, available to all levels of fitness, and wheel-



chair/stroller accessible. The path is spaced nicely in a true zig-zag format while leading you through tall, fluffy trees and over marshy areas by way of one of the 15 adorable trestles designed to keep your shoes clean.

If that wasn't enough, there are several charming chain-saw art projects that can be spotted, along with wooden benches, picnic tables, faerie houses and interpretive signage to keep you entertained during the walk.

While nearing the end of the South Loop, a choice is presented. First, a loop to the (Wilson's Family) Woodlot Connector Trail and Nile Creek Forest Service Road that returns you back to the parking lot quickly. Second, keep going to find yourself setting out on the North Loop which also eventually leads to you to the same forestry road

and back to the start as well - but taking a bit longer. The North Loop is not as scenic as the South, evidently designed for purposeful navigation. It does, however, have its own charm where there is a small reforestation plot, a gazillion blackberry bushes and large happy trees hugging the road.

Did you know? That the term woodlot refers to a part of a family's farmland that was designated as a woodlot where they harvested firewood and building materials for their home, wagons and repair work. Not all woodlots have the name of the family plot identified, but when you do see them take note, as there is most likely an interesting story and history of the area to discover.

See our photos from this hike and information about our weekly outings at The Om Tree Facebook page.

Book Review

Marcy Green
Shawnigan Focus

The Testaments

Margaret Atwood
McClelland & Stewart
Copyright 2019 by O.W. Toad Ltd

I dreaded reading this book. After all, "The Handmaid's Tale" had been so dystopian and my diet of daily news is overflowing with political mayhem and natural disasters. Why would anyone want to read something dark for relaxation and entertainment? At the urging of a good friend, who knows my tastes well, I reluctantly cracked it open. Well, what a delightful surprise.

From the first page I was hooked, taken back to Gilead and introduced to one of the most cunning and manipulative characters I've read in a long time. Aunt Lydia dominates this book and it is her narrative that covers the intervening fifteen years since the end of the first volume.

Her back story is chilling, and the description of the

women being rounded up and held in inhumane conditions reminded me of what the Detention Centres and overcrowded refugee camps must be like. Atwood has not lost her rapier ability to make a subtle but clear point, and throughout the book we are reminded of the forces that exist today that would take charge of women's bodies and minds.

As we learn about Aunt Lydia and her schemes to take down the ruling and rotting patriarchy, two new narratives are added. One is that of Agnes Jemima, a young, carefully sheltered and naive girl being groomed to be a wife of one of the older Commanders. Her story and future are ominous and, as she becomes more aware, the story increases in intensity.

The third narrative is written by Daisy/Nicole, also an adolescent girl, but one recruited from the North where the forces of rebellion and freedom for Gilead are fomenting. Her feisty, snarky

character is a great counterpoint to that of the meek and obedient Agnes. And when the two girls join together, with the help of Aunt Lydia, the story takes off. There is, of course, a surprise twist to their relationship.

Margaret Atwood is a magnificent story teller and writer. The suspense and adventure that steer the plot forward caused me to devour the book in a day and a half. It was an easy read and will appeal across a broad age range. She touches on issues that matter and does it in the most brilliant way. Sometimes funny, always thought-provoking, it is no wonder this book is a co-winner of the prestigious Booker Prize. Certainly there will be more awards to come and deservedly so.

Recommended for those who believe that democracy and freedom must be guarded carefully, fought for, and that women hold up half the sky. Bravo, Ms. Atwood. You've done it again!

Rating: 5/5 stars



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Director's Report

Sierra Acton
Area B Director

Love it!

It has been a busy fall at the Cowichan Valley Regional District, especially now that budget season is underway. There is always a fine balance between being fiscally conservative and executing on our goals. Thankfully the federal government has a grant funding program to help rural communities with infrastructure improvements. Locally we plan to have some upgrades in 2020 via Gas Tax Funding at the Community Centre, Parks & Trails and Kerry Park Recreation. Also, some of the CVRD water systems have planned upgrades via gas tax funding. The details will be in the final 2020 budget.

This fall we completed the ThinkShawnigan Design Intensive. The final package will be available in January. The initial phases were well received and produced many projects that we can plan for in the future. The process also brought forward some ideas that can be implemented immediately in the coming year. I will be presenting the NOW Plan at the Shawnigan Residents Association AGM November 21st 7pm at

Shawnigan Lake School.

Share it!

Many groups and residents have been striving to mitigate the milfoil problem. The CVRD Board has agreed to fund up to 4 roundtable discussions on milfoil. All the stakeholders, agencies and ministries with jurisdiction will come together to help clarify a path forward for the community. Insuring we are all on the same page will help us consolidate and optimize our activities going forward.

I often hear the community say they want more lake access and there seems to be lots of confusion about road ends. The CVRD manages 3 beaches, 1 Island and 4 road ends. The CVRD has permits/approvals from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for lake access public improvements within the following undeveloped Ministry road rights of way fronting Shawnigan Lake:

- ★ May Avenue (public trail access)
- ★ Worthington Road (associated with CVRD's waterfront park property at this location)
- ★ Recreation Road (public boat launch)
- ★ Bell-Irving Road (beach

access launch for kayaks, canoes, cartop small boats)

On November 28th at 7pm at the SLCC I will be bringing together all the agencies that have jurisdiction to present their roles and regulations around road ends and lake access. If you want to learn more about lake access and road ends, this should be a very informative meeting and I hope you can make it.

Protect it!

As a community we are outraged about the ongoing saga of the contaminated soil dump (CHH), but not shocked by the continuing ridiculousness of the situation. Local government (CVRD) has exhausted its options to deal with this site. The Provincial Government has jurisdiction and they are refusing to act. In the history of remediation in BC, no site has ever been cleaned up unless it was being developed. In the New Year I will be bringing together a Think Tank of high-level professionals to come up with a solution. If you believe you are part of that solution, please let me know... it's all "brains" on deck!

I look forward to connecting; Sierra.Acton@cvrd.bc.ca (250) 715-6763 call/text - iloveshawnigan.com - Fb @ AreaDirectorAreaB

Shawnigan Lake Parks Commission

Dan Nugent
SLPC

Parks are a vitally important part of our community. They help protect our environment and provide us with wonderful opportunities to enjoy nature.

All areas of the CVRD have advisory Park and Recreation Commissions. Nine members are appointed by the CVRD Board of Directors to the Parks Commission in Shawnigan Lake (Area B). Our function is to advise the Area Director and Regional Board on matters concerning community parks, trails, and outdoor recreation concerns in Shawnigan. We also provide input for long range master plans. Working with the CVRD Park and Trails Staff, we provide input for the budgets including expansion,

development and maintenance for the next five years.

One of our other functions is to foster volunteer involvement in both development opportunities and park stewardship. We are grateful to the recent volunteer work party removing invasive ivy in Old Mill Park, which included students from Shawnigan Lake School and local residents. Our thanks to that wonderful group that came out!

Please consider volunteering giving back a few hours for your parks and trails.

We need your help in keeping our parks healthy and safe.

To find out how you can volunteer: <https://www.cvr.bc.ca/275/Volunteering>. You also check out the

volunteer Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=parks%20%26%20trails%20volunteers>

You can also connect with the volunteer coordinator Elizabeth Aitken 250-746-2649 or Elizabeth.Aitken@cvrd.bc.ca

Your participation helps us maintain our parks thus utilize our budget for maintenance, enhancements and acquisitions. All information and budget for Shawnigan Lake Parks is on the CVRD website.

You will see on your property tax bill a breakdown of the services provided by the CVRD and assessment for those services. All the property tax collected for Parks in Area B is used in Area B.

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](https://www.facebook.com/HealthyBeginningsCowichan)

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WE DO



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Call (250) 743-0511
www.valleyhealthandfitness.ca

COMING TOGETHER TO PREVENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Neighbours, Friends & Families are invited to join an important community conversation about relationship violence.

This workshop will broaden your understanding and provide you with strategies on how you can support those that may be experiencing relationship violence.

Our community is participating in the **Neighbours, Friends & Families** campaign in BC.

This workshop is taking place:
December 4, 7:30 - 8:30pm @ Mill Bay Community Hall
1035 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road, Mill Bay
(next to Kerry Park Arena)
Discussion and refreshment to follow



For more information contact:
Shawnigan Lake RCMP
2780 Shawnigan Lake Road
Shawnigan Lake 250 743 5514

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Warning: Counterfeit activity on the island

Oriana Parker
SCCPAS

Constable Ian Wetzel-Eden of the Shawnigan Lake RCMP detachment would like to advise you that \$100 fraudulent bills are being passed across the island.

They should be easy to spot if you look very closely. Even with new technology, no counterfeiter is able to produce an exact duplicate of a genuine bank note – a counterfeit is always an inferior copy of the original. If you know what to look for, and feel for, it only takes a few seconds to detect a fake. Check the security features. Here's what to look for in a real bill:

-all five denominations of

the latest series (the bills with the metallic stripe) have the same features.

-Metallic stripe. Tilt the bill back and forth. The numbers and maple leaves change colour.

-Raised ink. Feel for the thicker ink on the large number, the shoulder, and the words BANK OF CANADA. BANQUE DU CANADA

-Dashes. Hold the bill up to the light and look through it. The dashes become a solid line.

-Puzzle number. Hold the bill up to the light and look through it. Irregular marks on the front and back of the bill form a complete number.

-Ghost image. Hold the bill up to the light and look through it. A small, ghost-like image of the portrait appears.

Be aware that counterfeit bank notes are more likely to be passed during busy periods, such as the upcoming holiday season. If you run a business, pay particular attention to customers who pay with bank notes of much higher denomination than is needed. If you are passed a counterfeit bank note, record all relevant information (denomination, serial number, etc.) and contact the RCMP. Record the details about the circumstances and the person(s) who gave the suspect note. (time, context, physical descriptions, licence plate, vehicles, etc.) any of this

information will be helpful. Give the suspicious bank note to the police and request a receipt. If the note is genuine, it will be returned to you. Always keep in mind that someone passing a counterfeit bank note may not be aware of it. He or she could be the innocent victim of a crime.

Preventing currency counterfeiting requires a cooperative approach, community awareness! Remember that possession, use or creation of counterfeit currency is an indictable offence punishable by up to 14 years in prison.

To learn more: 1-888-513-8212 – www.bankofcanada.ca/en/banknoteseducation@bankofcanada.ca

SHAWNIGAN LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PO Box 201, Shawnigan Lake, BC V0R 2W0
Phone: (250)743-2096
Non-emergency
Phone: (250)812-8030
shawniganfire@shaw.ca

Department members attended 30 incidents in October

- ★ Wednesday, Oct 2 – Alarms Activated on Skylar Circle
- ★ Wednesday, Oct 2 – 1st Responder off S Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Oct 2 – Burning Complaint on Coleman Rd
- ★ Friday, Oct 4 – Fire on Stove on Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Monday, Oct 7 – 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Monday, Oct 7 – Assistance on Northgate Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Oct 8 – Hydro Lines on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Oct 9 – MVI on Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Oct 9 – 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Friday, Oct 11 – Burning Complaint on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, Oct 11 – 1st Responder off Burnham Rd
- ★ Friday, Oct 11 – MVI on Arken Terrace
- ★ Saturday, Oct 12 – Chimney Fire on Wooden Rd
- ★ Monday, Oct 14 – 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Thursday, Oct 17 – 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Thursday, Oct 17 – 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, Oct 17 – Structure Fire on Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Thursday, Oct 17 – Hydro Lines on Cullin Rd
- ★ Thursday, Oct 17 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, Oct 17 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Oct 19 – 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Oct 23 – 1st Responder off Forsyth Ln
- ★ Thursday, Oct 24 – 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, Oct 25 – 1st Responder off Gregory Rd
- ★ Friday, Oct 25 – Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, Oct 25 – 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Oct 28 – 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Monday, Oct 28 – MVI on Cameron-Taggart Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Oct 29 – 1st Responder off Sylvester Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Oct 30 – 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd

Shawnigan Weather OCTOBER 2019

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network - Reported by Grant Treloar

	Oct Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		West Side		Museum		Efford Road	
		2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018
Average High	14.1	12.2	14.4	12.5	15.8	13.5	16.1	12.5	14.8
Average Low	5.8	4.5	5.7	4.6	5.3	5.4	6.2	4.1	5.1
Extreme High	28.3	16.3	19.4	16.4	22.3	16.9	23.7	17.0	21.0
Extreme Low	-7.2	-1.9	1.4	-1.7	1.3	-1.4	2.4	-2.0	1.0
Precipitation	114.7	107.6	112.2	101.1	97.3	87.2	93.0	99.0	98.4
Days w precip	16	16	15	16	14	15	15	15	13
Year Precip	830.8	735.4	798.6	645.0	747.4	605.3	691.1	705.8	795.3

Rank since 1914: 9th coldest, 49th driest

Lake Temperature: Oct 7th: 14° Oct 14th: 13° Oct 21st: 13° Oct 28th: 12°
 Lake Level Change: Oct 7th: -2.5cm Oct 14th: -2.5cm Oct 21st: 0cm Oct 28th: +2.5cm
 Surface Elevation: 116.03m 116.00m 116.03m 116.08m

October 2019 was the coldest October since 1950 and the 9th coldest ever. Precipitation was concentrated in the first half of the month, followed by 10 stright days of sun. November is usually our wettest month so the lake level should start to rise once the rains arrive.



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Want to send an editorial submission? shawniganfocuseditor@gmail.com

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton**
Email sacton@cvrd.bc.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)** Meetings TBA
Contact: Bruce at jenniebruce1@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month.
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**
Meetings TBA. Held at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre
- ★ **Shawnigan Improvement District**
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- ★ **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)**
For info: check www.thesra.ca **AGM - November 21st 7pm SL School**
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA)**
Contact: bburr@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**
Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Tues, Thurs & Sat 12-4. General Meetings at 7pm 1st Tuesday of the month. Contact: info@shawniganbasinsociety.org
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: blog.ysag.ca - email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Open Thursday to Sunday - 10:30-4. Contact: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca
www.shawniganlakemuseum.com
- ★ **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**
Contact: 250-929-7222 - www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca
- ★ **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**
Saturday Meat Draw 3:00-5:00pm. Contact: Gloria_gsolley@shaw.ca
- ★ **South Cowichan Healthcare Aux.** every second Tuesday from 1 -2pm. at Mill Bay Community League Hall. southcowichanhealthcareaux@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Quilters** - Wed. 9-2 at Lion's Hall (former Sylvania School)

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One lucky respondent with the correct
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Reply to: editor@shawniganfocus.ca

CONGRATULATIONS

The winner for last month is Marian
Davies who identified the bike rack
beside the Pavilion in Elsie Miles
Park. Now we just need one for the
Community Centre!

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Shawnigan Basin Society

THANK YOU SHAWNIGAN!

The anniversary of the Shawnigan Basin Society operating without any government funding is drawing near. It has been a challenging time but also a very heartwarming and enlightening experience. We will continue to be out and about in the community fundraising for 2020 throughout the remainder of the year. Here are a few quotes from the community members and

businesses that have chosen to fund our work directly:

“It just makes sense to support the only environmentally focused group in this area that is working on the big picture and long term thinking for the good of our watershed.”

“It feels good to know that I can help the dedicated volunteers of the SBS continue working on a long term plan that includes all aspects of protecting and restoring our

water not just one emergency at a time but with long term actions and with all stakeholders included.”

“I am donating to the Basin Society because of the good work you do for our community and because it’s the right thing to do.”

The Board of Directors of The Basin Society wish to express their heartfelt gratitude for the encouragement we are receiving from our community. Your contributions

and support are a priceless affirmation that our vision for the future of Shawnigan is appreciated and achievable, not only for Shawnigan, but for our neighbouring communities as well.

We look forward to expanding the projects and services being offered with the continued success of our fundraising initiatives. Please visit our website for more information on how to be involved: www.shawniganbasin-society.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ★ November 5th Monthly General Meeting
- ★ November 19th Community Outreach meeting with Tom Rutherford from Cowichan Watershed Board
- ★ December 3rd Monthly General meeting
- ★ December 17th Community Outreach regarding the WELLSmart Program with Lynne Magee of VIHA

Garden to plate

Blake Wilson,
OUR Ecovillage

The farm to table dining concept is nothing new to the Cowichan Valley. In fact, the local area is a hothouse of culinary experiences which bring farms, kitchens and dining rooms together. Relatively new to British Columbia though is the farm to school approach. On the Farm to School BC website (<https://farmtoschoolbc.ca>) the mission statement reads, “Working with

communities and partners, Farm to School BC seeks to empower and support schools in building comprehensive Farm to School programs that support vibrant, sustainable, regional food systems, develop student food literacy and enhance school and community connectedness.”

OUR Ecovillage is stepping up to help bridge this system. Between February and November, a wide range

of school groups visit OUR education centre, some for the day, but others for the week. On the farm students can see farm-to-table in action. Itinerary for the schools includes tours, work with farm animals, kitchen crafting and natural building but, especially at this time of year, the focus is on harvesting in the garden. And after a lesson in safe harvesting techniques, the kids are on their knees gently pulling carrots and/or scouting for a wide

variety of fruits/nuts/veggies. This produce is cleaned and then brought inside for kitchen crafting, where long tables are assembled so that everyone can participate in the processing. For the apples and pears, they are cored and chopped and then either juiced or assembled into a homemade crumble. Tomatoes are plucked to be made into pizza sauce for wood fired pizzas baked in OUR own cob oven. Of course these treats were enjoyed by the kids,

completing the farm to plate cycle.

At OUR Ecovillage we are looking to enhance OUR ecological education and permaculture learning team, who are working with children and families. If you consider yourself as a great children/youth educational facilitator and wish to consider joining OUR team - please come for a tour or drop us a line: info@ourecovillage.org (250) 743-3067.



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