



Shawnigan-Showe'luqun Focus

Volume Fifteen- Issue Eight

August 2024 Tum'qwe'unhw
"The time when the mosquitoes (qwe'un) are out"

A Non-Profit Community Publication

Coastal Settlements of Maple Bay inspired EJ Hughes

Robert Amos
Artist & Author

The coastal settlements of Maple Bay, Bird's Eye Cove and Genoa Bay are along the coastline just east of Duncan. Artist E. J. Hughes found many motifs to paint and draw there.

On November 3, 1971, he delivered a watercolour painting titled *Old Tugboat at Bird's Eye Cove* and in December of that year another watercolour, *The Farm at Bird's Eye Cove*. His dealer Max Stern wrote from Montreal: "We are very pleased with them and evidently our view was shared by others; they are already sold." *The Farm at Bird's Eye Cove* joined the collection of the Vancouver Art Gallery.

In July of 1972, Hughes and his wife Fern moved from Shawnigan to Cobble Hill. "It was necessary because the neighbours at Shawnigan were too close and too noisy for my work (we are now on one acre and it is much quieter)," he told Stern, "and also our new house has no steps and is more suitable for Mrs. Hughes, who has to use a cane and wheelchair." The first painting he completed in his new home was an oil of *The Farm at Bird's Eye Cove*.

On receiving it, Stern wrote on August 4, 1972: "We are happy that you have the little boat with figures in it.

It gives the painting more life." He was so pleased with it that he raised Hughes' prices by \$50.

The oil painting of *A Tugboat at Bird's Eye Cove* was completed on January 19, 1981, and Hughes wrote to Stern: "Several marinas are there, as it is a very sheltered harbour. On the map, Bird's Eye Cove is shaped like bird's head, with a little island for the eye."

Hughes sent his next painting of the area, *Bird's Eye Cove, Maple Bay*, in 1985. His descriptive note read: "The pencil sketch for this painting was produced from nature in 1963, and in the 22 years since then, the marina has enlarged greatly. However, the background is the same, and the leaning tree is still there in the foreground."

In his letter of March 21, 1985, Hughes went further: "the leaning tree has lowered its angle a bit due to extra weight of foliage, a causeway has been built in the foreground water, more boats have been added and the old building on the right has disappeared."

Above Bird's Eye Cove, a watercolour painted in 1992, is an autumn scene. The far shore leads up to farmland, with a winding road and small cluster of buildings. Jane Cole described it in her book *E.J. Hughes: The Man and His Art* (Nanaimo Art Gallery



Float Houses at Bird's Eye Cove (1996)

2009) as "a wonderful example of Hughes' skill at handling composition, landscape and foliage. One can instantly recognize the rightness of his portrayal: no other artist can model the Douglas Fir, nor reveal its spirit, as well as Hughes."

Hughes' last field sketching season took place during the three summer months of 1993, and again he ranged over the shores of the Cowichan Valley area. The resulting watercolours

included *An Island in Bird's Eye Cove* (1993), *Float Houses at Bird's Eye Cove* (1996), *Entrance to Bird's Eye Cove* (1996) and *Island In Bird's Eye Cove* (1996).

Float Houses at Bird's Eye Cove (1996) was created from a parking spot the artist found just above the shoreline road. Not a gardener at heart, Hughes gave prominence in the foreground to broom and thistles. The water close

by reflects the float houses and boat sheds closed with blue plastic tarps. Rain gutters, a garbage can and a ladder leaning up - all were of equal interest to E. J. Hughes.

A colour reproduction of Float Houses at Bird's Eye Cove (1996) and many others of the Cowichan Valley waterfront can be found in the book E. J. Hughes Paints Vancouver Island (TouchWood Editions, 2018) by Robert Amos.

Shawnigan Lake Museum Update

Lori Treloar
Executive Director

The museum construction project is nearing the finish line. We will likely have access to the new space in early September. There will be a few exterior pieces that require more time, but our hope is that everything will be finished by mid-September.

It has been a very long year working in cramped quarters, without running water and washrooms, but it will be worth the effort in the end. Even then, we will wish we had more space. Much gratitude to our volunteer team who carried on 'business as usual' under these abnormal conditions.

Once we have access to the space, we have a lot of work to do to re-organize the old areas, and set up the new spaces.

The office and museum area are currently jammed with things that had to be moved for construction. We have some exciting new exhibits to install, some existing exhibits to re-work, a kitchen to build and lots of things in storage to sort through. It will be a long process, but we plan to work away at it over time. As soon as we are somewhat organized, we will re-open.

We are planning a Grand Opening and tentatively considering mid-October.

Details will be shared as soon as they are solidified.

How can you help the Museum?

- Tell your friends about the museum and encourage them to visit.
- Write a review of the museum on Trip Advisor or Facebook
- Become a Member
- Volunteer at the museum
- Shop in the museum gift shop
- Become a monthly donor through Canada Helps - any amount helps
- Participate - give a talk, and/or attend our programs and events.

Thank you to all of the positive comments that we have heard from the community. We are really

pleased with how the museum is shaping up - inside and out. We can't wait to invite you inside!



South Cowichan Library

Monica Finn
South Cowichan Library
250-743-5436
southcowichan@virl.bc.ca
www.facebook.com/VIRLSouthCowichan

Summer Reading Club: trading cards, scavenger hunts, weekly activity sheets, prize draws, and more!

Attend a **WildSafeBC Rangers** program to learn about local wildlife habitats and ways to keep wildlife wild and communities safe! Friday, Aug 9, 3-4pm

Trading Card Tournament: register in person or by phone for Fire Water Earth battles using your trading cards. Win new cards! There will also be a strategic division. Friday, Aug 16, 3-4pm

Library Mouse is hiding in a new spot each week, all summer. Write down where and enter a draw.

Little Wanderers is an art program happening every other Saturday, hosted by Jasper Art Therapy. Create art inspired by nature and natural materials. For more information, go to jasperarttherapy.com.

KEVA Planks open play: spark a creative project with the classic KEVA Planks construction toy. August 19 to 30.

LEGO® Club happens every Tuesday, 2-5pm.

We provide the LEGO (and Duplo) and you supply the imagination. Come ready to build! This is a free, drop-in event.

Intermediate Conversational Spanish meets 6:30 to 7:30pm on Tuesdays. Drop in to practice Spanish in a casual setting.

Conversational Scottish Gaelic is a fun way for people interested in learning Scottish Gaelic to practice together. Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm.

Intermediate Chess meets Wednesdays at 1pm. For experienced players looking for matches.

Tech Help: Drop in Fridays, Saturdays, and Mondays or make an appointment for one-on-one help with a mobile device or laptop.

If you know someone unable to come into the library due to illness or injury, let them know about our volunteer Home Delivery service. Library materials delivered to the door monthly.

The South Cowichan Library in the Mill Bay Centre is open:

10am - 8pm, Monday and Tuesday

10am - 5pm, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday

Shawnigan Focus Weather — July 2024

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network and Weather Underground
Reported by Grant Treloar

July Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Butler Road		Museum		Shawnigan Average		
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	
Average High	23.3	29.4	28.5	27.6	26.8	27.5	27.5	28.3	26.3	28.2	25.8
Average Low	12.0	14.0	13.0	13.7	12.7	11.4	10.2	13.9	13.9	13.3	13.0
Extreme High	37.2	35.4	33.9	35.7	32.8	34.3	32.9	35.2	31.8	35.2	31.0
Extreme Low	3.9	10.5	10.3	9.6	10.0	7.4	6.7	10.5	11.1	9.5	10.0
Precipitation	23.2	18.8	21.6	14.2	17.3	14.9	18.6	14.0	15.8	15.5	15.2
Days w precip	6	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	3
Year Precip	654.9	799.7	626.4	602.3	471.0	668.9	560.1	606.5	451.8	669.4	464.4

Rank since 1914: tied for warmest ever, 49th driest

	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
Lake Temperature	24°	26°	26°	26°
Lake level change	-1cm	-4cm	-2.5cm	-5cm
Surface Elevation	116.19m	116.16m	116.13m	116.08m

July 2024 will go on the record as tied, with 1958, for the warmest July since 1914.

There were only 2 days without sun in the month. 15 days were 30° or warmer, and we had 27 days when the maximum temperature was more than 25°. The hottest day was on the 7th and the coolest on the 29th. No daily high temperatures were below 21°.

Like last year, there was only 1 day with rain (the 29th), on the coolest day of the month. Once again, July 30th remained rain free. The 30th has been rain free since 1989. Precipitation for the year remains close to normal.

At the end of the month the lake level was a bit higher than last year but running very close to the normal level. Water temperature warmed up quickly at the beginning of July and has remained well above normal for the entire month.



Celebrating our collaborations with Mason's and the Black Swan Pub, with Return-It bins and a Rotary seacan to make donating your bottles and cans to community planting and beautification projects

Cowichan Valley Auto Detailing
www.cowichanvalleyautodetailing.ca

Brian Shkuratoff
Owner

250 743-1150 shop
250 709-1990 cell/text
3061 Renfrew Road
Shawnigan Lake BC V0R2W1



Discover your passion for dance!

JAZZ, BALLET, TAP, HIP HOP, ACRO, CONTEMPORARY, TECHNIQUE, ADULT CLASSES & MORE

BARRE
NONE
DANCE
STUDIO

250 507-9682 bndance.com info@bndance.com



Shawnigan Focus Team

Co-Editors:
Lori Treloar
Kim Hennecker

Advertising and Accounting:
Kim Hennecker

Layout:
Grant Treloar



Hey Cobble Hill, Shawnigan Lake, Mill Bay, Malahat!

TAKE THE SURVEY and tell us what issues matter to you!

The CVRD has launched a South Cowichan Community Issues Assessment. This project will help to better understand the community's current issues and concerns about local servicing and governance.



Scan the QR code here to learn more about the project and tell us what you think!



CVRD

Seen in passing ... the ice cream boat out on the water at Shawnigan Lake!

Hot off the Press!

The new Sylvan History book can be ordered and prepaid via the Sylvan United Church office: admin@sylvanunited.ca

There are fascinating facts included in the book, put together by a work group to commemorate the church. Many members submitted articles and memories for this historical book. It is a lovely recount of an event close to our hearts. I'm sure those who have lived in this area for generations may recognize some of the folks in the photos and remember the events. To those who are new to the area, this book is a wealth of information.

The book cost \$25/each and need to be ordered by August 15th.



St. John's Academy *Spotlight*
Shawnigan Lake



Visit our website for additional information:
www.stjohnsacademy.ca



SJASL's Will Edgson signs Development Contract with Pacific FC

CONGRATULATIONS to Will Edgson for signing with Pacific FC as fullback. The Victoria-born left-back played with the 2008 Vancouver Island Wave team, a youth program Powered by Pacific FC.

Will attends SJASL, where he is part of the school's soccer academy, which is also a partner of Pacific. He won two BCSPL championships with his VI Wave group.

"Will is a young player with tremendous leadership qualities and great character," said Jamar Dixon, Manager of Football and Player Development, Pacific FC. In signing a development contract, Edgson is eligible to make four appearances for Pacific on his current development contract, while maintaining his amateur status and the ability to train with the amateur team that holds his registration.

"Will has a great enthusiasm to learn, improve and develop. His motivation is very high," said James Merriman, Head Coach, Pacific FC. "He has good athleticism and good potential. He's working hard to be in our regular training environment and deserves this opportunity."



SJASL's Mattias Vales signs Development Contract with Pacific FC

CONGRATULATIONS to Mattias Vales, 16, for signing a development contract with Pacific FC.

Mattias is a high school student here at SJASL where he is part of the school's youth soccer academy. The Football Academy launched in September 2023, is the product of a partnership between Pacific and SJASL and was created to provide a safe and supportive environment where local talent can develop into complete players by focusing on specific fundamentals of the game such as team morale and culture, mental and physical aspects of the game, as well as technical and tactical awareness.

"Mattias is a very talented young player with a lot of potential," said Chris Merriman, Assistant Coach & Youth Coach, Pacific FC. "He is very dynamic on the ball and poses issues for defenders. We have been impressed with his professionalism in his training and he's a testament to what we are doing in our youth programming that can lead to a pathway to be signed by Pacific."

■ **CONTACT:** Jamar Dixon, Academy Director, Jamar.Dixon@stjohnsacademy.ca

Water Bombers at Shawnigan

The Old Man Lake fire, about 20 km from Shawnigan Lake, as the crew flies, broke out near the Sooke Potholes in late July.

Human-caused, the fire spread rapidly and put Sooke area residents on alert.

Water Bombers from Ontario were called in

to help fight the fire, and were put to use, using Shawnigan Lake as a source for water.

For almost a week it was a common sight to see two planes roar in from the southwest, less than a minute apart, gather up water and takeoff again while hardly slowing down.

For a couple of days when the winds shifted, viewers watched the skillful pilots fly in over Mason's Beach, heading south and pick up their load.

Even with frequent public announcements about the dangers of being in the water



bombers' flight path, the pilots still had to contend with dangerous situations.

It was frustrating, especially during the morning of July 27th, when the bombers had to circle the lake, waiting for inconsiderate recreational boaters to clear the landing path on the lake.

Both the Shawnigan Lake Volunteer Fire Department and the Local RCMP boats were partolling the lake to maintain safety.

Fortunately, overnight rain on the 28th helped to contain the fire and the planes were able to head back to Ontario.



Photo by Gerry Breckton

Thank you to all of our advertisers for supporting this local publication! We couldn't do it without your help...

The Focus team encourages community members to submit editorial content, including letters; articles of local interest, bouquets you would like to offer to people; things that strike you as funny; challenges you want our civic leaders to consider; and/or ideas that would better our community. Letters to the Editor must be accompanied by the author's full name, address and phone number, but the contact information, other than the name, will not be published. Letters should be limited to 300 words and we reserve the right to edit for brevity or to refuse inappropriate or abusive language. Letters should attack issues - not individuals or groups. Email: shawniganfocuseditor@gmail.com

115th Cobble Hill Fair

Roger Painter

How does it feel to be celebrating Cobble Hill Fair's 115th year? It is always a terrific feeling!

Every year the fair is unique and special. Each Fair is interesting and creates memories that are as much about the people you meet as it is about the displays and the animals.

The displays are great and some stay in your mind for a very long time, especially things like needlework which can be very creative and exceptionally beautiful. These do not take away from the rest of the animal and poultry displays, as it has always been more about the people.

We've been privileged to work with some pretty fantastic people over the years and this year is no exception. So, when you ask, "how does it feel to be celebrating the 115th Cobble Hill Fair?" it feels both terrific and a privilege. Some of the people we've worked with in the past are no

longer here, but we always remember their hard work, their laughter and the joy they brought.

This year the Poultry Show is totally back.

Both Open and 4-H will combine to make a great show after an absence of several years due to the avian flu. Also, the Mini Horses will be showing in the Herb Doman Horse Ring. The live entertainment in the Cobble Hill Common will

be featured in 90-minute shows. The lineup is: Copper Canyon; Spring Fever; Pony Club and Montgomery County.

The Magic of Donald Dunphy will be in the Kids Zone and it is equipped by Inspired by Play. The Kerry Park Islanders will

also be on site with their Hockey rink. Do you want to try your hand at Welly Wanging? This year's Fair is on Saturday, August 24th. Come "Celebrate Our Past : While Cultivating Our Future." See you at the Fair.

Saturday, August 24th 2024

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

115th
Cobble Hill
FAIR



Celebrating Our Past... Cultivating Our Future
Family Fun and Entertainment For All!

www.cobblehillfair.ca



Shawnigan Focus

August 13, 1886

In his one and only visit to Vancouver Island, Sir John A. MacDonal came to Shawnigan Lake to drive the last spike for the Esquimalt and Nanaimo (E&N) Railway.

The first train on the new rail line left Esquimalt at 8:30 and consisted of a locomotive, the President's car "Maude" and a flat car.

The train stopped at Cliffside, Shawnigan Lake, the site of the last spike for the E&N Railway. This site was chosen because it was where the two contracts, one from the north, and one from the south met. Macdonald was given a spike (not confirmed as gold...possibly iron) and a silver sledge (large, heavy hammer). He drove the last spike with a few blows.

The E&N Railway was a significant moment in the history of Canada. The Canadian Government had promised a railway to connect the country from sea to sea.

British Columbia threatened to secede from Canada if it wasn't built. The promise included the island section.

To mark this historic spot, a wooden sign was set in place.

Many years later, writer Bruce Hutchison lamented to the E&N officials that a fading wooden sign, for such an auspicious occasion for BC, did not represent the importance of the occasion. In 1958, he received a letter informing him that they had heard his plea. The rock cairn, which is still there today, became the official monument for this significant achievement.



The Last Spike Cairn at Cliffside

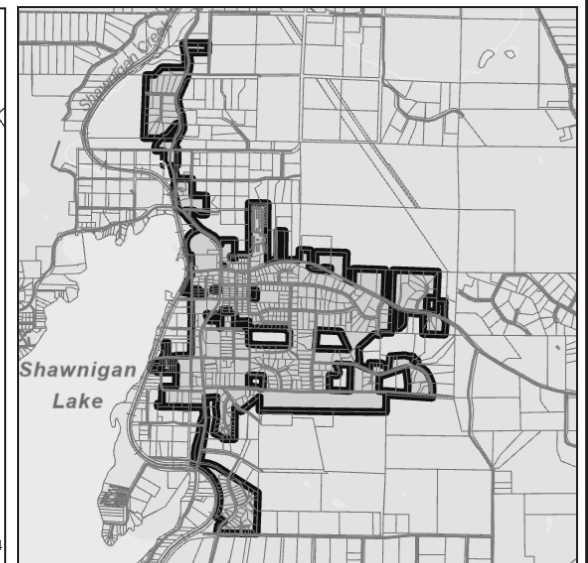
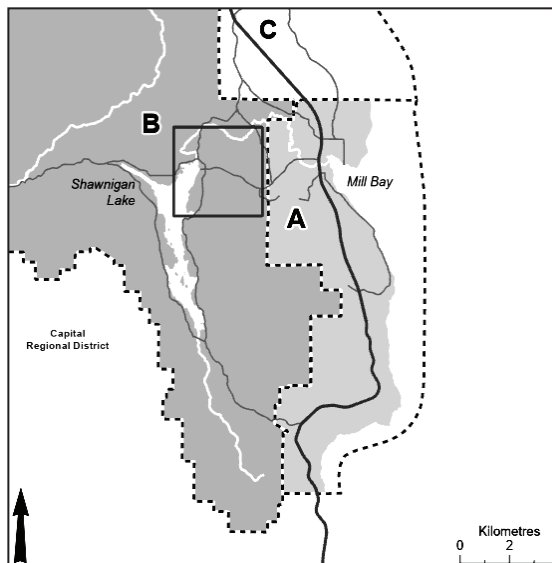
Shawnigan Lake Fire Department

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

- Monday, Jul 1 – Burning Complaint on Memory Island
- Tuesday, Jul 2 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan - Mill Bay Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 2 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 2 - 1st Responder off Sylvester Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 2 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Thursday, Jul 4 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Thursday, Jul 4 - HazMat on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Friday, Jul 5 – Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Saturday, Jul 6 - 1st Responder off Treit Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 9 – Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 9 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Friday, Jul 12 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan - Mill Bay Rd
- Friday, Jul 12 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Saturday, Jul 13 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Saturday, Jul 13 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Sunday, Jul 14 – HazMat on Renfrew Rd
- Sunday, Jul 14 – Structure Fire on Ravenhill Rd
- Monday, Jul 15 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan - Mill Bay Rd
- Monday, Jul 15 – HazMat on Renfrew Rd
- Wednesday, Jul 17 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Saturday, Jul 20 – Burning Complaint on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Sunday, Jul 21 – Assistance on Skylar Cir
- Sunday, Jul 21 - 1st Responder off Colman Rd
- Monday Jul 22 – Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 23 – Burning Complaint on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 23 – Burning Complaint on Stowood Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 23 – Assistance on Shawnigan Lake
- Wednesday, Jul 24 – Assistance on Shawnigan Lake
- Thursday, Jul 25 – Assistance on Shawnigan Lake
- Thursday, Jul 25 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Friday, Jul 26 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Friday, Jul 26 – Assistance on Renfrew Rd
- Friday, Jul 26 - 1st Responder off Lovers Lane
- Friday, Jul 26 – Assistance on Shawnigan Lake
- Saturday, Jul 27 – Assistance on Shawnigan Lake
- Saturday, Jul 27 - 1st Responder off Sylvester Rd
- Sunday, Jul 28 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Sunday, Jul 28 – Assistance on Shawnigan Lake
- Monday, Jul 29 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 30 - 1st Responder off Filgate Rd
- Wednesday, Jul 31 – Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Wednesday, Jul 31



NOTICE TO ELECTORS WITHIN A PORTION OF ELECTORAL AREA B – SHAWNIGAN LAKE OF AN ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS OPPORTUNITY FOR CVRD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT AND LOAN AUTHORIZATION BYLAWS NO. 4566 & 4567



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of the Cowichan Valley Regional District proposes to adopt "CVRD Bylaw No. 4566 – Shawnigan Village Water System Service Establishment Bylaw, 2024"; and "CVRD Bylaw No. 4567 – Shawnigan Village Water System Loan Authorization (\$3,200,000) Bylaw, 2024".

BYLAW SUMMARY

If adopted, Bylaw Nos. 4566 and 4567 will allow the CVRD to establish a Water System Service Area within a portion of Electoral Area B – Shawnigan Lake shown in the figures above; and to borrow upon the credit of the Regional District a sum not exceeding Three Million, Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$3,200,000), to fund the cost to purchase the Shawnigan Village Waterworks system to establish the proposed Shawnigan Village Water System Service Area for the supply, treatment, conveyance, storage and distribution of water within a portion of Electoral Area B – Shawnigan Lake. The estimated annual cost to residential property owners within the proposed Shawnigan Village Water System Service Area would be approximately \$1,300 per parcel per annum, as set out in the table below, until the debt is retired. The complete bylaw is available for inspection at the Cowichan Valley Regional District office, located at 175 Ingram Street in Duncan, BC during regular office hours, Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., excluding statutory holidays. A copy of the bylaw is also available on the CVRD website at www.cvrd.bc.ca

Residential Parcel Tax and User Fee Calculation Table

Proposed Service Area	Parcel Tax	User Fee	Total	Number of Eligible Electors	10%
Shawnigan Village Water System	\$700	\$600	\$1,300	1,218	122

ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS AND ELIGIBILITY

The Regional District may adopt Bylaw Nos. 4566 and 4567 unless at least 10% of electors within the proposed service area indicate that a referendum must be held by submitting a signed *Elector Response Form* to the Regional District office **no later than 4:30 p.m. on Monday, September 23, 2024**. *Elector Response Forms* must be in the form established by the Regional District, and only those persons who qualify as electors within the proposed Shawnigan Village Water System Service Area outlined in the map above are entitled to sign. Service area electors may qualify as either resident electors or as non-resident property electors, as follows:

Resident Elector – You are entitled to submit an *Elector Response Form* as a resident elector if you are age 18 or older on the day of submission, are a Canadian citizen, have lived in BC for at least six months, and have been a resident of the proposed Shawnigan Village Water System Service Area for the past 30 days or more.

Non-Resident Property Elector – You are entitled to submit an *Elector Response Form* as a non-resident property elector if you are age 18 or older on the day of submission, are a Canadian citizen, have lived in BC for at least six months, have owned and held registered title to a property within the proposed Shawnigan Village Water System Service Area for the past 30 days or more, and do not qualify as a resident elector. NOTE: Only one non-resident property elector may submit a response form per property, regardless of how many owners there may be.

If less than 10% (122) of the proposed service area electors submit an *Elector Response Form*, the bylaws will be deemed to have the approval of the electors and the Regional District may proceed with adoption. For the purpose of conducting the alternative approval opportunity, (AAP), the number of service area electors is calculated as 1,218.

A copy of the bylaw and *Elector Response Form* is available from the CVRD, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC V9L 1N8, phone 250.746.2503 or toll free at 1.800.665.3955, or email aapresponse@cvrd.bc.ca OR on the CVRD website at www.cvrd.bc.ca

The Jay Family

Alfred Sales
Summer Student
Shawnigan Lake Museum

In the early 1890's the first permanent house was built in Shawnigan Lake. Ten years later, the 謝 (Jay) family moved to Shawnigan, and became one of its most successful Asian pioneer families. The pronunciation and intonation of their surname is like the Je in Jet but without the T. 謝 can be read and understood as "thanks" in Chinese. Sam and Laura with their two young boys Daniel and Charlie, and a third boy yet to be born, were the first to move to Shawnigan. The 謝 family would end up having a total of 12 children, 10 of whom were born in Shawnigan. All twelve kids grew up and went to school in Shawnigan.

Their names would be featured frequently in news articles of interschool competitions. Many of their children would go on to lead successful lives, and featured in newspapers for starting their own logging companies, making fancy hats and starting their own families.

Their story is a testament to the uninhibited potential for Chinese people who came to Canada without financial constraints tied to their ethnicity. Sam Jay was very fortunate to come to Canada in May 1881, just 4 years before the head tax was imposed on the Chinese coming to Canada. Before moving to Shawnigan Lake, Sam Jay worked as a 20-year-old gardener for the Raymur Family in Victoria. In 1891, he was working for the Snowden household as a gardener. Two years later, on January 17, 1893, Laura Wong arrived in Victoria. She was nurtured and educated in

the Methodist Oriental home and school until she married Sam Jay on Christmas Eve, 1895.

At 19 years old, Laura gave birth to their first child Daniel Sam Jay, born in Esquimalt B.C. She would continue to give birth, until the ripe old age of 53, with Bernard Sam Jay. On December 11th 1898, their second son, Charles Sam Jay, was born in Oak Bay. At this time, Sam Jay was working as a Teamster, most likely for the Raymond Lime Kilns in Esquimalt.

At the turn of the Century, the family settled in Shawnigan Lake with the opportunity to work at the Raymond Lime Kiln... The 謝 were eventually entrusted to manage the Lime Kiln, and the land around it, owned by the Raymond family. One of the grand-daughters of John Raymond said the Jays became like kin to the Raymond family. This was to be the case as Sam Jay would be greatly compensated for his work, earning up to \$1000 annually. This was four times the average annual income of workers in 1900, even outearning senior engineers and everyone else in his Census Bracket in 1901. This provided a strong financial foundation for the family allowing multiple generations to prosper. The experiences of the 謝 family in

Shawnigan Lake, as pioneers, is but a tiny fraction of the hundreds, if not thousands of untold stories that we are working to uncover at the Shawnigan Lake Museum. Their story challenges conventional beliefs on the ideal age for childbirth, and showcases the abundance of economic opportunity here on the island. As more new stories come to the museum, we at the Shawnigan Museum hope to continue to share these stories with you.

This information is part of what has been uncovered through an ongoing project to research and celebrate the Asian history in Shawnigan Lake.

We are grateful for support from the BC Arts Council for this project.

LET HEAT SAVERS HOME COMFORT
HELP YOU CREATE THE PERFECT HAVEN.



We provide complete sales, installation and after-sales service with our own dedicated staff.



2519 Government Street, Victoria • heatsavers.ca • 250.383.3512

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world"
Anne Frank



It's true, with us, mechanical problems melt away.



Maintenance Offer Book an appointment now



Full-Service Co-op Partner
Serving Regular,
Premium & Diesel Fuels

SHAWNIGAN GARAGE
250-743-2122

(at the 4-WAY STOP in SHAWNIGAN VILLAGE)

shawnigan garage.com

SUMMER HOURS
Effective June 29th
GAS BAR - 7AM to 7PM
SHOP - 8AM to 5PM

'A safe car is a safe drive!'

Approved BCAA & Government Auto & Marine Inspection, Repair & Maintenance Facility



EACH ALUMINUM CAN RECYCLED SAVES ENOUGH ELECTRICITY TO LIGHT A 100 WATT BULB FOR 3.5 HOURS



1350 Fisher Rd.
islandreturnit.com

Great Ad Rates!!
Contact Kim:
shawniganfocusads@gmail.com

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- **CVRD Director for Shawnigan Lake Area B**
Sierra.Acton@cprd.bc.ca
- **Area B Parks Advisory and Area B Advisory Planning Commission**
<https://www.cprd.ca/list.aspx#> (sign up for meeting notifications)
- **CVRD Public Input to the whole Board**
LegislativeServices@cprd.bc.ca
- **Shawnigan Improvement District**
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Contact us for information: 250-743-8675
museum@shawniganlakemuseum.com (web): shawniganlakemuseum.com
- **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)**
For info: (web): www.thesra.ca
- **Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA)**
Contact: bburr@shaw.ca
- **Shawnigan Basin Society**
#102-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Contact: info@shawniganbasinsociety.org
- **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: ysagssl@gmail.com (web): blog.ysag.ca
- **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**
Contact: 250-929-7222(web): southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca
- **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**
Saturday Meat Draw 3:00-5:00pm. Contact: rc134@shaw.ca 250-643-4621
- **Cowichan South Arts Guild (CSAG)**
Contact: hello@cowichansouthartsguild.com (web): cowichansouthartsguild.com
- **Shawnigan Quilters** - Wed. 9-2 at Lion's Hall (former Sylvania School)
- **Rotary Club of Shawnigan Lake Eco Club**
Meeting Info & Contact: ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.ca
- **Malahat Lions Club**
Contact: 250-743-0569

Classified

FOR SALE MISC

SHAWNIGAN FOCUS CLASSIFIED are your classifieds of choice. Your message delivered to every address in the Shawnigan Lake area. \$13.50 for the first 30 words 35¢ per additional word shawniganfocusads@gmail.com Telephone : 250-743-2197

GENERAL INTEREST

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

RENTALS

CHILDCARE

AUTOMOTIVE

LOST - FOUND

HOME SERVICES

PROPERTY SERVICES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED

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



One lucky respondent with the correct answer will be randomly selected to win two Specialty Coffees.

Thanks to Shawnigan House Coffee for their support!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING YOUR COMMUNITY?



Volunteers Needed
MALAHAT LIONS
Welcoming New Members

Volunteering makes you feel GOOD!

Join us on the 1ST & 3RD Thursday of every month. Meetings held @ the Malahat Legion

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION? PLEASE CONTACT : (250) 743-0569



Did you know?

we offer

SENIOR MEMBERSHIP PACKAGES



12 Month Senior Membership
\$39.95 per month

Pay-As-You-Go Senior Membership
\$49.95 per month

Membership packages include: access to cardio equipment, selectorized and plate loaded strength equipment, functional training equipment and free weights; group fitness classes (Yoga, Zumba, Cycle Fit, Pilates, Fit Camp and more!); Infrared Sauna, and Towel Service!

VALLEY HEALTH and FITNESS

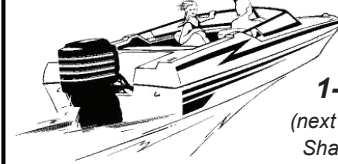
#1-1400 Cowichan Bay Rd. Cobble Hill
Call (250) 743-0511
www.valleyhealthandfitness.ca

SHAWNIGAN MILL BAY AUTO PARTS (1992) LTD.

250-743-3355



South Cowichan's Auto & Marine Parts Supplier



NOW LOCATED @
1-3740 Trans-Canada Highway
(next door to RONA on the same frontage road)
Sharing a building with Accent Screen Printing

Shawnigan Cemetery

EST 1965

"A Community Resting Place"
Information 250 929 6100

Maintained by



MATTHUW RONALD-JONES REALTY

PEMBERTON HOLMES

ESTABLISHED 1887

250-732-5232
mronaldjones@gmail.com
www.mrjrealty.ca

Cheap Ad Rates!!

Contact Kim:
shawniganfocusads@gmail.com

Congratulations!

Mary Vane-Hunt correctly identified the sign near Mason's on Renfrew Road.

Mason's Store

A PART OF SHAWNIGAN LAKE FOR 68 YEARS
YOUR LOCAL STORE

Our Famous Instore Bakery – Sandwiches & Subs
Lottery – Greeting Cards

Fax – Propane Swap – Rug Doctor – Dew Worms

1855 Renfrew Road

Ph: 250 743 2144 Fax: 250 743 7883

The New Green Party Candidate For Our Riding

David Evans
Green Party Candidate

If I may introduce myself, I was born and raised on Vancouver Island and have lived in what has recently become the Juan de Fuca Malahat riding for 25 years. Sooke is my home. It is where

my family and I built our home and a small farm, raised our children and where I opened a business, The Stick in the Mud Coffee House.

After high school in Victoria, it was overseas for a year before graduating from Toronto Metropolitan University, with a Bachelor's degree in

communications. For a few years, I worked in radio in Duncan, Victoria and in Vancouver.

I've been self-employed for about 30 years, from magazine writing to operating a landscape design and maintenance firm. In 2007, I opened The Stick in the Mud. After some negotiations last year, I passed along the cafe and bakery to The Sooke Community Investment Co-op - a group of about 400 community members and staff that recognized the value to the community of such an inclusive hub. They rebranded and reopened as Café Vosino last autumn. I kept the coffee roasting facility, selling beans and brewing equipment, retail and wholesale across the South Island.

Entering this campaign, there was much to consider. The future of my children is always top of mind - their success, their ability to own a home and find satisfying

work that does not require 60 hours weekly to get by. It concerns me that our government continues to subsidize profitable industries while education, healthcare and housing seem to be afterthoughts. There are problems with the quality of our green spaces, the blue spaces, the air, the drinking water. In this big riding, transportation corridors are on my mind, transit inconsistencies, connections between communities with only one road...

I write this on July 24 as a wildfire burns in the Sooke Hills, just a few kilometres from home. I can see the smoke from here. The seriousness of our drought and how our industrial practices have exacerbated natural conditions hits hard. And, as campers are evacuated, I recall when summers were a source of joy, not dread.

Contiguous by water, Juan de Fuca - Malahat is tri-coastal (East, South and West)! But no longer are our communities secondary to larger towns close by. Sooke is the biggest population centre in the JFM and while that is where I live, my goal is to represent us as a community of people living a rural life.

I make no promises except this one: I will bring people together to discuss grey areas, to avoid zero-sum arguments and to elevate debate in the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

My name is David Evans, your BC Greens MLA candidate in the 2024 Provincial Election and I look forward to being of service.

As the BC Green Party candidate for the Juan de Fuca - Malahat riding, I respectfully acknowledge the traditional unceded territory of the Coast Salish Peoples, including the territories of the Pacheedaht First Nation, T'Sou-ke Nation, Sc'ianew First Nation, and Malahat Nation.



Ebony Logins Photo

Cold Water Milfoil Removal Trials

Dave Munday
Shawnigan Basin Society

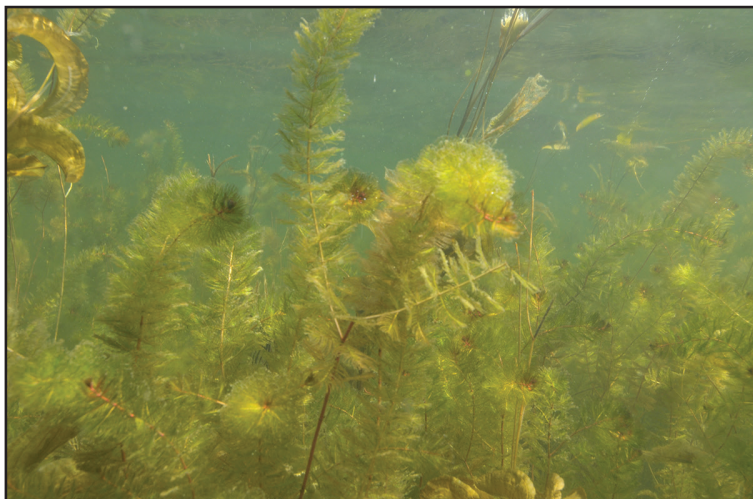
Thanks to the efforts of the students and teachers at Saint John's Academy, the Shawnigan Basin Society (SBS) has the funding required to develop approaches to cold water milfoil removal. We appreciate their efforts to improve our watershed. Shawnigan Lake has a significant population of the invasive Eurasian Watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*) (milfoil). This invasive aquatic plant has spread to along the shoreline of the lake with plants growing to depths of 20 to 25 feet, which is the limit of the littoral zone

where sufficient light penetrates the lake for the plant to grow. The growth of this plant is promoted by nutrient inputs to the lake. Nutrients are associated with sediments that originate from soil dumping, land clearing, and possibly from failing septic systems. Nutrients are also released by decaying vegetation, which occurs as the plants die off each winter. Milfoil is changing the ecology of Shawnigan Lake, and control of this plant species will improve water quality in the lake. SBS has a permit under The Water Sustainability Act for milfoil removal this fall (September/October). Milfoil is a delicate plant with

whorls of fronds that can break off or fragment when handled. The concern with fragmentation is that each of these fragments can settle to the bottom and create new plants (this is referred to as vegetative reproduction). This does not occur when water temperatures are 10.0 degrees centigrade or less. SBS will monitor and compare warmer water removal and cold-water removal to see if cold-water removal results in fewer new plants in areas that are cleared. We will be working with a not-for-profit commercial dive operator - Orcinus Marine Society. This company was formed to provide aquatic environmental stewardship.

They will use a suction line into which the diver will put the milfoil plants once extracted. The harvested plants will be delivered to a boat-based dewatering table which will separate the plant material from the water. Volunteers will

rake the vegetative material off the table and bag it for removal to composting facilities. SBS will keep track of wet weight of plants removed to complete an economic comparison with other approaches to milfoil control.



Now is the time!

The Better Homes Energy Savings Program is offering **free heat pumps!***

to find out more, visit
www.mercuryrefrigeration.ca
or call us at 250-686-1716

*subject to applicable terms & conditions, and rebate availability and eligibility.

Authorized Dealer of:



Heating and Cooling



Mercury Refrigeration

HEAT PUMP SPECIALISTS

BASED IN SHAWNIGAN LAKE SINCE 2007 • SERVING AND EMPLOYING THE COMMUNITY • AT #15-102 700 SHAWNIGAN LAKE ROAD