



Shawnigan-Showe'luqun Focus

Volume Fifteen- Issue Ten

October 2024 *Hwisulenuhw*
"The time when leaves are shaken from trees"

A Non-Profit Community Publication

Provincial Election - October 19

David Evans
BC Greens Candidate

David was born on Vancouver Island and has lived, worked and raised a family in this new riding called Juan de Fuca – Malahat for 25 years. David has listened to constituents from east to west coast and heard that transportation and transit issues are critical, health care accessibility is paramount, and affordability is a constant worry.



As a small business owner in Sooke, David appreciates the contribution of local business to the community and community to local business. He operated the Stick in the Mud Coffee House for 17 years in Sooke, winning the Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year award four times. He now owns and operates Stick in the Mud's Roastoreum.

Traffic is both a local and provincial issue that continues to impact residents and businesses both over the Malahat and on Highway 14. One major challenge for both the elected MLA and the residents is a complete re-think of where we live and how we get to work.

In the more rural areas of our riding, there is great concern about poor forestry practices and the negative impact on key water supplies, both quality and quantity, and increasing vulnerability to wildfire.

As our climate is changing,

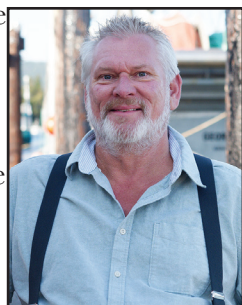
there are many actions governments and residents can take to protect the environment and prepare for drought, floods, heat domes, atmospheric rivers and air quality problems, such as occurred during the recent Old Man Lake fire near Sooke. The provincial government's continued support for gas pipelines and fracking, regardless of which party is in power, weakens our support for future generations.

David is running for the Green Party because he is encouraged by the amazing contribution just two Green members of the legislature — Sonia Furstenau and Adam Olsen — achieved for their constituents and the province. He understands that it takes a lot of committed time and the ability to work across party lines to improve draft legislation, the quality of debate, and ensure that there is an opposition holding the government accountable to the people and not industry lobbyists.

At this point in his life, David feels both privileged and humbled to dedicate himself to serving this riding and all its constituents. He will represent the citizens of Juan de Fuca – Malahat and ensure their voices are heard.

Dana Lajeunesse
BC NDP Candidate

I have the honour of being the BC NDP candidate for the newly formed



Our debt now unofficially stands at nine billion dollars. There is concern that a professional audit could raise that amount to ten billion, or more. That is not only government debt but represents a debt that falls on the shoulders of every single person in B.C., from the newborn to the centenarian.

Conservative leader Mr. Rustad earned his laurels by being kicked out of the then Liberal Party of B.C. because of his bizarre views such as dismissing

riding of Juan de Fuca – Malahat. I have deep-rooted connections to the region as a third generation Sooke resident. Following in the footsteps of my father, and grandfather, I worked in forestry for eight years until a life-altering injury in 1989. I had to change course. After going back to school, I worked as a Mechanical Engineering Technologist and later as an instructor at Camosun college. Since 2019, I have served as a councilor for the District of Sooke.

I have been a long-time advocate for a diversified economy and small businesses, environmental sustainability and for hardworking families to get ahead. I've loved the work of representing my community members and hearing about the issues that matter most to them.

I know many of us are facing some big challenges. The good news is, David Eby and the BC NDP are taking action, and we are starting to see some good results – hiring 800 new family doctors last year, 6,300 nurses, eliminating MSP premiums, freezing ICBC rates, cutting childcare costs in half for parents, and building 300,000 more middle-class homes people can afford. But there is so much more to do. That is why I want to join David Eby and help strengthen the services that people in Juan de Fuca – Malahat rely on, and help our community and families thrive.

There is so much at stake in this election and we can't afford to turn back. I'm eager to advocate for a better infrastructure to improve

climate change in the face of all the credible evidence to the contrary. He debunks the Covid-19 vaccine and has indicated he would terminate Dr. Bonnie Henry should he become premier.

The United Party is no more, thanks to Kevin Falcon's singular and stunning alignment with the Conservatives with whom he holds no philosophical alignment. Looking in the rearview mirror, he might be thinking that some

Shawnigan Area	
Advance polling: Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Mill Bay Community Hall	Final Voting Day Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Mill Bay Community Hall
•Thu-Sun Oct 10-13, •Tue-Wed Oct 15-16	•Sat Oct 19
8AM - 8 PM	

accessibility, ease of traffic and encourage sustainable ways to travel. As your BCNDP candidate, I will work on real actions that help you and our community. I am eager to hear from you and your vision for our community. Let's connect via danalajeunesse@bcndp.ca.

Marina Sapozhnikov
BC Conservative Party

I was born in Ukraine. My dream was to live in Canada and, in 2004, I moved to Alberta and became a rural doctor. Since 2013 I've worked as a family doctor on Vancouver Island, with the exception of two years where I worked as a locum in Northern BC. This was when I began to acquire a greater understanding of the problems within BC healthcare.



Politics were not in my plans. However, for years the healthcare system has been in a downward spiral. As waiting times became longer, I was helplessly watching my patients suffer. I started seeing young children addicted to drugs. I had never before witnessed so many grieving

parents. As important as many other initiatives are, for me as a physician, the Health Care reform proposed by Conservatives is paramount. It is a principally different approach that puts the patient at the centre of the system.

We are proposing a universal healthcare system under a single payer, paid by the province, with a patient-based funding model. Hospitals will get funding based on the number patients they serve and the number of procedures they perform. This will allow patients quicker access to care. Stopping ER closures will be implemented in part through incentivizing doctors and nurses to work in high need communities, reducing administrative burden and increasing safety for staff by preventing illicit drug use in hospitals.

This province is in crisis: healthcare, addictions, crime, the economy, infrastructure, and reckless government spending. Solving these problems won't be easy. It will require political will and courage. I believe that only the BC Conservative Party brings a new vision for the future.

Opinion

Eric Ronse

With the provincial election mere weeks away, voters have an inordinate decision before them because there is no simple candidate with a winning chance at the forefront.

A brief look at the candidates:

Premier Eby is running his first race at the helm of the NDP. His major failing is his apparent disconnect with the fiscal caution we expect from a leader.

patience on his part may well have propelled his party ahead of John Rustad's, thereby losing a chance to come up between his then two main rivals and perhaps win the political crown. He was unable to bring all his members over in his joining the conservative regime.

So far, we have at least five declared Independents. It is not a party and effectively stands for five (or more) people who have a dismal chance at being elected to office.

The Green Party, led by S. Furstenau may be the candidate with the best chance of gaining the support of the thousands of voters currently scratching their heads as they survey our provincial political landscape. Why she chose to vacate her absolute safe seat in Shawnigan Lake for one closer to the capital city may yet prove to be her personal undoing.

Welcome to B.C.'s politics and don't forget to vote on October 19, 2024.

South Cowichan Library

Monica Finn
South Cowichan Library
250-743-5436
southcowichan@virl.bc.ca

www.facebook.com/VIRLSouthCowichan

Meet the Author: Rebecca Hazell on Monday, Oct 7, 6-7pm. Visit with a local author and hear from her latest historical novel, *The War Queens*.

Family Storytime continues! Join us at the Mill Bay Centre playground for stories and music on Monday, Oct 7, 21, and 28 at 10:30am.

Parent-Child Mother Goose meets Fridays, 10:30-11:30am for songs, stories, and laptime fun. For babies and toddlers and their adults. Free and drop-ins are welcome! Brought to you by the Cowichan Valley Mother Goose Community Collaborative. Sep 27 to Nov 15

The Inspired By Reading Book Club, run by the Cowichan South Arts Guild, starts meeting monthly again at 6:30pm on Tuesday, Nov 5. They will talk about *The Future* by Catherine Leroux so now is the time to get a copy! VIRL has both paperback and eBook formats.

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.

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 local who is unable to come into the library due to illness or injury, please let them know about our volunteer Home Delivery service.

Did you know the library gets the *Times Colonist* and *Globe & Mail* each morning?

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 — September 2024

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

Weather Icon	Sept Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Butler Road		Discovery School		Museum		Shawnigan Average	
		2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Average High	20.5	21.9	21.6	21.8	21.4	21.8	21.5	22.1	21.0	21.9	21.4
Average Low	9.3	11.0	9.6	8.4	6.9	10.4	9.5	10.9	9.8	10.2	9.0
Extreme High	34.0	33.5	29.2	32.8	28.6	33.7	28.7	33.5	27.6	33.4	28.5
Extreme Low	-3.9	4.5	4.3	1.6	1.1	3.9	3.3	4.0	5.0	3.5	3.4
Precipitation	33.3	70.6	33.1	56.5	27.6	50.8	26.3	55.2	23.7	58.3	27.7
Days w precip	8	9	10	9	11	10	11	8	11	9	11
Year Precip	716.1	937.4	668.5	785.3	599.1	711.1	505.2	706.6	483.7	785.1	564.1

Rank since 1914: 16th warmest, 39th wettest

	Sept 1	Sept 8	Sept 15	Sept 22	Sept 29
Lake Temperature	24°	23°	22°	20°	17°
Lake Temperature 2023	24°	21°	21°	20°	18°
Lake Level	116.00	115.99	115.98	115.96	115.95
Lake Level 2023	115.94m	115.93m	115.91m	115.86m	115.83m

The first ten days of September 2024 were a continuation of summer-like sunshine and warm temperatures. High temps peaked on the 5th at 33+°, making it hotter than any day in August.

For the next week, conditions were unsettled with a very rainy day on the 13th. This was then followed by another dry week, but the sun's diminishing strength was evident with temperatures maxing out at the low twenties. As normal, by mid-month overnight cooling became more evident with lots of morning dew and single digit temperatures.

The final couple of weeks of the month were a mixed bag. A couple of humid days on the 23rd and 24th brought mid-twenty degree readings. The next day (25th) was the rainiest of the month with amounts ranging from the usually drier village at 25 mm to Cigarmaker's Bay with 32 mm. With the two heavy days of rain, totals for the month were about 45% higher than normal.

Three days had temperatures of 30° or greater, and 5 days had more than 25°. 12 days were less than 20°. 11 days were full sun, 5 days with partly cloudy skies and 14 days with cloudy conditions. The 30th was the coldest night of the month dropping below 5°.

The sunset times in September were noticeably closing in, about 2 minutes per day. Sunset on September 1st was 7:55 pm. On the 30th it was 6:56 pm, an hour earlier. The shorter daylight hours will continue as daylight diminishes about 3 minutes daily through October.

Lake levels are normal for this time of year and the water temperature is a bit warmer than average.

Community Satisfaction Survey

Kim Barnard
Rotary Club of Shawnigan
Lake EcoClub

From a presentation to CVRD
"Committee of the Whole" Sept
25th 9:30am

Public Input - R3. Community

Satisfaction Survey by Kim
Barnard

*'Uy' Skweyul siem nu
siye'yu*

It's really good to see
everyone and thank you
for the opportunity to

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Brian Shkuratoff
Owner

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give Public Input on R3 this morning. It's a report from the Communications and Engagement Division regarding a Community Satisfaction Survey. I have also provided written input which I hope was received in good order, so thank you.

Well, first of all, it's a privilege to come here week after week to put a face on Public Input, and it's so much a part of my heart to go where the people are, and for everyone around this table to be super plugged-in to their communities.

And, I just want to say that it doesn't seem as authentic to be mined for data as it is to be sat down with over a cup of coffee on a day-to-day basis in my community to learn (from each other).

I've been walking the streets as a litter picker, as a planter for pollinators, as a professional community volunteer through Rotary International, and I've come to learn over the last few years about (what) the hopes and fears of my little corner of the 'shire look like.

And these days I don't know if I even saw it reflected in

the survey criteria that was done 5 years ago.

Which are:

- A real concern for vandalism.
- We are dealing with super impacts to the budgets
- We have people that are afraid to do good things in our community
- Whether it's murals, whether it's installations, because they think it's going to be destroyed or defaced or dumped on
- We can't let the trolls win, is what I'm saying.
- We need to be kudo-driven communities.
- We need to have that feedback that allows people to feel empowered to have those collaborative conversations, in a sit-down atmosphere.

And so, my written input suggested that perhaps this money could be better spent as an economic driver in the community, to allow for a tab at every cafe and every patio throughout the regional district, so that you could do drop-in coffee times with your constituents.

And have that be an ongoing, organic conversation that builds relationships.

Because I'm here today with my orange shirt on to say that I practice reconciliation through Nuts'amaat Shqwaluwun that we all move forward together in a good way, even the ones that aren't technology-savvy, or the elders of our community—that you need to draw that knowledge out of them.

I'd like to end on a tribute to a stalwart volunteer from Mill Bay, the late Shirley Walker, and she wrote an article called *Mill Bay Musings* that talked about that coffee shop culture...

- How people share in the conversation and laughter...
- That newcomers feel a sense of renewed belonging...
- They discuss their hobbies, as well as the things that bring them quality of life. (*see the article on page 4*)

I believe that that contributes hugely to Community Satisfaction.

Legion Prepares for Remembrance Day

Monica Finn
Royal Canadian Legion

If you have ever looked at the Malahat Legion's Facebook page, you will notice our byline says, "We are the keepers of Remembrance." While Remembrance Day is in November, the Malahat Legion gears up for Remembrance Day and the related Poppy Campaign in October.

This year's preparations began over the summer, with the Malahat Legion and CVRD Area C Director Mike Wilson joining forces to raise an impressive \$8,000. These funds supported the refurbishment of the cenotaph and the installation of a new plaque, honouring the selfless service of past and present Canadian military personnel and their families, who have served in various missions.

On October 16th, the Legion invites volunteers to join a complimentary luncheon, followed by

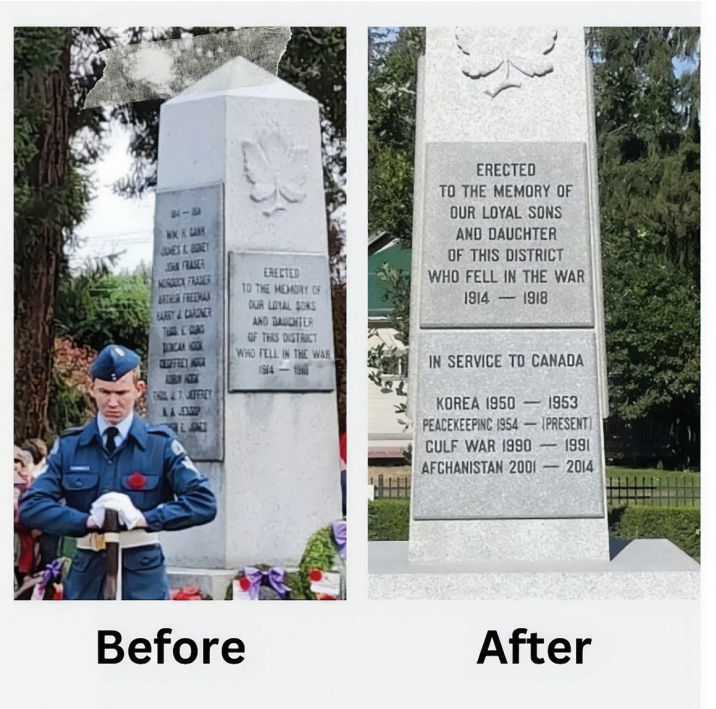
a community effort to prepare poppy envelopes for mass mailing to Shawnigan Lake residents. Last year, 25 dedicated volunteers assembled over 7,000 envelopes in support of our Poppy Campaign, helping Canadian veterans. This year, volunteers will work together in small groups, carefully inserting two poppies per envelope (as shown). We welcome individuals to join us for lunch and lending a hand. You do not need to be a member to help – just remember to pin the poppies, not your fingers!

On October 22nd, Legion member Bob Collins organizes the remembrance ceremony for Canadian military who died on Canadian soil in a non-combat role. Each year Bob and like-minded military friends hold an overnight vigil at the Cobble Hill Cenotaph starting at 6:56 am PDT on October 21st ending at an 11 am ceremony October 22nd the

following day.

October 24th, we honour our Veterans with a special dinner, expressing gratitude for their service. You will see many of these same Veterans in our upcoming Poppy Campaign. Launching the next day on October 25th, the Poppy Campaign is our chief fundraiser supporting Veterans in need. Veterans dressed in full Legion uniform are stationed at entrances of Shawnigan Lake and Mill Bay businesses, distributing poppies and bracelets in exchange for donations. Your generosity will help make a tangible difference in the lives of those who have served - please give what you can.

Please join us for the Remembrance Day Service on November 11th, which is currently being planned. We have reserved the Cobble Hill Hall and are finalizing the roles for reading the scripture, reciting "In Flanders Fields," and leading the Act of Remembrance, along with the trumpet, piper, and pianist performances. As always, the event will start at 10 AM with a parade to the refurbished cenotaph, followed by the Act of Remembrance service at 11 AM sharp. Everyone is welcome. We hope to see you there!



Before

After

October at the Malahat Legion

Regular Hours

Fridays and Saturdays

- Bar 1:00-7:00 PM
- Kitchen 1:00-4:30 PM

Drop-in Events

Wednesdays

- Crib 1:00-3:30 PM
- Mahjong Lessons 1:00-3:30 PM

Fridays

- Euchre 2:00-4:00 PM
- Mahjong 1:00-3:30 PM

Saturdays

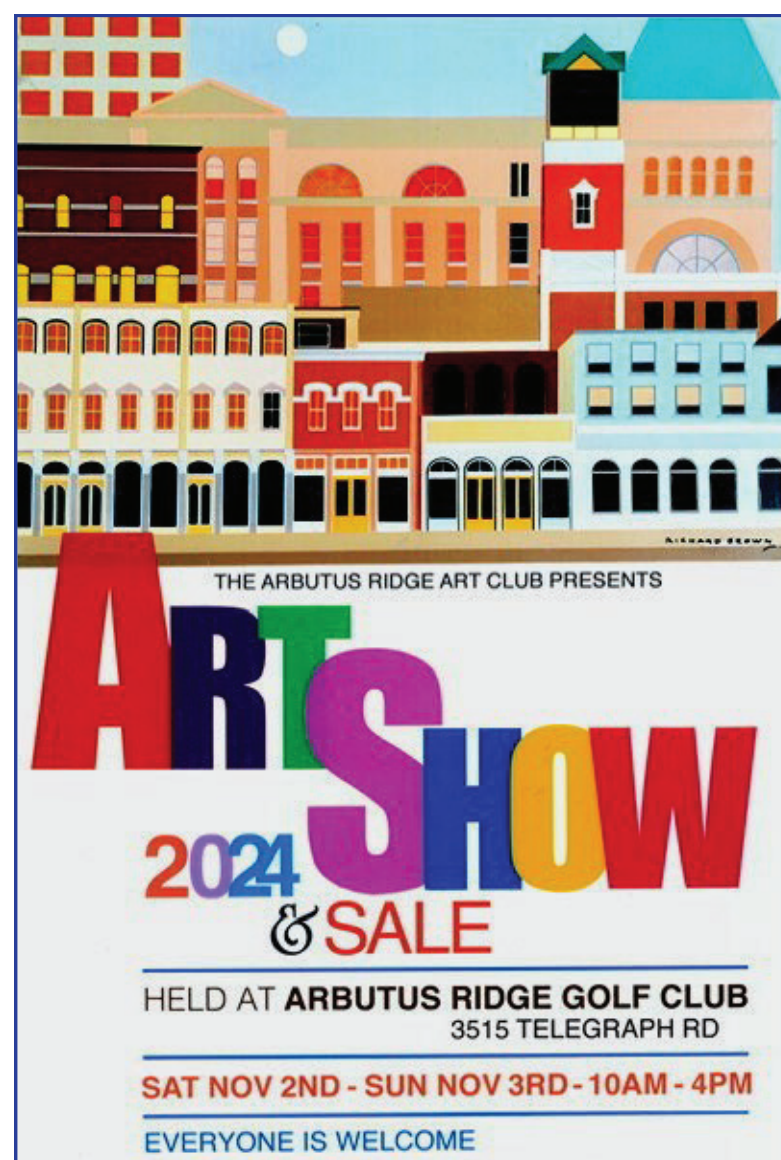
- Meat Draws 3:00-5:00 PM

Special events

- October 5th - Ham and Turkey Meat Draw, 3-5

PM

- October 16th - Poppy Stuffing with complementary luncheon - 12-3:00 PM
This is a community event. Everyone is welcome to come and help.
- October 18th - Steak Dinner followed by Music Bingo - 5:00-10:00 PM
Dinner is an 8 oz strip loin steak, loaded baked potato, salad and garlic bread.
Music Bingo hosted by Holly Dopking with prizes.
- October 22nd - Cobble Hill Cenotaph ceremony for military who died in a non-combat roll, 11:00 AM
- October 24th - Veterans Dinner 5:00-9:00 PM.
All veterans welcome.



What's Shakin at The Shawnigan Basin Society

Shirely Astleford
SBS

SBS Volunteers enjoyed engaging with everyone at this year's Cobble Hill Fair. Thanks to everyone who supported our t shirt fundraiser and those who brought questions about water quality, the status of the contaminated fill site on Stebbings Rd and milfoil. If you are interested in what the SBS has been up to for the past year, join us on September 17 at the Mill Bay Community Hall for an update and special guest speaker from Boundary Watershed Stewardship Society. The presentation will include the following. Public Question & Comment Period to follow the presentations: Shawnigan Basin Society - Current Objectives of the Shawnigan Basin Society with a Focus on

Community Forest Trusts: shawniganbasinsociety.org/lebc.html

Boundary Forest Watershed Stewardship Society - The Power of Forests: Protecting Communities and Nature with A New Forest Act Guest speaker, Jennifer Houghton, Project Manager for BFWSS, will offer a short presentation regarding The Power of Forests project. The proposed New Forest Act would phase out the current forest tenures and "professional reliance". It would decentralize decision-making to local communities and First Nations through Community Forest Boards.

BFWSS is holding events across BC in fall 2024 to share the details of the proposal and rally people to join the campaign. For more information on the Power of Forests project:

boundaryforest.org/problem-solution/

Tickets by donation are available on Eventbrite: [eventbrite.ca/event-community-perspectives-the-power-of-forests-tickets-1001782176457](http://eventbrite.ca/event/community-perspectives-the-power-of-forests-tickets-1001782176457) SBS will be hosting more speaker's series events in village to round out the year. Email us with the topics you are most interested in learning more about. admin@shawniganbasinsociety.org All new monthly donors will be entered into a prize draw for your choice of prize from our new swag. Support your watershed stewardship group by donating to: canadahelps.org/en/charities/shawnigan-basin-society/ You can also stop in at Masons Store for a fantastic shirt or water bottle.

More Music, Please

Heather Plett
Cowichan South Arts Guild

We listened to more music than usual during the pandemic, according to a global study titled "Engaging With Music 2021". Of the 43,000 music fans polled across 21 countries, 87% said that music had lifted their mood and 68% of 16-19 year-olds said that releases from their favourite artists soothed them.

For many of us, it doesn't take a research study to prove that music helps us get through stressful times - we know this from personal experience. If I look back at each of the most stressful times in my life - family deaths, divorce, etc. - I could name a song that helped me get through each one. During the most worrisome days of the pandemic, when my

daughter was at high risk because of an autoimmune disorder and had to go for multiple surgeries, it was Luke Sital-Singh's song "Nothing Stays the Same." I would turn it up loudly in my car and let myself cry big therapeutic tears. "Let your guard down, get your heart pounded. We all breathe, we all bleed, and nothing stays the same." As I listened, I did my best to trust that this too would pass.

A 2020 overview of research into music and stress, published in the Health Psychology Review, reveals that music can: lower our heart rate and cortisol levels; release endorphins and improve our sense of well-being; distract us, reducing physical and emotional stress levels; and reduce stress-related symptoms, whether used in

a clinical environment or in daily life.

Beyond reducing stress and helping us get through hard times, music entertains us, makes us feel less alone, inspires our creativity, helps us build community and solidarity, and galvanizes us into activism. Imagine your favourite movie without a great soundtrack that accompanies your emotional journey through the storyline. Imagine a ceremony or ritual without any mood-setting music. Imagine a political justice movement without a good protest song.

Recently, I heard Richard Garvey and Marina Avros, two talented singer-songwriters, perform during the Cowichan South Arts Guild Spotlight Coffee House Series, and now I have a new song to attach to a particular moment in my life. I've just moved to



the island, partly because I wanted to deepen my relationship with nature at a time when my children have moved away and left me an empty-nester. Richard Garvey sang "Let me be a nest in a tree, a place to rest and love for those that will fly free... Let this be my work, to love so much I protest the cutting of the trees, the paving of the wild, those who try to silence children singing from their bellies..." I've been listening to this, my

new theme song, every day since as I walk these new paths my feet are learning to know.

Friedrich Nietzsche once said, "Without music, human life would be a mistake." That might be stretching it a bit, but he's not entirely wrong. Music makes our lives better in far more ways than we often realize. cowichan-southartsguild.com / hello@cowichansouthartsguild.com

Lots of Laughs on Coffee Row

Mill Bay Musings
by recently passed
Shirley Walker

I spent many hours this past summer talking to visitors to our area who were strolling through the Mill Bay Shopping Centre.

The majority of American tourists stated that our area is wonderful and they would move up here immediately if things didn't work out in the upcoming election in the U.S.A. Their comments made me appreciate once

more what I have always believed — that the people in this area are superb! Now that I have moved on from volunteering with Community Policing — I have much more time to enjoy a regular coffee with friends and meet more of our residents.

I am amazed each day that I visit a different venue — just how many residents meet regularly for coffee and better yet — the amount of laughter generated within each group.

After visiting each of these local venues - Tim Hortons, Serious Coffee, A&W, McDonald's, Bru-Gros, Whiskey Point Grill, Rusticana, and Subway —

it has become apparent that the same friends visit with each other on a regular basis at each venue.

It is also evident from the laughter and camaraderie within the groups that much fun is being

experienced each and every day.

The best part is that people in each group invited others and me to sit and share in the conversation and laughter. That says a great deal about the residents of our area being so inclusive.

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Project Impact

Lori Treloar
Executive Director
Shawnigan Lake Museum

We are very close to the end of a major construction project to expand the Shawnigan Lake Museum. This dream started decades ago, in the mid-1980s, by the people involved at that time. We are now seeing the realization of that dream. The museum was established in 1977. It had lived in many temporary locations before its forever home was found, in the original Shawnigan Lake Firehall. This space was made available when the new firehall (current) was built. It is an ideal building for a museum as it is a concrete block building which makes it

fire resistant. The building is part of our heritage and has served the museum well.

It became apparent that the building would not be sufficient to hold the very BIG story of Shawnigan Lake. Unfortunately, the people involved in the 1980s were not able to find a way (money) to expand the space at that time.

Fast forward to 2017... the idea to expand the museum came up again and the society received a \$100,000 donation from long-time resident, museum volunteer and community advocate, Garth Harvey. That was the beginning of the belief that the society could make the expansion happen. Sadly, Garth is

not here to witness this success. Expansion was critical for the future of the museum - it is likely that it would not have survived without it.

It took several years of hard work, but the society raised between \$2.5-3 million by writing many grants and accepting donations from generous donors so that the project could move forward.

In June 2023, Project Impact broke ground. Today, the expansion is near completion, other than a few key items that had to be eliminated due to a lack of funds. This project, like most, has taken longer and cost more than expected.

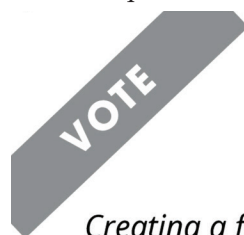
It has lately come to our attention that there are many residents in the Shawnigan Lake community, new residents and long-term residents, who have *never* visited the museum. We encourage you to take a chance and visit when we re-open (to be determined)...we know that you will be surprised! Shawnigan's story is a big one...

There were many things that we could not fund because of surprises and unexpected costs. If



you see the value in the work of the museum, in sharing the amazing story of Shawnigan Lake, we encourage you to help by donating to the museum. Any amount will help us to furnish the

kitchen and community living room; acquire organizational shelving in the storage area for our large collection and more. Contact us at 250-743-8675 or museum@shawniganlakemuseum.com



Creating a future where everyone thrives

DAVID EVANS

Juan de Fuca - Malahat

david-evans-jfm.com

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BC greens



ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY
SHAWNIGAN LAKE



SJASL Crest Update

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering an environment that respects and honours all cultures, we want to share an important update regarding our school crest. After thoughtful reflection and in consultation with community members, we have decided to make a change to the crest that represents our school.

We have replaced one of the symbols in our crest, the Inukshuk. We believe that the use of the Inukshuk should be approached with great respect; it represents a cherished piece of history for the Inuit people in the Canadian Arctic. The Inukshuk is a powerful and meaningful symbol rooted in Indigenous cultures, and we have come to understand that its use in our crest may not fully align with our commitment to genuine and respectful reconciliation.

Reconciliation is more than words or images; it is about meaningful actions contributing to healing and understanding. As a school, we are dedicated to focusing on these actions—educating ourselves and our students, building relationships with Indigenous communities, and actively working toward a future of mutual respect and inclusion. The change to our crest is part of a broader effort to ensure that our actions reflect our values.

We are replacing the Inukshuk with the Seawolf. The Seawolf logo includes a reference to both our lake and mountain neighbours and represents our school's spirit, resilience, and unity, making it a fitting symbol for our crest. Now, our crest includes symbols for the world, our country, our province, and our school.

We are working to update the appearances of our crest slowly, recognizing that meaningful work takes time. We will make updates, where possible, immediately; items, like uniforms, will be updated in a natural replacement cycle. Jenny Boomer will be taking the lead on the roll out; families do not need to take any action around the crest at this time.

Most importantly, we are excited about the continued steps toward action we will take together as a community.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we progress on this important journey.

For more information please contact St. John's Academy at info@sjasl.ca

Shawnigan Focus

Shawnigan Focus Team

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Shawnigan Lake Fire Department

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

September 2024 Report

Department Members Attended 35 Incidents in September

Sunday, Sep 1 - 1st Responder off Gregory Rd	Responder off S Shawnigan Lake Rd
Monday, Sep 2 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd	Saturday, Sep 14 - 1st Responder off Deloume Rd
Monday, Sep 2 - Alarms Activated off W Shawnigan Lake Rd	Sunday, Sep 15 - Alarms Activated on Fitzgerald Rd
Tuesday, Sep 3 - First Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd	Sunday, Sep 15 - Burning Complaint on Ravenhill Rd
Tuesday, Sep 3 - MVI on Renfrew Rd	Sunday, Sep 15 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
Thursday, Sep 5 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd	Sunday, Sep 15 - 1st Responder off Thain Rd
Thursday, Sep 5 - Hydro Lines on Cameron-Taggart Rd	Tuesday, Sep 17 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
Thursday, Sep 5 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd	Tuesday, Sep 17 - 1st Responder off Treit Rd
Thursday, Sep 5 - 1st Responder off Gregory Rd	Tuesday, Sep 17 - Hydro Lines on Baron Rd
Thursday, Sep 5 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd	Wednesday, Sep 18 - 1st Responder off Sylvester Rd
Friday, Sep 6 - Hydro Lines on Silvermine Rd	Thursday, Sep 19 - 1st Responder off McKean Rd
Friday, Sep 6 - Rescue on Shawnigan Lake	Friday, Sep 20 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
Saturday, Sep 7 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd	Friday, Sep 20 - 1st Responder off Owl Rd
Monday, Sep 9 - MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd	Friday, Sep 20 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
Tuesday, Sep 10 - 1st Responder off Treit Rd	Saturday, Sep 21 - 1st Responder off Sylvester Rd
Thursday, Sep 12 - 1st Responder off Northgate Rd	Sunday, Sep 22 - 1st Responder off Worthington Rd
Thursday, Sep 12 - 1st Responder off Gregory Rd	Sunday, Sep 22 - 1st Responder off Sooke Rd
Thursday, Sep 12 - 1st Responder off Gregory Rd	Wednesday, Sep 25 - 1st Responder off Inn Rd

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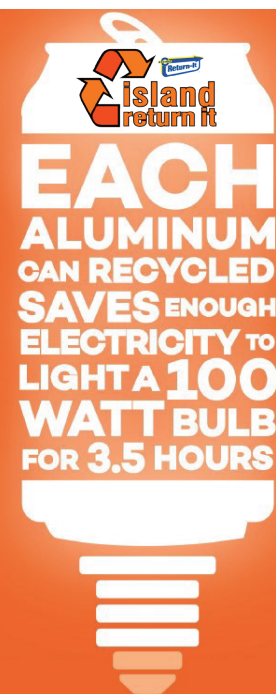
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Shawnigan Focus

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*



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An Arbutus Tree at Crofton Beach

Robert Amos
Artist & Author

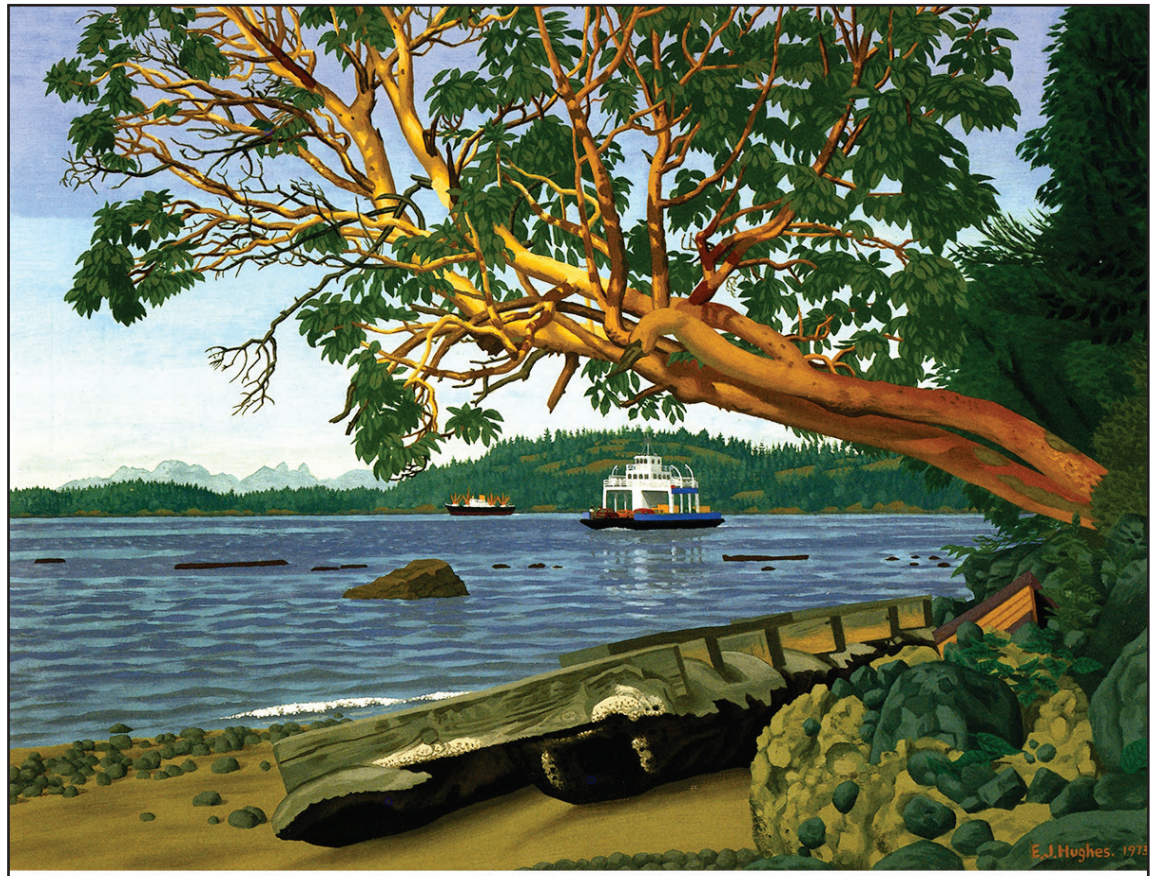
Artist E. J. Hughes turned his attention to Crofton, in 1963, and in the following years it became the place he most frequently painted. South of the town, he made the watercolour Crofton Beach Arbutus Tree in 1968. As the only native broadleaf evergreen tree found in Canada, the arbutus is a distinctive feature of the region. Well-known for its distinctive orange bark, the arbutus has contorted branches and also carries a lot of dead wood, both black and white.

Hughes later made an oil painting of the subject titled *An Arbutus Tree at Crofton Beach* (1973). Upon receiving it, his dealer Max Stern wrote to him on August 30 1973: "I am really delighted with this painting," Stern enthused, "and found that the subject landscape was well chosen and balanced. The sunlight on the arbutus tree was particularly delightful."

On a label he wrote for the painting, Hughes described the scene: "The deep sea freighter in mid-dis-

tance has just left the mill at Crofton (out of the picture to the left) and has swung left, on its way, probably, to Nanaimo. The faintly seen mountains in the far distance are on the BC mainland 50 miles away." A large chunk of wharf construction, encrusted with carefully-painted barnacles, has landed upside down on the shore in the foreground. A single wave breaks near the waterline. The quirky little car ferry which has just departed from the village of Vesuvius Bay on Salt Spring Island has now the charm of a heritage vessel, though at the time he painted it, it was a most unusual boat. It carries a cluster of cars and some passengers on deck are taking in the scene. In the distance are "The Lions", two striking peaks which overlook Vancouver from the north. Vesuvius Bay on Salt Spring Island is in the middle distance just out of sight to the right.

The painting was reproduced on the cover of the catalogue for the Hughes Retrospective exhibition organized by the Surrey Art Gallery



An Arbutus Tree at Crofton Beach (1973). Oil painting 63.5 x 81.2 cm.

in 1984. Mrs. Lillian Postgate, a friend of Hughes who lived on Crofton Beach near the scene of this painting, later mentioned to Pat Salmon that the famous arbutus tree was "cut down and cleaned up by a student "make work" project a few years ago."

In 2004, the E. J. Hughes exhibition produced by the Vancouver Art Gallery came to the McMichael Canadian Collection at Kleinberg,

just northwest of Toronto. Sarah Milroy wrote about it in the *Globe and Mail* newspaper on January 31 2004, under the title *Between a Rock and a Landscape*: "For western Canadians," Milroy began, "the art of E. J. Hughes has a deeply sentimental appeal, particularly for those of us who have spent time travelling up and down the coast... Hughes is to British Columbia what Alex Colville is to Nova Scotia, Christopher Pratt is

to Newfoundland or Ivan Eyre is to Manitoba."...

To illustrate her story, she chose the iconic *Arbutus Tree at Crofton Beach* (1973), "in which Hughes brings past and present together through a wistful visual rhyme between the new car ferry and the battered raft washed up on the beach... Past and present are brought neatly together in a poignant little pictorial bundle, beautifully composed."

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