

A Non-Profit Community Publication

# Ship With a Blue Hull, Cowichan Bay

**Robert Amos** Artíst & Author

E. J. Hughes spent a great deal of time painting the waterfront along Cowichan Bay. One of his finest paintings was Ship with a Blue Hull, Cowichan, an oil painting from 1982. This was derived from a 1978 pencil sketch he made on location. In a letter accompanying the painting to his dealer, the Dominion Gallery of Montreal, Hughes wrote: "Cowichan Bay is just a few miles from here (Duncan BC) and this view is from the side of the Cowichan Bay Road, now a secondary road, but a few years ago part of the main highway between Victoria and Nanaimo, on the east coast of Vancouver Island." Hughes to Max Stern October 22 1982

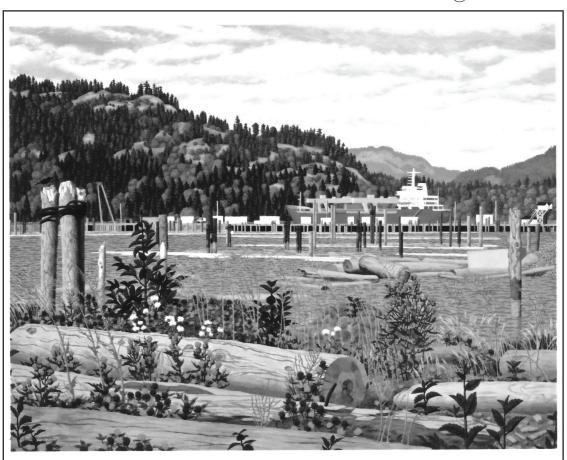
The ship with the blue hull is moored on the far side of the wharf, so the view as painted is seen through a forest of pilings and log booms. The water is freshened with a lovely, repeated pattern of wavelets overlaid with the stems of dry grasses. The bottom third of the painting is entirely given over to logs and wildflowers, most prominently the clover.

Hughes took enormous care with every detail in his pictures. Over the course of two or three days while sitting in the front seat of his car he drew the forested hills and bare earth of the distant shore, the activity along the wharf and the ship itself. "There is a wide place to pull off the road, and this view can be seen from the shelter of the car, which is most welcome when it is raining." Hughes to Max Stern July 24, 1979

He gave his loving attention to the wood grain of logs on the beach, to each blade of grass and every leaf of some nameless weed. Years later he repeated this meditation in paint: each leaf was counted, positioned and coloured precisely according to the notes he had made at the time of the drawing. In the letter that accompanied this painting, Hughes apologized to his dealer: "I'm sorry about the long time since I sent the last canvas – it has been 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  months. The  $\frac{1}{2}$ month was spent on my "reconnaissance" trips

up and down the coastal area here, photographing desirable scenes to save me time next summer when I hope to go sketching. Thanks to my new 35 mm camera I have 105 accurate-to-nature photos." *E. J. Hughes* to Max Stern October 22, 1982.

A glance at these photographs makes it clear that Hughes did not use them as anything more than a general reminder. He based his paintings on his keen eyesight, powerful analysis and extraordinarily retentive visual memory. Hughes painted about a dozen canvases of oceangoing ships at Cowichan Bay between 1968 and 1998. I would like to get in touch with anyone who worked on the wharf to better understand the contents of his paintings. If you can help, please get in touch with me at *robertamos@telus.net* 



E. J. Hughes Ship with a Blue Hull, Cowichan Bay, 1982. 32"

# Shawnigan Lake Museum

**Lori Treloar** Exeuctive Director

original firehall, for over 40 years and had reached its limit — there were no accessible washrooms, no space for rotating exhibits, no storage and no space for community programs and events.

In the meantime, we are working on volunteer recruitment. With a larger space, we are looking for more people to help. If you have an interest in history and you love Shawnigan Lake, the Museum is a great place to get involved with the community. There is a wide range of activities that people can choose to help with - some interacting with the public and some behind the scenes. There is something for everyone. The building will be more accessible, so there are opportunities for everyone. The second recruitment event will be held on June 20th from 2:30-3:30 in the theatre of the existing



A year ago, on June 3, 2023, the Shawnigan Lake Historical Society broke ground for Project Impact - the expansion of the Shawnigan Lake Museum. Planning for the expansion was a very long process and it took several years to reach the point where we could push the 'go' button. Raising over \$2million is a challenge for most groups, but even more so for a non-profit society in a small, unincorporated community.

The society persisted, however, as this project was crucial to the future success of the museum. The Museum had been in the same building, the The building is now roughly two months away from the end of the construction! Once construction is finished, there will be a lot of work that needs to be done before the museum is ready to re-open. There are new exhibits planned that will be installed and a lot of re-organization of the old and new space. We are tentatively looking at sometime in September for the Grand Opening and can't wait to invite you in!

Museum. As there is limited seating (maximum 18) please email *museum@ shawniganlakemuseum* if you would like to attend.

As always, we continue to fundraise. As with most construction projects, the budget grew over the last year. If you would like to be a part of Shawnigan's rich history and support this great community asset, we ask that you consider giving a donation. There are many ways to do so... go to the donation page (where you can choose a one-time donation or set up for monthly) on our website, or you can contact us directly. *ShawniganLakeMuseum.com* 

## South Cowichan Library

#### **Monica Finn**

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

Summer Reading Club 2024 begins July 2 and registration starts on Tuesday, June 18. Come in to register and pick up a package with a reading record, draw slips, trading cards, and more. For ages 0 to 12. The theme this year is "World of Curiosities."

Mark your calendar for the Summer Reading Club Kick-Off Party on Friday, July 5 at 2:30! Party starts at 2:30 and The Raptors visit from 3-3:30pm.

Parent-Child Mother Goose happens on Tuesdays through June 11 at 10:30am. For infants 0-2 and caregivers. Drop-ins welcome.

Baby Laptime this fall: We are planning a special Baby Laptime series to bring together babies and seniors for songs, rhymes, and bounces through a partnership between Acacia Ty Mawr and Vancouver Island Regional Library. While building connections

in our community, we're bridging the gap in generations! Families interested can contact the South Cowichan library in Mill Bay at southcowichan@virl.bc.ca for details.

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.

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

**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.

If you know someone unable to come into the library due to illness or injury, please let them know about our volunteer Home Delivery service. They can get books, audiobooks, and DVDs right at their door monthly.

## Shawnigan Weather - May 2024

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

48 8	May Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Butler Road		Museum		Shawnigan Average	
		2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
Average High	17.2	18.7	23.3	18.5	23.0	18.4	23.7	18.6	22.4	18.6	21.6
Average Low	7.0	6.9	9.6	6.6	9.7	4.4	7.6	6.8	10.3	6.2	9.8
Extreme High	33.9	28.2	34.0	28.7	33.3	27.9	34.1	28.5	33.0	28.3	31.5
Extreme Low	-3.9	2	5.7	1.3	5.8	-0.7	3.0	1.6	7.1	1.1	6.0
Precipitation	50.6	34.9	29.9	20.7	16.9	22.7	22.7	22.1	13.8	25.1	14.6
Days w precip	14	12	6	9	6	13	5	10	3	11.0	5
Year Precip	591.7	718.1	569.0	546.9	427.8	601.0	512.8	549.7	406.9	603.9	419.2

Rank since 1914: 37<sup>th</sup> warmest , 28<sup>th</sup> driest

/								
	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26				
Lake Temperature	13°	19°	15°	15°				
Lake leve change	-1cm	-5cm	-5cm	-3cm				
Surface Elevation	116.44	116.38	116.33	116.31				

May 2024 was a month of major swings in conditions. The first week began with showers and grey days. During the second week the sun came out and there were six consecutive days of sun and warmth, with the temperature peaking on the 10th of the month.

The next week turned to a mixed bag with some clouds and some sun, but no rain. From the 18th on, the "Cold Lows" from Alaska pretty much took over the rest of the month and the weather turned grey and seemingly damp with no full sunny days.

Although it seemed wet, precipitation for May was actually about 50% of the normal average.

Average temperatures for the month were slighly above normal, unlike last year when it was the warmest May since 1914.

So far this year rainfall is running about 70% of average.

## Messages in the Dust Breathes New Life into Vancouver Island History

#### Will Johnson

Sea & Salt Theatre Company

High-energy vaudevillian troupe conjures stories of whalers, rum runners, remittance men and Lumberjacks...you've never seen Vancouver Island history quite like this.

When Messages in the Dust comes to the Cowichan Valley in July, with a five-person vaudevillian troupe led by director Rien Vesseur, audiences will be introduced to a cast of larger-than-life figures from

with the living. Inevitably, something will be lost in translation, but with enough effort and luck something vital and true can live on."

Messages in the Dust was commissioned by Maureen Alexander of the Mill Bay/ Malahat Historical Society to remount a multi-year touring show that came to a close in 2012. She made the decision to include five stories, some of them new and others reimagined from previous shows. She selected historical events that would immerse the audience in the lives of Vancouver Island settlers in the nineteenth and twentieth century. Audiences will learn about rum running, whaling, true crime, teaching in a remote logging camp, and British remittance men who came to the province between 1860 and 1920. It wraps up with the story of the S.S. Chasina, a boat that was first built for European royalty and ultimately ended up in the hands of Canadian smuggler William "Whiskers" Thompson.

it's hard to believe they're real. When I first started researching Whiskers and the Supreme Court case looking into the disappearance of the Chasina, it felt like watching a gangster movie," said Johnson. "Whiskers was the Al Capone of B.C., an entrepreneur who brilliantly took advantage of American Prohibition laws to smuggle hooch made in the Cowichan Valley through the Gulf Islands."

The family-friendly show



our island's past.

"This is a show about how stories are passed down from one generation to the next. Our title comes from our story about the Nanaimo coal mine explosion in 1887. The workers were trapped underground for days, and when they realized that rescue wasn't coming, they decided to write final messages to their families in the dirt and dust of their shovels," said writer Will Johnson.

"That image was so haunting, acting as a metaphor for what we're hoping to accomplish taking the stories of the dead, and sharing them

"Some of the characters you encounter in these shows are so outrageous,

will star Will Johnson, Kate Steele, Nathan Power, Cassidy Marat and Rien Vesseur. It will feature both original music and traditional songs, with bombastic physical theatre and colourful props giving the proceedings a highspeed vaudevillian flair.

"Working on this show has made me fall in love with history in a deeper and more meaningful way," said Johnson. "And that's exactly the gift we're hoping to offer audiences.'

Showtimes:

- Mill Bay Community League Hall (July 13, 14 at 7 p.m., 19 at 2:30 p.m.)
- The Hub at Cowichan Station (July 20, 7 p.m.)
- Shawnigan Community Centre (July 26, 7 p.m.)
- Mill Bay Community League Hall (July 27, 7 p.m.)
- St. John's Anglican ٠ Church, Cobble Hill

(July 28, 12:30 p.m.)

Forest Discovery Centre, Duncan (August 3, 12 and 2p.m.)

To reserve your ticket and pay at the door contact

dalexander2@shaw.ca 250-743-9196

## **Shawnigan Focus Celebrates 13 years of publication!**

#### Shawnigan Newspapers, Old and New

Updated from the first edition of Shawnigan Focus - April 2011

#### Lori Treloar

The Shawnigan Focus is the latest in a series of Shawnigan newspapers/ newsletters produced and distributed by dedicated volunteers over the last 48 years.

On February 16, 1976, the first issue of the monthly Shawnigan Lake News was delivered to every mailbox in Shawnigan Lake. This was the first newspaper for the community of Shawnigan Lake. Steve and Joan Wachtin ran a printing business from their home in the village and produced the "News" in their basement. Anything printed by the Wachtins was done on their 1899 letter press. The lead type was hand-set and every letter, word and picture were placed one at a time. The Wachtins printed the Shawnigan Lake News until 1978.

historian and retired teacher, was a regular contributor to the Shawnigan Lake News, and the Shawnigan Correspondent for a Victoria paper. Brownie was an instigator for the second community "newspaper". In response to "popular demand" a publishing committee, that included Brownie, Garth and Gladys Harvey, Annette Clarke and Candy McLennan, produced the first issue of the monthly Community Crier, in August 1980. Although the process to produce Shawnigan Lake News seemed antiquated, the process for The Crier was not much of an improvement.

Brownie Gibson, a local

The copy for The Crier was typed on a typewriter, in manuscript style. The proofed manuscript was then sent to a printing company where the copy was set with linotype, which meant that the entire manuscript was retyped, line by line. Then it was set up in trays in sequence, similar to

the letter press process, before it was printed. The printing company produced a "galley proof" for The Crier team every month. The editor marked any mistakes in the proof with International Typographical Union symbols and returned it to the printing company. Any corrections, big or small, required that the entire line be re-typed. This team produced the paper for 10 years with an average circulation of approximately 900. The Shawnigan Lake Volunteer Library Society was the first of many groups to produce the Crier after the initial crew retired. Many volunteers helped to keep The Crier in production. until 2006, when it was finally retired. The Shawnigan Lake Business Association sponsored The Crier for its final few years and distributed it quarterly. This was the only time in The Crier's history that it was produced by modern methods that we now take for granted. Submissions could be sent by email and the layout and set-up



Graham Ross-Smith, Roy Davies and Al Brunet.

was done on a computer. The Community Crier connected the people of Shawnigan for over 25 years and the impact from its loss was substantial.

For about 5 years, starting in 2007, the third "newspaper", the Shawnigan Times, was distributed to roughly 500-600 homes, predominantly in the Shawnigan Village. This was produced by a father/son team, Kim and Chris Hennecker, and their focus was to provide an advertising medium for the area. They published a total of 111 issues.

#### Editor's note: Kim is part of the current Focus team.

In early 2011, there was a need for a larger publication that could inform the entire community. In response to "popular demand", a small group of concerned residents rallied to create the Shawnigan Focus, a newspaper with the vision: "A Strong Community Through Strong Communication".

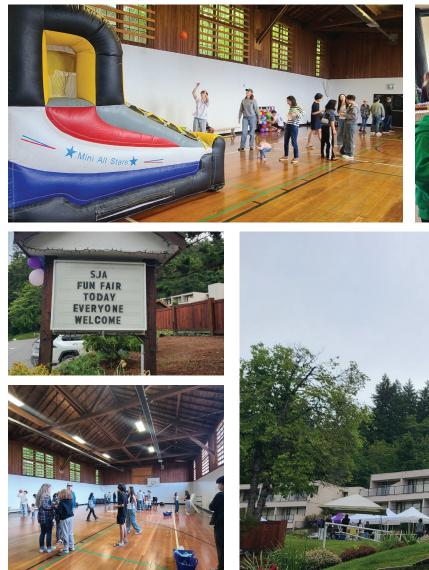
As you read the Shawnigan Focus, take a moment to appreciate the volunteers from our strong past, and the volunteers in our vibrant future who contribute to the well-being of our community by producing a newspaper that will communicate, educate, and connect.



## St. John's Academy Spotlight

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

SJASL's 3rd Annual **Community Fun Fair** held on May 25, 2024 was a success & thank you to everyone for joining us!







#### **Curious?**

Interested in St. John's Academy Shawnigan Lake for your family? Please contact: Jenny Boomer, Director of Admissions, jenny.boomer@ stjohnsacademy.ca. We look forward to hearing from you.



JUNE 2024 - SHAWNIGAN FOCUS 3

# **Just Keep Swimming!**

#### **Kim Barnard**

Founder-President-StoryGatherer Shawnigan Rotary EcoClub

This month we are celebrating 3 years as Canada's first Rotary club dedicated to environmental

service. How appropriate that this initiative, part of a growing network of Rotary EcoClubs worldwide, should be located in Shawnigan Lake! People here truly value their opportunities to step up and take care of their neighbourhoods and our

shared lakeside paradise. Thank you for adopting your areas for LitterWatch!

We encourage everyone to think twice about how they work and play, across our vulnerable watershed, and how it impacts a source of drinking water for many! Even though we are not managed as pristinely as the nearby gated Sooke Lake Reservoir lands demonstrate, our mindful example can help foster a culture of stewardship and respect.

Would you join an "Eco" Rotary? Our community volunteers are committed to sharing their talents, time and resources for positive change, and we are supported by a solid international organization that develops us as leaders. Together we are becoming:

Ambassadors of Outdoor Education and Recreation

- Champions for Preservation of Land for Parks and Trails
  - Influencers for "Leave No Trace" Recreation
- Cultivators of Community Gardens and **Beautification** Efforts
- Sponsors of Innovative Gathering Spaces .
- Supporters of Environmental Initiatives
- Facilitators of Zero Waste Events

We look for like-minded heroes willing to persevere and keep moving forward in this vital work. We offer ongoing projects that include planting for pollinators; native plant restoration; ideas for making sustainable choices (plus the benefits of free outdoor activities



like disc golf!) and other suggestions at our website. Explore our YouTube channel for Shawnigan Rotary, with fascinating topics and discussions.

Please mark your calendars for Saturday, June 15th, to join us at SBS in the Village for anniversary cake and refreshments! We welcome conversations and collaborations to bring even more beneficial ideas to life. Together we Grow... Huy tseep q'u!

vererev.ShaveniganRotaryEcoClub.ca

# **Shawnigan Basin Society**

#### **Fundraising Update** Dave Munday

We are thankful for financial support provided by many community groups, which we gratefully acknowledge on our webpage: Welcome to our watershed (shawniganbasinsociety.org)

We are exploring options to both increase funding and limit expenses, but we do want to improve our ability to help the community. Our directors continue to work hard to improve the ecology of our watershed

and to plan for the future given the concerns with climate change.

Keep it Beautiful

Shawnigan Lake as seen from the base of the radio tower on Old Mt Baldy, February 2018

We are now a strategic partner with the CVRD, and we're working together to address water quality monitoring and milfoil control with a program for cold water milfoil removal planned for this fall. One of our key initiatives is to assist with the preservation of forests in our watershed to fulfill the climate change mandate of preserving 30% of our watershed by 2030. This mandate is accepted by all levels of government following the direction from

COP 15 in Montreal in December 2022: Government of Canada recognizing federal land and water to contribute to 30 by 30 nature conservation goals -Canada.ca

We appreciate our members and their annual contribution to our funding. We also appreciate the community's support for our fundraising efforts, which have included raffles, tee shirt and hoody sales, bottle drives, art auctions, and space sharing with other community groups. We also get support via donations from local

artists and when we assist community members and organizations with environmental sampling. It all helps.

We have a special event coming up on Saturday June 8th when local artist Jon Gugin will be hosting a Pop Up Art Sale at our office. Jon is an accomplished wildlife photographer and artist working primarily in photography, screen printing, and charcoal drawings. Jon has designed our latest line of tee shirts and sunscreen shirts. Come out and have a look!



# **Cowichan South Arts Guild**

Jennie Stevens



Walsh (guitar, vocals) and And there's more! The

the engagement of these young thespians and youth assistants in creating many of the handmade props and backdrops used in the shows. The overall goal is to build relationships and develop a deeper sense of community through the arts.

I'll let you in on a little secret! There is **so much** great local entertainment in Shawnigan Lake.

You'll definitely want to take in CSAG's upcoming Spotlight Coffee House, Friday June 7th, highlighting a West Coast Celtic band, The Slieves, combined with a unique exhibit of youth ceramics in the lobby and lounge spaces of Shawnigan Lake Community Centre. Hailing from the traditional territories of the Lekwungen, WSANEC and Quw'utsun peoples, on Vancouver Island, the Slieves came together



through their love of traditional Irish Music and have been bringing Celtic folk and Celticinspired original music to the BC coast for well over a decade.

The trio draws inspiration from such groups as Dervish, The Bothy Band, The Pogues, The Chieftains, Great Big Sea, the Irish Rovers, and others. The talented members include the magical Tasia MacKay (Irish flute and whistles, 5 string banjo, vocals), the accomplished Jeremy

the foot-stomping Andrew Morris MacKay (bodhran, spoons, vocals).

Together, the Cowichan South Arts Guild and the Shawnigan Eco Rotary **Club support Frances** Kelsey Grade 10 students under the direction of Art **Teachers Rebecca Scheer** and Angela Andersen in their first local Community ARTS Outreach Project. A series of approximately 30 ceramic Garden Ollas, created for various public garden spots in the community (for slow drip watering) will be highlighted in the Lobby (doors 5:30) and Lounge (6:30). Music 7-9 pm.

amazing Shawnigan Kids Theatre Troupe is working very hard, at the moment, to bring a Great show to all ages! Young actors, aged 7-14 yrs will be performing The Wizard of Oz from June 13-16, with 2 evening performances (6:30pm), 2 matinees (2pm), (doors open 30 minutes before showtime). The show is at the SL Community Centre. Family-friendly, at just 1 hour long, with no intermission, it is a perfect opportunity to experience the joy of theatre with children of all ages, without the pressure of sitting too long. Cowichan South Arts Guild supports

If that's not enough, join us for CSAG's Community Solstice Singalong at Elsie Miles Pavilion, June 23rd at 3pm and welcome the Summer. Family and friends are welcome to raise joyful voices (booklets provided) and maybe even learn a simple dance, led by Cowichan Folkdancers. Come to listen and/or participate - everyone is welcome! (short and sweet) For more information: covichansouthartsguild.com

# Opinion

Congratulations Mr. Thomas Bevan on starting your new job today as the new chief executive of the Island Corridor Foundation.

Many Island residents will be looking to you to break the apparent gridlock that is holding up the resurrection of a passenger rail line along the Island.

When considering light rail from Victoria to Courtenay, any concerns that drivers experience on the Malahat would be resolved.

Another benefit is that rail can run 24/7 in spite of the vagaries of the weather.

There is no question that the corridor, in its current state, is a jewel for the Island. To use it for any other purpose would unquestionably defeat its real latent value and would likely forever shutter our ability to renew it. A further point in this equation is the rapid growth of citizens seeking to live here.

A rail line would attract people away from the Victoria core thereby reducing the appalling pressure of finding suitable and affordable living conditions.

I urge you, Mr Bevan, to listen to the people and make this undertaking aforemost consideration in your new role.

Advertising and

Accounting:

Kim Hennecker

Eric J. Ronse

## Shawnigan Focus Team

Co-Editors: Lori Treloar Kim Hennecker

Layout: Grant Treloar

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shawniganfocuseditor@gmail.com shawniganfocusads@gmail.com

Canada Day Celebrations 202

### Shawnigan Lake Fire Department Phone: (250)743-2096 Non-emergency: (250) 812-8030 shawniganfire@shaw.ca

May 2023 Report

Department Members Attended 51 Incidents in May

- Wednesday, May 1 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Friday, May 3 -1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- Friday, May 3 Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Friday, May 3 1st Responder off Heald Rd
- Friday, May 3 1st
   Responder off Gregory
   Rd
- Friday, May 3 Burning Complaint on Memory Island
- Saturday, May 4 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Saturday, May 4 – Vehicle Fire on Cliffside Rd
- Sunday, May 5 MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, May 6 Burning Complaint on Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- Wednesday, May 8 -1st Responder off W

 Shawnigan Lake Rd
 Saturday, May 11 - 1st Responder off Gregory Rd

- Saturday, May 11 1st Responder off Heald Rd
- Saturday, May 11 1st Responder off Gregory Rd
- Saturday, May 11 Burning Complaint on Memory Island
- Monday, May 13 -1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, May 13 -1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, May 14 -1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- Wednesday, May
   15 Hydro Lines on
   Sherburn Rd
- Thursday, May 16 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Thursday, May 16 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Saturday, May 18 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Saturday, May 18 1st Responder off Wilmot Ave
- Saturday, May 18 MVI on Renfrew Rd
- Sunday, May 19 MVI on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Sunday, May 19 Alarms Activated on McKean Rd
- Sunday, May 19 -1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, May 20 -1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, May 20 –

Renfrew Rd

- Monday, May 20 1st Responder off Gregory Rd
- Tuesday, May 21 Alarms Activated on Gammon Way
- Thursday, May 23
   1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Thursday, May 23 1st Responder off Terrace Rd
- Thursday, May 23 Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Thursday, May 23
   1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Friday, May 24 1st Responder off S Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Friday, May 24 -1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Friday, May 24 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Friday, May 24 -1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Saturday, May 25 1st Responder off Sylvester Rd
- Sunday, May 26 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, May 27 Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, May 27 Alarms Activated on Ravenhill Rd
- Monday, May 27

   Structure Fire on Kodak Rd
- Monday, May 27 Alarms Activated on Burnham Rd
- Wednesday, May 29 - 1st Responder off Gregory Rd
- Thursday, May 30 –

Shawnigan Lake Community Centre & Elsie Miles Park

11:00ам - 2:00рм

Celebrate CommUNITY! Come & Enjoy!

Monday,

1775 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd Shawnigan Lake BC V8H 3B6

# 2024

SPLASH TOWER - be prepared to get wet

FUNTIME Inflatable

**INSPIRED by PLAY - Games & Prizes** 

Food Trucks • Live Entertainment

**Rock & Face Painting** 

CANADA DAY Cookies by Oma!

and more...

For updates watch our website : www.shawniganlakecommunityassociation.ca

Sponsored by the SLCA Shawnigan Lake Community Association



BRITI Colum

BRITISH Supported by the Province of British Columbia

Burning Complaint on Robertson Rd

- Monday, May 20 Hydro Lines on Hartl Rd
  - Monday, May 20
     Hydro Lines on

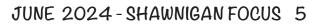
MVI on Renfrew Rd

- Thursday, May 30 Illegal Fire on Renfrew Rd
- Thursday, May 30
   1st Responder off Deloume Rd



Brian Shkuratoff Owner

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



## **The Vancouver Island Rail Corridor Conversation Is Not Over Yet**

#### Warren Skaalrud

Daniel Arbour, co-chair of the Island Corridor Foundation that owns the rail corridor, said the three working groups looking at creating a final vision for the railway are dynamic. Arbour also acknowledged the BC Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, saying that he was positive about the railway and that everyone was coming to the table. All five of the Regional Districts and fourteen First Nations are working through some very difficult issues around the railway and the history that brought it about. It is tied to the creation of British Columbia after all.

The three working groups are addressing Victoria to Langford, Langford to Parksville, and looking at the Alberni

Subdivision and Parksville to Courtenay lines. Daniel said we could even be talking about extending it to Campbell River, as that was the original deal.

The Vancouver Island Rail Corridor has the potential to provide connections to Ferries, Airports, buses, rideshares, and the 1000's of km's of various types of trails that Vancouver Island already has. Like the new Shawnigan Lake Rail Trail extension, both Trains and Trails can coexist harmoniously. Between the two, and the connections they can make, they provide a comfortable and accessible travel option that is efficient, economical, and environmentally friendly, and supports active transportation too. Running on a dedicated right of way, it's a winwin for everyone.

The Island Corridor Foundation has been quiet since March 14th, 2023. That silence is out of respect for the sensitive talks that are underway. Was that silence golden? and has the silence now been lifted? Time will tell! Since then, the ICF has hired a new CEO, Thomas Bevan, who brings land use and successful collaboration experience from his time at BC Housing to the ICF. They have hired a Corridor Project

Manager, filled all the First Nation Director positions, and are clearing the entire 289 km railway of vegetation and rockfall to make it safe for the consultants and contractors being hired by the working groups, and

everyone on the island.

**Considering Daniel** Arbour's recent interview suggesting we look to go as far as Campbell River, are we seeing the beginning of rail restoration on Vancouver Island?

The best way to cheer yourself up is to cheer somebody else up.

Mark Twain









#### **6 SHAWNIGAN FOCUS**

## **COMMUNITY GROUPS**

- **CVRD Director for Shawnigan Lake Area B** Sierra.Acton@cvrd.bc.ca
- Area B Parks Advisory and Area B Advisory Planning Commission

https://www.cvrd.ca/list.aspx# (sign up for meeting notifications)

- **CVRD** Public Input to the whole Board LegislativeServices@,cvrd.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: rcl134@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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#### Congratulations! Shirley Astleford correctly identified the new stairs installed at Mason's Beach Park to access beside the porta potty shelter.



#### Volunteers Needed MALAHAT LIONS



**A** 

Join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> Thursday of every month. Meetings held @ the Malahat Legion

LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION? PLEASE CONTACT :

(250) 743-0569



JUNE 2024 - SHAWNIGAN FOCUS 7

## **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat Branch134**



June is a very busy month with a lot of our drop-in activities finishing up until September.

•Our meat draws will continue every Saturday from 3:00 - 5:00 pm

•Thursday, June 7th and June 20th Lions Dinner & Meeting

•Saturday, 8th Dart Wind-up

•Friday, 14th 5:00 -10:00 pm. Burger and Music Bingo. \$17 for member and \$20 non-member

•Saturday, 15th - Walter Hall Community Fishing Derby at Shawnigan Lake. Check out our website for more information and to register. \$25 Adult and \$10 children

•Wednesday, 19th - 1:00 pm Final Crib and wrap-up dinner

•Friday, 21st - 7:00 - 10:00 pm Music Jammers (last jam session)

•Sunday, 23rd 1:00 pm - Legion General Meeting

• July 1st

All Canada Day events are located at the Malahat Legion and are sponsored by Malahat Legion, Mill Bay Lions Club, Government of Canada and Shawnigan Community Association.

Canada Pancake Breakfast 8:30 – 11:00 am \$6.00 per person

Free Entertainment by PA and the 2 Tones Canada Day Cake — 1:00 pm

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