



Shawnigan-Showe'luqun Focus

Volume Sixteen- Issue Four

April 2025 Liimus'
"The time when wild geese fly in V formation"

A Non-Profit Community Publication

Meet the Candidates - Election April 28

(The Focus reached out to all candidates. There was no response from the the People's Party of Canada candidate) (Candidate responses are listed in alphabetical order)



Kathleen (Kathy) Code
Green Party

For me, public service has always been a calling. Throughout my life, I have served on non-profit boards,

advocating for single parents; the unhoused; old-growth forests; farming and mental health. People matter and so does how we all live within society. I am intrigued about how we can create community to improve our lives.

I'm Kathy Code, born and raised in Victoria. I grew up in the foster system, but my love of books and learning took me to UVic for a BA in Political Science and Psychology, Camosun College for a Criminology Diploma and then to Royal Roads for an MA in Environment and

Management. I've always been interested in Canadian law and politics and, for the past 25 years, in the environment. I cannot tell you how gut wrenching it is to have watched the complete lack of political will to address the climate crisis in any meaningful way.

I worked for the BC Provincial Government for 21 years and learned how government operates. I retired as an economic development policy analyst in 2017, and planned to live the idyllic life of a small farmer.

Anticipating my retirement I bought a property in Cobble Hill, in 2012, where I installed a greenhouse, veggie and berry gardens and an apple orchard. Alas, retirement turned out to be a myth with so many causes to embrace. I helped save Wildwood from a private sale, working with the community to raise almost \$1M and winning a BC Supreme Court decision. Later, I created the legal team for the Fairy Creek injunction, protecting old-growth forest and Indigenous rights and title. In short, I'm a policy wonk and I get stuff done.

The Greens are the only party to offer environmental and social justice options to make real change for people, not corporations. We have the plan (<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/our-plan>) to build a better future for Canadians. Housing, healthcare, Indigenous relations, the green economy and fair taxation are just a few of the bold policies we offer. This is no time for the status quo. Vote your values and for the generations who will inherit what we've created.



Blair Herbert
Liberal Party

Born in Ottawa as part of

a military family, I moved often with my family and learned early the value of finding common ground and building new relationships quickly, qualities that I embrace to this day.

At the end of my family's military career, we settled in Edmonton where I finished my schooling and launched my career. I proudly served as an Officer in the RCMP, Investigator for the Provincial Ombudsman and Federal Immigration Officer. For the last 40 years, I have been a

small business operator. With my four children grown, I am settled in the Cowichan Valley where I work and enjoy farming with my wife.

I am often asked why you should vote for me and, in typical Canadian fashion, it is a hard question to answer as it just feels wrong to talk about oneself. Having said that, I want your readers to know me. Unlike other candidates, I am not a professional politician, and I see this as a real advantage. I can better relate to the experiences of

the people in this Riding because I am living them with you. I am not insulated from tough economic times. Rather, I lose sleep over them too. During Covid, for example, I had to close my business and wondered if we would ever open again. It was stressful, but we emerged stronger.

I believe in giving back to my community and putting my hand up to help. My parents and my in-laws were the epitome of community in that they knew if they wanted their community to work for

them, they needed to work for it. I admired them and live by their example.

This is a different election. It is not the time for negativity or divisiveness. More than ever, we need to be united as a country, with a clear mandate and strong leadership. I believe difficult times can present amazing opportunities. With my business and leadership experience, I am excited to work at the national table on your behalf. I am Canada Strong.



Jeff Kibble
Conservative Party

Jeff is a longtime Vancouver Island resident and an active volunteer. Following a distinguished 28-year career in the Royal Canadian Navy,

Jeff is continuing his passion for community service as the Conservative Party of Canada candidate for Cowichan-Malahat-Langford. You may have already seen him out in our community over the past few months, discussing areas of common concern.

Jeff's four key areas of focus are: Fiscal responsibility, reducing crime, improving transit for the Island Corridor and promoting our common Canadian values to bring us together both locally and nationally.

In a time of profound international and economic

uncertainty, Jeff will use his deep leadership experience to bring a voice of common sense to Ottawa. Specifically, Jeff will advance measures to balance environmental and economic priorities to build the robust economy we need for top quality sustainable health care, public services and social programs.

For a secure, sovereign and resilient Canada, Jeff emphasizes the importance of fiscal responsibility so we can respond to economic threats and rebuild the Canadian Armed Forces to respond to today's challenges to our security. Jeff also believes we

must work intelligently to avoid burdening our children and grandchildren with the massive government debts amassed over the past decade.

Closer to home, rapid transit for the Island Corridor and Malahat highway improvements have been long-standing concerns for Jeff. Because a Conservative government will champion transportation infrastructure, Jeff sees an opportunity to finally get something done.

Jeff pledges to work hard on addressing crime and drug addiction in our communities. He will be a strong advocate

for keeping repeat criminals off the streets, for ending the failed decriminalization of dangerous drugs like fentanyl, and for placing priority on rehabilitation.

Whether supporting Wounded Warriors, Santas Anonymous or listening to the concerns of residents in local coffee shops, Jeff is committed to active participation in his community.

As a guiding principle, Jeff believes that, in the face of threats to our sovereignty, we must restore our Canadian pride as a Nation by focusing on what unites us rather than what divides us.



Alistair MacGregor
New Democratic Party
(Incumbent)

Thank you. It's been quite the journey since that fateful night in October 2015, when I was first elected as your MP

for our beautiful riding of Cowichan-Malahat-Langford. Over the almost 10 years that I've had the privilege of being your elected representative, I have never forgotten the responsibility that comes with being your voice in the House of Commons.

I've called the Cowichan Valley my home for 35 years now, and I'm proud to be raising my family here, in the place I grew up. As your MP, I've been incredibly inspired by the people of our region. Your advocacy, passion for progressive change, and dedication to

making our communities better places to live has given me determination to take action on corporate greed, protecting our watershed, freighter anchorages in our waters, a national strategy for brain injuries, and for the various motions and studies at committee that I've championed on your behalf.

There have been some incredibly difficult times, with the current Trump presidency being one of our greatest challenges, but I've always believed in the resiliency and resolve we have in supporting one another. More and more

people are looking for ways to actively support our local workers, farmers, small businesses, and industries.

The 2025 federal election has been called, and I am again asking for your support. I'm running because I believe strongly that our riding needs a representative who will stand up for fairness and against the corporate deference of successive Liberal and Conservative federal governments. I want to continue working hard for you to address the huge issues affecting our country and our communities: food

insecurity, environmental sustainability and climate change, affordable housing, and the cost-of-living crisis.

Our riding has always been a close race between me and the Conservatives, who, especially in the last two years, have taken their cue for political divisiveness straight from Donald Trump's playbook. I want to inspire your hope for better and invite members of our community from across the progressive spectrum to join me in this election for Cowichan-Malahat-Langford. Together, we can do great things.

Shawnigan Focus

South Cowichan Library

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

www.facebook.com/VIRLSouthCowichan

The South Cowichan Seed Library is open and stocked! We are also accepting seed donations.

Kids Art Hive is an art program for children happening on Saturday, April 12 and 26, at 10:30am, hosted by Jasper Art Therapy. Create art inspired by nature and natural materials.

Learning with *Syeyutsus* online lecture series has two events happening soon, both on a Thursday

3 April Noon-1:00:
Author Éléna Choquette talks about her book, *Land and the Liberal Project: Canada's Violent Expansion*, exploring how Canada's rapid expansion across Indigenous lands in the 19th century was driven by political and legal tactics that masked a more violent reality.

1 May Noon-1: In the first of two sessions about *Native Art of the Northwest Coast: A History of Changing Ideas, Haa'yuuups*, Ron Hamilton, a distinguished Nuu-chah-nulth artist, historian, and cultural knowledge holder from the

Hupacasath First Nation, will talk about his work as an editor and contributor to the book.

The Virtual Human Rights Book Club is a monthly, librarian-led discussion of a title selected by the BC Office of the Human Rights Commissioner. Takes place on Microsoft Teams and registration is required. The title for April is *What is the what: the autobiography of Valentino Achak Deng* by Dave Eggers on Monday, April 28, 2:30-4pm.

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.

Tech Help: Drop by or call to make an appointment for one-on-one help with a mobile device or laptop.

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

10am - 8pm, Monday and Tuesday

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

Find out more at virl.bc.ca and at www.facebook.com/VIRLSouthCowichan

Shawnigan Focus Weather — March 2025

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

Cigarmaker's Bay		Butler Road		Discovery School		Museum		Shawnigan Average	
2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
9.7	10.6	10.1	11.0	10.7	11.4	10.9	11.2	10.4	11.1
3.1	2.3	2.2	0.9	3.0	2.3	3.1	2.4	2.9	2.0
16.2	20.3	16.0	20.6	16.7	21.7	17.0	20.5	16.5	20.8
-0.9	-2.1	-2.5	-3.1	-1.4	-2.8	-1	-2	-1.45	-2.5
265.4	135.1	202.4	106.1	179.1	96.2	167.9	92.3	203.7	107.4
25	19	25	19	25	20	25	17	25	18.8
509.4	607.1	412.7	510.1	383.3	477.5	357.8	472.9	415.8	516.9
1240.0	1283.4	1097.6	1132.0	970.9	1108.5	925.0	984.0	1058.4	1127.0
2025 Rank since 1914: 17 th warmest, 7 th wettest									
Lake Readings		Mar 2	Mar 9	Mar 16	Mar 23	Mar 30			
Temperature		5°	5°	5°	8°	3°			
Temperature 2024		5°	5°	8°	8°	8°			
Surface Elevation		116.74m	116.57m	116.63m	117.04m	116.97m			
Elevation 2024		116.83m	116.68m	116.67m	116.59m	116.55m			

Comments:

March 2025 was a wet one, with close to average temperatures.

Up to the 30th, there had only been 7 days without rain.

There were 6 days in the month of moderate to heavy rain with the 23rd and 24th resulting in close to 75mm (3") from an "atmospheric river" that parked over the area for two days.

The total precipitation for the month was almost double the average, pushing the yearly total closer to normal. The lake level has now risen higher than normal.

Ironically, the day after the deluge on the 23rd/24th, warm air from the south pushed its way in for the warmest two days of the month, with high temperature creeping above 15° for the first time since last mid-October. It was really the only hint of spring during the whole month.

Warmest day of the month was on the 25th; coldest night was on the 6th.

The sunrise and sunset are now changing more than 3 minutes each day.

Sunset on March 1st was 5:59 pm (PST) changing to 7:44 pm (DST) on the 31st.

Sidestepping Planned Obsolescence

Jeff Wright
Teky

Updates. Love them or hate them, it's how we stay current and secure in an online world. Little updates can cause a little stress... but big, forced, updates can cause a lot of it.

Computer technology is still developing at a furious rate, so it is understandable when a certain piece of hardware can't keep up after 5-15 years. It is also reasonable to encourage users to move to new software when it has obvious improvements over the old software. Where the problem lies is in forcing a move when the status quo seems sufficient to us.

There is one (unnamed) company that has consistently enforced a 3-to-6-year lifecycle for their computer systems leaving little choice for us but to comply. The other big ecosystem (Windows), has encouraged a 10-year life-cycle by retiring old operating systems. And

this time around, as the old Windows 10 gets retired on 14Oct2025, the new (well, 3yo) Windows 11 has hardware restrictions. Microsoft seems to be following the path of their main competition (sigh).

So what can we do? We can play the game (the old hardware was getting slow anyway), and simply buy a new system. Computers are getting smaller (i.e. less eco-waste) and generally more affordable even as they get faster. And this is the way to keep things as familiar as possible.

But there are also a few ways to sidestep the herd: Android/iOS, Linux, and ChromeOS Flex.

Going mobile with just a smartphone and/or tablet (running Android or iOS) is an option if those form-factors work for you. Not everyone can be as creative or productive on these smaller devices... and most of us would miss our big keyboard, mouse, and

monitor.

There are literally hundreds of flavours of Linux, and many of them are very polished and capable. They can run on the same (up to 15yo) Mac or PC hardware... but, unless you have access to a Linux expert, a small problem can quickly become a large one.

Enter ChromeOS Flex (15Feb2022)... it is free, and it (so far) has no planned lifespan (unlike its counterpart, ChromeOS which has a 6-year lifespan). All you need is any old functional hardware, Mac or PC, and an Internet connection. It encourages you to use a free Google account and use cloud storage and cloud apps, but those things are not mandated. Most of what you do is online anyway (banking, emailing, browsing, streaming) ... and there is a good selection of apps available (Zoom, Spotify,



etc. ... see <https://support.google.com/chromebook/answer/1056325>.

The benefits of ChromeOS Flex are many:

- It is as simple to use as Android/iOS
- You can do online banking and buying/selling in a current, secure, browser
- You can create documents, spreadsheets, and presentations using Google Docs
- You can still print/scan/email and you get to keep your big

keyboard, mouse, and monitor

- It keeps old functional hardware out of the landfill
- It breaks you out of the planned-obsolescence cycle

It is difficult to avoid the traps of this questionable business practice of planned obsolescence, but, as consumers, we do have options.

Please join me in supporting the Right To Repair campaign: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right_to_repair

Ocean-Going Ship at Crofton (1982)

Robert Amos
Artist & Author

The Domtar Mill at Crofton was commissioned in 1957 and currently operates two pulp lines with 390 employees. Over the years it has manufactured lumber and fine papers under a variety of corporate structures. In the later part of his career artist E. J. Hughes often depicted the wharves and ships at the Crofton mill. Though known as a landscape painter, Hughes always considered the human element in the scenes he chose. One of the most interesting paintings is *Ocean-Going Ship at Crofton, BC* an oil on canvas completed in January 1982.

Sitting in the front seat of his car, Hughes drew the original pencil study of this scene while parked at the "Visitors Viewpoint" at the mill. He sent the resulting painting to his exclusive dealer, the Dominion Gallery in Montreal, and attached a descriptive label to the back: "The cranes on the ship are commencing

to load bundles of lumber into the holds. The cranes on the left are helping to build additions to the wharf. In the middle distance is a car-ferry from Salt Spring Island (in the far distance) headed for Crofton Village, which is just out of the picture to the right."

Of course, a huge pulp and paper mill is not everyone's idea of a beautiful landscape. Pat Salmon noted that "the smell is one thing that kept Crofton from being a prime residential place. How did Hughes feel about that smell? I'm dying to know, because Hughes was a person who was a very acute smeller of this, that and the other thing.

But he rose above it and painted a lot, right across from the Crofton Mill. In fact, he had permission to go in there for quite some time. When it changed to Fletcher Challenge, he didn't want to bother them with renewing his permission, so I don't know how many he painted after that time." Pat Salmon, interview with the author (12/30/2014)



Ocean-Going Ship at Crofton (1982) Oil on Canvas, 2"x40" (81cm x 101.5cm)

Hughes usually chose a Sunday to drive over from his home in Duncan, hoping to capture the quiet feeling of this area when the ships were not being loaded. To convey this feeling of quiet, he emphasized the horizontals and what he called "diagonals in repose". In this painting, a huge lumber carrier is being loaded, with a substantial stack of

lumber hanging in mid-air, yellow and red against the dull grey of the ship's hull to the right. Three trucks and one dock worker can be discerned along the wharf. As Hughes painted the broad blank side of the warehouse, he introduced a gangway, with a geometric frame and a lovely sprung arch. To the left is a ladder leading to the roof

of the warehouse.

The artist emphasized the hard-edged patterns of the stacked lumber, the green squares of the warehouse walls and the loading arms and side markings of the freighter. These strong shapes are juxtaposed with the soft organic forms of Kuper Island (Penelekut) and Galiano Island

beyond. Whether painting the logged-over hillside of the islands or the broom and Nootka roses in the immediate foreground, the artist's attention never wavered. Though this painting may focus on stacks of lumber, every needle on the young fir and every leaf of the arbutus tree on the right is painted with loving care and attention.

The Wild Side

Lori Treloar
Shawnigan Focus Editor
(from Shawnigan Focus 2012)

The beautiful Steller's Jay is British Columbia's provincial bird. It is not generally found in other parts of Canada, but is certainly plentiful around Shawnigan Lake. The



Steller's Jay is a large, very dark blue bird with a crest on its head. In some light, it can almost look black. It is often found on the outskirts of town where there are a lot of trees. In general, though, Steller's Jays like to live on forest slopes among the evergreens. These

birds usually nest in coniferous trees.

Steller's Jays are quite social birds and have no trouble coming close to the house for a visit to the feeder. In our yard, they happily eat the cracked sunflower seeds provided year round or the peanut butter suet that we offer in the winter. Sometimes it is comical to watch these birds at the feeder. An inexperienced bird, likely a young one, will fly up and down (like bouncing on a trampoline) trying to catch food from the feeder without figuring out how to perch there. Without the hovering ability of a hummingbird, this method is usually unsuccessful. Once they do learn to perch on the

feeder, they often swing precariously as they eat, due to their size. Every now and again, as a treat, we fill a feeder with peanuts in the shell. Again, they will put on quite a show. They stuff one, two and sometimes three shelled peanuts down their throat at the feeder before they fly off to hide them. This feeder

is usually emptied within a few hours.

The cheeky Steller's Jay makes a raucous sound that is easily identifiable and they are great mimics of other sounds. Although they can be noisy, and might seem somewhat aggressive, they are a delight to watch and we encourage them to visit.

Thanks for the Feedback!

In the last issue we asked for your comments about the Focus. We received some valuable feedback about how we can make this community newspaper better for our readers.

Keep those comments coming in!

by email: shawniganfocuseditor@gmail.com

or

do an online feedback at :

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M5XN2VZ>



6-PPDQ Tire Wear Toxin Study

Marcy Fenske
Shawnigan Basin Society

In 2020, it was discovered that a tire wear toxin, 6-PPDQ, was the cause of “urban runoff mortality syndrome” responsible for the death of Pacific Northwest Coho salmon for decades.

6-PPD is an antiozonant used since the 1970’s in tire rubber to prevent cracking and degrading. Normal tire wear sheds tire particles to roadways and interaction with ozone creates the toxin 6-PPD Quinone, or 6-PPDQ. Rain events then wash this toxin into waterways and salmon habitats, disproportionately impacting Coho, a species particularly sensitive to the toxin.

The threshold of toxicity to coho juvenile is 41 ng/L (parts-per-trillion/Litre) which is about 2 teaspoons in an olympic sized swimming pool. The threshold for smolt and older Coho is around 80-95 ng/L.

Beginning in 2021, the British Columbia Conservation Foundation (BCCF), Vancouver Island University’s Applied Environmental Research Laboratory (VIU AERL), the University of Victoria’s Community Water

Innovation Laboratory, and later added local First Nations, stewardship groups and government representatives are working together to identify waterways most impacted in Southeast Vancouver Island from Campbell River to Victoria.

The Shawnigan Basin Society, community volunteers and teachers from Shawnigan Lake School have been sampling in the Shawnigan Creek watershed for just over a year, starting late February 2024.

6 sampling sites were chosen based on road proximity to waterways.

3 upper sites are inflow creeks to Shawnigan Lake: West Arm, McGee Creek and South (upper) Shawnigan Creek.

3 lower sites are at roadway overpasses: Shinrock Bridge, Cameron Taggart Bridge and Highway 1 Bridge where North (lower) Shawnigan Creek outflows into Mill Bay. The Highway site includes a Point Source (drainpipe from road) in which an additional sample is taken at the

During phase of sampling. For each rain event with sufficient runoff, a sample is taken before it rains, during the rain event and 24 hours

after the during sample.

Results have shown that traces of the toxin have been detected in 3 lower sites ranging from 1.9 ng/L to 2.3 ng/L with highest concentrations recorded at the Highway Source Point at 155 ng/L.

This site fortunately has high water flow and sufficiently dilutes the toxin to levels estimated to not cause harm. This site is also the location where Mill Bay & District Conservation Society catches adult Coho returning to spawn in Fall and relocates them to upper creek sites as impassable falls inhibit salmon from making the journey on their own.

Record numbers of 8485, of which 7752 were Adults and 733 were Jacks, were transferred from October to November 2024. The last five years have seen new records each year. More would have been transferred had there been more volunteers.

A “bonus” experience of involvement in this program is watching the Coho reproductive process play out in our backyard - the thrill of adult Coho returning to the base of the falls; the many dedicated volunteers that catch, count and transfer the



salmon; seeing the salmon spawn; the death and nutrient addition from their carcasses and, this Spring, spotting Coho fry.

Existing rain gardens (plants) and bioremediation structures are being tested at select sites as well as in UVic’s Water Laboratory, where a wetland has been created to test various

plants’ ability to uptake the toxin.

Reducing or removing the toxin from waterways using a vegetative buffer or bioengineered filtering is the short-term mitigation with the ultimate goal of stopping use in tires all together.

For further information, visit tireweartoxins.com

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Quilts for the Valiant

Wrapping Heroes in Comfort and Gratitude

Lynn Carroll
Team Co-ordinator
Royal Canadian Legion
Malahat Branch No. 134

The Newly Formed *Quilts for the Valiant* happened in the winter of 2024 when myself Lynn Carroll, Team Co-ordinator and Virginia Bauder, Treasurer of the Royal Canadian Legion Malahat Branch No. 134, recognized the need to Present quilts to First Responders – RCMP, Police, Fire-fighters, Paramedics – that suffered from the trauma of PTSD and Injuries while serving in the line of duty.

To address this oversight, both Virginia and I took on the in-house initiative aimed at providing quilts to these deserving individuals. A way to say “Thanks for Your Service”.

I recruit quilters from surrounding Island Communities who volunteer their craft to create these beautiful works of art and with support I obtained by means of a Grant from the Legion Foundation in Vancouver, funds are provided for fabrics and supplies. Virginia also

provides enthusiastic support as treasurer and fundraiser at the Legion Br. 134.

Quilts for the Valiant have been prolific in Presenting quilts to many recipients, most recently to six of the Wounded Warriors runners that participated in the 800 km run across the Island, which became a heartfelt gesture on Day 7 at the Malahat Legion on March 1st of this year.

Veterans House Victoria in Colwood, that house homeless individuals in transition, have also benefited from many of these quilts as military members too are not forgotten by the team.

Should anyone know of someone in any of these Services that could benefit from a “hug” in form of a quilt to help them heal, you can contact by email:



- Lynn Carroll: islandlifeontheridge@gmail.com
- Virginia Bauder: rcl134@shaw.ca

How can I Donate?

- Financially to: Virginia at the Legion or
- with a Quilt(Quilter/Quilt Groups)



Opinion

Eric J. Ronse
Shawnigan Lake

So, Mr. Trump thinks he can subjugate Canada (and the Ukraine). Here in B.C. by one estimation, the rise on softwood exports could hit 50%.

Imagine the rise in cost of purchasing a new home in the U.S. We are also hit with a 25%, at least, tariff on metal. The list goes on and our Prime Minister has courageously stepped up to respond with an immediate response of 30 billion on goods to be possibly extended to add a further \$125 billion, if Mr Trump fails to cease and desist! We are at war, an economic war that will hurt both Canadian and American consumers.

What else can we do? Adhere to purchase Canadian products only where this is possible should now be in our mindset. The Americans rely on our softwood lumber, especially so in Los Angeles where 16,000 buildings were destroyed by last year’s fires.

They rely on our

aluminum and steel for building cars, planes, homes and the like.

We ship milk products and electricity, the latter primarily from Ontario which its prime minister Doug Ford is contemplating cutting off, thereby placing at least five States in the cold & dark.

How our economies are intertwined. Canada may well hold the trump card (no pun intended). Let us pull all of our products for a short while, say 2 weeks, with the promise of an escalation to match that which the USA is touting in order to cripple our economy.

Shawnigan Lake Fire Department

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

Mission Statement: To provide fire suppression, medical aid and rescue services to the community. To protect life, property and environment through prevention, public education and emergency response.

March 2025 Report

Department Members Attended 33 Incidents in March

- Saturday, Mar 1 – Rescue near Oliphant Lake
- Saturday, Mar 1 - 1st Responder off Cameron-Taggart Rd
- Saturday, Mar 1 – Rescue on Shawnigan Lake
- Saturday, Mar 1 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Saturday, Mar 1 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, Mar 3 - 1st Responder off Bob O Link Rd
- Wednesday, Mar 5 – Alarms Activated on Jersey Rd
- Thursday, Mar 6 - 1st Responder off S Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Thursday, Mar 6 - 1st Responder off Burnham Rd
- Friday, Mar 7 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- Friday, Mar 7 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Friday, Mar 7 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Saturday, Mar 8 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, Mar 10 – Alarms Activated on Renfrew Rd
- Thursday, Mar 13 – MVI on Renfrew Rd
- Thursday, Mar 13 – Alarms Activated on Kay Pl
- Friday, Mar 14 – Mutual Aid Structure Fire w/ Cowichan Bay
- Friday, Mar 14 - 1st Responder off Treit Rd
- Saturday, Mar 15 - 1st Responder off Worthington Rd
- Saturday, Mar 15 - 1st Responder off Cameron-Taggart Rd
- Saturday, Mar 15 – MVI on S Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, Mar 17 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, Mar 18 - 1st Responder off Burnham Rd
- Tuesday, Mar 18 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- Tuesday, Mar 18 - 1st Responder off Baldy Mtn Rd
- Tuesday, Mar 18 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Wednesday, Mar 19 - 1st Responder off Baldy Mtn Rd
- Friday, Mar 21 – Alarms Activated on Park Pl
- Friday, Mar 21 - 1st Responder off Gregory Rd
- Friday, Mar 21 – Alarms Activated on Flicker Rd
- Saturday, Mar 23 – 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- Monday, Mar 25 – Rescue on Renfrew Rd
- Tuesday, Mar 26 - 1st Responder off Cameron-Taggart Rd



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



Maintenance Offer Book an appointment now

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250-743-2122

Shawnigan
Community Clean-up Day
Saturday, April 26th
We are proud
of our community!

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shawnigan garage.com

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finest petroleum products to the
Shawnigan Lake community!



Shawnigan Lake Museum Update

Lori Treloar
Executive Director

Construction at the museum is essentially done, and the museum now has occupancy, which means that we can invite the community in for events and programming etc. However, there is still a lot of work to do to reorganize the spaces, so the museum is not yet ready to open on a regular basis. In the meantime, we plan to test the space with small events.

The 3rd Annual Storytelling Event was co-hosted by Cowichan South Arts Guild and Shawnigan Lake Museum, in the new museum space. On March 23rd there was a wonderful workshop, facilitated by two Cowichan Elders. Participants crafted a woven cedar bracelet, and the Elders shared traditional stories and songs.



Kinsol Trestle & Telegraph Bar now moved to Lobby

On March 28th we hosted the Storytelling Night, at the museum, as part of the 3rd Annual Storytelling event. The evening was amazing, sold out, and a good test for the space. There were four storytellers – Jared Qwustenuxun Williams, Lee Porteous, Teàrlach Eshū Kilgour and Gifty Serbeh-Dunn. It was a very special night...

On April 5th the last part of the Storytelling event is a Story Theatre presentation at 1-2 pm, at the museum. This is a free family friendly production and there are still a few spaces available. Email hello@cowichansouthartsguild.com to register.

On April 12th, at 3:00, we will introduce the new 'Asian story in Shawnigan Lake' exhibit in the

museum. This story is a work in progress and we will add additional stories as we learn more. If you wish to attend, please email: museum@shawniganlakemuseum.com



Meet me at the museum!

Shawnigan Lake



MILL BAY LIONS



POPCORN



EASTER SUNDAY

April 20TH - Noon to 2:30

Shawnigan Lake Community Centre

'FAMILY FUN' ACTIVITIES BEGIN @ NOON

INFLATABLE • GYM ACTIVITIES • GAMES • RACES

COOKIE DECORATING • PHOTO BOOTH • FACE PAINTING

INDOOR & OUTDOOR FUN - DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

PRIZES FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

DONATIONS FOR FOOD BANK ACCEPTED & ENCOURAGED

All Are Welcome! Free Fun For Everyone!

Outdoor Egg-Hunt @ 1:00

(BYOB - Bring Your Own Basket)



Watch our website for more information :

www.shawniganlakecommunityassociation.ca

Sponsored by the SLCA - Shawnigan Lake Community Association



With the support of the Province of British Columbia



Garden House Foundation Fund

The people behind the Garden House Foundation Fund charity book sale are retiring. Jackie and her husband Jim have decided it is time to end their involvement and move on.

They are looking for any group that might be interested in holding a book sale in the Valley, and there are about 600 boxes of sorted books in excellent condition to pass along. As those books were donated with the understanding that the sale proceeds would go into the permanent Garden House fund, which gives annual grants to the Duncan SPCA and Cowichan Women Against Violence, we are hoping to get some compensation for providing the books. This can be worked out, and the amount of compensation would be very reasonable and doable. The form of such could be a set amount, or amount per box or any other format that works for the new group. The amount would go directly into the Garden House Foundation Fund.

Jim and Jackie are grateful for the way the Shawnigan Focus has

supported the sale - always a great advertising deal and generous space allotted for an article. They are quite sad to end the sale as it was an event that brought our communities together in South Cowichan, and beyond, and they will greatly miss seeing all the people that they have known and worked with over the years.

In recognition of their achievement, the Garden House Foundation Fund was offered the honour of having a space in the new SPCA Vancouver Island Animal Behaviour Centre named the Garden House Foundation Dog Adoption Kennel. Hopefully, it will act as a reminder of the way our communities came together to establish a permanent fund which will continue to support families and animals in crisis in our Valley forever.

If you know of any group that might be interested in taking this on, please check out their website, which will continue to provide updates about the fund at www.gardenhousefoundation.wordpress.com

Hey Shawnigan – Join us for the Annual Community Clean-Up Saturday, April 26

Dinah Clark & Paul Jolicoeur
Shawnigan Rotary Club

Saturday April 26, 10 am to 2 pm: we will join forces to scour our parks, trails, and roadsides, collecting litter and garbage accumulated over the winter. It takes a village, as they say, so we invite you to join us in our thorough Spring cleaning to make our neighbourhoods and village shine.

How does it work?

Visit the Event Tent on Saturday April 26 beside the parking lot below the Shawnigan Community Centre, where you can choose a clean-up zone, sign-out litter-picking supplies, and enter for draw prizes.

Clean-Up in Your Own Time, in Your Own Way

Pick a street, trail, or park and clean up anytime that

suits you and bring your collection on the 26th. Sign up online so we can count you in!

Waterways Clean-Up

Several lake lovers are taking to the waterways with rowboats and canoes, to clean up the shoreline. Go for it!

Have a truck and want to clean-up a dump site you've seen?

This is a perfect time to gather your friends to clean-up a dump site.

DL Bins/Fisher Road Recycling has donated a large dumpster bin for your litter collection which will be situated below the Community Centre where all types of litter collected, except drywall, can be dumped for free. Garbage bags of litter can also be dropped at 2 drop-off zones around the lake by 2 pm for pickup by P.A.N. Disposal.

Shout out!

Thanks to a group of teens from Frances Kelsey School who have volunteered to clean-up the areas where they like to gather. We welcome all ages to join us!

Why do we do this? Why should we pick up other people's garbage?

Besides spoiling the natural beauty surrounding us, debris and glass littering our public spaces is harmful to everyone. Wildlife and pets can ingest it, get caught in it, or be polluted by it. Bare feet might step on it, or in it! We are not sure why people litter, but when we keep our public spaces pristine, it encourages others to maintain it.

For all event details or to register online: www.ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.ca or email: ShawniganRotaryEcoClub@

Join Us! April 26, 2025

Shawnigan Community Clean Up Day

Saturday April 26, 10am - 2pm

Safety Comes First!
• 25 Roadside Zones to Choose From
• Family-Friendly Clean Up Areas, Trails and Parks

Are you volunteering with children? We'd like to suggest any of these "family-friendly" Parks and Trails to cover together!

Know of an area that needs attention that's not shown on this map? Tell us where!

Thank You!

EVENT DETAILS → www.ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.ca

Join us for the Cowichan Emergency Preparedness Expo on Saturday, May 3, 2025 from 10 am to 2 pm. Meet emergency responders, learn how to make a family emergency plan and enter to win a Free Portable Power Station!

COWICHAN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXPO

SATURDAY May 3, 2025 • 10am to 2pm

Transfer Beach • Ladysmith

Enter to Win a FREE Portable Power Station

FREE, FUN FAMILY EVENT!

MUNICIPALITY OF NORTH Cowichan, DUNCAN, COWICHAN LAKE COMMUNITY, LADESMITH, EMC EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COWICHAN

Royal Canadian Legion

April 2025 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
- Fridays
- Euchre – 2:00-4:00 PM
- Mahjong – 1:00-3:30 PM
- Saturdays
- Meat Draws - 3:00-5:00 PM

*Our Special Events:

- Saturday, April 12th – Our popular Ham & Turkey meat draw is on 3-5 PM.
- Sunday, April 13th – Pets ready to be adopted. The Legion is open 11am to 2 pm. There are many kittens, dogs and bunnies available for adoption.
- Friday, April 25th – We have a no admittance fee for Music Bingo with Karaoke 7-10 PM. Legion will be open from noon on. This is a popular event – come early as there is no reserved seating.
- Our calendar: <https://malahatlegion.ca/legion-published-calendars/>

More Legion events are available at <https://malahatlegion.ca/upcoming-legion-even>

Shawnigan Focus Team

Co-Editors:
Lori Treloar
Kim Hennecker

Advertising and
Accounting:
Kim Hennecker

Layout:
Grant Treloar

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): *blogysag.ca*
- **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**
Contact: 250-929-7222(web): *southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca*
- **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**
Events: (web) *malahatlegion.ca/upcoming-legion-events*
Contact: (web) *malahatlegion.ca/contact-us*
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

Shawnigan Cemetery



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When one door closes another door opens; but we so often look so long and so regretfully upon the closed door, that we do not see the ones which open for us.

- Alexander Graham Bell