

Shawnigan Focus

Volume Six - Issue One

January 2016

A Non-Profit Community Publication

THE THIRD ANNUAL SHAWNIGAN SHIVER



Lori Treloar
Shawnigan Focus Editor

This was the place to be on January 1st 2016.

Although the air temperature was cooler yet again this year, at -1 degree, and the water temperature a chilly 3 degrees, 70 enthusiastic registrants took the plunge watched by as many spectators.

As someone who is involved with many of the Shawnigan events over the year, this one stands out as a truly collaborative community event. Although the Shawnigan Focus is the main sponsor, this event is not about a single group, but many individuals who come together to bring in the New Year at Shawnigan with enthusiasm and smiles. And then there are the brave 'swimmers'. Thank you to all the participants!

Many thanks to...

- ★ Fire Chief Keith Shields, and the SL Fire Department, who have helped for the last three years with set up/take down, and provided us with tables, a generator, garbage bins, and the official siren.
- ★ Heather Plumb, who has helped every year with set up/take down and brought the very necessary, and welcomed, fire pit.
- ★ Marian Davies and Bill Davies, for arranging donations of cookies and hot chocolate and for dispensing these goodies every year.
- ★ Jim, at Mason's Store, who generously donates the hot chocolate for the chilly participants.
- ★ Roy Davies, who has kindly provided music and audio for the Shiver for the past three years.

- ★ Betsy Burr, who has volunteered every year to manage the registration. Sally Davies and Robin LeGarff who helped with registration this year.
- ★ Patty and John Oldfield, from the Chippery, who donated hot cider and coupons.
- ★ Grant Treloar, who MC'd the event and hacked away at the ice on the beach before the swim.
- ★ Francoise Moulin, who designed the beautiful 'Shiver' art for our posters, buttons etc.
- ★ Ron & Ros Cuthbert, who provided boat patrol with their barge Rusty... just in case
- ★ The YSAGS clown, Dianne, who rallied the crowd and provided a rousing warm-up just before the 'swim'.

This is one event where people readily and happily volunteer to help, rather than participate.

SHAWNIGAN FOCUS
JANUARY 2016

EDITORIAL TEAM:

Lori Treloar
Dave Hutchinson
editor@shawniganfocus.ca

LAYOUT:

Taryn Treloar

ADVERTISING:

Kim Hennecker
ads@shawniganfocus.ca

FOCUS TEAM:

Linda Nelson
Bernie Lewis
Monica Foster
Sally Davies
Peter Nash
Bev McCooley
Marcy Green
Grant Treloar
Janet Neilsen

ACCOUNTS:

Kim Hennecker

COPY SUBMISSION
DEADLINE:

For FEBRUARY 2016
Please send copy in by
JANUARY 27th as an
email attachment using
Microsoft Word, text,
RTF or Appleworks to:
editor@shawniganfocus.ca
Please do not send a PDF
as it does not convert prop-
erly. Leave hard copies of
articles in the Focus box at
the The Chippery:
1- 2740 Dundas,
Shawnigan Lake

AD SUBMISSION
DEADLINE:

Contact Kim at ads@shawniganfocus.ca

Ads should be sent in
correct sizing, B&W, high
resolution, and as a JPEG
or PDF. Kim is available
to help create or reformat
your ad.

CLASSIFIEDS:

\$10 (under 30 words) ads@shawniganfocus.ca

ABOUT THE FOCUS

The Shawnigan Focus is an
independent, local, non-
profit publication, produced
by the volunteer Focus team.
Shawnigan Focus endeav-
ours to inform; promote
involvement in the commu-
nity; and interest a broad
cross-section of the resi-
dents of Shawnigan Lake.

The Shawnigan Focus is
delivered, free of charge,
to postal addresses in
Shawnigan Lake (Area
B). Out-of-town subscrip-
tions are available for \$30
per year. Contact: editor@
shawniganfocus.ca

*Views expressed in ar-
ticles and letters are not the
opinions of The Shawnigan
Focus, but of the authors.*

Additional copies are
available in The Village.

MAILING ADDRESS:

Shawnigan Focus - Box 331,
Shawnigan Lake, V0R 2W0

Letters to the Editor:

Comments on our Peaceful
Protest

Thank you to everyone that
came out in a peaceful
protest yesterday (Dec. 22,
2015) against South Island
Aggregates.

I would like to make clear
that we, as a community, do not
have a fight with the truckers
who are just doing a job. We
wish they chose a better con-
tract, but it is the government
permit we are against, and this
seems to be the only way to get
attention about the destruction
of our watershed.

This is a 50 YEAR permit,
but after just 3 MONTHS we
had breaches that saw rain-
water running directly off the
contaminated soil pile and into
Shawnigan Creek, which feeds
our lake. They have tried to
use sand bags to “contain”
and redirect rain water but it
is not working.

Shawnigan Lake with 12,000
residents may be small, but how
many people from Victoria
and elsewhere come and enjoy
the lake in the summer. They
rent cabins, visit family, and ski
on the lake. That will all be
gone. The community will
die as people will get sick
from the toxins they cannot
control or contain.

Think about it, people in
Victoria, because Sooke Lake is
so close and aquifers go where
they want. Join us, stand with

us against a government that
doesn’t care about protecting
our clean water source.

Fresh water is a human
necessity and we are being
denied that.

~Cathy Bhandar

Perjury, fraud and bribery

I feel like I am living in a real
life drama (horror) movie or
part of a tragic novel. It is a
story of the will of a local com-
munity being ignored. A story
filled with regular people, doc-
tors, teachers, musicians, young
mothers, grandparents, fighting
the fight of their lives - a fight to
save the basic human right of
clean water; a story filled with
permit noncompliance, conflict
of interest, alleged perjury,
fraud and bribery; a story filled
with court battles where a small
town of 12,000 people have to
raise 1 million dollars in order
to be heard in court; a Ministry
of the Environment, which has
been acting like the Misery of
the Environment supporting
big business only; a place where
regular citizens are arrested by
tactical swat teams for stand-
ing up for their rights; a story
where a site on top of a water
shed, in an earthquake zone,
will be filled with dioxins, PCBs,
Furans, and more horrifying
toxins; a story where the only
science listened to by the MOE
is that of the so called «Inde-
pendent Scientists» hired by the
corporations (who happen to

have a 50% ownership of the
profits from the dump, which is
part of the next court case) not
the ten others who have grave
concerns over the site.

And yet I am glad I am a part
of the strong community of
Shawnigan who have been
brought together by this cry
for clean water. My hope
is that story will end up as
a story of triumph and not
one of tragedy.

As an aside come be a part of
this story on January 6th. There
is a media event. All politi-
cians and media can get a free
helicopter ride and walk around
the site. See first hand and ex-
perience the cry of the commu-
nity. Check out the Shawnigan
Residents Association website
for details.

~Marnie Hare,
Shawnigan Lake

They are wrecking the
community over it!

It’s unfortunate that Sierra
Acton takes such offense of
the suggested changes regard-
ing large wash/wake issues on
the lake. The main goal, as
mentioned numerous times by
the Shawnigan Lake Watch
Group is to promote respect-
ful recreational use of the lake
by ALL users. All that we are
suggesting is that one group
use specific portions of the
lake so that others (swimmers,
canoeists, kayakers, etc. as well

The Affidavit of Charlotte McGee

Words by Sonia Furstenaus with
due respect to Robert Service

There are strange things done in Van-Island sun
By the men who deal in soil;
The Shawnigan trails have their secret tales
That would make your heart blood boil;
The south Island lights have seen queer sights,
But the queerest they ever did see
Were the words and deeds exposed to all
In the affidavit of Charlotte McGee

Now Charlotte McGee was from U. of
Queens, but she headed to the west

For training at Farris, Vaughn & Wills,
where the legal minds work best.

She found herself in the biggest fight the
southern isle did see:

The people of the town of Shawnigan versus
Michael James Kelly.

Shawnigan Lake it’s a beautiful place, and
full of families

For many a year, they had no fear, and could
do just as they please.

The water is clear, the trees are green, the
folks are mighty fine

All was well, until 2012, when SIA chose to
cross a line.

SIA arrived some time ago, in the hills above
our town

They blast up the rock and dig it out, then in

trucks they take it down.

But then Marty Block and Mike Kelly came
up with a brand new plan,
And for Shawnigan, this was the day, when
the nightmare first began.

“Our pit,” they said “it’s awfully big, and it
needs a lot of dirt

to fill it up, and make it smooth, and trust us
— no-one will get hurt.”

But there’s just one catch, the stuff they want
to truck up to our hills,

Is much much worse than just plain old dirt —
it’s contaminated fills.

Dioxins, Lead, and PCBs, Hydrocarbons,
and DDT,

Are some of those among the list to be brought
and left you see.

It does not take too much to comprehend the
worry that we feel

Our fears for certain, in Shawnigan Lake, are
definitely real.

Now Marty and Mike, they found new
friends, some engineers with brains,

To assuage our fears and erase our doubts,
they went to very great pains.

Rock underneath the site they said would keep
our water safe

But here’s the thing, the rock’s not there, and
the lie began to chafe.

Turns out these gents cooked up a plan to

make a new company

And each of them, these lucky guys, would
collect a mighty fee

For every load of toxic soil that comes into
our watershed,

“We’ll go half and half, split the profits all
up” is what these gentlemen said.

Now this deal they made with Active Earth
you see, they kept it out of sight

For they thought the folks in government
would think it wasn’t quite right.

When asked straight out at the EAB, Marty
Block said without delay

“There’s no financial relationship between
Active Earth and SIA.”

For a partnership that doesn’t exist, it’s
mighty tough to explain

How emails go back and forth about it over
and over again.

“Is it possible to get together for a partnership
meeting,” asks Pye

“That works for me,” replies Marty Block,
because he’s an accommodating guy.

Thus OPCO was born, with two sharehold-
ers that we all know quite well,

Active Earth was one, SIA the other, and they
got along real swell,

And in the deed, all was addressed, from
profits to obligations,

There was, it seems, an immense amount of

lengthy negotiations.

Yet to this day, folks at the good old Ministry
seem bound

To do their darndest to convince us that the
science is real sound.

The fact that the scientists you see, were actu-
ally the applicant,

Unbelievable but true, this fact seems not to
bother the government.

And so it’s to the BC Courts we turn, because
we have no other choice

Polak and Clark are deaf and dumb, and
they never hear our voice.

It’ll be a judge, who in the end, who weighs
the evidence,

We hope and pray he’ll see the truth: all of
this makes no sense.

A watershed, for thousands of folks, it’s a
truly terrible spot

To put toxic soil and pile it up, and leave it
there to rot.

We’ll just fight on ‘cause we know so much —
it’s all there to see,

In black and white on all the pages of the
Affidavit of Charlotte McGee.

To read the real afadavit of Charlotte Mc-
Gee go to the Residents Association web-
site <http://www.thesra.ca> On their website
there is a button half way down the Home page
that says Visit the SRA Legal Action Archives

Shawnigan Focus - Letters

as those sitting on docks or at public beaches) can enjoy the wonderful aspects of Shawnigan Lake.

By no means are we trying to be divisive or argumentative—it's through inclusive community conversation and input that we hope to create guidelines on lake usage that take into account the respectful use of the lake by everyone who uses it.

Thus far, the overwhelming majority of responses to the initial (definitely a draft) suggestion have been very supportive. We continue to encourage and welcome all lake users (this includes anyone, not just waterfront residents) to send us their opinions to shawnigalakewatchgroup@gmail.com

~*Shawnigan Lake Watch*

Be Part of the Solution

The permit to dump toxic waste in our Shawnigan Lake Watershed was granted by the Premier of British Columbia, Christy Clark, and by the Minister of our Environment, Mary Polak. The scientific evidence upon which our government relied to justify the permit was provided by a company directly related to SIA and CHH. That is a complete conflict of interest, and so must be seen as suspect. There is a large amount of evidence repudiating this dump, and many people residing across our great country have been protesting it for more than three years. We are ignored, and our concerns are discounted.

It never occurred to us we'd have to protect ourselves against those we elected, but here we are. It's time to direct our protests towards our government, and persuade them to change their minds. Their decision can be reversed, and that will take strength of character. It is not just our lake that is at stake, this is precedent-setting for our whole Province. Our government needs to know that this kind of action is unacceptable. Ms Clark and Ms Polak, please understand that our children are counting on us all to do the right thing, to protect the world they will inherit. We

can do no better than to start with Shawnigan Lake, but there are other areas that are at risk.

To the Media, please publish our letters. To anyone reading our letters, please share with your own loved ones and friends, learn about this and discuss it. Please join the Shawnigan Residents Association, <http://www.thesra.ca/>

To Ms Clark and Ms Polak, please be part of the solution. We are sad, we need your support. We are afraid of the coming New Year, but still, we wish you the best for 2016.

~*Elaine Dale Fitch*

Mason's Beach 'boom' update

Earlier this year, a plastic and Styrofoam boom was installed at Mason's Beach. I believe it was in February 2015. A few years of study and hard work from the CVRD Engineering Department resulted in this solution to the long time original log boom that was removed about eight years ago. The purpose of the log boom at that location was to a) stop debris from entering and clogging up the creek and b) to protect summer swimmers from boats.

As a result of the last windstorm in November, and I might add the first real windstorm since the plastic boom was installed, a number of logs and a dock somehow managed to end up in the creek bypassing the CVRD engineered replacement boom.

As a former member of the Shawnigan Parks Commission, I recall a number of meetings that contained lengthy discussions regarding the replacement of the original boom, which had performed adequately for decades. The CVRD Engineers at no time consulted the Commission regarding a solution to the expensive annual cleanup of debris. There was no consultation regarding the expensive, unsightly boom at one of our feature parks. The CVRD found their own solution; spent our tax dollars; and installed this costly mess...they could have installed a sign saying, No Debris Allowed Beyond This

Point and it would have been as effective.

A dock can weigh several tons and with the force of a 70 or 90 km wind can produce a lot of momentum. One would think that an engineer might have come to the conclusion that a piece of Styrofoam would not stop the equivalent force of a moving truck.

We await your next solution. Perhaps spray the floating boom with dock and log repellent? C'mon people, I hope that, in the New Year, the CVRD might start listening to this community. We live here.

~*W.S.*

Shawnigan Water Issues

I read, with interest, some recent commentary from Doug Prenevost concerned with septic systems around Shawnigan Lake.

I remember the famous hamburgers that were named after Doug and his brother when their family owned the Galley in the 1970s. Times were simpler then. Yes, there were outhouses and the odd failing septic system. Wildlife, then and now, also contribute E.coli and coliform. These are bacteriological pathogens that can (infrequently) cause illness. They are flushed out as part of the water cycle and can easily be rectified by treatment or boiling. This claim is backed up by the fact that the Health Authorities have never issued a "Boil Water" advisory for Shawnigan.

The toxins allowed by the Ministry of Environment permit for the contaminated waste facility are a more serious threat. They cannot be removed by boiling and are deposited in the sediment. Heavy metals, dioxins, furans, PCBs, PAHs, and the like, are persistent. They accumulate over time and the effects are sinister. This is backed up by the recent "Do Not Use" advisory, issued as a precaution, after a breach at the SIA site. It is worth visiting the facility at Stebbings Road; walk around the back perimeter and judge for yourself, if there will never,

ever, be a problem.

The argument that the lake is so compromised by other problems that the contaminated soil facility will make little difference is false and misleading. It is often promoted by people who have a financial or other connection to the proponents.

It is alleged that the MOE decision to award the permit was based on misrepresentation and conflict-of-interest. I am confident that the courts will confirm this and the permit will be overturned. Community efforts can then focus on working towards a positive vision for Shawnigan which includes a vibrant economy and a healthy population based on sustainable, ecological values.

Regards, Dave Hutchinson

Dear Mr. Trudeau,

I write to you very disheartened about the future of our community.

I have just returned from a public community meeting that outlined the considerable risk to our drinking water. The activities that impose these risks are being allowed to carry on and our own Provincial Ministry of Environment has failed to protect us. I am a family physician in the small but mighty community of Shawnigan Lake (not Shawinigan) and I have grave concerns about the future of our drinking water, our lake, our fish, and the health of our community.

The British Columbia Ministry of Environment has granted a permit to South Island Aggregate/Cobble Hill Holdings to allow the dumping of 100,000 tonnes of toxic and contaminated soil per year for the next fifty years. The significant concern is that this site sits immediately adjacent to Shawnigan Creek which is the direct feeder to Shawnigan Lake, the source of drinking water for 12,000 members of our community. Most grade four children recognize that this is a bad idea and see the folly in this.

On November 13, 2015, some of our worst fears were realized when, just eight

months into this fifty year permit, and after our first of very many heavy rainfalls, there was a breach in the containment of the water flow from this toxic waste site. Contaminants leached directly into Shawnigan Creek.

This breach resulted in our local health authority (Island Health) issuing a "no use" order for residents of the south end of Shawnigan Lake for four days. Despite this serious non compliance of the permit, along with several others, the Ministry of Environment has failed to rescind the permit, or at the very least, apply some pause to the dumping of the toxins until all issues of non-compliance are rectified.

It is important to understand that the permit process was seriously flawed on many levels. For example, the engineering company that provided the "science", on which the permit was based, had an undisclosed partnership agreement with South Island Aggregate.

They are also responsible for the ongoing monitoring and reporting of containment breaches from the site, which they have already failed to do. This is an utter and complete conflict of interest which is putting our community watershed at tremendous risk. It is akin to having a fox being charged with reporting a breach in the chicken coop fence.

I understand that there are issues of jurisdiction in these matters, but I am requesting that, due to the significant potential risks to our drinking water, as well as the significant potential risks to this fish bearing stream and lake, that you assist our community with a proper environmental assessment of these risks.

Our Provincial Ministry of Environment has failed us. However, we as a community are galvanized to STAND UP for our fundamental rights to have access to safe, uncontaminated drinking water.

Respectfully,

*Bill Moulaison, MD
Shawnigan Village Family*



Trucks lined up ready to dump at SIA
Photo Credit - Matthew Ashdown

*On the twelfth day of the
permit, Moe told SLA:
Carry on with dumping
People were arrested
No suspension needed,
The water is just fine,
Don't touch the water
They just don't care
Six tonnes of fraud
Five big fat
lllllllllllllllllllllles,
40 tonnes of sulfur
3 useless public meetings,
2 poisonous companies
And fifty years of dirty dirt*

Directors Report - Area B

Sonia Furstenau
Director Area B

It's five pm on New Years Eve. The family got away for some snowy fun up island today, but I stayed home to work on the big event that's coming up next week. Indeed, I've been working all week, contacting media, politicians, NGOs, and encouraging all of them to come see what's happening in Shawnigan Lake.

It wasn't quite what I had in mind for the winter break – on the computer, going to meetings, making phone calls, writing emails – but when the opportunity presented itself, there was no way I was going to let it go.

And I don't mind, because there are three things motivate me.

First, to try to do the right thing for our community by giving everything I've got to protect our water.

I asked my daughter, who sometimes misses me even when I'm home, why she thinks I'm working so hard. "Because you don't want people to get sick," she replied. She is exactly right. It's as simple as that – I care deeply about the people of Shawnigan Lake, and I do not want harm to come to anyone in this community. I believe the contaminated landfill poses a risk to the future health of Shawnigan Lake, and so I will work to have the permit revoked.

The second thing that keeps me going is hope.

Hope helps me get past all of the insanity, all of the unbelievable decisions that have been made by our provincial government, all of the disappointments that we've had to deal with in this slow-motion nightmare. For without hope, I would be unable to give my time,

my energy, or my efforts to this fight – it's hope that gets me back to it every single day, because I believe without a doubt that we are going to win.

And over the last several weeks, my hope has been nurtured and fed by the actions and determination of this community. I became more hopeful with each morning that people chose to show up in the cold and dark on Stebbings Rd. More hopeful still when over 400 people came out to a community meeting in November, looking for direction for the next steps we're taking together. I was bursting with hope when a week later, over 100 people came out to an organizing meeting and signed up to be on teams, so that the work that we're doing is done in a coordinated manner. And every day when new people with energy, skills, expertise, passion, and commitment show up, asking how they can help, I grow more hopeful. When I get emails from people in New Brunswick, Ontario, the Yukon, Alberta, and all over BC who offer their support and solidarity, and encourage us to keep up the good fight, and tell us they're all watching and rooting for us, I am filled with renewed hope. When musicians send me the songs they've written about our fight, and the songs are not only great, but also capture exactly what's happening in our little town of Shawnigan, I feel enormous hope.

I feel hopeful because our story is being heard, and people understand why we're fighting so hard, and they want to help.

The third thing that keeps me going is gratitude.

I am so grateful to see something extraordinary emerge out of this terrible situation: a deeply connected, compassionate, and caring community. Think of how many more people you know in Shawnigan



today than you did a year ago, or even three months ago. And think of the acts of kindness and generosity that have become absolutely normal in this community. Hot coffee, muffins, cookies given to protesters on cold mornings; gas cards and coffee cards given away to people who are giving their time and energy to the effort; supportive phone calls, emails, messages on social media, warm hugs and kind words exchanged every day. It is impossible not to notice and feel the ways that kindness and generosity are daily being woven into the fabric of Shawnigan.

It won't be toxic soil that will linger in our watershed for fifty years. What will last instead will be the fundamental transformation of our community into a cohesive and unified whole, bound by the one thing that connects all of us: our determination to protect our water.

I very much looking forward to 2016, for I know that this year will indeed be the turning point for our community, and we will be able to use our boundless energy to build a truly wonderful future. And we will do it together. Happy New Year.

Area B Parks Commission

Margaret Symon,
Area B Parks Commission

Happy New Year from the Shawnigan Park Commission!

Last December the community of Shawnigan Lake received good news that our terrific fundraising efforts had paid off! Thanks to a combination of community raised funds and reserve funds from the Shawnigan Lake Community Parks, the CVRD Parks Department was able to purchase Old Baldy Mountain for our own Shawnigan park! Our Area Director, Sonia Furstenau, acknowledged preservation of Old Baldy's sensitive ecosystems and nature trails has been a high priority for Shawnigan Lake residents for many years.

Over twenty five years ago, long-time resident George Norris (who has since passed away), with strong support from his wife, Phyllis, started spearheading a campaign to preserve Old Baldy and other natural areas at Shawnigan. In the late 1990's, when a consortium of owners proposed a major development for Old Baldy, George assembled an ad hoc Shawnigan Trails Committee in his backyard art workshop to prepare a plan of action; meetings were held amidst sculptures and sawhorses. George grew up in an age before emails and cell phones, he relied on the landline telephone and hand-written letters (with carbon paper copies) to get the message out to government officials about the important contribution of Old Baldy Mountain to watershed protection and local biodiversity.

In the absence of computer imaging, George took panoramic pictures from Old Baldy's summit and created viewscape dioramas. Phyllis Norris, together with Fred and Anita Mohler, and Don Webb, identified and photographed over fifty wildflowers along the bluffs and ridge trail of Old Baldy.

As a member of the former Shawnigan Trails



Committee, George and Phyllis had welcomed me - and even my "troop" of then small boys – to the backyard workshop meetings and trail surveys. Around the time I joined the Shawnigan Park Commission, George was getting on in years and in failing health. You can imagine how honoured I was when George handed over to me his "Baldy portfolio" – a thick collection of correspondence, maps and photographs appealing for the preservation of Old Baldy Mountain. Tonight, as I looked through the files, I found a speech George Norris prepared for a public meeting over fifteen years ago to address a proposed major development scheme at Old Baldy:

"Whether you are an old-timer like [me] whose family goes back three generations, or new-comers like neighbours of mine, most people here tonight have very strong feelings about this place [Shawnigan] and particularly for Old Baldy Mountain..."

When George Norris handed over his precious files there was a commitment to ensure Old Baldy would one day become a park protected for perpetuity. Thanks to the great efforts of this community, we can celebrate our most recent park acquisition. Now we need your help to help manage and protect this sensitive and very special mountain park at Shawnigan.

SHAWNIGAN CEMETERY

Notice of Annual General Meeting 2016

To receive reports and review accounts for the year
January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

Date : Sunday, January 24, 2016

Time : 12:00 NOON

Place : **SYLVAN UNITED CHURCH - HALL**
985 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road
Mill Bay, BC

Contact : Roy Davies - ADMINISTRATOR
250-929-6100

Shawnigan Cemetery

SHAWNIGAN BASIN SOCIETY Foreshore Restoration Workshop



February 2016

• Free Full Day -TBA

• Guest Speakers

• Hands-on Application

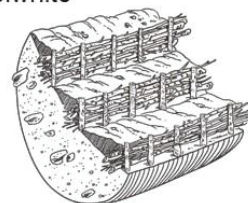
Learn how to bioengineer along the foreshore in an effort to maximize watershed resiliency. These techniques include native plants selection, slope stabilization, disburse wave energy.

CALL TO ACTION

Property Owners:

If you are seeking to ecologically restore your foreshore.
Please contact Kelly Musselwhite
at luvlife@shaw.ca

Learners: If you would like to learn and attend this **FREE** workshop please contact: info@jennyberg.ca



The Shawnigan Watershed 2050

Bruce Fraser

My implanted random future generator chip has just produced a hologram of the Shawnigan Watershed as my unconscious mind would like it to be in 2100. How it does this I don't actually know. But, for the more familiar human reproductions, the chip monograph says that biometric signals are fed into the Google BodSimulator which then uploads them to a quantum computer with 3D printer loaded with anatomically correct metabolites.

Before trying it on a whole watershed I have used it frequently to help young prospective parents choose among various options in gene engineering their five parent, in-vitro children before ordering a Musselwhite Scientific Solutions robotic nanny. No-one wants to mismatch technologies these days for fear of having to raise a natural child themselves.

For the watershed hologram, the inputs are Yamaguchi Satellite Corp. and Millar Drone Products Inc. intelliradar multilayer remote sensing visigrams. These were pretty hard to come by given that the old ministry of environment that originally housed them was mothballed in 2017. Fortunately, the Martinez Memorial remote sensing doomsday cache on the Canary Islands had copies that they were willing to share. Getting the information downloaded into my own chip took some

time because the connector redtooth junctions have been changed between models. I got Savage Industries Inc. to cobble one together – they can do almost anything.

You might ask why I would leave the lucrative field of child corrections for something as complex and unrewarding as watershed restoration. It is just that I have been looking at old simcubes from 2030 that I found in the Shawnigan Museum. They show the conditions that led up to the collapse of the lake as a public water supply beginning in 2015. I just couldn't sleep with all the evidence of neglect and felt I should at least try to dream up a simsolution. Work has proceeded much faster than anticipated given the generous financial help from the Pearly Gates Foundation and the technical expertise of the Stevens laboratory of the Vancouver Island University HoloLab Group.

The simcubes were remarkably explicit, given that the late twenty-seven years were so focused on beliefs about the endless supply of natural resources in British Columbia and that virtually any environmental problem could be addressed by permits and monitoring. In fact, whole government ministries were engaged in issuing permits and setting up proponent-driven monitoring systems. It was actually quite difficult for investigative reporters, like Scoop Hutchinson of

the Shawnigan Focus, to get original test result information before it was triple deleted by the Clark Government. Local citizens were forced to use Salmon-Price Water Test Kits to get samples by themselves that would stand up in the many aggressive court proceedings of the day.

What the simcubes showed was a cumulative impact nightmare. In the twentieth century the gently sloped and lakefront lands of the watershed were all subdivided into small recreational lots and settled by prominent families from Victoria who came by steam train excursions, only in summer. Their shoreline cabins were served by biffys or rock pit septic fields, many so close to the lake that they were conveniently flushed each winter. In the later years of the century, after about 1970, many of the old cabins were converted into year-round residences for large families, overwhelming the rudimentary sewage facilities that then enriched the lake. The gentle days of canoes and loons also quickly transformed into the manic years of wake boats and lunatics.

The hills around the lake, covered as they were by old growth fir forests, soon fell to the axe and were milled on the lakeshore before the lumber left for the big smoke of Chemainus and points beyond. Shawnigan Village thrived in those days, sporting a hardware store, a dance hall, a hotel and a gas station.

Remnants of those heady days are still evident in the form of leaning pilings in the lake where the milling was done, by the fenced-in site of the razed dance hall and by a row of empty storefronts owned by a landlord that truly hopes they will one day be rented to someone with an assured cash flow.

What was most shocking in the simcube record was the extraction of gravel from deposits left by the glaciers that created the valley and the lake. One abandoned pit along the Sooke Lake Road was pictured as a source of the annual silt plumes that created the delta at the south end of the lake. Another had become a waste dump, with suspect material arriving in the dead of night, but faithfully recorded by pit lamping witnesses from the Lake Watch Grannies. Their poignant song and dance routines, choreographed by Jennie Marimba, are devastating, but enliven the tedious record of destruction that fills the cubes.

As the year 2010 rolled around, one of the gravel pits was transformed, by permit and monitoring of course, into a contaminated soil landfill. It was the last act of the ministry of environment before it was disbanded in 2017 by the Weaver Cabinet as a result of a Supreme Court Order following the landmark case of Aggregates vs Bell-Irving in which the true grit proved to be in the person and not the quarry. Local support for the case saw millions of dollars raised by the community to fight off incoming toxic soil, toxic politicians and toxic lawyers.

About this time the Cowichan Watershed Consortium organization, full of

well-meaning but terribly underpaid professional staff, was secretly working on a scheme to manage all of the watersheds of the East Coast of Vancouver Island. Unfortunately their well-planned initiative was sidelined with the disappearance of the ministry of environment and the failure of their alternate approval funding. The whole-island vision collapsed but the Cobble Mountain Agenda, as it came to be known, did give rise to the Incorporated Greater Municipality of South Cobble.

Mayor Collins, elected in the November 2018 civic elections after a vigorous selfie and street corner waving campaign, dedicated herself to the cause of watershed protection, providing it did not in any way reduce the further subdivision of Goldstream Heights, impinge on the use of watershed lands for industrial logging or hinder the Subaru Triathlon from using the west side road. The new municipal council was otherwise completely distracted by a hot debate over the bar closing hours in Baldy Mountain Lookout Restaurant's Furstenau Room.

Things got really interesting when the Westland report indicated that the entire Shawnigan community was willing to absorb a 20% increase in taxes to support an ecological restoration initiative to bring the watershed back to the pristine conditions of 1865. The planning team made its public debut on the after platform of the Victoria Courtenay Rail Society club car, with Sir John A. Treloar convincingly re-enacting the inebriations attendant on driving the last spike at Cliffside.

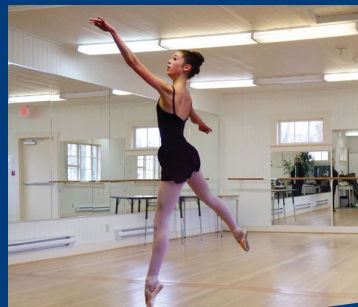
It is remarkable that the 2100 hologram looks just like pre-contact Vancouver Island.

DWIGHT SCHOOL CANADA

Igniting the spark of genius in every child



**GRADES 7-12 | BC AND IB PROGRAMMES
SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**



2371 Shawnigan Lake Rd • Shawnigan Lake, BC • 250.929.0506
email admissions@dwrightcanada.org for more information



www.dwrightcanada.org

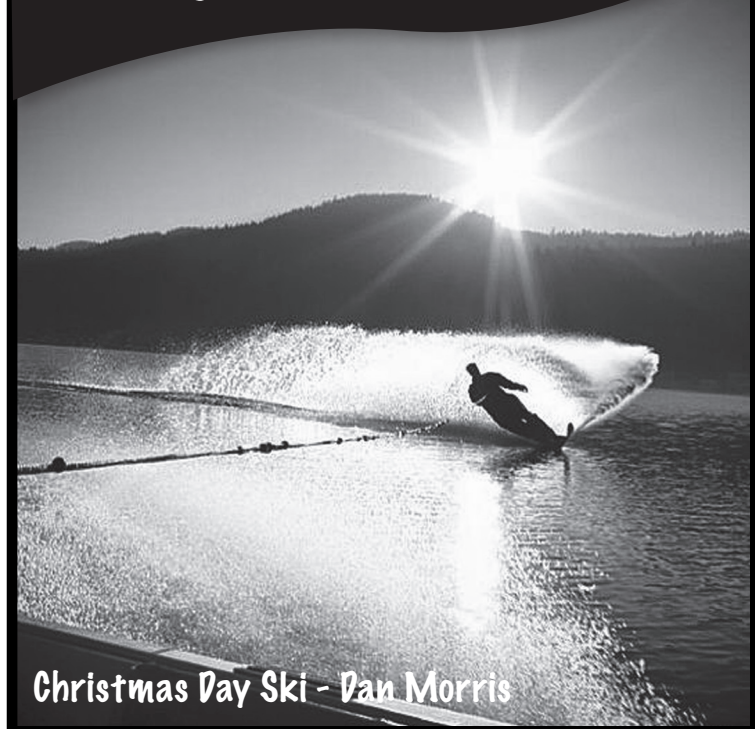


[dwrightcanada](https://www.facebook.com/dwrightcanada)



[@dwrightcanada](https://twitter.com/dwrightcanada)

Shawnigan Moment



Shawnigan Lake Business Association

Patty Oldfield
SLBA President

Thank you! to all who attended "Christmas in the Village" for making it a wonderful event. The wind-storm kept the famous SLBA hockey rink and entertainment tent out of commission and there was talk of the event not happening but, when we asked Santa for his advice, he gave a hearty Ho! Ho! Ho! That provided all the encouragement the volunteers needed. An aerial performance at Kali Yoga Studio started off a fun filled afternoon that included Woodruff music studio providing great entertainment, with a sing a-long, showcasing the talents of young and old.

Crafts, cookie decorating, food, drink, and a visit by Santa completed a terrific day of old fashioned Christmas fun. The Shawnigan Lake Business Association, who sponsors Christmas in the Village, would like to say "Thank You" to all who helped out, including the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre, Thrifty Foods for the cookies, Main Road, Gavin (for the tree), and the Shawnigan Lake Museum (for arranging for Santa to visit everyone at this busy time of year), and to the cutest elf ever! and the many volunteers. Over \$320 was presented to the Food Bank from the donations collected from food and drink donated by Hosuka and Village Chippery.

Find out more about the Shawnigan Lake Business Association and how to become a member at www.shawniganlakeonline.com

The Shawnigan Lake Business Association wishes a Happy New Year to all.



Village Light-up with Santa
Photo Credit - Sally Davies



Patty hands over donation to local food bank

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.

-Margaret Mead



- Road Bases / All Types
- ½" - ¾" Clear Crush Rock
- Crushed Screenings / Cart Path
- Driveway Chips
- Boulders
- Road Building Materials

Coast Mountain Resources is Southern Vancouver Island's most scenic rock quarry. We are based at the Historical Bamberton Quarry, providing top quality aggregates to the Greater Victoria, South Vancouver Island, and West Coast construction and marine markets.

We can arrange delivery.
Residential / Commercial
Locally owned and operated.
Supplying the Cowichan Valley & local area.

QUARRY OFFICE & DISPATCH
778-356-4056
COMMERCIAL SALES
CONTACT : Rick Hannah
MANAGING PARTNER - QUARRY OPERATIONS
admin@coastmountainresources.com
www.cmraggregate.com
1451 Trowsee Road, Bamberton, BC

Take A Hike!

Robyn Massy
Shawnigan Focus

While I was researching the Heart Lake Trail in Ladysmith, someone lovingly referred to it as “Heart Attack” trail – and honestly that’s not far from the truth, especially for an unseasoned hiker.

The journey began on what I thought would be a leisurely mid-week walking adventure with my son. And for a quick back-story, he’s not what I’d call into hiking per se, but once in a while I get to have him all to myself and connect while we explore nature.

We left the parking area on a residential street and jumped right onto the Holland Creek Trail that leads you tenderly to Heart Lake. On the loop behind the falls, the trail branches off where you can hook up to Heart Lake and the Rotary Lookout.

First trip, with my son, from the signpost and map we went to the right ... before

you stop reading and run out there to try it ... that is the long loooong way around! 11 kilometers worth actually. Oh it’ll get you there alright, but it includes a complimentary butt blaster extraordinaire! Even though we had a lot of fun, and I was pretty proud as my boy did fantastic, it was a tough go under the merciless sunny summer sun. Main learning point that day: you can never have too much water!

Second trip, with a fellow Iron Butt(er) in the cooler days of October, we took the left hand route from the signpost which brings you to the ‘stone staircase’. It does actually start off with a stone staircase and transforms to a sleek switchback all the way up. Now, do not let the word ‘switchback’ fool you though, it’s still bootytastic like the other – minus about 5 Km.

The trails are very well maintained and marked, with the exception of the branch

from Holland Creek Trail. Remember to go past the falls and watch for the link off to the right over a cute little bridge. There are countless trees, plants and fungi to see in this area. And about 2.5k up the stone staircase you can zip off to the right and take a gawk over Ladysmith, the ocean and Marina.

When you reach the lake you are certainly rewarded with a little piece of remote paradise and, for us on that day, we really enjoyed the view in private peaceful harmony. Its rocky outcroppings make a perfect place to stretch out, have a bite to eat, and relax.

Good footwear is definitely recommended for this puppy. It’s a bit gravelly. If you have trekking poles, I would certainly drag them along too, especially for the decline.

To get there, head North on Trans Canada into Lady-



smith, left on Roberts Street, follow to the end, left on 6th Avenue, and park next to the RCMP office. Head right on the trailhead and enjoy yourself!

Map at: <http://www.tourismldysmith.ca/top10/documents/Park-sandTrailsBrochure2013.pdf>

(It really is shaped of a human heart!)

.. ADVERTISE IN THE SHAWNIGAN FOCUS! .. LIKE us on Facebook ~ FOLLOW us on Twitter ..

**Quality
Consistency
Value**



MEAT SHOP LTD.

Experience the Difference! Everyone's doing it!

Steers Meat Market, more than just your village meat market.
We have everything including ...
fresh cut meats, breads, vegetables, fruits, salads and deli meats
... all your grocery needs.

We even have food and treats for your dogs.
Stop by and take a look at our great selections!
Located on Dundas Road in the heart of Shawnigan Village ...
... sharing a home with the Village Chipperry and Thrinx Salon.

FOR SALE
Looking for a local to
buy our local business!
Please enquire @
250-483-4739

HOURS
Tuesday thru Saturday 10 - 6
Sunday & Monday CLOSED

778-356-3313 like us on ... 

2740 Dundas Road www.steersmeatshopltd.com

Aviva Community Funding Program Awards

Kelly Musselwhite
*Executive Director,
Shawnigan Basin Society*

It is not often one has the pleasure of making great news even greater! Recall back to the November Focus issue when I expressed my pride to Shawnigan Lake residents for our 6th place position (out of 17) from the Aviva Community Funding Program based on the accumulation of online votes between October 6 and 23. Numbers showed we did not make it as one of the top 5 finalists, yet I was overwhelmed with gratitude to everyone who showed their support for our “Foreshore to Forest: Restoring Shawnigan Lake’s Watershed” submission...

Although numbers determined our 6th place, one of the submissions with higher votes did not meet full eligibility, which brought the Shawnigan Basin Society’s submission into a finalist position! The Aviva Community Funding Program awarded the SBS \$5000 and moved our idea forward for consideration. Contenders were extremely strong and although we were ultimately not

awarded top prize, I received a phone call from Aviva congratulating the Basin Society for our efforts and the quality of our application. To be sure, I will be calling on community members in the 2016 Aviva application period to once again show your support by voting online.

The Shawnigan Basin Society is now in a position to move forward with specific foreshore restoration projects and encourages lakeshore property owners to consider their properties for ecological restoration. Using bioengineering techniques such as the removal of riprap or cement retaining walls and replacing them with wattle walls and strategically placed live stalks – mimicking nature’s design - foreshore erosion caused by wave energy is effectively absorbed and disbursed, biodiversity of plants is increased, and aquatic habitat is enhanced.

The Basin Society, in partnership with the Shawnigan Residents Association, would love the opportunity to assess your foreshore to determine its suitability for restoration work using funds

received by Aviva.

Your tax dollars, which make up the Basin Society’s annual budget, in many cases provides the leverage needed to apply and be considered for external funds. Now having two additional grant applications complete and awaiting a decision, one from Environment Canada’s EcoAction Grant and another from the World Wildlife Foundation’s Go Wild Community Grant, and yet another from Environment and Climate Change Canada’s Habitat Stewardship Program (Protection Stream) Grant to be completed by its January 15 deadline, I remain optimistic additional funds will be received.

With the goal of securing the integrity of our drinking water, and by working together, we believe the Shawnigan Lake community can enhance riparian areas and collectively protect and restore our watershed’s resiliency!

If you are a lakeshore property owner and are interested in volunteering your property for ecological restoration work to be completed under the leadership of a nationally respected expert, please contact me at lulife@shaw.ca to discuss.



TECHNICAL SERVICES INC.

Cowichan Valley Phone Number: 250-929-5333
Visit us in Valleyview Centre
17 - 1400 Cowichan Bay Road, Cobble Hill, BC

**Need help with your technology challenges?
That's what we do.**

- Onsite service and drop off at our store in Valleyview Centre
- New and used computers, parts, and peripherals
- Help with and repair of smart phones and tablets
- Parts and service for home entertainment and security systems
- Tutoring, workshops, or classes
- Website design, hosting, and domain registrations
- Books, promotional materials, and logos brought to press-ready



Onsite solutions for home and business

Thank you!

The Shawnigan Focus is an independent, local, non-profit publication, produced by the volunteer Focus team. Shawnigan Focus endeavours to inform; promote involvement in the community; and interest a broad cross-section of the residents of Shawnigan Lake.

We could not do this without your support!

In particular, we truly appreciate the advertisers who choose to support us by placing ads. Without that revenue, we would not be able to print and post the Focus to the residents of Shawnigan. Thank you!

We have not set out to make money...we aim to cover our expenses, with enough left to sponsor the Shawnigan Shiver event.

We thank the many contributors each month who take the time to produce heartfelt letters; community reports and meaningful content for the Focus.

We thank WebExpress for the amazing service. Although we are relatively small potatoes in the print world, they treat us as valued customers.

We thank the staff at Canada Post in Shawnigan for their patience and interest in handling our monthly paper. It is obvious that they care about it.

We thank our Focus team: **Kim**, who keeps our accounts straight and creates beautiful ads (without charge) for our advertisers. **Taryn**, who takes chaos and creates order laying out our paper every month. **Peter, Monica, Marcy, Lin, Bernie, Bev and Sally** who come out each month to proof the copy. **Janet**, who delivers the 'extras' far and wide every month; and **Grant** who can be relied upon to do jobs as needed.

Lori and Dave

Co-editors of The Shawnigan Focus

Book Review

Marcy Green
Shawnigan Focus

Letters to My Grandchildren

by David Suzuki
Published by Greystone Books
Copyright 2015 by David Suzuki

I hesitated to buy this book, fearing it might be too preachy. However, the enthusiasm on both my 19 year-old granddaughters' faces at Christmas made me glad I had read the book and then passed it on to them as a gift.

As the blurb says, it's David Suzuki's most personal book to date. He tells stories of growing up in a Japanese internment camp in Slocan, living on little but the fish his father caught and what food the Doukhobor neighbours had to share. He also discusses growing up with racism, living through the Great Depression and the lessons he learned watching his family struggle to survive. In spite of all the hardships his family endured, his mother taught her children "to share, don't be greedy". These childhood experiences left a deep impression on Suzuki and so he writes this book to pass on his learned values and beliefs to his grandchildren. As an older person he says he could die at any moment, and that, rather than considering this a morbid thought, "any elder who doesn't

think about death is avoiding some serious issues." So, the clock is ticking and he has things to say.

It was interesting to read how he found his niche in the field of genetics, pursued his education, and, fortunately for us, decided to stay in Canada. His career path is a wonderful example of saying yes to each opportunity as it presented itself, and we hear of the fascinating story of his beginnings and eventual prominence in radio and TV. His emergence as a respected and famous environmentalist is explained simply. He followed his heart, used his experiences, and, from a media stage, taught that there was much at stake in the natural world if we didn't begin to respect and look after our planet, or the Blue Dot, as he calls it.

The many lessons he wants to teach are easy to digest and are nicely written in short chapters. He addresses each of his six grandchildren separately and uses their own personal situations to demonstrate a point. How wise and loving he is; so much so, that I feel very connected to him as a grandparent as he writes of his sincere hopes for each of these beloved

and unique grandchildren. He also holds their parents and grandmothers up as fine examples and is obviously very proud of what his children have accomplished.

I recommend this book for everyone. Young people will be inspired and those of us who are older will be reminded why activism is so important. Of course, we are already a very engaged community of people rallying to save our own watershed, but it is heartening to consider that there are many other people who are as passionate about their environment as we are.

This is a very gripping book and worth keeping in your personal library. Well-written and simply stated, it speaks of the beauty of nature and the importance of our connection to our surroundings. In Suzuki's world, avoidance of the issues is not a positive option. "My most important piece of advice to all of you is to be thoughtful about the way you live." His hope lies in the next generation and he urges them to think about what they will be most proud of when they become elders like him. Good advice for all of us.

Rating: 5/5 stars

YSAGS Report Our President Ed Wiebe



Oriana Parker
YSAGS

The Young Seniors Action Group Society (YSAGS) meets regularly at the Malahat Legion on the Shawnigan Lake Mill Bay Road. Members are 55 years of age and older with a wide range of interests. Some of the activities include Walking, Hiking, Line Dancing, Zumba, Digital

Photography, Wood Carving, Chess, Quilting and much more. The cost to join is \$20 per year. They have a Blog: <http://blog.ysag.ca> where you can find a Calendar of Events and more information on the group.

Ed Wiebe is the current president of the YSAGS. Ed is an extremely enterprising individual whose heart is rooted in his community of Shawnigan Lake. He has many fine attributes stemming from his upbringing in Manitoba. His great grandfather Toews was a member of a conservative Russian Mennonite group who were conscientious objectors to compulsory military service and believers in pacifism. This group immigrated to Manitoba in 1873 and settled in rural communities in southern Manitoba. The Mennonites have been recognized for their contribution to Western agriculture.

A medical technologist by training Ed had the ability to work both in Canada and the US. Consequently, he spent

eighteen years in Washington State before returning to Powell River, and then on to Victoria, where he tried his luck as an entrepreneur. He owned and operated Cyclepath (a bicycle shop) on Burnside Road for four years. After selling the business his next venture was to embark on a career with MDS in their microbiology department.

Today, as a retiree, Wiebe is serving his community as President of YSAGS. As well, he is a member of the Shawnigan Residents Association which is opposing the SIA dumping of toxic soil in a quarry. On most days you will find Ed and a friend out and about monitoring activities at the quarry. Ed, together with others in the community, have taken it upon themselves to be watchdogs in order to safeguard the quality of the drinking water in the Shawnigan Lake area.

For more information on YSAGS you may reach Ed at 250-743-8344 or by email at: ysagssl@gmail.com

Family Pack Fish'n'Chips

COD FAMILY	\$31.99
SALMON FAMILY	\$39.99
HALIBUT FAMILY	\$51.99

FAMILY PACKS INCLUDE :

- 6 Pieces of Deep Fried Fish (Deep Fried only for Family Packs)
- Large Box of Chippery Fries
- One Pound Tub of Coleslaw

* Family Packs feed up to 4 persons on average.

OPEN DAILY 11-7:30
LUNCH • DINNER • LICENSED
DINE-IN or TAKE-AWAY
250 929 8886
MENU ONLINE @ www.villagechippery.com
2740 Dundas Road, Shawnigan Village

SALISH SEA BODYWORKS

- Shawnigan Lake's Premier Personal Training
- Pre-hab/rehabilitation of musculoskeletal injuries
- High performance sports training
- Treatment of low back pain
- In depth postural analysis
- Custom fitness & exercise programs
- 20+ Years experience, references available!

Kennedy Kinghorn
Corrective Holistic Exercise Kinesiologist II
Certified Health & Fitness Specialist
Massage Therapist
250-732-5113

Don't be a target for a fake Lotto win or prize

Oriana Parker,
South Cowichan
Community Policing

Arising from the fact that every year Canadians lose millions of dollars to scammers, the RCMP has compiled the first Canadian edition of The Little Black Book of Scams. This book provides valuable information on the many types of scams such as those online, in the mail, door-to-door and by telephone. This month we are looking at how Canadians are lured to send money to claim a fake prize or lotto win.

What to look for...

You cannot win money or a **prize in a lottery** unless you have entered it yourself, or someone else has entered it on your behalf. You cannot be

chosen as a random winner if you don't have an entry.

Many lottery scams try to trick you into providing your banking and personal details to claim your prize. You should not have to pay any fee or tax to claim a legitimate prize.

Don't be fooled by claims that the offer is legal or has government approval - many scammers will tell you this. Instead of receiving a grand prize or fortune, you will lose every cent that you send to a scammer. And if you have provided other personal details, your identity could be misused too.

A fake prize scam will tell you that you have won a prize or a contest. You may receive a phone call, an email, a

text message or see a pop-up screen on your computer. There are often costs involved with claiming your prize, and even if you do receive a prize, it may not be what was promised to you.

The scammers make their money by making you pay fees or taxes, call their premium rate phone numbers or send premium text messages to claim your prize. These premium rate calls can be very expensive, and the scammers will try to keep you on the line for a long time or ask you to call a different premium rate number.

Protect yourself...

Remember:

- ★ Legitimate lotteries do not require you to pay a fee or tax to collect winnings.

Caution:

- ★ Never send money to anybody you don't know and trust.

Think:

- ★ Don't provide personal banking details to anyone that you do not know and trust.

Investigate:

- ★ Examine all of the terms and conditions of any offer very carefully—claims of free or very cheap offers often have hidden costs. Calls to premium rate phone numbers or premium text messages can be very expensive.

Ask Yourself...

- ★ Did I enter this contest? You cannot win money or a prize in a contest unless you have entered it

SHAWNIGAN LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

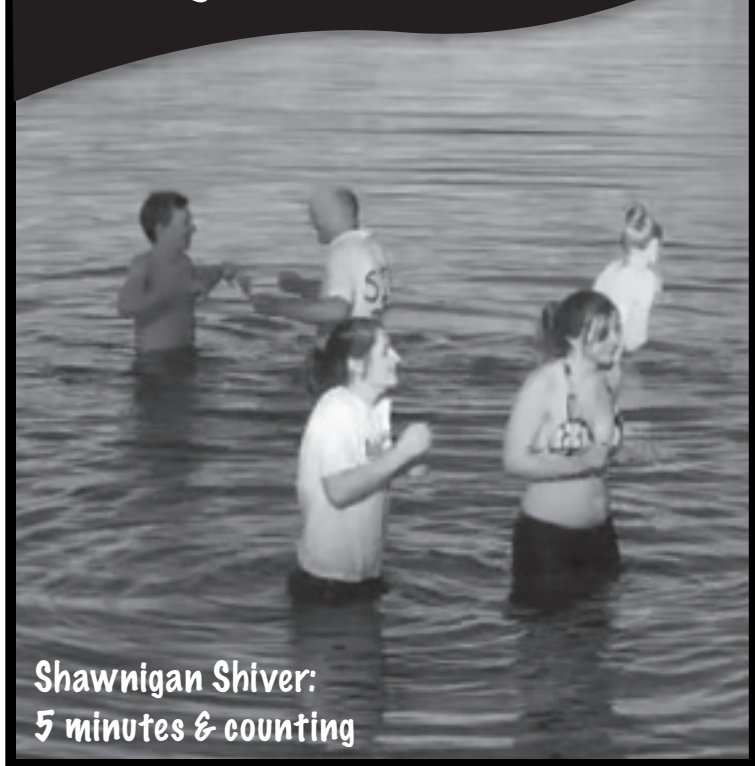
PO Box 201, Shawnigan Lake, BC V0R 2W0
Phone: (250)743-2096
Fax: (250)743-2096
Non-emergency Phone: (250)812-8030
Email: shawniganfire@shaw.ca

*Department Members
Attended 20 calls in December*



- ★ Monday, December 7 - 1st Responder off Deloume Rd
- ★ Tuesday, December 8 - 1st Responder off Carlton Rd
- ★ Tuesday, December 8 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Thursday, December 10 - Hydro Lines on Dandelion Ln
- ★ Friday, December 11 - 1st Responder off Northgate Rd
- ★ Sunday, December 13 - Hydro Lines on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Tuesday, December 15 - Structure Fire on Kews Rd
- ★ Wednesday, December 16 - Assistance in Shawnigan Station
- ★ Thursday, December 17 - MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, December 19 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, December 20 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Monday, December 21 - MVI on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, December 22 - 1st Responder off Northgate Rd
- ★ Tuesday, December 22 - 1st Responder off Wallbank Rd
- ★ Tuesday, December 22 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Thursday, December 24 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Friday, December 25 - Chimney Fire on Dandelion Ln
- ★ Friday, December 25 - 1st Responder off Northgate Rd
- ★ Sunday, December 27 - Hydro Lines on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, December 29 - 1st Responder off Gregory Rd

Shawnigan Moment



Shawnigan Shiver:
5 minutes & counting

Royal Canadian Legion

Comrade Win Teague
Public Relations Coordinator

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 134 would like to thank all of its supporters and volunteers who have helped in any way to keep the Legion alive and well in 2015

We would also like to take this time to wish the whole community a belated Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

2016 will see a number of changes in the LEGION -

hours of opening, kitchen serving meals etc., so look for more announcements in the near future.

We encourage our friends and neighbours to come and check us out. Remember you no longer require a military or RCMP background to join the Legion.

We are always looking for new members who may just have a new idea that may send us in a new direction. We look forward to seeing you and meeting you in the future.



- BCAA Certified Auto Repair Facility.
- Certified Government Inspection Facility & Out of Province Inspections.
- Certified Mechanics At The Best Rate.
- Alignment Specialists.
- Tire Sales & Repair.
- Diagnostics for Domestic, Import & All Make Marine Services & Repairs.

FREE Roadside Assistance to all our customers. Ask us How!

Time to Check Wipers, Fluids, Batteries and Brakes!
Call and make your appointment today!



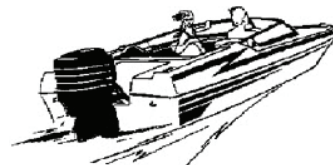
Full Service Save-On-Gas Station
WINTER HOURS:
Monday-Friday 7am-7pm, Saturday & Sunday 9am-6pm, Holidays 10am-5pm

250-743-2122
At the 4-way stop in Shawnigan Lake Village

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sonia Furstenau**
Office hours by appointment. Email sfurstenau@cprd.bc.ca Next Director's meeting Feb 1st at 7 pm. . For updates: check www.soniafurstenau.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)**
No meeting in January. Watershed office: Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Rd
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
3rd Thursday of the month - Jan 21st - 7pm at S.L. Community Centre
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**
No meeting in January
- ★ **Shawnigan Improvement District**
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- ★ **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)**
Board meetings: for info: check www.thesra.ca
- ★ The **SRA legal action** starts again Monday, Jan. 11th at the Victoria Courthouse
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Business Association (SLBA)**
Meetings are the 1st Monday of the month at the Village Chipperry. Email: info@slba.ca for information
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association**
Contact bburr@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**
Tuesday February 2nd at 7 pm. Watershed office: Unit 4-17760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road.
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Info at: www.ysag.ca email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Closed from Dec 21, 2015-Jan 28, 2016. Re-open Friday, Jan 29th. www.shawniganlakemuseum.com Email: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca

**SHAWNIGAN MILL BAY
AUTO PARTS (1992) LTD.**
743-3355



**Mill Bay's
Auto/Marine
Parts Store**
Pioneer Square

Mason's Store

Family owned since 1956

Your one-stop convenience store.

We have everything:

Subs & Hot-Dogs—Slush—Instore Bakery—Lottery—Giftware
Greeting Cards—Balloons—Fax & Photocopy—Dry Cleaning
Rug Doctor—Hunting Licenses—Fishing Tackle

1855 Renfrew Road
Ph: 250-743-2144 Fax: 250-743-7883

**24 Hour
FREE
Estimates
Fully Insured
We Buy Timber**

**Dangerous Tree Removal
Falling * Topping * Limbing
60' Bucket Truck**

COMPETITION TREE SERVICE
BUD BEAM
250-743-2341 CELL 250-744-6898

What Is It? Where Is It?



One lucky respondent with the correct answer will be randomly selected to win two Specialty Coffees at Shawnigan House.
Reply to: editor@shawniganfocus.ca

CONGRATULATIONS

The winning answer for December was submitted by Anna Ruttan who identified the Discharge Point for the SIA Contaminated Waste Dump. Treated waste-water is supposed to exit the pipe but rarely does so as the Settling Ponds leak underground into the nearby creek. Not to worry though, nothing can possibly go wrong except for the odd laundry stain!

Classifieds

FOR SALE MISC

Shawnigan Focus Classifieds is your classifieds of choice. Your message delivered to every address in the Shawnigan Lake area.
\$10 for the first 30 words
25¢ per additional word
Email : ads@shawniganfocus.ca
Telephone : 250-743-2197

EMPLOYMENT

SIGNS



SANDBLASTED CEDAR
CUSTOM ARTWORK
HOUSE NUMBERS
250 701 7408
www.naturesedge.ca

EDIE WRAGG DENTURIST INC.

BUS: 250.743.3311
Fax: 250.743.0737

Valleyview Centre
#18-1400 Cowichan Bay Rd.
Cobble Hill, BC V0R 1L3

PUTTING YOUR BEST SMILE FORWARD!

Sarah & Co Property Maintenance

FREE Estimates Seniors Discount
Carpentry, Eavestrough Cleaning,
Edible Gardens, Gardening, Hauling,
Lawn Care Packages, Landscaping & Design,
Moss-Removal, Painting, Powerwashing,
Rubbish Removal, Small Moving Jobs
RECYCLING

Sarah Davidge 250 732-3591
Nathan Pay 250 466-0521

sarahandcompany@shaw.ca

Esthetics by Lois

In Shawnigan Village

MANICURES • PEDICURES • FACIALS
WAXING • TINTING • LASH EXTENSIONS
REFLEXOLOGY • AROMATHERAPY MASSAGE

250-743-5559

HOURS - Tuesday thru Saturday - by appointment
Evening appointments available



lois@estheticsbylois.ca www.estheticsbylois.ca
1755 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road, Shawnigan Lake

Get NOTICED!

Advertise in the

Circulation 3200

Shawnigan Focus!

Advertise for as little as \$24.98/month!! Contact Kim at ads@shawniganfocus.ca

That guy standing there is my guy, Mark Roch!



Fiona Mayhill

He is standing in his truth and conviction...peacefully protesting the devastation that is unfolding 20 minutes drive north of where I live.

He was number 10 of 9 people arrested last week at Shawnigan Lake. He wasn't arrested and no one after him was either. We don't know why.

You can't see me in this picture...seeing him.

You can't see my fear. Or my tears. Or my outrage. You can't see my horror...as I watch this line of police move in, picking people off one after the other.

You can't see the line of trucks down the road all waiting to dump tons of cubic metres of toxic waste into a watershed. You can't see the poisonous streams dripping from the back of these trucks and running off the road into ditches.

You can't hear the voices of the people crying out...fierce

and furious...speaking for the land, the animals, the water... and all of us on South Vancouver Island who will be poisoned for generations by the ignorance of what is unfolding daily in this local watershed.

You can't hear the fiercely loving messages of protection from the protesters...for everyone, including the police officers here and their families...all who are affected. Or the pleas to join us in standing FOR and WITH what is right, just and sane.

You can't see the 9 people arrested just moments before... those arrested previously or the hundreds of people who have courageously been coming to this site over the last 3 years to stop or at least stem the devastation.

You can't see the ones who are working continuously... diligently...to call out the corruption and abuses of power, corporate deception, and fraudulent governmental practices and inaction that silence,

spin, and sabotage efforts to bring this insanity to light.

And I can't see YOU in this picture...which doesn't mean you aren't right here with me.

I can't see every post, every share, every comment, every like, every blog post, or every conversation happening through or outside of social media. I can't see every letter written, committee struck, gathering held, sign and banner created, t-shirt printed, slogan sung, lawsuit launched, etc.

I can't see every moment of awakening...of activating...of agitating...

...which doesn't mean it's not happening.

I can't see every moment of someone standing in their truth. But I did see this one.

It helps me to find my courage to do the same when I see others in theirs. And I wanted to share it with you in case you feel the same way.

VALLEY HEALTH and FITNESS

Group Fitness | Personal Training | Weight Loss Supplement Centre | Infrared Sauna | Tanning Strength & Cardio Equipment | Free Weights

Valleyview Centre
#1-1400 Cowichan Bay Rd, Cobble Hill
Email: info@valleyhealthandfitness.ca
Web: www.valleyhealthandfitness.ca
Phone: 250-743-0511

BIGGEST LOSER BOOTCAMP Cowichan Valley

jazercise

LTDANCE studio

REGISTER NOW!

| WWW.LTDANCESTUDIO.COM |

Shawnigan Cemetery

EST 1965

"A Community Resting Place"

Information 250 929 6100

Maintained by MALAHAT LIONS

Refund Centre in South Cowichan

NOW OPEN

1350 Fisher Rd COBBLE HILL

TUES-SAT: 9-5 islandreturnit.com

island return it More than a Bottle Depot

HARMONY TAILORS

Shawnigan Lake

Repairs & Alterations Custom Creations Fine Dress Making

Nina Wang : 250-466-4206 / 250-929-4685

Finding the perfect harmony between pattern, design & you.

INDEPENDENT PUMP & MECHANICAL LTD.

Shawnigan Residents Association Members Save 20% on Water Treatment Equipment Offer available to SRA Members Drawing their Water from Shawnigan Lake

All Residents of Shawnigan Lake Drawing their Water from Shawnigan Lake Save 10% on Water Treatment Equipment (Offers available through February 2016)

250-743-3075 • independentpump@shaw.ca

Shawnigan Weather December 2015

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ complied by Grant T'reloar

	December Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
Average High	5.6	5.7	6.6	5.9	6.9	6.4	7.5	6.3	7.2
Average Low	0.4	1.8	1.7	1.1	0.9	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.4
Extreme High	16.0	13.1	13.6	12.8	13.0	13.7	14.2	13.5	14.0
Extreme Low	-15.0	-3.4	-5.1	-4.1	-6.4	-3.9	-5.3	-3.5	-6.5
Precipitation	208.7	272.6	181.1	332.7	182.8	287.4	157.6	313.2	180.8
Days w precip	20	23	22	23	22	24	21	24	21
Precip since Jan 1 (mm)	1247.6	1220.9	1350.5	1281.8	1306.7	1113.0	1143.4	1223.2	1242.8
Rank since 1914: 26 th warmest, 10 th wettest									
Lake Temperature: Dec 6 th : 6° Dec 13 th : 6° Dec 20 th : 5° Dec 27 th : 4°									
Lake Level Change: Dec 6 th : +29cm Dec 13 th : +46cm Dec 20 th : -27cm Dec 27 th : -20cm									

Shawnigan Weather Annual Report

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ complied by Grant T'reloar

	Shawnigan Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
Average Temperature	9.6	11.7	10.9	11.1	10.5	11.9	11.3	11.4	10.7
Extreme High	37.2	35.0	34.1	34.1	34.6	35.2	35.8	34.0	33.5
Extreme Low	-21.1	-3.6	-8.2	-5.4	-9.6	-4.4	-8.5	-4.0	-9.0
Precipitation	1247.6	1220.9	1350.5	1281.8	1306.7	1113.0	1143.4	1223.2	1242.8
Rank since 1914: warmest ever, 43 rd wettest									