

Shawnigan Focus

Volume Four - Issue Three

March 2014

A Non-Profit Community Publication

SHAWNIGAN GATHERING ~ 2014

Gathering Program for Saturday, March 29

9:00 am

- ★ Gathering participants assemble in the gymnasium with musical encouragement from our local Marimba band

9:20 am

- ★ Opening Session: Welcome by Chief Michael Harry, Malahat First Nation and Chair Rob Hutchins, Cowichan Valley Regional District

9:45 am

- ★ Brief outline of the Gathering Program and the main themes for the events of Saturday and Sunday

10:00 am

- ★ Rob Hutchins and Chief Harry present Community Service Awards

10:20am

- ★ Keynote Address: The Economic Future of the Shawnigan Area, Blue Sky Ideas and Practical Realities: Geoff Miller, Economic Development Manager of the CVRD

11:00 am

- ★ Break with entertainment by young musicians

11:30 am

- ★ The Island Corridor Foundation and the train: Where to from here? (if information is available in time)

12:00 noon

- ★ Traditional seafood feast provided by the Malahat First Nation in the open Gathering Cafe. Further entertainment by young musicians

1:15 pm

- ★ Children's activity program opens in the gymnasium (including the SLBA portable hockey rink and a reading circle among others)
- ★ Seminar: The Shawnigan Watershed Research Teams in action: Ecological, water quality and economic research to be done and how we will use the information to develop a master plan for the watershed

2:30 pm

- ★ Refreshment break with musical accompaniment

3:00 pm

- ★ Seminar: SLBA Guest Speaker on Using Social Media Effectively for Business

6:00-7 pm

- ★ Music, Choir and Performance Session in the Gym

6:00 pm

- ★ Gymnasium opens for set up of the Business and Community Group Trade Show and Performance Program for Sunday

7:00 pm

- ★ Seminar: The Elsie Miles Property: Sharing community ideas on how to enhance the centre of Shawnigan Village as a special gathering space

Gathering Program for Sunday, March 30

9:00 am

- ★ Business and Community Group Trade Show opens to musical accompaniment and continues all day to 3:30pm

10:00 am

- ★ Gathering Café opens for the day for informal snacks, lunches and chats

10:00 am

- ★ Business Showcase: Plans for the Commercial Development across from the Community Centre entrance; Development of a Market at the Shawnigan-Sooke Lake Road junction; and Discussion of how to make industrial ecology (mimicking nature) work for business

11:15-Noon

- ★ Introduction of young musicians, their instruments and their future plan

1:30 pm

- ★ Trade Show continues with on-stage musicians and performers keeping the exhibitors and visitors entertained.

3:30 pm

- ★ Closing and thanks to volunteers and visitors

3:30 pm

- ★ Trade show ends and the Gathering Volunteer Crew cleans up the Community Centre



SHAWNIGAN FOCUS

MARCH 2014

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ABOUT THE FOCUS

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

Shawnigan Focus is delivered, free of charge, to postal addresses in Shawnigan Lake (Area B). Out-of-town subscriptions are available for a fee. Contact: editor@shawniganfocus.ca

Views expressed in articles are not the opinions of The Shawnigan Focus, but of the authors.

Additional copies are available in The Village.

MAILING ADDRESS

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Sleazy Signs in the Night

Dave Hutchinson
Shawnigan Focus

At least that seems to be the prevalent reaction to the signs that were posted in the Village during the dark hours of February 27. The handful of banners pointedly attacked CVRD Chair Rob Hutchins and Shawnigan Director Bruce Fraser over revelations that they were initially optimistic about South Island Aggregate's plans to deal with contaminated soil.



Hutchins, Fraser, Mill Bay Director Mike Walker and CVRD Manager Tom Anderson joined SIA owners Mike Kelly and Marty Block for coffee at Catrina's Grill in Mill Bay on May 29, 2012. Mike Kelly secretly recorded the conversation and recently provided a transcript to the Times Colonist who released

a story on February 22.

The SIA partners naturally promoted their proposal in glowing terms. Not only had their hired engineers found the SIA quarry to be the ideal location, it would also provide a solution to the proliferation of illegal dump sites around the CVRD which were suspected of containing contaminated material.

The CVRD representatives did make some supportive comments at that first informal meeting. Subsequent developments are well documented and clearly show that early hopefulness was short-lived. At the CVRD Board meeting held August 1, 2012, a motion drafted by Bruce Fraser was unanimously carried which included the following clause:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Cowichan Valley Regional District indicate to the Provincial Government that it is strongly opposed to the deliberate permitting of the use of contaminated soil for land or mine reclamation or other purposes within the public domestic water supply watersheds



To the anonymous sign-makers: Proud of your position? Why not come forward and explain.

of the region, including specifically the watershed of the Shawnigan Community;

It seems absurd to claim that CVRD representatives are secretly working to enable the SIA venture. Whoever posted the signs has chosen to remain anonymous so we cannot present their rationale. Some are questioning whether the intention is to divide the community and weaken overwhelming opposition to SIAs plans to jeopardize the watershed. In any case, they represent a negative energy which does not deserve respect.

Shawnigan Moments



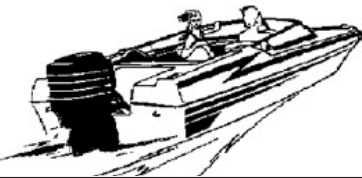
Declan's Snow Dinosaur

PUZZLE MANIA - ANSWERS ON PAGE 5

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A volunteer for our Board who can think outside the box, and who does not **TAKE** or **GIVE** offence in frank discussion.

Several volunteers to help organize the
Shawnigan Lake Adventure for June 1st

250-743-7621 or 250-701-3714

Editorial - Letters to the Editor

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEND US LETTERS... EDITOR@SHAWNIGANFOCUS.CA

The Focus will publish your thoughts on Shawnigan issues: bouquets you would like to offer to special people; things that strike you as funny; challenges you want our civic leaders to consider; and/or ideas that would better our community. Letters to the Editor must be accompanied by the author's full name, address and phone number, but the contact information, other than the name, will not be published. Letters should be limited to 300 words and we reserve the right to edit for brevity or to refuse inappropriate or abusive language. Letters should attack issues - not individuals or groups.

Letter to Honourable Christy Clark

Dear Premier,

February 12, 2014

Thank you for your previous consideration of my letter of September 24th, 2013 and for your most welcome reply. Sadly, I am in a position where I feel compelled to appeal to you again about the issue regarding the water of Shawnigan Lake and an environmental "black eye" that is taking place. Progress was made when the Environmental Appeal Board granted a stay pending the further outcome of the dispute, but now I am dismayed to convey that the Environmental Appeal Board has removed the stay even before the case has gone to court.

The timing and the decision are at best unfortunate and at worst hugely threatening and potentially devastating to the residents of this vibrant community.

I do know how the 'system' works and I am very aware of the multitude of complications, business, legal and other, but I also know that we leaders can never step away when injustice is happening and we can never abrogate our primary responsibility which, as you know only too well, is to the well-being of those whom we lead.

I am appealing for intervention here as I cannot stand by and watch commercial interest and legal dexterity cause wrong to triumph over right. It is wrong to dump anything remotely toxic, up high in the watershed which serves a thriving, beautiful community of 10,000 or so people on Vancouver Island- just wrong. To compound the issue, the plan seems to be to barge further tonnage of contaminated waste from as far away as Prince Rupert. If it's not contaminated, as has been claimed, why barge it anywhere?

Please do consider an intervention here as that is our only chance of two 'wrongs' ever making a 'right'. It is not about what is commercially right or procedurally right or even legally right - it is, I would submit, about what is morally right. Only leaders can make those 'calls'. I thank you in advance for taking the time to read this letter and perhaps to even consider the issue.

My best regards again,

*David Robertson, Headmaster
Shawnigan Lake School*

Wakeboarders continue to give their sport a bad wrap on the Lake

Dear Editor

At a meeting regarding the activities in our community held at the SLCC some time ago, I recall a business owner and wakeboarder stand up to express his disappointment with the community for not being welcoming of wakeboarders on the lake.

He suggested wakeboarders were being unduly vilified by lakefront homeowners; being blamed for erosion of the shoreline, causing a disturbance with excessive noise, and causing dangerous situations with their speed and random installation of jumps.

The photo in last month's Focus of the abandoned wakeboard jump stuck in the creek, illuminates the threat of serious flooding and the certainty of costs to tax payers with it's required removal.

Certainly not all wakeboarders are thoughtless, disruptive and destructive water sport enthusiasts, however, whoever installed and neglected to care for this wakeboard jump basically breached the friendly agreement to respect the lake and community - while further damaging the reputation of wakeboarders. Placing this "cost" on our community and tarnishing the reputation of local wakeboarders is shameful behaviour.

I challenge you to take responsibility by publicly apologizing to the community and paying the bill. Perhaps then, the rest of the community will see wakeboarders in a different light.

Gaileen Flaman, Shawnigan Lake

Thank you, Shawnigan Lake School!

Dear Mr. Robertson,

I would like to thank you for the stand that the school has taken in regard to the proposal to dump contaminated soil in the headwaters of the Shawnigan Watershed and for the generous donation to the legal defence fund to fight this insane idea.

It is interesting and noteworthy that your letter to the Premier of our province is, to

my knowledge, the only one to which she has personally responded. It is also interesting that in an article in the "Times Colonist", the owner of South Island Aggregates has taken exception to the school declaring its concern about the proposed project and further, the involvement of students in the study of the issues involved.

Shawnigan Lake School is a prestigious institution with an international reputation for excellence in education. It has very deep historical roots and is a green jewel in this community. It is also the single largest employer in Shawnigan Lake.

Shawnigan "Lake" is the school's brand and it is vital to its very ethos and to the programs of the school. SIA might want to think of it as a business as well as an historic and vital part of this community and to consider what effect any potential threat to the water of the lake might have on the school - as "business" is apparently the **only** concern of SIA.

Sincerely, Sally Davies

Response to the Midnight Bullies

In early 2012, SIA provided the CVRD and some local Stebbings road neighbours with a glossy brochure that extolled the virtues of the quarry site and its potential for cleaning up the number of illegal dumpsites that had proliferated. They suggested that the material to be brought in would be "industrial grade" non-leachable, easily sequestered and that the geology of the site was greatly favourable to such an operation. They mentioned the remediation

aspect in a passing afterthought as a long-term future possibility. They were given a polite reception but not a gullible one. It was much later in August 2013 when the draft permit was issued by the MOE, that it became evident that a long list of pernicious industrial chemicals were to be allowed and that remediation was to be a major part of the project, a quite different proposal from the content of the glossy brochure and early statements to the CVRD and the public.

Their initial open house at SLCC was not received well because it did not provide for a public Q&A, only a presentation of storyboards similar to their brochure and individual discussions with the Active Earth engineers. The public present called for a proper public meeting where questions could be asked and the replies made where all could hear, which I promised to provide as the open house ended and subsequently the CVRD held in July of 2012. At that meeting it became apparent that the engineering and geology were not as sound as presented and that Active Earth, though experienced with municipal landfills, had never constructed such an industrial facility before. The public exposure seriously weakened, if not eliminated, any potential for public confidence in the contaminated site proposal.

At the August 1, 2012 CVRD Board meeting I put forward a resolution expressing complete opposition to the project on the grounds of the unacceptable risk to a public water supply that became clearly evident at the public meeting and from technical reservations expressed by independent experts. CVRD opposition was repeatedly expressed to government, particularly when the draft permit provided by MOE illustrated the full true nature of the project. That is the basis of our strong legal representations to the Environmental Appeal

Board and the Supreme Court.

The conversation with Mike and Marty, recorded secretly without notice, took place much earlier and was clearly to indicate that the community was already up in arms with the informal dumping, that a working relationship with the MOE was being formed to deal with the matter. The SIA proposal, if pursued immediately, would simply exacerbate community concerns and likely get in the way of the work with MOE to craft a long term solution to contaminated soil dumping. The suggestion from Chair Hutchins that they present their project after the current problems had been addressed was to emphasize that it was politically necessary for the CVRD and MOE to finish the job before another contaminated soil dump was contemplated, however benign it was purported to be. The SIA team was also advised to do a better job of public communication if they wanted an audience that would listen to them, not a suggestion that they would be more successful a year later or that the CVRD would then support them. Subsequent events have proven this advice to be prophetic!

It is important to note the sleaze factor in recording a conversation secretly without notice to those present, something that the TC reporter would presumably not do in her own practice and raises questions about the ethical editorial standards of the newspaper. As for the contention by Mary-Anne Watson in the recent Leader Pictorial article, that the crude, juvenile midnight attack signs in the village were a form of "free speech" is arrant nonsense. They would be better characterized as a fine example of "slandorous bullying", something our whole society is trying to extinguish, whether delivered to our children by social media or shouted in the schoolyards. It is revealing to see where children learn the technique!

Bruce Fraser, Area Director



SIA versus Shawnigan: A Sorry Saga

Dave Hutchinson
Shawnigan Focus

South Island Aggregates Ltd. (SIA) was founded in 2006 by Mike Kelly and Marty Block. Their quarry is located on Stebbings Road.

“I think I may have stumbled on a good thing here” said Mike Kelly in an email to CVRD Planning in October, 2007. *“Yes, get a Mines Act permit and don’t retail and you’ll be in under the F-1 Zone radar”* replied the CVRD Manager. So starts the sorry saga which has pitted SIA against the Shawnigan Community over the company’s plans to spend the next 50 years depositing 5 million tons of contaminated material alongside the main creek feeding Shawnigan Lake, the source of drinking water for several thousand people.

“I would like to fill in the hole with clean fill”, he said back then, and that is how reclamation of the gravel pit began. Then, in late 2010, 59 truckloads of soil laced with tetrachloroethylene (a carcinogenic dry-cleaning solvent) were deposited on-site which triggered Ministry of Environment concerns over hazardous waste violations. Despite repeated orders from the Ministry and the CVRD to deal with this mound of poison, it remains to this day, a stone’s throw from the creek. When the incident occurred, SIA retained Active Earth Engineering to resolve the issue. Under their advice, in October 2011, SIA began seeking formal Provincial approval for receiving and processing contaminated soil.

The initial spin was that their facility would eliminate problems associated with rampant illegal dumping; that their site was ideal due to local hydrogeology; and there would be state of the art facilities which would be virtually failsafe. Also, the mate-

rial to be received, although technically considered to be contaminated, would be relatively benign.

At an informal coffee meeting, furtively recorded by Mike Kelly in May 2012, there was initial support of the proposal by CVRD directors and officials. At an Open House hosted by SIA shortly afterwards, it was apparent that the public did not agree. The CVRD, prompted by the local Area Director, then organized a formal Public Meeting where SIA, Active Earth, and Ministry officials attempted to justify the lunacy of locating a contaminated waste dump in the headwaters of a Community Watershed.

Significant work facilitated by the Shawnigan Creek Protection Association gradually informed an unsuspecting public. The Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA) got on board and commissioned the Lowen Report which challenged SIA and Active Earth’s engineering claims. The CVRD offered to work with the Ministry to find an alternate site. The Ministry ignored this offer and repeated that the appropriate bureaucratic process was being followed. The Premier and Minister of Environment declined to interfere. A Draft Permit was issued for public comment. It became apparent that the list of permitted contaminants included many very malignant substances. PCBs, dioxins, furans, heavy metals; but not to worry, the site was ideal and nothing very bad could possibly go wrong. Despite conflicting scientific opinion and virtually unanimous public opposition, a final Permit was issued on August 21, 2013.

The SRA and CVRD and three private individuals quickly launched appeals with the Environmental Appeal Board (EAB). A Stay was applied for, and then granted

by the EAB. That meant that SIA could not receive contaminated soil, pending a decision on the merits of the appeals.

SIA then applied to “Vary the Stay” because it had already entered into four contracts and would incur financial hardship if not allowed to carry out the work. SIA’s bid on one contract was \$800,000 less than a competitor and SIA would be liable for this amount if prevented from completing the contract as scheduled. To the dismay of the community, the EAB sided with SIA. One of the contracts involves 8,000 tonnes of dredged sediments from a Marine Bulk Terminal near Prince Rupert. SIA lawyer John Alexander was quoted as saying the material does not contain dangerous compounds, just sodium and chloride. Curious then that someone is willing to pay SIA to barge the stuff from Prince Rupert.

Fears have been voiced that SIA is seeking to accept material from up and down the coast. Could barges laden with contaminants from Washington and Oregon be headed for Saanich Inlet, offloaded at Bamberton, and trucked up the road to be dumped in our watershed? The Prince Rupert contract lends credibility to this scenario.

One of the Permit conditions was that SIA post a security to be used to cover any inadequacy of works, default in compliance, or remediation. \$220,000 has evidently now been posted. It is not clear how that amount was determined. It is a paltry sum when a community’s water supply is purposely put at risk. Should a serious event occur, the decrease in property values alone would be in the millions, not to mention the massive negative impact across the local economy.



Signs from 2014 & 2012: Two years of fighting corporate greed enabled by bureaucratic lunacy.

The CVRD has also filed a case before the Supreme Court which asserts that SIA and the Province do not have the authority to override local zoning restrictions for contaminated soil. The complexities of Regional District land use jurisdiction have resulted in contradictory statements from the CVRD and the Province. The CVRD has been criticised for not asserting zoning authority earlier in this matter. No court date has been announced.

Legal teams for both sides have been preparing for the EAB Hearing since September. Over 7,800 documents have been filed. SRA lawyer Sean Hearn says their case will be based on scientific evidence. The SRA has raised about \$130,000 from the community for its legal battle, but will need at least \$70,000 more. You can

donate online at www.thesra.ca.

Marty Block of SIA claims *“we’ve done the science.”* They have certainly paid for their version of it anyway. It has always been in the financial interests of SIA and Active Earth for this project to go forward. There is a lot of money to be made if the Permit is upheld.

Meanwhile, the Shawnigan community wonders what happened to the precautionary principle and what kind of government allows its own Ministry of Environment to jeopardize a community’s drinking water. There is something fundamentally wrong with the process.

The EAB Hearings are scheduled for March 3 through 14 and March 24 through April 4 (Monday to Friday) in Victoria at 747 Fort Street, 9am to 4pm. The public is welcome.

Leola Nugent Family pledges to match donations to SRA legal action fund!

Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)

Shawnigan Lake, BC: In support of the SRA’s Legal Action Fund, the Leola Nugent Family is sending out a challenge to the community and asking people to send in their contributions to the SRA and those monies will be matched dollar for dollar to a maximum of \$10,000! “We hope that this would provide incentive for others to give more generously knowing that every dollar they donate will equal \$2,” states Mr.

Dan Nugent.

“We are touched at the outpouring of support that the SRA has from our community and from people across British Columbia. This is not just a Shawnigan issue. The Ministry of Environment allowing contained soil dumps in drinking watersheds is a concern for everyone in this province. This matching donor opportunity will help us significantly and our sincere thanks go out to the Leola Nugent Family,” says Calvin Cook, SRA Vice President.

The SRA, along with the Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) and private land owners are fighting the permit this month at the BC Environmental Appeal Board arguing the permit is of high risk and must be set aside. To watch the hearings live click here or tune in at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/shawniganlake>

“It’s a sad day when in the year 2014 citizens must raise funds to fight to protect drinking water which could have been avoided had the

Minister of Environment done their job. That being said, the people of Shawnigan Lake are strong and we will continue to fight - we believe in drinkable, swimmable and livable water,” remarks Cook.

To learn more visit us at thesra.ca Learn. Donate. Act.

BACKGROUND: The SRA is engaged in legal proceedings which are before the BC Environmental Appeal Board against South Island Aggregates (SIA) aka Cobble Hill Holdings (CHH) who have been granted a permit by the BC Ministry of the Environment to

dump 5 million tonnes of Contaminated Soil on a slope above Shawnigan Lake. The soils will include dioxins, furans, heavy metals, BTEX, MTBE, VPHs, LEPHs/HEPHs, PAHs, Chlorinated Hydrocarbons, Phenolic Substances, Chloride, Sodium and Glycol to name a few of the contaminants. Over 12,000 residents rely on Shawnigan Lake as their source of drinking water. The SRA believes any level of risk associated with the dumping of these types of chemicals is unacceptable because of the irreversible effects. Sean Hearn and Robert Anderson QC of Farris LLP are representing the SRA.

Director's Report March 2014

Bruce Fraser
Area B Director

There are many positive issues being addressed these days that often escape the notice of those most concerned with the excitement of bad news.

Let's look on the bright side.

- ★ The development of a substantial market in Shawnigan Village is proceeding and should see a building start this spring.
- ★ The Elsie Miles property

has been assembled and community ideas are being put forward about all the potential civic uses of the property that would enhance the gathering capability of the site. Sports, music, performance, fitness, community gardens, expanded community centre – lots of good ideas to help formulate a master plan.

- ★ The Shawnigan Watershed has attracted six major national and

provincial research teams to assess the physical restoration of the watershed forests, monitoring of water quality, assessment of water treatment methods and evolution of our basin's water governance structure. This is being backed up by similar initiatives at the regional level by the CVRD.

- ★ The Shawnigan community is working with the Malahat Nation to forge a long term

cooperative relationship that will recognize the history, culture, title and rights of our native people as we work together to invent our common future.

- ★ The SLBA, Inspire Arts, Heritage and Culture Collective, The Shawnigan Lake Historical Society, the Shawnigan Residents Association, The Shawnigan Basin Society, the Shawnigan Community Association,

Family Caregivers and numerous other civic organizations are in full flight addressing community well-being, civic celebrations, social, economic and environmental health. Vibrancy is our status!

Most of these initiatives and their champions will be featured at the second "Shawnigan Gathering" on March 29-30 at the Community Centre. The program is printed in this edition of the Focus. See



South Cowichan Community Policing Advisory Society (SCCPAS)

Shawnigan 'LAKE WATCH'

Alison Philip, Program Coordinator
South Cowichan Community Policing

South Cowichan Community Policing has put together a new program called 'Lake Watch'. Similar programs have been operating in other communities with great success and this program has the

full support of the Shawnigan RCMP. Through consistent and verifiable reporting the RCMP will be in a better position to act on unsafe or unseemly conduct on the lake and to dispatch the Police Boat when necessary or follow up on complaints. This is a volunteer driven program that puts 'eyes and ears' on and around the lake and we are looking for residents and users of Shawnigan Lake

to form an Action Committee. Members will advise on refinements to the brochure, the webpage, signage and tracking mechanisms as well as recruit volunteers to 'man' boat launches and track activities during the summer months. On our website under Programs you will find the webpage and tracking documents. The tracking will be a means by which to identify problematic boats

and also for the CVRD to keep statistics on lake usage.

'Lake Watch' has the support in principle of the RCMP, CVRD, Shawnigan Lake - BC Parks, Transport Canada, The Shawnigan Residents Association, MADD and the Victoria Aqua Ski Club. This program is fully dependent upon volunteers coming forward and we'd like to hear

from people who are interested in being on the new Action Committee and/or volunteering at the launches.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you by phone, email or in person at our Mill Bay Centre office - #120 - 2720 Mill Bay Road, Mill Bay BC, V0R 2P1. 250-929-7222 ~ sccp@shaw.ca ~ www.southcowichan-communitypolicing.ca



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Shawnigan Community Members voice their concern about SIA

Sonia Furstenau
Dwight International School

On Tuesday, March 4th, students and staff of Dwight School Canada, along with members of the Shawnigan community, came together to voice their concerns about the SIA contaminated soil site by writing letters to the members of the provincial government. Most distressing for the community is the location of the SIA site, which is at the headwaters of Shawnigan Creek. Residents and community members do not want to see 5 million tonnes of contaminated soil dumped in their watershed.

Over one hundred letters were written to members of the Liberal provincial cabinet as well as members of the opposition NDP.

Students expressed their honest and heart-felt concerns.

- ★ “This is a matter that keeps me lying awake at night wondering how I can contribute to the preservation of this lake as a 17-year-old.”
- ★ “The potential for contamination of our lake and drinking water is far too high. This is a matter

of an entire community’s livelihood.”

- ★ “It is the ethical and moral duty of the government to protect its citizens and as such this proposal must be rejected immediately.”
- ★ Local residents also made their thoughts clear, pointing out not only the risks to the drinking water, but also the potential for negative economic impacts on the community.
- ★ “As a community, we should not be forced to assume responsibility for a situation that has come up as a convenient opportunity for other communities, nor should the needs of the many suffer for the financial gain of a business standing to add extra profit from an already lucrative project.”
- ★ “Contaminated water would necessitate the need for costly remediation, processing facilities, and result in downstream costs to our healthcare system.”

The two international schools located in Shawnigan Lake are in particular danger of economic harm from the contaminated soil site, as they recruit students from all over the world

based partly on the perception of Shawnigan Lake being a healthy environment for young people. Regardless of whether contaminants leach into the watershed, the location of the contaminated soil site will be damaging to that perception.

Shawnigan residents also expressed that they feel shut out of the decision process, and that the Ministry of Environment and the provincial cabinet ministers have ignored their concerns.

- ★ “Our community has protested, our elected officials have objected, our residents have been obligated to raise funds to appeal the SIA permit. It is time that you and your cabinet put an end to the uncertainty and turmoil in our community by revoking the permit.”

The SIA’s lawyer has been downplaying the risks that the soil poses, but residents are not comforted. The contaminants listed on the permit include benzene, volatile and chlorinated hydrocarbons, phenolic substances, chloride, and dioxins. The health-related risks of these toxins include cancer, liver and kidney damage, reproductive and neurological disorders,



and death.

One letter writer asks the government “to do everything in its power to protect our water. If not for the students and adults in the community, then for the children and babies, who will likely be more affected by the levels of toxins that will enter their bodies through the simple acts of drinking water and swimming in beautiful Shawnigan Lake.”

Some offered suggestions for alternative sites for the soil.

- ★ “There is already a decontamination facility located closer to Victoria named Terra Vida on Millstream road and it is able to take the contaminants listed in the proposal. But even if that facility is unsuitable for some reason, the CVRD has offered to find a suitable location.”

Finally, many letters reminded the government of the basic tenets of democracy.

- ★ “Although we have a government system where the citizens have a major say on what happens, that doesn’t seem to be the case.”
- ★ “Please represent the people who say they need your help, but most importantly represent the well-being and safety of the people...”

Students and residents look forward to a response from the cabinet ministers, and they extend an open invitation to them to come to Dwight school to speak to the expressed concerns directly.

Global TV News coverage: <http://globalnews.ca/video/1187952/community-fights-plans-for-shawnigan-lake-quarry>

Family Fun on Easter Sunday

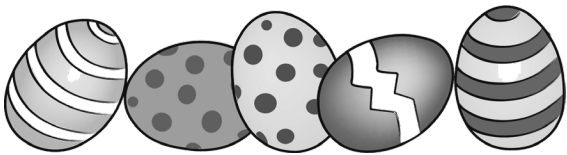
April 20, 12:30 - 2:30 @ Shawnigan Lake Community Centre



The Great
Easter Egg Hunt
will begin @ 1

Ball Hockey
Bouncey Ride
Prizes for Young & Old
B.Y.O.B. - Bring Your Own Basket

Sponsored by the Shawnigan Lake Community Association



Be sure to drop by the SLCA information booth at the
Shawnigan Gathering at our Community Centre on March 30th



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Letters from the Shawnigan Community

March 3, 2014

Honourable Mary Polack
Minister of Environment
Room 112, Parliament Buildings
Victoria BC V8V 1X4

Dear Ms. Polack,

I am a long term resident of Shawnigan Lake and am writing to you to express my concerns regarding the issuing of the permit to allow South Island Aggregate to dump contaminated soil within our watershed. The issuing of this permit seems contrary to so much of what the Ministry espouses in their mandate. In March 2012, then Environment Minister Terry Lake stated in his World Water Day message: "A clean and secure supply of water is absolutely vital to our health, our vibrant communities and the environment that supports them."

To add to that message, within the proposal for "A Water Sustainability Act for BC" it states: "water is our most important natural resource: without it, there would be no life on earth." The proposal stresses numerous times the need to ensure BC's supply of fresh, clean water... "not just to meet our needs today, but for generations to come."

There are also references within the BC Drinking Water Protection Act.

Part 4, Drinking Water Protection states in "Prohibition Against Contaminating Drink Water or Tampering With a System" that a person must not:

introduce anything or cause or allow anything to be introduced into a domestic water system, a drinking water source (Shawnigan Lake), a well recharge zone or an area adjacent to a drinking water source (SLA site) or do or cause any other thing to be done or to occur if this will result or is likely to result in a drinking water health hazard in relation to a domestic water system.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and please consider your Ministry's own words when making these decisions that impact a community's drinking water security and a community as a whole.

Sincerely, Bruce Stevens

March 3 2014
Dear Premier Clark,
My name is Peter. I am 8 and in grade 3. I like to play lego and read books.
I am deeply concerned about a contaminated soil site being in our watershed. The Shawnigan watershed provides drinking water for 8000 people. If that water is poisoned, a water store will be built. 8000 people will buy that water and you will get the money. STOP BEING SO GREEDY.
I am asking your government to do everything it can to protect our water. Save OUR Shawnigan water.
Thank you for taking time to read my letter.
Sincerely,
Peter Salmon
2371 Shawnigan Lake road
Shawnigan Lake BC V8V 2P2
CC: John Horgan

Premier Christy Clark
West Annex
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V1X4
Fax: 250-387-0087

Dear Premier Clark,
My name is Dennisha Atleo I'm a grade 12 student attending Dwight Canada. I'm feeling deeply concerned about a Contaminated soil site being in our water shed. As a community it's our responsibility to take part/action to care for our environment. If our watershed becomes contaminated, due to our responsibility then we should be ashamed. Clean safe water is a human right, all my life I have been more than lucky to have a clean water source. It bothers me, just thinking about chemical filled soil intruding Shawnigan Lake's eco system. It's not too late to save our problem/situation at this giving time. All I ask is you consider my concern and help our community succeed in taking action to save our beautiful Shawnigan Lake watershed. Thank you ever so much for your time, I highly appreciate it.
Sincerely, Dennisha Atleo.

"You can tell more about a person by what he says about others than you can by what others say about him" -Audrey Hepburn

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SIGN UP TO
VOLUNTEER

Shawnigan Gathering

MARCH 29th-30th
@ Shawnigan Lake Community Centre

YSAG

Inspire!

ShawniganWater.org

Living Forest

Malahat Nation

SLBA

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MARCH 29

Welcoming Ceremony
Community Awards, Keynote Address: Economic Future of Shawnigan Lake, Seminars: Island Corridor Foundation, Watershed Research Teams in Action, Elsie Miles Property, Best Practices for Local Businesses. Food, Music, Live Performances.

MARCH 30

Business and Community Group
Trade Show, Gathering Cafe, Business Showcase: Commercial Development at the north and south ends of Shawnigan Lake. Food, Music Live Performances and Entertainment
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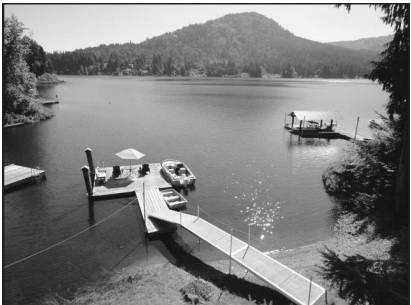
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ARTS, CULTURE &
HERITAGE SOCIETY

We have lots of activities planned at Inspire! with more being added all the time. So mark your calendars and plan to attend!

- ★ March 22 ~ Card Making Workshop with Rebecca Barnard. Cost is \$15 plus \$3 for supplies. 1:00pm - 4:00pm.
- ★ March 22 ~ Join us at the Village Chipperry for “Sauerkraut Saturday with Stephanie” Learn how to make sauerkraut. Learn about sauerkraut. Samples will be given out (when it is ready) to those attending. There is no charge, but registration is required due to the limited space. Contact Patty at the Village Chipperry to

register (250 929-8886). 9:00 am to 10:30am

- ★ March 24 ~ Poetry Jam with Leanne Boschman An opportunity to share favourite poems (your own and other poets’); writing warm ups, individual and collaborative writing exercises; spoken word; basically, as much inspiration and fun with words that we can have together in an evening!! Bring a notebook or some paper and a pen and a favourite poem. Admission by donation to Inspire or bring food items for the food bank. 7:30pm - 10:00pm
- ★ March 25 ~ Family Day installation moves to SLCC for the Gathering
- ★ April 5 ~ Instructive demonstration by David Goatley, portrait artist. David will be demonstrating how he sets up and starts his painting process. Admission is by donation to the food bank. 1:00 - 4:00
- ★ April 26 ~ Pearl Knotting Workshop, with Cheryl Bevan-Gellor of Serenity Pearls. Admission is by donation to the food bank. 10:00am - 12:30 pm

★ April 28 ~ Poetry Jam with Leanne

For the month of April we will have a group show in the gallery of local artists including Lindsey Henderson, Rebecca Barnard, Todd McAneeley, Carolyn and Roger Carr, Sherry Hicke, Karen Severson, Sandy Knowles, Trisha Klus and David Goatley

Ongoing each week:

- ★ Monday: drop-in Zentangle with Rebecca. 1 - 4
- ★ Tuesday: Get Your Artistic Groove On. Come and create art (even if you think you can’t... especially if you think you can’t!). Cost: \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. 1 - 4
- ★ Wednesday: drop-in meditation with Robert Cerins 1:11 – 3:33

There is more in the works so check out <http://inspireshawnigan.com/> for updates and more details. We also have a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/InspireShawnigan>

Come get inspired at Inspire!

Dwight School fencing competition results

Subject: Sabers Clash at Fencing Competition

For immediate release: Thursday, March/06/2014

Contact: Joshua Schmidt | Director of Community Relations | livesmart@westshore.bc.ca | 250-507-8485

Dwight school students courageously celebrate cross-cultural holidays

On Sunday March 2nd, Dwight Canada held its third annual fencing tournament on the school grounds. There were two weapon categories in this competition- one in foil and one in sabre. There were 10 foilists and five sabrists in the event, with the competi-

tors coming from Victoria to Nanaimo.

Winners in the Foil division:

- ★ Bronze – Tied between Sagan Barefoot (Duncan) and Fernando Jorge (Dwight)
- ★ Silver - Roy Laguna Chavez (Dwight)
- ★ Gold - Peter Yang (Victoria)

Winners in the Sabre divison:

- ★ Bronze – Tied between Colin Balme (Duncan) and Felix Grosse (Dwight)
- ★ Silver - Aden Nettleton (Duncan)
- ★ Gold - Neav Murphy-Williams (Nanaimo)

The Dwight School annual fencing tournament rounds out the season for the school, and a key event for students from across southern Vancouver Island to apply the skills they have learnt. The fencing club teaches foil, sabre, and also epee, a weapon where the whole body is target and there is no right of way. Each of the three weapons has different rules and target areas. The students did very well, as for many, this was their first competition and their first exposure to electric fencing equipment. The tournament was refereed by Valerie Russell (Dwight School fencing coach), Georgia Newsome (Salle la Fleche coach), and Weibin Liang.

Digging up the past

Mark Woloszczak
Shawnigan Museum

I have been bottle digging and collecting since the age of 17 but apparently I had also been a collector earlier in my life! The Shawnigan Lake Museum had a Cub Scout night and I took some books and pamphlets on early scouting to display. I actually still have my original Boy Scout manual from when I was 10 yrs. old. I was showing Lori, the curator at the museum, that I had only one badge to show for my efforts but had never noticed in the 40 something years since, that the badge was for “collector”. Another giveaway is that I still have my original stamp collection, coin collection, ribbons & badges from elementary school and grade 1 to 7 school pictures (black and white of course!

For many years I was not interested in digging bottles but I would always instinctively keep an eye out for them. A couple years ago, a friend let me poke around his property and some very cool stuff was coming up, thus the digging bug came out of hiding. It’s a great feeling digging up old and interesting things.

Since volunteering at the Shawnigan Museum, I have a new outlook on searching for artifacts - they belong in the museum for the community to enjoy. They’re out there...you just have to be patient and not give up on the search!

I am a bottle digger but not

a serious collector as many people are. Collectors specialize in certain bottles such as beers, medicines, crockery or what have you. They don’t want the burden of having a 400-500 bottle inventory as I do. I just like to have one of each. I always clean them and appreciate their significance in history. You learn a lot about local history by digging up the past. Old dumps tell you a lot about what the way of life may have been like back then.

Living with a bottle digger isn’t easy. It takes a lot of patience from Val (my understanding other half). She wonders, “don’t you have enough bottles!?” Once I showed up at home with 23 boxes of bottles that I got at a garage sale...poor, poor Val!

Cleaning the items you find is the best part of all. You don’t know what you have until you clean it up. Anything that looks like it could be something goes into my bucket. What you think is a treasure is not always what it appears to be! I once spent a half hour cleaning a washer thinking it was a Chinese coin; cleaning a pine cone for 20 minutes; carefully cleaning a round object for an hour thinking it was some kind of coin or jewelry piece only to find out it was actually a washer off a nail...grrr. The best one of all is when I got home, put the bucket out in the garage and went into the house. When I returned, I saw a snail crawling out of the bucket. Like I told you, if it looks like something,



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OUR CSA: What's In an Acronym

Community Supported Agriculture programs, often known as CSAs, are becoming increasingly popular for farmers and their customers, but many who haven't been exposed to them before aren't quite sure what they entail.

While there are as many options as there are CSAs, the general principle of all of these 'box' programs is the same. During the early spring months, members of the community sign up for the program, essentially making a commitment to purchase a certain amount of product from a farm in the upcoming year. The commitment they make is a financial one as well: shares are pre-purchased at the time of sign up, even though products don't start arriving for up to five or six months.

Why the delay? For farmers, some of our highest costs come early in the spring. This is when we are building needed infrastructure, purchasing seeds, putting in amendments, buying or breeding livestock, and generally preparing for the year ahead. Unfortunately, it's also when income opportunities are lowest, as there is generally very little available

to sell at the time. By buying in to a CSA, customers provide invaluable capital for farmers to start the season. They are re-paid during the months we as farmers have the most product available, and when our costs also happen to be lower.

In return, customers go into the summer knowing they will receive local, in-season produce all season, and that they will have the opportunity to get to know their farmers and food producers well. It's a great chance to learn what is in season at any given time, and to learn some new flavours and recipes. CSAs tend to provide the classics—carrots and potatoes—and the unusual—lovage and edible flowers—which lends itself to a varied experience from week to week.

The average CSA tends to provide a box of vegetables each week. Sometimes these come with a recipe, and sometimes you have the chance to add something like a dozen eggs. Some larger farms, such as Essex Farm in New York State, are able to provide fruit, vegetables, meat, dairy, grains, maple syrup, and more to over 200 members, while others of-



fer far more limited offerings designed to supplement your weekly trip to the store.

At OUR Ecovillage in Shawnigan Lake, we fall somewhere in between, and are also passionate about making our Goody Boxes a fantastic—and unique—experience for our customers.

We are excited to be offering two options for 2014, OUR Lifestyle Box and OUR Veggie-only Box. They will be spearheaded by our

amazing new farm manager, Grant Watson, who comes to us by way of Yarrow Ecovillage, Glen Valley Organics, and a 200+ box program on the mainland!

The Lifestyle Box offers members six veggie items, a fruit item, a dozen eggs or a package of sausages on alternating weeks, a specialty item (this might include a cook book, herb scissors, goat's milk soap, and more), and a recipe each week (\$37/week; \$740/season).

Alternatively, the **Veggie-only Box** offers six veggie items, a fruit item, and a recipe each week. (\$24/week; \$480/season)

This year we are also offering a special offer to NEW Sustainers. Sign up to be a \$20/month Sustainer at OUR Ecovillage and receive 4 BONUS specialty items throughout the course of the year, regardless of box choice.

To find out more or sign up, email marketing@ourecoville.org.

Let them Eat Cake ... at The Shawnigan Lake Adventure!

Cowichan Family Caregivers Support Society

What's better than a day in the beautiful outdoors with friends and neighbours, enjoying healthy exercise, delicious food and wonderful music? The answer: knowing that at the same time, you're helping people in your community! That's the secret of the Cowichan Family Caregivers Support Society's (CFCSS) Shawnigan Lake Adventure... it's a good time for all, and good for the community.

On-line registration for the Adventure is now open at www.shawniganlakeadventure.com. Again, this year you can walk it, bike it, kayak it or geo it! For those who'd like to walk, there will be 5 routes to choose from. Cycling enthusiasts can opt for 1 of 3 new routes while a guided 12k route on the waters of picturesque Shawnigan Lake is available for kayakers. Kids of

all ages can enjoy geocaching on the Trans Canada Trail.

In 2013, the Adventure raised \$22,000 to help family caregivers in the Cowichan area. The need to support family caregivers continues to grow. A Statistics Canada Study: Caregivers in Canada, 2012, stated that: In 2012, about 8.1 million individuals, or 28% of Canadians aged 15 years and older, provided care to a family member or friend with a long-term health condition, disability or aging needs. By participating or volunteering at the Adventure you'll be supporting an important cause that affects many of us.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Shawnigan Lake Adventure, so please jot down Sunday, June 2nd on your calendars to join in the celebration. There will be birthday cake for everyone!

For more info contact Michael at 250-743-7621 or visit www.shawniganlakeadventure.com

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Grades 7-12

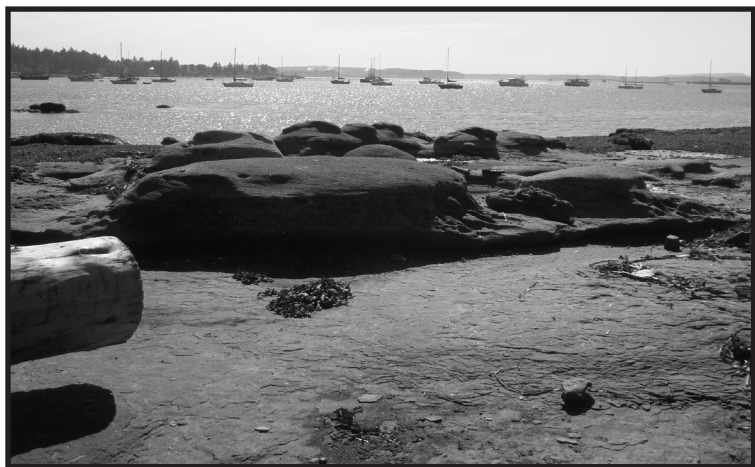
Weekday boarding is available

Admissions Office

2371 Shawnigan Lake Road,
Shawnigan Lake, BC
250-929-0506
admissions@dwightcanada.org

www.dwightcanada.org

Take a Hike!



Robin Massey
Shawnigan Focus

There's an adorable little island that you can see from the harbour in downtown Nanaimo. It's called Newcastle Island Provincial Marine Park. On the island you can hike, bike, camp overnight or just head over for the day for a picnic or swim.

From Maffeo Sutton Park, you can hop on a little ferry and within minutes you'll

be immersed in educating yourself about the sandstone quarry, herring salteries and the history of the coal mining era that makes up part of the Island's past.

Newcastle Island became a Provincial park in 1961 and is considered an eco-tourism hot spot which can be visited all year round. The 22 km trail system around the island guides you to beaches and fabulous lookout points and to a few cool caverns and caves. There is

also subtle evidence of at least two Salish villages from many ages past found on the island. Along the 22 kms you can vary your routes and loops to your liking through any of the links marked along the way.

The island also has a bit of a darker reputation as one of the most haunted islands in the Pacific. The stories say that although many died in the mines of Newcastle one in particular, Peter Kakua from Hawaii, became famous after he murdered his family with an axe in a fit of rage. He then fled to the small island from Nanaimo. He was easily caught and later hung. However, because of the circumstances, no one would accept his body and he was buried at an unmarked site on Newcastle where he is said to haunt the beaches at dusk.

The island is home to various friends from the animal kingdom such as purple martins, pileated woodpeckers,

black tailed deer, river otters, shy beavers and even a golden raccoon! Dogs are allowed on the ferry and on the island trails but owners are encouraged to keep them on a leash at all times. There are various facilities available on the island as well, such as a historical pavilion, a bistro, a teahouse, change rooms/washrooms, a soccer field and a wading pool. It seems to be a very popular place for parties and gatherings of all sorts.

I found it to be a fantastic place to explore on a day trip with many opportunities to have snack stops and a dip in the ocean. The trails are of easy to medium grade with a few inclines depending on the route you take. Have fun on Newcastle soon!

PS: Did you know the Iron Butts is for all ages, stages AND genders? So what's stopping you from joining us? Find us at www.themtree.com!

Quilting

Marg Bootland
YSAGS

The Young Seniors Action Group Society (YSAGS) Quilters Group started up in November 2010 and presently has thirteen members, which is pretty much the limit for our small room. We share three machines and lots of ideas. Over the past three years we have made over two dozen quilts which were given to Somenos Transition House in Duncan and Jenece's Place next to the Victoria General Hospital. Jenece's Place offers a quilt to each patient as he or

she leaves and they are really happy to receive the quilts. We also take on special projects for the Christmas season.

Over the past six months we have highlighted different activity groups within our YSAGS organization. Other happenings that are for all YSAGS members is the Monthly General meeting held each third Tuesday (2:00pm) of the month. These consist of Society business, some entertaining program and an afternoon tea. We welcome guests to these meetings. The next meeting is March 18 which will be a



'Show and Tell' session featuring our various groups.

We will have an afternoon of Bingo on March 25 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm.

Our biannual Giant Garage Sale is planned for June 7. If you have saleable items cluttering up your place, this is where

you can bring them. The proceeds of this sale will go to the Legion to help them further the many organizations they support in our community. *For more information, check out our YSAGS BLOG at <http://blogysag.ca/> You can email us at ysagssl@gmail.com and if you want to speak to a live person call Ed - 250 743 8344.*

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Phone: (250)743-2096

Fax: (250)743-2096

Non-emergency Phone: (250)812-8030

Email:

shawniganfire@shaw.ca



Department Members Attended 18 Calls in February

- ★ Saturday, February 1 – 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Wednesday, February 5 – Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, February 6 – 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, February 7 – Kitchen Fire on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, February 8 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, February 8 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, February 10 – 1st Responder in the Beach Estates
- ★ Thursday, February 13 – 1st Responder in Burnum Park
- ★ Thursday, February 13 – 1st Responder in Burnum Park
- ★ Saturday, February 15 – Alarms Activated on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, February 15 – Hydro Line Fire in the Beach Estates
- ★ Saturday, February 15 – 1st Responder in the Beach Estates
- ★ Sunday, February 16 – Hydro Line Fire off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, February 20 – Alarms Activated on Cliffside Rd
- ★ Saturday, February 22 – 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, February 23 – 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Monday, February 24 – Assist to BCAS off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, February 25 – 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings**
1st Monday of each month – 7 pm at SL Community Centre www.fraserforshawnigan.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)**
1st Thursday of each month. 7 pm at Inspire Gathering Place
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
3rd Thursday of each month 6:30 pm at SLCC
- ★ **Shawnigan Improvement District**
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- ★ **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA) Board meeting**
3rd Tuesday of each month 7pm - www.thesra.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Business Association (SLBA)**
1st Tuesday of each month 7 pm at the Village Chipperry.
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association**
4th Monday of each month 7pm. Contact bburr@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Village Development Council**
Meeting times TBA. Everyone welcome!
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**
See website for details: www.shawniganwater.org
- ★ **Inspire! Arts, Culture and Heritage**
Gathering Space hours: M/W/F 11-4: www.inspireshawnigan.com
Come see our Family Day art display at the Gathering - March 29 & 30
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAG)**
Info at: www.ysag.ca email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Hours: Friday, Saturday, Sunday 11:30-4. www.shawniganlakemuseum.com
email: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Scouts**
To register/questions: William Thow: thow@pacificcoast.net
- ★ **Shawnigan Gathering** March 29 & 30. www.shawnigangathering.ca
Volunteers needed.
- ★ **www.exploringshawniganlake.com**
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Facebook**
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/129586433786330/>



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Edie Wragg, R.D.
Denturist
BUS: 250.743.3311
Fax: 250.743.0737

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This could be your View!!
Shawnigan Lakefront Lots - FOR SALE!!



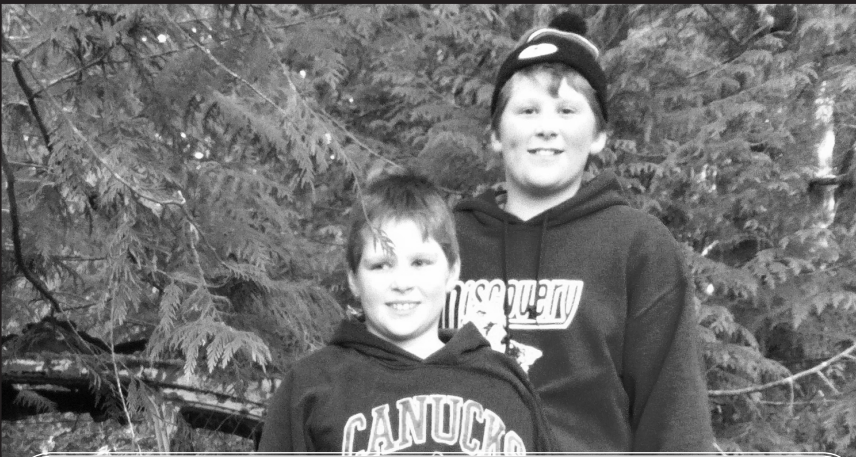
Sunny South Facing Building Lots.
Beach and deep water for moorage.
May build to suit. Will have septic approval.

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





CONGRATULATIONS

The winner for February was Ron Barnard. Several people guessed this was the derelict old car off one of the trails behind the Legion, but Ron was the first.

An honourable mention goes to Isaac and Amia La Roy who sent us this photo proving they knew exactly where it was!

First correct answer sent to editor@shawniganfocus.ca wins two Specialty Coffees at Shawnigan House!

Shawnigan Focus



Sarah Davidge and Nathan Pay, creators of Pooh-Bear and Piglet snow sculpture.

Fun in the Snow!

The late blast of winter with over a foot of snow that happened in late February was lots of fun for some folks. We received a nice email from Sarah Davidge and Nathan Pay with a great suggestion:

... we are both adults with child-like spirits and very artistic so this is what happens over two days of continuous snowfall - time to play. We received phone calls from neighbours saying how cheerful, our neighbours across the street came out to take pictures of our progress, people driving by with their children taking photos and others walking and stopping to take pictures of their children with the life like snow creations. It was a wonderful gift shared with all.

I started thinking how much fun it would be if, as community families, youth, children, elderly, we all got together in the Village on a snow day to create life-like art and drink hot chocolate and tea.

Snow ... fun for all ages - Thank you Mister Winter!



Photo courtesy of Shawnigan Lake School

Shawnigan Weather February 2014

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ compiled by Grant Treloar

	February Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013	2014	2013
Average High	7.4	4.5	7.3	4.8	7.3	5.1	7.6	5.1	7.6
Average Low	0.4	-1.1	2.1	-2.0	1.3	-1.1	1.9	-1.6	1.8
Extreme High	18.3	9.4	10.1	10.1	10.8	11.0	10.1	10.5	11.0
Extreme Low	-16.7	-8.2	-1.4	-9.6	-2.6	-8.5	-1.3	-9.0	-2.0
Precipitation	155.3	215.6	121.3	220.5	81.9	185.5	88.9	217.2	92.8
Days w precip	16	17	18	17	18	17	18	17	14
Precip since Oct 1 (mm)	720.8	581.9	1017.0	530.2	852.6	455.7	830.7	529.0	833.8
16 th coldest since 1914 12 th wettest since 1914									
Lake Temperature: Feb 2 nd : 3° Feb 9 th : 1°(3 cm ice) Feb 16 th : 2° Feb 23 rd : 2°(<1cm slush)									

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