



Shawnigan Focus

Volume Six - Issue Nine

September 2016

A Non-Profit Community Publication

Area B Director's Report

Sonia Furstenau
Area Director

For me, as for many, September always feels like the true beginning of a new year. Summer is the time to step back and take the time to reflect, while September seems the right time to try to set new goals, establish new routines, and embark on new projects.

While we anxiously await court decisions on the unwanted contaminated landfill in our watershed, we all hope that this fall will mark a new and hopeful beginning for Shawnigan, and an end to the injustice that we have had to endure.

Where are we at with the watershed fight?

The BC government issued the permit for the landfill August 2013, which was immediately appealed to the Environmental Appeal Board (EAB) by the Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA) and the CVRD. The EAB heard from experts who agreed that there is a risk to the water from this site, but the Board upheld the permit in March 2015.

Legal action followed. The CVRD filed an application to the BC Supreme Court to up-

hold its land use bylaw, while the SRA filed an application for a Judicial Review of the EAB decision. Meanwhile, CHH began landfilling contaminated waste in May 2015.

The CVRD won its case, which was appealed by the quarry company, Cobble Hill Holdings, and the operators, South Island Resource Management. CHH was given leave by the Appeal Court to continue landfilling until the appeal hearing.

We await a decision on the SRA case, and now await a decision from the Appeal hearing, which took place August 17th and 18th.

The injunction against importing contaminated soil imposed by BC Supreme Court Justice Mackenzie is back in place at this time.

Over the past four years, the regulatory agencies, particularly the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Energy of Mines, have failed us on countless occasions. They should have never issued the permit, they should have revoked the permit when presented with evidence of a profit-sharing deal between the owners and their engineers, and they should not

allow the operators to continue to landfill contaminated soil when there has been ongoing non-compliance with their permits.

This situation, which no community in Canada should ever have to face, has united and galvanized the Shawnigan community. We remain steadfast in our resolve to have this contaminated landfill facility shut down, and to see all soil that has been deposited there removed.

While we continue to work toward this outcome, there are many other exciting developments in Shawnigan.

At the September 15th Parks Commission meeting, CVRD staff will bring their concept design for Elsie Miles Park for review from the community. The design is based on the many years of input, and once it has approval from commission members, it will form the basis for the park development that will happen in 2017. There will also be news at the Parks Commission meeting about the piece of property at the end of the west arm.

Also in 2017, a trail that will connect the village to

Government Wharf Park will be constructed - this is the first phase of a trail that will eventually connect Shawnigan Village to Mason's Beach and Old Mill Park.

At the south end of Shawnigan, the trail that will connect the Cowichan Valley Trail to the Trans-Canada Trail will be completed, which will allow for hikers and cyclists to get all the way to the Cowichan Valley from Victoria, and make Shawnigan the Trans-Canada Trail gateway to Vancouver Island. This is an exciting step towards being able to capitalize fully on the exceptional recreational activities that we have to offer in Shawnigan.

A Shawnigan safety think tank has been forming over the summer, working on ways to increase the safety for all residents, off and on the water. Watch for updates, and for an invitation to participate in a solution-oriented community forum later this fall.

This fall brings a new development for me as well. After great consideration and many conversations with family and trusted friends, I have made the decision to seek the Green Party nomination for

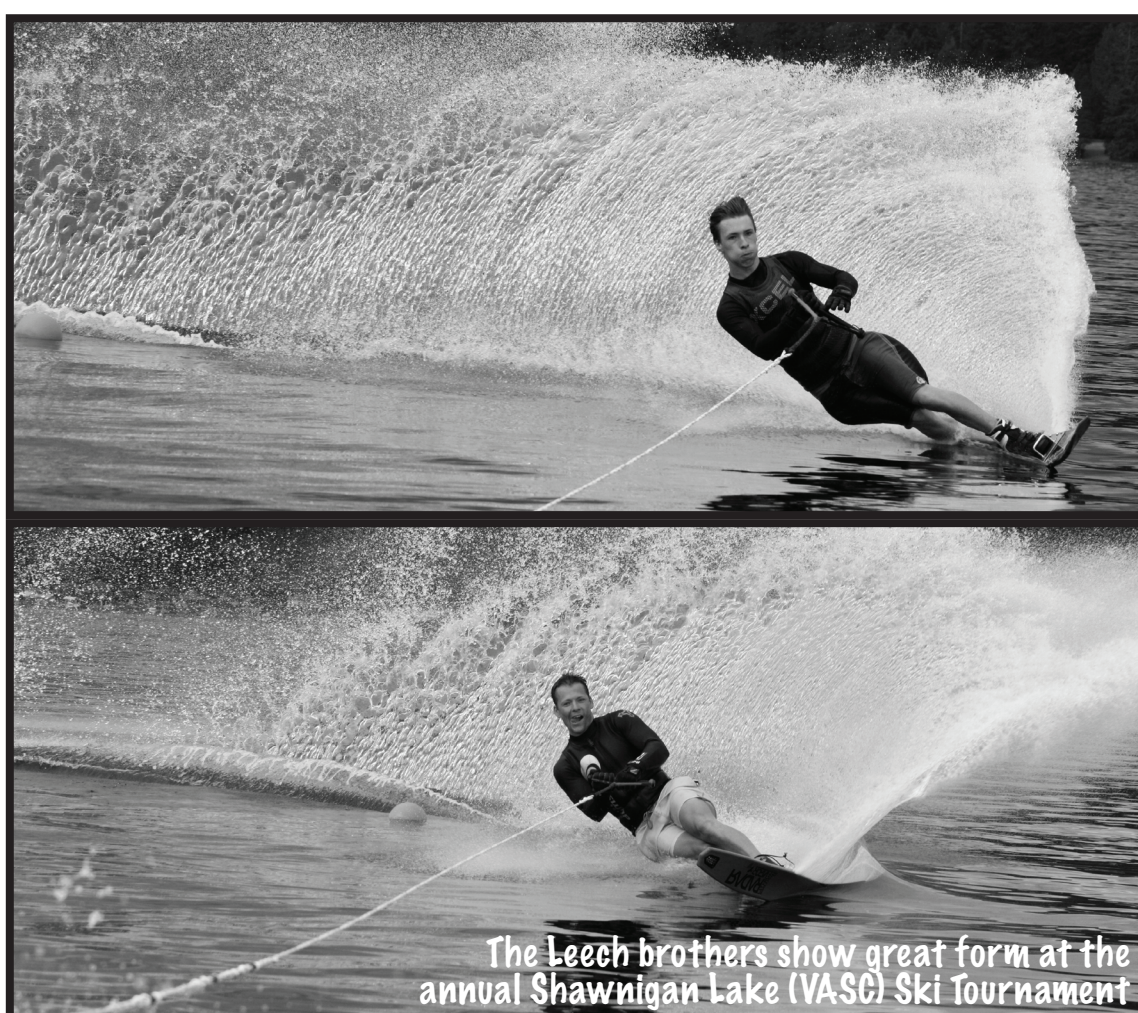
Cowichan Valley. I have not made this decision lightly, and it is informed to a great extent by the frustration we have experienced in our interactions with the provincial government in our efforts to protect our watershed. No community in BC should be forced to fight the government in order to protect its water, and I am motivated to do all that I can in order to prevent others from having to endure the nightmare that we have been through. The values of the Green Party, the recognition that we must ensure a liveable climate for future generations, and the commitment to economic, social, environmental, and fiscal responsibility reflect my own values and beliefs.

My commitment to Shawnigan has not wavered, and should I be successful in seeking the nomination, I will continue to work as Area Director until the spring, at which time I will take a leave of absence during the election campaign. The outcome of the election will determine my next steps; regardless, I remain in service and committed to the Shawnigan community and the Cowichan Valley.

Did you know?

...that the South Vancouver Island Integrated Marine Unit has been on the lake regularly this summer in the local RCMP boat?

- ★ this marine unit, under the leadership of Cpl. L. Jacobs, has been training members of our local detachment about how to enforce safety on the lake?
- ★ paddle boarders are required to have a life jacket on, or on their paddleboard because the vessel is 'navigated' by the boarder?
- ★ many warning, and real, tickets have been issued this summer to ski boats without spotters?
- ★ there must be an empty seat on your boat for each person you are towing in case they need to come on board?
- ★ you may only tow a person with a personal watercraft that is made to carry three or more people?
- ★ you cannot tow anyone when visibility is poor and/or from one hour after sunset until sunrise.
- ★ the RCMP sometimes issue positive tickets, a coupon for a Dairy Queen ice cream, to children who are wearing their lifejackets or demonstrating good water safety practices?
- ★ their number one concern is safety on the lake?



The Leech brothers show great form at the annual Shawnigan Lake (VASC) Ski Tournament

Take A Hike!

Robyn Massey
Shawnigan Focus

In keeping with our current theme of trails around the Island's Pacific hotspots (even for our Prime Minister), our next feature is the Rainforest Trail in Tofino.

Being Island dwellers, most of us are familiar with the term "temperate". But, do you know what the considerations are in being labeled a temperate rainforest? For starters, they are actually kind of rare and are present in narrow corridors between oceans and mountains and a place where the weather is wet and cool all year round. The largest temperate rainforest in the world is located on the Pacific Coast of North America which, you got it, includes us.

So now then, getting back to the Rainforest Trail, located in Pacific Rim National Park;

a well-attended touristy spot for people from all over. Nevertheless, it was notably quiet. Even with several cars in the parking lot, we barely saw another soul. In regards to the parking, we should mention also that it is a "paid" parking lot - it is a National Park after all.

The parking lot is off the Pacific Rim Highway with very visible road signage to help guide you in. There is a big beautiful map clearly indicating the two loops available to choose from. Both are equally marvelous. One leads toward the ocean and is more easily accessible from the parking lot. The other begins across the highway - not to worry - a human Frogger game is not required as there is a visibly marked crosswalk to get you safely to the other side.

Either choice is pictur-

esque, a bit of a workout, and come in a two kilometer loop. Both have boardwalks to guide you along and numerous educational panels containing various tidbits of information on the topic of the colossal ancient trees, plants, moss, and critters and how they manage to live in harmonious cohesion within the Pacific rainforest. In the Spring the salmon often spawn in the streams that crisscross the trails, and if you happen to be there around that time you can take part in observing part of their lifecycle.

As far as the terrain is concerned, one is no easier than the other as both follow Newton's Theory of what goes up must come down - each trail has its fair share of inclines and declines to endure.

Who's in a hurry whilst



exploring nature anyway? Take your time, hold onto the railing, watch your footing and enjoy the exclusivity that you have in the opportunity to visit such an

amazing place!

JOIN US! Find photos of this adventure and more Facebook at *The Om Tree*.

Shawnigan Basin Society Report

Kelly Musselwhite,
Executive Director

TOGETHER – We Have Unimaginable Power!

Let's use it to win \$100,000 in the coming Aviva Community Funding Program!!

The days are drawing nearer for a submission to be presented to Aviva. Yet, unlike other awards where panelists make a final selection based on pre-determined criteria and overall eligibility, the Aviva grant winner is based entirely on public participation! Ultimate success is dependent on daily on-line voting at the Aviva website and voters have exactly 1 voting opportunity every 24 hours for the duration of the competition. Each submission is allocated a number once the idea has been approved and voting this year runs from October 11 to October 28 for a total of 18 votes per person. To find out more about the competition, visit <https://www.avivacommunity-fund.org/cms/about-the-competition>.

This year's submission will be premised in the implementation of an ecosystem based conservation plan acquired by the Basin Society by leading Canadian forest ecologist, Herb Hammond. Our

initiatives are all premised in conserving, protecting, and restoring the ecological integrity of the Shawnigan Lake watershed to secure abundant and clean drinking water long into the future!

If you wish to get involved, follow our Shawniganwater.org Facebook page or the Shawnigan Lake Events, News, Links, Community Forum Facebook page where our submission number and direct link will be posted and begin voting on the Aviva website on October 11!!

"The Aviva Fund helps passionate people like you to make positive changes in their communities."

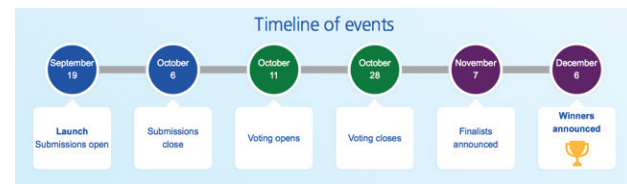
Last year's win of \$5000 was entitled "Foreshore to Forest: Restoring Shawnigan Lake's Watershed" but specifically focused on lakeside ecological restoration education and projects. Thank you to everyone who voted daily to make this happen! As a result the Basin Society will be hosting a FREE Ecological Restoration Workshop on Sept. 24 and 25. Seats are limited so please register by emailing info@shawniganwater.org and look for our poster for details!

Please visit the Basin Society's new website's Get

Involved page at <http://shawniganwater.org> for more information.

Lastly, a concerned resident stopped by the Village Watershed Office to report an abundance of milfoil in the lake. Although this invasive species cannot be totally eradicated, due care and attention on private properties around the lake is strongly suggested to prevent its spread. Boat propellers easily cut up these plants on the water's surface, which invariably cause them to multiply. Please be aware of milfoil and take the time to control it in your area. For suggestions on methods of controlling milfoil, visit <http://www.obwb.ca/milfoil/methods-of-control/> where the Okanagan Basin Water Board published a helpful and informative article.

Have questions? Please email them to info@shawniganwater.org.



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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.

The Shawnigan Focus is delivered, free of charge, to postal addresses in Shawnigan Lake

Out-of-town subscriptions are available for \$30 per year. Contact: editor@shawniganfocus.ca

Views expressed in articles and letters 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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Book Review

Marcy Green
Shawnigan Focus

The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper

by Phaedra Patrick
Published by MIRA Books
Copyright 2016 by Phaedra Patrick

It amuses me to announce that there is now a genre called “elderly rebirth lit” which slots this book nicely into the same category as “A Man Called Ove” and “The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry”. The scenario is simple: a senior, usually male (because, let’s face it, the women are usually depicted as being more evolved) is in a lonely rut, and, through a series of adventures or through an epic journey, finds wisdom, insight and new friends, all of which change his life for the better.

In this case, the story begins with

a sixty-nine year old widower called Arthur Pepper who discovers in his late wife Miriam’s belongings, a mysterious and ornate gold-link bracelet with eight charms. The first is a gold Indian elephant with a green stone, and, engraved on it, in almost invisible numbers, is a telephone number. A shaken Arthur dials and is connected with the first clue to his wife’s former life. He speaks to a man in India who remembers Miriam as his ayah/nanny when he was a boy. And so the adventure unfolds, with each of the charms revealing a new story and new insights into Miriam’s pre-Arthur existence.

The tiger in Bath, along with electric blue harem pants, the thimble in Paris, the flower, the book, the paint palette, the heart and, finally the ring, all lead to new places and people who help Arthur along the way and who present

new facets of his wife’s youth.

Travelling into the unknown causes our hero to begin shedding his rigid habits and notions of how the world should be, and, slowly, and sometimes painfully, he emerges as a humbler and more compassionate man. He even finds himself posing as a nude life model, after finding the artist Miriam herself posed for. There is no end to the mysteries of his wife’s past.

Of course his troubled and distant relationships with his adult children prey on his mind and as he slowly reaches out to them and includes them in his venture, they come closer together. While this all seems predictable, Patrick, a first-time author, is skilled at drawing interesting and complex characters. Arthur is sweet, funny and endearing and the pace of his

odyssey held my interest as I quickly read through the book. I enjoyed all of the secondary characters, as well, especially the kind-hearted neighbour who keeps an eye out for the lonely.

While it seems as though Arthur and Miriam were a loving, happy couple, they both appeared to desire a very safe, self-contained life. Perhaps if Miriam had been able to see the more open and quirky version of Arthur she would have entrusted him with her carefully held secrets before she died. Arthur slowly gets to understand her reasons, and, in the end, accepts them.

After those nordic noir mysteries and the tragedy of last month’s book, Plague, this is a welcome change and a perfect book to end the summer with. Get out the chaise lounge and enjoy!

Rating: 4.8/5 Stars

Shawnigan Lake School Community Squash

Lynne Grass
SLS Teacher and Coach

Shawnigan Lake School has four international squash courts in the Sportsplex. Head coach, Mike Johnson, has many years of experience including coaching three world champions. This has attracted many excellent players to the school, and Shawnigan is proud to have among its student population some of the top Canadian juniors. There are programs for elite, intermediate and novice players.

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- ★ For both Sundays and Thursdays, all are welcome on a drop-in basis and no

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- ★ Age 5-11.
- ★ Instruction from experienced coaches, learn new skills, have fun.
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- ★ 7:00-9:30
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For further information, please email: lgrass@shawnigan.ca



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Can chickens get PTSD?

Bruce Fraser

A brief holiday from Riverpool Farm was accompanied by periodic reports of “all is well” by our family farm sitter. Indeed it was, right up to the last night on the road when a report of mayhem was transmitted. Turns out that the idyllic life of flock number two had come to an end.

Flock number two is comprised of two Highlines, four Rhode Island Reds and two Columbia Rocks, the latter being white and easily identified in the coop yard. One of the Columbias was clearly a FARC leader as she (or possibly and undeclared he) possessed a generals fine wattle and spent most of each day chasing the other hens around the yard expressing her/his clear dominance. If she/he could have wielded a Kalashnikoff the flock would likely be slightly smaller in number.

Another peculiarity of this batch of hens is their abiding interest in seeking

ways out of their perfectly spacious free run pasture into the larger yard that was clearly the domain of Islay and Zaya, our two Shilo Shepherds. The dogs always patrolled the fence line, fascinated by the flock on the other side. It may be the wolf in them that lurks within their otherwise soft exteriors.

General Columbia chose the day before we returned home to rise to the challenge of the larger yard, flying over the fence to claim more territory for her band of rebels. She met two of the government forces who were waiting in ambush. Our family farm sitter found her comatose on the back porch, with the lawn festooned with what looked like an unseasonable snowfall. Wondering about her longevity her minder placed her gently back in the coop yard and hoped for the best. Two eighty-pound Shilos had given her a thrashing, but inexplicably did not chomp

down as they so easily could. Perhaps détente is settling in at Riverpool.

When we arrive home to the feathered landscape we checked and were delighted to find that Miss Columbia was still alive, although uncharacteristically subdued. Instead of constantly harassing the flock, she tended to hide in the thimbleberry bushes, come last for the morning scratch feed and arrive last to roost, clinging to the farthest position on the bars from where she consented to be hand carried in the morning.

As the days have rolled on, what looked like a severe case of PTSD has begun to wane. Lately she is mingling with her comrades, just one of the sisters in their egalitarian fatigues. We are left watching carefully to see if her leadership style has permanently passed from authoritarian to laissez faire and what the whole affair has done to the flock's interest in eggs.



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Introducing Brookes

It is with great excitement that we announce a new collaboration and thank our partner, Dwight School, for contributing to our growth and development as a leading educational institution. From 2009 to 2016, Dwight School Canada maintained an excellent partnership with Dwight School in New York. Recently, we mutually agreed to pursue other collaborations, and Dwight School Canada has decided to partner with schools in Cambridge and Silicon Valley to rebrand our parent company as the Brookes Education Group. In doing so, Brookes Education Group is pleased to offer exceptional educational opportunities in four of the top ranked countries for education and opportunity: Canada, United States, United Kingdom and Korea.

Under our new name, Brookes Shawnigan Lake has been transitioning over the summer and is finalizing the name change in September. Brookes Cambridge completed the transition this past spring, and begins the

2016 academic year as a Brookes school.

Brookes Silicon Valley is expected to complete its transition, both to the name and to their new 200-acre campus, by September 2018. The fourth school in our network will continue to operate under the name of Dwight School Seoul. We are also pleased to introduce Brookes Victoria, scheduled to open for grades 6-12 in September 2018.

Brookes Shawnigan Lake will remain the familiar and caring learning community that our students, parents, and partners have come to know. We will continue to provide the same high caliber programming, including the BC Dogwood Diploma and the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Teachers, staff, and administration will continue to support and prepare students for success.

More information can be found on the website at brookes.org and we are happy to answer any other questions you may have. Thank you for your continued support.

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Strathcona School



By Teagan West
Summer student at the Shawnigan Lake Museum

By the time Minna Gildea arrived at the Strathcona Lodge, both she and the building had already had their own interesting individual histories. Minna was born in 1875 in England and passed her Cambridge Teacher's examination in 1896.

The Strathcona Lodge was located on the east side of the lake. It was built in 1900 and scheduled to open in May of that year, but unfortunately "the hotel had burned at its birth", according to the Times-Colonist. Construction started again immediately and the hotel was formally opened on September 19th, 1900. It served as a railway station on the Esquimalt & Nanaimo line. The lodge was designed in a Swiss Chalet style and painted a soft dark red colour. It had wide verandahs with lots of windows and over fifty rooms, some with ensuite bathrooms. There was a large dining room and modern kitchen. The lodge built its reputation on being secluded but not too far away from Victoria. As an interesting aside, C.W. Lonsdale managed the hotel for a time before opening his boys' school, Shawnigan Lake School, in 1916. The hotel had a few different

owners but began to struggle due to the advent of cars. With cars, people were less likely to stay for the season, preferring to tour around instead.

In the fall of 1927, at the age of fifty-two, Minna opened the Strathcona Lodge School for Girls. After Minna bought the hotel she added a classroom building, a boarding annex, and a gymnasium within the first few years.

Operating without a board of governors, she had the ability to run things her own way, often against the common thinking of the time. For example, as part of the uniform the girls wore tunics that were hemmed to seven inches above the knee, this was so that the girls could wear them for sports rather than buying shorts. Minna's advanced educational mindset helped her to teach her girls to be, and do, more than just become good wives and mothers. She knew they would be leaders and she prepared them for that.

Minna died in 1950. Her school followed close behind, closing in 1951 due to a lack of money. Eight years later, due to the perseverance of Ned Larson, then headmaster of Shawnigan Lake School, Strathcona reopened in 1959 with the very first

Strathcona girl, Nonie Guthrie, as headmistress.

The second Strathcona was different than the first. Times had changed. Nonie changed the school crest, the uniform, and the school colour, but ultimately the school still helped girls to become leaders and to make change in the world. The current buildings were built in 1968, and the old lodge was torn down in 1969. With an assortment of eclectic teachers, the second Strathcona lasted until 1977 until it, too, closed due to financial trouble.

After Strathcona closed, the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'i of Canada opened Maxwell International School in 1988. They lasted until 2008, when again another school on the site was forced to close because it was not making money. Dwight International School bought the property and opened in 2009. This past summer Dwight School has partnered with a different education group and, in September, will change the name to Brookes Shawnigan Lake.

Regardless of its name, or which set of buildings it resides in, every school on the site has invariably strived for excellence and, without a doubt, will continue to do so.

Discover Discovery Elementary School

Allison Vliet (age 11)
Discovery Team

What is it like on the first day of school? On the first day it may be scary but don't worry, because I will tell you all about it. The first thing you need to know is that you just need to go straight to your old classroom lineup.

If you are new, just go to the office to register and they will most likely show you to the library to wait until you are given a tour of the

school and grounds. The bell will ring at 8:25 and your teacher will let you in.

For at least a week you will be staying with the old teacher. If you're going into grade 1, you will probably be met by one of the grade 7 teachers. It may look slightly different than this but the information will be displayed on a board at the front of the school.

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Challenging roads demand our full attention!

According to ICBC’s latest data which is for the year 2013, BC had a total of 260,000 crashes with 34,000 occurring on Vancouver Island. The Vancouver Island crashes were responsible for 10,000 injuries with 28 fatalities. Also on Vancouver Island, 318 pedestrians were hit, eight fatally.

I was rather shocked by these statistics and began to think of how I could reduce my chances of being involved in a crash. Having been in a crash when I was nine years old I know for certain it is something I do not want to repeat! I thought I might begin by carefully looking at the roads mostly travelled and see if I could recognize the danger zones.

Mill Bay Road is a good starting point. I found that the shoulder drop offs in some places took you right over an embankment without guardrails to stop your vehicle. Hedges and trees along the

side of the road hid the danger lurking a few feet away in the form of a huge drop. Overgrown shrubs and bushes hid berms and gutters that were a few feet deep from detection. The shoulders were very narrow and provided a tight pedestrian pathway. Couple this with dangerous curves, blind corners and driveways it’s a road that demands full alertness, especially at night when it’s pitch black and the foggy.

I am also concerned with Shawnigan Lake Mill Bay Road going west from Highway 1. Elevation begins at 32m at Highway 1 and works its way up to 148m nearing the Shawnigan Village. It’s a steady climb along a winding road with hidden intersections, blind corners, dangerous curves and unexpected bends in the road. In most places there is not sufficient shoulder to come to a safe stop if you had a tire blowout or an emergency situation. Driving up these hills you will notice that the road is high above homes, pastures and farmland. Valleys appear near the power transmission lines yet no guardrails to stop your vehicle

from going over the embankment. Again the shoulder drop offs are compromised by overgrown bush and weeds that hide the dangerous berm and gutter drops. I classify the Cameron-Taggart Road intersection as one of the most dangerous intersections on the island! Because of the elevation road conditions can change rather quickly and you can find yourself on slick frozen surfaces that cause you to spin and slide. It’s a busy road with heavy pedestrian traffic. Despite being a very scenic and interesting road, it is another one that allows no distraction.

I have decided to embrace all that reminds me to drive safely. I am fond of the Speed Watch van with its digital reading board telling me that I am speeding. Not much, of course, so I merely slow down and keep my eye on my speedometer. I know that the message they are sharing is to respect the road and all those who use it. The most important fact is that we all get home safely. I am continuing to make a mental note on the pitfalls of some of the other back roads I take. Knowledge is empowering.

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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 25 Incidents
in August

- ★ Thursday, Aug 4 – Lines Down on Jersey Rd
- ★ Thursday, Aug 4 – MVI Mutual Aid with Mill Bay
- ★ Friday, Aug 5 – Bush Fire near Burnt Bridge, Renfrew Rd
- ★ Saturday, Aug 6 – Burning Complaint at Old Mill Park, Recreation Rd
- ★ Saturday, Aug 6 – Bush Fire on Jersey Rd
- ★ Sunday, Aug 7 – Burning Complaint at the Rock Quarry, Thain Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Aug 9 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Aug 9 – MVI Clean-up on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, Aug 11 – MVI on Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Friday, Aug 12 – Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, Aug 12 - 1st Responder off Northgate Rd
- ★ Saturday, Aug 13 - 1st Responder off Wright Rd
- ★ Sunday, Aug 14 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Thursday, Aug 18 – MVI on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Friday, Aug 19 – MVI on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Friday, Aug 19 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Aug 22 - 1st Responder off Thain Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Aug 23 – Burning Complaint on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Aug 24 - 1st Responder off Ida Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Aug 24 – Bush Fire on Sylvester Rd
- ★ Thursday, Aug 25 – Bush Fire Mutual Aid with Mill Bay
- ★ Friday, Aug 26 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Saturday, Aug 27 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Saturday, Aug 27 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Monday, Aug 29 – Alarms Activated on Cudlip Rd

Remembering is just not November 11th

Malahat District Branch 134 of the Royal Canadian Legion pays respect year-round to those who have lost their lives representing our country in conflict.

Each year on October 22nd, Branch 134 specially honours those Canadian service men and women who perished while serving on Canadian soil. For this service, “We Will Remember Them.”

Their names are displayed in two volumes within the memorial box at the Branch’s main entrance. Volume one lists those who served from the formation of the Canadian Armed Forces on 1 February 1968 to present. Volume two includes those who served between 1911 and 1 February 1968.

This list of 2,356 names was obtained from Veterans Affairs in Ottawa and is not a complete list at this time. We request

that the public contact the Branch via email or mail to ensure the name(s) of their loved ones have been included. All inquiries will be answered.

The criteria is as follows:

Last name, Christian name, Service number, age, date of death, place of death, unit and resting place.

Please send the info to rcl134@shaw.ca or by mail to: Malahat District Branch 134 1625 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road Shawnigan Lake, BC V0R 2W2

www.malahatlegion.com

Veterans Dinner

October 25th. Sign up at the Legion bar. Cocktails 5 pm - dinner at 6 pm. Veterans eat for free. (non-members welcome)



We have expanded our school!

Spaces Available
For September

250-743-6279

Preschool & Child care

Part time & Full Day Programs

We offer Montessori classes for children 30 months to 6 years of age, including kindergarten. Full and part time programs available. Our experienced staff, using an enriched Montessori curriculum, will provide the best preschool education for your child.

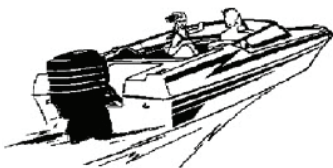
www.shawniganlakemontessori.com



COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sonia Furstenau**
Office hours by appointment. Email sfurstenau@cvrld.bc.ca For meeting updates check www.soniafurstenau.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)**
Meeting Thursday, Sept. 8th at 1:00pm at Watershed office: #4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Rd. **Contact: grtreloar@shaw.ca**
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month. 7pm at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre. Next meeting is September 15th.
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**
Shawnigan Lake Community Centre
- ★ **Shawnigan Improvement District**
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- ★ **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)**
For info: check www.thesra.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Business Association (SLBA)**
Contact: info@slba.ca for information
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA)**
Contact: bburr@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**
Meetings held in Watershed office: Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road.
Contact: luvlife@shaw.ca
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: www.ysag.ca email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Open Fri-Sun 10:30-4. www.shawniganlakemuseum.com
Contact: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca
- ★ **South Cowichan Community Policing**
Contact: 250-929-7222 - www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca

**SHAWNIGAN MILL BAY
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COMPETITION TREE SERVICE
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Shawnigan Cemetery



EST 1965
"A Community Resting Place"
Information 250 929 6100

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Recycling in South Cowichan,
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Sarah Davidge 250 732-3591
Nathan Pay 250 466-0521

sarahandcompany@shaw.ca



HEALTHY BEGINNINGS

A Free Drop-In at the
Shawnigan Lake Community Centre



Healthy Beginnings is a friendly, relaxed group for moms and dads with babies and toddlers from birth to 3 years of age. There is no registration required, just drop-in to visit and share a cup of coffee or a snack. We will be discussing a wide range of topics. Gathering every Thursday morning except the weeks with a statutory holiday.

Toddler Group starts at 9:30 AM | Infant Group starts at 11:00 AM

INFORMATION : Rhoda - 250 709 3050
EMAIL : rhoda.taylor@viha.ca
FACEBOOK : Healthy Beginnings Cowichan

Classifieds

CHILDCARE

BUSY BEE DAYCARE

- Licensed multi-age facility
- Fully fenced playground
- Rural acreage
- Subsidy accepted
- Close to Shawnigan Village
- Contact for availability (drop ins)
250-743-5031
busybeedaycare@shaw.ca

RENTALS

LOOKING FOR OFF SEASON MONTHLY RENTAL

Of cabin or small home by, or near,
Shawnigan Lake. Elder, semi-retired
gentleman – orderly, clean,
responsible, healthy and active
seeking nature. Will care for your
home and yard.
Troi Leonard 250-532-3442

FOUND

LADIES BIKE

Following minor accident at 4-way
stop in Shawnigan Village late May,
early June. Waiting safely for owner
at Shawnigan Garage - Please collect.
250-743-2122

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
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Telephone : 250-743-2197

EMPLOYMENT

AUTOMOTIVE

HOME SERVICES

GENERAL INTEREST

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WANTED

What Is It? Where Is It?
Why 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 August was submitted by
Heather Plumb who recognized the rock hazard on
the reef just north of the Ski Club slalom course.
Several people answered correctly but Heather
also observed that the photo was from a previous
year with lower lake levels.

2016 Retail landscape

Marsha MacMurchy
Changing Seasons Apparel

Things are not the same as they once were. Wow, that is a completely general statement but a true one. I am not THAT old, but even in my late 30's I have seen the transition that has happened, mainly in the last 10-15 years, to an online/digital world.

"Back in the day", there was no internet or social media and people, in the old fashioned way, entered brick and mortar establishments and likely paid cash for their desired treasures. The idea of viewing something online before buying, or even buying online, was certainly far off.

SO, how did we get to where we are today? Well simply put it is the evolution of technology. Just as payment options have evolved, so has the way people shop. No doubt there are those that prefer the traditional, look-feel-buy experience but in this busy world there are a whole lot more that prefer to sit at home and shop online and have it delivered to their door. It is quick, easy and convenient.

Convenience! That seems to be key for consumers nowadays. I can admit that I am one of those online shoppers. I do prefer convenience but I also appreciate the in-person experience. So in our store we offer convenience

in many ways. Those that prefer to shop online can do that, and those that don't well, for you, we offer private shopping experiences at a time convenient for you or home delivery (for a fee of course).

In this day and age, businesses have to find creative ways to adapt in this evolving retail landscape. I am more inclined to try to bring people back to the old fashioned days of in-person interactions and, more importantly, shopping local. Most often, if you are buying online you are not shopping local.

You may share the same sentiment as me when I voice my displeasure for travelling over the Malahat to find what I need. Don't get me wrong, I love our neighbouring cities and beautiful capital but if I can find what I need in the Cowichan Valley, I have no need to go elsewhere. In Shawnigan Lake, and outlying communities, we have an abundance of fabulous local businesses that meet most, if not all, of our needs. From great restaurants and yummy coffee shops, bookkeeping and photography to spas and now clothing stores, we have almost everything we need at our fingertips. As a business owner in this community, I value supporting my fellow entrepreneurs and I'd love to see more ventures pop up in this great town. There is always great potential and opportunity.

10% Off Your Order In Store!

Changing Seasons Apparel is your local source for women's clothing, offering private shopping experiences. From plus size to maternity and everything in between, we have you covered. Shop online or book an appointment! It's that easy! Bring this ad to receive your discount!

www.csapparel.ca | 250-466-4035 | cswear@shaw.ca

CHANGING SEASONS
APPAREL



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Shawnigan Lake Quilters



We quilt in the traditional manner. This means that the quilt is stretched on a frame and members sit around the frame and quilt by hand. Some of our quilts, i.e. king or queen quilts, can be on boards that are 10 feet long. To our knowledge, we are the only group of quilters in the area that uses the traditional method. One quilt can take up to three months to hand quilt. We usually have two quilts in frames at any one time and, at times, we may have as many as three.

We complete quilts for three reasons: for donation to organizations in the community; for commission in order that we can pay the rent; and, for family and friends. We have donated quilts to local organizations such as Somenos House, Abbeyfield House, Ronald McDonald House, Victoria Hospice, Sorrento Retreat and Clements Centre where thrilled residents use them. In addition, members have won prizes for their quilts in local fairs and exhibitions.

Art and culture are important to any community, as is the provision of community service. We believe that the quilts we lovingly produce are greatly appreciated by those less fortunate in our community who receive them. As well, by keeping this traditional alive in the Cowichan Valley we contribute to the rich culture of this unique area. *Contact person: Karin Boudreau, 250-733-2428*

The Shawnigan Lake Quilters is a group of dedicated women who are not only keeping a traditional craft alive, but are also providing a service to the community through the quilts that are donated to a variety of organizations in the area.

We have been quilting together for over thirty years. The group first met in a member's home but moved to the Shawnigan Lake United Church approximately thirty years ago. When that Church was sold to become Steeples Restaurant, we moved to what was then the Mill Bay United church where we quilted in the hall behind the church. As this hall has been taken down, we have recently moved to the Sylvania School on the corner of Shawnigan Mill Bay Road and Cameron-Taggart Road.

We have approximately eighteen members and meet every Wednesday during the year. The Shawnigan Lake quilters range in age from the mid 50's to the mid 80's and it is an active and energetic group.

FREE WORKSHOP Foreshore Restoration



BIOENGINEERING bioremediation

- ✓ Protect Property Value
- ✓ Add Ecological Value
- ✓ Prevent Shoreline Erosion
- ✓ Work with Nature

SEPT. 24th

9 am - 4 pm

Shawnigan Lake Community
Centre (Round Room)

&

SEPT. 25th

9 am - 4 pm

Shawnigan Lake Provincial
Park (West Shawnigan Rd)



Learn with ecological restoration expert David Polster how to bioengineer the foreshore in an effort to maximize watershed resiliency. Techniques include native plant selection, slope stabilization, and effective disbursement of wave energy.

SIGN UP

By emailing Kelly Musselwhite at
info@shawniganwater.org

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK - FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
ADVERTISE IN THE SHAWNIGAN FOCUS.