

ONE HEART - ONE MIND HOW COLONIZATION CHANGED COMMUNITY

Jared Qwustenuxun Williams

*Elders Kitchen
Manager at Cowichan
Tribes, writer and
educator*

I look out at the meqe' around my home, and all over Quw'utsun. It makes me think of how, before contact, entire families lived in one theew't-hw. A hundred people, from great grandparents to great grandchildren, a bustling network of aunties, uncles, and siblings, all working towards a common goal.

My dad sometimes tells me a story about a hammer. How when he was a boy there was always a hammer at the theew't-hw. Anyone who needed it could go get it, so long as they put it back or replaced it when it broke. I can imagine further that if someone needed a

hammer everyday for work they got their own hammer, but for the most part community tools and goods were sufficient

I think of how much easier and fuller it would be to pass the time surrounded by family. Things like raising children, making food, gathering resources, keeping fires going, would all be easier if they were done alongside family members who had the same goals. In a traditional theew't-hw, singing and storytelling would be magic. Stories and songs would be passed on to the entire family, not just singular people.

Governance comes almost naturally. As a child with eleven direct uncles and four direct aunts, it's not hard for me to see family

hierarchy already at play. As I've said before, our communities were led by those who made the right decisions for their families, because anyone who'd pick themselves first would be taken from power, unsupported by their family. Without a family, a person could easily be homeless and nameless.

Now we strive to be alone, in our own home, with our own little secular family. We all need our own hammer, some houses even have dozens of hammers. We raise our kids with less, or no, family support. We get jobs that benefit companies, while we struggle to put food on our tables. I see it in house after house. Mom, dad, kids, maybe a grandparent, all living in poverty under one roof working for some company. I go to Tim Hortons sometimes and

speak Hul'q'umi'num to the people that work there, and we laugh. I see strong, dedicated, hwulmuhw people, who wake up early and work hard just to make minimum wage. If we only went back to the old way of living, we could have so much more.

But generations of residential schools, the Indian Act, and even "Indian houses", designed by the department of Indian Affairs, have taken us from our strong complex multigenerational homes where a hundred people shared their lives, to where we are now, without even clean drinking water.

I see this snow and I think of everyone huddled up inside a warm theew't-hw. Children running around, a storyteller

capturing the fire light, a team of cooks preparing a feast in the kitchen. Everyone in the house with the sole purpose of looking after everyone else. This is what I think the elders mean when they say Nutsamaat Shqwaulawun. Also, why they look sad when they sometimes say we've forgotten what Nutsamaat Shqwaulawun means.

I raise my hands to you for reading my reflections siem nu siie'yu. Only by learning where we came from can we figure out how to go forward.

Hul'quimi'num
Huy tseep q'u siem nu siie'yu, huy tseep q'u. Meqe' - snow on the ground
Quw'utsun - Cowichan (S)theew't-hw - big house
Nutsamaat
Shqwaulawun - One heart one mind



Did you know that The Focus is a non-profit, volunteer run, free paper?
Want to know more or get involved? shawniganfocuseditor@gmail.com

St. John’s Academy Interact Club

Throughout this year’s winter season, the St. John’s Academy Interact Club has been working on various initiatives to give back to the world in whatever ways we can. In the past two months, we have been raising money for a charity initiative called Bikes for Cambodia. With every \$50 they receive, this group provides a bicycle to an impoverished Cambodian child. These kinds of gifts given to these children can bring remarkable joy to those in need, as a bicycle serves as both a method of transportation and entertainment.

To raise money to help these children, we organised an event where members of the school community could purchase a piece of candy and a card, write a message, and have the candy and card sent to any student or staff member at the school. We also organized an event where the students of the school could have winter-themed holiday cards of their own design sold by the Interact Club, with part of the profits being given back to the students. We ended up raising \$300 for donation to the charity initiative, which was enough to buy six bicycles for the Cambodian children.

We found additional success in our food and toy drives, which were so bountiful that by the time we sent out the donations, the rooms in which we were storing them were overflowing. To see such generosity and empathy, as well as those people working so hard to further this positive action, is enough to warm the heart on a cold winter’s eve.

Shawnigan Weather January 2022

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network ~ Reported by Grant Treloar

| | January Normal | Cigarmaker's Bay | | Discovery School | | Museum | | Elford Road | |
|--|----------------|------------------|---------|------------------|--------|--------|-------|-------------|-------|
| | | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2021 | 2021 |
| Average High | 6.3 | 5.0 | 6.3 | 6.4 | 7.4 | 6.3 | 7.3 | 6.0 | 6.8 |
| Average Low | 0.5 | 0.3 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 1.1 | 0.5 | 2.0 | -0.1 | 1.4 |
| Extreme High | 15.0 | 9.1 | 11.2 | 10.4 | 12.8 | 10.5 | 13.2 | 9.5 | 12.0 |
| Extreme Low | -21.1 | -7.4 | -2.8 | -7.8 | -3.4 | -6.4 | -2.4 | -8.5 | -3.0 |
| Precipitation | 215.3 | 188.5 | 262.3 | 180.5 | 243.4 | 171.9 | 198.9 | 177.2 | 243.6 |
| Days w precip | 20 | 18 | 24 | 18 | 24 | 18 | 24 | 18 | 24 |
| Year Precip | 215.3 | 188.5 | 262.3 | 180.5 | 243.4 | 171.9 | 198.9 | 177.2 | 243.6 |
| Precip since Oct 1 | 534.7 | 910.4 | 932.6 | 981.3 | 882.8 | 895.8 | 723.6 | 966.2 | 871.2 |
| Rank since 1914: 44 th warmest, 51 st driest | | | | | | | | | |
| Lake Temperature Lake level change Surface Elevation | Jan 2 | Jan 9 | Jan 16 | Jan 23 | Jan 30 | | | | |
| | 2° | 1° | 2° | 3° | 2° | | | | |
| | -41cm | +20cm | +30cm | -33cm | -29cm | | | | |
| | 116.86m | 117.07m | 117.37m | 117.04m | 116.75 | | | | |

South Cowichan Library

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

The **Adult Winter Reading Club** runs until the end of February so there is still time to join! Each book you read can put you in the running for a \$40 gift card at Bru-Go’s! Come by the library for a booklet or complete the entire program online at virl.beanstack.org/reader365

Also, the library has a **light therapy lamp** the size of a tablet that you can use while you sit and read or use the computer. Ask your doctor if you might benefit from getting more light—some people are coming in weekly to use it!

Have you gotten a new device recently? Contact us to book a **Tech One-on-One** appointment for in-depth help setting up eBooks, digital audiobooks, or other library eResources. Have questions? **Book a Librarian!** Looking into family history or searching for your next read? Interested in online books, movies, or magazines? Ready to do some research?

Schedule a 30-minute session with a librarian and bring your questions.
Call 250-743-5283 to book a session

Did you know the library receives three **deliveries** each week? We literally have new items on the shelves every day with a total of over 20,000 titles!

If you know someone unable to come into the library due to illness or injury, please let them know about our monthly volunteer **Home Delivery service**. Get books, audio-books, and DVDs right at your door.

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

- ★ 10am - 8pm on Monday and Tuesday
- ★ 10am - 5pm on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday
- ★ Public computers
- ★ Printing, photocopying, and scanning
- ★ Wi-Fi
- ★ Seating
- ★ Express Reads and Express View DVDs so you can skip the hold queues
- * Light therapy lamp to use in the library

Off Leash for Dogs

Janet Neilsen

Did you know?

I called Coastal Animal Control (250-748-3395) the other day to find out what the rules were for unleashed dogs. I was told that all Our Parks have a rule that your dogs must be on a leash. If your dog is unleashed on

a public road the owner must have “complete control” of the pet.

On our road we have had to put up signs, because dog owners have not been picking up after their pets. Please be mindful... no one wants your pet jumping on them or growling at them or stepping in their poo.

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E. J. Hughes, at home in Shawnigan

Robert Amos
Artist & Author

In 1963, Mrs. J. E. M. Porter of Maple Bay wrote about artist E. J. Hughes under the headline "In a Hideaway Home at Shawnigan Lake, An Artist Paints his Way to Fame". As she described it, "Hughes and his wife, Fern, live in a little country house on the shore of Shawnigan Lake. There are a few flowers around and some lilac trees; otherwise, maples, dogwoods, willows and firs surround the house. They are allowed to press closely to muffle sounds from the roadway, beach and girl's school nearby." Victoria Daily Colonist, August 20, 1963.

E. J. Hughes (1913-2007) is known as a painter of landscapes, especially near Shawnigan Lake where he lived 1951 until 1972. Sometimes, in the winter

months, it was difficult to find subjects to paint. His exclusive dealer, Max Stern of the Dominion Gallery, in Montreal wrote to him on May 23, 1952: "I do not know how we could arrange a show of yours as we would not have sufficient paintings available... A one-man show should contain as varied a collection as possible."

Later in the year, on November 12, 1952, Stern wrote that he "would be interested in seeing a still-life of yours. If you can, take beautiful objects or lovely flowers; they are always enjoyed by many people." At his suggestion, Hughes created a few still life paintings of flowers. On February 17, 1953, he despatched a canvas (18 x 23 inches) titled Vase of Wild Roses to the gallery, for which he was paid \$55. "The

flowers are very charming indeed," Stern told him, and then said, "I wish to raise your prices."

In reply, Hughes said "Am very pleased to hear you are raising my prices, and sincerely hope it means you are selling some more of my paintings. As prices improve and hence my working conditions, I am in hopes that the quality of my paintings will gradually improve."

On June 9, 1955, Hughes sent Vase of Daffodils (20 1/2 x 16 inches) for which he was paid \$70. His friend Pat Salmon remarked that "he picked the daffodils from his Shawnigan Lake garden. The background was made up but was inspired by the view outside his front studio window looking across Strathcona Bay." Upon receiving the painting, Stern wrote

"I would like to let you know how much I like the picture, its composition, and the very beautifully painted vase and flowers. It is a masterpiece. The flowers

are very charming indeed."

This praise seemed to have little effect on the artist for the daffodils, the second flower study, was his last.



*Vase of Daffodils, 1955.
Oil on canvas, (20 1/2 x 16 inches).
Photograph from Hughes's own photo album.*

Opinion

Glenn White
Shawnigan Resident

We were able to take a few small steps to normalcy this past week.

The Cobble Hill 10 km run was held on January 23 with over 550 runners and, thanks to a great group of volunteers, our community was able to host this run while complying with the set out protocols.

And our gyms are open again with appropriate proof of vaccine, masks and social distancing in place. So far, it has been good, and people are very happy to have this part of their lives back in place.

As we continue down this road, we do not know for sure what our new normal will be. I think most of us would like to go back to two years ago, but that option is gone, and those days are behind us for now.

I am hoping that if we all play by the rules and guidelines Dr Bonnie has given us, we will be able to keep this mutating beast in check even if we have to make adjustments later on. Following the protocols, be it masks at the grocery stores, pubs, gyms etc., we can avoid more flare ups and save some lives in the process.

Unfortunately, not all people see it that way and issues arise. I think that we all need to remember that we have free will and freedom to choose. However, we need to keep in mind each choice we make has consequences. Covid has not changed that, in that there are still consequences for any of the choices we make, be it drinking and driving or whatever. There is a price to pay for each choice we make. However, we live in a country that allows free choice and we should all realize that individual choices need to be respected even if we do not agree with them. Let us each face the consequences of the choices we have made. But when choices impact others, that is when there is an issue.

I hope, as we move forward into a new year, that we will be able to keep ourselves, and keep our community as safe as possible. And as Dr Bonnie has said, we need to continue to be calm, be kind and be gentle with one another. We are all unique individuals.

The Cowichan South Arts Guild and Inspire! Youth Arts presents

3rd Annual
ONCE UPON A WINTER'S NIGHT
Celebrating Youth Storytelling through the Arts

Launching online
Friday, Feb 18th
6pm

Through
www.cowichansouthartsguild.com
www.facebook.com/cowichansouthartsguild

    
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Can Lifesaving Personnel Find You?



Oriana Parker
Director of
Communications SCCP

Do you find it frustrating when looking for a home or business address and the house numbers are so small that they are hardly readable from the roadway? It becomes even more

difficult when there are impatient drivers behind you. Home address numbers are necessary to identify your home for the mailman and guests, but they are crucial for emergency personnel. When you call 911, your first contact is a dispatcher who receives the call, learns the nature of your emergency, gets your name, address and phone number and then relays that information to emergency personnel, be it ambulance, fire or police.

According to Sgt. Desaulniers, RCMP, Shawnigan Lake, “Highly visible address signs are imperative for first responders when attending

calls, especially in the more rural areas of our policing jurisdiction where properties are spread out and don’t follow an easy to determine pattern. In an emergency, a matter of seconds could mean vital time wasted searching for an address if they aren’t clearly marked”. Fire Chief Beck of Mill Bay, agrees with the importance of these highly visible signs and adds, “Sometimes, responding emergency crew find it difficult to find certain residences or locations. A structure fire is easy to find when there is a lot of smoke and flames. However, it is a totally different story when that is not the case, and we come to a driveway that has

three or four address numbers on it! As we start down the driveway, the road now splits into three different directions, and nothing is marked to indicate what address we should be responding to.”

Response time is critical, and the time it takes to pinpoint a precise location can mean the difference between life and death.

South Cowichan Community Policing have been promoting High Visibility Double Sided Reflective house number signs for a few years now. These signs are made from quality aluminum crafted in Shawnigan Lake. The cost is \$55 for the house number sign

and \$35 for the post, should you need one. Panago Pizza have been kind enough to offer a medium pizza free with every sign purchased. If you are interested in purchasing a sign you can email scdp@shaw.ca or call 250-929-7222 for more information.



Shawnigan Lake Museum

1775 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road, Shawnigan Lake
museum@shawniganlakemuseum.com
250-743-8675

The museum will re-open on Wednesday, February 2nd.
Opening hours will be Wednesday to Saturday from 10:30-3:30.

If you have an interest in volunteering in a positive, safe and fun environment, let us know. Volunteering has been difficult over the last few years, but we are ready to rebuild our volunteer base. See contact information above.

Please note that we still require masks and proof of vaccination to visit. All staff and volunteers at the museum are fully vaccinated. We look forward to welcoming you back!



Meet
me at the
museum!



Book Review

Marcy Green
Shawnigan Focus

Cloud Cuckoo Land by
Anthony Doerr
Published by Scribner
Copyright 2021
by Anthony Doerr

This is a monumental book by a talented writer and Pulitzer Prize winner. It is aptly dedicated, “For the librarians, then, now and in the years to come”.

This is in reference to the centuries of scholars who copied, curated, stored and kept the ancient writings alive, whether on stone,

papyrus, vellum or paper. A love story to the written word, it celebrates the power of storytelling, and its ability to travel through time.

The story that loosely holds the five narratives together is that of Aethon, a simple shepherd, who has many trials and adventures. It supposedly comes from the Greek writer, Diogenes.

Initially, it is confusing to keep track of the different characters and stories. Konstance is on an interstellar rocket ship in some future time. Anna and Omeir are at the siege of

Constantinople in the mid -15th Century, and Zenon and Seymour are in Ohio, in present time. They are all young people, with the exception of Zenon, who is an octogenarian and a veteran of the Korean War.

I found the terrible and difficult times the characters lived through hard to bear, but on reading further, found that they were strong, resilient and creative in dealing with their pain and terror. And this novel did eventually lead us to more hopeful times.

The alternating narratives are short and, thankfully, dated, so we can travel more easily back and forth through time at a furious rate, somehow landing at another familiar piece of a story. My attention never wavered. However, this would not be a book for those who like a linear storyline. It requires some faith that, in the end,

all will work out and be revealed.

Doerr illustrates in his writing, that through the times of cruelty, death and war, the human spirit endures. Interconnectedness and courage across the centuries is the theme, with hope emerging triumphant.

How the author weaves all of these stories and unique characters together is truly masterful. His prose is engaging, and he embodies the ancient tradition of Storyteller so well.

Recommended for those who are interested in history, love books and who believe in a hopeful future for us all.

Rating: 4.9/5 stars.

Four Seasons in Rome
Anthony Doerr

Copyright 2007 by Anthony Doerr

I wanted to add a mention of an easier-to-read memoir Doerr wrote about his year

in Rome with his wife and infant twin sons. He was awarded the Rome Prize the day after the babies were born.

This book is absolutely charming, and his writing is, as always, luminous and enchanting. I loved his descriptions of Rome and smiled and sympathized at some of the obstacles the ancient city presented to a double-wide stroller.

It was heart-warming to hear how the Italians of all ages and classes doted on his babies, and how he and his wife managed to survive their first year of parenthood in a strange city with little knowledge of Italian.

If you are a fan of Rome and Italy, you’ll enjoy this book.

Recommended for those who love travel, art and babies.

Rating: 5/5 stars

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Connected for Good

Kim Barnard
EcoClub Secretary and Story Gatherer

How often do we notice something, or someone, that needs attention? What kind of person takes the time to ask questions and get to know what might really be going on? Who bothers to give a care if it's not in their backyard? When is it time to step up and dedicate energy and effort to doing something to make "A Good Thing" happen?

The answers belong to each of us. Thank you to those who live this way! Please know that it's possible to walk, ride and cruise through the community of Shawnigan Lake, from north to south and east to west, and feel a sense of responsibility and enthusiasm for the opportunity to care for our people and our spaces.

The important thing is to CONNECT with others who may share your heart for our collective home! Now, more than ever, we need to be intentional about offering points of connection - whether it's dialogue, shared learning, field trips, or inspiration from afar. It's the reason why a new Rotary club came to be in Shawnigan. The club serves as a facilitator for these connections, bringing together the many voices of residents, businesses, students, caregivers, artists, entrepreneurs, explorers and specialists so that their important talents and messages don't get passed by or ignored in our pandemic safety silos. By creating a series of outdoors and virtual spaces in time, many of which are archived and shareable at our Shawnigan Rotary YouTube channel, we can sustain-

ably Connect for Good and Make Ideas Happen!

In just a year's time, the Shawnigan Lake Rotary EcoClub has gone from a tiny seed of an idea born of an annual clean-up to a fully chartered EcoClub leading the way in Canada for us to imagine what empowered volunteers can do! We have the support of an international network of creative, compassionate thinkers and unsinkable, inclusive doers. There is no magic or secret, other than Together We Care - from Active Transportation to Climate Conversations to Emergency Preparedness and Environmental Footprints. Our areas of interest reflect our membership and their goals shared. For everyone's benefit here in Shawnigan Lake and beyond, please let us know if we can help you Connect for GOOD!

Basin Society Cedar Raffle



stewardship organization just by entering. The Shawnigan Basin Society will sell up to 4550 raffle tickets for three Cedar Planters. With odds like this, the chances of winning are among the greatest of any raffle.

The aim of the Shawnigan Basin Society is to advocate a holistic approach to environmental challenges, as well as to encourage community engagement to protect the

long-term health and safety of the Shawnigan Lake Community Watershed and the drinking water it supplies. All funds will go towards local watershed stewardship.

For more information on raffle details, sponsors that made the draw possible or ticket sales contact the office at 250-929-4076 or info@shawniganbasinsociety.org Thursday, Friday and Saturday 12 pm- 4 pm.

The Shawnigan Basin Society has launched a Cedar Planter Raffle draw!

ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN ONE OF THESE CEDAR PLANTERS FULL OF GOODIES FOR JUST \$5 PER TICKET OR \$20 FOR FIVE TICKETS.

Tickets are available for purchase at the Shawnigan Basin Society in the heart of the Village until March 18, 2022. The winners will be announced at 2 pm on World Water Day - March 20th, 2022.

Support your watershed



Do the best you can until you know better. Then, when you know better, do better.

Maya Angelou

Cowichan South Arts

Terry Dheensaw
CSAG Director

A fresh start for 2022!

Cowichan South Arts Guild (CSAG) continues to be very active and involved in programming events and workshops in the south end of CVRD, Shawnigan Lake, Cobble Hill, and Mill Bay.

This non-profit Society is made up of dedicated volunteers and enthusiasts, all committed to the shared vision of creating an inclusive community art culture for individuals and families of all ages.

As other Art Guilds in the CVRD are pivoting towards ways of engaging the people in each jurisdiction, so too is CSAG.

Our vision and consideration is to build and deliver creative opportunities in South Cowichan and to partner with many organizations, businesses, and community

groups, for mutual inspiration and support, to continue and build on what was working well prior to Covid-19.

If you are a Visual Artist, Performing Artist, a Maker, a Creator, an Environmentally connected Human, please know you are not alone in these certainly uncertain times we are all in.

United, we stand a better chance to get back to experiencing what we like to call "normal", as a state, in our wonderful, shared community lives.

CSAG is inviting connection and interaction with you as individuals, families and organizations in 2022.

For more information as to how to share in CSAG's Vision, please email us at hello@cowichansouthartsguild.com or talk directly to our President - Jennie Stevens - 250. 710. 8485



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Acacia Ty Mawr

Thank you for the generous community members who donated to the Acacia “Adopt a Senior” program for this past Christmas season. Our “Santa” was able to give out a gift to all, bringing smiles and joy throughout the home. A special thanks to Judy Bobke, Debbie Bingham and Anna Androski for helping our staff provide fun presents to wrap up our Christmas Luncheon.

Also, thanks to the Shawnigan Lake Fire Department for including Acacia on the Santa Run tour! We had a small group of residents happy to see the lights!

The Christmas Spirit is alive in Shawnigan!

Many thanks,
Jill McMurray, RN Coordinator.



SHAWNIGAN LAKE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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

Department members attended 22 incidents in January

- ★ Tuesday, Jan 4 - 1st Responder off Cameron-Taggart Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Jan 5 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Jan 5 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Thursday, Jan 6 – Alarms Activated on Tharrat Rd
- ★ Sunday, Jan 9 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Jan 10 - 1st Responder off McKean Rd
- ★ Monday, Jan 10 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Jan 11 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Jan 12 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Jan 12 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, Jan 13 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, Jan 14 - 1st Responder off Wallbank Rd
- ★ Friday, Jan 14 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Jan 17 - 1st Responder off Elford Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Jan 19 – Structure Fire on Timber Ridge Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Jan 19 – Assistance on Shawnigan Lake Rd

Post Santa Run

Shawnigan Lake Volunteer Fire Department

The Shawnigan Lake Fire Department thanks the residents of Shawnigan Lake for their continued generous support to the local CMS Food Bank.

Financial donations totalled over \$3500 this year, along with over 40 boxes of non-perishable food items!

The CMS Food Bank is grateful.

The Malahat Legion 134

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
MALAHAT DISTRICT BRANCH
134

1625 Shawnigan Lake-Mill Bay Rd., Shawnigan Lake
(Next to the Fire Hall)

Join us on Facebook or contact us at (250) 743-4621
www.malahatlegion.ca

By G.J. Solley

We are pleased to announce that we are now open Fridays and Saturdays from 1:00 to 7:00 pm. Activities are starting up including Crib on Wednesdays at 1:00 and our Meat Draws on Saturday from 3:00 – 5:00 pm. Covid-19 rules apply. Masks can only be removed when sitting.

Even though we have been closed again due to Covid-19 we have continued to support

and raise money for non-profit organizations. Information is available on our website. www.malahatlegion.ca

This year we hosted an on-line auction as our fundraiser for Wounded Warriors. Thanks to all that donated or purchased items. All monies raised for this Run remains on Vancouver Island.

This year, The Wounded Warriors Annual Run is set to begin on February 27th in Port Hardy and scheduled to arrive at the Malahat Legion (next door to the fire hall) on March 5th around 5:00 pm. shortly after the Meat Draw.

Lori Timpson is a member of the Malahat Legion and is not only a runner again this year representing the Police, but she has served as the EMS Coordinator for raising funds and awareness for Wounded

Warriors Canada.

We would like to extend an invitation to members of the community to join us to welcome runners as they arrive.

Y.S.A.G.

Anyone 55 and over is welcome to come check us out.

Our fun art activity starts at 9:00 am January 27th with the quilters at 1:00 pm. We will start working on kitten/cat/dog and puppy wool blankets for Broken Promises along with other projects.

Our first meeting is on February 15th at 2:00 pm. Proof of vaccination is required.



Thank-you to our community for working together and staying safe!



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COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton**
Email sacton@cvrld.bc.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission (APC)** Meetings TBA
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month.
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**
Meetings TBA. Held at the 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 Community Association (SLCA)**
Contact: bburr@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**
Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Contact: info@shawniganbasinsociety.org
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: blog.ysag.ca - email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Re-Opening February 3, 2022 - 10:30 - 3:30
Contact: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca www.shawniganlakemuseum.com
- ★ **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**
Contact: 250-929-7222 - www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca
- ★ **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**
Saturday Meat Draw 3:00-5:00pm. Contact: Gloria_gsolley@shaw.ca
- ★ **South Cowichan Arts Council**
Contact: hello@southcowichanartsguild.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Quilters** - Wed. 9-2 at Lion's Hall (former Sylvania School)
- ★ **Note:** Covid restrictions may affect regular meetings. Check before you go...

Classified

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



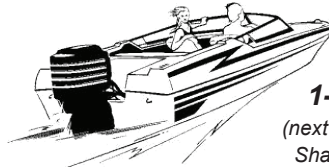
One lucky respondent with the correct
answer will be randomly selected to win two
Specialty Coffees at Shawnigan House.
Reply to: editor@shawniganfocus.ca

NO WINNERS last month!
The image was a carving
of a logging train on the
bench in the outside gallery
at the museum.

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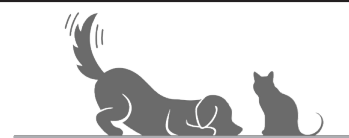
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St. John's Academy Spotlight

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

Making Connections

In Shawnigan Lake our roads are becoming busier and the traffic seems to go faster creating a need for safe walking and cycling places now more than ever. Did you know that the CVRD is preparing a new Active Transportation Plan?

They are curious to learn how we move through our community. There is an easy to use, interactive map that will help to collect this information at...

www.planyourcowichan.ca/regional-active-transportation-plan/maps/making-connections

The students of St. John's Academy have begun to look at transportation issues in some of our classes and hope to provide more input into the CVRD process. However, we have noticed that there are many submissions from other regions of the CVRD, such as Duncan and south of Nanaimo, but very little input from Shawnigan Lake.

From a local school, without sidewalks and on a busy road with no shoulder, we hope that the CVRD will be able to help connect up more trails with safe areas for walking and cycling. Please consider sharing your feedback before February 7th to help support our community.

Matt Jonah
Director of Admissions
matt.jonah@stjohnsacademy.ca



The community, along with our students enjoy safe walking, running and cycling corridors within our community.



The road situated in front of Saint John's Academy, the stretch of road which vehicles speed on risking pedestrian safety.

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