



Shawnigan-Showe'luqun Focus

Volume Fourteen - Issue Eight

August 2023 Tum'qwe'unhw

A Non-Profit Community Publication

Algal Blooms and Eurasian Watermilfoil in Shawnigan Lake

Linda Gregory
Shawnigan Basin Society

Shawnigan Lake is a source of drinking water and a well-used recreation area. Therefore, keeping the lake healthy is critical. However, algal blooms, which may contain cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), have been observed in the lake, and Eurasian watermilfoil is spreading in the lake. Both can reduce use of the lake and water quality. Why might this be happening and what should be done?

Cyanobacteria or blue-green algae are one type of free-living phytoplankton, and some species contain or produce toxins. Its presence in Quamichan Lake is what killed several dogs.

On June 22, 2023, a suspicious algal bloom near the Galley was reported on Facebook. The author also contacted the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) and the Cowichan Valley Regional District

(CVRD). Although VIHA visited the lake on June 26, 2023 and found no evidence of blue-green algae, they did not report back so people were still concerned.

If anyone observes an algal bloom in Shawnigan Lake, it is important to contact both VIHA and the CVRD as they have a defined protocol. The contact information is as follows:

Vancouver Island Health Authority
Environmental Health Officer
250 737-2010
HPES.Duncan@islandhealth.ca

Cowichan Valley Regional District
Environmental Services
250 746-2636
environment@cvrld.bc.ca

Eurasian watermilfoil is a rooted macrophyte (aquatic plant). Most residents are aware of its continued growth along the shores of Shawnigan Lake and its nuisance to swimmers and boaters. It is an introduced invasive species meaning that it was introduced,

has no natural controls, and it is eliminating the natural macrophytes, and, in general, changing the shoreline and lake ecosystem.

The growth of Eurasian watermilfoil and algae requires nutrients – particularly phosphorus and nitrogen – and is regulated in large part by oxygen content of the water and temperature. It is a complex interaction, but the main sources of nutrients in Shawnigan Lake are runoff from septic fields and fertilized lawns, general agriculture, sediment plumes containing organic material from South Shawnigan Creek to the lake, and death and decay of algae, macrophytes and other organisms. Oxygen levels depend on temperature and water movement, but oxygen is required for the decay of organic material in the sediment plumes and the organisms, thus reducing the oxygen levels in the water. Temperature increase is primarily due to climate change.

Controlling the growth



of Eurasian watermilfoil and algae requires the reduction of nutrient input to the lake. This means regulation of the inputs from septic fields, fertilized lawns, general agriculture, and the input of sediment from South Shawnigan Creek, which requires enforcement of the maintenance and positioning of septic fields, foreshore restoration to reduce runoff, and reduction of sediment input from activities on South Shawnigan Creek, particularly at the north end of the creek. In addition, effective removal of the Eurasian

watermilfoil and the nutrients contained in the plants will prevent them from being released during decay of the plants.

Other than proposed studies to remove the Eurasian watermilfoil and some foreshore restoration by the Shawnigan Basin Society, it appears that little is being done by any level of government to ensure proper functioning of septic fields, and regulate the land activity at the north end of South Shawnigan Creek to eliminate the input of organic material to Shawnigan Lake.

Drought Levels - CVRD Living the New Normal

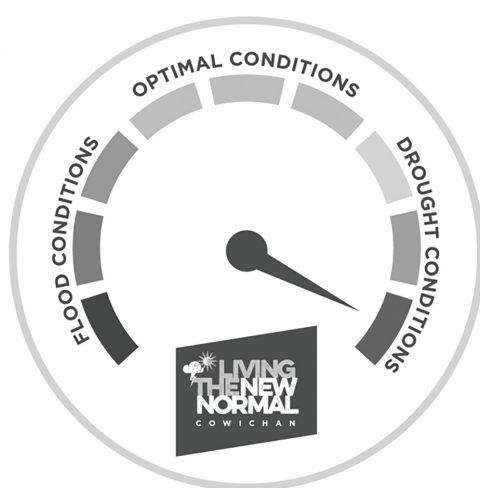
(This article is from the CVRD website - <https://cvrdnewnormalcowichan.ca/drought-levels/>)

The Province uses a 6 level drought classification to describe the impacts and suggested responses to drought conditions. These levels are explained in the table on the right. Provincial Drought levels are reported for large water basins across the province. The Drought Level reported for East Vancouver Island represents average conditions from Victoria to north of Campbell River, but local conditions may be more severe for individual watersheds within the region.

For a full explanation of how the drought level is determined, as well as the roles and

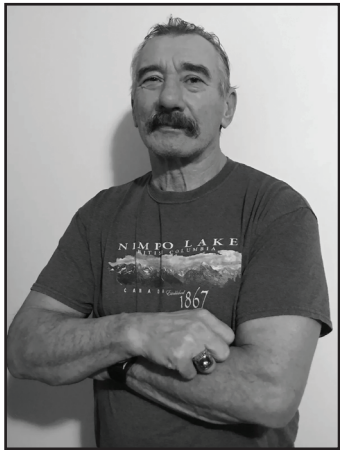
responsibilities of various levels of government in responding to drought conditions, see the British Columbia Drought and Water Scarcity Response Plan. Download at:

<https://tinyurl.com/58yz42c5>



current conditions		Drought level: 5 - Exceptionally Dry Water Restrictions: Stage 3 Warnings: Campfire Ban in Effect	
Level	Conditions	Impacts	General Response Measures
0 (Green)	Normal	There is sufficient water to meet socio-economic and ecosystem needs	Preparedness Conservation
1 (Yellow)	Dry	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are rare	Preparedness Conservation
2 (Peach)	Very Dry	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are unlikely	Conservation Local water restrictions where appropriate
3 (Orange)	Severely Dry	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are possible	Conservation Local water restrictions likely
4 (Red)	Extremely Dry	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are likely	Conservation and local water restrictions Regulatory action possible
5 (Maroon)	Exceptionally Dry	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are almost certain	Conservation and local water restrictions Regulatory action likely Possible emergency response

People Of This Place



Mike Kadar of Shawnigan Lake, was inducted into the 2023 Canadian Armwrestling Hall of Fame

Information from the Canadian Armwrestling Federation website

- This inductee first got into armwrestling as a teenager

in Victoria, BC, in the late ‘70s. He was good at it and enjoyed it so much that in the 10th grade he wrote in his yearbook that he wanted to become a world champion armwrestler.

- He started competing and by the age of 17 he was known as the armwrestling champion of Vancouver Island.

- Soon after high school he moved to Prince George where he met other pullers and they formed the Prince George Ironarms Team – a team that would produce several national champions.

- He continued to improve and enjoyed his greatest success in the late 1980s and early 1990s, a period

which saw him win several major titles in the 220-lb class. He won titles at the big-money Can-Am Championships, several Canadian National titles and three WAF World titles at this weight!

- He also has the distinction of being the only Canadian to make the trip to the USSR in 1989 to introduce the sport to the Soviets. He took part in three nights of competition and went undefeated. By the last night of competition, one Russian puller refused to pull him with his right arm because he knew what the result would be. The Russian insisted on pulling with his left – this wasn’t a problem for the Canadian, who agreed and easily won.

Isobel Matheson

The Shawnigan Lake Fire Department is pleased to have sponsored Frances Kelsey School student Isobel Matheson at the recent Island Ignite Mentorship Program held in Victoria on July 7 to 9.

The program, launched on Vancouver Island in 2022, is committed to creating opportunities that give female youth the confidence to explore non-traditional jobs and empower them through fire fighting skills and drills.

Isobel says she had a GREAT time gaining hands-on experience with tools in activities that

included smoke drills, auto extrication, rappelling, wild fire drills and other fire department related duties. She now looks forward to pursuing a career in fire fighting.



Nature Rambles

Genevieve Singleton Nature educator, Biologist

Right now, in the Cowichan Valley you can see shrubs with stately pink spires lining our roads, trails and riparian areas in the Quw’utsun Valley. This is **T’eets’ulhp** meaning the fish spreader plant in our local language, Hul’q’umi’num’. Also known as Hardhack in English and in Latin as *Spiraea douglasii*.

I like to dry the flowers for an intriguing winter bouquet. My husband,

Dave Polster, renowned restoration expert, has recommended potted plants (this plant does not live stake) being planted along riparian areas all over BC. This is one of the top-rated plants to put in a riparian area. It has fibrous roots that secure and knit together the edges of freshwater ecosystems.

A member of the Rose family it can be tricky to identify without the flowers. Look for the brown dried spires, alternate leaves that are green on top and lighter

coloured and wooly underneath. Quw’utsun (Cowichan) indigenous cultural educator, Jared Qwustenuxun Williams, has shown me at a pi’qwan (salmon cooked around a fire) how **T’eets’ulhp** sticks keep the cut salmon spread open. The tough springy stems which make them suitable for this are also what gives its English name, Hardhack, hard to hack through! LOL!

Huy ch q’u (thank you) for taking the time to read this! Interested in learning

more about local nature? Please follow me at Facebook Genevieve

Singleton Quw’utsun Nature Rambles and #Quwutsunnaturerambles.



South Cowichan Library

Monica Finn

The Summer Reading Club continues through Aug 22!

All August: Find images in the Hul’q’umi’num Scavenger Hunt to complete an entry to win a prize!

Saturday, Aug 5: Family Storytime at 10:30am

Tuesday, Aug 15: Drop off your most outgoing stuffie by 3pm for a party and Stuffie Sleepover! Stuffies can be picked up the next day along with a booklet of photos showing what they got up to.

Tuesday, Aug 22: DRAG EXTRAVAGANZA! virtual storytime, 6-7pm. Register to watch at home or join us in the library to watch together! Followed by snacks and a dance party. Dress up and get up to get down!

LifeProTip: drop by for your Summer Reading Club medal when you complete the Summer Reading Club booklet. No need to wait until the rush at the start of school!

The Library Mouse continues to hide in a different spot each week. Fill out a slip telling us where you found them to enter to win a prize.

The Adult Summer Reading Challenge and Teen Summer Reading Challenge run until August 31. Check out virl.bc.ca for more information (including great prizes!).

LEGO® Club meets every Tuesday, 2-5pm. We provide the LEGO (and Duplo) and you supply the imagination. Come ready to build! This is a free, drop-in event.

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

10am - 8pm, Monday and Tuesday

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

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

250-743-5436

southcowichan@virl.bc.ca

We’re Looking for Writers Who Have Stories or Articles About Shawnigan!

Email : shawniganfocuseditor@gmail.com

Send your article in Word, not pdf Maximum word count 500 words

If you include a photo, send as separate jpg or png file

Photos should be 300dpi or larger resolution

Music in the life of E. J. Hughes: Part Two

Robert Amos
Author & Artist

E. J. Hughes graduated from the Vancouver School of Art in 1935 but, despite his best efforts, even by 1939 the prospects for an artist to make a living in Vancouver had not much improved, so Hughes enlisted in the Royal Canadian Artillery - just days before war was declared. While in basic training at Fort Macaulay, near Esquimalt, he sent this brief musical vignette to his girlfriend Fern:

Ed. Hughes to Fern Smith, September 14, 1939

“In the tent next door some very excellent musical boys are quietly harmonizing with their voices, “Look down, look down, that lonesome road.” The rain is pouring on the tent. It sounds peaceful and

nice... Now that war has started, I may make a hard try to get on the War Records as Artist, which would make you my wifey quicker, and while I am a regular artillery man I will do my best at my job and try to make it a worthwhile one.”

In 1941, Hughes was at last taken on as a war artist and was posted to Ottawa. At that time all three Hughes men were in the army. Hughes Sr. had chopped a few years off his age and spent the war in the Army Band. Ed's brother Gary joined the Duke of Connaught's Regiment as a bugler and, in due course, became part of the Army Show, playing the trombone and arranging.

At the end of May 1943, Fern took a long-awaited trip to the visit her in-laws in Victoria and while there was able to see both Hughes Sr.

and his son Gary playing with the army band in Beacon Hill Park. Second Lieutenant E. J. Hughes was, at the time, stationed in England but returned to Canada in August and was soon sent to Kiska, one of the Aleutian Islands a thousand miles off the coast of Alaska. There, the Winnipeg Grenadiers had bulldozed a level field in front of the hilly campsite at Kiska, which inspired Hughes to draw *Parade Ground on Kiska* (1944) from memory. The regimental band is seen marching about in the desolate Arctic terrain and leading the band is the trombone player. Perhaps this was Hughes's way of honouring his father and brother who were both trombone players.

After Kiska, Hughes returned to join his wife Fern in Ottawa where their son Mack was born, in 1945. Pat Salmon reported what Hughes



Parade Ground on Kiska (1944).

Conté, 22 1/8" x 29" (56.5 x 73.5 cm).

Photo courtesy of the Canadian War Museum CWM19710261-3082.

had told her: “When little Mack was about six months old he'd wake up – he was a very quiet baby – but he'd wake up in the morning. He'd be in his crib, and he'd scratch the sheets with his little fingernails and listen to the noise it made. And Hughes would be awake,

and he'd start scratching back – scratch scratch – and little Mack would go – scratch scratch – just copied it!. And Hughes said to me: “I thought he might turn out to be a musician like Dad and Gary.” ~ **Pat Salmon to Robert Amos, personal communication 2012.**

Shawnigan Lake Museum



Lori Treloar
Executive Director

The Shawnigan Lake Museum is about creating, and promoting, a strong sense of community. Our mandate is to share the passion for Shawnigan – past, present and future. We provide a place for visitors to learn about Shawnigan's rich history or to reminisce, for those who have a history here.

We have heard, recently, that many people do not know what is happening in Elsie Miles Park. We are happy to announce that the Shawnigan Lake Historical Society is expanding the Shawnigan Lake Museum.

The expansion will triple the size of the current Museum, adding mostly community engagement space. After 40 plus years in the building, space is very limited.

This expansion will allow the society to hold more events, increase school and community programming and to build an appropriate artifact and archival storage space.

The larger museum will include meeting spaces, accessible washrooms, and several new exhibits. There will be many volunteer opportunities after completion, in 2024. We will be looking for volunteer help in the following areas:

Reception; Gift Shop; Visitor Guides; Gardening; School programming; community events and housekeeping. It is a great way to learn about, and get involved in, your community. Let us know if you are interested in helping. Volunteer training will be provided.

The building will also provide public, accessible washrooms for the Village. The washrooms will be accessed from the exterior of the building and maintained by the CVRD.

The Society has worked to make this project happen for more than 6 years. We raised over \$2.2 million

dollars, with successful Grants, and the help of generous donors. Covid severely affected our project like so many others and, unfortunately, we had to make cuts. Having said that, we continue to write grants and fundraise to add back the features that were not included.

Shawnigan Lake has a rich and important history. This project will future-proof the museum and honour the people who established the Society, in 1977. That group found the permanent home for the museum (1983) in the original Shawnigan Firehall.

The Society considered an expansion plan, in the early days, but it did not happen. It is happening now.

We are always looking for stories, to add to the rich history of the area...be a part of the story. Do you have stories, artifacts or photos to share?

The museum will continue to stay open with limited hours, Wed-Fri 10:30-3:30 until the contractor decides that we need to close.

If you would like to help us with this project, in any way, please contact us at museum@shawniganlakemuseum.com

Raspberry Tea & Quilt Display

August 12th — 2:00 to 4:00

\$12 adults & \$25 families

Bake Sale

Door prize

Prize for the best hat!



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Shawnigan Weather - July 2023 Report

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

	July Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Butler Road		Museum		Elford Road	
		2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Average High	23.3	28.5	27.0	26.8	26.4	27.5	26.9	26.3	24.6	25.8	24.8
Average Low	12.0	13.0	13.7	12.7	13.7	10.2	11.6	13.9	14.6	13.0	13.8
Extreme High	37.2	33.9	37.9	32.8	36.8	32.9	37.1	31.8	35.0	31.0	35.0
Extreme Low	3.9	10.3	11.0	10.0	10.7	6.7	8.6	11.1	11.6	10.0	11.5
Precipitation	23.2	21.6	33.3	17.3	31.4	18.6	32.7	15.8	18.4	15.2	32.4
Days w precip	6	2	6	2	6	2	7	2	5	3	7
Year Precip	654.9	626.4	868.5	471.0	701.8	560.1	842.8	451.8	619.7	464.4	696.4
Rank since 1914: 8 th warmest, 46 th driest											
Lake Temperature		July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30					
Lake level change		22°	24°	25°	25°	23°					
Surface Elevation		-4cm	-4cm	-2.5cm	-5cm	.2.5cm					
		116.17m	116.13m	116.109m	116.05m	116.03m					

For the *third* straight month the endless summer weather continued with lots of sunny days, warm temperatures, and hardly any rain. All of the rain fell on the July 24th/25th. (first since June 10th). There have been only 10 days with measureable rain since the beginning of May. Normal is 31.

So far 2023 has been much drier with only 71% of normal precipitation. (see “Drought Levels” article on page 1).

The lake level at the end of July was the lowest since 2015 and the water temperature was close to normal.

Shawnigan Lake Rotary EcoClub



Kim Barnard
Secretary-President-
StoryGatherer

Watering the Blooms
We are committed to building goodwill, picking up litter, being a positive presence - and Planting for Pollinators!

We are Volunteers Having Fun! More photos at www.ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.

July 4, 2023

Coastal Fire Centre enacts campfire prohibition (includes ALL of Vancouver Island)

Effective at noon Pacific Daylight Time on Friday, July 7, 2023, campfires will be prohibited throughout the Coastal Fire Centre, except the Haida Gwaii Forest District. This prohibition is being enacted to help prevent human caused wildfires and protect public safety.

These prohibitions apply to all public and private land within the Coastal Fire Centre jurisdiction, unless specified otherwise in an enactment (e.g., in a local government bylaw). Always check with local government authorities to see if any other burning restrictions are in effect.

This prohibition will be in place until Tuesday, October 31, 2023, or until the order is rescinded.



St. John's Academy Shawnigan Lake Spotlight

Welcome to Amy Burch

Amy is an enthusiastic teacher who has taught mathematics and science at both the high school and middle school level. She began her career as a mechanical engineer but soon realized she missed the engagement and joy of working with students, informed by her years as a sailing instructor on Lake Ontario.

Amy spent the first part of her career working in the Ontario public system and the later years working at the International School of Brussels. She enjoys travelling, running and since moving to the island has recently tried her hand at vegetable gardening. She was taken by the beautiful lakefront views of the campus and is very excited to be joining the St. John's Academy Shawnigan Lake community this fall.



Welcome to Tim Coy

I am Tim Coy and I was born and raised in St. Catharines, Ontario. My parents taught at Ridley College, and I graduated from Ridley before moving to Vancouver Island to attend UVic. After getting my BA, I worked in restaurants until I decided that I wanted to be a teacher.

I have worked as an English teacher at Shawnigan Lake School for 20 years. There I coached rowing and ice hockey, and was a House Director and lived on campus for 14 of those years.

In my free time, I enjoy hiking, playing tennis or squash or playing hockey (I wish I was better, but I'm not). I am really excited to join St. John's Academy Shawnigan Lake, and cannot wait to work in this amazing new community!

Hello Shawnigan Lake!

We hope everyone is having a safe and happy summer. The team at St. John's Academy Shawnigan Lake is enjoying time with family and friends, and recharging. School will be back before we know it.

Upcoming Events

August 31st – New Student Orientation Day

September 5th – First Day Back to School

September 12th – Welcome Back BBQ and Meet the Advisor Night for Students and Families

September 14th & 15th – Eco Camping Trip Whole School Overnight

September 19th – Parent Community Engagement Group (PCEG) Meeting

If you haven't already visited our website we invite you to do so for additional information, and to learn more about our programming.

www.stjohnsacademy.ca

For weekly updates and day-to-day happenings, follow us on Facebook or Instagram.



Learn more about our International Baccalaureate programme at www.stjohnsacademy.ca/ib/

For a tour of the campus please contact: Jenny Boomer jenny.boomer@stjohnsacademy.ca

Education can change the world.



Shawnigan Lake School

Visit from the Daughter of an original student...Dianne Sterling (2nd from right)

We were pleased to welcome Dianne Sterling for a campus visit on July 5.



Dianne is the daughter of one of Shawnigan’s original students, Ross Wilson, (far right) who attended the School from 1916-1918, winning the Ravenhill Cup in 1918. Dianne came with her daughter Jennifer and granddaughter, Dixie and they generously donated some Indigenous artwork to the School’s new Indigenous resource room, called the Showe’luqun Room, located in the Main Building.

Happy Birthday, E&N Railway!

Lori Treloar

August 13th is the 137th birthday of the Esquimalt and Nanaimo (E&N) Railway, also known as the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR), on Vancouver Island. On this day, in 1886, Prime Minister Sir John A. MacDonald, on his first, and only, visit to B.C., hammered the last spike for the E&N Railway at Cliffside, Shawnigan Lake. This was a significant moment in Canadian history because BC had threatened to secede from Confederation if the Island railway was not built - it was a bold move, but it worked.

This railway was instrumental in opening up Vancouver Island. At Shawnigan Lake, Morton House, on the Village waterfront was built, in 1885, and was ready for the potential business that would result from the railway. The railway proved to be very successful for Shawnigan. There were regular excursion trains for regattas, dances and endless social events...and Morton’s hotel was so successful that a second large hotel, the Strathcona Hotel, was built along the rail line in 1900.

The Shawnigan Lake Lumber Company, established in 1890, also deliberately situated their business along the rail line, as well, with a progressive plan to move their product by rail.

There was even a commuter train in the schedule for a period...something that would be of value today.

If you drive the Malahat these days, you might hope that the E&N will return just to alleviate the frustration of the highway, with one lane north and one lane south through Goldstream Park...which hasn’t changed since it was upgraded in the 1950s.



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Impacts of a Fire Ban

Jared Qwustenuxun Williams
Writer and Educator

I initially started this post as a fun joke idea. I thought I'd poke fun by saying something like, Planned for a Pi'qwun but the fire ban turned it into fried sockeye burgers.

Then the more I thought about it the deeper it got. Like our ancestors didn't have fire bans... we needed fire all year. But we'd have it in the long house or on the beach. Then it hit me, the forest is different... It's all baby trees and dry sticks with no one looking after it, cleaning it, helping it grow. So it's not a forest anymore, it's a tree farm that's tinderbox dry. Now fires that would never spread before can't be put out. I am not an old man, but I can still remember when the trees were always wet with dew, the creeks ran almost all year, and forest fires were something smokey the bear talked about.

My relatives put our culture on hold as many ceremonies require fire, some even involving rather large fires. And as I noticed today, we can't cook without fire. I got asked to do a Pi'qwun next week and I can't do it, so the host asked what else I could do. I could only offer soup, saying I am not set up to feed 100 people without fire. Fire is critical to how I cook and without it I resort to basic catering, and I am not a caterer.

I understand why there is a ban, and fully accept it. I don't want anyone out there accidentally setting our forest on fire. But it is interesting to me not only that colonization has taken away our ability to cook using traditional techniques all year round, but that it is done for the ever increasing profits of logging companies and in the name of jobs and the economy.



Today was a good day, I was honored to cook this lunch. But it made me think more about the impacts of a fire ban.

“Mukw’ stem ‘T’ utunu tumuhw ‘o’ shiilhukw’tul” - Everything on this earth is interconnected

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Shawnigan Lake Fire Department

Phone: (250)743-2096 Non-emergency: (250) 812-8030
shawniganfire@shaw.ca
July 2023 Report
Department Members Attended 34 Incidents in July

- Saturday, Jul 1 – Burning Complaint on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Sunday, Jul 2 – Burning Complaint on Wildflower Rd
- Monday, Jul 3 – Burning Complaint on Cameron-Taggart Rd
- Monday, Jul 3 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 4 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Wednesday, Jul 5 - 1st Responder off McKean Rd

- Thursday, Jul 6 – Assistance on W Shawnigan & Shawnigan Lake Rds
- Thursday, Jul 6 - 1st Responder off Inn Rd
- Friday, Jul 7 – Burning Complaint on Carlton Dr
- Sunday, Jul 9 - 1st Responder off Sherburn Rd
- Sunday, Jul 9 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Sunday, Jul 9 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd

- Tuesday, Jul 11 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Thursday, Jul 13 – Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Saturday, Jul 15 - 1st Responder on Renfrew & Shawnigan Lake Rds
- Saturday, Jul 15 - 1st Responder off Ceylon Rd
- Saturday, Jul 15 – MVI on Gregory Rd
- Sunday, Jul 16 – Assistance on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Sunday, Jul 16 -Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Sunday, Jul 16 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- Sunday, Jul 16 – Burning Complaint on Linden Ln
- Tuesday, Jul 18 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 18 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Wednesday – Jul 19 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Wednesday, Jul 19 - 1st Responder off Gibbs Pl
- Friday, Jul 21 - 1st Responder off Inn Rd
- Friday, Jul 21 – Burning Complaint on Moncur Rd
- Sunday, Jul 23 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, Jul 24 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Monday, Jul 24 – Alarms Activated on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Tuesday, Jul 25 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- Wednesday, Jul 26 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd



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COMMUNITY GROUPS

- **Victoria Aqua Ski Club Annual Novice Tournament**
August 11, 12, 13, 2023 2:00- 4:00 pm
- **Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton**
Email: sierra.acton@cprd.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 Lake Museum**
Contact us for information about hours and/or group visits.
Contact: museum@shawniganlakemuseum.com (web): shawniganlakemuseum.com
- **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)**
For info: (web): www.thesra.ca
- **Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA)**
Contact: bburr@shaw.ca
- **Shawnigan Basin Society**
#102-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Contact: info@shawniganbasinsociety.org
- **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: ysagssl@gmail.com (web): blog.ysag.ca
- **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**
Contact: 250-929-7222(web): southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca
- **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**
Saturday Meat Draw 3:00-5:00pm. Contact: Gloria gsolley@shaw.ca
- **Cowichan South Arts Guild (CSAG)**
Contact: hello@cowichansouthartsguild.com (web): cowichansouthartsguild.com
- **Shawnigan Quilters** - Wed. 9-2 at Lion's Hall (former Sylvania School)
- **Rotary Club of Shawnigan Lake Eco Club**
Meeting Info & Contact: ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.ca

Shawnigan Lake
Community Association



Fall Festival & Market

Follow the aroma of hot apple cider to the Community Center on Sunday, October 22nd and enjoy a Fall Festival and Market! Doors open at 11am until 3pm. This event will replace the usual Halloween Hoedown!

Once again the SHAWNIGAN LAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION is making changes to keep our community having more fun than ever. There are many Halloween events in the community but we are 'Celebrating The Season' with vendors selling local products, games and activities for all ages and abilities and seasonal foods to enjoy!

Admission will be an item for the Food Bank and all games/activities will be free. Vendors must register their free space by October 1st at info@shawniganlakecommunityassociation.ca

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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.

Thanks to Shawnigan House Coffee for their support!

Reply to: shawniganfocuseditor@gmail.com

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Mason's Store

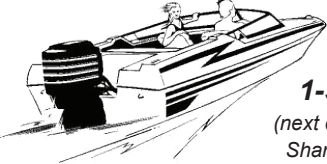
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No Winner!

July's photo of the
"No Lifeguard on Duty" at the
West Provincial Park was not
correctly identified.

History of Shawnigan Lake Property

Dixi Lambert

H. Goulding Wilson of Victoria bought this Shawnigan Lake property following his retirement as a local businessman. Harold Robertson, a lawyer in Victoria who was a neighbor and friend of the Wilson family, originally owned the property but when he was named a judge requiring a move to Vancouver, he decided to sell it. Goulding Wilson bought the property from him in 1922 and decided to call it MyOwne.

The property was to remain in the Wilson family for over 100 years as four generations spent the summers enjoying outdoor activities and long evenings on the verandah dining and sharing the magnificent view of the lake.

H. Goulding Wilson married Harriet Elizabeth Ross in 1902 and had a son Ross in 1903 and a daughter Kathleen Goulding in 1913. A daughter Elinor had died in 1910. While spending time at Shawnigan Lake, Mr. Wilson became interested in the Queen Alexandra Solarium, which was being built at Mill Bay to treat children suffering from crippling diseases. He became a financial supporter of the initiative and its first president of the board of directors. In July of 1932, the Wilson family hosted 50 patients from The Queen Alexandra Solarium to a picnic on the lawns at Shawnigan Lake.

The Shawnigan Lake property became a focal

point for summer gatherings of friends and family for many years. Ross had attended the Shawnigan Lake School and had made many friends who loved to visit at the lake. Following university studies, Ross married Gertrude Patterson in 1929. A daughter Dianne was born in 1935 and her constant crying resulted in the construction of the brown cabin on the property. Daughter Kathleen had pursued her high school studies in Ontario but returned to Victoria after graduation where she met and married William Lambert in 1937. H. Goulding Wilson died in 1938 and his wife Harriet did not spend as much time at the lake. Ross and Kathleen shared their summers with their children at the lake over

the years and on the death of their mother, inherited the property jointly. On the death of Ross and subsequently Kathleen, the property passed to Dianne Sterling of Vancouver and Dixi Lambert of Montreal.

Additional notes to the property history:

H. Goulding Wilson was the son of William Wilson who came to Victoria during the Cariboo Gold Rush of 1862 and ultimately opened up a clothing store in Victoria called W&J Wilson. William and Isabella Wilson had six children, five of whom remained in the Victoria area and became engaged in a range of business activities including the management of the W&J Wilson store.



Rocke Robertson, son of Harold Robertson, the original owner of the property attended Shawnigan Lake School and became a well-known surgeon becoming the first Professor and Chair of the Department of Surgery at the University of British Columbia. He was named the Surgeon-in-Chief at Montreal General Hospital and later was appointed Principal and Vice Chancellor of McGill University in Montreal in 1962.

Cowichan South Arts Guild

Jennie Stevens Cowichan South Arts Guild

Over the years, CSAG has managed to successfully serve its 3 rural communities by networking with various organizations to share space, supporting our vision of connecting community through the arts and achieving our goals at a relatively low cost.

To date, all supplies, equipment, tools, display artwork, etc, are stored in various locations and must be transported by the volunteers/facilitators to each location.

However this is about to

change!

We have purchased a small trailer and wooden structure which we are using as-is during our Summer Art Tent programming and, in the fall, it will be rebuilt and customized to become **CSAG's Community Arts Caravan**.



It will be a multi-use, mobile Storage/Gallery/Arts facility which will house and transport everything needed, to the various locations where we offer our outdoor and indoor programming. This specially designed mobile 'Arthouse' will serve as a unique home-base as it travels from community to community. Already we have had tremendous response to the current Inspire! Youth Arts Tent, from which grew the vision of a Community Arts Caravan. The Arts Caravan will greatly simplify and enhance CASG'S ability to continue to offer arts

activities for children/youth/families and adults all year round at different community locations and events.

In addition to our popular Art Tent at Music In The Park, all summer long, the Community Art Caravan will service other annual events including: The Art of Storytelling, quarterly Family Singalongs at Shawnigan Pavilion, Earth Day community and school events, and CSAG's very popular Winter Solstice Lantern Making & Spiral Walk.

In each of these scenarios, we hope to include Artist Highlights (youth/adult) in the travelling Mini 'Gallery' along with our

activities. In addition, with enough volunteer support, future possibilities include a Pop Up Art Caravan at spontaneous locations (beaches, parks, markets...) as well as Story time Theatre and Puppet Theatre opportunities.

We are very pleased that, after more than 2 years, and many re-submitted proposals to BC Arts Council, attempting to reallocate infrastructure grant funds which needed to be spent within their guidelines, CSAG has finally been given approval for this project proposal.

We are delighted ! Keep your eyes open for the **CSAG's Community Arts Caravan!**

Our Health,
Our Community
HEALTH & WELLNESS SURVEY

Take the survey
for a chance to
win a weekly and
grand prize!

How are you doing?
Let us know.

Our Health, Our Community, an initiative of Our Cowichan Communities Health Network and Island Health, is a regional health and wellness survey for Cowichan Valley residents 18 years and older. We know that life has changed a lot in the last few years, and we want to hear from you. Take the survey and tell us how you are doing. Your feedback will help shape services, programs, and policies for our community.

WWW.ourhealthourcommunity.ca







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*Gift card prizes to local businesses to be drawn weekly (odds of winning ~ 1:642).
Grand prize of iPad10 to be drawn when survey closes (odds of winning ~ 1:4500).
For full prize draw rules, please visit
www.ohocprize.ca.

8 SHAWNIGAN FOCUS