



Shawnigan-Showe'luqun Focus

Volume Fifteen- Issue One

January 2024 Pune'q
"the time for collecting geoducks"

A Non-Profit Community Publication

How Could The Short-Term Rental Accommodation Act Impact Shawnigan Lake?

Shawnigan Residents Association

Cabins like the 'Tailors Cabin' and 'The Birdhouse' have been summer homes, and offered as vacation rental accommodation for decades. Built in 1912, the Tailors Cabin has served the Shawnigan Lake community, and has offered family holiday memories for many. It, along with many others on the lake, will have to weigh the pros and cons to continuing to offer these services in light of Bill 35-2023.

On October 26, 2023, the Short-Term Rental (STR) Accommodations Act (Bill 35-2023) was passed in the BC Legislature and received Royal Assent the same day. The CVRD has the option to opt-in and, if it does, it will impact the ability of property owners within Shawnigan Lake to offer STRs.

[Source: Bill 35-2023 www.bclaws.gov.bc.ca/civix/document/id/bills/billscurrent/4th42nd:gov35-1]

How long is a short-term rental under Bill 35-2023?

A STR is all or part of a dwelling unit rented out for less than 90 consecutive days in exchange for payment.

Will the CVRD "opt-in" to Bill 35-2023?

On November 8, 2023, the following direction was approved by the CVRD board:

- That staff be directed to consult with electoral area Advisory Planning Commissions on the topic of short-term rentals, and that staff review and provide recommendations to the Electoral Area Services Committee on potential amendments to short-term rental regulations.
- That staff prepare a report that outlines the Electoral Area "opt-in" provisions for short-term rental regulations from the Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act and report back to the Electoral Area Services Committee at an upcoming meeting.

CVRD staff are currently preparing their recommendation to be presented to the board in the New Year. Prior to that, the Advisory Planning Commissions (APC) will be consulted. A related staff report is on the November 1 Electoral Area Services Committee agenda, under item R4.



The Birdhouse

[Source : <https://cvrld.primegov.com/Portal/Meeting?meetingTemplateId=4267>]

Are vacation rentals permitted in around Shawnigan Lake?

The zoning primarily does not permit vacation rentals for Shawnigan Lake. Should the CVRD opt-in, under Bill 35-2023, unless the property is a principal residence, it may not be

rented as a STR.

What if an STR owner continues to operate against zoning?

The 2023 Fall Economic Statement announced that the federal government intends to deny income tax deductions for expenses incurred to earn STR income in provinces and municipalities that have prohibited STRs. It is expected that when the legislature sits in Spring 2024, they will pass this tax law, and it will be retroactive to January 1, 2024. Because this has not officially been passed by legislature, the CVRD staff will not consider the implication of the new tax law in making their recommendation to the board in 2024.

[Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-finance/news/2023/11/canadas-housing-action-plan.html>]

When passed, it will prohibit STR operators who are not compliant with Bill 35-2023 from declaring expenses against their rental income.

The 2023 Fall Economic Statement proposes \$50 million over three years, starting in 2024-2025,

to support municipal enforcement of restrictions on short-term rentals.

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/files/STRPolicyGuidance2023.pdf>

What does this mean for Shawnigan Lake?

Local businesses such as the bakeries, variety stores, coffee shops, restaurants and more depend on the seasonal traffic that tourists bring to the area. It is expected that tourism traffic in Shawnigan Lake could see reduced numbers as places to stay will be limited, and local businesses could feel an economic impact. Those that enjoy a family lake vacation will have to find another place to go.

What is being done to monitor vacation rentals in immediate term?

On December 14, 2023, the CVRD Electoral Services Committee elected to hire a by-law officer to be funded by operating reserve for \$112,000 per year to enforce bylaw on vacation rentals targeting STRs operating within the CVRD.

[Source: www.youtube.com/watch?v=KV5UbX-TQm4] begin watching at 1:25



Tailors Cabin

Views from the Malahat Highway

Robert Amos
Artist & Author

Special Collections Artist E. J. Hughes (1913-2007) rarely painted anything south of Goldstream, but he made pictures of views from the Malahat Highway a dozen times. The earliest of these is the 1971 watercolour *View from Finlayson Arm*, which will be offered for sale later this spring by Heffel Fine Art Auctions.

As was his habit, Hughes made trips every four years to gather material for his paintings. He drew this subject in 1967 in great detail, while parked by the highway near the Dutch Latch restaurant (now known as Moon Water Lodge). This is just about a kilometre south of the turn for the Shawnigan Lake Road which led to his home.

On a label he wrote out for one of his many paintings from the Malahat Drive, E. J. Hughes explained: “The portion of the Trans-Canada Highway, a few miles north of Victoria on Vancouver Island, which traverses the side of Malahat mountain, is known as Malahat Drive and from here a motorist has several spectacular views of Saanich Inlet.”¹.

The Malahat Drive is named after the Malahat First Nation, on whose traditional territories it was built, and it is recognized as one of the most beautiful roadways in the world. The path was first cut through as a cattle trail in 1861. It was then upgraded to wagon-road standards in 1884, and became a paved road in 1911. It winds its way up from tidewater at the Goldstream River to a summit of 1,156 feet (356 metres) and then descends again almost to water level at Mill Bay on the north side.

In October of 1971, Hughes sent two watercolours to his exclusive dealer, the Dominion Gallery in Montreal, including *View from the Malahat Drive* for which he was paid \$400. Along with his payment, Max Stern noted: “I especially like the one entitled *View from Malahat Drive*. I was delighted with the quality of the paper which you are using.”².

In response, Hughes explained: “the watercolour paper is Green’s Pasteless Board, 4 ply.”³ This is the heaviest grade of 100% cotton English watercolour paper.

Beyond the calm waters of Finlayson Arm, in



View from the Malahat — E. J. Hughes
Signed and dated 1971
Watercolour on paper - 20 x 24 in, 50.8 x 61 cm
Photo courtesy of Heffel Fine Art Auction

the distance Hughes depicted the settlement of Brentwood Bay on the Saanich Inlet and the skyline of the San Juan Islands beyond. The painting shows the Brentwood Bay Ferry making its way to Mill Bay, and there is a glimpse of the Coastal Range mountains on the mainland

in the distance. A single raven takes it all in from a perch on a treetop at the centre of the image.

Two Hughes watercolours of this size were sold in the recent Heffel Auction in November 2023, one for \$157,250 and the other for a record price for a Hughes watercolour - \$457,250.

¹. frame label for *Looking North Over Finlayson Arm*, September 24, 1973. Label in the University of Victoria Library Special Collections
². Max Stern to E. J. Hughes, 16 October 1971. E. J. Hughes archive.
³. E. J. Hughes to Max Stern, November 3 1971. University of Victoria Special Collections

South Cowichan Library

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Stop in to pick up a monthly calendar of events at the front desk!

What were people reading from the South Cowichan Library in 2023? These were the most popular in...

- Fiction:**
- *Sparring Partners*, John Grisham
 - *Demon Copperhead*, Barbara Kingsolver
 - *Lessons in Chemistry*, Bonnie Garmus
 - *Shrines of Gaiety*, Kate Atkinson
 - *The Boys from Biloxi*, John Grisham

- Nonfiction:**
- *Spare*, Prince Harry
 - *The Myth of Normal: Trauma, Illness & Healing in a Toxic Culture*, Gabor Maté
 - *Run Towards the Danger: Confrontations with a Body of Memory*, Sarah Polley
 - *Atlas of the Heart: Mapping Meaningful Connection and*

- the Language of Human Experience*, Brené Brown
- *The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times*, Michelle Obama

- Mysteries:**
- *A World of Curiosities*, Louise Penny
 - *A Heart Full of Headstones*, Ian Rankin
 - *The Thursday Murder Club*, Richard Osman
 - *The Rising Tide*, Ann Cleeves
 - *Standing in the Shadows*, Peter Robinson

- Romances:**
- *Ugly Love*, Colleen Hoover
 - *Reminders of Him*, Colleen Hoover
 - *Denim and Lace*, Diana Palmer
 - *First Comes Scandal: a Bridgerton Prequel*, Julia Quinn
 - *The Boxing Baroness*, Minerva Spencer

- Children’s Chapter Books:**
- *Diary of a Wimpy Kid. Big shot*, Jeff Kinney
 - *Lost Treasure of the Emerald Eye*, Geronimo Stilton
 - *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Double Down*, Jeff Kinney

- *Kitten Trouble*, Nick Bruel
 - *Melissa the Sports Fairy*, Daisy Meadows
- Picture Books:**
- *Wide Awake*, Rob Biddulph
 - *Leaves!*, Robert Munsch
 - *Nubby*, Dan Richards, Dan
 - *Bad Dog*, Mike Boldt
 - *Unicorn Christmas: a Sparkly Holiday Adventure*, Diana Murray

- DVDs:**
- *Top Gun. Maverick*
 - *The Lost City*
 - *The Banshees of Inisherin*
 - *Living*
 - *Elvis*

- Video Games:**
- *Xenon Racer*
 - *Super Mario 3D world: Bowser’s Fury*
 - *NBA 2K23*
 - *Hogwarts Legacy*
 - *Sonic Mania Plus*

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

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

How Do I Feel About Land Acknowledgements

Jared Quwustenuxun Williams
Author and Educator

When I first heard land acknowledgements at gatherings, I was proud to see the change taking place and eager to see how people acknowledging the territory they find themselves on would ripple out into real change. But years went by and nothing changed. No land was returned, no legal policies or government structures were changed. Life just remained the same. Except now the first five minutes of every meeting we breeze over our expected land acknowledgements about how we are, “honoured to work, live, and play on the unceded land of the Indigenous people that were here before us.” After so long without action these acknowledgements have begun to feel like meaningless, or even arrogant, displays of someone’s privilege to live on Indigenous lands.

So now what? If land acknowledgements are just displays of privilege, then what else can people do to make change? Something that seems almost obvious to me is that we all need to listen.

To listen to Indigenous people, especially elders, when they do their introductions. Most introductions are people telling us about their family line and where their ancestors and families are from. In community, people ask, “Who is your mom? Who was her mom? Who’s your dad? Who was his dad? Where were they from?” The Indigenous way of acknowledging our privilege is to introduce our families and where they are from, showing in verbal declaration how we connect to the land.

Sometimes I feel like some of these reconciliation ideas, like land acknowledgements, feel like more complex solutions where they are not needed.

Now, if we want to seriously acknowledge land, if that is truly what we want to do, then we must express our heartfelt condolences for the displacement, murder, and starvation of generations of Indigenous men, women, and children. We must acknowledge that an entire continent of people had their population decline by 90% due to warfare, disease, and genocide to accommodate our modern colonial

existence. Keeping that reality in mind, it’s hard to imagine anything aside from tears, songs, or actions that could truly acknowledge what was done on this land to provide this world for us to live in today.

When I am asked to acknowledge land, which happens very rarely, I talk about my connection to this land - the lineage of people that connect me to this place. I talk about our place names and how they connect us to the land, how they were intentionally taken away and replaced with colonial names, and then reinforce that we need to reclaim these names and use them in our daily vocabulary. I talk about our joint history and acknowledge our past for the atrocity that it was, but talk of how it could have been so very different. Saying something like, “imagine a world where the settlers worked with the Indigenous communities to create our country. Imagine a world where we were all speaking Hul’q’umi’num, wearing Indigenous names, and using modern versions of Indigenous technologies. Imagine a world where we took the best of both cultures and thrived together. And know that

it’s never too late to start working towards creating that world, we could start today.”

Another idea would be to say something like. “Hey everyone, I am John Smith and as we are gathered here at Cowichan Bay today, I just want to acknowledge that we are on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Quw’utsun people. The Quw’utsun people stewarded this land for thousands of years, producing abundant food systems, strong community governance systems, and vast trade networks before colonization forced them onto reserves and gave this land to Canadian settlers. It is with great colonial privilege that we can stand here today in Quw’utsun territory. Lastly, no matter how

uncomfortable it may be, we must endeavor to reconcile this chapter of our history, out of respect for those who came before us and for the betterment of the generations to come.

Even then I still don’t know if it’s enough and it’s already 128 words. I think in the end, words won’t ever be enough, it’s time for action now. So to conclude I guess I would say that actions speak louder than words and anyway to showcase how you are working to better the problems of systemic racism and colonization in Canada is a multitude better than just talking about it. But if we have to talk about it we have to be ready to have the uncomfortable light of truth cast upon us so that we can sincerely acknowledge the land we find ourselves upon.



A Grateful Truce With January

Kim Barnard
Founder-President-Story Gatherer

I used to dread this time of year. Such a letdown, after all, from those vibrant and magical weeks of making the season bright. The weather brings its worst, I thought. How I

am supposed to be motivated to get out there, to just do it, to even imagine what the year could hold? “Bah Humbug, January!” Out with the old and in with the new isn’t a reason to celebrate... or is it?

The idea slowly grew that this was the perfect time

to inventory intentions, to take stock of things, to put down roots, to embrace a month of planning and purpose. Nature teaches us to prepare the soil for future harvest. How ready are we to receive the smallest hints of something bigger than ourselves? Even towering giants start with a tiny seed. Hope is like that.

Furthermore, how can you multiply your hopes and dreams, to make a greater impact beyond one’s lifetime? I’m convinced it’s by working together and learning from each other!

In our Rotary EcoClub, January is a time to designate project areas that we believe will help our community thrive. Making the leap to Rotary membership fosters trust in the work we will

accomplish as a team of equals. Learning to see and draw out someone’s talents and potential is a rare gift, and we especially welcome those who practice this as naturally as breathing. This place is full of generous hearts, with expertise and experience, who can come together with help from a proven network of resources and support for making good ideas

happen.

Do you see the possibilities yet? A renewed resolve?

If you’re looking to dream big for 2024, Shawnigan Rotary is your gateway to endless learning, vibrant action, and volunteering encouragement. Plant powerful seeds this month... Join us!

ShawniganRotaryEcoClub.ca



“Seeing the Possibilities in 2024 - Caring for Shawnigan Together!”

SHAWNIGAN CEMETERY

Notice of Annual General Meeting 2024

To receive reports and review accounts for the year
January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023

Date : Sunday, February 18, 2024

Time : 11:30 AM

Place : Sylvan United Church
Lower Social Hall
985 Shawnigan-Mill Bay Road

Contact : Roy Davies - ADMINISTRATOR
250-929-6100

Shawnigan Cemetery

Vancouver Island Railway

Warren Skaalrud
An independent supporter of rail on Vancouver Island.

The Vancouver Island Railway is not just a strategic asset for Vancouver Island, it's a strategic asset for all of Canada.

The train whistle off in the distance feels like a fading memory today. Our railway sits idle and at risk of being lost forever. Vancouver Island has lost so many memorable joyous venues, but we just can't afford to let this railway slide. Modern trains running passenger services up and down the line would be fabulous, but there is freight revenue to be made too, times change.

Freighters in the Salish Sea (Georgia Strait) wait weeks to dock. That increases the overall costs of shipping anything to and from Asia and other Pacific Nations to all across Vancouver Island and Canada. With 2-week restrictions being put in place for freighters in the Salish Sea, and a consequence of being directed elsewhere, Port Alberni with its massive natural and deep protected fjord on the West Coast of the island becomes a default location to divert to. The rail infrastructure there is impressive, and it can be expanded upon to meet the needs of Canada long into the future.

Everyone loved the Dayliner passenger service

that ran on the Island Railway, but it wasn't the service it could have been. It was a 50-year-old Budd train running on a tourist schedule, backwards to commuting needs, and it had to run slow because the tracks needed repair, but we all loved it, nonetheless. Since advocating for the restoration of the railway this last year and a half, I've been privileged to be on the receiving end of countless heartfelt stories of people finding love, riders listening to musicians sing or strumming guitars as the amazing views scroll by, and people waving hello to the riders from their windows or yards as it passed by their home. Other stories were about ski trips, shopping trips,



and school trips, all reflecting fondly on the views without a road or a car in sight. From the trestle tops, bridges, and rails, they saw nature from a whole new angle, in fact every angle as the train passes by.

The Dayliner was never a measure of what Vancouver Island could have used to reduce congestion on our single set of highways prone to disruptions,

washouts, and flaming closures that cost our \$37 billion economy millions, and the nearly 1 million people here their connections.

I hope that Vancouver Island residents can see through the fog and snow and hop aboard the Petition calling on the Federal Government to Restore Vancouver Island Rail.

All Aboard!

Reflections on the Winter Singalong and Solstice Spiral Walk '23

Jennie Stevens
Cowichan South Arts Guild (CSAG)

Throughout history, people all over the world have observed Winter

Solstice with traditions celebrating the return of the light after the longest night of the year.

Walking a candlelit spiral is popular - spirals are

symbolic of the cycle of the seasons, the annual path of the sun and earth in Nature's renewal each year. The purposeful path has long been associated with walking meditations and spiritual contemplation and now spirals are becoming part of communities everywhere as people rediscover their own reasons for walking. Regardless of spiritual beliefs, *everyone* can share in the beautiful rituals of honouring the rhythms of Nature as we deepen our connection with the Earth and find renewed clarity and insight within ourselves through an intentional Spiral Walk.

This year's annual event, hosted by Cowichan South Arts Guild, was

held in Elsie Miles Community Park, had such a magical feel to it. A blanket of mist swirled around warm twinkling lights as the community gathered to walk the green-boughed path in peaceful introspection and sing together under the Pavilion. Voices of all ages blended together singing familiar carols and songs celebrating light and connection. This annual community gathering is quickly becoming a beautiful tradition, with local families anticipating and returning regularly to bring their light to the heartwarming event. A creative addition to each of the quarterly seasonal singalongs has been the Communi-Tree, a travel-

ling art installation created two summers ago through CSAG's *Inspire Youth Art Tent*. Changing with each season, the large woven tree was appropriately bare branched and ready for children to decorate with handmade beaded snowflakes.

We hope you & your families will join us in 2024 for any, or all, of the 4 seasonal singalongs held in Shawnigan's Elsie Miles Park on, or near, the 21st day of March, June, September, and December - when the green bough Spiral Walk is added.

hello@cowichansoutharts-guild.com
cowichansoutharts-guild.com



Photo credit: Audric

Remembering Edward Wiebe

Shawnigan Basin Society

We are saddened by the passing of Ed Wiebe on November 1, 2023. Ed has been a resident of Shawnigan Lake for some 27 years and a member of the Shawnigan Basin Society since its inception in 2012, and more recently as a Director. He was very active as a member of the Shawnigan Research Group during the fight to stop the contaminated soil from being dumped into the watershed. It was this fight that made him realize the importance of becoming involved in protecting the health of our environment. One of the duties Ed took on was to do a monthly tour, together with Cliff Evans, of critical parts of the Shawnigan Creek watershed and report on problems encountered. Ed has led many public hikes in the Shawnigan Creek and Koksilah River watersheds. He particularly loved to lead hikes to the Old Growth Grove on the Koksilah River. Ed was also very active in the Shawnigan Lake area Young Seniors Action Group, being its president for a period of time.

We will miss Ed's gentle and unassuming interactions with the members of the community.





Shawnigan Weather - December 2023 & Annual Report

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



	Dec Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Butler Road		Discovery School		Museum		Shawnigan Average	
		2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Average High°	5.6	7.5	2.9	7.9	3.2	8.5	4.0	8.4	4.0	8.1	3.5
Average Low°	0.5	3.2	-1.1	2.0	-2.1	2.8	-1.3	3.4	-0.9	2.9	-1.4
Extreme High°	16.0	12.3	9.3	12.5	9.9	12.4	10.5	12.5	11.0	12.4	10.2
Extreme Low°	-15.0	-0.8	-10.6	-2.4	-11.0	-1.4	-12.4	-0.8	-11.6	-1.4	-11.4
Precipitation(mm)	194.6	255.7	297.1	242.2	265.9	177.7	250.3	163.6	249.9	209.8	265.8
Days w precip	20	25	23	23	26	25	22	23	21	24	23
Year Precip(mm)	1250.8	1343.0	1404.8	1243.0	1348.3	977.7	1119.7	897.5	1022.4	1115.3	1223.8
Prec since Oct 1	534.7	661.0	532.6	631.7	503.1	481.6	417.4	461.0	406.6	558.8	464.9

Comments

December 2023 was much warmer (2nd since 1914) than normal with only 3 days of freezing temperatures. Precipitation was drier for the month. No snow fell in December (last year there was 65 cm!).

2023 was warmer than normal by 0.9°. There were 21 days (26 in 2022) when the temperature rose to 30° or above, and 64 days with freezing temperatures (68 in 2022).

2023 Rank since 1914: 2 nd warmest , 54 th driest					
	Dec 3	Dec 10	Dec 17	Dec 24	Dec 31
Lake Temperature	7°	6°	6°	5°	6°
Lake level change	+0.5cm	+60cm	-15cm	-24cm	-11cm
Surface Elevation	116.35m	116.95m	116.81m	116.56m	116.45m

Precipitation for 2023 was 85% of the average, being the 46th driest ever. The lake reached its 2nd lowest level since 2017 in early October.

	Shawnigan Annual Normals	Cigarmaker's Bay		Butler Road		Discovery School		Museum		Shawnigan Average	
		2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2022	2021
Avg Temp°	9.9	11.0	10.2	11.0	9.7	10.2	10.5	11.2	10.5	10.8	10.4
Extreme High°	37.2	37.2	37.9	37.1	37.1	36.2	36.8	36.0	35.0	36.4	40.5*
Extreme Low°	-21.1	-8.6	-10.6	-10.4	-11.0	-8.8	-12.4	-9.2	-11.6	-9.3	-9.5
Days w precip	174	167	156	171	166	180	159	165	146	171	171
Precipitation(mm)	1250.8	1343.0	1404.8	997.7	1348.3	1243.0	1119.7	897.5	1022.4	1069.0	1454.1

2023 Rank since 1914: 4th warmest , 46th driest
Lake temperature: warmest: 26°(last year 28°) coldest: 2° (last year 1°)
Lake level: highest: 117.20m (last year 117.37) lowest:115.83m (last year 115.82m)

Thanks to Ed Wiebe of the *UVic Weather Network* for his support and maintenance of the instruments at Cigarmaker's Bay, Discovery School, and the Museum

You may have noticed that the Environment Weather Station on Elford Road ceased operation in early November. The long-time station recorder has retired, and as yet, no official replacement has been announced.

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Community Bouquets

Alice in Wonderland

If you didn't get a chance to see the most recent production by the Shawnigan Kids Theatre Troupe 'Alice In Wonderland', you missed a wonderful example of how much can be accomplished by a small cast of youngsters. What a treat!

My family thoroughly enjoyed the performance, and even my young toddler was completely entertained (for a full hour!)

The actors did a wonderful job of bringing their characters to life in the Shawnigan Community Centre's intimate theatre. It was wonderful to have the added layer of live music played by the youth too.

The young musicians and actors all seemed to be enjoying themselves a lot.

I would highly recommend this family friendly theatre experience that speaks to all ages, whether as young acting participants, or audience members.

Thank you for a great experience, Shawnigan Lake,
Cici Dale & family, Victoria

Support for Museum

I am writing this letter in support of the Shawnigan Lake Museum. This museum is an absolute gem and is of the highest quality. It displays wonderful exhibits depicting historical, cultural and artistic information pertaining to the area.

Shawnigan Lake is very proud to have been the home of Canada's famous artist, E. J. Hughes. The museum has a beautiful little pocket gallery honouring Hughes.

My family lives near the world famous Kinsol Trestle and we see streams of visitors hiking to the trestle on a daily basis. The Shawnigan Museum is a 'go to' place for information and interesting displays about this magnificent structure.

With the help of local volunteers, the museum also hosts interesting presentations for school children.

In summary, I feel that the people of Shawnigan Lake are very fortunate to have a museum of this quality.

Yours truly, Kate Roberts
Shawnigan Lake

Shawnigan Lake Fire Department

Phone: (250)743-2096 Non-emergency: (250) 812-8030 shawwiganfire@shaw.ca


December 2023 Report

Department Members Attended 28 Incidents in December

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, Dec 1 – Rescue on Kapoor Main • Tuesday, Dec 5 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd • Wednesday, Dec 6 - 1st Responder off Heald Rd • Wednesday, Dec 6 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd • Thursday, Dec 7 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd • Thursday, Dec 7 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd • Friday, Dec 8 - 1st Responder off | <p>Shawnigan Lake Rd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, Dec 8 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd • Sunday, Dec 10 - 1st Responder off Colman Rd • Wednesday, Dec 13 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd • Friday, Dec 15 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd • Saturday, Dec 16 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd • Saturday, Dec 16 - 1st Responder off Cameron-Taggart Rd • Saturday, Dec 16 - 1st Responder off | <p>Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday, Dec 17 – Assistance off Wallbank Rd • Tuesday, Dec 19 - 1st Responder off Fern Ridge Dr • Tuesday, Dec 19 – Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd • Wednesday, Dec 20 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd • Thursday, Dec 21 - 1st Responder off W Shawnigan Lake Rd • Friday, Dec 22 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd • Friday, Dec 22 – Vehicle Fire on Meadowview Rd • Saturday, Dec 23 – Chimney Fire on Sallachie Rd • Tuesday, Dec 26 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd • Tuesday, Dec 26 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd • Wednesday, Dec 27 - 1st Responder off Deloume Rd • Thursday, Dec 28 - 1st Responder off Renfrew Rd • Sunday, Dec 31 - 1st Responder off Robin Hill Dr • Sunday, Dec 31 - 1st Responder off Wallbank Rd |
|---|---|---|

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ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY!

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

Financial donations totaled over \$2933 this year, along with an incredible amount of non-perisable food items.

The CMS Food Bank is grateful!



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COMMUNITY GROUPS

- **Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton**
Email: sierra.acton@cvrd.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
- **Malahat Lions Club**
For information Contact: 250-743-0569

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SHAWNIGAN FOCUS CLASSIFIED are your classifieds of choice. Your message delivered to every address in the Shawnigan Lake area. \$13.50 for the first 30 words 35¢ per additional word shawniganfocusads@gmail.com Telephone : 250-743-2197

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Contact Kim:
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No one correctly identified the Post Boxes on Worthington Road in December's edition.

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Shawnigan Lake Museum – Looking Forward

Lori Treloar
Executive Director

The expansion of the Museum is now seven months into a projected twelve-month schedule. The project has gone very well in spite of a few hiccups in the early months. The building is intended to be complete by the end of May, if all goes well, and then there will likely be another month of setting up the new space with new exhibits and re-organizing some of the existing spaces. As we look forward, we anticipate that the museum will be ready for a July 1st opening, but that is not yet set in stone.

In the meantime, we are working on developing plans for all of the new spaces, including the reception/gift shop; the new Kinsol Trestle/ Forestry interpretation centre; the new kitchen; the artifact/archival storage room; the meeting room and much more. A bonus for the community will be public washrooms for the Village, accessible at the back of the museum building.

With the additional space, we will be looking for more volunteers. We are currently working on the Volunteer program which will outline our need for volunteers, inside and out. We will share more about this in the next few months but wanted to plant the seed, as we hope to attract new volunteers and skillsets to our team.

There will be many opportunities for community members to get involved, including helping with school programming, acting as docents who interact with the public, working in the



Photo credit: Doug Currie



**Meet me
at the
EXPANDED
Museum!
Summer 2024**

new gift shop, keeping up the exterior landscaping and more. We will be reaching out, in 2024, with more information as well as hosting recruitment sessions. Volunteering at the museum is an excellent way to get to know the history of the area, to meet new people, to be a part of a great team and to get involved with your community.

We will also be looking for people who would be interested in giving talks, book launches, craft sessions etc. We are planning to be ready to host a variety of events and programs in the new space, for the Fall of 2024.

Thank you to the Shawnigan Lake Historical Society Board for their hard work to make the project a reality.

Special thanks to our Members, Volunteers and Donors. We value your ongoing support, and belief that the Museum, which was established 47 years ago, is important to the community. With your help, we are future-proofing the museum for generations to come.

If you have questions, or suggestions, please contact me at museum@shawniganlakemuseum.com

Another Year of Working Together and Building Strong Partnerships

Sarah Davidge
*South Cowichan
Community Policing*

SCCPAS, is a successful organization, due to the wonderful people working and volunteering alongside us. Volunteers are the heart of community policing. As residents of our communities, you may not be aware of our programs and mission statement. Our not-for-profit organization's goal is to "Protect the Community and Encourage Growth" in efforts to

keep our community, streets, homes, families, youth and elderly safe.

Our key programs:

- *Block Watch*
- *Speed Watch*
- *Free Friendly Phones \ See Something Say Something*
- *Positive Tickets*
- *Coffee with A Cop (New in 2023) (RCMP/ Community Policing)*
- *Business Watch (New in 2024)*

Our organization would not be possible without the dedication

and notable efforts of our Manager Programs and Volunteers, Sarah Davidge-Cardinal, and the Directors: President Robert (Bob) Collins, Vice President Luke Mills, Elizabeth Wolfe, Anne Sharpe who, through hard work and dedication, have helped sustain this organization through 2022/23. Working alongside our valuable RCMP Celebrating 150 Years this year, we have a well-established partnership with Shawnigan Lake RCMP detachment lead by Sgt Tim Desaulniers, Cpl Gregg Strom and our community policing liaisons, Cst. Jill Woodley and Cst. Andrew Harwood, plus all the members and administrators who have been a huge part of supporting the safety, education and awareness needs of our communities, together, with us. Thank you...! This year they launched the first "Coffee with a Cop" Event hosted by Shawnigan Lake Coffee House. Thank you to all who supported and attended this event. As a Society, we are

thankful to all our past volunteer Directors: Our long-term now retired Directors of Speed Watch - Bob Wallace and Jim Scott; Director of Media - Oriana Pellizzari-Parker and Director Treasurer, Diane McIntyre, as well as our most recent Directors of Youth – Ethan Polsom and Daniel Lewis.

I cannot say enough about our valuable and energetic past VIU Criminology students who joined our team to complete their 4th year practicums. A sincere Thank you to all of you, both staff and volunteers. Our staff and volunteers continue to make us proud by all that they do to help to make our communities a safer place to *live, work and play*.

As our society continues to grow, we continue to recruit Directors and volunteers to support community policing. We would be overjoyed to see new smiling and cheerful faces in our office and at our events,

in any capacity that is best suited for you. SCCPAS looks forward to hearing from those who have a passion for community safety, a positive outlook and want to do their part in making a difference. The key areas we are looking for volunteers in are Director of Youth, Director of Road Safety/Speed Watch, Office Ambassadors and Speed Watch Volunteers.

Stop by our office at 2B 845 Deloume Road, Mill Bay (beside panago Pizza) Call us at 250-929-7222 or Sarah 250-732-3591 for additional information. Visit our website at: SouthCowichanCommunityPolicing.ca

Working together towards crime prevention where we live, work and play.

Police are the Community, and the Community are the Police

On behalf of all our volunteers and staff we would like to wish you a safe and healthy New Year in 2024...!



Coffee with a cop