



Highlands News



People might have noticed that a great deal of broom has been eliminated along Munns/Fork Lake Roads recently. That's partly due to a renewed effort by residents like Eric Bonham, Dave McClellan and others. Here's a photo of Eric hard at work (but enjoying it!). Eric's bold vision: to eradicate broom from the Highlands! If we can get enough people to join him we could meet that goal in our lifetime. (also see page 2)

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS Fire hazard level is currently high and all open burning is prohibited. The level is anticipated to increase to extreme with current weather conditions. Visit <highlands.ca> for updates or <bcwildfire.ca/hprScripts/WildfireNews/Bans.asp> for information on provincial bans and restrictions. Please contact the Fire Department (250- 920-6970) for clarification or if you see or smell smoke during extreme conditions.

At a special meeting held June 24, Council granted Fire Chief Guy Brisebois a one year leave. Guy is moving to Ottawa to take on new responsibilities within the Department of National Defense. During his leave, commencing mid July, Deputy Chief Dean Ford will take on the role of Acting Fire Chief. Council acknowledges the support of the members of the Fire Department in this matter. We wish Guy all the best at his new post.

Casino Night, held June 1, was well attended and enjoyed by all. Hosted by members of the Highlands Volunteer Fire Department, \$1500 was raised in support of Muscular Dystrophy Canada. Well done, everyone!

UPGRADES AT HERITAGE PARK – UPDATE At the regular meeting held June 3, Council approved upgrades to the septic system at the Heritage Park including construction of a new field and installation of two low flush replacement toilets. This follows recommendations made by the Heritage Parks Society and consultation with professionals. Quotes obtained for these upgrades equal approximately \$30,000 and will be funded from the Parks Reserve fund.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Soil Deposit/Removal
- Community Calendar and Events
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Council Meetings

July - 22
August 19



*Council and staff wish
Highlanders
a very safe and happy summer!*

TERVITA/PWGSC OPEN HOUSE EVENT

An open house hosted by Tervita Corporation and Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) will be held :

Date: Tuesday, July 16 Time: 3:30 - 8 pm
Location: School House, 1589 Millstream Road

Information about Tervita's Highwest Facility operations as well as specifics about the Esquimalt Graving Dock Waterlot Remediation Project will be presented at this event. Senior managers from PWGSC will be in attendance along with representatives and consultants from Tervita. Everyone welcome.

Please see page 3 for an article which contains information and links to background documents concerning this topic.



PHOTO CREDIT: Emily Mendum

MUSEUM PROJECT – GRAND OPENING! On Sunday, September 8 (day of the Highlands Fling) at 12:30 p.m., join members of the Heritage Park Society as they celebrate the Grand Opening of the Highlands Community Museum, located next to the School House at the Heritage Park.

Everyone welcome!

The Highlands News — JULY/AUGUST 2013

District of Highlands Council Newsletter | 1980 Millstream Road, Highlands, BC V9B 6H1 | P: 250-474-1773 F: 250-474-3677

For Updates & Information, visit the District website: highlands.ca

Community & Council News



2013 PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT REMINDER For the year 2013, the tax due date was **July 2**. On July 3, 2013 a 5% penalty was added to all outstanding amounts including the Home Owner Grant (HOG).

This is a reminder that as of 4:00 pm Tuesday September 3, 2013 an additional 5% penalty will be added to any outstanding 2013 property taxes. Outstanding taxes that are in arrears (2012) and delinquent (2011) will continue to accrue daily interest at a percent % set by the province.

To ensure your payment is applied to your account in a timely fashion, please drop off your payment or Home Owner Grant directly to the Municipal Office located at 1980 Millstream Road. We accept cash, cheque or debit. Should you have any questions regarding your outstanding taxes please contact our office at 250-474-1773. Office hours are 8:30am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday.

URGENT Taxes that are delinquent will be sold in a tax sale/auction at 10:00 am on Monday September 30, 2013 unless the delinquent taxes with interest are paid in full prior to this date.

PUBLIC PROGRESS REPORT – CLIMATE ACTION At the March 4th regular meeting, Council received the interim Climate Action Revenue Incentive Program (CARIP) report for 2012 prepared by the District's planner. As a signatory to the B.C. Climate Action Charter, which commits local governments to work towards becoming carbon neutral in their operations, the District is required to submit an annual report. This first report contains objectives both met and planned for in future, and is available for viewing online at <highlands.ca/planning/documents/CARIP-Report_Final_Highlands%202012.pdf> or at the District office.



NEIGHBOURHOOD RESILIENCY At the April, 2013 Highland District Community Association's AGM, guest speaker Sarah Amyot presented on **A Resilient Community: The Highlands NEXT Challenge!**

This hour long presentation is available for viewing at:
<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8umUdNZQBk>>.

HYDRANT MAINTENANCE Under the terms of the District's roads maintenance contract with Victoria Contracting and Municipal Maintenance Corp, the standpipes ('dry' hydrants), tanks and ponds that hold or deliver water for firefighting purposes are inspected annually. Repairs, maintenance and upgrades are scheduled, as necessary. This year, replacement parts for four of the dry hydrants have been funded from the 2013 budget.

PLANNING AND PERMIT INFORMATION A current planning and permit activities summary may be viewed at: <highlands.ca/planning/>. Scroll down to 'Current Planning Applications' to view rezoning applications and active permits.



SUMMER IS HERE and CRD Regional Parks has lined up a slate of nature outings and events for the season. Our naturalists lead guided walks, hikes, and drop-in events for all ages and abilities. Here is the link to the summer brochure: <http://www.crd.bc.ca/parks/events/documents/summernatureprograms2013web.pdf>

PARKING: ROSS DURRANCE ROAD Near the popular Gowland Todd Park's McKenzie Bight and Mount Work, visitors' vehicles often line both sides of a section of Ross Durrance Road. District and CRD staff are working on plans to help manage this in response to Highlands residents' ongoing concerns about vehicles parking on the travelled portion of the road; options to address the situation are anticipated to be considered by Council at the July 22 regular meeting.

NATURE CONSERVANCY OF CANADA At the April 15th Committee of the Whole meeting, Nature Conservancy representatives Tim Ennis and Katy Fulton presented information about this organization. Numerous Highlands properties, most located near the Gowland Todd Provincial Park, have covenants registered with the Conservancy. The organization is updating its monitoring program and has sent correspondence to affected property owners. A Highlands Landowners Bulletin can be viewed here: <highlands.ca/documents/Highland%20Covenant%20Bulletin.pdf>.



CUT THE BROOM IN BLOOM! This is a great time of year to eliminate broom. The bright yellow blossoms make it easy to identify, and it is best to remove this invasive species before its prolific seeds mature. This spring's damp weather allows small plants to be readily pulled up; larger plants should be **cut rather than pulled** in order to avoid soil disturbance and discourage regrowth. Visit <broombusters.org> for techniques and information. Those wishing to plan a larger scale neighbourhood broom removal are invited to contact the district office, 250-474-1773, to see how we can help.



REMINDER: BULLFROG REPORTING Have you seen or heard a bullfrog? Want to distinguish between bullfrogs and the **protected** (blue listed) **red legged frog**? Visit <highlands.ca> for links to recordings and photos of the American bullfrog. **Check your pond or wetland this month through to September**, as bullfrogs may be present wherever there is year-round water. If you see or hear a bullfrog, **please report the details to Pattie (250-478-3319) or email: pattie@pacificcoast.net.**

If you would like an electronic copy of the Highlands News please visit the District website's homepage: highlands.ca. Please consider passing this newsletter on to any tenants or other residents who are without a Highlands mailbox.



Community & Council News

ESQUIMALT GRAVING DOCK/TERVITA CONTRACT At the regular meeting held June 3rd Council and residents were introduced to information from representatives of Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) concerning the Esquimalt Graving Dock (EGD) Waterlot Remediation Project. A contract to remove and deposit contaminated sediment was awarded to Tervita Corporation, landowner of the Highwest Waste Recycling Facility located at 1943 Millstream Road.

EGD's Acting Director, Mr. David Latoski, accompanied by several experts, was in attendance, along with representatives from Tervita. The presentation was followed by 90 minutes of questions from residents and Council members, and this information can be viewed here: highlands.ca/minutes/council/2013/06_03_Council_Adopted.pdf. Subsequently, many Highlands residents received a Public Notice sent by PWGSC to several municipalities in the region; it can be viewed here: highlands.ca/agendas/council/2013/documents/PublicWork-gravingdock_000.pdf.

Representatives offered to provide additional information to the District and interested residents. Copies of the Detailed Site Investigation are available at the District office and at the Juan de Fuca branch of the Greater Victoria Library.

General information about the project can be found at the project's website: tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/pac/cse-egd/env/projects-projets-eng.html; it is anticipated that the summary of the Detailed Site Investigation will be posted soon. A hotline is also available for those wishing to inquire by phone: 250-363-0227.

At the regular meeting of June 17, Council approved the following motion:

That the Federal Government be requested to provide an independent, professional third party assessment of the engineered landfill design and monitoring systems at the Highwest site in order to ensure that groundwater, environmental and public health issues are safeguarded to the greatest extent possible for the benefit of both the District of Highlands and the Province of British Columbia and that the assessment take into account the information and recommendations put forth in the District's Groundwater Protection Study.

Links to additional information relating to this project and other soil deposit/removal activities can be viewed on the District website at highlands.ca/documents/SoilInformation.asp. Information is also available at the District office during regular business hours. (Please see page 1 of this newsletter for details of an upcoming open house for this project).

SOIL DEPOSIT/REMOVAL PRESENTATIONS

At the Committee of the Whole meeting held June 10, Council chambers were filled to capacity when Alan McCammon, Manager, Land Remediation Section, Ministry of Environment and Chris Coates, District CAO, provided presentations on the regulation of contaminated soils and Bylaw 341 (soil deposit and removal) respectively. Various aspects of these activities are regulated under provincial Jurisdiction. During the very informative 3.5 hour session, residents and others in attendance had the opportunity to have their questions on this topic addressed. Both presentations along with minutes containing the questions and answers from this meeting can be viewed online at highlands.ca/documents/SoilInformation.asp.



ANNUAL REPORT

At its regular meeting held June 17, Council was delighted to receive and approve the District's 2012 Annual Report.

Corporate Officer Tina Neurauter created a unique reporting format, producing a beautiful calendar in order to meet the regulatory requirements. Local governments must submit a report before June 30th each year which includes information on finances, taxes, services and operations along with objectives and measures met during the year and those set for the next year. The report can be viewed at the District office or online here: highlands.ca/administration/documents/2012%20Annual%20Report.pdf.

EAST FIRE HALL REPLACEMENT – UPDATE

Planning for a new East Highlands Fire Hall continues. Design drawings are approximately 50% complete and are currently being reviewed by staff and the Fire Department. The drawings are anticipated to be presented to Council for consideration this summer.

STAY INFORMED! Visit highlands.ca for local updates this summer, and watch for the District's new website, anticipated to go live sometime in August!

Highlands Music Coffee House is Delighted to Bring the Band..... CURL

On **Saturday, July 20** please join the amazing artists of Curl. Curl is a four-piece band based in Victoria, BC. They play a combination of original music and cover material, with a focus on Chicago style blues and old-time R&B. Curl features Helen Davies on guitar and vocals, Dee Cooper on keyboards, Susan Johnson on bass and Christa Rossner on drums. Curl has just released their first CD entitled All My Fault.

The evening will also feature an open stage segment.

Time: 7:30pm

Date: SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2013

Place: Caleb Pike House, 1589 Millstream Road

Cost: \$5.00 /person - coffee, tea and goodies provided

For more information or if you would like to recommend a band or a musician to play music at the Highlands Coffee House

call Zhinoos at: [778-678-2409](tel:778-678-2409) or email: zhinoos9@gmail.com.

RCMP INCIDENTS REPORT MAY 16 to JUNE 15, 2013

16 - Assist General Public Caleb Pike Rd
16 - Mischief Emma Dixon Rd
18 - Traffic Hawkins Pl
18 - Collision Lost Lake Rd / Millstream Rd
18 - 2013 Abandoned Vehicle Mount Work
19 - Traffic Hawkins Pl
20 - Cause Disturbance Hawkins Pl
20 - Assist General Public Millstream Rd
20 - Animal Call Munn Rd
23 - Traffic Munn Rd
23 - Mischief Millstream Rd / Caleb Pike Rd
25 - Utter threats Taylor Way
25 - Traffic Munn Rd / Bukin Dr E
25 - Liquor Act Industrial Way
27 - Collision Millstream Rd
29 - False Alarms Lorimer Pl
31 - Break and Enter Millstream Road
03 - Traffic Munn Rd / Stag Rd
04 - False Alarm Talon Ridge
04 - False Alarm Michael Rd
04 - Assist General Public Munn Rd
04 - Trespass Act Lost Lake Rd
04 - Abandoned 911 Rowntree Rd
05 - Fraud Bukin Dr East
06 - Break and Enter Millstream Rd
07 - Mischief Millstream Rd
09 - Drugs Millstream Lake Rd
11 - Firearms Millstream Rd
12 - Fraud Munn Rd
13 - Drugs Millstream Rd
14 - Firearms Lost Lake Rd
14 - Traffic Munn Rd

Contacts:

Mayor Jane Mendum—jmendum@highlands.ca / 250-478-9449, 250-893-9440
Councillor Allen Dobb—allendobb@telus.net / 250-391-3998/ Website: allendobb.ca
Councillor Diane Gill—didoll@live.ca / 250-391-8928
Councillor Sigurd Johannesen—Sigurd.johannesen@shaw.ca / 250-514-1880
Councillor Marcie McLean—marciemclean@shaw.ca / 250-474-4725
Councillor Karel Roessingh—karel@roessong.com / 250-727-9808
Councillor Ken Williams—kgwmaya@shaw.ca / 250-479-7497
Fire Chief Guy Brisebois—Guy.Brisebois@forces.gc.ca / 250-920-6970
Deputy Fire Chief Dean Ford—hvfdtraining@shaw.ca (Acting Fire Chief after mid July)
Emergency Coordinator Ryan Hobbs—ccoates@highlands.ca / 250-474-1773
District of Highlands Office—250-474-1773
CRD Animal Control (24 hrs) - 250-478-0624
CRD Bylaw Enforcement—250-474-3351
CRD Parks—250-478-3344
Wildlife Violations—1-800-663-WILD (9453)

JULY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

July 5 & 19 - CRD Recycling Blue Box pickup
July 16 - Open House (see front page), School House, 3:30 - 8 pm
July 20 - Highlands Music Coffee House, Pike House, 7:30 pm
July 22 - Regular Council Meeting, School House, 7 pm
July 28 - Highlands Market, Pike House, 10 am - 1 pm
please visit www.highlands.ca for detailed agenda information in advance of meetings

HIGHLAND FLING - Save the Date This year the Fling will be held on **Sunday, September 8**. Further details will be posted in the Highlands Newsletter, The Monthly Events and Happenings and the District's website. Interested in volunteering? Please contact Sheila: <stay@telus.net> or Scott: <scott.richardson@shaw.ca>.



WELCOME! This summer a student planner has joined District staff. Shannon will be assisting with various planning priorities such as the Heritage Registry, Towns for Tomorrow projects and sustainability indicators. Welcome, Shannon!

HIGHLANDS MARKET - SUNDAY, July 28th

10am - 1pm, - Caleb Pike grounds, 1589 Millstream Road.
The market takes place on the last Sunday of each month from May to September. Buyers and sellers welcome, rain or shine!
Come join us!

Info: Leslie, 250-474-2203

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

The Highland Heritage Park Society wishes to thank various donors who have volunteered time, equipment and/or materials in the construction of the new Highlands Museum. Al Fokkema and John Sarginson have volunteered many, many hours and loaned extremely useful equipment. Other Highlanders who have volunteered many hours, helpful equipment or made valuable donations are Daphne Allen, Don Hamilton, Dave Essery, Ed and Gwenn Ouellet, Dino Ribeiro, Gordon Baird, Stu Venables, Scott Richardson and Colin Wood - who lives in View Royal. Thank you, all, for your generous assistance!



HIGHLAND BRIDGES - PART ONE..

Just north of the intersection of Millstream Lake and Munn Roads is a small bridge easily missed if you are watching for approaching traffic on the narrow road. This structure that takes you across the beginning of Millstream Creek is called the Corry Bridge.

Frederick Charles Corry brought his family to the Highlands in 1908 settling on the property that lies between Third and Pease Lakes. Corry was instrumental in designing, building and maintaining the most difficult section of Ross-Durrance Road that linked his property with Wallace Drive in West Saanich. In the spring of 1910 Corry's daughter Alice aged 18, who had just completed her second year at Victoria's Normal School received an emergency appointment as teacher at the one-roomed Highland School when the regular teacher suddenly resigned. A photo dated 1910 shows Alice with a class of thirteen pupils, five of which were her siblings.

