



# Highlands News

## *September is the month to Celebrate!*

- *Highlands Fling - September 13th*
- *Highlands Museum Grand Opening - September 13th*
- *Community Hall Grand Opening - September 26th*
- *East Fire Hall Grand Opening - September 26th*



**MAYOR'S MESSAGE:** "Many hands make light work." Highlands volunteers are now in high gear working on our most celebratory month ever. Dreams of the last few years have been realized with the grand openings of our Museum, Community Hall and East Fire Hall. Our annual Highlands Fling is another great opportunity to meet your neighbours and make new friends. The ability of people to work willingly together for the betterment of the community is one of the reasons Highlands is such a terrific place to live. Your Council hopes to see you at these wonderful events. Bring your family and friends!



**FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS** - Having a visible **ADDRESS SIGN** could be a life saver! The District's fire fighters are trained as first responders. In the case of fire and medical or other 911 emergencies, response time can become critically important. **Address signs** should have numbers that are four inches in height in contrast colour to the background. It is critical that numbers be readily visible from the road from all approaches as on many District roads emergency services will arrive from different directions. It's a good idea to have someone other than yourself look for your address at night...you know where to look so it may appear quite easy to you.

As of Thursday, September 3 the Fire Hazard rating has been changed to MODERATE. If the weather returns to higher temperatures the rating will return to EXTREME - please monitor the website or Highlands Fire Department facebook or twitter accounts for any changes. MODERATE rating permits campfires (no larger than .5m x .5m) in a fire pit and indoor woodstove burning. Backyard burning, incinerators, and Class A fires continue to be **CLOSED**.

*Fire Chief Dean Ford*



**HIGHLANDS RECEIVES \$30,000.00 FROM CANADA 150 INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM** In 2013 the District began to upgrade the play area of Twinflower Park and now, with the successful application to the Canada 150 infrastructure program, our budget has effectively doubled. We will now go through a process of deciding the best way to replace the old wooden structures. This funding creates a range of opportunity that didn't exist before and council is looking forward to getting feedback from the community on how to finish the park.



**A note from WEST SHORE RCMP** With the recent increase in traffic accidents in the West Shore, **please be careful**. Heavy rain plus speed causes hydroplaning and loss of control. Reduce speed so tire treads can do their job.

## September 26th - Highlands Celebration Day Events

**11:00 AM-2:00PM**

**EAST FIRE HALL GRAND OPENING.** 3613 Woodridge Place.



Come with your family and see this beautiful new building at an open house hosted by Highlands Volunteer Firefighters. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be at 12:00pm. Light Refreshments will be served.



**12:00 PM-5:00 PM**

**HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY HALL GRAND OPENING.** 729 Finlayson Arm Road.



Bring your family to your new Highlands Community Hall to meet and chat with your neighbours. The theme is ***"who we are and what we do"***. See table displays inside the hall, industrial displays outside the hall and celebrate the diversity of Highlanders and local community groups. There will be a food and drink vendor and musical performances by local musicians. The first 100

Highlands residents will receive a free \$10.00 lunch voucher. If you wish to display your business, passion or hobby at this event, please contact : Warren Lee - 250-478-7317

**5:00 PM-5:30 PM**

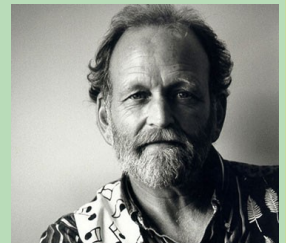
- Community Hall grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony.

**5:30 PM-6:30 PM**

- Enjoy cake and the dessert table while the Community Hall transforms to concert seating.

**6:30 PM-8:00PM**

- You won't want to miss a free concert featuring Valdy and Gary Fjellgaard!



## 2015 PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT REMINDER

For the year 2015, the tax due date was July 2. On July 3 a 5% penalty was added to all outstanding amounts including the Home Owner Grants (HOG). Reminder notices were mailed at the beginning of July to those property owners who had outstanding taxes. Please note that as of 4:00pm Tuesday September 1, 2015 an **additional** 5% penalty will be added to outstanding current (2015) taxes.

You can also *register* through our new Online Service button on our website which will give you access to your account balances 24/7. To ensure your payment is applied to your account in a timely fashion, please drop off your payment at the District Office located at 1980 Millstream Road. We accept cash, cheque or debit. After hours, cheques can be dropped in our secure mailbox at the front door (no cash please).

**STAY INFORMED:** visit the District website: [highlands.ca](http://highlands.ca)



# September 13th - Highlands Fling & Museum Grand Opening

**2015 HIGHLANDS FLING. Sunday September 13th , 12:00-5:00PM, 1589 Millstream Road.**



See you there...  
Sunday, September 13  
Noon - 5pm. Caleb Pike Homestead  
1589 Millstream Road

## Featuring Music By:

- The Up and Coming R & B Band  
...Shanna Dance R & B Trio
- The Award winning children's performer  
...Music with Marnie

**AND THE TWO TIME JUNO AWARD WINNER  
...STEPHEN FEARING**



Enjoy Mini Information Presentations o

**THE FLING WILL ALSO FEATURE:**  
• Kids games, balloons and activities  
• Good food and market  
• The "Healing House"  
• THE RETURN OF "FLINGO"



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The Museum floor and walls are finished and the displays are in place. Come in and see what we have been up to for the last two years! There is also a "Book Table" - a large variety of books that you can choose from in exchange for a donation to the Museum. Everyone is welcome to try our Museum Quiz for a chance to win a wonderful prize! **The Grand Opening Ceremony will take place at 12:15PM.** Everyone is invited... see you there!

## Council & District News



**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS** is many things to many different people. At its core is a basic desire to be prepared for what may come in the event of an emergency. Where we live and our resources at hand often play into what approach we take to emergency preparedness. I would like to discuss the topic of "our surroundings".

This should start with the space around us, such as the room you are in right now, and extend to the neighbourhood in which we live in. In the event of an emergency, what would you do and how would you react? The emergency taking place could be anything from an interface fire threatening your home to a strong earthquake shaking the region. Taking a few moments to

think about how you would react and what you would need to not only survive but thrive is a good exercise to do from time to time. Extending the awareness you have for your home to your surrounding neighbourhood is the next step. Here in the Highlands we are, for the most part, a rural community. This means by its very nature the houses in the Highlands are less densely packed than those in the surrounding municipalities. Living on larger lots can be very peaceful and enjoyable but can lead to its own issues in an emergency. Being more remote and removed from the city centre means that help is often slower to respond. As such, it is important that you get to know your neighbours as in an emergency, once you have established that you are safe, being active and communicating with your neighbours can help to ensure that they are safe as well. Remember, you may need help that the resources at hand can't deal with, and knowing those around you helps extend your pool of potential help in an emergency. For more information and a list of resources, visit [here](#).

**Ryan Hobbs, District of Highlands Emergency Coordinator**

## Contacts:

Mayor Ken Williams - [kwilliams@highlands.ca](mailto:kwilliams@highlands.ca) / 250-882-5481  
Councillor Leslie Anderson - [leslie.corvidconsulting@gmail.com](mailto:leslie.corvidconsulting@gmail.com) / 778-350-8180  
Councillor Ann Baird - [ann@eco-sense.ca](mailto:ann@eco-sense.ca) / 250-478-2680  
Councillor Gord Baird - [gord.baird@gmail.com](mailto:gord.baird@gmail.com) / 250-478-2680  
Councillor Karen Burns - [burnska@shaw.ca](mailto:burnska@shaw.ca) / 250-391-6227  
Councillor Marcie McLean - [marciemclean@shaw.ca](mailto:marciemclean@shaw.ca) / 250-474-4725  
Councillor Karel Roessingh - [karel@roessong.com](mailto:karel@roessong.com) / 250-727-9808  
Fire Chief Dean Ford - [firechief@highlands.ca](mailto:firechief@highlands.ca) / 250-920-6970  
Emergency Coordinator Ryan Hobbs - [rhobbs@highlands.ca](mailto:rhobbs@highlands.ca) / 250-474-1773  
District of Highlands Office - 250-474-1773 | CRD Bylaw Enforcement - 250-474-3351  
CRD Animal Control (24 hrs) - 250-478-0624

### SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

**Sept 7 - Statutory Holiday - Office Closed**  
**Sept 8 - Council Meeting , School House, 7pm**  
**Sept 11 & 25 - CRD Recycling Blue Box pickup**  
**Sept 13 - Highlands Fling, Museum Opening, Heritage Park, 12 - 5pm**  
**Sept 14 - Committee of the Whole, School House, 7pm**  
**Sept 26 - Grand Opening - Community Hall and East Fire Hall**  
**Sept 28 - Council Meeting, School House, 7pm**



**BE BEAR AWARE !!** The District would like to remind all residents that the number one attractant to bears is household garbage, and that it is the responsibility of the home owner to ensure that household garbage is securely stored until the morning of collection day. Please consider **FREEZING** leftover food products until garbage collection day. The smell of meat and other food products also attracts

raccoons, which can then also attract cougars.

Other attractants include fruit trees, bird feeders and pet food. Fruit trees should be picked as the fruit ripens and ensure that windfalls do not accumulate. If you are unable to pick the fruit yourself consider a local organization like *Lifecycles* which offers a program called *The Fruit Tree Project* - information of this project may be found here: [http://lifecyclesproject.ca/initiatives/fruit\\_tree/](http://lifecyclesproject.ca/initiatives/fruit_tree/).

Ministry of Environment statistics indicate that the vast majority of wild animals that might be relocated unfortunately end up dying usually from the trauma of the incident or possibly starvation. Please visit the following websites for more information on bear safety:

[wildsafebc.com](http://wildsafebc.com) OR

[env.gov.bc.ca/cos/info/wildlife\\_human\\_interaction/docs/ears.html](http://env.gov.bc.ca/cos/info/wildlife_human_interaction/docs/ears.html)

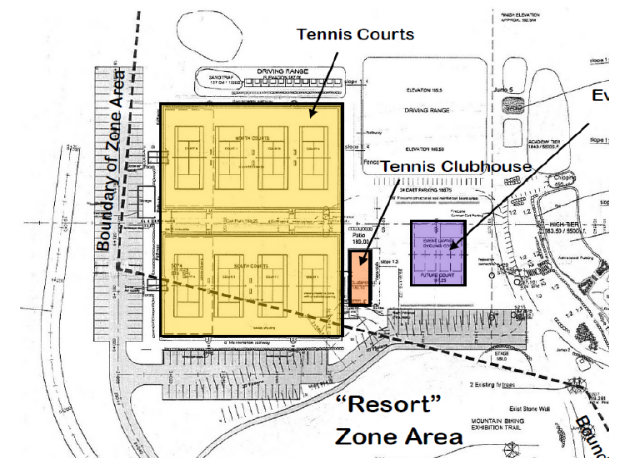
**HERITAGE PIECE** Francis Thomas Gregory left England as a young man in 1889 and spent the next ten years exploring the Canadian wilderness as a trapper and a gold seeker in the Yukon. With a nest egg from his Yukon adventures he came to Victoria to look for land to homestead. In 1900 he purchased the section around Fizzle Lake in the Highlands and finished the partially built log cabin that was on the site. By 1902 he had met and married Sybil Mitchell and brought her back to his small cabin which they called Lakelands. Frank and Sybil spent the next fifty years in that house taming the wilderness and raising three children. Frank also served as secretary of the Highland School Trustees for many years. Their little house is still there to this day on the property on Munn Road and a replica of it serves as the caretaker residence in the Caleb Pike Heritage Park.

**HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING** If you require a new or replacement CRD blue box or bag, please contact the collection contractor, Emterra Environmental, at 250.385.4399. For recycling information and to check your curbside pickup date visit the CRD website: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/service/waste-recycling/curbside-recycling-program> or download the app for electronic devices, Recycle CRD.



### VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

The District would like to make a special thanks to Jack and Cathy Atkinson for their diligence in keeping Millstream Rd and Caleb Pike Rd. free of roadside garbage.



**REZONING: ECOASIS TENNIS FACILITIES** At the regular council meeting held June 1, Council approved a rezoning on a portion of the Bear Mountain property within Highlands to permit the construction of an indoor/outdoor tennis facility including a clubhouse. The proposal was for eight courts, four of which will be enclosed with a domed, soft covering structure. The clubhouse facility will include washrooms, showers, prepared foods and a sitting area.



**Beautiful Rocks, a fascinating book about the history of Highlands, is available at the municipal office for \$29.95, or phone Daphne Allen, 250-478-7338.**