



Highlands News



Photo credit: Dave Essery

Rick Hansen, pictured with Highlands resident **Marnie Essery** and her Aunt Sue along with members of Vancouver city council, wrapped up the 25th anniversary of his Man in Motion tour when he rolled up for a special 25th anniversary ceremony at BC Place in Vancouver on May 22. Marnie, Highlands representative for and Chair of the **Intermunicipal Advisory Committee on Disability Issues (IACDI)** took part in the relay and was chosen as a medal bearer for being a "difference maker". Congratulations, Marnie! To see more great photos of Marnie and the relay, visit flickr.com/photos/arianec/sets/72157629849704436 or rickhansenrelay.com. View an online interview with Marnie and tour footage at youtu.be/1esQOX3T7WA.



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JUNE Council

Meetings

JUNE - 4 & 18

Living Locally, Living Sustainably.....

Gord Baird

The Highlands local food group (open to anyone) is gearing up for a productive season. Some of the resource materials shared over the past season have opened the doors for expanded opportunities for fruit, vegetable and wild plant edible gardens. Three resources members have spoken highly of are:

- Edible Wild Plants: Wild foods From Dirt to Plate, by John Kallas, PhD; Giiibbs Smith
- Four Season Harvest, by Elliot Coleman; Old Bridge Press
- Gaia's Garden: A Guide to Home-Scale Permaculture, by Toby Hemenway; Chelsea Green

A great online resource explaining the "Living Soil - the ethylene oxygen cycle - can be found at permaculture.com.au/online/articles/the-living-soil--ethylene-oxygen-cycle. It explains in an understandable manner the role of roots in the ground, and how maintaining root structure even after harvest stops the leaching of nutrients during the fall and winter.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS Fire Department officials remind drivers to **exercise caution while driving on damp or wet roads**. Several motor vehicle accidents occurred last month, many due to excess speed on slippery road surfaces. Even though precipitation may be minimal during the summer months, just a bit of rain alters tire traction and requires slower speeds to navigate local roads safely.

On May 18, Provincial Fire Officials imposed a **ban on outdoor burning**. The District has historically done this in response to seasonal conditions; this year the provincial authority proactively banned outdoor burning and burning barrel use until September 15. To view restrictions, visit bcwildfire.ca/hprscripts/wildfirenews/bans.asp. From now through October, please check highlands.ca, the fire hazard signs posted at each entrance to Highlands, or phone the Fire Chief to check on current local burning restrictions.

ATTENTION: The date of Highlands Fire Fighters Association's fundraising **Casino Night** event to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association has been confirmed for **Saturday, July 21, 7 p.m.** at the West Fire Hall. Save the date and plan to attend this fun event! Watch the district website highlands.ca for details coming soon. **Donations of prizes are very welcome;** please contact Jason Schuttinga, 250-508-3479 or email

HIGHLANDS MARKET - SUNDAY, June 24th

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, 250-474-3453 Next Market: June 24th

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

HIGHLAND FLING SUMMER CONCERT

Come join Highlands friends and neighbours in a return to the simple life at the 20812 Highland Fling, Sunday September 9th noon until 5pm, Caleb Pike Homestead, 1589 Millstream Road. Featuring music by Valdy &

Karel Roessingh; Jim Brannigan; up and coming teen band Fir Cone; and much, much more! Plan to bring your friends and family. Interested in volunteering? Contact Sheila at stay@telus.net.



CRD Regional Parks was one of fifty-two communities who received an Age-friendly BC grant to support older residents in staying healthy and active in the community! Share what Age Friendly means to you! Fill out the on line survey: crd.bc.ca/surveys/Survey.aspx?s=be2be642b64a473e850a375bbe7c2245.

The Highlands News — JUNE 2012

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 News



FROM THE FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT—TAXES ARE DUE **JULY 3 BY 4 PM.**

BY NOW YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED YOUR 2012 PROPERTY TAX

NOTICE BY MAIL. If not, please contact the municipal office at 250-474-1773 and we will be happy to reprint one for you. Remember

Monday, July 2 is a statutory holiday and our office will be closed for Canada Day.

Payment Options

- Cash, Cheque, or Interac - *check your transaction limits with your bank.*
- Mail us a post-dated cheque to avoid a line up (please include roll # on cheque for reference).
- Drop off your completed Home Owner Grant (HOG) form and/or payment at the Municipal Office at 1980 Millstream Road, Victoria BC V9B 6H1 between 8:30am & 4:00pm or in the front door mail slot after hours. Remember, claim your HOG **every year** before the due date to avoid a 5% penalty on the \$570 or \$875 HOG amount.
- Bank or Credit Union— to pay your property tax bill at your bank or credit union, you must have your original tax notice remittance slip along with completed & signed Home Owner Grant (HOG) application (if eligible). *If over 65 please make sure to include your date of birth in section 2a) on HOG remittance.* Your HOG application will then be forwarded to our office for processing. However, if your property taxes are paid through your mortgage company, you cannot claim your HOG through your bank, applications should be mailed or dropped off at our office.
- Unfortunately we do not accept credit card or online payment.



TRAFFIC ADVISORY – SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Ryder Hesjedel's Annual Tour de Victoria **cycling race** will tour through Highlands between 8:25 – 10:45 a.m. and will affect traffic on **Munn, Millstream Lake, Ross Durrance Roads and their side roads.** Vehicles are restricted to travelling west-to-east on Munn

during race time (west bound lane closed) and south-to-north on Millstream Lake/Ross Durrance Roads.

Highlands residents will want to take note that the race event begins at 7 a.m.

and ends at 4 p.m., with various traffic restrictions throughout the region. Route information is available online at tourdevictoria.com/tour-info/road-closures.



REMINDER: BULLFROG REPORTING Have you seen or heard a bullfrog? This invasive species is making its presence known. Not sure what they sound like? 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.** This information will help the District to track migration and to plan for control.

Council has approved \$4400 in the 2012 budget to fund a small American Bullfrog Control Program, and will, for the second year, consider contracting the services of a professional to augment the valuable ongoing efforts of community volunteers.

District of Highlands volunteers are still required for several Committees/Boards and Commissions.

If volunteering an hour or two each month seem appealing to you the following committees have vacancies:

- **Board of Variance**
- **Community Infrastructure and Services**
- **Fiscal and Environmental Committee**

Full Terms of Reference for these committees are available on the District website: www.highlands.ca.

Anyone interested in serving is invited to submit a letter and / or a brief resume detailing their interest to serve on one of these committees.

All submissions should be forwarded to the office or email to: tneurauteur@highlands.ca.



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR WILDFIRES

We are now in **Wildfire Season** and **Burning Restrictions** are in effect. To learn how you can

prepare for the threat of Wildfire to your home check our website at: www.highlands.ca, click on **Emergency Program** on the left hand menu, then scroll down to **"WILDFIRE"**.

Those of you who do not have access to the Internet/World Wide Web can drop by the District Office to pick up printed information as displayed on our website or contact the District Office at 250-474-1773, or london@highlands.ca.



Date: Sunday, June 24

Time: 10:30am - 3:30pm

Where: Hartland Landfill, 1 Hartland Ave

The **Hartland Open House** is a great opportunity to take a behind the scenes look at your award-winning landfill and check out educational displays. Come enjoy the fun! Free hot dogs, hamburgers and juice. Email hartland@crd.bc.ca or phone 240-474-9613 to reserve a spot on the tour bus. For shuttle locations and other details: crd.bc.ca.



The CRD Regional Parks **Summer Nature Outings and Events** brochure for July to September 2012 is now out. Naturalists lead guided walks, hikes, drop-in events and canoeing for all ages and abilities are available. Most are free, all are fun! Find the Summer brochure here : crd.bc.ca/parks/events/documents/

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. Thank



Community & Council News

SOIL DEPOSIT & REMOVAL REGULATION & FEES BYLAW

At the May 14 Committee of the Whole meeting, Council reviewed draft Bylaw 341. The revised bylaw incorporates best practices, provides exemptions for small-scale removals and deposits and regulates large-scale soil activities. Council requested that staff also include language pertaining to management of invasive species. The revised draft returned to the May 22 regular council meeting for consideration. Council gave three readings to the bylaw and approved its submission to the Ministry of Community, Sport and Culture for statutory approval.

WEST SHORE PARKS & RECREATION - WEIGHT ROOM At its May 7 regular meeting, Council approved advising West Shore Parks and Recreation Society and each co-owner that Highlands' conditional approval of the Weight Room Project be restructured such that Highlands approves the project and rescinds its conditions of approval. Council had previously approved the project with conditions that the District not be responsible for any financial shortfalls and that the Society maintain its reserve fund for emergencies. Staff reports provided to the Society indicate that into the second year, the weight room function is financially stable.

JUNO AWARDS 2014 BID At the May 7 regular meeting, Council received a presentation from Ken Kelly, General Manager of the Downtown Victoria Business Association on behalf of the Capital Region Music Awards Society representing the Victoria Juno Awards 2014 bid. A request has been made to all members in the region to support the bid by pledging \$1 per capita, payable upon successful selection. Funding has been bolstered by a \$1.5 million pledge from the provincial government and \$2 million from the City of Victoria. Council subsequently supported the initiative by agreeing to contribute \$2000 to the event, should it be held in the region in 2014.

REMINDER - EAGLES LAKE PARK DRAFT BYLAW -

CONSULTATION This draft includes many elements for consideration and can be viewed at <http://highlands.ca/agendas/council/2012/documents/EaglesLakePark.pdf>. Council welcomes your feedback. Please email your views to tneurauter@highlands.ca.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION It was with great pleasure that Council, on behalf of the community, awarded the Highlands Service Medal to Warren Lee at the regular meeting held May 7. Warren was chosen by his fellow residents to receive this award through the Recognition Policy distributed to all property owners as an enclosure with annual tax notices. Warren has made numerous valuable contributions to the community over the years, serving on several council and community committees and task forces and always bringing his best to his many volunteer roles.

REZONING APPLICATIONS The Planning Department has kept busy with several rezoning applications in process this year. Here is a list of those that appeared on Council agendas during the month of May:

- May 7, RZ-01-08 (889 Finlayson Arm Rd); Public Hearing for Bylaw 313; two additional lots; amenity rezoning; Bylaw approved
- May 7, RZ-02-11 (1150 Bear Mountain Pkwy); proposal to amend retreat zoning to allow 52 lots; amenity rezoning; referred to applicant with request to bring forward supplementary reports
- May 22, RZ-02-10 (Rowntree/Gowlland/Southwood Dr.); draft Bylaws 345 & 346; 11 additional lots; amenity rezoning; Public Hearing June 18
- May 22, RZ-03-11 (1289 Millstream Road); 1 additional lot; zoning bylaw amendment; parkland amenity; Public Hearing June 25
- May 22, RZ-01-12 (1931 Millstream Rd); rezone to allow expansion of daycare facility; referred to Advisory Planning Commission

Detailed information and reports are available online at highlands.ca, Planning and Development page or at the District office. There is also an online link to information for upcoming Public Hearings.

5 YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN/TAX RATES 2012 At a special meeting held May 14, Council adopted the 2012 - 5 year Financial Plan and Tax Rate Bylaws. As previously reported in this newsletter, the municipal portion of property taxes was increased by 1.56% in order to address decreased revenue due to reduced 2011 property assessments. A leaflet complete with details and explanatory notes was mailed to property owners with the annual tax notices. Draft financial documents can be viewed online at highlands.ca within 2012 agendas.

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.



Highlands Coffee House is delighted to host the following special event:

KEN WILLIAMS & FRIENDS PRESENTS THE ANNUAL HIGHLANDS SUMMER BLUES BASH!

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

You are invited to join featured blues artists Dave Campbell, Helen Davies and Derek Walsh along with Sherry Clayton, Roy Rhymer, Karel Roessingh and Ken Williams for an evening of jamming' and having fun! Everyone welcome; prepare to be entertained by some of the best in the region!

Time: 7:30pm (doors @7) | **Place:** Caleb Pike House, 1589 Millstream Rd | **Charge:** \$5/person - coffee, tea, goodies provided

RCMP INCIDENTS REPORT April 16 to May 15, 2012

APRIL

- 16 - False Alarms - Emma Dixon Rd
- 17 - Unspecified Assistance - Red Cedar Crt
Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Ross Durrance Rd
- 18 - Collision-Damage Over \$1000 - Bear Mountain Pkwy
Property-Lost - Industrial Way
- 19 - False Alarms - Millstream Lake Rd
- 20 - Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Munn Rd/Millstream Lake Rd
911-False/Abandoned Calls - Rowntree Rd
False Alarms - Lorimer Pl
- 21 - Property-Lost - Millstream Rd
Unspecified Assistance - Millstream Lake Rd/Munn Rd
- 23 - Property-Lost - Millstream Rd
- 24 - Collision-Non-Fatal Injury - Br Mountain Pkwy/Nicklaus Dr
- 25 - Collision-Damage Over \$1000 - Ross Durrance Rd
Harass/Obscene Phone Call - Red Cedar Crt
- 27 - Suspicious Pers/Veh/Occurrence - Southwood Dr
- 28 - 911-False/Abandoned Calls - Eagles Lake Rd
Bylaw-Litter - Millstream Rd
- 29 - Unspecified Assistance - Finlayson Arm Rd/Millstream Rd
- 30 - Unspecified Assistance - Munn Rd
Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Red Cedar Crt/Millstream Rd

MAY

- 01 - False Alarms - Stag Rd
- 03 - Suspicious Pers/Veh/Occurrence - Davies Rd
Parking Violations - Davies Rd
- 04 - Unspecified Assistance - Blacktail Rd
- 05 - Unspecified Assistance - Millstream Rd
- 07 - Mischief \$5000 or Under - Woodridge Pl/Eagles Lake Rd
Unspecified Assistance - Millstream Rd
- 08 - Unspecified Assistance - Deerfield Pl
Suspicious Pers/Veh/Occurrence - Millstream Rd
- 11 - Unspecified Assistance - Millstream Rd
Theft from MV Under \$5000 - Stag Rd
911-False/Abandoned Calls - Munn Rd
Unspecified Assistance - River Rd
- 12 - Unspecified Assistance - Millstream Rd/Taylor Way
- 13 - False Alarms - Ross Durrance Rd
- 14 - Collision-Damage Over \$1000 - Ross Durrance Rd
Property-Lost - Highlands Park Ter

VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

Community appreciation goes to the HDCA and residents who organized and helped with the Annual Roadside Cleanup. Thank you to everyone - your efforts really made a difference!

Recognition also goes to the Highlands Firefighters Association, whose membership is comprised of volunteer firefighters, for their work in organizing community-minded events such as the upcoming Casino Night charitable fundraiser in support of those with Muscular Dystrophy (see page 1). The Association participates in parades, hosts public safety events and raises funds to purchase equipment for the Fire Department.

Community appreciation for your time, effort and enthusiasm is well deserved. Thank you!

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
District of Highlands Office—250-474-1773
CRD Bylaw Enforcement—250-474-3351
CRD Animal Control (24 hrs) - 250-478-0624
CRD Parks—250-478-3344
Wildlife Violations—1-800-663-WILD (9453)

JUNE COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- June 8 & 22** - CRD Recycling Blue Box pickup
- June 18** - Council meeting, School House, 7pm
- June 23** - Annual Highlands Summer Blues Bash, Pike House, 7pm
- June 24** - Highlands Market, Caleb Pike grounds, 10am - 1pm
- Tour de Victoria, 8am-12
- Hartland Open House, 10:30am-3pm
- June 25** - Public Hearing, School House, 7pm—followed by...
- Special Committee of the Whole meeting, followed by....
- Special Council meeting
- June 27** - Community Infrastructure, School House, 7pm

PLEASE visit the District website, highlands.ca for detailed agenda information in advance of meetings

HIGHLANDS HISTORY

FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE HIGHLAND SCHOOL HOUSE Appearing in the Daily Colonist on July 1, 1894, this article celebrated the completion of the first school year in the newly constructed Highland School House.

"There was a large and appreciative audience present to witness the closing exercises of Highland school on Friday. An excellent programme was rendered by the pupils, and reflected great credit on the teacher. The school room was beautifully decorated with evergreens and white roses, which together with the bright dresses and happy faces of the children presented a pleasing appearance. Refreshments were served during the afternoon, and all present decided on the success of the affair. Deep regret was expressed by all present on the retirement of the teacher, Miss Jennie Grant Fraser, who is discontinuing her duties there, and who has won the esteem of both parents and pupils."

Unfortunately this trend continued with most of the Highland School's teachers quitting after only a year of teaching in the District.



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