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Harbour Spiel

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Page 2



The independent voice of Pender Harbour & Egmont since 1990.

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EDITOR

Brian Lee

CIRCULATION (2,700)

Copies of the *Harbour Spiel* are mailed free to 1,375 homes between Egmont and Middlepoint and are available by paid subscription and free at locations throughout the Sunshine Coast.

Each issue of the Harbour Spiel (since Nov. 2006) is also available online as a PDF download at www.harbourspiel.com.

CONTRIBUTORS

This month we thank: Fred Brooks, Lyn Charlton, Leonard Lee, Robert Livingston, Carole Logtenberg, Zoë Mackenzie, Shane McCune and Joka Wright.

COVER

A juvenile Western painted turtle released into Garden Bay Lake on June 12 by the Sunshine Coast Wildlife Project. (Carole Logtenberg photo)

ADVERTISING

Please reserve by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Advertisers make publication of the *Harbour Spiel* possible — please say thank you, and support our community, by supporting them.

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SCRD is pushing you back from the water



Brian Lee

At one time when buying a home, you just hired a home inspector to

check if the roof leaked.

A conscientious and experienced Realtor would hopefully point out any other caveats.

But neither real estate agents nor your uncle Les can predict what future liabilities a property carries.

Potential home buyers really need to sleuth it up to learn if there is an Airbnb next door or if the neighbours are townies with teenage kids who come up once a month to party.

Of course, you won't find that out until you seek sleep on a sweltering summer night while forced-listening to a spirited singalong of "Friends in Low Places."

Identifying potential risks with a property is made even harder when the rules change after the purchase.

"Yes, this property comes with a private dock but... it's in the purple zone and has a boathouse and the province is in the process of drafting another plan to tell you if you can keep it or not," said all Realtors.

As well-meaning as it may be, now comes more governmental diminution as the SCRD expands its riparian area bylaws (see story, p. 7).

From a July 20, 2023 staff report:

"The proposed amendment would strengthen property protection from flooding and facilitate environmental protection, public enjoyment of natural coastline and reconciliation."

The changes are significant but the SCRD has been somewhat hushed about it ahead of a now-postponed June 24 public hearing.

Especially about the most important detail — that the current 7.5-metre setback from the ocean will be changed to 15 metres and the current

7.5-metre setback from freshwater, including a "swamp or pond," will stretch to 17 metres.

Not only will this cripple some owners' development dreams, it will render many current structures "legal, non-conforming," which means your house is OK until you want to make changes down the road.

Like many planning initiatives, the reasons behind it are familiar.

The amendments intend to mitigate the effects of climate change, strengthen protection of ecologically sensitive areas while "facilitating streamlining of development approvals by setting clear and consistent regulations across the regional district's electoral areas that are aligned with provincial best practices."

Our own Area A advisory planning commission was the only APC on the Coast to oppose the amendments, noting two pages of concerns including, "These amendments are not 'housekeeping' items," and "given the importance and number of waterfront properties in Area A, the proposed changes will have a significant and negative impact on property values and the amount of subdividable land."

Despite any benefits of the stringent riparian rules, it's another restrictive nuisance that fails to weigh the human cost of complying — like being forced to haul your banana peels to the dusty transfer station.

More importantly, it further restricts the use and enjoyment of people's greatest asset, costing property owners more of their property and even rendering some properties unbuildable.

For an organization claiming to be chronically understaffed, the SCRD is finding new and imaginative ways of creating expensive hassles for taxpayers by solving problems we didn't know we had.

SARAH WRAY HALL 10TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE: Sunday, June 30, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

It's been 10 years since renovations were completed at Sarah Wray Hall. To celebrate, the Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society is having an Open House on Sunday, June 30 from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. Peruse historic displays and scrapbooks, check out this year's raffle canoe — the *Blue Heron* — visit the boatbuilding workshop, enjoy the BBQ, ask your history questions of society directors, and more. A fun Sunday outing for the whole family. Drop by Sarah Wray Hall at 4334 Irvines Landing Road, Garden Bay. Details at *penderharbourheritage.ca*.

P. H. MUSIC SOCIETY COFFEEHOUSE: Friday July 12, doors at 7 p.m.

The Pender Harbour Music Society presents this month's School of Music Coffee House on Friday, July 12 featuring Steve Wright and Them Ordinary Things.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and music starts at 7:30 p.m. There is a suggested \$10 donation for entry at the door.

PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE CLOSES FOR MAINTENCE: Saturday, July 27 to Sept. 2

The annual maintenance shutdown of the local pool and gym begins July 27. It reopens on Sept. 2 with a full slate of new prgramming to start the season. Don't pretend this is an inconvenience — you'll be swimming in the lake anyway.

PENDER HARBOUR DAYS AND WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL: Friday, Aug. 2 to 4

Plan to join your friends in Madeira Park for three days celebrating boats and Pender Harbour's maritime tradition. The show kicks off with the Friday night boat parade at 5 p.m. and features a variety of music, food, heritage boats, exhibits and the popular speaker's series featuring Capt. Bill Noon, Howard White and Isaac Vanderhorst.

Visit www.penderharbourwoodenboatshow.ca for more information.



Page 4 Harbour Spiel

Waterfront Protection Coalition uses AI to analyze DMP submissions

The Waterfront Protection Coalition recently used artificial inteliigence to analyze 1,700 comments submitted to the provincial government regarding the most recent dock management plan draft.

The comment period closed Feb. 16 with redacted comments released May 3.

From a June 9 WPC statement:

"Some members of our science committee took some time to analyze the roughly 1,700 comments using ChatGPT AI.

"The ChatGPT analysis further highlighted and echoed the concerns we have heard from our members.

"Given the similarities, these recommendations were also provided to the dock management plan advisory group for review."

The following are common themes the AI technology distilled from the submissions.

GRANDFATHER EXISTING STRUCTURES

Allow existing docks, boathouses, and other structures to remain as they are, exempting them from new regulations, and only apply new regulations to new constructions or significant renovations.

SEPARATE REGULATIONS FOR FRESHWATER AND SALTWATER

Develop separate regulations for freshwater lakes and ocean shorelines, recognizing the unique environmental and practical differences between these bodies of water.

CONDUCT DETAILED IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Perform comprehensive economic, environmental and social impact assessments before implementing new regulations, considering the potential financial burden on residents and the July 2024

local economy.

PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Offer financial assistance or compensation for property owners who need to make modifications to comply with new regulations, particularly for those on fixed incomes.

ALLOW FOR LARGER DOCK **SIZES**

Reconsider the maximum dock size limit to accommodate larger vessels and ensure safety and functionality for boat owners.

IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Ensure that all environmental regulations are based on robust scientific evidence and consider the actual impact of docks and boathouses on the local ecosystem.

ENHANCE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Engage with all affected stakeholders, including residents, property owners, and local businesses, to collaboratively develop and refine the DMP.

ADDRESS SEWAGE AND **DERELICT BOATS ISSUES**

Efforts should be made to deal with sewage from old septic systems and recreational boaters who dump

sewage into Pender Harbour, as these issues are more harmful than docks.

TRANSPARENCY IN DECISION MAKING

Make all supporting studies, reports, and data used to justify the DMP publicly available and transparent.

CONSIDER ECONOMIC IMPACT

Evaluate and mitigate the economic impact of the DMP on businesses, tourism and property values.

PROVIDE REPRESENTATION FOR RESIDENTS

Pender Harbour residents need an agent or representative, funded by (but independent of) the government, to defend their interests when policies like the DMP are being formulated.

FLEXIBLE ZONING REGULATIONS

Rather than an outright prohibition on new dock tenures in certain zones, each application should be assessed on its own merits, including environmental and archeological factors.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN-UP

Involve the local community in the assessment and clean-up of the harbours and seafront areas to address historical pollution and debris.

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION NO. 112 GOLF TOURNAMENT



Saturday, Aug. 17 •

- Modified Texas Scramble (P. H. Golf Course)
- Golf plus appies & dinner at Legion \$70 pp
- Power cort fee extro
- Prizes and fun format

Register at the Legion in Madeira Park.

1. OUR COMMUNITY

After a brief plateau in the early 2010s, the Sunshine Coast's population is once again seeing growth, especially among people in older age groups, and the number of people moving into the community is at its highest level in years.



Population by age group in the SCRD (2016 and 2021 census)

. opaidis. 5, 485 8.04p in the Selfs (2020 and 2022 concas)													
Age group	2016	% Total Pop'n (2016)	2021	% Total Pop'n (2021)	% Total Pop'n BC (2021)	% Growth in SCRD	% Growth in BC						
0-14	3,530	11.8	3,810	11.8	14.3	8%	4%						
15-24	2,340	7.8	2,140	6.7	11	-9%	0%						
25-34	2,225	7.4	2,550	7.9	14	15%	13%						
35-44	2,890	9.6	3,495	10.9	13.5	21%	14%						
45-54	4,065	13.6	3,685	11.4	12.8	-9%	-6%						
55-64	6,035	20.1	5,790	18	14.2	-4%	5%						
65-74	5,465	18.2	6,410	20	11.8	17%	21%						
75-plus	3,425	11.4	4,290	13.3	8.4	25%	18%						
TOTAL	29,975		32,170			7.3%	7.6%						

BC Statistics

estimates the median age in the SCRD was steady at 55 in 2023 and will remain steady for at least the next ten years.



A growing older demographic has created a dependency ratio, a comparison of the "dependent" population (up to 17 and 65 and over) to the number of working age (18-64) adults, that is far higher than for BC as a whole. The 2023 dependency ratio for the SCRD was 0.94 (0.66 for seniors and 0.28 for children) while it was 0.58 for BC.

726

The SCRD experienced record high net total migration in 2021/22 with 726 people moving to the Coast. It was 635 in 2008.

31%

The percentage of sailings that BC Ferries reports were overloaded on the Langdale run in 2023. In 2020, only 27% were overloaded.

At least 2,270 people on the Sunshine Coast reported being of Indigenous identity on the 2021 Census. This was 7.2% of the total population while BC, overall, maintains a 5.9% Indigenous population. The 2022 Report on the Status of BC First Nations Languages shows 2 fluent and 12 semi-fluent speakers of she shashishalhem, the traditional language

of the shishalh Nation.





Carole Logtenberg

On June 12, the P. H. Wildlife Society helped the Sunshine Coast Wildlife Project by releasing five juvenile western painted turtles into Garden Bay and Katherine Lakes that were rescued and headstarted in Vancouver. Headstarting is a conservation tool that raises turtles in protected environments to larger body sizes, then releases them back into the wild to increase their survival. The turtles were from nests laid in dangerous spots like boat launch parking lots or the public swimming beach at Katherine Lake and were headstarted in the Lower Mainland for almost a year before being released. If you see turtles in distress, contact the Sunshine Coast Wildlife Project by email at coastwildlife@gmail.com or, if it is urgent, call them at (604) 989-1007. To learn more about the Western painted turtle and nesting beaches, go to coastwildlife.ca.

news

SCRD amending bylaws to 'strengthen protection' of riparian areas

The Sunshine Coast Regional District plans to strengthen the protection of riparian areas (land beside rivers or streams) by two SCRD bylaws.

A public hearing was to be held June 24 to consider amending zoning bylaw No. 722.9 and 337.123 but on June 21, the SCRD announced it was postponed due to "a considerable number of questions related to the proposed amendments."

The SCRD will now host a public information meeting prior to the rescheduled public hearing.

Proposed amendments include:

• Changing how proposed lot area is calculated when subdividing land.

The proposal is to ensure all proposed new lots meet the minimum lot size when the area of land contains a riparian area.

It intends to "ensure that new lots are developable and private property/ public assets are protected from flood-July 2024 ing and ravine erosion, while protecting and streamside vegetation;"

• Establish a buffer from the "stream protection and enhancement area" adjacent to a watercourses/waterbodies to ensure land alteration activities (such as the construction of a home) does not intrude on the SPEA.

Landscaping would be permitted within this buffer.

• Increase the setbacks from waterbodies and watercourses in Bylaw 337 to align with Bylaw 722 and meet provincial best practices.

Proposed setback increases include changing the current 7.5-metre setback of the "natural boundary of the ocean" to 15 metres and changing the current 7.5-metre setback of the "natural boundary of a swamp or pond" to 17 metres.

Read more at www.scrd.ca/news/riparian-and-shoreline-protection-bylaw-amendments-public-hearing/.

The amendments passed a first

and second reading at the SCRD board and after a public hearing is completed, the board will consider a third reading before final adoption.



PENDER HARBOUR Historic boats at the Madeira Park wharf, Aug. 2 to 4 VOODEN BOAT SHOW

PENDER HARBOUR DAYS SCHEDULE

Friday, August 2

5pm: Boat Parade. Muster off Madeira Park for a 5:30pm tour around Pender Harbour.

7:30pm: Harbour Lights! A variety musical highlighting individual performers of the Pender Harbour Choir. (Suggested \$10 donation at the door.)

Saturday, August 3

8am: Breakfast sandwiches! In support of Lions' Park.

10am - 3pm: Heritage boats on display. Free!

10am - 3pm: Historic displays, activities, vendors, theatre, musicians and more.

11am: SPEAKER SERIES Capt. Bill Noon shares his adventure in "Finding Franklin's lost ships: The HMS Erebus and the HMS Terror."

11am - 3pm: Fun for kids! Face painting by Miss Carla's Fancy Faces, mini wooden boat building and kids' crafts.

11am and 1pm: Storytime Theatre in the Park by the Driftwood Players.

Noon: Garden Bay Sailing Club harbour races.

Noon - 2pm: Hard hat diving exhibition.

1pm: SPEAKER SERIES "Where is Pender Harbour?" A celebration of 50 years of a major Canadian publishing house with Howard White.

Sunday, August 4

10am - 1pm: Marine Tailgate Sale. \$10/ car. Set up

10am - 2pm: Heritage boats and displays, music and local vendors.

12:30pm: HUGS ukulele concert.

1pm: SPEAKER SERIES "Whose boat was that?" Isaac Vanderhorst shares tales of past visits to Pender Harbour by the grand old yachts of yesteryear — and who was on them.

2pm: Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society Canoe Raffle Draw for the *Blue Heron*. (Tickets at Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society website until Aug. 3)

All events take place at the Madeira Park wharf, Millennium Park, Pender Harbour School of Music and the surrounding area in Madeira Park

Three days celebrating boats and Pender Harbour's maritime tradition.

The show kicks off with the Friday night boat parade and features a variety of music, food, heritage boats, exhibits and the popular speaker's series featuring Capt. Bill Noon, Howard White and Isaac Vanderhorst.



PHWoodenBoatShow@outlook.com

Pender.Harbour.Wooden.Boat.Show

Construction contract awarded for PODS project In Irvines Landing

PODS has a builder.

On June 7, the Loon Foundation announced it had awarded a construction contract to the Sunshine Coast's Spani Developments Ltd. to build the Pender Harbour Ocean Discovery Station.

The statement said the foundation is set to break ground in the fall of 2024 to build "an innovative marine research centre, educational facility, and tourist destination" that "will welcome visitors of all ages to celebrate our region's remarkable natural history and heritage."

"This project is truly unparalleled, not just within the Sunshine Coast but on a global scale," said Doug Spani, of Spani Developments.

"Every aspect, from the architectural design to material selection, presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Spani Developments — a prospect that excites our entire team."

From the June 7 statement:

"The community hub will provide attractions for the whole fam-



Michael Jackson, executive director of Loon Foundation (I) and Doug Spani of Spani Developments (r) shake hands in front of a model of PODS.

ily, including immersive, interactive exhibits and mind-blowing displays about life in the Salish Sea using state-of-the art audio-visual technolo-

"PODS will create welcome new employment opportunities, increase revenues for local businesses yearround, and provide a world-class educational research facility."

Katherine Lake campground now fully open

After a late start to the season due to a sinkhole in the access road to Katherine Lake regional park, the campground and washrooms are open.

In a statement, the SCRD said the popular recreation spot reopened June 7, "thanks to community support and the hard work of SCRD parks services staff and the contracted park campground operator."

The road had been closed since February when heavy rainfall caused a sinkhole over a culverted creek connecting Katherine Lake and Garden Bay Lake.

On May 9, the SCRD announced the closure of Katherine Lake Regional Park would be extended until July 2024

at least early July due to the sinkhole while they pursued appropriate permits to undertake a complete replacement of the culvert system and reinforcement of the road base.

Later that month, SCRD staff were able to work with a local contractor who assisted with a temporary repair of the road until a permanent fix can be completed in the fall.

Katherine Lake Park has sites for 19 recreational vehicles with RV hookups, 10 tent campsites and a swimming beach that is popular with both visitors and locals.

For more information on the park or to book a campsite, visit www. katherinelakecampground.ca.



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- ✓ Hedge trimming
- ✓ Boat & watercraft winterizing
- ✓ Fall bulb planting
- ✓ Odd jobs

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Page 9

'Tis the season to be worried



Leonard Lee Area A director, SCRD

Once again, predictions are for a long, hot, and dry summer, which brings our attention to the possibil-

ity of wildfires and water shortages.

Because of recent system upgrades, if everyone follows any water restrictions issued, we can handle a 200-day dry period with enough water for use by residents and for emergency use including firefighting.

Our Pender Harbour Volunteer Fire Department website provides current and detailed burning regulations and related information at www. penderharbourfire.com.

I recommend that you sign up at www.scrd.ca/alert-system for Voyent

Alert notifications and advice during fires, floods, earthquakes, and other emergencies.

GET READY FOR MOCK BILLING

Pender Harbour residents will be the first to participate in "mock billing," a trial of a proposed fee structure and billing process.

North and South Pender water system customers will receive their usual water bills, but will also be able to get a mock bill showing what the future might look like with residential pay-per-use bills or, for businesses, volumetric water bills.

The concept is to reward those using less water by billing them below the average rate and to motivate heavy users to conserve by billing them more than average, similar to the BC Hydro billing system.

Mock Billing will be coming to a neighbourhood near you very soon.

WATER CONSERVATION

The buzzword is water conservation, but the goal is simply keeping the cost of delivering potable water as low as possible while providing enough water to satisfy most of our needs.

These SCRD projects, aimed at achieving our water conservation goals, are underway:

- Rainwater capture;
- Water meters;
- Infrastructure optimization (system design and water-leak management);
- Water management (gathering usage data, issuing reports, and billing), and
 - Bylaw development (volumet-



Sunshine Coast Regional District





Egmont / Pender Harbour Area A Director Leonard Lee leonard.lee@scrd.ca 604-212-0406



Board and Committee Meetings

Board Policy Review Committee Meeting July 4 at 9:30 a.m.

Regional Hospital District July 18 at 1:00 p.m.

Committee of the Whole July 11 at 9:30 a.m.

Finance Committee July 18 at 2:00 p.m.

Regular Board July 11 at 1:30 p.m. **Committee of the Whole** July 25 at 9:30 a.m.

Electoral Area Services July 18 at 9:30 a.m.

Regular Board July 25 at 1:30 p.m.

www.scrd.ca/agendas

PENDER HARBOUR TRANSFER STATION

Summer Operating Hours:

May 1 to September 30: Monday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday CLOSED

Wednesday to Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

No loads accepted after 4:50 p.m. www.scrd.ca/transfer-station



TARGET

Per Person, Per Day



When it's

Knowing how much water you use is the first step to water efficiency.

Join the community of over 900+ residents who get their monthly water use emailed to them each month. www.scrd.ca/water-use

Pender Harbour Satellite Office

12828 Lagoon Road, Madeira Park



Page 10

ric billing and user-pay rates).

Rainwater capture is the best way to obtain non-potable water for your personal use including cleaning and garden irrigation, typically with a large, above-ground storage container plumbed to your home's downspout and with a pressurized delivery system.

The SCRD offers grants to help establish a rainwater harvesting sys-

MARINE HIGHWAY

Ferry routes are often referred to as a marine highway, much like our 101 is referred to as a highway.

Government docks were built to access remote communities where foot and horse trails were the landbased highways and boats were the vehicles used for commerce and personal transportation.

Today, when modern highways can't be built to connect communities, ferry terminals have replaced many government docks.

The evolution of powers seems to indicate the provincial government is responsible for highways, roads, and ferry terminals in BC, while the federal government retains responsibility for linking the provinces through the trans-Canada network of highways and a few ferries.

This division of power seems to have evolved by accident, but was most likely through negotiations driven by political agendas.

The SCRD's involvement started in 2000, when the federal government no longer saw a need to be in the provincial marine transportation business, so started divesting government wharves to private owners, community groups, and local governments.

Faced with closing ports, the

SCRD unwisely assumed ownership of nine, and faces escalating costs for the maintenance and replacement of these aging facilities.

Docks designed to receive freight from steamships are not ideal for modern marine traffic, but these wharves cannot simply be abandoned as they remain critical for the delivery of emergency services to remote communities and for evacuation in a disaster.

Local taxpayers, already stressed by soaring housing costs and inflation, cannot continue shouldering the burden of BC's marine highways.

The SCRD has no appetite to add to its problematic portfolio, so Gambier Island now faces the potential loss of its privately owned dock at New Brighton, which provided essential public access between Gambier and the mainland for over a century in the form of ferry service, local moorage, and as the only year-round access point for basic and emergency services.

The community, with SCRD and other support, is requesting that the provincial government preserve the New Brighton dock as a critical transportation hub and lifeline for a small but growing community.

The SCRD is requesting that the province provide financial support for the planning, operation, and maintenance of ports.



JEFF GIRARD 604.740.7916



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July 2024 Page 11

Howard White: What's a writer?

Brian Lee

The subjects I was drawn to were often completely ordinary, but I was confident that I could find something extraordinary in their ordinariness.

I really believed that anything at all was worth writing about if you cared about it enough, and that the best and only necessary justification for writing any particular story was that I cared about it.

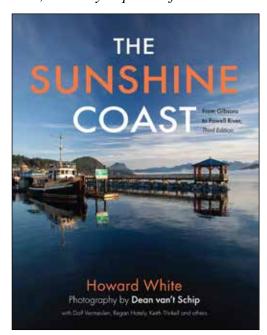
The challenge was to write these stories in a way that got other people as interested in them as I was.

- Susan Orlean

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Francis Peninsula's Harbour Publishing.

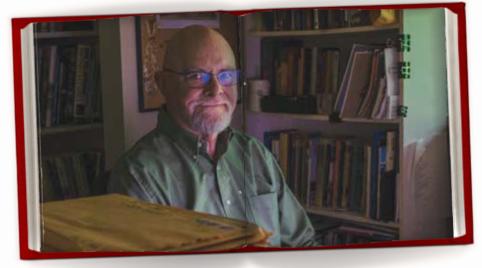
Howard and Mary White have published over 1,000 books since 1974 and, says Howard White, "We're selling more books than ever."

Think of classic BC books like Spilsbury's Coast, Raincoast Chronicles, the Encyclopedia of British



Harbour Publishing

A new edition of Howard White's 1996 classic, *The Sunshine Coast*, has recently landed on book store shelves. The book features updated photos by some of the Sunshine Coast's top photographers.



Zoë Mackenzie

Howard White in his Rondeview Road office.

Columbia and Fishing with John.

Then there are the hundreds of Harbour books that have established and celebrated BC's coastal history.

Regional and marine histories of Campbell River, Haida Gwaii, Burrard Inlet, Quadra Island, Texada Island, Sointula or the Union Steamships and Wahl boat builders.

You very likely have a Harbour book displayed on a shelf or coffee table somewhere in your home.

But if White is best known as a book publisher, he's almost as well known as a writer.

He's been an encouraging force behind hundreds of author's books but White has *only* written 11 himself.

He blames his publishing workload for not writing more and, at 79, hopes to knock out another book or three yet.

"It's actually the reason I got into publishing," White said.

"I always thought I would do more even though I have done a dozen or so books; it's not a patch on what I intended to write."

White's fascination with the printed word was sparked in an unlikely spot — his dad's logging camp in Nelson Island's Green Bay.

"Even though neither of my par-

ents finished high school, they were quite bookish people," he said.

"Especially my dad, he was sort of a homespun philosopher, and had, like, *The Origin of Species* and Adam Smith's *The Wealth of Nations* on his shelf.

"Every once in a while, I would hear him explaining to people what was in it. And me too.

"And so, I had the idea that books were something good."

As a lark, White and his sister Marilyn created a newspaper — *The Green Bay Log*.

Since he was 8 and she was 12, Marilyn was the editor who also hand drew the pages.

Like newspapers before and since, the *Log* focused on the resident scandals of Green Bay — who got drunk and who got pregnant.

"We couldn't help but notice what a big deal the grown-ups made of this silly little newspaper and how much more impact words had when they were written than if you just said them.

"And I guess that sort of stuck with me."

Though he still didn't look on writing as a potential career — White wanted to be a lawyer — a well-

Page 12

known teacher at Pender Harbour High saw promise in the kid.

Frances Fleming was awarded the Order of BC in 1997 for her inspirational teaching career.

The Sunshine Coast's school district awards the Frances Fleming Inspirational award annually to an individual or group who exemplifies Fleming's ability to inspire others in the education field.

Before he graduated in 1965, Fleming submitted samples of White's writing to UBC, opening the doors to a special class they had just created for aspiring writers.

It was taught by Earle Birney, twice winner of Canada's top literary honour, the Governor General's Award.

"I got to have a class from Canada's most famous poet as soon as I went into first year," White said.

"And so writing was just always in the back of my mind."

After graduating from UBC in 1969, he moved back to Pender Harbour along with a wave of hippies and Americans dodging Vietnam.

"Everybody was terribly upset about them," he recalls.

"The editor of the *Peninsula Times* at that time was a terrific right-winger named Doug Wheeler, and he sort of led the charge against the draft dodgers and the back-to-the-landers."

White said Wheeler defended an RCMP corporal who sicced dogs on some kids who were squatting in an old logging camp in Gibsons and chewed them up badly.

"Mary and I had a more modern outlook, and were kind of glad that new people with new ideas were coming into the area.

"So, we decided we'd start an underground newspaper to fight back against this prejudice.

"And that's how we got started July 2024 publishing."

The Whites published their first edition of the *Peninsula Voice* in 1970.

Like his Green Bay newspaper, it was an instant success.

The *Peninsula Voice* focused on local politics and initiatives like the one to build a medical clinic to replace St. Mary's Hospital in Garden Bay that closed in 1964.

It also hosted gossip.

From a regular column written by White, appropriately titled "Rumour City" in the Oct. 26, 1973 issue of the *Peninsula Voice*:

We know wolves don't eat people anymore but local wolf owner Richard Tomkies will assure they'll chomp in half just about anything else that wanders by.

When one of the Tomkies' piglets slipped out of its mother's pen and wandered off towards the wolf run the other day, there was a flash of awesome teeth and a shower of squeals, and that looked about it for the piglet.

Then there was a crash from the other side of the yard as the sow battered straight through her pole fence and snorted up the slope like a train, flipping the great terror of the north on his back like a leaf.

Junior escaped with slight damage and the sow with nary a scratch but the bewildered wolf has a bad cut on his neck.

It shouldn't affect his film career.

Tomkies, of course, are the young Middlepoint couple with two lovely little daughters who decided last winter to take one more chance, as Scotty McIntyre says, on getting one with a handle.

Last month, Val gave birth to twins — both girls.

Even after starting the newspaper, White hadn't yet acknowledged himself as a "writer."

"I was pumping out hundreds, if not thousands of words every month on deadline and not stopping to think too much about whether it was great literature or not," he said.

"Somewhere along there I probably started thinking, 'Hey, I'm getting away with this.'

"People stopped me on the street and either wanted to chew me out or compliment me, so, what I'm doing must be working — maybe I am a writer."

White says that is the crucial point every writer has to come to.

"They've got to stop dreaming,

(continued on p. 14)



Howard and Mary White's *Peninsula Voice* was printed in their garage on a massive hand fed printing press and ran from 1970 until 1974, the year they founded Harbour Publishing.

What's a writer? (cont.)

(continued from p. 13)

and thinking about ideas and rejecting them, and just start getting it down on paper and publishing it."

By 1974, the Whites were winding down the paper and winding up what would become Harbour Publishing.

Harbour burst on the BC publishing scene with a focus on rural living reflecting the back-to-the-land movement of the time.

The first edition of the *Raincoast* Chronicles sold 3,000 copies in three months giving the young couple the confidence to keep pursuing their publishing habit.

When he could find the time, White contributed stories to Raincoast Chronicles and every few years managed to scratch out a book of his own.

That perspective as writer, editor and publisher deepened his understanding of the process of writing.

BOOKS WRITTEN BY HOWARD WHITE

- · A Hard Man to Beat (1983, with Bill White)
- · The Men There Were Then (1983, poems)
- Spilsbury's Coast (1987, with Jim Spilsbury)
- The Accidental Airline (1988, with Jim Spilsbury)
- · Patrick and the Backhoe (children's, with Bus Griffiths)
- · Writing in the Rain (1990, collection)
- Ghost in the Gears (1993, poems)
- The Sunshine Coast (1996, travel)
- The Airplane Ride (2006, children's)
- · A Mysterious Humming Noise (2019, poems)
- Here on the Coast (2021, stories)

Now, White estimates that he receives 3,000 manuscripts a year.

"I'm always amazed by the total variety of people we get," he said.

"Some are professors where half of their manuscript is footnotes and nobody would ever understand what they're talking about except another professor in their specialty."

"And then we once had a book written in pencil crayon from somebody with an intellectual challenge who went to a special school and could barely write, but had read a romance novel and decided she would write her own Harlequin style romance about her own imaginary love life.

"The odd thing was that it was all sort of poetic.

"And it was incredibly moving." White says they published Mentally Handicapped Love and sold

10,000 copies.

If that's one edge of the manuscript spectrum, another is "all the people writing memoirs of their chicken farm in the Kootenays or their fun life flying bush planes."

More often, White is getting submissions from authors aiming to become professional writers.

"They've taken an MFA in creative writing, and they've done all the things that people have told them that you need to do to become a career writer," he said.

"They're not necessarily any more interesting than the chicken farmer but people come at it from all different directions."

In 1990, White wrote Writing in the Rain, a collection of stories tied together by an unglamorous main character — the soggy BC Coast.

Stories of growing up in Green Bay to his adventures transporting fish farm morts (smelly, liquified dead fish) along the Sunshine Coast Highway resonated with people.

It went on to win the Stephen Leacock Award for Humour, putting him in the company of past winners that include his former professor,



Earle Birney (1950), Pierre Berton (1960), Farley Mowat (1970) and Mordecai Richler (1998).

When he's working with writers, White says one of the hardest things to get them to do is to write like they talk.

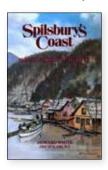
"I would run into a really great storyteller like Jim Spilsbury.

"But if I asked him to write the stories himself, it would all come out in sort of, you know, very stiff Victorian school book grammar.

"And all the fun and excitement of his verbal storytelling would be lost.

"So, the only way I could capture his excellent storytelling ability was to tape him and let him just get relaxed and start talking so he was just regaling his buddies."

That book, Spilsbury's Coast, was published in 1987 and went on to sell over 30,000 copies.



(That's a lot for a regional BC publisher.)

White was convinced early on that vernacular speech, or the way people normally talk, was incredibly powerful

on paper.

"That's where a lot of the power of creative writing is hidden, and getting an ear for real people's dialogue is half the battle in creating good creative writing."

> But, if that's half the battle, Harbour Spiel

what's the other half?

"All I can say is that some mornings you wake up, and everything you look at is a story.

"So, the material, the stories are all around us every day and you just need to see the potential in it.

"So many great writers, like Alice Munro, she doesn't write about dramatic life-changing experiences.

"She writes about people sitting around the kitchen table talking and lying to each other and capturing all the drama of ordinary life.

"And yet she wrote great, great literature.

"But she had the eye to see where the story is in everyday happenings and getting that eye is the other half — that's the trick of being a writer."

White's writing career is so entwined with his publishing accomplishments that even he doesn't know exactly which he keeps receiving awards for.

He has been awarded the Order of BC, the Canadian Historical Association's Career Award for Regional History, the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour, the Jim Douglas Publisher of the Year Award and an Honorary Doctorate of Laws degree from the University of Victoria.

In 2007, White was made an Officer of the Order of Canada.

"A lot of people who want to be writers misunderstand the role or don't realize the potential of writing," he said.

"I mean, they all come to me with this idea that they want to write a novel or a memoir and get on the *New York Times* bestseller list.

"But you know, my career has been in being somebody who recognizes a fairly small community and sort of dedicated their life to not only July 2024 writing but publishing to serve that small community.

"Very few writers start out with that kind of an ambition — it's sort of an old-fashioned idea.

"But I found it really worked for me and the feedback from the public has been very tangible."

Feedback is useful to any developing writer but for White, it also provided him with the satisfaction to keep going.

"When I go to a place like Port Hardy or Refuge Cove or somewhere like that, they say, 'Oh, I've been wanting to meet you.'

"You know, I feel like a rock star.

"And it makes you realize that, actually, these words that you've been churning out have been important to people, and it's a good feeling."

"I just wish more writing schools would tell their students that there's a far greater need at the local community level for writers to go out and describe people's lives — to be of use by reporting news and interpreting their experiences.

"If I was teaching a writing class, that would be my message."

Of the thousands of manuscript submissions he receives each year, White says only one per cent is commercially publishable.

"There is a universal impulse to want to write and I'm glad there is.

"It's a very worthy form of creativity and self-expression and lots of our best books have been from people who only did that once and wrote one story about their own experience."

When he ponders what that one per cent had in common, or, what makes good writing, White says it would be just getting over one's self-consciousness and writing in their own voice.

"I think Hemingway said some-

SAMPLE

I have the constant urge alright
And I don't think that's anything special
Because I have known so many to have it
Bookless old loggers
Sentimental hairdressers
An intellectually challenged teen
Too many professors to count

But it's the doing that does me in Sitting before the blank screen Wondering where all the ideas went A special kind of pain Knowing life is out there flowing by Like the Mississippi River In flood, houses, pickup trucks Whole barns swooshing by

I think of all the spectacles missed
All the hilarious moments
Cute baby sayings
Tragic failings of age
The very shape of our times
Glimpsed finally like
A long train going round a curve
Material enough to form a continent
And me able only to retrieve
A few bits now and them
Which nevertheless
Brings great satisfaction
And not a few shouts of encouragement

From Howard White's 2019 poetry collection, A Mysterious Humming Noise (Anvil Press)



thing along the lines of, 'The hardest thing to learn is how to be yourself,' said White.

"And, I agree — most of the writing we get that's flawed is because people are speaking in an artificial way.

"They think that's an improvement over their real voice, but it's not.

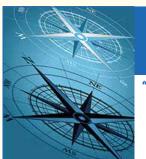
"It'd be better if they just said what they think in their own words."

Unfortunately, for the aspiring writer, "to become relaxed enough about the process that you can actually do that, takes forever."

"And, I think I'm still gaining on that after all these years."

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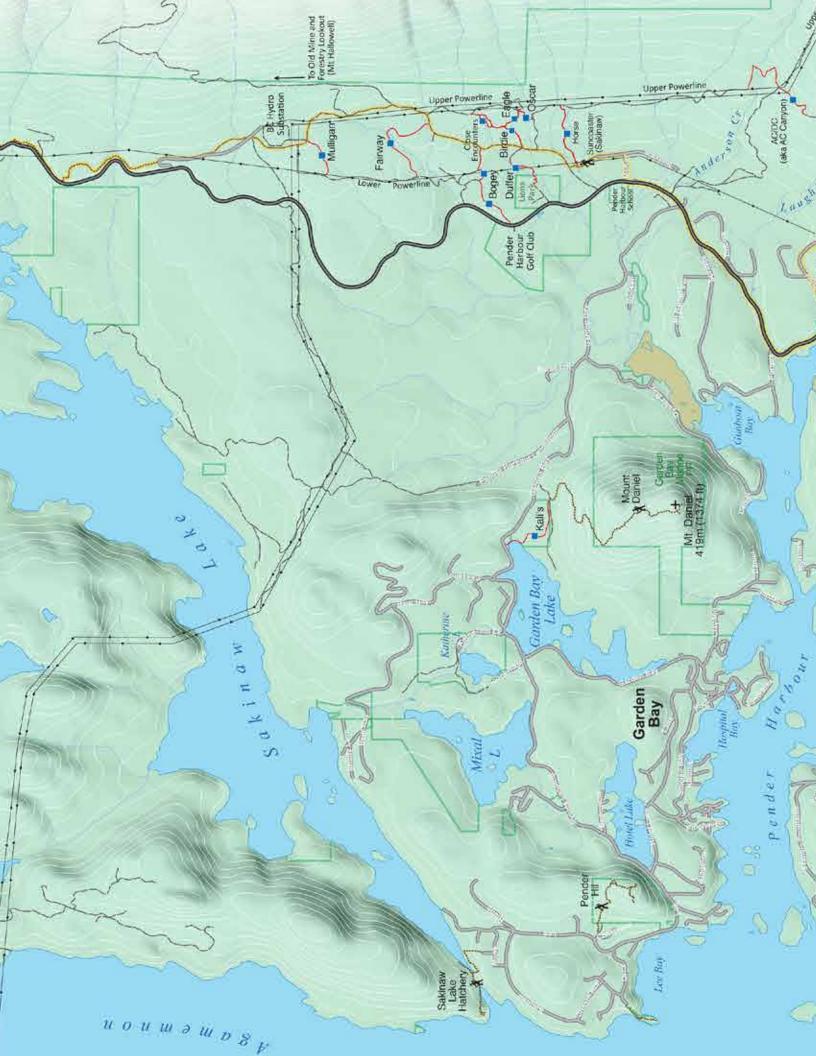
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Page 17

July 2024





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July 2024 Page 21



DATE-TIME-SIZE (small, medium, large, extra large)

EBB (-), FLOOD (+) - Standing wave is best on large flood (tide flowing into Sechelt Inlet).

- 1. 7:30 AM -XL, 2:34 PM +L
- 2. 9:23 AM -XL, 3:44 PM +XL
- 3. 10:23 AM -XL, 4:46 PM +XL
- 4. 11:16 AM -XL, 5:40 PM +XL
- 5. 12:06 PM -XL, 6:34 PM +XL
- 6. 12:52 PM -XL, 7:10 PM +XL
- 7. 1:25 PM -XL, 7:48 PM +XL
- 8. 1:13 PM -XL, 8:21 PM +XL
- 9. 1:35 PM -L, 8:49 PM +XL
- 10. 7:40 AM +S, 2:08 PM -L
- 11. 8:58 AM +S, 2:49 PM -L
- 13. 10:31 AM +S, 3:28 PM -M
- 14. 11:39 AM +S, 4:31 PM -S
- 14. 12:52 PM +M, 6:05 PM -S
- 15. 2:07 PM +L
- 16. 6:06 AM -L, 3:10 PM +L
- 17. 6:44 AM -L, 4:06 PM +L
- 18. 8:18 AM -XL, 4:59 PM +XL
- 19. 9:37 AM -XL, 5:47 PM +XL
- 20. 10:31 AM -XL, 6:32 PM +XL
- 21. 11:15 AM -XL, 7:12 PM +XL
- 22. 11:57 AM -XL, 7:46 PM +XL
- 23. 12:38 PM -XL, 8:14 PM +XL
- **24.** 6:53 AM +M, **1:33 PM -XL**
- 25. 7:57 AM +M, 2:13 PM -XL
- 26. 9:14 AM +M,3:11 PM -L
- 27. 10:30 AM +M, 4:08 PM -M
- 28. 11:52 AM +L, 5:31 PM -S
- 29. 1:15 PM +L, 6:55 PM -S
- 30. 7:33 AM -XL, 2:35 PM +XL
- 31. 9:06 AM -XL, 3:38 PM +XL

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.



POPULATION

5.5 million

BC's current population

7.9 million

BC's population forecast by 2046.

4.9 million

The population of the Lower Mainland is forecast to more than double by 2046 to 4.9 million people — driv- **85.8 and 89.6** en primarily by migration.

78%

Percentage of new immigrants to BC who settled in Metro Vancouver between 2016 and 2021.

3%

The percentage by which BC's population grew between July 1, 2022 and July 1, 2023 — the highest annual growth rate since 1974.

1/5

As of 2022, people aged 65 and up accounted for nearly one in five British Columbia residents.

1.11

BC's fertility rate of 1.11 (children per birth parent) is well below the national average of 1.33, and the lowest in Canada in 2022. Since 2021, the number of deaths in BC has exceeded the number of births for the first time in the province's history.

Canadians' life expectancy is projected to increase over the coming decades to as high as 85.8 years for men and 89.6 years for women by 2041.

~ BC Stats report, Jan. 2024

JULY WEATHER

TEMPERATURES (Sechelt)

Our average daily high temperature is 24° C and low is 13° C. The highest July temperature recorded is 34.4° C (2022) and the lowest is 9° C (July 1, 1979).

JULY PRECIPITATION (Merry Island)

July averages seven days with rainfall with a total of 41.5 mm. July has an average of 283 hours of bright sunshine. The highest daily rainfall recorded in July is 37.1 mm back on July 19, 1968. Total rainfall for the month averages 41.5 mm.

JULY ASTROLOGY



CANCER: JUNE 21 - JULY 22

Those born under the sign of the crab value security and enjoy the safety and comfort of familiar surroundings and activities. July presents an undetermined

challenge to your lifestyle. Since Saturn will be present in your eighth house while the Sun and Venus will hold court in your twelfth house, space is going to be tight. Pets will suffer. Go into the month with an open mind and be prepared to shed excess baggage in the form of stale relationships and neurotic tendencies. By July 16, things become clear.



LEO: JULY 23 - AUGUST 22

Lions are idealists and romantics, honndividualistic, they are usually stylish, charismatic and flamboyant. This month, love someone,

anyone, and see that love returned tenfold. Leos enjoy drama-fuelled romance and this month, your tabloid-style love life is off the charts. Avoid photographic evidence of your libidinous antics and use protection. Financially, this is not a good time for you. Avoid all non-essential purchases until July 23. After that, resume your vapid consumerism.

BC BESTSELLERS

For the week ending June 15

The BC bestseller list uses sales data from over 80 independent bookstores in BC representing sales of BC published books released within the calendar year.

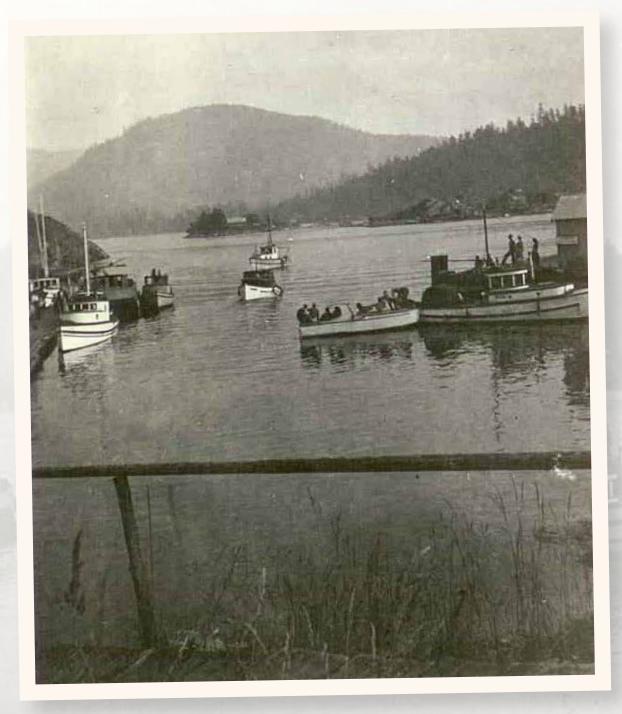
- by Iona Whishaw (TouchWood Editions)
- 2. Beneath the Surface of Things: New and Selected Essays by Wade Davis (Greystone Books)
- 3. Always On Call: Adventures in Nursing, Ranching, and Rural Living by Marion McKinnon Crook (Heritage House Publishing)
- 4. Untold Tales of Old BC by Daniel Marshall (Ronsdale Press) Jess Housty (Nightwood
- 5. Points of Interest: In Search of the Places, People, and **Stories of BC** by David Beers & andrea bennett (Greystone Books)

- 1. Lightning Strikes the Silence 6. The Last Logging Show: A Forestry Family at the End of an Era by Aaron Williams (Harbour Publishing)
 - 7. Mushrooms Know: Wisdom From Our Friends the Fungi by Kallie George (Greystone
 - 8. A Flock of Gulls, a Chorus of Frogs by Lucky Budd, illustrated by Roy Henry Vickers (Harbour Publishing)
 - 9. Crushed Wild Mint by Editions)
 - 10. Backpacking on Vancouver Island by Taryn Eyton (Greystone Books)

~ Association of Book Publishers of BC

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- July 1: **Glenn Vincent**.
- July 2: Richard Massullo.
- July 3: Loy Haase and Roy LaFave.
- July 4: Stephanie Phillips.
- July 5: Ali Fraser, Wendy Lowings, Rick Marzolf and Andrew Vickers.
- July 6: Holly Seabrook and Bryce Viitanen.
- July 7: Lyn Charlton, Cypher Clerx, Shaun Georgison and Alexa Dornbierer.
- July 9: Silas White and Danielle Silvey.
- July 10: Tanner Haase, Don Johnson, Carol Logtenberg, Beau Sladey, Sage Robson, Candy Whittaker and Maureen
- July 11: Brittany Bouvette and Skinny Jimmy Dougan.
- July 12: Bill Jack.
- July 13: Steve Morris, Amy Coombes and Daron Petraschuk.
- July 14: Malcolm Ingram.
- July 15: Ty Campbell, Devin Hollis and Fred Baldwin.
- July 16: Jane McOuat, Shelly Brown, Danielle Gough and Jodee Young.
- July 17: Amanda Civitareale.
- July 18: Maxine Gilkes and Lisa Johnston.
- July 19: Wade Lailar.
- July 20: Dwight Young and Grace Pazur.
- July 21: Eric Phillips, Karen Purnell and Marlayne Williams.
- July 22: Buck Rice, Lee Walters, Mike Zacharias, Christina Wharton, Wyatt Baldwin and Tiffany Baldwin.
- July 23: Brody Pantages.
- July 24: Paige Coombes and Renee Harper.
- July 25: Adam Dornbierer.
- July 26: Chris Schroeder.
- July 28: Kevin Farrell, Keith Mackie and Rick Wagner Sr.
- July 29: Randy Edwardson, Connie Sutherland and Tucker Pantages.
- July 30: Darlene Fowlie, Robert Hynd, Shane McCune and Marvin Wutzke.
- July 31: Hugh Baird, Parker Hohn, Dave Mackay, Bonny Shotropa and Ron Sim.



Fred Brooks photo collection

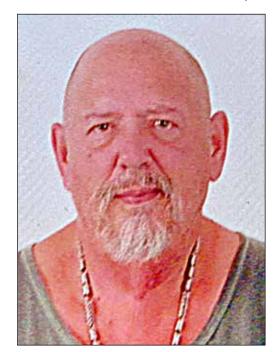
Irvines Landing circa 1940s

The post-war years saw a population boom in Pender Harbour. Though family homes had begun to appear throughout the Harbour in Garden Bay, Francis Peninsula and Madeira Park, Irvines Landing was still the centre of commerce for Pender Harbour.

According to figures gleaned from provincial gazetteers (census figures were unavailable) in Women of Pender Harbour, in 1935, there were about 200 residents listed in the Harbour area. By the early 1940s, that number rose to 350 and by 1948, there were about 950 residents.

Page 24 Harbour Spiel

Thomas Earl Gudbranson SEPTEMBER 2, 1945 — MAY 13, 2024



Earl Gudbranson was born in Winnipeg, Man., in 1945 to parents Gordon and May.

He had three brothers — Gill, the oldest, and Doug and Fred, both now deceased.

Gudbranson had two sons, Jason and Kristian and two grandchildren, Hayden and Keira (father Jason).

Gudbranson, or Gudge, worked at Air Canada for 35 years before retiring.

He enjoyed travelling, camping fishing and working on vehicles, especially his 1966 Thunderbird.

He will be missed by all.

A celebration of his life will be announced at a later date.

seals



Note a Seal of Approval or Seal of Disapproval. By email only: editor@harbourspiel.com. Include full name and telephone number. (Editor will edit for length.)

A gallery full of Harbour Seals of Approval to June Malaka and friends, for supporting the young artists at Pender Harbour Elementary Secondary School with the show at the Harbour Gallery.

All of your help was very much appreciated.

Shari Fader

Harbour Seals of Approval to Allen Phillips and Eaves To Earth **Property Maintenance** for helping Pender Harbour Better at Home remove yard waste for our elderly participants.

Everyone sure appreciated your reliable and helpful service.

Haida Bolton

Pender Harbour Better At Home

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July 2024

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JOE STANTONSat, July 13, 5pm - Backeddy Pub

EDDY EDRIK

Sat, July 13, 5pm - Aquis es Mexico

SEAN PETERS

Sun, July 14, 1pm - Backeddy Pub

EDDY EDRIK

Sun, July 14, 2pm - P. H. Golf Club

EDDY EDRIK

Fri, July 19, 6pm - Legion 112

JOE STANTON

Sat, July 20, 5pm - Backeddy Pub

EDDY EDRIK

Sat, July 20, 5pm - Aquis es Mexico

EDDY EDRIK

Sun, July 21, 2pm - P. H. Golf Club

EDDY EDRIK

Fri, July 26, 6pm - Legion 112

JOE STANTON

Sat, July 27, 5pm - Backeddy Pub

EDDY EDRIK

Sat, July 27, 5pm - Aquis es Mexico

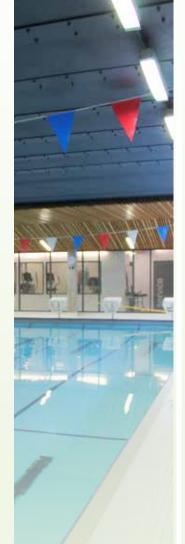
SEAN PETERS

Sun, July 28, lpm - Backeddy Pub

EDDY EDRIK

Sun, July 28, 2pm - P. H. Golf Club

Email live music events to: music@harbourspiel.com



PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

www.scrd.ca/pender-pool

REGISTER FOR SUMMER PROGRAMS!

Summer camps for kids, swim lessons, aquatic leadership classes, exercise programs and more:

Online: www.scrd.ca/recreation

By phone: 604-885-6801 (ext. 6691)

In person at: • P. H. Aquatic & Fitness Centre • Sechelt Aquatic Centre

• Gibsons and Area Community Centre

HOURS OF OPERATION: Effective June 29 to July 26

New earlier weekday start time!

Monday to Friday 7am – 1pm

Saturday **CLOSED**

Sunday CLOSED

FACILITY CLOSURE FOR ANNUAL MAINTENANCE July 27 to Sept. 2

FITNESS CLASSES



MYPASS DROP-IN

- Land Meets Water
 Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10am
- Mix It Up Thursdays, 8:45am
- Aquafit
 Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 9am

20m, 4-lane pool hot tub, sauna, gym & weight room

PENDER HARBOUR

AQUATIC & FITNESS
CENTRE

On lower level of P. H. Secondary School:

13639 S.C. Hwy. 604 885-6801

www.scrd.ca/recreation

REGISTERED PROGRAMS

- Iron Goddess: Women's Weight Training Monday at 11:45am
- Beginner Total Body & Core: Monday or Thursday at 1pm







PENDER HARBOUR SENIORS INITIATIVE

Sponsored by: **Smart Fund**



HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsored by:

P. H. Health Centre & P. H. Health Auxiliary

FOR INFORMATION OR TRANSPORTATION,

CALL MARLENE: (604) 883-9900

Seniors activities for July!

HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIPS: Thursday drop-in, 10:30am - 1pm

In the Pender Harbour Community Hall. Lunch will be served at 12pm. Cost: \$10 pp.

July 4 - Music with Joan & Ted Woodard (10:45am - noon)

July 11 – Road trip and garden tour at GeoPia's followed by lunch at Earls Cove. (Register to reserve a ride.)

July 18 - Experts from TD Bank will do a presentation on fraud.

July 25 - Free lunch plus April Struthers with a presentation on "ageism." All welcome.

CARPET BOWLING: Wednesdays, July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall,1-3 pm. Cost \$3.

CHAIR YOGA: Mondays & Fridays, July 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26 & 29

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall 11am –12pm with Carole Logtenberg. Improve your balance, strength & flexibility with gentle moves. Cost: \$3.

CHAIR YOGA: Wednesdays, July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31

At the Sarah Wray Hall from 11–12pm. Improve your balance, strength & flexibility with gentle moves with Carole Logtenberg. Cost: \$3

Page 27



4. What was the last year of the Pender Harbour Jazz Festival?
□ a. 2012 □ b. 2015 □ c. 2018
 d. 2021 Which is not a former or present name of the lumber/hardware store in Madeira Park?
□ a. AC Rentals and Building Supplies□ b. Harbour Lumber□ c. Curtis Lumber□ d. Rona Coast Builders
6. Which is the name of a large Egmont family. a. Silvey b. Cameron c. Reid d. Edwardson

Answers: p. 34 Two-plus: **Newbie** Less than two: Townie

<u>Pender Boat Storage</u>	
Moving Corp.	

Four-plus: Local

- **BOAT MOVING**
 - (up to 42 feet)
- **WINTERIZING**

(flushing, hull wash etc.)

■ PRE-SEASON PREP

(paint, zincs, filter changes etc.)

■ CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOCAL SERVICES TO MEET CUSTOMERS' OFF-SEASON NEEDS

(detailers, mechanics, fibreglassing etc.)

■ YEAR-ROUND SECURE BOAT STORAGE

(24 hour, on-site caretaker)

= 604.741-5161

■ penderstorage@gmail.com ■

Local heroes and the Pender Harbour food bank

Joka Wright

The Pender Harbour Food Bank has been operating since 1996, or so I'm told.

The names of the people who started the food bank may be lost to time and I'm sure there are enough Pender Harbour veterans who could tell me food bank stories, but I don't need to know their names.

Heroes don't care to be mentioned, but I know who they are.

The beginning of the food bank started in a humble place — someone's garage.

It was before my time here but I can imagine them lifting the garage door on a food bank day and asking, "What do you need?"

The nonperishable stores were probably stored in cardboard boxes on a cement floor, and there might have been one of those large chest freezers stuffed with locally caught fish.

Some would come to collect food because they'd run short or lost a job, or the breadwinner was ill. Then, as now, there were many reasons people sought help.

But times have changed.

Addiction and mental health issues have come to the forefront.

Today's concerns also include new immigrants or those newly retired without pensions or retired with pensions that don't cover the bills, illnesses and single parent-families.

While the reasons stay the same, the demands are always increasing.

On an average food bank Monday, the Pender food bank receives 56 visitors.

They are families, couples (two persons in a household), and folks living alone.

In total that will add up to approximately 120 persons served.

We don't keep tight records but have a simple policy — whoever comes to Madeira Park's Community Church in need, we do our best to

These numbers are growing constantly and the challenge to feed so many people is becoming relentless.

Besides those who show up, there are others who don't want to be recognized as being in need.

So, each food bank Monday we prepare 12 "blessing box" hampers to stock up the three blessing boxes around Pender Harbour — in Egmont, Garden Bay and Madeira Park.

This brings me back to the heroes, the community members who quietly go about their own business.

They collect non-perishable food items and refill the blessing boxes, which are under heavy demand.

These people are all retired but have a passion for doing what they love, so they keep on working and everything they earn, they donate to the food bank.

I can think of a retired logger who donates all his firewood proceeds to the food bank.

I also have a gardener in mind, a person with all fingers and thumbs green; all of his blooms and vegetable proceeds are gratefully accepted.

There is an artist who opens his garden full of colour and creativity to the viewing public throughout the

summer months with all donations supporting the food bank.

There is a parking lot on Lagoon Road offered up during community events where donations are accepted.

We joke around the food bank that these people are employees of the food bank, except their wages come directly to us, not to themselves.

Summertime brings colour and beautiful vegetables to many gardens.

Those in the community that plant a row for the food bank are also of hero status.

Throughout the growing season we appreciate all fresh garden gifts, as they add more variety and bounty to the food bank hampers.

Heroes are rare these days, but we at the food bank are grateful for everyone of them.



- Multi-material recyclingBeverage container refund centre

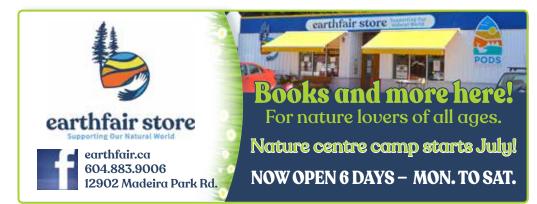
Plus, recycling of:

- Small appliances and electronics
 Household batteries
 Light bulbs and paint

Hwy. 101 & Menacher Rd.

OPEN: 8:30am to 3:30pm CLOSED: WEDNESDAYS &

STATUTORY HOLIDAYS



July 2024 Page 29



www.penderharbourhealth.com

High quality, team-based health care for the people of Pender Harbour and surrounding area.

NURSING SERVICES: (604) 883-2764

RNs are on duty 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. weekdays

- Blood tests ECGs Injections Blood pressure
- Home/Palliative care Dressings Holter Monitors

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE: (604) 883-2764

Alternate Thursdays, 10am - 12 noon

- Well Baby Clinic
- Child and Adult Immunizations

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER: (604) 984-5070

Annaliese Hasler, NP Tuesdays, 9:30am – 3pm

• Women and Youth Health Services

PHYSICIANS: (604) 883-2764

• By appointment, Tuesday & Thursdays only

DENTISTRY: (604) 883-2997

Dr. Robert Hynd, Dr. Lisa Virkela, Dr. Endre Sinkovics Darlene Fowlie – Hygienist Monika Miller – Hygienist Rosa Seda – Hygienist

- Braces Cosmetic Dentistry Surgical Extractions
- Restorative Dental Care Consulting Implants

BETTER AT HOME PROGRAM: (604) 212-2232

Haida Bolton – Program Co-ordinator Helping Seniors Remain Independent

• Email: betterathome@penderharbourhealth.com

Supplementary services:

HEARING CLINIC: (604) 885-0155

Hear on the Coast, Terra Dannes Registered Hearing Instrument Practitioner

- Full diagnostic hearing evaluations
- Fitting & maintenance of hearing instruments

FOOT CARE NURSE: (778) 244-8503

Alene Barry

Foot care nursing

REFLEXOLOGY: (604) 740-2890

Heel 'n Sole Reflexology - Sharon Gilchrist Reed

Reflexology services

COUNSELLING SERVICES

(604) 885-6101 ext. 4422

Ongoing:

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome.

TEENS' DROP IN CLINIC

Offered every Tuesday between 3 and 5 p.m.

LOAN CUPBOARD

Crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, commodes, raised toilet seats etc.

DIABETES & DIETICIAN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Weekly on Thursdays – call to book an appointment

CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Weekly on Wednesdays – call for an appointment.

ADULT DAY PROGRAM

Dementia caregiver support group. Call (604) 883-2764.



THE SUNSHINE COAST HOSPICE SOCIETY

Compassionate, respectful end-of-life and bereavement care. Whether you want to talk with one person or to join a bereavement group, trained volunteers are available. (604) 883-2764.

A non-profit society governed by local volunteers dedicated to the health and wellness needs of our community.

Local health matters

Primary care physician and nursing services at the Pender Harbour Health Centre

The Pender Harbour Health Centre leadership has recently received questions from the community related to access to primary care services at the health centre — what services exist, who can access these services and how patients can access them.

We wanted to use this opportunity to answer some questions and provide some clarity.

PHYSICIAN SERVICES

At present, the PHHC has one part time doctor, namely Dr. Bazilli who is currently attached to around 450 patients.

- Clinic Days: Tuesday and Thursday from 8am to 12pm.
- How to schedule an appointment: Call 604-883-2764 from 8am on Tuesday and Thursday, staff schedule based on need.
- Appointments offered: In person and virtual, based on need.
- Who can see the doctor: Patients who were connected to Dr Sutton who have not been connected to a new doctor.

GENERAL CLINIC SERVICES

The PHHC offers clinic services on site which are staffed by our team of experienced registered nurses.

- Clinic Days: Monday to Friday, from 8:20am to 3:40pm
- Services offered: IV therapy, wound care, ECG tracings, bloodwork, immunizations, laboratory service and walk-in emergencies (work related injury, heart attack, stroke etc.).
- Who can schedule an appointment: Any patient, if they have a blood requisition or need wound care, dressing changes or any of the above services.
- How to schedule an appointment: Call 604-883-2764 from 8am

Presently there is a one-week wait for appointments.

• Important Information: You do not have to be connected to the PHHC physician to access our clinic.

SPECIALIZED CLINICS

The PHHC and our nursing team are proud to offer the following specialized clinic services.

You do not need to be referred by a physician to access the following clinics, simply call the PHHC reception at 604-883-2764 for more information, to schedule an appointment or drop in, if appropriate:

Diabetes Clinic

• When: By appointment every

Thursday from 9.30am-5pm.

• Who can access: Any patient in our community who has been diagnosed with diabetes or is at risk of diabetes.

Patients can also be referred by their family practitioner.

• Information: This clinic is staffed by our registered nurse and a dietitian (free of charge).

Chronic Disease Management Clinic

- When: By appointment.
- Who can access: Any patient who has a chronic health condition including COPD and heart disease.

Patients can also be referred by their family practitioner.

• Information: Patients accessing CDM can also access the dietitian free of charge.

Youth Heath Clinic

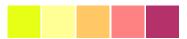
- When: Drop in every Tuesday, 3pm 5pm.
- Who can access: Any youth (12-25) in community.

Further to the above we look forward to launching the Primary Care Network at the PHHC this year which will bring more primary care providers and services to the community.

Watch for updates in the Harbour Spiel.

Cooler colour codes indicate lower tides. For kayaks and small boats accessing Canoe Pass (Beaver Island), these colour codes (right) indicate what should usually provide sufficient depth for passage. Note: variability occurs due to barometric pressure, wind conditions, etc.

Canoe Pass:



July	4414	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM		7AM	8AM	0.414	40.414	44.000	Noon	1PM	2PM	3РМ	4PM	5PM		7PM	8PM	9PM	40DM	11PM	42414
Mon 01	15 8		14.4			6AM	5.6		9AM 3.7	4.1	5.2	6.9						6PM 12.7						
Tue 02						=	6.1	4.1	2.8		3.2	4.6	6.7	8.9				14.2						
Wed 03						=	7.3	4.8	2.9		1.8	2.8	4.6	7.0				14.9						
Thu 04								6.2	3.8		1.3	1.6	2.9	5.0				14.7						
Fri 05	12.8	13.4	14.0	14.2	13.9	12.5	10.4	7.8	5.3	3.1	1.7	1.2	1.8	3.4	5.8	8.7	11.5	13.8	15.4	15.9	15.5	14.6	13.5	12.7
Sat 06	12.3	12.5	13.1	13.6	13.8	13.2	11.8	9.6	7.1	4.7	2.7	1.6	1.4	2.4	4.3	6.9	9.8	12.5	14.6	15.8	15.9	15.2	14.2	13.0
Sun 07	12.2	11.9	12.2	12.8	13.3	13.4	12.7	11.1	8.9	6.5	4.3	2.6	1.8	2.0	3.3	5.5	8.2	11.0	13.5	15.2	15.9	15.6	14.7	13.5
Mon 08	12.4	11.6	11.5	11.9	12.5	12.9	12.9	12.1	10.5	8.4	6.1	4.2	2.9	2.4	3.0	4.6	6.9	9.6	12.2	14.3	15.5	15.7	15.1	14.1
Tue 09	12.8	11.7	11.0	11.1	11.5	12.1	12.5	12.4	11.6	10.0	8.0	6.0	4.4	3.5	3.4	4.3	6.1	8.5	11.0	13.3	14.9	15.6	15.3	14.5
Wed 10	13.2	11.9	10.8	10.4	10.6	11.1	11.7	12.1	12.0	11.1	9.7	8.0	6.3	5.1	4.5	4.7	5.9	7.8	10.1	12.3	14.1	15.2	15.3	14.7
Thu 11	13.6	12.2	10.9	10.0	9.7	9.9	10.5	11.2	11.6	11.5	10.8	9.7	8.3	7.0	6.1	5.8	6.4	7.7	9.5	11.5	13.3	14.6	15.1	14.8
Fri 12	13.8	12.5	11.0	9.8	9.0	8.8	9.2	9.9	10.6	11.1	11.2	10.8	9.9	8.9	8.0	7.4	7.4	8.1	9.4	11.1	12.7	14.0	14.7	14.7
Sat 13	14.0	12.8	11.3	9.8	8.6	7.9	7.9	8.4	9.2	10.1	10.8	11.1	11.0	10.5	9.8	9.2	8.9	9.1	9.8	10.9	12.2	13.4	14.2	14.5
Sun 14	14.1	13.0	11.6	9.9	8.4	7.3	6.8	6.9	7.6	8.5	9.6	10.6	11.3	11.4	11.2	10.9	10.5	10.3	10.5	11.1	12.0	12.9	13.7	14.1
Mon 15	14.0	13.2	11.9	10.2	8.5	7.0	6.1	5.7	6.0	6.8	8.0	9.3	10.5	11.5	12.1	12.2	12.0	11.6	11.5	11.5	12.0	12.6	13.3	13.7
Tue 16						7.1	5.7	4.8	4.7	5.2	6.2	7.7	9.3					12.9						
Wed 17						7.5	5.7	4.4	3.7	3.8	4.6	6.0	7.8					13.9						
Thu 18						=	6.3	4.5	3.2		3.0	4.2	5.9					14.6						
Fri 19						$\underline{}$	7.4		3.4		1.9	2.5	4.0					14.7						
Sat 20									4.3	2.5	1.4	1.3	2.3					14.2						
Sun 21						$\underline{}$				3.6	1.8	1.0	1.2		4.9			13.3						
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Wed 24						\equiv						\equiv						=						
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Tue 30						=						7.2						13.5						
Wed 31						=						5.3						14.6						
MEG 21	17.0	17.7	13.3	11.5	7.5	7.0	7.7	J. 1	2.0	2.7	3.7	ر.ی	/ . 1	7.1	11.0	13.4	17.7	17.0	17.2	13.0	13.0	12.0	12.7	13.7



Heather Til



Lyn Charlton

Though the forecast was poor, the weather turned excellent for the 'Christmas in June' Legion Motorcycle Run on June 15. Approximately 80 toys were donated along with \$475 to benefit the Spreading Kindness fundraiser in aid of local children and families in need at Christmas and all year long. The ride started at the Royal Canadian Legion in Madeira Park with stops at John Henry's, Sechelt Legion and the Lighthouse Pub before ending at the Gibsons Legion.



OPEN YOUR

First Home Savings Account

This Canadian Government registered plan is designed specifically to help you save for your first home, tax-free.

When you open an FHSA with Sunshine Coast Credit Union and start making deposits, it activates a contribution towards Affordable Housing Initiatives in the Community, fostering a healthier housing economy for all.

Now that's a full-circle moment!

Time for a Full-Circle Moment.



GET STARTED AT sunshineccu.digital/FHSA

*Terms and conditions apply, see website for details.

July 2024 Page 33

Calendar listings are provided free of charge by the Harbour Spiel. Send information to editor@harbourspiel.com by the 15th of the month. For live music listings, see p. 15.

JULY

Sun. June 30......Sarah Wray Hall 10th anniversary open house - Sarah Wray Hall, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Mon. July 1......Canada Day

Tues. July 2.......Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon

Thu. July 4......SCRD board policy review committee - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.

Thu. July 4.........Harbourside Friendships drop-in (w/Joan & Ted) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Thu. July 11......SCRD committee of the whole meeting - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.

Thu. July 11......SCRD regular board meeting - SCRD boardroom, 1:30 p.m.

Thu. July 11......Harbourside Friendships drop-in (GeoPia's) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Fri. July 12.....SoM Coffeehouse - P. H. School of Music, 7 pm.

Mon. July 15......Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon

Thu. July 18......SCRD electoral Area Services Committee - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.

Thu. July 18......Harbourside Friendships drop-in (fraud talk) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Thu. July 25......SCRD committee of the whole meeting - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.

Thu. July 25......Harbourside Friendships drop-in (ageism talk) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Thu. July 25......SCRD regular board meeting - SCRD boardroom, 1:30 p.m.

Sat. July 27......Pender Harbour Aquatic Centre closes until Sept. 2 for maintenance

Mon. July 29......Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon

Fri. Aug. 2......Pender Harbour Days begins - 3 days @ Madeira Park government dock

Harbour Spiel Trivia Answers:

1. b

2. C

3. (

4. c

5. b

6. a



FERRY DEPARTURES

Crossing time: Langdale 40 min./Earl's Cove 50 min.

Ticket sales end 10 min. before sailing for foot passengers, 5 min. before for vehicles.

Service schedules change regularly,

visit www.bcferries.com for current schedules.

It's easier to fool people than it is to convince them they are being fooled.

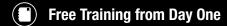
~ Mark Twain

Page 34 Harbour Spiel





NOW HIRING SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

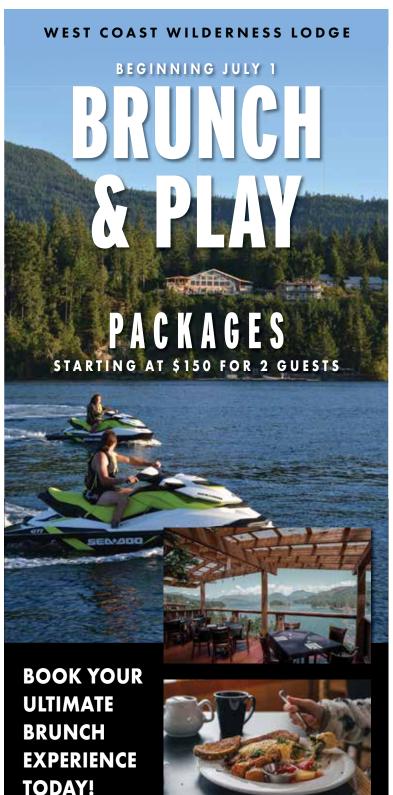








Apply Today



Treat yourself to a delightful brunch on our spacious sun-drenched deck, then dive into an adventure with your choice of water sports, from kayaking and jet skiing to scenic boat tours.

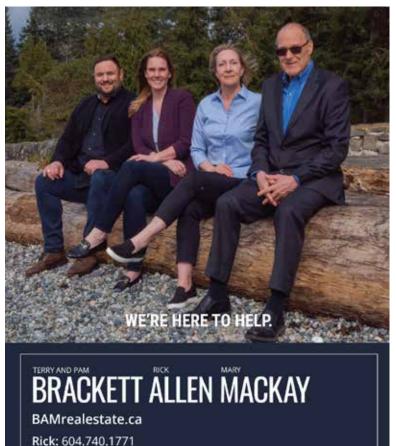
Promotion begins July 1, available daily from 10am-1pm.

Packages start at \$150 for 2 guests.

WEST COAST WILDERNESS LODGE 778.280.8610 | WCWL.COM

CALL NOW TO BOOK

July 2024 Page 35







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Pam and Terry: 604.989.9865

New Hours for July & August

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Come and join us on the patio T: 604 883 2456





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- Commercial/Janitorial Cleaning
- Floor Stripping and Waxing

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