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HARBOUR SPIEL

May 2025
Issue 413



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The independent voice of Pender Harbour & Egmont since 1990.

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EDITOR

Brian Lee

CIRCULATION (3,000)

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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: Leonard Lee, Robert Livingston, Susan Marlatt, Shane McCune, Ron Parry and Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society.

COVER

Students at Madeira Park Elementary School pose on the "hill" in front of their school after volunteers landscaped it to create a fun adventure play area for the students. Donating their time, equipment and materials were KER Enterprises and Andrew Curtiss Contracting. The *Harbour Spiel* apologizes to those students who were cut out of this frame to make it fit the cover. (photo submitted)

ADVERTISING

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Paq Press
4748 Hotel Lake Rd. (by appt. only)
Garden Bay, BC,
V0N 1S1

(604) 883-0770

editor@harbourspiel.com

www.harbourspiel.com

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editorial

Irresponsible idiots with dogs

Brian Lee



Dogs are a local hazard.

The simple math of more people owning more dogs ensures that conflicts are more likely to occur.

But there also seems to be a proliferation of entitled idiots who are unequipped to care for their large and potentially dangerous dogs.

The problem with idiots is they don't know they're idiots.

Luckily, the advocacy group Finding Idiot Dog Owners, or FIDO, has a quick screening exercise for those who question their competency for owning large dogs:

- ☐ Does your dog lack proper training?
- ☐ Does it get less than 60 to 90 minutes of daily exercise?
- ☐ Do you allow it to go unleashed in parks or public areas?
- ☐ Does it weigh more than you do?
- ☐ Have you ever said, "I'm sorry! He's never bitten anyone before — he's usually tied up!"

If you checked "yes" to any of these questions, congratulations, you might be an idiot.

Though there is very little data collected, it's estimated that there are over 500,000 dog bites annually in Canada with the majority of injuries (28.5 per cent) to 5- to 9-year olds.

But a much more frequent and much less documented danger are dog-on-dog attacks.

A recent local incident in which a couple was traumatized after their small dog was attacked by a larger one is just one of dozens of similar stories I have heard in the past few years.

That pooch lived but required thousands of dollars in vet bills.

BC law firm Stevenson Luchies & Legh's website claims dog owners are "liable for any damages or injuries caused by their dog biting or attacking another person or animal."

The firm counsels victims to gather evidence after a dog attack (photographs of injuries, witness statements and medical or vet bills) and then report it to the authorities to "create an official record of the incident, which can be helpful during the claims process."

Unfortunately, in local cases of dog-on-dog violence, there is no agency to report it to.

The RCMP typically won't investigate unless a dog is deemed "dangerous" and attacks a human.

In BC, local governments are responsible for creating and enforcing bylaws related to animal control.

With the exception of Area A, all rural areas in the SCRD are governed by Bylaw no. 376 which regulates the keeping of dogs.

A dog licence costs \$25 a year.

Sechelt and Gibsons both maintain similar animal bylaws.

In March 2006, the *Harbour Spiel* reported that a proposed animal control bylaw for Pender Harbour was defeated in an alternative approval process.

The cost for the proposed service was to be \$4 per \$100,000 of property value and would require an animal control officer for 32 hours per week.

The AAP received a resounding 432 notices opposing the bylaw requiring dogs to "be licensed as well as other conditions such as leashing requirements."

At the time, I was in favour of keeping the country country and trusting people to take responsibility for their animals.

Now, faced with an idiot bloom, I'm not so sure.

But after the dock plan fiasco and recent riparian bylaws, nobody is asking for more regulation around here.

What if we left the dogs alone and enact a bylaw regulating idiots?

TRASH BASH AND ROADSIDE CLEANUP: Saturday, May 3, 2 p.m.

This year's Trash Bash and Roadside Cleanup is set for Saturday, May 3 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sign in at 10 a.m. sharp at the Lions Park. A light lunch will be available shortly after noon when most groups will usually be finished. Pender Harbour Hikers and PHARA welcome all volunteers to meet neighbours, enjoy the great outdoors and give back to our wonderful community.

80th ANNUAL PENDER HARBOUR MAY DAY: Saturday, May 17, all day

It doesn't get any bigger than this (in our community) — this year's theme is "Flashback '45." May Day kicks off with a five-kilometre fun run and a fishing derby (for kids 12 and under) at 8 a.m. After that, the premier event — the May Day parade — starts at 11 a.m. Enter your float by May 15 and become part of history by taking part in the May Day parade. All proceeds will benefit the Pender Harbour Community Club, Madeira Park Elementary Parent's advisory committee and Serendipity Child Development Society. As always, the core crew of tireless volunteers need help in putting on this massive event. If you can offer some time, email maydaymadeirapark@gmail.com to sign up.

BEGINNING TO SEE THE LIGHT



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24th ATTACK OF DANGER BAY DOWNHILL LONGBOARD RACE: Sunday, May 18, all day

Organizer Bricin Lyons says that there will only be two more years of the longest running downhill longboard race in North America and that he plans to hold the last, the 25th, in 2026. Come out on the day after May Day to watch the world's best, including world champion and local charger Dane Hanna. Catch the shuttle bus from the Oak Tree Market starting at 8 a.m. — it leaves every half hour to the race course on Beaver Island and back. And please, stay off the course when racers are coming down. Visit coastlongboarding.ca.

photojournal



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May 1st - 31st



Pacific Yachting

'A new marine pub on the Sunshine Coast.' Ron Parry sent this clipping of a December 1989 *Pacific Yachting* article announcing the opening of the Irvines Landing Marine Pub:

Boaters visiting the Sunshine Coast this spring will be able to tip a pint, after the sun is over the yardarm of course, at the Irvines Landing Marine Pub in Garden Bay. With seating for 65 inside and 20 on the patio, the new pub incorporates the small restaurant (which is itself a former forestry building) at Irvines Landing Marina. The new structure features open-vaulted ceilings and natural wood with archival photos of coastal seascapes from the 1800s. In addition to the extra 20-foot added to the fuel dock last summer, there are newly improved showers. Space is at a premium: 40 small boats.

P. H. Community Club closes in on budget goal for new community hall roof

Thanks to a recent federal grant, the Pender Harbour Community Club is now just \$40,000 short of its fundraising goal to build a new roof over the 76-year old Pender Harbour Community Hall.

The PHCC will receive funding for 80 per cent of the construction costs through the Government of Canada's "Green and Inclusive Community Buildings" program.

The PHCC owns the land currently occupied by the hall as well as Triple B's Burgers, the Bargain Barn and the Madeira Park gardens.

The June 2024 *Harbour Spiel* reported that the building was last reroofed in 1993 but this time, a structural engineer hired by the PHCC told the club that the hall's roof is compromised because it is sagging.

At that time, the club was budgeting for \$400,000 which would include room for any cost over runs.

From a recent PHCC statement: "Originally focused on roof and truss replacement, when applying for the GICB we expanded the project to the requirements of the GICB to include crucial upgrades such as accessibility features (automatic doors, upgraded washrooms), energy efficiency improvements (solar panels, energy recovery ventilation system, new windows), and enhanced safety (fire suppression)."

Alain Catteau, PHCC roof placement project manager, told the *Harbour Spiel* that with these additions, the total estimated project cost, including contingency, is \$665,000.

The federal government has agreed to contribute \$532,000 through the GICB with a requirement that the community kicks in the remaining 20 per cent, or \$133,000.

By press time, the club had al-

ready received \$23,450 in local donations and the P. H. Community Club Society has contributed \$70,000.

The PHCC now is looking to raise an additional \$39,550 to proceed with the project as it needs to be fully funded for work to begin.

The full scope of the Pender Harbour Community Hall renovation and upgrade project now includes:

- Review of the existing roof structure and recommendation by a professional structural engineer (completed);
- As-built drawings of the building (completed);
- Building performance review by a qualified engineer to meet grants requirements (completed);
- Building permits;
- Hiring a qualified contractor through a formal bidding process;
- Contractor mobilization (materials, equipment like cranes and scaffolding, site office, etc.);
- Site safety and access management during work;
- Install scaffolding;
- Remove the ceiling lights, remove and store insulation;
- Remove the wood ceiling of the hall and keep for potential reinstallation;
- Remove existing metal roof and gutters;
- Remove the existing roof

trusses in the hall;


- Check the roof structure of the lower areas and design strengthening of the support framing as required;
- Design, fabricate, install new trusses over the hall area;
- Perform repairs of the structure over lower roofs;
- Install new roofs and gutters;
- Design and install solar panels;
- Reinstall the hall ceiling if feasible, install upgraded insulation;
- Install new ceiling LED lights;
- Design and install a fire suppression system;
- Design and install an energy recovery ventilation system;
- Install new windows;
- Upgrade the washrooms;
- Install automatic door openers for wheelchair access;
- Remove debris and keep the site clean on a continuous basis, and
- Clean up and demobilize.

Donations to the hall's re-roofing project are tax deductible.

Surplus funds raised will be returned to the PHCC and "reinvested in further improvements to the hall, such as upgrading the kitchen and the bar area."

For more information, visit www.penderharbourcommunity.club/raise-the-roof-donations.


Payment by etransfer can be made to phcifalex@gmail.com.



All new books for all ages

May: tuesdays to saturdays

Birds, plants, gardening, novels and local history!





submitted

Madeira Park Elementary students pose for a photo in front of their newly refreshed outdoor classroom that also received a new pathway down to the ocean. The project was completed with volunteer labour and equipment donated by KER Contracting, Bill Gilkes, Parker's Tree Service, Emily Lussin, Dru Lyall, and a number of MPES parent advisory committee parents.

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Easter weekend brings the season's first local wildfires



Brian Lee

This fire that was reported on the side of the Egmont Forest Service on April 18 was out by April 21.

Easter long weekend was a busy one for crews tasked with fighting wildfires in the Strait of Georgia.

Two wildfires were reported in Pender Harbour and Egmont on April 18.

One of them burned a swath through brush a few hundred metres long under hydro lines north of Lions Park.

The 2.75-hectare fire was listed

as “out” by the Coastal Fire Centre by noon on April 20.

The other fire, a 0.3-hectare fire burning near the Egmont Forest Service road, 1.3 kilometres north of North Lake, was listed as “under control” as late as April 21.

It was unattended and freshly out when the *Harbour Spiel* editor took the photo, above, on the morning of April 21.

A third fire, discovered near Gillies Bay airport on Texada Island on April 18, was listed ‘under control’ by April 21.

That fire was 0.3 hectares in size. As of press time, there were no open fire prohibitions in effect in the Coastal Fire Centre.

All three fires are listed by the Coastal Fire Centre as suspected to have been human-caused.

BC NDP MLA announces boost to local \$10-a-day childcare

On March 24, Randene Neill, MLA for Powell River- Sunshine Coast, announced more \$10-a-day child care spaces are coming to Madeira Park.

In a statement, Neill said 13 child care spaces will be converted to the \$10-a-day ChildCareBC program at Serendipity Child Development.

“In small communities, finding

affordable childcare can be difficult,” said Neill.

“I’m grateful that more families here in Pender Harbour will be able to breathe easier with \$10-a-day child care spaces, as we continue to create more affordable child care options across the province.”

Across BC, the province has created 770 new \$10-a-day spaces at 22

child care centres.

According to the March 24 statement, “Spaces in the \$10-a-day Child-CareBC program reduce the average cost of child care for children ages 5 and under from \$1,115 a month for full-time, centre-based care to \$200 a month for the same service, saving families an average of approximately \$915 a month per child.”

pender harbour tides ~ may 2025

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:



May	1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM	6AM	7AM	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM	Noon	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM
Thu 01	13.4	12.4	11.9	12.1	12.8	13.6	14.2	14.1	13.1	11.3	8.8	6.2	3.8	2.1	1.4	1.8	3.3	5.6	8.4	11.2	13.6	15.2	15.7	15.4
Fri 02	14.6	13.5	12.5	12.1	12.2	12.6	13.2	13.5	13.3	12.3	10.5	8.4	6.1	4.2	2.9	2.4	2.9	4.3	6.4	8.9	11.4	13.6	15.0	15.5
Sat 03	15.2	14.5	13.5	12.6	12.0	11.9	12.1	12.5	12.7	12.5	11.6	10.1	8.3	6.5	5.0	3.9	3.6	4.0	5.3	7.2	9.5	11.7	13.6	14.9
Sun 04	15.3	15.0	14.3	13.4	12.4	11.6	11.3	11.3	11.6	11.8	11.8	11.2	10.1	8.7	7.2	6.0	5.1	4.8	5.2	6.4	8.1	10.1	12.1	13.8
Mon 05	14.8	15.1	14.8	14.0	13.0	11.8	10.9	10.3	10.3	10.6	11.0	11.2	11.1	10.4	9.4	8.2	7.1	6.3	6.0	6.3	7.4	9.0	10.8	12.6
Tue 06	14.0	14.8	14.9	14.4	13.4	12.1	10.8	9.7	9.2	9.2	9.6	10.3	10.9	11.2	10.9	10.2	9.2	8.2	7.4	7.1	7.4	8.3	9.8	11.5
Wed 07	13.1	14.3	14.8	14.6	13.7	12.4	10.8	9.3	8.3	7.9	8.2	8.9	10.0	10.9	11.5	11.6	11.1	10.2	9.2	8.4	8.0	8.3	9.3	10.7
Thu 08	12.3	13.6	14.4	14.6	13.9	12.6	10.9	9.1	7.7	6.9	6.8	7.5	8.6	10.0	11.3	12.2	12.4	12.0	11.1	10.1	9.2	8.9	9.2	10.2
Fri 09	11.5	12.9	13.9	14.3	14.0	12.8	11.1	9.1	7.3	6.1	5.6	6.0	7.2	8.8	10.5	12.0	13.0	13.2	12.7	11.8	10.7	9.9	9.7	10.1
Sat 10	11.1	12.3	13.4	14.0	13.9	13.0	11.3	9.2	7.2	5.6	4.8	4.8	5.7	7.3	9.3	11.3	12.9	13.8	13.8	13.2	12.2	11.2	10.5	10.4
Sun 11	10.9	11.8	12.8	13.6	13.8	13.1	11.6	9.6	7.4	5.5	4.2	3.8	4.4	5.8	7.8	10.1	12.2	13.8	14.5	14.3	13.6	12.5	11.5	10.9
Mon 12	11.0	11.5	12.4	13.1	13.5	13.2	12.0	10.1	7.9	5.8	4.1	3.3	3.4	4.5	6.3	8.7	11.1	13.2	14.5	14.9	14.5	13.6	12.6	11.6
Tue 13	11.2	11.4	12.0	12.7	13.2	13.2	12.3	10.7	8.6	6.4	4.5	3.2	2.8	3.4	4.9	7.2	9.7	12.1	14.0	15.0	15.1	14.5	13.5	12.5
Wed 14	11.7	11.5	11.7	12.3	12.8	13.0	12.6	11.3	9.4	7.3	5.2	3.6	2.7	2.8	3.8	5.7	8.1	10.7	12.9	14.6	15.3	15.1	14.4	13.3
Thu 15	12.4	11.7	11.6	11.9	12.5	12.8	12.7	11.8	10.2	8.3	6.2	4.4	3.1	2.6	3.1	4.4	6.5	9.0	11.5	13.6	14.9	15.3	15.0	14.2
Fri 16	13.2	12.3	11.7	11.7	12.1	12.5	12.6	12.2	11.0	9.3	7.4	5.5	4.0	3.0	2.9	3.6	5.2	7.4	9.9	12.2	14.0	15.1	15.3	14.8
Sat 17	14.0	13.0	12.2	11.7	11.8	12.1	12.3	12.3	11.5	10.3	8.6	6.8	5.1	3.9	3.2	3.3	4.3	6.0	8.3	10.6	12.8	14.4	15.2	15.2
Sun 18	14.6	13.8	12.8	12.0	11.6	11.6	11.8	12.0	11.8	11.0	9.8	8.2	6.6	5.2	4.2	3.7	4.0	5.1	6.9	9.1	11.3	13.3	14.7	15.3
Mon 19	15.1	14.4	13.5	12.4	11.6	11.1	11.1	11.3	11.5	11.4	10.8	9.7	8.3	6.9	5.7	4.8	4.5	4.8	6.0	7.8	10.0	12.1	13.8	15.0
Tue 20	15.3	14.9	14.1	12.9	11.7	10.7	10.2	10.2	10.5	10.8	11.0	10.9	10.2	9.1	7.8	6.6	5.7	5.4	5.9	7.1	8.8	10.9	12.9	14.4
Wed 21	15.2	15.3	14.6	13.4	11.9	10.5	9.4	8.9	9.0	9.5	10.2	10.8	11.1	10.8	10.0	8.9	7.8	6.9	6.6	7.0	8.2	9.9	11.9	13.6
Thu 22	14.9	15.3	15.0	13.9	12.2	10.4	8.7	7.6	7.2	7.6	8.5	9.7	10.8	11.5	11.6	11.1	10.2	9.1	8.3	7.9	8.3	9.4	11.0	12.8
Fri 23	14.3	15.2	15.3	14.4	12.8	10.6	8.4	6.6	5.6	5.4	6.2	7.6	9.3	11.0	12.2	12.7	12.4	11.6	10.5	9.6	9.2	9.5	10.5	12.0
Sat 24	13.6	14.8	15.4	15.0	13.5	11.3	8.7	6.3	4.5	3.6	3.8	5.0	6.9	9.2	11.4	13.0	13.8	13.7	12.9	11.8	10.8	10.3	10.6	11.5
Sun 25	12.9	14.3	15.2	15.3	14.3	12.3	9.7	6.8	4.3	2.6	1.9	2.5	4.2	6.6	9.4	12.0	13.9	14.9	14.8	14.0	12.8	11.8	11.3	11.5
Mon 26	12.4	13.6	14.7	15.3	14.9	13.4	11.0	8.0	5.0	2.6	1.1	0.8	1.8	3.9	6.7	9.8	12.6	14.7	15.7	15.5	14.7	13.5	12.4	11.9
Tue 27	12.1	12.9	14.0	14.8	15.1	14.3	12.4	9.7	6.6	3.7	1.5	0.3	0.3	1.7	4.1	7.1	10.4	13.3	15.3	16.2	16.0	15.0	13.8	12.7
Wed 28	12.2	12.4	13.1	14.1	14.7	14.7	13.6	11.4	8.6	5.6	2.9	1.0	0.1	0.5	2.1	4.7	7.9	11.1	13.9	15.8	16.4	16.0	15.1	13.8
Thu 29	12.8	12.3	12.5	13.1	13.9	14.3	14.1	12.8	10.6	7.9	5.1	2.7	1.1	0.5	1.2	2.9	5.6	8.7	11.8	14.3	15.9	16.4	15.9	14.9
Fri 30	13.6	12.6	12.1	12.3	12.8	13.4	13.7	13.3	12.0	9.9	7.5	5.0	3.0	1.7	1.4	2.2	4.1	6.7	9.6	12.4	14.7	16.0	16.2	15.6
Sat 31	14.6	13.3	12.3	11.8	11.8	12.2	12.7	12.9	12.6	11.3	9.5	7.4	5.3	3.7	2.8	2.7	3.6	5.5	7.9	10.6	13.1	14.9	15.9	15.9

Robert Livingston (with data provided at www.tbone.biol.sc.edu/tide)



submitted

In the left photo, Ian Grant, Rotary Club of Pender Harbour president, poses beside a newly installed ‘Book buddy box’ at Tyner Park. In the right photo, Rotary members Lyn Charlton and Jon Paine take a break on a new cedar bench, also installed at Tyner Park (near the lake, at the end of the Story Book Walk) by our local Rotary club. The club also changed the featured book on the story book trail just before spring break. The new book is fittingly called *Spring is Here* (inset) by Heidi Pross Gray.

Don't ask weirdos on social media.

If you're looking for reliable local services

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*Leonard Lee
Area A director, SCRD*

It sure sounds a lot like victim-blaming but the reality of surviving a disaster often comes down to us and our neighbourhood being prepared to cope on our own for at least 72 hours and up to seven days.

The province can't fund every community in British Columbia to have immediate access to a sizeable, trained workforce armed with snow-removal equipment, large road graders, boats, all-wheel drive ambulances, fire trucks, hydro trucks, etc.

We saw the result last winter with heavy snowfall and power outages, and it would have been worse had a major earthquake occurred or if

a forest fire had broken out adjacent to our homes and highway.

If individuals are at risk and first responders can't reach them quickly, as in February's snowstorm, we need a plan and neighbours ready to support themselves and us.

Our neighborhood email list worked to get gas and supplies to a desperate neighbour, but we can do better by having devices to safely extract gas from our vehicles or boats, and snow tires, chains and winches for our four-wheel-drive trucks.

We continue to advocate for improved road-maintenance contracts by the Ministry of Transportation and Transit to better respond to climate change and increased weather extremes, and we're examining whether our emergency operations centre is doing enough in local emergencies,

e.g. snowstorms, power outages, highway closures, and wildfires.

We can protect ourselves by learning how we will be informed of an emergency, evacuation plans, registering for Voyent Alert, building an emergency kit and "grab-and-go" bag, FireSmarting our homes, etc.

We need to work with those in our support network — our family members, neighbours and friends — to be prepared.

Visit www.scrd.ca ("services," then "emergency program") for more information, because everyone in a rural area needs to get with the program.

AVICC RESOLUTION PASSES AND FAILS

The Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities met last month in Nanaimo to agree on



Sunshine Coast Regional District

www.scrd.ca info@scrd.ca

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



Board and Committee Meetings

Special Committee of the Whole
May 1 at 9:30 a.m.

Committee of the Whole
May 8 at 9:30 a.m.

Regular Board
May 8 at 1:00 p.m.

Electoral Area Services Committee
May 15 at 9:30 a.m.

Special Electoral Area Services Committee
May 15 at 9:30 a.m.

Committee of the Whole
May 22 at 9:30 a.m.

Regular Board
May 22 at 1:00 p.m.

Agendas are available at
www.scrd.ca/agendas.

2025 HOME COMPOSTER REBATES AVAILABLE NOW!

Buy – install – apply! Keep your receipt, pre-approval is not required. Only composters purchased and installed in 2025 will be eligible. If you are a homeowner in Pender Harbour and Egmont, there is a rebate of up to \$100 available towards the purchase of a new home composter. Information on eligibility and how to apply can be found at www.scrd.ca/composting or by contacting us at 604-885-6806 or infrastructure@scrd.ca.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PENDER HARBOUR RESIDENTS

Due to low participation and cost of operating, the Food Waste Drop-off Pilot Program at the Pender Harbour Transfer Station is being temporarily suspended on May 1, 2025, until further notice.

What to do with your food waste after May 1 in Pender Harbour? Options include:

- Self-haul to Salish Soils in Sechelt.
- Home composting.
- Find a private collection service.

For information, visit
www.scrd.ca/transfer-station

policy and resolutions to present at September's Union of BC Municipalities convention.

AVICC represents municipalities, regional districts, and other local governments including First Nations in the Sunshine Coast, qathet/Powell River, Vancouver Island, North Coast, and Central Coast.

AVICC will request that the province establish "mandatory good neighbour agreement" legislation requiring that supportive housing and shelter operators mitigate community impact by using security and other measures, and maintain engagement with local government, stakeholders, and residents.

AVICC will request a "SCRD volunteer fire department funding model" to access funding from BC Ambulance, BC Hydro and ICBC to reduce the cost to local taxpayers in rural areas where volunteer fire departments have frequent call-outs to attend downed powerlines and motor vehicle incidents — and often lengthy waits for BC Ambulance or BC Hydro to attend.

AVICC will request an "improvement districts policy revision" to facilitate restructuring of some sewer and water improvement districts and fire departments to allow them access to loans from the BC Municipal Finance Authority and to qualify them for infrastructure grants.

AVICC will request that the province advocate for and provide incentives to industry groups to revisit industry standards and create new categories for tiny homes and recreational vehicles certified for permanent occupancy.

AVICC will request that MOTT work with local governments to develop infrastructure for active (human-

powered) transportation along rural roads to improve the accessibility and safety of users.

AVICC will request an amendment to the Workers Compensation Act to include provincially funded WorkSafe BC coverage for elected officials considering the increase of incidents of harassment and violence.

AVICC rejected tailored mental health support for elected officials after discussion including the Nanaimo mayor's observation that there were a lot more deserving residents than elected officials who needed additional health support.

AVICC rejected a province-wide ban on fireworks after debate citing municipalities that have already implemented bans, and outlining risks to public safety, property, the environment, domestic animals, livestock, wildlife and to those with hypersensitivity from post-traumatic stress disorder and autism.

WORKSHOP ON HARM REDUCTION

An AVICC harm-reduction workshop concluded that the principles of harm reduction are effective for some but not all drugs and that legal regulation of psychoactive substances could end the toxic drug crisis that continues to devastate our community members.

"Legal regulation" eliminates penalties for purchasing, possessing

and consuming drugs while providing access from licensed suppliers.

Alcohol, cannabis, prescription narcotics, psychiatric medications, attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder medications, over-the-counter medications, tobacco, dietary supplements, and vitamins — all drugs — are now legal and regulated.

Death from regulated substances is increasingly rare because consumers know what they are using and at what strength.

Experiments with prohibition and criminalization all failed in their intent and fuelled a black-market industry.



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HARBOUR SPIEL

trivia

1. What is the name of the restaurant located at the Earls Cove Ferry Terminal?

- ☐ a. Terminal Diner
- ☐ b. Tom and Sherry's
- ☐ c. Cove Restaurant
- ☐ d. End of the Road Cafe

2. Of the following, who has never owned the Madeira Park IGA?

- ☐ a. Stan Crowell
- ☐ b. Peter Grabenhof
- ☐ c. Rob Metcalfe
- ☐ d. Morley Luscombe

3. Which local inlet reaches furthest south?

- ☐ a. Sechelt Inlet
- ☐ b. Jervis Inlet
- ☐ c. Salmon Inlet
- ☐ d. Narrows Inlet

4. How old is the Pender Harbour May Day celebration (May 17) this year?

- ☐ a. 100 years
- ☐ b. 80 years
- ☐ c. 60 years
- ☐ d. 40 years

5. Which bank was once located in the Madeira Park building now known as the Bargain Barn?

- ☐ a. Bank of Montreal
- ☐ b. TD Bank
- ☐ c. Bank of Nova Scotia
- ☐ d. Royal Bank

6. Name of the bay at the mouth of Hidden Basin?

- ☐ a. Cockburn Bay
- ☐ b. Quarry Bay
- ☐ c. Blind Bay
- ☐ d. Billings Bay

Answers: p. 34

Four-plus: **Local**

Two-plus: **Newbie**

Less than two: **Townie**

The Mitchell House: A water colour mystery solved

*Pender Harbour Living
Heritage Society*

A recent donation of two water colour paintings led the Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society to research the artist, Belle Milvain.

The project was made even more interesting by a cryptic description of one of her paintings' subjects as "Rear view of the Mitchell house, Garden Bay Lake."

Milvain lived in a cottage at the site of the old Garden Bay Pub.

Her paintings brightened the walls of many Harbour homes.

According to Ray Phillips, she was a lively Scottish lady with three daughters, one of whom was Janet Lyons who owned a dress shop in Garden Bay in 1951.

Milvain's painting depicts Frank and Gertrude Mitchell's house (their daughter Vivian married Bill Pieper who owned much of Irvines Landing from 1939-1960).

In a recent conversation with the P. H. Living Heritage Society, Ray Phillips recounted:

"I was in the Mitchell house when I was six years old," Phillips said.

"It was a stormy day when my father's one-ton Model T flatbed truck broke down after a mail run back from Irvines Landing to Kleindale.

"Old Mitchell, rather than see the Phillips family walk to Kleindale in the pouring rain, took us all in, fed us and put us to bed for the night."

Phillips said the Mitchell House depicted in the painting straddled the spot where Elliot Road meets Garden Bay Road now.

Fire destroyed the house long after "the lovely old couple passed away."



Pender Harbour Living Heritage Society (PHLHS) #2025.2.1)

'Rear view of the Mitchell House, Garden Bay Lake' is a circa-1950s painting by Belle Milvain that depicts an all-but-forgotten home that once stood on the shore of Garden Bay Lake.

A big patch of ivy now covers the old chimney — all that's left of the Mitchell home.

Home fires were common in those days.

Sadly, that is how Milvain died in her cottage early one morning in 1959.

Bill Pieper spotted the fire from Irvines Landing, sounded the alarm and rushed to help.

Firefighters and neighbours were on the scene as were two of her distraught daughters, all helpless to fight the inferno.

Copies of Milvain's paintings are displayed at Sarah Wray Hall, site of the old Irvines Landing school.

It is fitting that her paintings have found their way back to the school-house.

Milvain had given these paint-

ings to Caryl Cameron who taught Milvain's Grade 3 grandson, Charlie Fletcher, at Irvines Landing school in 1947.

Check out penderharbourheritage.ca for information about the society.

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SATURDAY
MAY 17th

May Day

Entry by Donation

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FUN RUN <i>at 8 am</i>	CLASSIC CARS
<i>with</i> PARADE <i>at 11 am</i>	LIVE MUSIC
BEER GARDEN <i>12-5 pm</i>	ENTERTAINMENT
GAMES & PRIZES <i>11:30-4 pm</i>	BBQ & FOOD TRUCKS
FACE PAINTING	<i>... and more!</i>

2025

We are grateful to gather on the unceded, ancestral and traditional lands of the shishálh Nation.

Event proceeds benefit Pender Harbour Community Club, Madeira Park Elementary PAC & Serendipity Child Development Society.

Please note that dogs are not permitted in the beer garden or field area, except for service animals.

To volunteer or for sponsorship or vendor queries, contact maydaymadeirapark@gmail.com
For more info, or to register for the parade visit www.penderharbourcommunity.club

THIS YEAR'S THEME IS "FLASHBACK '45 / BACK TO OUR ROOTS"



@MAYDAYMADEIRAPARK

Margaret Ferrance McLauchlan

OCTOBER 13, 1944 — MARCH 2, 2025



Margaret McLauchlan died unexpectedly on the evening of March 2, sitting in her recliner gazing at the harbour that gave her peace and tranquillity for years.

McLauchlan was born and raised in Vancouver.

Growing up, she was often described as an “old soul,” tasked with the responsibility of looking after two younger siblings while her single mother worked an office job.

Before marriage, she held several interesting jobs including working at the Woodward’s jewelry department and later at Persian Arts and Crafts in

downtown Vancouver.

McLauchlan caught her husband George’s eye one day at a diner on West 4th Avenue where she was waiting.

He asked for a glass of milk and a date and, after a brief courtship, the two married.

Being a good sport, McLauchlan agreed to spend her honeymoon with George at a cabin on Adams Lake, venturing out between amorous interludes to spin cast for the then plentiful rainbow trout in the Adams River.

The couple lived with their children in a house located within a plant and tree nursery in Vancouver.

Her husband was a horticulturalist for the city which, back then, was a job that came with a house.

McLauchlan was a very busy full-time homemaker.

In the 1970s, the couple decided to buy property in Pender Harbour, where George’s uncle lived and worked as a commercial fisherman.

They purchased a small undeveloped waterfront lot which came available when Rod Webb Sr. subdivi-

vided his family property into several building lots.

Over the years, they oversaw the clearing of the land, spent their summers in a Prowler trailer and eventually built their retirement home there.

After retiring at an early age, Margaret and George enjoyed 30 years of relatively carefree living in the Harbour.

He enjoyed salmon fishing in his boat and she enjoyed furnishing her home with the assistance of Martha Stewart.

McLauchlan will be greatly missed by George, her three surviving children and numerous nieces, nephews and grandchildren.

Her family would like to express their deep gratitude to the paramedics, firefighters and RCMP officers who attended and to RCMP Victim Services who provided resources and words of comfort to McLauchlan’s family during a very difficult time.

OBITUARIES: The *Harbour Spiel* publishes obituaries without charge to recognize and record those who lived in Pender Harbour and Egmont. Submissions must be timely, include the date of birth and date of death and be submitted in a digital format. Submissions will be edited for length and to remove first-person and personal messages as required to maintain editorial consistency.

*Pender Harbour Seniors Housing Society
Outreach Healthy Meal Program*



Healthy Meals service has resumed.

FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE:

Call Linda — 604.883.2819, Wendy — 604.883.2514 or Anky — 604.883.0033

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WEDNESDAY

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Page 16

Harbour Spiel

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- List your business here!.....

D.....

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Local health matters

PHHC ends the 'Health in the Harbour' fundraising campaign

It was decided in early 2025 by the PHHC Board of Directors that we would officially end the "Health in the Harbour" fundraiser on May 1, 2025. The Board and Health Centre leadership felt that after three years and over \$700,000 raised, the fundraiser had run its course. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those in the community who have donated funds to the Health in the Harbour fundraiser since 2022. As a community-led non-profit organization we rely on the support of our community to operate and keep our building safe and accessible, thank you for this amazing support.

To date the fundraising campaign has raised **\$704,395** and we have used these donations on the following projects:

- Contribution to the new accessible washrooms and flooring (2024), and
- Primary care wing upgrade (2025).

PRIMARY CARE WING UPGRADE

In March 2025 work started on the primary care wing upgrade, and it is expected to be completed

by July 2025. This upgrade will create two new treatment rooms, new offices, a new accessible washroom, a new virtual care/counselling room and upgrades to accessibility, flooring and air quality.

Funding for this project was provided by the "Health in the Harbour" fundraiser, donations from the Sunshine Coast Healthcare Auxiliary and the Bargain Barn and Pender Harbour & District Health Centre Auxiliary and a private donation from local community members the Mey family. We thank the Mey family, our funding partners and those who donated to the "Health in the Harbour" fundraising campaign. We can't wait to show you this new updated wing at the PHHC.

During the renovation work you will notice that we have relocated some of our providers and you may hear increased noise when visiting us. We are working hard with our contractor Spani Developments to limit the disturbances to Health Centre operations. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

PHHC send heartfelt thanks to P. H. & District Health Centre Auxiliary

At the March 2025 PHHC Board meeting, the Pender Harbour & District Health Centre Auxiliary and the Bargain Barn presented the PHHC with their year-end donation to the Health Centre.

In March the society presented \$32,408.75 in donations which brought their yearly donation to the Health Centre and our programs to \$91,408.75. These funds go directly into supporting programs like our Harbourside Friendship program and other PHHC operational costs.

The PHHC would like to thank the staff, volunteers and customers at the customers at the Bargain Barn and the Pender Harbour & District Health Centre Auxiliary for their continued support of the Health Centre and our programs. We could not do what we do without your dedication, compassion and support.



Pictured (third from right) is Marg Harrington, auxiliary president, handing over cheques to members of the PHHC Board and Leadership Team.



JOIN OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As a community led Health Centre the Pender Harbour Health Centre Society relies on our volunteer board of Directors to support governance, help guide the strategic vision of the Health Centre and provide fiscal oversight.

This year one of our long serving Directors will be leaving our Board. We are looking to welcome a new Director with a finance and accounting background to our skilled and knowledgeable Board.

If you would like to influence health and wellness in your community, if you care about the future of your Health Centre and you want to give back to your community then joining the board is a great way to support the future of the Health Centre.

For further details please reach out to John Rathbone at john.rathbone@penderharbourhealth.com

Showler: Watch out for reckless hitchhiker

Editor,

It is common knowledge that people with sad social problems are gravitating towards the Coast.

I recently experienced this first hand, and it was almost tragic.

A woman, appearing to be in her 60s, ran out in front of my car on Hwy. 101 in broad daylight.

Only by standing on the brakes and steering towards the ditch was I able to miss her, but only by inches.

She was running across the road so she could hitchhike northbound towards Earls Cove.

She seemed completely oblivious

to the fact she had almost been killed.

I tried to speak with her in a calm voice but she would not respond and avoided eye contact.

I have seen this person before, walking up Madeira Park Road to hitchhike north bound on the highway.

She wears a dark green turban and appears to be about 65 years of age.

I don't know what her problem is, but she is a menace to herself and others.

If you see this unfortunate individual, please be careful.

Gavin Showler
Madeira Park

seals



Note your Harbour Seal of Approval or Harbour Seal of Disapproval. By email only: editor@harbourspiel.com.

Include full name and telephone number. (Editor will edit for length.)

A Huge Harbour Seal of Approval to **KER Enterprises** and **Andrew Curtiss Contracting** for donating so much machine time, man hours and materials to the transformation of the Madeira Park Elementary School hillside into a creative and fun play space.

A special shout out to **Lachlin Rand** for his careful consideration in every rock placed on the hillside.

The kids are absolutely loving it, and we are so grateful.

Beau Sladey
MPES PAC

A thankful Harbour Seal of Approval to the **Marina Pharmacy** team for supporting us with our prescription needs at a time of need.

Your warmth and helpfulness is greatly appreciated.

Linda and Ray McKinlay

A huge Seal of Approval to **KER Enterprises, Bill Gilkes, Parker's Tree Service, Emily Lussin, Dru Lyall, and all of the amazing PAC parents** who gave up a spring break day to come and clean up the outdoor classroom and created a beautiful path to the ocean for our kids to enjoy.

We appreciate all of you and the kids are really loving being able to access the beach.

Beau Sladey
MPES PAC



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*Pender Harbour Seniors Housing Society
Outreach Healthy Meal Program*



Healthy Meals service has resumed.

FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE:

Call Linda — 604.883.2819, Wendy — 604.883.2514 or Anky — 604.883.0033

PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday JUNE 17, 5:00-5:30PM @ HARBOUR LEARNING CENTRE
5012 GONZALES ROAD MADEIRA PARK

Meet our Directors, review our 2024 annual report, enjoy snacks and refreshments, discover what the Community School is all about.

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Minutes of Last AGM June 18, 2024
3. 2024 Annual Report
4. 2024 Financial Statement
5. Appointment of Accountant
6. Election of PHCSS Board of Directors and Appointment of Executives

FRIDAY MAY 30

5PM- 9PM

**AT THE PENDER HARBOUR
COMMUNITY HALL**

GRADE 6-12



2025 YDI Registration PHCS



Parents must please complete and submit this form before child/youth attend a Community School drop in activity / program. This is a blanket drop in registration form for 2025



PICKLEBALL

**MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY**

**5:30pm - 7:30pm
AT THE PENDER HARBOUR
SECONDARY SCHOOL GYM**

Harbour Learning Centre ~ Tues/Weds/Thurs/Fri 9am-3pm

✉ phcs@dccnet.com ☎ 604.883.2826

www.pendercommunity.ca

Seniors' activities for May!

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Sponsored by:
**P. H. Health Centre &
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(604) 883-9900**

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

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

May 1 – Come join us for some Trivia.

May 8 – Update on Adult Day Program by Lana.

May 15 – BBQ at Lions Park.

May 22 – Free Lunch for all that attend. Music with William Leggott.

May 29 – Putting at the Pender Harbour Golf Club followed by lunch at the Club House.

CARPET BOWLING: Wednesdays, May 7, 21 & 28

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall, 1-3 pm. Cost \$3. (No carpet bowling on May 14 due to Children's May Day Dance)

CHAIR YOGA: Mondays & Fridays, May 2, 5, 9, 12, 23, 26 & 30

At the Pender Harbour Community Hall 11am – 12pm with Carole Logtenberg or Kristin Tracey. Improve your balance, strength & flexibility with gentle moves. Cost: \$3.
No classes on May 16 or 19.

CHAIR YOGA: Wednesdays, May 7, 14, 21 & 28

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

PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

Come swim with us, join a fitness or aquatic fitness class or work out in the weight room!

www.scrd.ca/pender-pool • 604-885-6867

The facility will be closed on Monday, May 19, the Victoria Day statutory holiday.

It's not too late to register for spring programs:
www.scrd.ca/recreation-registration/

Summer Day Camps will be viewable online starting May 7.

REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER DAY CAMPS:

(occurring in Gibsons & Sechelt) starts May 15 at 7am.

REGISTRATION FOR ALL OTHER SUMMER PROGRAMS:

Swim lessons, exercise and fitness and more, starts on June 4 at 7am.

Drop-in activities are a great way to fit more activity into your day.

No pre-registration required. Show up and pay admission or use your MYPASS.

HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday
7am to 1pm

Tuesday to Friday
7 am – 1 pm
3:30 pm – 8 pm

Saturday
CLOSED

Sunday
CLOSED

Drop-in for swimming and the weight room!

For swimming, children under 7 years of age must be within arm's reach of an adult. Weight room users must be 16+ years. 13 to 15 year olds can attend with an adult or if they have completed an SCRD weight room orientation. Staff will ask people to clear the pool and gym 5 minutes before closing. Thank you for your cooperation.



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

On lower level of
P. H. Secondary School:

13639 S.C. Hwy.

604 885-6867

www.scrd.ca/recreation

The Mountain Grind: April 26, 2015



This spread originally appeared in the May 2015 issue of the Harbour Spiel.



Brian Lee photos

Though the mud and water were icy and the obstacles hard, you wouldn't know it by the huge grins on the faces of competitors taking part in the first Mountain Grind obstacle race on April 26, 2015. Almost 300 participants took to the hills above the Pender Harbour Lions Park to tackle the nine-kilometre course. Though there was one serious casualty on the day (a broken ankle), the rain held off and the race was completed without any other major problems.

PENDER HARBOUR GARDEN CLUB

The Pender Harbour Garden Club is pleased to host local gardener Leoni Farquhar on Monday, May 26. She will be presenting “From the ground up: Fort Farquhar,” a gardener’s story about putting an exploratory spade into a lawn in 2008 and what has evolved over the 17 years since. Fruits, flowers and vegetables — and fun.

The meeting runs from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Pender Harbour School of Music. It costs \$20 for a 2025 annual membership or \$5 drop in. Coffee/tea and goodies are included.

P. H. MUSIC SOCIETY COFFEE HOUSE

The P. H. Music Society presents this month’s School of Music Coffee House on Friday, May 9. The musicians this month are yet to be announced

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 WOMEN’S CONNECTION

This month, the Pender Harbour Women’s Connection welcomes line dance instructor Krystyna Wisniewska on Tuesday, May 13 at the P. H. School of Music. Wisniewska’s extensive dance skills and warm teaching talents have garnered a keen following of Sunshine Coast fun seekers to her classes.

She will give a brief history of her background and then, with a sample of her students, present a line dance demonstration. Come join us to learn the health benefits of Line Dancing such as improving memory and co-ordination, the movements involved, or for the simple enjoyment of watching the dance. It is bound to be a ‘funtastic’ morning.

On May 27, the PHWC is excited to host Liz Long. Long spent over 50 years stuck in “Victimtown.” After her close family member Lynda White went missing, six-year-old Liz’s life was turned upside down. Five years later, White’s body was found, and her case remains one of Canada’s longest unsolved murders. Having discovered her own path to healing, including inpatient treatment at a recovery centre, Long is now dedicated to mental health advocacy and inspiring others by sharing her story.

She has written a book about her ordeal, *Navigating Shitstorms: How to Find your True Path When Life Gets Rough*, described as “a guide to finding peace, love, freedom and joy.”

Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and programs begin at 10 a.m. There’s a \$4 drop-in fee and refreshments will be provided.

May 2025



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Sunshine Coast
CREDIT UNION

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rates.

SKOOKUMCHUCK VIEWING TIMES

MAY

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

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

1. 6:39 AM +M, 1:50 PM -XL
2. 7:31 PM +S, 2:53 PM -XL
3. 8:35 AM +S, 3:57 PM -L
4. 4:59 PM -L
5. 5:58 PM -L
6. 8:04 AM -L, 1:25 PM +S
7. 8:50 AM -L, 2:31 PM +M
8. 9:27 AM -L, 3:24 PM +L
9. 9:56 AM -L, 4:13 PM +L
10. 10:16 AM -L, 4:59 PM +XL
11. 10:20 AM -L, 5:43 PM +XL
12. 10:14 AM -XL, 6:25 PM +XL
13. 10:07 AM -XL, 7:05 PM +XL
14. 10:30 AM -XL, 7:44 PM +XL
15. 11:11 AM -XL, 8:23 PM +XL
16. 6:25 AM +M, 12:13 PM -XL
17. 7:12 AM +S, 1:30 PM -XL
18. 8:05 AM +S, 2:39 PM -XL
19. 3:44 PM -L
20. 11:08 AM +S, 4:48 PM -L
21. 12:37 PM +S, 5:52 PM -L
22. 1:40 PM +M, 7:01 PM -M
23. 8:24 AM -L, 2:37 PM +L
24. 8:57 AM -XL, 3:46 PM +XL
25. 9:02 AM -XL, 4:45 PM +XL
26. 9:52 AM -XL, 5:42 PM +XL
27. 10:55 AM -XL, 6:37 PM +XL
28. 11:56 AM -XL, 7:29 PM +XL
29. 12:53 AM -XL, 8:19 PM +XL
30. 6:31 AM +M, 1:51 PM -XL
31. 7:26 AM +S, 2:49 PM -L

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.



PLASTIC

1907

The year the first synthetic plastic — Bakelite — was produced, marking the beginning of the global plastics industry.

3 million

The amount of plastic waste, in tonnes, that Canadians throw away every year.

1%

In Canada, it is estimated that 1% of plastic waste enters the environment.

29,000 tonnes

The amount of plastic pollution the above 1% figure amounted to in 2016.

\$35 billion

In Canada, the total sales of plastic in 2017.

7x

The amount global plastic waste generation has grown in the past four decades.

2040

The year global plastic pollution is forecasted to double from current rates.

>10%

The amount recycling contributes to plastic waste management world-wide.

450 million

Current global plastic production, in tonnes. In 1950, the world produced just two million tonnes.

30%

The estimated amount of all plastics ever produced that are still in use.

~ Government of Canada, Statista

MAY WEATHER

TEMPERATURE

Our average daily high temperature in May is 15.8 C and our average daily low is 9.6 C, giving us a daily mean temperature of 12.7 C for the month. Our record high temperature in May is 28.4 C (May 29, 1983) and our record low is 3.3 C (May 1, 1970).

PRECIPITATION

May has an average of 12 days with rainfall and an average total for the month of 61 mm. Our record daily rainfall in May is 28.7 mm (May 2, 1963) and our record daily snowfall in May is 1 cm (May 10, 1985).

MAY ASTROLOGY

**TAURUS: APRIL 19 - MAY 20**

Taureans are seekers of peace and stability. Although unambitious, they are happy to be the powerhouse behind the scenes. They are usually sensible and blessed with a healthy dose of cynicism. There's good news this month as Jupiter leaves your sign and glides into Gemini on May 25. This is your signal to go big on a financial opportunity... like a generational decline in the stock market. This is no time to start a new love hustle — you will continue to be a sucker for a pair of flirtatious eyes.

**GEMINI: MAY 21 – JUNE 21**

Geminis are butterflies by nature, flitting from one attraction to the next. They're easily bored but have lively, stimulating minds and can be witty and charming. The sun in Taurus until May 20 makes the path to enlightenment clear (er). Time spent on your spiritual self will reward with a calm and focus you haven't experienced since that yoga retreat in Tulum. Feelings of guilt will be magnified until the full moon on May 12. After that, you can resume your insensitive lifestyle without conscience.

BC BESTSELLERS

For the week ending April 19

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.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The Cost of a Hostage: A Lane Winslow Mystery by Iona Whishaw (TouchWood Editions) | 6. The Animal People Choose a Leader by Richard Wagamese, illustrated by Bridget George (Douglas & McIntyre) |
| 2. Pacific Palate: Food Artisans of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands by Don Genova (TouchWood Editions) | 7. Best of BC Road Trips by Sam Burkhart (OP Media Group) |
| 3. Whitewater Cooks The Food We Love by Shelley Adams, Conner Adams (Alicon Holdings) | 8. Vancouver Island: The Art of the Landscape by Kelly Hutchison, Dave Hutchison (Two Trees Art Publishing) |
| 4. I am Connected by Kung Jaadee, illustrated by Carla Joseph (Medicine Wheel Publishing) | 9. Untold Tales of Old British Columbia by Daniel Marshall (Ronsdale Press) |
| 5. The Curve of Time: New, Expanded Edition by M. Wylie Blanchet (Harbour Publishing) | 10. Lightning Strikes the Silence by Iona Whishaw (TouchWood Editions) |

~ Association of Book Publishers of BC

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- May 1 ~ **Allison Scoular** and **Kim Struthers**.
 May 3 ~ **Victor Enns** and **Tyra Phillips**.
 May 4 ~ **Andrew Sutherland**.
 May 5 ~ **Barb Ellison**, **Rob Ellison**, **Baylee Higgins** and **Robyn Leech**.
 May 6 ~ **Lori Pratt**.
 May 7 ~ **Stephanie Warner**, **Tricia Fisher** and **Kristen White**.
 May 8 ~ **Francis Belisle**, **Ryan Schroeder** and **Vicki Honeybourne**.
 May 9 ~ **Steve Devaney**, **Rick Dougan**, **Leanna Mackie**, **Karen McKeeman**, **Jackson Taylor**, **Vanessa Stephens**, **Debbie Hayen** and **Jim Greenlaw**.
 May 11 ~ **Deena Lowings**, **Shelley Wharton** and **Candace Sharp**.
 May 12 ~ **TJ Campbell** and **Rob McMann**.
 May 13 ~ **Mel Likes** and **Reynald Bernier**.
 May 14 ~ **Jan Smalley** and **Lhonna Dougan**.
 May 15 ~ **Michael Pazur**.
 May 16 ~ **Dave Sullivan**.
 May 17 ~ **Linda Curtiss**, **Jack Dennis**, **Dan Jinks**, **Helen Krantz**, **Roland Schmidt** and **Amy Curtiss**.
 May 18 ~ **Haida Bolton**, **Ron Collett**, **Wendy Haddock** and **Sharon Halford**.
 May 19 ~ **Earl Stewart**.
 May 20 ~ **Rylan English**, twins **Carrie & Stirling Fowler**, **Yasmeena Kennedy**, **Jacalyn Vincent** and **Brenna Young**.
 May 21 ~ **Shannon Fowler**.
 May 23 ~ **Mary Milner** and **Tom Patterson**.
 May 24 ~ **Vicki Kobus**, **Dick Milner**, **Treenah Dougan** and **Margo Hunsche**.
 May 25 ~ **Christina Stoutenburg**.
 May 26 ~ **Leslie McDougall**.
 May 27 ~ **Cindy Schroeder** and **Charlotte Gray**.
 May 28 ~ **Mikey Thompson**, **Lyn Vaughan**, **Kevin Graham** and **Myrtle Winchester**.
 May 29 ~ **Cliff Silvey**, **Tyler Forsyth** and **Amber LaFrance**.
 May 30 ~ **Marten Mees**, **Kathy Mills** and **Mike Phillips**.

Correspondence education for dummies: Part I

Susan Marlatt

Correspondence education was introduced in British Columbia in 1919.

It was the only alternative to in-class teaching until the emergence, quite recently, of distance education and home schooling involving computers.

It was one of the most difficult programs for parents and families, like ours who were living and working remotely, to manage.

First of all, one or more of the parents had to have the academic chops to be able to understand what needed to be taught.

Secondly, one of those parents had to devote themselves to supervising the correspondence project — and it wasn't easy.

Hopefully, this parent was comfortable with school, K-12, and had a real interest in seeing the project's success.

In my experience, I was thrown under the correspondence bus when Keray Farrell and I moved to Texada Island in 1977.

We stayed there for four years as



Susan Marlatt

David Farrell and Yolan Marlatt, at 'school' in the late 1970s on the west side of Texada Island near Sabine Channel.

caretakers of a 40-acre property.

Between us we had four kids with various degrees of interest in academic learning.

The older three were in Grades 2 through 6 while the youngest was only five years old.

In those days on the Coast, many didn't continue formal schooling past age 16.

Many didn't even make it that far, lured away by the many opportunities to make a living in logging, family fishing or any number of other resource-based pursuits.

A high school diploma wasn't a useful tool for the life they pursued.

A young man or woman could make their way up the Coast, find a little bay to settle in and carry on just fine.

Once out of the city, normal schooling was secondary or even further down the line of importance, in life's pursuits

But, if you didn't live at a float

camp or in a community that employed a teacher, you were stuck with correspondence duties for your children.

Otherwise, children had to be sent to relatives or boarding schools in Vancouver or wherever the family had that kind of support in place.

The closest access point to mail for us was the Lasqueti Post Office.

From there, I mailed requests for the required materials for the older three children.

Even this was a challenge.

To pick it up, we had to travel to Tucker Bay by boat, shove the boat out on a long line and give it a jerk so the stern anchor fell overboard.

Hopefully the boat was afloat and not aground when we returned.

Then we made our way up to the pink Rambler station wagon which we shared with the Jones Boys — Bruce and Gordon.

Pink Rambler had a dead battery, but if parked on a hill and you had lots
Harbour Spiel



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- Multi-material recycling
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of kids, a jump start worked fine.

Then, we'd be off to the post office in search of a suitable parking spot on a hill so we could get running again.

It was a big deal to get mail.

The folks in Victoria who put out the materials always seemed to be unable to convince the Queen's Printer to have the course work ready on time.

I couldn't believe how disorganized the printing was.

How was a person supposed to get this going if you didn't have the materials needed?

Well, just come back to the post office in a few days to check.

And, don't forget to park on a hill.

After finally receiving the course work for the older three, I taught each child several classes each day.

With three different grades, that meant six courses for each child.

After each day's long struggle, 18 bundles were collated and tagged with the date, before doing it all over again the next day.

At the end of a five day week, the ninety bundles representing three kids weekly effort was assembled to be delivered to Victoria, via the Pink Rambler and the Lasqueti Post Office, for marking.

Sometimes two or three of these bundles were stacked up before heading back for the mail.

Occasionally an urgent radio-phone call came from the post office saying that there was something "live" (usually meal worms for a science class) that had to be picked up right away.

The postmistress was convinced anything live was spiders.

They never sent spiders.

Although I had been to plenty of school and had no fear of teaching math or science right through calculus or geometry, I lacked teacher's training.

While the university experience did show its worth over the years of the project, it was painful to slog through the lessons as written.

The material was so horribly out of date it was laughable.

I recall receiving the Grade 2 farm project, where the student cut out and assembled a little farm.

This looks familiar, I thought.

I went back through Allen and Sharie Farrell's family pictures and found the same farm project, built by some child in the 1930s.

The children wore knickers and it was the same freaking farm.

"Time to update the material," I thought.

Since my entire day was devoted to teaching this horrid system, I quickly started the five-year-old in Grade 1 the minute he turned six.

He finished in a few months before moving on to Grade 2.

Years later, he went to the Cortes Island School and was two years younger than the rest of his class.

When the opportunity came for him to enroll at Pender Harbour Secondary School, I put him back three years to be with his peers.

He had a wonderful time, made lifelong friends and graduated from Chatelech in Sechart at the right age.

He then went off to BCIT, so, mission accomplished.

BC's Correspondence School did have a marvelous group of "markers" in Victoria.

Imagine getting all of this paperwork, from families all over BC, some of it done perfectly since the supervi-

ing family member actually taught the classes, as I did, and some of it unusable and needing to be done over.

It could have been weeks since the material was presented to the poor little child in a remote oyster farm or ranch in the interior of the province.

My favourite marker, Mrs. Hull, had a real sense of humour.

I remember her wanting to know who the wonderful man with the bushy eyebrows, no shirt, and suspenders depicted in a drawing was.

And, was his boat really *The Vulture*?

I would explain log salvager Sam Lamont, and our game of hiding logs from him, by return mail via the Pink Rambler.

(Continued next month.)



Anne Clemence

The late Sam Lamont was a Pender Harbour log salvager who had a number of distinctive work boats including the *Vulture*.

community calendar

Calendar listings are provided free of charge by the Harbour Spiel. Send information to editor@harbourspiel.com by the 15th of the month.

MAY

Thu. May 1.....SCRD special committee of the whole - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
Thu. May 1.....Harbourside Friendships drop-in (trivia) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
Fri. May 2.....Live Music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.
Sat. May 3.....Trash Bash and Roadside Cleanup - P. H. Lions Park, 10 a.m.
Sun. May 4.....Bargain Barn Fashion Show - Royal Canadian Legion 112, noon
Mon. May 5.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon
Thu. May 8.....Harbourside Friendships drop-in (adult day program) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
Thu. May 8.....SCRD regular board - SCRD boardroom, 1 p.m.
Thu. May 8.....SCRD committee of the whole - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
Fri. May 9.....Live Music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.
Fri. May 9.....School of Music Coffeehouse - P. H. School of Music, 7 p.m.
Sun. May 11....Mother's Day
Sun. May 11.....Live music with Spindrift - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 2 p.m.
Tue. May 13.....P. H. Women's Connection (Krystyna Wisniewska) - P. H. School of Music, 10 a.m.
Thu. May 15....SCRD electoral services committee - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
Thu. May 15....Harbourside Friendships drop-in (Lions Park BBQ) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
Fri. May 16.....Live Music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.
Sat. May 17.....80th annual Pender Harbour May Day - Madeira Park, all day
Sun. May 18.....24th Attack of Danger Bay downhill longboard race - Beaver Island, all day
Sun. May 18.....Live music with Steve Hinton Band - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 2 p.m.
Mon. May 19....Victoria Day (Stat. holiday)
Tue. May 20.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10:30 a.m. - 12 noon
Thu. May 22....SCRD committee of the whole - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
Thu. May 22....Harbourside Friendships drop-in (free lunch) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
Thu. May 22....SCRD regular board - SCRD boardroom, 1 p.m.
Fri. May 23.....Live Music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.
Sun. May 25.....P. H. Music Society presents Cameron Crozman & Meagan Milatz - P. H. School of Music, 2 p.m.
Sun. May 25.....Live music with Blue Western - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 2 p.m.
Mon. May 26....Pender Harbour Garden Club presents Leoni Farquhar - P. H. School of Music, 1 p.m.
Tue. May 27.....P. H. Women's Connection (Liz Long) - P. H. School of Music, 10 a.m.
Wed. May 28.....Green Recycling in Pender society AGM - GRIPS depot. 1 p.m.
Thu. May 29....Harbourside Friendships drop-in (putting at PHGC) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
Fri. May 30.....Pender Harbour Youth Night (Grades 6 to 12) - P. H. Community Hall, 5 to 9 p.m.
Fri. May 30.....Live Music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6:30 p.m.
Sat. May 31.....P. H. Choir presents "Begining to see the light" - P. H. School of Music, 7 p.m.

Harbour Spiel Trivia Answers: 1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. a 6. d

*"I'm sure wherever my Dad is, he's looking down on us. He's not dead, just very condescending."
~ Jack Whitehall*



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PENDER HARBOUR MUSIC SOCIETY

2024/2025

CONCERT SERIES



**Cameron
Crozman, cello
& Meagan
Milatz, piano**

Sunday · May 25, 2025 · 2pm



Tickets \$30

Buy tickets online at penderharbourmusic.ca,
at the Sechelt Visitor Centre, and Harbour
Insurance, Madeira Park. Concerts are held at
the School of Music, 12956 Madeira Park Road.

Follow us on [f](https://www.facebook.com/penderharbourmusic) @penderharbourmusic [@penderharbourmusicsociety](https://www.instagram.com/penderharbourmusicsociety) penderharbourmusic.ca



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