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The independent voice of Pender Harbour & Egmont since 1990.

HARBOUR SPIEL

December 2026
Issue 432

IGA®

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year!

~ from all of us at IGA Madeira Park

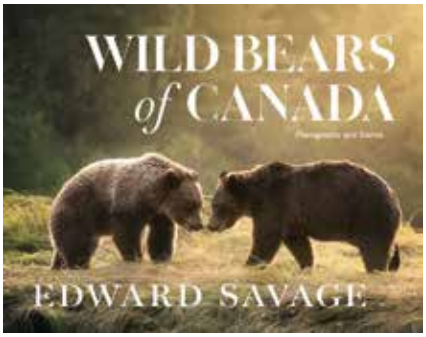
883-9100

OPEN DAILY • 8 am - 7 pm

HOLIDAY HOURS
Dec. 24: 8 am - 5 pm
Dec. 25: Closed
Dec. 26: 8 am - 6 pm
Dec. 31: 8 am - 6 pm
Jan. 1: 10 am - 5 pm

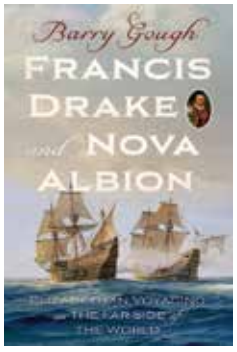


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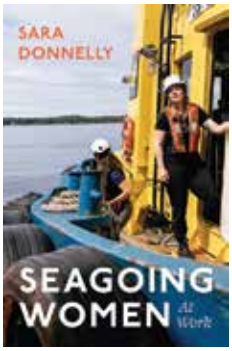
Wild Bears of Canada
Photographs and Stories
Edward Savage

An exploration of the lives of Canada's grizzlies, black bears and polar bears through field photography and the nuanced observations of a career nature guide. $49.95



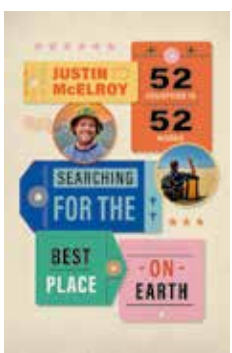
Francis Drake and Nova Albion
Elizabethan Voyaging on the Far Side of the World
Barry Gough

Acclaimed naval historian Barry Gough revisits the swashbuckling "Age of Drake," focusing on the explorer's circumnavigation and his 1579 landfall at Drakes Bay, California. $44.95



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Sara Donnelly

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HARBOUR SPIEL

The independent voice of Pender Harbour & Egmont since 1990.

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EDITOR
Brian Lee

CIRCULATION (2,300)
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.

Past issues of the Harbour Spiel are available online at *www.harbourspiel.com*.

CONTRIBUTORS
This month we thank: Christine Alexander, Robert Livingston, Carole Logtenberg, Shane McCune, Ryder Noble, Suzy Spence and Howard White.

COVER
Under new ownership, John Henry's Marina took the early lead for fanciest Christmas light display in Pender Harbour this year (photo taken Nov. 19). They also boast the newest restaurant in Garden Bay with The Galley at John Henry's opening Nov. 21 to a packed, and appreciative, house. (Brian Lee photo)

ADVERTISING
Please reserve before 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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(Advertising bookings before Dec. 11)

Dave cuts the Christmas tree



Brian Lee

When I was young, December meant it was time to head up Menacher Road to hunt for a Christmas tree.

It was common to run into others sifting through the mini forest under the power lines for their vision of the perfect tree and no one did it with more intensity than the moms.

Christmas is important to moms and mine sought a densely-branched cone worthy of a bougie tree farm.

Since they are rarely found in nature, the chosen tree would usually need to be Black and Deckered — a local(?) term for drilling holes in the trunk and fitting it with extra beauty branches.

My grandpa was the opposite.

He spurned the pursuit of the perfect tree and even claimed he felt sorry for the skeletal rejects he knew nobody else would cut.

He would proudly display a misshapen, sparsely-branched Charlie Brown lookalike that barely took ornaments and made him the butt of family jokes over the holidays.

I think I get it now though and feel drawn to his approach of picking a tree with extra personality.

But I have only 49 per cent of the vote in my household so, unless I revolt, we'll have a fake tree again.

It will look exactly the same as last year — perfect.

StatCan reports that artificial Christmas tree imports into Canada exceeded $95 million last year.

Artificial trees start around $100 and go up steeply from there.

Right now, a "9-ft. Noelle Fraser upswept, pre-lit LED artificial Christmas tree w/ 850 warm white lights" is on sale for $599 at Canadian Tire.

It's pretty, convenient and imported from China without a soul.

Still, it's cheaper than purchasing a real tree each year.

Tree farms have faced skyrocketing costs for seedlings, fertilizer and fuel over the past few years and only 20 per cent of Christmas tree demand in B.C. is supplied by local growers.

The rest are imported from eastern Canada, Washington, Oregon and North Carolina where the cost of farmed trees has risen about 10 per cent each year.

This year should be no exception, likely pushing higher the $15-$20 per foot many retailers charged last year.

But there's no sport or honour in buying a tree anyway — genuine rustics go into the bush and cut their own.

But first, the man requires you to kiss the ring.

For those who still follow the law, British Columbians wishing to cut a Christmas tree on Crown land must apply online for a permit.

Locally, permits limit harvesting to most of the major hydro line corridors and some forest service roads (with specific restrictions).

But, permit, schmermit.

Anyone who has witnessed the bush camps and freshly cut stumps on our forestry roads understands it's lawless country up there anyway.

Years ago, I was biking in a cutblock near McNeill Lake when a pillar of the community and his family rolled up with a 11-foot fir sticking way out the rear of their truck canopy.

With the jerky haste of a cornered crook, Dave (not his real name) seemed eager to flee as he vigorously insisted to the amused reporter witnessing this spectacle that there was "No story here!"

While his family squealed with laughter at their own criminality, I pointed to the huge tree poking many feet out the canopy and chirped back,

"That's not a Christmas tree — that's logging!"

With that, Dave sped off, peeling out gravel and bringing even more squeals from the kids in the back seat.

Breaking the law is fun.

P. H. MUSIC SOCIETY'S COOL YULE: FESTIVE CHEER WITH GYPSY JAZZ: Sunday, Dec. 6, 2 p.m.

The perfect answer to winter chill. Come share some family-friendly seasonal cheer with Vancouver's hottest swinging jazz group Van Django, plus stellar vocalist LJ Mounteney and superb Celtic guitarist and singer Andrew Hillhouse. Cool Yule is a merry Christmas mix of nostalgic favourites, jazz standards, singalongs, pop tunes, some classical touches, and a few surprises — all delivered in their swinging gypsy jazz style.

DON'T GET SCAMMED: ESSENTIAL SAFETY TIPS FOR SENIORS: Wednesday, Dec. 9, 12 noon

Come to the Legion on Dec. 9 to learn how to spot fraud, avoid scams and protect your personal information. For the past 25 years, Clair MacGougan has worked with the Hastings Sunrise Community Policing Centre in the role of executive director. Prior to joining the HSCPC in 2002, MacGougan worked as a consultant, manager and frontline worker in youth justice and social services programming throughout the Lower Mainland for 16 years. This important workshop is hosted by the Rotary Club of Pender Harbour.

PENDER HARBOUR WINTER FESTIVAL: Saturday, Dec. 19, 3 to 9 p.m.

Come out to Millennium Park for the event of the season. There will be kids' crafts, food trucks, vendors, live music, mulled wine and carol ships! Winterfest kicks off at 3 p.m. and the Christmas boat parade starts at 6:30 p.m. — all at the government dock in Madeira Park. For the kids, Santa's Workshop includes photos with Santa, toy making, hot chocolate and cookie decorating. There will also be an artisans' market, licensed area for holiday spirits and mulled wine (bring your own mug), raffle and a bonfire. Santa Claus himself arrives at 4 p.m.

62ND ANNUAL PENDER HARBOUR CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE: Saturday, Dec. 19, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

The parade of lit boats, carollers and pipers gets underway at 6:30 p.m., leaving from the Madeira Park wharf. Boaters should meet off the government dock at 6 p.m. Participating boats should be decorated with Christmas lights.



Looking for a family doctor in the Pender Harbour area that's closer to home?

Sign up to the Health Connect Registry!

There are new physicians in Pender Harbour who are accepting patients. Register yourself, your family, or others under your care.

healthlinkbc.ca/hcr or call 8-1-1

Have questions? Contact the Pender Harbour Health Centre at: (604) 883-2764

Sunshine Coast Division of Family Practice
An FPSC initiative

PENDER HARBOUR HEALTH CENTRE

Group aims to preserve 200 acres of private land in Garden Bay

A handful of Garden Bay residents is looking for support funding to purchase and preserve an "environmentally sensitive tract of 200 acres" that borders three local lakes including Hotel Lake, Garden Bay Lake, Mixal Lake and also a marsh wetland.

The 200 acres is known to many as being formerly owned by the late Wendell Welander and is made up of two adjoining properties with a combined 2026 BC Assessment value of close to $3.5 million.

Garden Bay resident Andy Cardiff told the *Harbour Spiel* that the land is now held privately by an offshore owner from Beijing, with the threat of development, loss of public use and loss of vital habitat.

It's already a popular recreation spot with local residents, hikers and swimmers who make use of the Hotel Lake rope swing site.

Cardiff walks his dog through there almost every day and said it's a very rare day not to see a bunch of kids using the rope swing or also using the trails on the property.

"The trail is so well developed — you can see everybody's hiking," said Cardiff.

So far, Cardiff has focused on garnering support from elected representatives.

In a letter to local government, BC Parks staff and potential funders, Cardiff estimated that a walking trail on the property from Garden Bay Lake to Irvines landing Road has between 550 to 850 people per week "trespassing" through it.

He has also contacted the Wilson 5 Foundation about the piece of land.

Established in 2012, the Wilson 5 Foundation is a private philanthropic organization dedicated to making a lasting contribution to British Columbia by supporting land conservancy, parks and public art that encourage movement, "while maximizing impact through focused funding of select initiatives locally and beyond."



SCRD

A map showing two Garden Bay properties (yellow and blue) that are currently the focus of preservation efforts by local residents.

Cardiff said the group has also reached out to real estate agent Adrienne Oldham "to begin the conversation with the owner."

"I think you would be hard pressed to find someone in this community who doesn't loosely acknowledge this as a valuable recreation corridor," said Cardiff.

"By using it as a park, it makes all of us trespassers on this property, so I think we need to fix that and make it a protected space."

Cardiff can be contacted by email at *acardiff@c-tow.ca*.



scrd.ca

It's official. Christine Alexander was sworn in as Area A director for the Sunshine Coast Regional District at the inaugural board meeting on Nov. 12. Also taking their oath of office for a four-year term (2026 to 2030) were Dean Miller (Electoral Area B – Halfmoon Bay), Kelly Backs (Electoral Area D – Roberts Creek), Donna McMahon (Electoral Area E – Elphinstone), Kate-Louise Stamford (Electoral Area F – West Howe Sound), Jamel Paul (shíshálh Nation Government District), Darren Inkster and Ken Whitaker (District of Sechelt) and Silas White (Town of Gibsons). At the inaugural board meeting, Stamford was named chair and McMahon was named vice-chair of the SCRD board of directors.





Ryder Noble

Brayden Noble (pictured)helped his dad Ryder Noble and grandfather Randell Metz clean up Baker's Beach on Nov. 15 after heavy southeast storms. Coincidentally, on Nov. 24, the Sunshine Coast Regional District, in partnership with the Ocean Legacy Foundation, reopened the Ocean Plastics Depot at the Sechelt Landfill. The depot aims to help residents divert marine debris from the landfill and support efforts to reduce ocean plastic pollution. The depot will accept plastic marine debris collected by residents from shoreline cleanups and will be open during regular Sechelt Landfill operating hours. Residents and community groups interested in using the depot must register for a one-time safety orientation before participating. To sign up, email *infrastructure@scrd.ca*. For more information about the depot and accepted materials, visit *www.scrd.ca/ocean-depot*.

RCMP warn about spoofing calls asking for personal information

The Sunshine Coast RCMP is advising residents to be cautious after recent reports from other Lower Mainland detachments of scammers spoofing the detachment's phone number and posing as police officers to obtain personal and banking information.

According to a Nov. 9 release, Sunshine Coast RCMP said the callers will request personal information while making it appear as though the call is coming from an RCMP detachment.

"Scammers can make it look like they are calling from a legitimate phone number, including a police detachment," said Sgt. Don Newman.

"If you receive a call claiming to be from police, and are unsure if it is legitimate, hang up and call the detachment directly using a publicly listed phone number to verify the call, or you can attend the local detachment during regular business hours to speak directly to an employee."

Residents are reminded not to provide personal, financial, or banking information over the phone unless they are certain they know who they are speaking with.

Phone and online frauds are becoming increasingly complex and harder to detect as fake.

Here are some tips to help keep you safe from fraud:

• If you feel something is suspicious, hang up the phone and research the call back number for the company or organization yourself, then call that number.

Never use the redial function on your phone;

• Before sending information or money, ask a close friend or family member if they think the call could be legitimate;

• Be wary of calls, text messages or emails that put pressure on you to make a quick decision.

Fraudsters will often put pressure in the form of a time limit on you to force you into making a snap decision, and,

• Do an internet search to see if anyone online is talking about a similar call or type of communication.

That might help you to decide if this is fraudulent or legitimate.

Anyone who believes they may have been targeted by this scam is encouraged to report it to the Sunshine Coast RCMP at (604) 885-2266.

GRIPS
Green Recycling in Pender Society
RECYCLING & BOTTLE DEPOT
883-1165
ONE-STOP CONVENIENCE
• Multi-material recycling
• Beverage 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 Sundays, Wednesdays & holidays
Open Sundays after
May long weekend until Labour Day

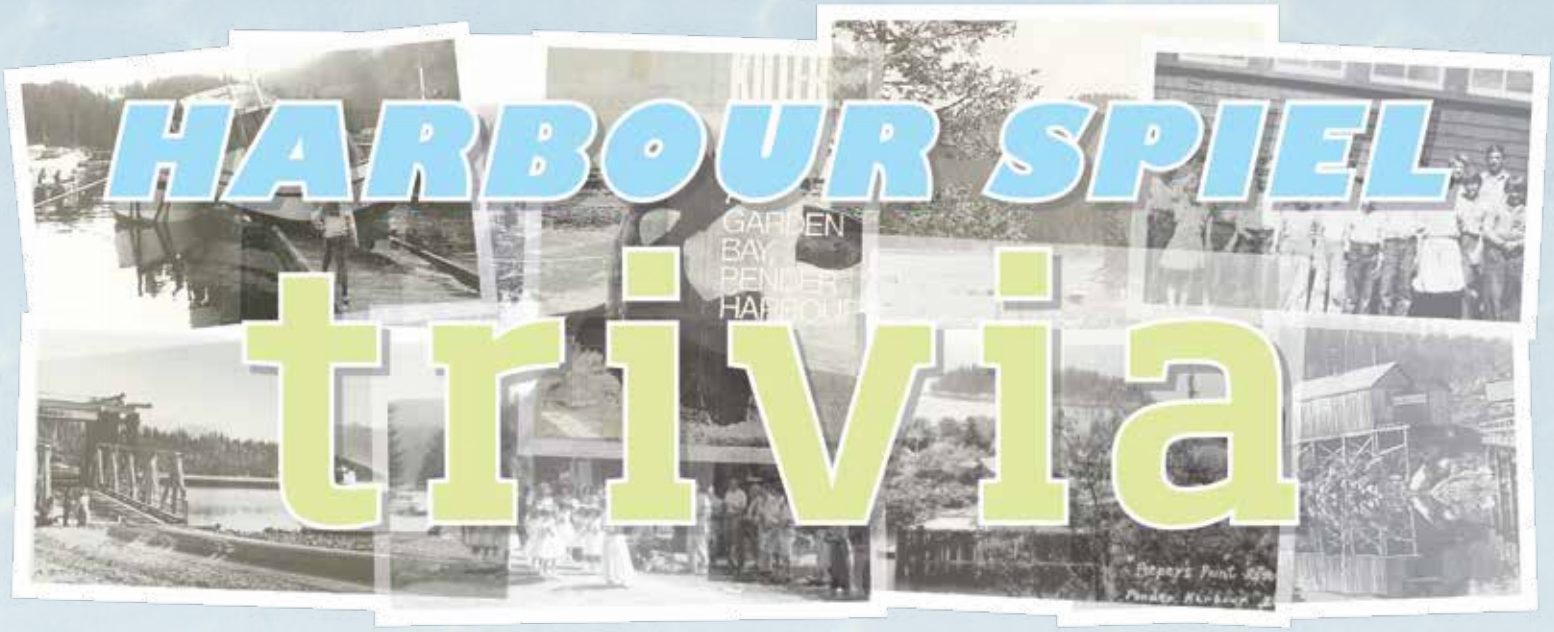
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Victor Sladey
604.741.1031
vortexbab@gmail.com

photojournal



Carole Logtenberg

Lower Kleindale is getting really sketchy. Here a row of Roosevelt elk are pictured attempting to block traffic on Garden Bay Road on Oct. 24.



HARBOUR SPIEL trivia

1. What is the name of the campground that once operated behind the Madeira Park IGA?

- ☐ a. Harbour Campground
- ☐ b. Sanbar Campground
- ☐ c. salalus Campground
- ☐ d. Park Campground

2. What year did construction begin on the Pender Harbour Community Hall?

- ☐ a. 1929
- ☐ b. 1939
- ☐ c. 1946
- ☐ d. 1952

3. In cellular biology, what does the acronym "ATP" refer to?

- ☐ a. Apoptosis telophase
- ☐ b. Acetyl transferpose
- ☐ c. Adipocytal triptophide
- ☐ d. Adenosine triphosphate

4. What now operates on the former Egmont Fish Plant property?

- ☐ a. Bathgate's General Store
- ☐ b. Malibu Landing
- ☐ c. Egmont Adventure Centre
- ☐ d. Backeddy Resort and Marina

5. Which is a meromictic lake (layered with a fresh-water upper layer and saltwater bottom layer)?

- ☐ a. Sakinaw Lake
- ☐ b. Kokomo Lake
- ☐ c. Ruby Lake
- ☐ d. West Lake

6. Approximately, what is the minimum tide required to transit Canoe Pass in a kayak?

- ☐ a. 0 foot
- ☐ b. 4 foot
- ☐ c. 7 foot
- ☐ d. 11 foot

Answers: p. 34

Four-plus: **Local** Two-plus: **Newbie** Less than two: **Townie**



Suzy Spence

This sunset is for the dogs. Photo taken in Gunboat Bay Oct. 17.

Showler: A grizzly question

Editor,

This pertains to the two adult women killed by grizzly bears in Bella Coola in early November.

The BC Conservation Officer Service has matched animal DNA found on the corpses with four different bears, and all have been destroyed.

These predatory four animals were a sow bear and her three cubs about a year old.

This should be of concern to anyone living in Pender Harbour.

This exact same composition of animals, a sow bear and three large cubs, is what we have with the "grizzly bear family" last seen on Daniel Point and vividly illustrated in the last *Harbour Spiel*.

The COS has concluded that all four bears were involved in the attack in Bella Coola, and that their behaviour was predatory.

The writer of this letter has some experience with multi-day wilderness travel in grizzly country.

However, I doubt if any human survival strategy would work, if you were attacked by four bears at once.

I hope the local conservation people know what they are doing by remaining passive observers.

Gavin Showler
Madeira Park

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Pender Harbour Seniors Housing Society
Outreach Healthy Meal Program
Home Cooked Meals
Donations gratefully accepted.
Tax receipts will be issued.
FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE:
Call Linda – 604.883.2819, Wendy – 604.883.2514 or Anky –604.883.0033

Hello!



Christine Alexander
Area A director, SCRD

As I write this, I have been affirmed as the Sunshine Coast Regional District Area A director for less than a week.

On Nov. 12, I was joined by my alternate, John Lucas, who also affirmed his oath of office.

Many of you will recognize John as the assistant fire chief for Pender Harbour.

We have begun our orientation to all things SCRD, and our first look at the budgeting process will soon be underway.

We directors were right in the middle of our IT session when Outlook went out across the world.

Initially I thought it was my fault — but I can assure you it was not (see kids, it isn't always Mom's user errors).

In the meantime, the residents of Area A have not hesitated to reach out over the last two months.

I have been kept busy during the changeover with emails and invitations to community meetings and events.

It is immensely helpful to hear directly from you with concerns, updates and information you think we should know.

Please know that SCRD staff do not report to directors, and we do not conduct operations, so your first contact should be directly to the SCRD.

That said, please feel free to cc me if you think I should know about it at *christine.alexander@scrd.ca*.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

I was honoured to lay a wreath on Remembrance Day on behalf of the SCRD.

I learned about an 18-year-old of the Klein family killed in World War II and personal experience from our local minister that brought home the meaning of sacrifice.

This year our pipers were followed by a section of our local Canadian Rangers in bright red sweatshirts.

Those of you who don't yet know me personally, will discover I am a military wife and mother so I was thrilled they could join us.

Many of our first responders came after and it was a wonderful ceremony that ended with a rainbow over the Legion.

Thank you to all for your service and let us never forget those who have

Sunshine Coast Regional District

www.scrd.ca info@scrd.ca

Board and Committee Meetings

Budget Committee (Fees and Charges Review)
December 3 at 9:30 a.m.

Committee of the Whole
December 10 at 9:30 a m.

Regular Board
December 10 at 1:00 p.m.

Special Board Meeting
December 17 at 9:30 a m.

Electoral Area Services Committee
December 17 at 1:00 p.m.

Zoom and YouTube links are available on the agenda page of the SCRD website at www.scrd.ca/agendas.

Board and Board Committee meetings are held in person in the Sunshine Coast Regional District Boardroom at 1975 Field Road, Sechelt, BC, online via Zoom, and live-streamed to the SCRD YouTube channel.

Pender Harbour Transfer Station Holiday Hours of Operation

Sunday, December 20
CLOSED Regular Closure Day

Monday, December 21
OPEN (9:00 am– 5:00 pm)

Tuesday, December 22
CLOSED Regular Closure Day

Wednesday, December 23
OPEN (9:00 am– 5:00 pm)

Thursday, December 24
EARLY CLOSURE AT 3:30 pm

Friday, December 25
CHRISTMAS DAY CLOSED

Saturday, December 26
BOXING DAY CLOSED

Sunday, December 27
CLOSED Regular Closure Day

No loads accepted after 4:50 p.m.

SAVE ON SNOW FUN AT DAKOTA RIDGE

Get 10% off your Dakota Ridge season pass before December 18! Enjoy unlimited skiing and snowshoeing all winter long. Buy online at www.scrd.ca/Dakota-Ridge or in person at the Gibsons and Area Community Centre or Sechelt Aquatic Centre.

Sign Up for Alerts

Stay informed! Sign up for local emergency alerts so you receive real-time updates on severe weather, evacuations, and safety measures. Your phone can be your lifeline! **www.scrd.ca/alert-system**

paid the ultimate price for freedom.

COMMUNITY

At this time of celebration, I want to bring warmest Christmas and holiday greetings to all in Area A, and to all of you who wish you were here.

If you are able, please remember our community in your holiday activities, gifting and donations.

We have so many fabulous organizations in Pender Harbour and Egmont that we rely on.

Please think local — our food bank, Spreading Kindness, Lions Club, P. H. Health Centre and others who do great things with your help.

If you stuff stockings, consider tickets from the Pender Harbour Music Society or classes from local businesses.

Many organizations sell incredibly affordable memberships that fit well in a card or attached to a bottle of wine as a gift for a generous host.

The P. H. Wildlife Society, the P. H. Community Hall, the P. H. Living Heritage Association, the Egmont Community Association and the Egmont Museum come to mind.

If your budget is bigger, consider something unique from the Bargain Barn in support of local projects and, of course, our amazing local artists, authors, service providers and businesses.

And don't forget that emergency preparedness kit for your home, car and pets that you keep meaning to put together.

That could fit under a tree, too.

If affordability is top of mind, don't forget the gift of friendship.

My favourite part of living in Area A is our community.

When I first learned of the "Egmonster" name, I knew Pender Harbour must have "Harbourians," and I love living with you all.

I have seen the fierce loyalty and community spirit we have for each other when times are at their worst.

As many of us stay close and warm this season, please give some thought to your close neighbours and look after each other.

During those three-day winter power outages or occasional extreme weather events, that connection can be a lifeline.

Our local Legion has invested in a generator to ensure we can all gather and get warm if we need to.

Doesn't that just make your Egmonster or Harbourian heart grow three sizes?

Discover Your New Home at

Campbell House

Only 4 units left!

Welcome to Campbell House, a warm and inviting senior living community in the heart of beautiful Madeira Park. Starting at just $1,450/month, our brand-new residences are designed for seniors with your comfort, independence, and joy in mind.

Why Choose Campbell House?

Cozy & Modern Living: Enjoy one of our 14 spacious apartments, each with stunning views and senior-friendly amenities tailored for ease and relaxation.

Vibrant Lifestyle: Stay active and connected with a variety of local events, social gatherings, and activities in Madeira Park's welcoming community.

Caring Support: Local community care services ensure you feel supported while living life on your terms.

Places to Unwind & Connect: Stroll through our serene gardens, explore scenic walking trails, get creative in our workshop, or relax in our cozy social lounges—perfect for making new friends or enjoying quiet moments.

Come See for Yourself!

We invite you to tour Campbell House and discover the perfect place to embrace a fulfilling, worry-free lifestyle. Whether you're ready to simplify, stay active, or build new friendships, we're here to make it happen.

Schedule Your Visit Today!

Contact us at **info@campbell-house.org** or **(604) 883-8106** to book a tour, Monday through Friday, 10am to 12pm.

Pender Harbour Seniors Housing Society

We can't wait to welcome you home to Campbell House, a BC Housing financed project.



Like us on facebook!

Campbell House
Lily Lake

www.campbell-house.org

SPANI DEVELOPMENTS

BC HOUSING

Merry Christmas!



3.5x

Money spent locally generates 3.5 x more wealth for the local economy than money spent at a chain-owned business.

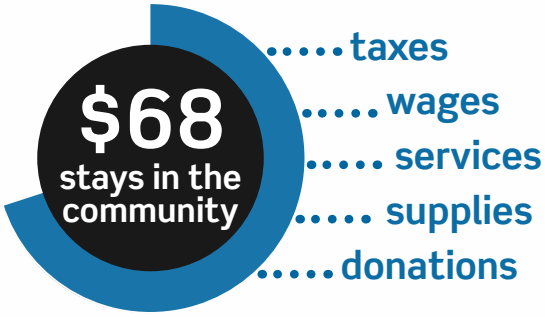
250%

Local businesses support local events, sports teams and charities 250% more than large corporations.

2.2

For every $1 million in sales, independent toy stores create 2.22 local jobs, while chains create just 1.31.

For every $100 spent locally:



Consider a donation of any size to support one of these organizations that work tirelessly throughout the year to help those in need:

PENDER HARBOUR SENIORS HOUSING SOCIETY

Box 264, Madeira Park, BC, V0N 2H0
604.883.2819
Delivers healthy meals to participating seniors while pursuing seniors' housing projects including Campbell House.

SPREADING KINDNESS FUNDRAISER (PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL)

Box 232, Madeira Park, BC, V0N 2H1
604.741.5068, ***lyncharlton7@gmail.com***
Provides direct support to local youth struggling with housing and basic needs. (Cheques payable to the PH Community School Society with "Spreading Kindness" in the memo.)

PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT FOUNDATION

#13 - 12710 Lagoon Rd., Madeira Park, BC, V0N 2H1 604.883.2819
Contact: Linda Curtiss
A registered charitable organization that accepts donations for a variety of community projects. (Tax receipts are issued.)

ROYAL CANADIAN MARINE SEARCH & RESCUE NO. 61

4803 Bowsprit Dr., Madeira Park, BC V0N 2H1 604.883.2572
Local volunteers responding 24/7 to mariners in distress are raising funds for new equipment. Visit *www.rcmsar61.ca/donate.html* to donate.

PENDER HARBOUR HEALTH CENTRE AUXILIARY

Box 308, Madeira Park, BC, V0N 2H1
778.840.1692
Not-for-profit society that runs the Bargain Barn and provides support funding for the Pender Harbour & District Health Centre.

PENDER HARBOUR & DISTRICT HEALTH CENTRE SOCIETY

Box 308, Madeira Park, BC, V0N 2H0
604.883.2764, ***penderharbourhealth.com***
Local society that manages health services via the Pender Harbour Health Centre.

ROTARY CLUB OF PENDER HARBOUR

4202 Packalen Blvd., Garden Bay, BC, V0N 1S1 778.487.2034
Raises money for a variety of local and international projects.

PENDER HARBOUR FOOD BANK

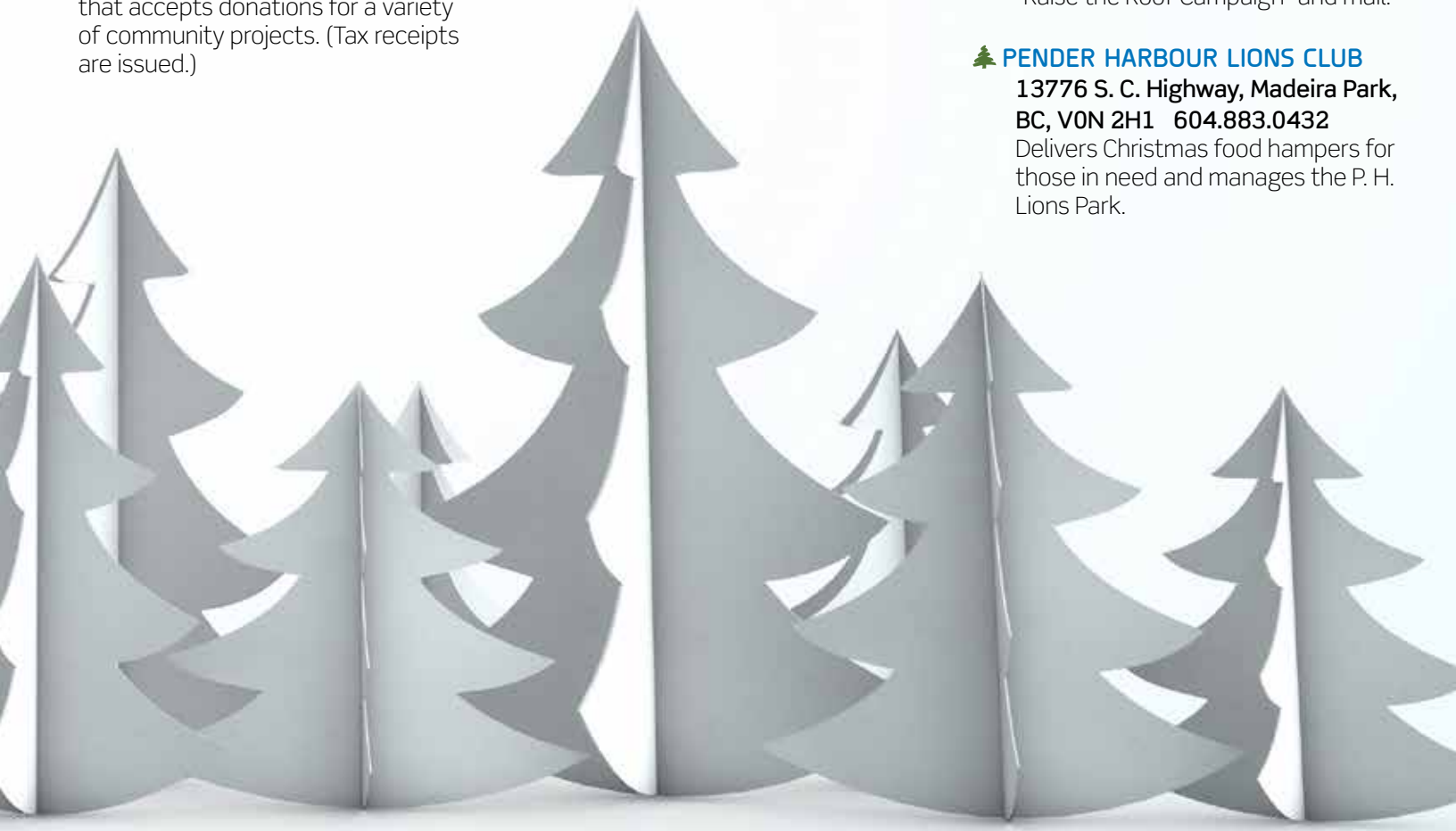
Box 436, Madeira Park, BC, V0N 2H0
604.883.9773
Year-round food bank operated out of the P. H. Community Church Ministry Centre. E-transfer donations can be made to *penderharbourfoodbank@gmail.com*.

PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY CLUB "RAISE THE ROOF" CAMPAIGN

#13-12710 Lagoon Rd., Madeira Park, BC, V0N 2H0 604.883.9900
To donate, e-transfer *phcifalex@gmail.com* (include name and address) or mail a cheque made out to the Pender Harbour Improvement Foundation with a note in the memo "Raise the Roof Campaign" and mail.

PENDER HARBOUR LIONS CLUB

13776 S. C. Highway, Madeira Park, BC, V0N 2H1 604.883.0432
Delivers Christmas food hampers for those in need and manages the P. H. Lions Park.



what's happening this christmas?

CRAFTS IN THE HOOD (SECHELT)
Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

You have to travel to Sechelt to find a craft fair this December! Crafts in the Hood, held at the Sechelt Seniors Centre (5604 Trail Ave.), is a festive two-day December market bringing together local artisans, makers and foodies for a holiday celebration on the Sunshine Coast. Discover handmade gifts, seasonal decor and delicious treats.

PENDER HARBOUR MUSIC SOCIETY PRESENTS COOL YULE: FESTIVE CHEER WITH GYPSY JAZZ
Sunday, Dec. 6 at 2 p.m.

The perfect answer to winter chill, come share some family-friendly seasonal cheer with Vancouver's hottest swingin' jazz group Van Django, plus stellar vocalist LJ Mounteney and superb Celtic guitarist and singer Andrew Hillhouse.

Cool Yule is a merry Christmas mix of nostalgic favourites, jazz standards, singalongs, pop tunes, some classical touches, and a few surprises — all delivered in their swinging gypsy jazz style.

PET PHOTOS WITH SANTA: PENDER HARBOUR LIBRARY FUNDRAISER
Thursday, Dec. 10 from 5 to 8 p.m.

Pet Portraits with Santa (Sandy Matches) in support of the Pender Harbour Library will run Thursday, Dec. 10 starting at 5 p.m.

Featuring photographer Angela Stearns, photos with Santa cost a minimum $20 donation per photo and folks are also encouraged to bring an item for the food bank. At the P. H. Community Church Ministry Centre at 12891 Lagoon Road (near Madeira Park fire hall).

PENDER HARBOUR CHOIR PRESENTS 'I WILL LIGHT CANDLES THIS CHRISTMAS'
Saturday, Dec. 12, 2 p.m.

Join the Pender Harbour Choir as they celebrate the festive year-end. The choir will perform "Winter's Light" at the Madeira Park Performance Centre on Dec. 12 with musical director/conductor Simon Gidora and accompanied by pianist Serah Strandberg.

The choir will also perform a second show at the St. Hilda's Church in Sechelt on Friday, Dec. 18 at 7 p.m.





PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Sunday, Dec. 13 at 3:30 p.m. (crafts)/5:30 p.m. (dinner)

Come out to what is likely to be the first official event at the newly renovated Pender Harbour Community Hall. Santa will be there to visit the kids, arts and crafts will be available — all before a delicious dinner.

Doors open at 3:30 p.m. when the kids' crafts begin and dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. Food bank or dessert donations accepted.

PENDER HARBOUR WOMEN'S CONNECTION 'WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA'

Tuesday, Dec. 15, doors at 11:30 a.m.

The Pender Harbour Women's Connection's "Winter Extravaganza" will be held Dec. 15 at the Madeira Park Legion. It opens at 11:30 a.m. with a full seasonal lunch including dessert, tea and coffee served at 12 noon. Back by popular demand, Hot Java, an eight-woman vocal ensemble, along with their musical accompanist, will present a sparkling performance that is sure to warm hearts on a cool winter's day.

Tickets must be purchased by Dec. 8. Contact any women's connection council member or Helga at (604) 883-0566 or Karen at (604) 883-0604 (leave your name and number of tickets required). Or, message via the Women's Connection Facebook page. Tickets are $40 and include gratuities.

HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIPS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND PENDER HARBOUR CHOIR PERFORMANCE

Thursday, Dec. 17 at 10:30 a.m. (lunch served at noon)

Organized by the Pender Harbour Seniors Initiative, Harbour Side Friendships hosts a $10 Christmas turkey luncheon for seniors at the Pender Harbour Community Hall on Dec. 17.

Lunch will include a performance and "singsong" by the Pender Harbour Choir. Tickets ($10) will be sold ahead of time to plan for attendance.

EGMONT CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER

Friday, Dec.18 at 6 p.m.

A festive community dinner at the Egmont Community Hall. People from out of town with kids under 13 should bring a wrapped gift so Santa can hand it to their child.

(continued next page)



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what's happening this christmas?

(continued from p. 15)

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION 112 HAM, TURKEY AND XMAS BASKET MEAT DRAW

Saturday, Dec. 19 at 3 p.m.

If you like to yell "Yee-haw" at the meat draw, this is the biggest of the year. The Royal Canadian Legion No. 112 presents its annual Christmas fundraiser — a 20-ham and 20-turkey meat draw that also includes a Christmas basket auction. It's your best bet to load up on meat (and good cheer) before the holidays. Don't miss the early bird draws starting at 3 p.m. with the main draw at 3:30 p.m.





PENDER HARBOUR WINTER FESTIVAL

Saturday, Dec. 19 from 3 to 9 p.m.

Come out to Millennium Park for the event of the season. There will be kids' crafts, food trucks, vendors, live music, mulled wine and carol ships!

Winterfest kicks off at 3 p.m. and the Christmas boat parade starts at 6:30 p.m. — all at the government dock in Madeira Park.

For the kids, Santa's Workshop includes photos with Santa, toy making, hot chocolate and cookie decorating. There will also be an artisans' market, licensed area for holiday spirits and mulled wine (bring your own mug), raffle and a bonfire. Santa Claus himself arrives at 4 p.m. So, you know it's going to be off the hook. Also, the Pender Harbour Library will be open from 4 to 7 p.m. during Winterfest.

Winterfest runs from 3 to 9 p.m. and entry is by donation at the entrance.

62ND P. H. CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE

Saturday, Dec. 19 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Continuing the 62-year tradition set by the late Wilma and Bill Thompson, the parade of illuminated boats, carollers and pipers gets underway at 6:30 p.m., leaving from Winterfest at the Madeira Park wharf. Boaters should meet off the government dock at 6 p.m. Participating boats should be decorated with Christmas lights. Finish at John Henry's Marina for a get-together.

NEW YEARS EVE AT THE LEGION

Thursday, Dec. 31, Doors at 6 p.m., Dinner at 7 p.m.

Ring in 2027 with friends, a full belly and music by DJ Karl. The Royal Canadian Legion 112 will host a roast beef dinner (with Yorkshire pudding), followed by a decadent dessert and dancing. Tickets are $75 (at the Legion or e-transfer *rcl112@telus.net*).

3RD ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S DAY PYJAMA PARTY

Friday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m.

Shake off the night before in your PJs with buffet brunch and a mimosa or a Caesar at the Madeira Park Legion for only $25. No prizes have been announced for the "naughtiest nightie," but if you've got it, flaunt it.

HARBOUR SPIEL CHRISTMAS CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5 CRAFTS IN THE HOOD (SECHELT SENIORS CENTRE)
6 P. H. MUSIC SOCIETY PRESENTS "COOL YULE" CRAFTS IN THE HOOD (SECHELT SENIORS CENTRE)	7	8	9	10 P. H. LIBRARY FUNDRAISER PET PHOTOS WITH SANTA!	11	12 P. H. CHOIR PRESENTS "I WILL LIGHT THE CANDLES"
13	14	15 PENDER HARBOUR WOMEN'S CONNECTION "WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA"	16	17 HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIPS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON AND CHOIR	18 EGMONT CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER	19 ROYAL CDN. LEGION 112 XMAS MEAT DRAW PENDER HARBOUR WINTER FESTIVAL 62ND P. H. CHRISTMAS BOAT PARADE
20 ROYAL CDN. LEGION 112 "SURFY CHRISTMAS" W/ JOE ROTUNDO	21	22	23	24	25 SANTA! 	26
27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE AT THE LEGION	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY PYJAMA PARTY @ THE LEGION	





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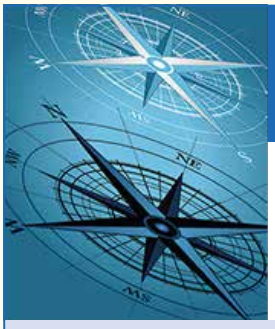
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Local health matters

Pender Harbour Health Centre: Year in Review

2026 has been a year of growth and change at the Pender Harbour and District Health Centre Society.

Here are some highlights and milestones:

NEW PHYSICIANS

We began 2026 with one physician, Dr. Bazilli, and roughly 400 attached patients. This year, two physicians joined us from the U.S., Dr. Williams and Dr. Bay, joined the PHHC, raising attachment to over 1,500 patients. We are still welcoming new patients, to get connected with a PHHC physician, please call us at 604-883-2764.

PCN ROLLOUT AT PHHC

In June 2026, Sean Talbot joined the PHHC as our first Primary Care Network (PCN) Clinical Counsellor and has been supporting clients referred by our physicians. In December 2026, Sarah will join our multidisciplinary team as the first PCN Social Worker, adding another valuable resource for our patients.

To access counselling or social work support at the PHHC, please ask your physician for a referral to Sean or Sarah.

50 YEARS OF PROVIDING CARE

In August, the Pender Harbour and District Health Centre Society marked 50 years of providing local health and wellness services to Pender Harbour and surrounding communities with a celebration at the Health Centre. The event was well attended and was a great example of the community support the Health Centre receives.

Speakers included Diane (PHHC President), Lesley (PHHC Auxiliary President), Linda (longtime supporter), Nick (PHHC ED), MP Patrick Weiler and MLA Randene Neill. At this event we officially opened the Primary Care Wing, which was renovated in the summer of 2025 and heard an announcement about a federal transportation grant.







PHHC SECURES FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

At the 50th anniversary event in August, MP Patrick Weiler announced that the PHHC's application to the Rural Transit Solutions Fund (RTSF) was successful. Recognizing the community's transportation barriers and the success of the Seniors Link bus service, the Federal government has committed $175,200 toward a new accessible bus.

The grant requires the PHHC to contribute $43,800 to this project. Our fundraising committee will launch a campaign in the new year to raise these funds. Watch the Harbour Spiel and our website for details.

MULTI-YEAR BETTER AT HOME FUNDING

Thanks to the growth and success of our Better at Home program and the new Seniors Link bus service, United Way BC informed us in spring 2026 that we had secured two years of funding. Both programs now have committed funding until April 2028.

Thank you to our Better at Home coordinator, Haida, and her team, including the Seniors Link drivers, for their hard work and dedication to seniors in our community.

PHHC SAYS FAREWELL TO BOARD DIRECTOR

At the Society's AGM in September, we said goodbye to long-serving Board Director Marilyn Duggan, who completed her term after nine years of dedication to the Board and the Health Centre. The Society and PHHC team sincerely thank Marilyn for her service and her commitment to health and wellness in her community.

We wish all our patients, participants, supporters, neighbours, friends and community members a safe and happy holiday season.

‘Outrage at the Roost’ (*Peninsula Voice*, Aug. 29, 1973)

Howard White

The pockets of the new pool tables in the Roost look like they’re made for basketballs.

The cues feel like baseball bats.

The cushions are cut so if you hit six inches either side of the hole the ball is funnelled in.

And then there’s the other hole that funnels in your money.

Four bits a crack, and you’re lucky to make a game last five minutes.

It’s an insult to human intelligence.

One disgusted pool regular was suggesting it would be more of a challenge to keep your balls out of the pockets than sinking them.

The gilt fringes around the pockets add just the right touch.

Take the suckers for every cent they’ve got and don’t waste any time about it.

Manager Ray Boisvert says the tables aren’t the idea of new owner Roger McAfee.

Colin Bird ordered them before the place was sold because the old tables were cracked and it would have cost a lot to fix them, while Gulf Music supplies these little ones for free for a share of the take.

That’s the kind of thinking which has made the Roost a great place to stay away from.

Without the pool crowd that place won’t pay the light bill during the winter, and there won’t be any pool crowd around those tables.

The ideal solution would be to leave one of the freak tables, for beginners and tourists as such, and get a real good regulation job for the regulars.

That would be what you’d call true progress

Remember Roger, the money’s in the beer.

This Roger’s the sort of guy who gets things done.

Used to be a heavy in the AMS (student government) at UBC and was mainly responsible for building the Student Union Building, a concrete pleasure dome costing some $3.5 million.

When enemies accused him of railroading the project through council, he posed in a trainman’s cap on the miniature railroad in Stanley Park for the front page of the student newspaper.

He took law and later became a city prosecutor.

He has big plans for the hotel, starting Saturday with a cabaret featuring Summer Wind.



Volume IV Number 3

Peninsula Voice

Wednesday, August 29, 1973
Madeira Park, B.C.

NOT MUCH HAPPENS

The *Peninsula Voice* was published in Madeira Park by Howard and Mary White from 1970 to 1974 and was the genesis for their long-running book publishing venture Harbour Publishing.





Brian Lee

A stop work order issued to the owners of the Garden Bay Pub property on May 15 has continued to halt construction at the site (left photo taken Sept. 26, right photo taken Nov 21). According to former SCRD Area A director Leonard Lee in the June *Harbour Spiel*, the construction was unpermitted. 'A stop-work order is issued when a formal complaint is filed with the SCRD which triggers an investigation and, depending on the result of the investigation, further action.' A building permit is required to build any structure except an auxiliary building no larger than 10 square metres, to repair a damaged building, to demolish or move a building, and to construct a retaining wall 1.2 metres or higher.

harbour seals

Harbour Seals of Approval or Disapproval.

By email: *editor@harbourspiel.com.* Include full name and telephone number. (Editor will edit for length.)

Harbour Seals of Approval to Gibsons Museum 'Spirit Rising' co-curator **Miyuki Shinkai** for her vision and **Matthew Lovegrove** for taking a journey with me back into my family history from a Porpoise Bay logging camp to Hastings Park, to the New Denver internment camp to Barriere and back to the Sunshine Coast in 1973. Proud Canadian.

Sunny Charboneau

A Harbour Seal of Approval for **Cindy Schroeder** for preparing all the delicious, warm meals for the Halloween Fun Night. The PHSS PAC is incredibly grateful for your support of our fundraiser.

Carole Logtenberg
PHSS PAC president

Wreaths full of Harbour Seals of Approval to **all the dedicated volunteers, participants and attendees** who helped make the Remembrance Day parade, ceremony and gathering such a memorable, heartfelt occasion.

Lyn and Bill Charlton
Royal Canadian Legion 112

Poppy fields of Seals of Approval to all **those who donated to the poppy campaign, volunteers** who gave their time to canvass and our local businesses for their support.

Lyn and Bill Charlton
Royal Canadian Legion 112

"Spreading Kindness" Seals of Approval to **all who donated monetary gifts, toys and gifts**, now and in the future, to those locally in need this Christmas and importantly all year long as well.

Lyn Charlton

A Harbour Seal of Approval to the **gala committee**, who honoured the Bargain Barn founders, our history and importance in the community.

What an outstanding event.

Janet Thomas
Bargarn Barn "old timer"

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PENDER COMMUNITY

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SPREADING KINDNESS

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These donations are used to support local youth year round.
We continue to accept donations.

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By e-transfer:
spreadingkindness@pendercommunity.ca

By cheque/mail: PH Community School , PO Box 232
Madeira Park, B.C. V0N 2H1

Cheques payable to PH Community School Spreading Kindness in the memo.



We are looking forward to the next chapter in our new building! We do not have a move-in date as of yet, we expect to be in soon. We hope you'll join us for a community open house once we're settled. Keep an eye out for updates.

THANK YOU

A special thank you to Anna Comfort O'Keefe for sharing her talent and creativity in designing our beautiful Craft Fair posters each year, as well as hosting the wreath-making workshops that support our fundraising efforts. We greatly appreciate her ongoing commitment and the many ways she contributes to the success of our organization.

&

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Pender Harbour Volunteer Fire Department for allowing us to use your space during our building transition, enabling us to continue our community holiday program without interruption. We are so grateful for your generosity.

Seniors Helping Seniors

PENDER HARBOUR SENIORS INITIATIVE

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Smart Fund

HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsored by:
P. H. Health Centre & P. H. Health Auxiliary

FOR INFORMATION OR TRANSPORTATION,

CALL MARLENE:

(604) 883-9900

Merry Christmas!

Seniors' activities for December!

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

In the Lions Park Hall. Lunch will be served at 12pm. Cost: $10 pp.

Dec. 3: No regular meeting today. (Those who ordered tickets will be attending the "High Tea" at the Performance Centre.)

Dec. 10: Play a Game at the Lions Park Hall free lunch for all that attend.

Dec 17: Christmas Lunch tickets will be available for a cost of $10. Sing Song with the Pender Harbour Choir at the Community Hall.

CARPET BOWLING: Wednesdays, Dec. 2 & 9

At the Pender Harbour Lions Park Hall,1-3 pm. Cost $3.

CHAIR YOGA: Mondays & Fridays, Dec. 4, 7 & 11

At the Pender Harbour Lions Park Hall from 11am –12pm with Carole Logtenberg or Kristin Tracey. Improve your balance, strength & flexibility with gentle moves. Cost: $3.

CHAIR YOGA: Wednesdays, Dec. 2 & 9

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



PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

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

PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

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

GET READY FOR WINTER REGISTRATION!
Register for winter activities starting Dec. 2 at 7am
Register online: www.scrd.ca/recreation
By phone, 604-885-6801, or in person.

HOLIDAY HOURS:
Dec. 24 25, 26 – CLOSED
Jan. 1 - CLOSED

DROP-IN ACTIVITIES

Drop-in activities are a great way be active in a social setting.
Pay drop-in admission when you arrive, or use your pass.

DROP-IN FOR A SWIM! DROP-IN TO USE OUR WEIGHT ROOM!

Monday to Friday: 7am to 1pm • Wednesday: also open 5pm to 8pm
Saturday: 10am to 1pm • Sunday: Closed

Mon, Wed and Friday between 9am and 9:50am a drop-in aquafit class takes place.
During that time, one lane of the pool is available for swimming, in addition to the sauna and hot tub.

DROP-IN ACTIVITIES:

Admission is included with your MYPASS, or pay the drop-in rate when you come:
• Adult (18 – 59 years): $7.35 • Senior (60+ years): $6.30

AQUAFIT	LAND MEETS WATER	MIX IT UP
Monday, Wednesday & Friday	Tuesday & Thursday	Thursday
9 to 9:50am	10:30 to 11:30am	9 to 9:50am

Lifeguard Job Postings are still open
Apply now! Visit ***www.scrd.ca/careers***

Financial Assistance care now available.
Learn more about this program: ***www.scrd.ca/financial-assistance/***

pender harbour tides ~ december 2026

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:



December	1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM	6AM	7AM	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM	Noon	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM
Tue 01	8.3	6.9	5.8	5.3	5.5	6.6	8.4	10.5	12.7	14.5	15.6	15.8	15.2	14.0	12.5	10.9	9.6	8.8	8.7	9.1	9.8	10.5	11.0	10.9
Wed 02	10.3	9.4	8.3	7.5	7.1	7.3	8.3	9.9	11.7	13.5	14.9	15.6	15.5	14.6	13.2	11.4	9.6	8.1	7.3	7.2	7.8	8.7	9.8	10.7
Thu 03	11.2	11.1	10.6	9.9	9.2	8.8	8.9	9.8	11.1	12.7	14.1	15.1	15.5	15.0	13.8	11.9	9.9	8.0	6.5	5.8	5.9	6.7	7.9	9.4
Fri 04	10.8	11.8	12.1	11.9	11.3	10.7	10.2	10.2	10.9	12.0	13.3	14.4	15.1	15.1	14.2	12.6	10.5	8.2	6.3	5.0	4.5	4.9	6.0	7.7
Sat 05	9.5	11.3	12.6	13.2	13.1	12.6	11.8	11.3	11.2	11.7	12.6	13.7	14.5	14.8	14.4	13.1	11.1	8.8	6.6	4.8	3.7	3.6	4.4	6.0
Sun 06	8.0	10.2	12.2	13.6	14.2	14.0	13.4	12.6	11.9	11.8	12.2	12.9	13.7	14.3	14.3	13.4	11.7	9.5	7.1	5.0	3.5	2.9	3.2	4.5
Mon 07	6.4	8.8	11.2	13.2	14.5	14.9	14.6	13.8	12.9	12.2	12.1	12.4	13.0	13.7	14.0	13.6	12.3	10.3	8.0	5.7	3.8	2.7	2.5	3.3
Tue 08	5.0	7.3	9.9	12.3	14.2	15.2	15.3	14.8	13.9	12.9	12.2	12.1	12.5	13.0	13.5	13.5	12.7	11.1	9.0	6.6	4.5	3.0	2.2	2.5
Wed 09	3.7	5.8	8.4	11.0	13.3	14.9	15.6	15.4	14.6	13.6	12.7	12.1	12.1	12.5	13.0	13.2	13.0	11.8	10.0	7.8	5.6	3.7	2.5	2.2
Thu 10	2.9	4.5	6.9	9.5	12.1	14.1	15.4	15.6	15.2	14.3	13.2	12.3	11.9	12.1	12.5	12.9	13.0	12.4	11.0	9.0	6.9	4.8	3.3	2.4
Fri 11	2.5	3.6	5.6	8.0	10.7	13.0	14.8	15.6	15.5	14.8	13.7	12.7	11.9	11.7	12.0	12.4	12.7	12.6	11.7	10.2	8.2	6.2	4.4	3.2
Sat 12	2.7	3.2	4.6	6.8	9.3	11.8	13.8	15.2	15.5	15.1	14.3	13.2	12.2	11.6	11.5	11.8	12.2	12.4	12.1	11.1	9.5	7.6	5.8	4.3
Sun 13	3.4	3.3	4.2	5.8	8.1	10.5	12.8	14.5	15.4	15.4	14.7	13.7	12.6	11.7	11.2	11.2	11.5	11.8	12.0	11.6	10.5	9.0	7.3	5.8
Mon 14	4.6	4.1	4.3	5.4	7.2	9.4	11.7	13.7	15.0	15.4	15.1	14.2	13.1	11.9	11.0	10.6	10.7	11.0	11.3	11.5	11.1	10.2	8.8	7.4
Tue 15	6.1	5.3	5.0	5.5	6.8	8.7	10.8	12.8	14.4	15.2	15.3	14.7	13.6	12.3	11.0	10.1	9.8	9.9	10.3	10.7	11.0	10.8	10.1	9.1
Wed 16	7.9	6.9	6.3	6.3	7.0	8.4	10.2	12.1	13.7	14.9	15.3	14.9	14.0	12.7	11.2	9.9	9.0	8.7	9.0	9.5	10.2	10.6	10.7	10.4
Thu 17	9.7	8.8	8.0	7.6	7.7	8.5	9.8	11.5	13.1	14.4	15.1	15.1	14.3	13.0	11.4	9.7	8.4	7.6	7.5	7.9	8.7	9.7	10.5	11.0
Fri 18	11.0	10.6	9.9	9.3	9.0	9.1	9.9	11.1	12.5	13.8	14.7	15.0	14.6	13.5	11.7	9.8	8.0	6.6	6.0	6.1	6.8	8.0	9.4	10.7
Sat 19	11.6	11.9	11.7	11.2	10.7	10.4	10.4	11.0	12.1	13.3	14.3	14.9	14.8	13.9	12.3	10.2	8.0	6.1	4.8	4.3	4.7	5.8	7.4	9.3
Sun 20	11.1	12.4	13.1	13.0	12.6	12.0	11.5	11.4	11.9	12.8	13.8	14.6	14.9	14.4	13.1	11.0	8.6	6.2	4.3	3.1	2.8	3.5	5.1	7.2
Mon 21	9.5	11.7	13.4	14.2	14.2	13.7	13.0	12.3	12.1	12.5	13.3	14.1	14.8	14.8	13.9	12.1	9.7	7.0	4.5	2.6	1.5	1.6	2.7	4.7
Tue 22	7.3	10.0	12.5	14.4	15.2	15.1	14.5	13.6	12.8	12.5	12.8	13.6	14.4	14.9	14.7	13.5	11.3	8.6	5.7	3.1	1.3	0.4	0.7	2.2
Wed 23	4.7	7.6	10.7	13.4	15.2	16.0	15.7	14.9	13.8	12.9	12.6	13.0	13.7	14.5	14.9	14.6	13.1	10.7	7.8	4.8	2.2	0.5	-0.2	0.4
Thu 24	2.3	5.0	8.3	11.5	14.2	15.9	16.4	15.9	14.9	13.7	12.8	12.5	12.9	13.7	14.5	14.8	14.3	12.7	10.2	7.2	4.2	1.7	0.2	-0.2
Fri 25	0.7	2.8	5.8	9.2	12.4	14.9	16.3	16.5	15.8	14.6	13.3	12.3	12.1	12.6	13.4	14.2	14.5	14.0	12.3	9.8	6.9	4.1	1.8	0.5
Sat 26	0.4	1.6	3.9	7.0	10.3	13.3	15.5	16.6	16.4	15.5	14.1	12.7	11.7	11.5	12.0	12.9	13.7	14.0	13.5	11.9	9.6	6.9	4.4	2.4
Sun 27	1.4	1.6	3.0	5.4	8.5	11.6	14.3	16.0	16.6	16.1	14.9	13.3	11.9	10.9	10.7	11.2	12.1	12.9	13.3	12.9	11.5	9.5	7.2	5.1
Mon 28	3.5	2.9	3.3	4.9	7.3	10.1	12.9	15.1	16.3	16.4	15.6	14.2	12.5	10.9	9.9	9.7	10.2	11.0	11.8	12.3	12.2	11.3	9.7	7.9
Tue 29	6.2	5.1	4.7	5.4	7.0	9.2	11.7	14.0	15.7	16.4	16.0	14.9	13.3	11.5	9.9	8.8	8.6	9.0	9.8	10.8	11.4	11.6	11.1	10.1
Wed 30	8.9	7.7	6.9	6.8	7.6	9.1	11.0	13.1	14.8	15.9	16.1	15.4	14.1	12.3	10.3	8.7	7.6	7.4	7.8	8.6	9.7	10.7	11.2	11.3
Thu 31	10.8	10.1	9.3	8.9	8.9	9.6	10.8	12.4	14.0	15.2	15.8	15.6	14.6	12.9	10.9	8.9	7.2	6.2	6.0	6.4	7.4	8.7	10.0	11.1

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

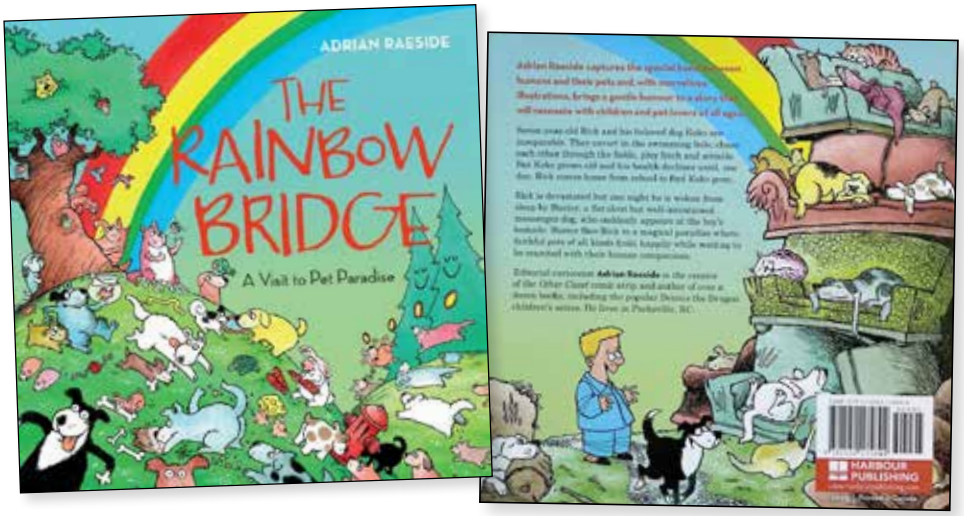


Brian Lee



Christine Alexander

Harsh southeast winds swept across the province in the first half of November. Power outages throughout the area that started on the morning of Nov. 6 lasted over 30 hours in Garden Bay, partially due to this mess near Hotel Lake. Photos taken Nov. 7



Harbour Publishing

The Rotary Club of Pender Harbour has installed a new book at Tyner Park's 'Storybook Walk.' *The Rainbow Bridge: A Visit to Pet Paradise* by Adrian Raeside is a beloved classic that helps children cope with the grief of saying goodbye to a pet. Raeside 'captures the special bond between humans and their pets, and with marvelous illustrations, brings a gentle humor to a story that will resonate with children and pet lovers of all ages.'

Eaves to Earth
Property Maintenance

Combining superior, professional workmanship and honest, friendly service with competitive rates!

A newly established exterior home and yard maintenance company from a third-generation Coast resident.

- ✓ Lawn mowing
- ✓ Weed control
- ✓ Fertilizing
- ✓ Spring/fall cleanup
- ✓ Leaf blowing
- ✓ Gutter cleaning
- ✓ Power washing
- ✓ Exterior window cleaning
- ✓ Wood splitting & stacking
- ✓ Evergreen/shrub pruning
- ✓ Hedge trimming
- ✓ Boat & watercraft winterizing
- ✓ Fall bulb planting
- ✓ Odd jobs

WCB Covered and fully insured
Allen Phillips — Owner/Operator
eavestoearth@gmail.com
604-740-5499

SKOOKUMCHUCK VIEWING TIMES

DECEMBER

DATE-TIME-SIZE (small, medium, large, extra large)
EBB (-), FLOOD (+) - *Standing wave is best on large flood (tide flowing into Sechelt Inlet).*

1. 10:20 AM +XL
2. 11:01 AM +XL
3. 11:40 AM +L
4. 12:19 PM +L
5. 8:30 AM –S, 12:59 PM +M
6. 9:27 AM –S, 1:40 PM +M
7. 10:13 AM –S, 2:29 PM +M
8. 10:52 AM –S, 3:06 PM +S
9. 11:38 AM –M, 3:43 PM +S
10. 12:16 PM –M
11. 12:56 PM –M
12. 1:38 PM –M
13. 2:24 PM –M
14. 3:11 PM –M
15. 8:45 AM +XL
16. 9:13 AM +XL
17. 9:44 AM +XL
18. 10:20 AM +L
19. 11:04 AM +L
20. 11:50 AM +M
21. 8:52 AM –S, 12:53 PM +M
22. 9:46 AM –S, 1:55 PM +M
23. 10:33 AM –S, 2:50 PM +M
24. 11:27 AM –S, 3:41 PM +M
25. 12:16 PM –M
26. 1:07 PM –M
27. 2:00 PM –L
28. 2:50 PM –L
29. 8:49 AM +XL, 3:46 PM –L
30. 9:23 AM +XL
31. 9:57 AM +XL

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.

2026 MIDTERM ELECTIONS

U.S. MIDTERM ELECTIONS

535
The number of voting members in Congress: 100 senators and 435 representatives.

8
Number of seats (by Nov. 16) Democratics gained in the U.S. Senate race (55 Democratic seats won to 44 Republican seats).

42
Number of seats (by Nov. 16) Democratics gained in the House of Representatives (256 Democratic seats won versus 169 Republican seats).

218
The number of seats a party needs in the House of Representatives to hold a majority.

51
The number of seats a party needs to control the senate.

2/3
Portion of the Senate vote required before an impeached person can be removed from office.

1932
The last year a Democratic senator was elected in Kansas. Adam Hamilton beat out Republican Roger Marshall with 50.93% of the vote.

30 years
The number of years, almost, that defeated Republican incumbent Senator Susan Collins held Maine.

~ Associated Press, CBC, The Guardian, NBC

DECEMBER WEATHER

TEMPERATURES (MERRY ISLAND)
Our average daily high temperature in December is 6.6 C and our average daily low is 3.3 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 5 C. The highest December temperature recorded is 13.3 C (Dec. 14, 1962) and the lowest was -11.7 C (Dec. 28, 1968).

PRECIPITATION (MERRY ISLAND)
December has an average of 54.9 hours of bright sunshine. It usually has 19 days with measurable precipitation, an average monthly rainfall of 135 mm and an average monthly snowfall of 10 cm. Our average month-end snowfall is 4 cm. December has the highest snowfall of the year (November has the most rain). The highest December daily rainfall recorded at Merry Island was 66 mm (Dec. 25, 1972). The record daily snowfall was 40.6 cm (Dec. 31, 1968).

DECEMBER ASTROLOGY



SAGITTARIUS: NOV. 23 – DEC. 21

Sagittarians love excitement and adventure. They are easily bored but often trendsetters. They are bold and impulsive, natural explorers who thrive on change and mental stimulation. This month, Rahu transits your third house while Ketu sits outside waiting for a confrontatation. Meanwhile the sun makes its way through your 12th and first house. The takeaway? Get a hotel room because your full houses are sure to bring conflict. Return in the New Year when life, especially romantic prospects, will be much brighter.



CAPRICORN: DEC. 22 – JAN. 19

Capricorns often experience hardship early in life, but their resourcefulness makes them survivors. Sometimes hard to get to know, they are loyal, responsible and down-to-earth. This month, Saturn will assert its considerable influence on your pets. DO NOT LET THEM OUTSIDE between Dec. 4 and 9. Things should ease up by the New Year. Venus exits your 10th house towards the end of the month which will open up pathways to new friendships. One of those friendships will lead to love. Avoid avocados.

BC BESTSELLERS

For the week ending Nov. 7

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. ***Searching for the Best Place on Earth: 52 Countries in 52 Weeks*** *by Justin McElroy (Harbour Publishing)*
2. ***Echoes on the Wind: Fifty Years of Search and Rescue in BC's Coast Mountains*** *by Brad Sills (Harbour Publishing)*
3. ***Plants of the Pacific Coast*** *by Jim Pojar, Andy MacKinnon, Leigh Joseph & Jamie Fenneman (CanScience Books)*
4. ***How to Nourish a Cannibal*** *by Jess Housty (Nightwood Editions)*
5. ***The Inbetween Leader*** *by Jody Wilson-Raybould and Roshan Danesh (Greystone Books)*
6. ***The Seabird Trials: How a Scientist Took Big Oil to Court and Won*** *by Briony Penn (Harbour Publishing)*
7. ***Shot In Vancouver: Adventures In Hollywood North*** *by Sam Wiebe (Arsenal Pulp Press)*
8. ***The Astronaut Children of Dunbar Street: A Memoir*** *by Wiley Wei-Chiun Ho (Douglas & McIntyre)*
9. ***A False and Fatal Claim*** *by Iona Whishaw (Touchwood Editions)*
10. ***The Lost Haida Manga: A Compendium*** *by Michael Nicoll Yahgulanaas, Wade Davis (Douglas & McIntyre)*

~ Association of Book Publishers of BC

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec. 1 ~ Darren Morton and Beth Voutier.
Dec. 2 ~ Diane Lee, Ray Phillips, James Wray and Al Wood.
Dec. 3 ~ Paula Campbell, Mike Pickering, Joanne McQuaig and Ed Wray.
Dec. 4 ~ Noel Lebrun and John Williams.
Dec. 5 ~ Gaye Beardmore, Andrea Curtiss, Andy Curtiss and Logan McCormack.
Dec. 6 ~ Ryan McDonald and Bill Reid.
Dec. 7 ~ Dianne Rousseau, Dan Gifford and Jennifer Reid.
Dec. 8 ~ Kim Bailey and Keenan Clerx.
Dec. 9 ~ Michelle Beardmore and Robert Purdy.
Dec. 10 ~ Trevor Jones and Cathy Thompson.
Dec. 11 ~ Grace Donnahee, William Jans and Patti Reid.
Dec. 12 ~ Malcolm Duncan and Pat Martin.
Dec. 13 ~ Cody Edwardson-Zayshley
Dec. 16 ~ Ginger Taylor and Cassandra Whelan.
Dec. 17 ~ Ian Campbell, Shane Gudbranson, Kyle MacKenney, Joi Phillips and Doreen Willgoose.
Dec. 18 ~ Tony Adamson and Niki Verzuh.
Dec. 19 ~ Tyson Carswell, Helen Garrett and Jamie Bouvette.
Dec. 20 ~ Nicole Fletcher, Ella Nya Goulette, Shea Lee and Tyler Silvey.
Dec. 21 ~ Harvey Langton, Duncan McDougall and Josh Young.
Dec. 22 ~ Gwyneth Bryant, Steven Fouts, Shane Hardie, Rob Nieuwenhuis, Dani Thompson and Christine West.
Dec. 23 ~ Kate Thompson.
Dec. 24 ~ Tatiana Phillips-Campbell, Chris Phillips and Clifford Silvey Jr.
Dec. 25 ~ Peter Schmidt.
Dec. 27 ~ Cameron McDougall.
Dec. 28 ~ Jeff Girard.
Dec. 29 ~ Diane Gamble.
Dec. 30 ~ Dean Bosch, Bryan Edwardson, Andy Ross and Jean Minch.
Dec. 31 ~ John Brimacomb, Nathaniel Johnson, Fara Priest and Scott Bruce.

Loon Foundation aims to bring new energy to youth nature

submitted

With a renewed commitment to connecting young people with the natural world, the Loon Foundation is breathing new life into its youth education programming.

By creating more opportunities for families, educators and children to get outside, explore and discover the rich biodiversity of the Coast, they have built on the foundation's history of environmental education.

A renewed focus has brought together local educators, Indigenous knowledge keepers and community experts to create meaningful, hands-on learning experiences.

Meanwhile, the foundation has also strengthened its leadership team in youth education expertise by adding Michelyn Stevens to its board of directors.

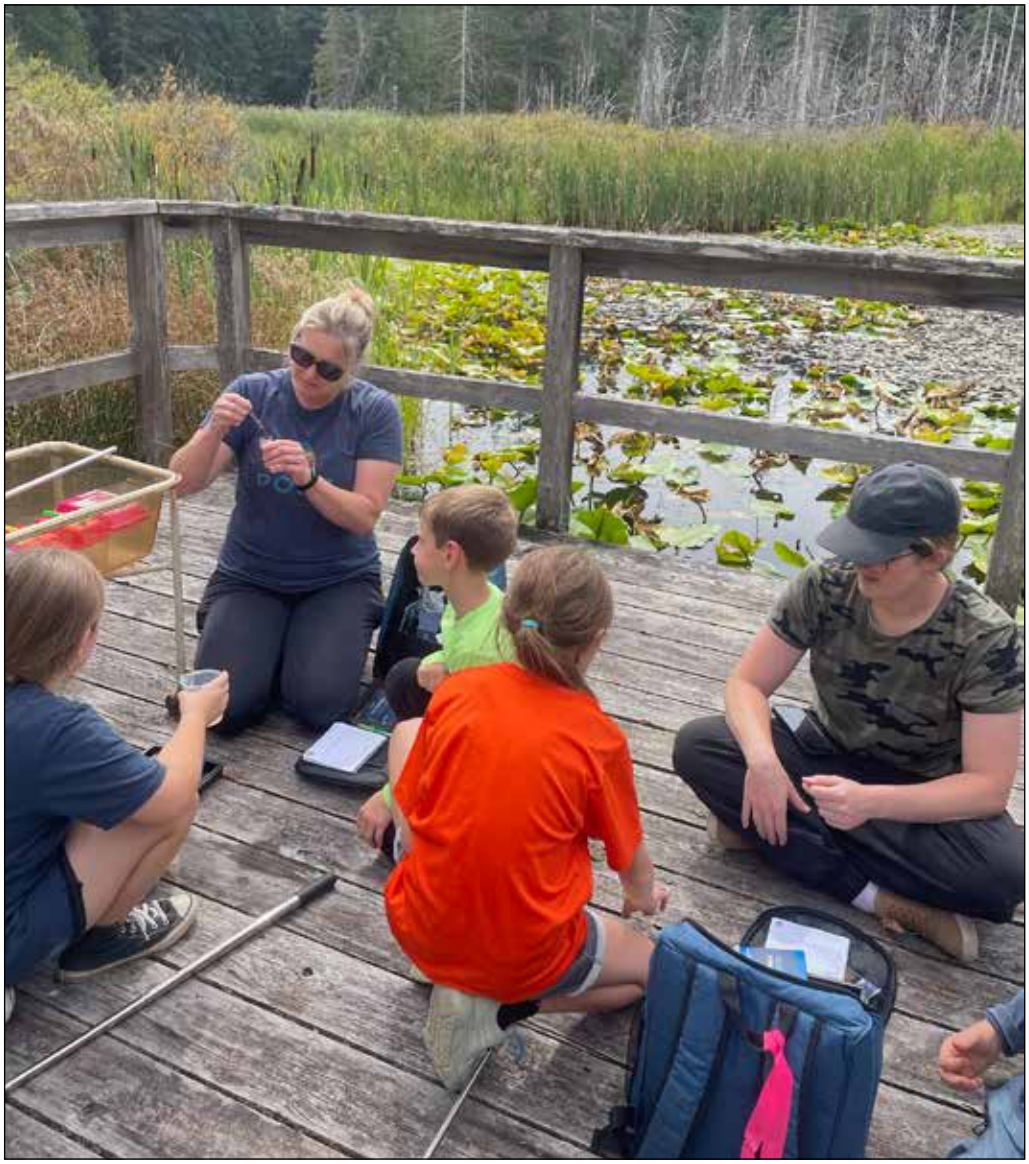
Stevens sits on the newly established youth education committee that is supported by an advisory network that includes representatives from School District 46, the shíshálh Nation, and local education and environmental experts.

"As a mother of twins, I've experienced firsthand the magic of children learning through nature and developing a sense of wonder about the world around them," said Lana Brandt, executive director of the Loon Foundation.

"Elevating the Loon Foundation's youth programming has been a personal priority, but it's also an investment in the next generation of environmental stewards,

"This spring, we reintroduced the NatureKids BC Sunshine Coast chapter, with monthly 'Explorer Days' led by local experts.

"These free weekend experiences give families an opportunity to get outside, ask questions, discover something new and develop a deeper appreciation for the Coast."



Loon Foundation

Jenn Blancard, Coastal Waters Monitoring manager and the Loon Foundation's resident biologist, passes on her knowledge and love of nature to students.

Responding to community interest in reopening the Iris and Billy Griffith Nature Centre, the Loon Foundation was delighted to welcome back its summer camp program this year, offering local and visiting families opportunities to learn, connect, and explore together.

The nature centre is once again welcoming school classrooms, visitors and community groups to take advantage of its special qualities as a hub for connection, discovery and STEM learning.

"When kids get outside to learn on, with, from, and about the land, they create deep relationships with place," said Stevens.

"We can learn a lot from beautiful books, informative videos, and engaging stories, but there is nothing like feeling the tickle of a tiny crab on

education on the Coast



Loon Foundation

Budding scientists at work.

your palm, or hearing the song of the Swainson's thrush on a brisk spring morning.

"The lands and waters of the Sunshine Coast inspire endless wonder, and as kids bond with these natural spaces, they grow into tenacious stewards of the magical places we call home.

"Outdoor experiences, like those offered through the Loon Foundation's youth education programming, are priceless and inspiring.

"What an opportunity for local students and educators!"

Beyond its own programs, the Loon Foundation has been working alongside local educators to bring nature-based learning into schools through S.D. 46 X-block offerings, classroom visits and hands-on coastal biomonitoring experiences.

These opportunities introduce students to the species, habitats and ecological processes that make the Sunshine Coast unique while helping build curiosity and connections to local environmental stewardship.

With recent generous support from TD Friends of the Environment Foundation and the A.P.E. Fund from the Jane Goodall Institute, the Loon Foundation looks forward to expanding its youth education offerings across the Sunshine Coast in the months ahead.

"Protecting the places we love starts with helping young people get to know them.

"These experiences can spark a lifelong curiosity and a desire to care for the natural world, which is why we are prioritizing this work as part of the journey to PODS," said Brandt.

"When PODS opens its doors, we are determined to have a well-established program to serve school districts 46, 47, 93 and beyond."

To learn more about youth education programs, upcoming Explorer Days, and opportunities to get involved, visit *www.loonfoundation.org/youtheducation*.

To help sustain youth education programming, consider making a donation at *www.loonfoundation.org/donate*.

More Ways to Invite Nature Into Your Classroom

We are developing additional resources to help educators make outdoor learning part of the school year.

Year-long learning experiences

Build connections with local ecosystems through activities in every season.

Field trips

Discover seasonal highlights such as salmon spawning, bird migrations, and more.

Ready to use teacher resources

Bring local ecology, outdoor exploration, and environmental stewardship into classroom learning.

Our aim is to make it easier for educators to connect classroom learning with the natural world.

LEARN MORE

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

DECEMBER

Thu. Dec. 3.....SCRD budget committee - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
Fri. Dec. 4.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 6 p.m
Sat. Dec. 5.....John Henry's Marina grand opening - John Henry's Marina and Resort
Sat. Dec. 5.....Live music with Joe Stanton - Backeddy Pub, 5 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 6.....P. H. Music Society presents Cool Yule - PHMS Performance Centre, 2 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 6.....Live music with Half Cut and the Slackers - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 2 p.m.
Wed. Dec. 9.....'Don't Get Scammed: Essential Safety Tips for Seniors' - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 12 noon
Thu. Dec. 10.....SCRD Committee of the Whole - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
Thu. Dec. 10.....Harbourside Friendships ('Play a game') - P. H. Lions Hall, 10:30 a.m.
Thu. Dec. 10.....SCRD regular board - SCRD boardroom, 1 p.m
Thu. Dec. 10.....Pet photos with Santa - P. H. Church Ministry Centre, 5 to 8 p.m.
Fri. Dec. 11.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 6 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 12.....Pender Harbour Choir 'I will light the candles this Christmas' - PHMS Performance Centre, 2 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 12.....Live music with Rebecca and Jeremy - Backeddy Pub, 5 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 13.....Live music with the Sofa Kings - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 2 p.m.
Sun Dec. 13.....Pender Harbour Community Christmas Dinner - P. H. Community Hall, 3:30 p.m. (dinner 5:30 p.m.)
Mon. Dec. 14.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church Ministry Centre, 10 a.m.
Tue. Dec. 15.....P. H. Women's Connection 'Winter Extravaganza' - Royal Canadian Legion 112, doors at 11:30 a.m.
Thu. Dec. 17.....SCRD special board - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
Thu. Dec. 17.....Harbourside Friendships Christmas lunch and choir performance - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
Thu. Dec. 17.....SCRD electoral area services committee - SCRD boardroom, 1 p.m.
Thu. Dec. 17.....Trivia Night - Backeddy Pub, 5 to 7 p.m.
Fri. Dec. 18.....Egmont Christmas Potluck - Egmont Community Hall, 6 p.m.
Fri. Dec. 18.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 6 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 19.....Celebration of life for June Percival - P. H. Community Hall, 1 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 19.....Ham, Turkey and Xmas Basket Christmas Meat Draw - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 3 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 19.....Pender Harbour Winter Festival - Madeira Park wharf, 3 to 9 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 19.....Live music with Joe Stanton - Backeddy Pub, 5 p.m.
Sat. Dec. 19.....62nd annual Pender Harbour Christmas boat parade - Madeira Park Government wharf, 6:30 p.m.
Sun. Dec. 20.....Joe Rotundo and the Coastal Comets 'Surfy Christmas' - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 6 p.m.
Fri. Dec. 25.....Christmas Day
Mon. Dec. 28.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church Ministry Centre, 10 a.m.
Thu. Dec. 31.....New Year's Eve at the Legion - Royal Canadian Legion 112, doors at 6 p.m.
Fri. Jan. 1.....3rd annual New Year's Day Pyjama Party - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 10 a.m.

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

"Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful."
~ Norman Vincent Peale

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Pender Harbour Branch hours

Monday	closed
Tues - Friday	10 AM to 5 PM
Saturday	10 AM to 2 PM
Sunday	closed

New! Member Service Centre hours

Mon - Fri	6:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Saturday	8:00 AM to 8:00 PM
Sunday	9:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Member Service Centre: 604.740.2662

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