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Harbour Spiel



The independent voice of Pender Harbour & Egmont since 1990.

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FDITOF

Brian Lee

CIRCULATION (2,500)

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

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

CONTRIBUTORS

This month we thank: Keegan Edwardson, Darlene Fowlie, Leonard Lee, Robert Livingston, and Shane McCune.

COVER

If you see anything other than an island on a lake, you passed the Rorschach test.
Garden Bay Lake, March 15.
(Brian Lee photo)

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May issue mails May 3

(Advertising bookings before April 15)

editorial

Be (fire) smart this season



Brian Lee

Not unlike the surge of adrenaline a paramedic gets rushing to an accident

scene, journalists experience a dose of morbid excitement when they know bad news is coming.

Right now, media are buzzing over another ominous start to BC's wildfire season.

Globe and Mail, March 18:

"...provincial and federal forecasters underscored the risks posed by the current drought parching parts of British Columbia and leading to an average snowpack 66 per cent of normal, which is tied with 2001 for the second-lowest amount in the past five decades."

You hear a lot about climate in the news because, first, it's important, and because it keeps outdoing itself.

Climate is on a phenomenal run, raising the bar each year on how punishing it can be.

The 2023 wildfire season (we don't call it "summer" anymore) was the most destructive in British Columbia's recorded history.

Hundreds of homes and structures were lost and more than 28,000 square kilometres of land burned.

That's almost the size of Vancouver Island (31,285 square kilometres).

According to the BC Wildfire Service, the area burned in 2023 doubled the previous record of 1.35 million hectares in 2018.

"This amount is 10 times the 20year average (284,001 hectares) and is what would historically be expected over a decade."

You would think a record like that might stand for a few years but here we are again — out of the gates after an even drier winter and mid-March temperatures hitting the 20s.

Vancouver Sun (Feb. 28):

"The dry conditions are particularly

bad in the Prince George Fire Centre in B.C.'s northeast corner, where two new fires have ignited in the past month.

"There are still 93 listed fires from last season across the province, the vast majority of which are in the Prince George region and have been burning or smouldering since the summer."

Two things start forest fires — 72% are natural causes (lightning) and 25% are human-caused (idiots).

While we're fortunate that we don't get much lightning around here, we do get the odd idiot.

It's astounding how busy local forestry roads are these days.

Between the bikers, hikers, quadders, loggers, nudists, dog walkers and wood thieves, sooner or later an idiot will make a boo-boo that sparks a fire.

Last July, a local troll chastized the *Harbour Spiel* for running a cover image of Pender's volunteer fire department snuffing two burning homes on Narrows Road.

She said it was "too negative."

I'm still not sure what that means but I do know that fire occurred after weeks of dry westerly winds blowing hard into Gunboat Bay.

If a sprinkle of rain had not come the night before and if it was still blowing, the outcome would have certainly been different.

It was the biggest news story of the summer and a warning that we came extremely close to suffering a major fire in a populated area.

A well-attended emergency preparedness meeting at the Legion on Jan. 13 drove home a common theme — in the event of a major emergency like a wildfire, folks must prepare to take care of themselves.

Maintain a "grab and go" kit and sign up for Voyent Alert, the SCRD's emergency alert system, at *voyent-alert.com/community/*.

And check your home for idiots.

PENDER HARBOUR MUSIC SOCIETY FAMILY WEEKEND: Saturday and Sunday, April 20 and 21, 2 p.m.

The first "Pender Harbour Music Society Family Weekend" will feature Rick Scott and Nico Rhodes delivering two different performances that are design to appeal to those aged 2 to 92.

On Saturday, April 20, Scott and Rhodes will perform a family show, "Music and Laughter for All Ages." It's a one hour concert "for those who can't sit still for more than 60 minutes." Three-time Juno nominee Rick Scott joins forces with young keyboard ace Nico Rhodes for a lively, participatory concert combining music, storytelling and humour. Based on Scott's's eight award-winning children's recordings, the show is enlivened by Nico's piano mastery and the intergenerational mischief of two musical playmates 40 years apart in age.

The next day, Sunday, April 21 will see Scott and Rhodes "blur all boundaries" with "Roots and Grooves: for Big Folks," described as what you get when you combine an infamous dulcimer player with a rising jazz pianist, seasoned expertise with youthful exuberance, old school groove and Broadway chops. Roots and Grooves is a musical conversation across generations spiced with mastery, improvisation and humour. Both shows start at 2 p.m. at the Pender Harbour School of Music. For ticket information, visit www.penderharbourmusic.ca.

21ST ANNUAL APRIL TOOLS WOODEN BOAT BUILDING CHALLENGE: Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m.

All organizers will say is that April Tools 2024 is going to be "quite a unique build, and possibly the most challenging race yet" when teams of four build a boat in three hours, then race around the harbour for prizes and bragging rights.

Spectators can enjoy a fun day of kids activities, snacks and food, and the excitement of watching the teams build and race. Teams from the high school also race their class-built boats around the course for prizes, and to cause a little watery mayhem. The fun starts at 10 a.m. when the participants learn how they are supposed to craft a boat to make it through the race course — and win. There's food all day long, displays and events for the kids.

Volunteers are needed to help out on event day. Contact Jackie for details: jackieordronneau@gmail.com.



Shaping the Future of Our Community's Health and Well-being

The Pender Harbour Health Centre operates as a hub for community-based health and social services and is proud to have had the opportunity to serve the Pender Harbour and District community for nearly 40 years.

From urgent care and laboratory services, to home care nursing and supports for aging in place, PHHC staff strive to meet the community's ever evolving health needs beyond traditional clinic services.

Our community is changing, and this is why in 2024 we are undertaking a new assessment of the health and wellness landscape to get a clearer picture of the current and future health and wellness needs of residents.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Your input is crucial and helps to inform future community health services. We want to know about your experiences with our services and others. Which health or wellness services do you use frequently? What gaps or barriers exist in accessing these services locally? What is working, and where do you see opportunities for improvement? With your valuable feedback, this information will be used to help connect the community with the resources they truly need.

WE WELCOME YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS HEALTH SERVICES NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

- → An Online Survey: Fill out at www.surveymonkey.ca/r/5L9DNC3 (survey closes April 30).

 Paper copies of the survey are available at the Pender Harbour & District Health Centre (5066 Francis Peninsula Rd.)
- In-Person: Join a Town Hall session on April 16 at the Pender Harbour Community Hall. The first session will run from 2 to 4pm and the second session will run from 6 to 8pm.



Volunteers spearhead bottom cleanup in Pender

For two days last month, volunteers swept the floor of Pender Harbour.

On March 19 and 20, the Pender Harbour and Area Residents Association teamed with local company Sea-Wolf Diving and the Ocean Legacy Foundation to retrieve abandoned nets and other pollutants like batteries and plastic from the bottom.

The all-volunteer project — one from the OLF, seven divers from SeaWolf and 10 PHARA volunteers — had authorization from Fisheries and Oceans Canada to clean up the materials, many of which were abandoned years ago.

According to a press release:

"PHARA has been working to find ways to improve the ocean ecosystem of the Pender Harbour area and one way to show that the people who live here are doing something real to improve our environment is to retrieve harmful materials and recycle them where possible."

PHARA president Peter Robson told the *Harbour Spiel* that the majority of the recovered waste were herring containment nets from the live bait sportsfishing era.

Volunteers from locally based SeaWolf Diving hauled up the nets and other debris and transported it to the future site of the Pender Ocean Discovery Centre at Irvines Landing.

There, volunteers sorted and cleaned material as necessary to ready it for transport to the Ocean Legacy Foundation's "emergency plastic pollution response facility," in Steveston for recycling.

The OLF is a Canadian nonprofit organization that develops worldwide plastic pollution response programs with the goal to end plastic pollution.



Brian Lee

Volunteers Doug Patorel (I) and Oceanne Bourque (r) work to separate waste materials retrieved from the bottom of Pender Harbour during a two-day diver's cleanup on March 19 and 20. Here, the two work to prepare herring containment nets that were hauled up near the Skardon Islands and once used to keep live herring as bait to sell to sports fishermen.



Province and shishalh propose 'significant changes' to DMP

The province and shishalh Nation have hinted that changes are coming to their most recent draft of the controversial shishalh swiya Dock Management Plan.

On March 8, the province issued a statement, "What we heard," which summarized "key themes and feedback captured during the engagement" that ended Feb. 16.

On March 14, they followed that up with another release, "Next Steps and Changes Proposed," which promises "significant changes to the dock management plan to address community interests and protect shishalh's rights and title, and are forming an advisory group with representation from across the Sunshine Coast to review the new proposed changes."

A summary of some of those proposed changes include:

PRIVATE DOCKS (SALTWATER)

For private dock owners in saltwater, the following will be put in place:



- Owners of existing tenured docks and boathouses will be able to apply for renewal as currently built;
- Owners of existing untenured docks will be able to apply for tenure under flexible guidelines;
- Owners of existing untenured boathouses will be able to apply for tenure as currently built, and
- For new private dock applicants, the province proposes an update to the guidelines (known as "best management practices") to provide more flexibility;

In addition to "added flexibility," the province also listed a plan to make "specific enhancements," including:

- A maximum dock length will be set at the provincial maximum — 60 metres — with a preference for a 50-metre length;
- Docks can have a total area of 30m² or a maximum width of 1.5 metres, and
- New or replacement decking must use products that allow for a minimum 43% light penetration.

PRIVATE DOCKS (FRESHWATER)

For private dock owners in freshwater:

• The application of the dock management plan will be paused.

During that time, further studies will be done, and engagement will be undertaken, to understand the impact of docks in the freshwater environment and to consider revisions to the plan.

BC and shishalh will communicate closely and often with freshwater dock owners throughout the swiya;

• Existing tenured and untenured dock owners in freshwater will be given the same opportunities to apply for tenures that are available for saltwater docks;

- No new dock tenures will be considered in freshwater until studies are complete;
- Owners of existing untenured boathouses will be able to apply for tenure as currently built, and
- As per provincial policy, new boathouses will not be allowed in freshwater.

COMMERCIAL DOCKS

- The province proposes to update the "best management practices" to provide more flexibility, which will allow for a diversity of commercial operations, and
- They will not implement maximum length limitations for commercial docks.

In its summary of proposed changes, the province also added that "it is important to note" that:

- Protection measures will be put in place for areas with cultural resources and critical habitats;
- Over time, as dock owners make improvements to their docks, these will need to be in keeping with best management practices;
- Consistent with provincial policy, new boathouses will not be allowed on private docks;
- New boathouses are allowed on commercial moorages;
- Applicants for group moorage, strata moorage and institutional or community docks will apply for tenure following guidelines for commercial moorage with flexibility based on use;
- The province and shishalh will work together to identify areas suitable for new additional mooring buoys to support continued boat travel through the swiya;
 - · Dock owners will need to dem-

Page 6 Harbour Spiel

onstrate consistency with the goals of the dock management plan.

To support this effort, flexible guidelines will be used, and

• Decision-making will be consistent with provincial legislation and existing agreements.

The province indicated that "in addition to announcing these proposed changes, an advisory group will be appointed to further review the amendments and inform any additional considerations for the province and shíshálh.

"The advisory group will include representation from shishalh and the province, local governments, local associations and residents at large, including from Pender Harbour.

"The advisory group's work is expected to take about 60 days, after which the province and shishalh will finalize the plan."

While the summary hints at addressing some of the concerns raised by the public in close to 1,700 comments received by the province, some say the proposed updates will not go far enough in fixing the plan.

The Pender Harbour and Area Residents Association responded to the "What we have heard" report in a March 14 statement:

"While a simple dock application sits in government offices for years, government somehow found a way to summarize all 1,700 submissions in a few weeks.

"But on reading the 'What we heard' summary report, PHARA concluded the summary is rushed, trivialized, slipshod and inaccurate by omission.

"Many of the concerns expressed by the community — such as asking for the science behind implementing zones where docks may or may not be

permitted — were, despite numerous comments, not even mentioned in the summary.

"The province chose what to include and the document more accurately could have been titled, 'What we've chosen to hear."

Newcomer the Waterfront Protection Coalition issued a similar statement on March 17:

"While the intention to incorporate public feedback into the DMP and forming an advisory committee is commendable and necessary, specific issues raised by the community are not included in the proposed changes and require further detailed discussion to ensure the plan is both equitable and comprehensive."

The WPC listed 16 examples that "illustrate many of the key areas where we have concerns and need the province to address and clarify."

These include the province's lack of explicit language when it comes to promises of "grandfathering" existing structures.

The WPC also takes issues with the proposal that docks have a "total area of 30 square meters or a maximum width of 1.5 meters."

Instead, the WPC said, "Width proposed should be a minimum not maximum for safety.

"Originally announced in the proposed amendments 1.8 metres

(width of dock), now they have gone backwards to 1.5 metres."

Meanwhile, PHARA's position is clear:

"The current dock management plan needs to be scrapped in its entirety, along with the secret negotiation of the agreement to give the shishalh Nation legal powers under the Land Act," said PHARA director Sean McAllister.

"We need to go back and start again from scratch, working together as equals — this is not the way to advance reconciliation."



✓ Gutter cleaning

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✓ Exterior window

cleaning

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

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Where is it?



- □ a. @ Klein Lake
- □ b. @ McNeill Lake
- □ c. @ Mixal Lake
- □ d. @ Katherine Lake



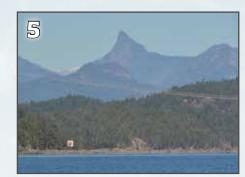
- ☐ a. Pender Hill
- ☐ b. Francis Point Park
- □ c. Smuggler's Cove
- ☐ d. Skookumchuck



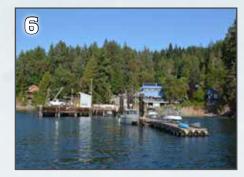
- ☐ a. Secret Cove
- □ b. Garden Bay
- □ c. Francis Peninsula
- ☐ d. Earls Cove



- □ a. Baker Beach
- ☐ b. Lees Bay
- □ c. Daniel Point
- ☐ d. Francis Point Park



- □ a. Mt. Alfred
- □ b. Mt. Churchill
- □ c. Mt. Calder
- ☐ d. Diadem Mtn.



- ☐ a. Saltery Bay
- □ b. Lund
- □ c. False Bay
- ☐ d. Sechelt Inlet

Answers: p. 34 Two-plus: **Newbie**

Less than two: Townie

Four-plus: Local

Health centre launches month-long health needs assessment

The Pender Harbour Health Centre wants to know about your health concerns.

Staff are undertaking a broad survey to collect information and to assess the community's health and wellness needs.

"The last time a community needs assessment was done was in 2018," said Nick Gaskin, executive director of the P. H. Health Centre.

"And it wasn't done by the health centre — it was done by another organization in Pender Harbour."

Gaskin recently took over the role of executive director from Susann Richter on Jan. 22.

He said the assessment will not only be an opportunity to familiarize himself with the community but will also update local health needs in order to build a strategy moving forward.

In addition to two town hall sessions and an online survey, Gaskin said staff will be meeting with user groups and individual stakeholders in interviews throughout April to gather more information.

"Obviously things have changed with the pandemic and changing demographic," said Gaskin.

"Although we're still predominantly seniors, we're seeing a lot more families and working individuals coming into the community.

"So, it seems like a good time to reassess where the community's at with regards to health and wellness and what the community values moving forward and what they think we're missing up here."

Though he hasn't been here long, Gaskin already understands that there will be at least one common theme in April's survey.

"I think we're obviously expecting to hear a lot about physicians and it would be naive to believe that isn't a high priority for the community given the fact that we haven't had a stable physician service at the clinic for a long time," he said.

While Gaskin has taken that on as a priority, he also expects the data to confirm health care trends that may be less apparent to the community.

"One that I'm hearing a lot is counselling," he said.

"Lots of people have said they would like more counselling in the community and more access to counselling services."

Broadly speaking, Gaskin said there has been a rise in anxiety and depression since COVID — especially among young people.

"If you just go back and look at the Vital Signs reports that have come out in previous years from the Sunshine Coast Foundation, they show a clear increase in demand on mental health and counselling resources."

Gaskin hopes as many community members will take part as possible in order to provide a clear picture of what services might be lacking.

"Not only is this for the health centre but more importantly, it's a community-wide needs assessment," he said.

"So, we might identify things that aren't even necessarily health care related but other community health and wellness needs that we can relay back to those organizations that have that mandate."

Once the data is collected, Gaskin said it will help guide future programming but will also provide a tool to aid in future funding applications to develop that programming.

To fill out an online survey, visit www.surveymonkey.ca/r/5L9DNC3 (survey closes April 30).

Paper copies of the survey are available at the Pender Harbour and District Health Centre (5066 Francis Peninsula Rd.).

There will also be an opportunity to take part in the survey at two "town hall" sessions on April 16 at the Pender Harbour Community Hall.

The first session will run from 2 to 4 p.m. and the second session will run from 6 to 8 p.m.

Gaskin said they are working with a consultant to set up the data gathering and create a final report that is expected to be released in September.

pender harbour music society presents:



Saturday April 20 • 2pm

Music and Laughter: All Ages Family Show TICKETS: \$10 - \$15 Sunday
April 21 • 2pm
Roots and Grooves:
For Big Folks

'S: \$10 - \$15 TICKETS: \$30

PENDER HARBOUR SCHOOL OF MUSIC TICKETS @ www.penderharbourmusic.ca, Harbour Insurance or Strait Music (Sechelt)

April 2024

Extreme heat preparation and the SCRD



Leonard Lee Area A director, SCRD

In the summer of 2021, we suffered a seven-day "heat dome," an extreme weather event that

caused record-high temperatures and over 600 deaths throughout BC.

Lacking a plan, the SCRD scrambled to provide cooling stations and other support for at-risk residents, and in response we've developed a strategy, part of our drought, wildfire and earthquake protocols, which will be operational later this year.

Using the four phases of emergency management (mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery), our extreme-heat plan aims to protect the lives, health and safety of those

most susceptible to extreme temperature events, including the elderly, children, unhoused persons and those with compromised health.

Every household should do the following:

- Register for Voyent Alert;
- Build an emergency kit;
- Prepare a "grab-and-go" bag, and
 - FireSmart your home.

Learn what to expect in an emergency, and what you can do to help yourself and your community.

For more information, visit www. scrd.ca/emergency-preparedness or pick up printed material at our Field Road SCRD office.

A PEPPIER SCRD

Our rural planning department mandate includes reviewing subdivision applications, issuing development and variance permits, and managing rezoning applications.

Our steep and hazardous topography, environmentally sensitive areas, 509 kilometres of shoreline and numerous creeks contribute to over 54% of private land parcels with a development permit area that require a permit before alteration can proceed.

Planning and bylaw staff deal with an ever-increasing number of infractions when land alteration is done without permits in development permit areas including riparian and tree-cutting areas, within the agricultural land reserve, and when work results in zoning, building code, and environmental infractions, e.g. clearing land to create RV pads.

To streamline the process of issuing permits and addressing violations,

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Area A Director: **Leonard Lee** leonard.lee@scrd.ca 604-212-0406



UPCOMING MEETINGS

Electoral Area Services Committee

April 18 at 9:30 a.m.

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

Finance Committee April 18 at 1:30 p.m.

Committee of the Whole April 25 at 9:30 a.m.

Regular Board April 25 at 1:00 p.m.

Agendas and links to video-streaming for meetings are available at www.scrd.ca/agendas



2024 Utility Bills are Coming!

In late April, the Sunshine Coast Regional District will be issuing 2024 annual utility bills to owners of properties serviced with curbside collection, water and wastewater services. 2024 utility rates have changed.

To find out why and to learn more about your 2024 Utility Rates visit, www.scrd.ca/utility-bill.



www.scrd.ca 604-885-6800 info@scrd.ca

Pender Harbour Satellite Office 12828 Lagoon Road, Madeira Park 604-885-6877 infrastructure@scrd.ca

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the SCRD is conducting two planning enhancement projects, PEP 1 and PEP 2, with help from funding through the provincial development approvals process review program, which supports local governments in eliminating affordable housing barriers and accelerating home construction.

We have completed these steps towards full implementation in 2025:

- New pre-application to expedite applications;
- New remediation process to help unauthorized DPA works transition from bylaw enforcement to issuance of a permit;
- New requirements letters to provide guidance on development applications;
- New building permit, zoning, and land use declarations to accompany permit submissions;
- Establishment of a development planning team to manage applications, in-person service, bylaw compliance and DAPR implementation, and
- Establishment of a dedicated, four-person community planning team to oversee policy development (OCPs, zoning, etc.) and regional planning.

Phase 2 of PEP 1 includes three key pieces of work likely to be funded by the BC local government development approvals program to support implementation of the following DAPR recommendations with a maximum grant of \$150,000, which we have applied for.

• Development of a procedures manual outlining each step in processing development applications, from intake to completion, and working with the provincial approving officer (Ministry of Transportation) to develop protocols and processes for subdivision applications;

- Amending bylaws and procedures in consideration of DAPR recommendations, and
- Enhancing guidance for applicants via the SCRD website, brochures, etc.

Phases 1, 2, and 3 of PEP 2 will focus on OCP harmonization and renewal with priorities of housing and sustainable development including creative density opportunities, incentive reviews, and ensuring housing needs are planned, culminating in the adoption of new OCPs.

Phase 4 of PEP 2 will focus on zoning bylaw harmonization and renewal, housing and sustainable development including corridor planning, stormwater management, invasive species, wellhead/aquifer protection, riparian protection and enhancement, and soil and shoreline protection.

SUCCESSFUL PLASTICS RECYCLING

By 1980, the major plastic manufacturers, knowing that the plastics-recycling infrastructure was lacking, demonstrated a "recycling commitment" to pre-empt outright bans.

Documentaries like "Plastic Wars" misled some to believe recycling is pointless, but today excellent recycling programs, including our BC residential systems, operate worldwide.

About five years ago, Recycle BC started to accept "crinkly" plastic, and they learned to recycle it better with research assistance from UVic.

Today, crinkly plastic, zip-lock bags, and plastic bags total 78% of all categories being recycled, and virtually all hard plastics are recycled.

The remainder goes to a waste-to-energy incinerator, but we still recycle only 48% of plastics we buy.

CONTACT ME

E-mail *leonard.lee@scrd.ca* or call/text (604) 212-0406.



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Cameron: Upgrades coming to Garden Bay firehall

Editor,

The Pender Harbour Volunteer Fire Department would like to thank the community for their support of the two alternative approval processes that we have just conducted.

This will enable the department to purchase a new fire engine and rebuild Pender Harbour Firehall No. 2 (Garden Bay).

The purchase of the new fire engine is necessary for us to maintain our current insurance rating.

This engine should arrive late next year or early 2026.

The rebuild of firehall No. 2 has started and will be completed before the end of the year.

This rebuild was necessary due to the building sinking in one corner — it had dropped 7.5 inches when last measured.

The rebuild will enable this firehall to serve the community for years to come.

The engine bays will be higher

than before to accommodate possibly larger engines that may be required in the future.

A change room is also being added so that turnout gear and fire-fighters can be separated from the exhaust fumes of the fire engines and there will also be an additional small truck bay created to accommodate a utility vehicle.

The plan is to acquire a used

SUV or pickup that can transport four firefighters and will handle medical responses.

Many driveways here are challenging for the fire engines because of steepness or narrowness and a small more maneuverable vehicle for these sorts of calls will be extremely valuable.

Jim Cameron PHVFD Fire Chief



Brian Lee

The P. H. Volunteer Fire Department's Garden Bay hall is undergoing significant work (seen here on March 22) after it was discovered the building was sinking in one corner by at least 7.5 inches. Funding for the rebuild will move ahead after a recent alternative approval process was successful.





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Connell questions SCRD priorities

Editor,

I am, by nature, a patient man... most of the time; but my frustration with the SCRD (I know, get in line) has boiled over.

After building the Suncoaster Trail some 10 years ago, the trail has been abused by other "stakeholders" (e.g. clear-cut forestry), and neglected by the SCRD.

A case in point is the Vine Creek Bridge, situated on the trail 250 metres north of the Malaspina Substation Rd.

It was condemned and closed in November of 2022.

Trail users were advised to detour 1.1 kilometres along Highway 101, a route that is neither safe nor particularly enjoyable.

Since then, nothing of substance has been done.

I have been told that permits have not been sought and that design and budgeting is not in place.

Once again, Area A has been neglected and a trail that was intended to run along the Coast has been severed.

Where are the SCRD priorities?

Certainly not in growing much of an eco-tourism economy, let alone the recreational infrastructure that so many local citizens enjoy.

I have heard the arguments and I call bullshit on SCRD priorities.

You have let this issue languish in the hopes that it will fade away.

It won't.

George Connell Earls Cove



George Conne

A recent photo of the Vine Brook Bridge on the Suncoaster Trail that has been closed since Nov. 2022.

Calling all gardeners!

The Pender Harbour Community Club Society needs your donations and volunteers for the

COMMUNITY HALL PLANT & GARDEN SALE

Saturday, April 27,10am-3pm

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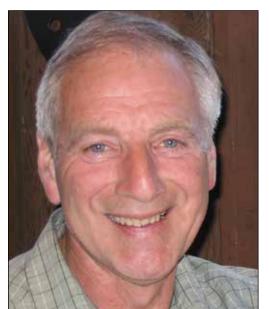
350-sized machine w/10,000 lbs hammer



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Frank Gough was born on Jan. 10, 1941, the eldest of nine kids for Frank Gough Sr. and Gertrude Gough (née Edwardson).

He was a fifth generation Pender Harbourite on his mother's side, born at the old St. Mary's Hospital in Garden Bay and raised first at Middle Point and later in Bargain Harbour.

In high school he met the love of his life, Diane (née Davis), also from a big Pender Harbour family, and they married in 1968.

Their first born, Nathan, arrived in 1974, followed by Danielle in 1976 and Angeline in 1979.

Nette joined the Gough family as their beloved chosen daughter when she arrived at their house in 1992.

The couple also opened their home and their hearts to more than 30 other foster children over the years.

Like many hard-working parents in the Harbour, Gough had many jobs.

He was a fisherman, a heavy-duty

Francis Edward Gough

JAN. 10, 1941 — FEB. 22, 2024

mechanic, a meticulous drywaller and he worked for years for Capilano Highway Services keeping Highway 101 clear of snow and ice.

But he loved being out on the sea the best and, with his son Nathan deckhanding, he went out every summer on his gillnetter called the *Solution* — which he joked was nothing but problems.

Gough was a funny, caring, warm-hearted man who was easy to like and quick-witted.

He was an avid joke and storyteller and an infamous punster.

His bright blue eyes would sparkle and a cheeky grin would cross his face when he had a pun to share.

He was an articulate speaker and a great toast-giver.

He lived a full-hearted life and shared in the joy and the pain of the people in his community in an abundant and empathetic way.

Gough was a valued and enthusiastic member of the Pender Harbour community.

He was a volunteer firefighter and an active member of the church.

He had every Pender Harbour May Day T-shirt for the last 20 years and his family used to joke that he couldn't miss a May Day or he'd run out of shirts.

Frank's demeanor did not change despite suffering from Parkinsons and Lewy body dementia for more than 12 years prior to his death.

In his final four years, in the care of the excellent staff at Totem Lodge and then Silverstone, his warmth and humour was still apparent in his little gestures and gentle nature.

He was much loved by the staff, who shared his family's sorrows as they stayed by his bedside for his final days.

Gough believed in God and found solace from his suffering through his study of the Bible.

The verses he highlighted during his time with Parkinsons' reflect his willingness to always see the beauty in life, even in the indignity of his disease.

He died in his sleep at Silverstone Care Home, surrounded by his loved ones, in a room with a view to the sea.

His family finds relief that he is finally free from his suffering but he is deeply and dearly missed.

Gough is survived by his wife Diane, his son Nathan (Wendy) and daughters Danielle (Joel), Angeline (Richard), and Nette (Dylan); 10 grandchildren including Levi, David, Anna, Silas, and Hope (Nathan's kids), Caelan and Eva (Danielle's kids), Rowan and Eleanor (Angeline's kids) and Ellory (Nette's daughter); and his siblings Carolyn, Dorothy, Evan, Doug, Sandy, and Mike.

He is predeceased by his parents Frank and Gertie, siblings Gord and Marlene, sister-in-law Sue, and nephew Matt.

There will be a celebration of life for Frank Gough at the Pender Harbour Community Hall on April 20 from 1 to 3 p.m., followed by food and drinks at Brickers Cidery in West Sechelt from 4 to 9 p.m.

All are welcome to attend.

OBITUARIES: The *Harbour Spiel* publishes obituaries without charge as a longstanding effort to recognize and record the lives of those who lived in Pender Harbour and Egmont. Submissions must be timely, include the dates of birth and 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.

Page 14 Harbour Spiel



Brian Lee

With a handshake, Ron Johnston and Marita Jokela hand off the business they've owned for 32 years to new owners, Natalie and Gary Lee. The Lees officially took over operation of the iconic Garden Bay Hotel and Marina on March 17, 2014. The historic landmark was destroyed by fire Nov. 26, 2020. The Lees still own the property but have yet to announce plans to redevelop.

taxes

Volunteer income tax program runs to April 30

submitted

Offering free help with your income tax preparation, the "volunteer income tax program" runs until April 30.

Volunteers are trained to assist with income tax preparation and it's a free service for eligible clients.

Three options are available:

• Walk-in tax clinics (first come, first serve) at the P. H. Community School (5012 Gonzales Rd.) on Mondays from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the P. H. Health Centre (5066 Francis Peninsula Rd.) on Wednesdays from 9

a.m. to 12 noon;

• Drop off (tax information) and pickup (the completed tax return) at the P. H. Community School (5012 Gonzales Rd.) Monday to Friday.

Note: The pickup is from the box outside and drop-off in the mail slot in the door.

Or, the P. H. Health Centre reception desk (5066 Francis Peninsula Rd.) between Monday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m, and

• By appointment – call Harry at (604) 741-5132.

At visits, clients should wear masks, wash hands and be healthy.

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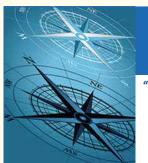
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Page 16

C.....

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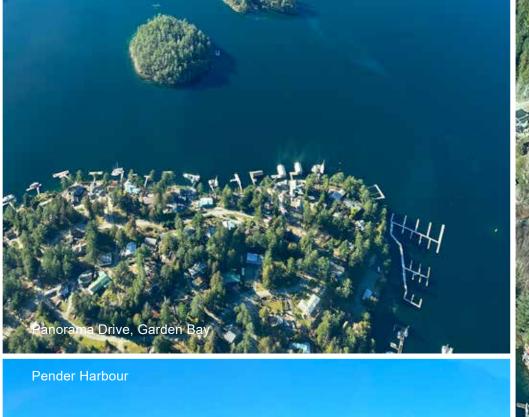
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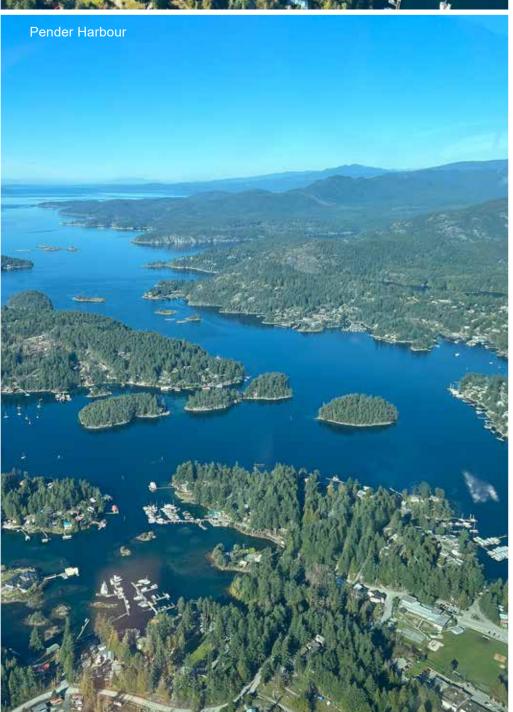
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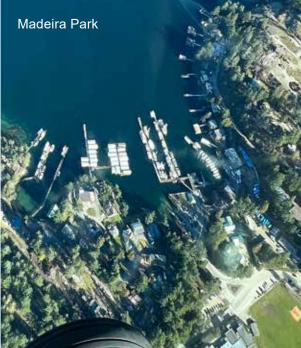
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April 2024

IT



DATE-TIME-SIZE (small, medium, large, extra large) EBB (-), FLOOD (+) - Standing wave is best on large

flood (tide flowing into Sechelt Inlet).

- 1. 9:03 AM +S, 3:21 PM -XL
- 2. 10:26 AM +S, 4:59 PM -L
- 3. 7:48 AM -M, 12:19 PM +S
- 4. 8:47 AM -M, 1:35 PM +M
- 5. 9:35 AM -M, 2:34 PM +M
- 6. 10:16 AM -L, 3:28 PM +L
- 7. 10:53 AM -L, 4:31 PM +XL
- 8. 11:27 AM -XL, 5:27 PM +XL
- 9. 11:54 AM -XL, 6:21 PM +XL
- 10. 12:32 PM -XL, 7:15 PM +XL
- 11. 1:12 PM -XL
- 12. 1:56 PM -XL
- 13. 7:22 AM +M, 2:45 PM -XL
- 14. 8:13 AM +S, 3:40 PM -L
- 15. 4:39 PM -L
- 16. 5:40 PM -L
- 17. 8:08 AM -M, 6:41 PM -M
- 18. 8:55 AM -M, 1:57 PM +S
- 19. 9:33 AM -L, 2:56 PM +M
- 20. 10:04 AM -L, 3:42 PM +M
- 21. 10:30 AM -L, 4:27 PM +L
- 22. 10:49 AM -L, 5:11 PM +L
- 23. 11:04 AM -L, 5:53 PM +XL
- 24. 10:48 AM -XL, 6:36 PM +XL
- 25. 10:59 AM -XL, 7:19 PM +XL
- 26. 11:23 AM -XL
- 27. 11:58 AM -XL
- 28. 7:01 AM +M, 12:48 PM -XL
- 29. 7:52 AM +S, 2:08 PM -XL
- 30. 8:54 AM +S. 3:35 PM -XL

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.



UKRAINE WAR

10,582

The number of civilian deaths in Ukraine as of Feb. 15, verified by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

31,000

The number of Ukrainian soldiers killed in the war with Russia, according to Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in a Feb. 24 Al-Jazeera story.

315,000

An estimate from a U.S. intelligence report declassified in mid-December 521 2023 of the number of Russian troops killed or wounded in Ukraine (87 percent of the roughly 360,000 troops Russia had before the war).

4x

Russia's active military personnel was over four times larger than Ukraine's as of 2023.

17.3 million

Neighboring Poland recorded the highest number of border crossings from Ukraine, at around 17.3 million as of December 2023, followed by Hungary, Romania and Russia.

US\$75.1 billion

The U.S.'s total bilateral aid commitments to Ukraine between Jan. 24, 2022 and Jan. 15, 2024.

US\$6.3 billion

Canada's total bilateral aid commitments to Ukraine between Jan. 24, 2022 and Jan. 15, 2024.

Number of foreign companies that withdrew all operations from Russia in response to the invasion of Ukraine as of May 9, 2023.

~Statista, BBC, Al-Jazeera

APRIL WEATHER

TEMPERATURES, MERRY ISLAND

Our average daily high temperature in April is 12.1 C and our average daily low is 6.5 C, giving us a mean daily temperature of 9.3 C. The highest April temperature recorded is 20.7 C (April 27, 1972); the lowest is -1.1 C (April 3, 1975).

PRECIPITATION, MERRY ISLAND

April has an average of 190.8 hours of bright sunshine and 13 days with measurable rainfall. April averages a total monthly rainfall of 66 mm and a total monthly snowfall of 0.3 cm. The highest April daily rainfall on record is 31.8 mm (April 27, 1962); the highest April daily snowfall on record is 5.1 cm (April 3, 1975).

APRIL ASTROLOGY



ARIES: MARCH 21 - APRIL 19

Aries is a male sign dominant in nature and is ruled by Mars. People born under this sign are very fast in executing tasks. They are highly disciplined and punctual

in nature. There is a chaotic eclipse in your sign this month (April 8) and, with Mars in retrograde, your career and sex life are both in jeopardy. Maintain your electrolytes and sleep in a grounded environment to maintain your defences against these celestial provocations. The stars favour the following BC 49 numbers: 1 13 35 36 41 44 (bonus: 33).





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. April delivers a sinister curse on all Taureans. Sacrifice something to the stars by the solar eclipse on April 8 or be damned to suffer. Even then, with Uranus still in your sign all year long, expect surprises and DO NOT resist sudden attention from strangers. They are trying to tell you something.

For the week ending March 16.

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. Grizzly Bear Science and Bruce McLellan (Rocky Mountain Books)
- 2. The Wild Horses of the Chilcotin: Their History and Future by Wayne McCrory (Harbour Publishing)
- 3. Unbroken: My Fight for Survival, Hope, and Justice for **Indigenous Women and Girls** by Angela Sterritt (Greystone Books)
- 4. The Best Loved Boat: The Princess Maquinna by lan Kennedy (Harbour Publishing)
- 5. Crushed Wild Mint by Jess Housty (Nightwood Editions)

- 6. Hot Springs of Western the Art of a Wilderness Life by Canada by Glenn Woodsworth & David Woodsworth (Harbour Publishing)
 - 7. Princess of the Savoy: A Priscilla Tempest Mystery by Ron Base & Prudence Emery (Douglas McIntyre)
 - 8. East Side Story: Growing **Up at the PNE** by Nick Marino (Arsenal Pulp Press)
 - 9. Wisdom From The Hidden Life of Trees by Peter Wohlleben (Greystone Books)
 - 10. Gumboot Guys: Nautical Adventures on BC's North Coast edited by Lou Allison with Jane Wilde (Caitlin Press)

~ Association of Book Publishers of BC

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- April 2 ~ Elizabeth Buhlert and Desiree Leech.
- April 3 ~ Jamison Warner and Sandi Whelan.
- April 4 ~ Frank Roosen Jr., Mike Legge and Bev Thompson.
- April 5 ~ Doug Silvey and Breanna Clay.
- April 6 ~ Mike Bathgate and Ursula Dornbierer.
- April 8 ~ Andrea Clerx and Gloria Fritz.
- April 9 ~ Laurie Saunders.
- April 10 ~ **April Charlton.**
- April 11 ~ Mackenzie Sutherland.
- April 12 ~ Irene Doerksen, Matthew Phillips and Tilley Dougan.
- April 13 ~ Bonnie Lindsay, Geoff Warner, Billy Petraschuk and Don Priest.
- April 14 ~ Dan Leech and Ann Landry.
- April 15 ~ Teresa Sladey and Cathy Collins.
- April 17 ~ Sheila McCann and Carly Campbell.
- April 18 ~ Russ Foster, Talon Mclean, Howard White, David Brimacomb, Kalen Zayshley and Ron Calvert.
- April 19 ~ John Field.
- April 20 ~ Katie Tenbroek.
- April 23 ~ Kathy Morant, Sue Richardson, Heidi Vaughan and Jordan Kammerle.
- April 24 ~ Len Silvey and Alex Dore.
- April 25 ~ Zena Lanteigne, Samantha Stewart and Dietta Edwardson.
- April 26 ~ Teyjah Xaveress and Blake Campbell.
- April 28 ~ Jeanette Penson.
- April 29 ~ **Ruth Langton.**
- April 30 ~ Cathy Gudbranson, Kasey & Kelly Smith, Marie Reid, Hazel Higgins, "Prawntrap" Patty Jackson, Bill Sutherland, Jeff Wilbee and Ava Young.

photojournal







Keegan Edwardson photos

Pender Harbour's herring gillnet fleet hunkered down in Comox for a number of days waiting out a southeast storm but when the weather cleared, the herring appeared in huge numbers. Skipper Josh Young told the *Harbour Spiel* that the fishery opened on March 13 and the entire fleet got their quota (3,259 metric tonnes) within 50 hours. Young said they fished the entire opening off Qualicum Beach and had to halt fishing for a day during the opening while they waited for packers to return from Vancouver. 'The day after it closed, there were 30 more miles of spawn,' said Young. Clockwise from top: Paolo Cogrossi and Keegan Edwardson, Edwardson and Cogrossi, and Cole Edwardson.

Page 24 Harbour Spiel

Wildlife society hosts biologist/author Duane Sept

submitted

The Pender Harbour Wildlife Society is pleased to host a presentation on April 16 by local naturalist Duane Sept.

Sept is a biologist, professional freelance nature photographer and writer.

His images have been published in numerous publications and books.

During his career as a biologist, he worked with a variety of organisms including various birds, mammals, plants, and their communities.

He currently resides in Halfmoon Bay with his wife, Susie.

South Africa and Namibia are two countries that offer amazing wildlife, landscapes, and incredible experiences in Africa.

Namibia offers some of the largest and most impressive sand dunes in the world.

Its national parks are also some of the best locations to view spectacular wildlife.

Wildlife of southern Africa



Duane Sept

An African savanna elephant, *Loxodonta africana*, in Addo Elephant National Park, South Africa.

includes a wealth of mammals, birds, reptiles, and insects.

Join Sept on this African adventure to learn more about this wonderful continent.

The presentation will be at the Pender Harbour Secondary School in the "food room."

Doors open at 6:45 p.m. before

the presentation at 7 p.m. and all are welcome to attend.

Refreshments and raffle to follow.

For more information, email *info@penderharbourwildlife.com*.

seals



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

Harbour Seal of Approval to the Rotary Club of Pender Harbour and Kathie Tweedie and Al Catteau for their generous donation to our hot lunch program.

And, thanks to everyone who supports the PHSS parent's advisory committee hot luch program.

Anne Pino PHSS PAC Harbour Seals of Approval to the **Better at Home team of volunteers** and contractors who share so much of their hearts, their labour of love, to our many participants in the Better at Home program. Each of you receives rave reviews from those you help and help keep this community healthy and resilient.

Haida Bolton Better at Home co-ordinator





Celebrating Volunteerism

April 30 from 2-4pm in the Pender Harbour Community Hall

Thank a volunteer as our community would not be the same without them.

Each community group or organization is invited to put a display together on how volunteers make a difference.

Come and view the displays and join us for a piece of cake and refreshments.







PENDER HARBOUR SENIORS INITIATIVE

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

FOR INFORMATION OR TRANSPORTATION,

CALL MARLENE: (604) 883-9900

Seniors activities for April!

CELEBRATING VOLUNTEERISM: April 30, 2 to 4pm

In the Pender Harbour Community Hall. Come and view the displays and join us for a piece of cake and refreshments!

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

In the Pender Harbour Community Hall. Lunch will be served at 12pm. The cost will be \$10 per person.

April 4 - Creating Leaves and Conversation for the Who Cares? Tree

April 11 - Spanish Guitar Music with William Leggott

April 18 – Our past and going forward with future activities.

April 25 - Rummoli, Scrabble or Card Games

CARPET BOWLING: Wednesdays, April 3, 10, 17 & 24

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

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

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

Page 26 Harbour Spi



PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY SCHOOL

HARBOUR LEARNING CENTRE HOURS: Tuesday to Friday 9am to 3pm

5012 Gonzales Road Box 232 Madeira Park, V0N 2H0

604.883.2826 phcs@dccnet.com www.pendercommunity.ca

This month at the Pender Harbour Community School:

CORE COURSE

April 26-28 at P. H. Community School, \$250

Certification course required to obtain your hunting licence. Instructor: Andy Ross.

SPANISH LESSONS

Tuesdays from 3-4pm starting April 2 at MPES, \$150

Spanish Lessons with Viri for kids in grades K to 6.

ART CLASSES FOR KIDS

TBA

We will be offering classes for kids in grades 1-6, stay tuned or call Patti.

YOUTH NIGHT @ THE HALL

Friday, April 5

For youth in grades 7 to 12. Bring your friends and play pingpong, foosball, cooking, crafts and more! For more information talk to Mr. Vallee or call the Community School.



PENDER HARBOUR AQUATIC & FITNESS CENTRE

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

On lower level of P. H. Secondary School:

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• P. H. Aquatic & Fitness Centre

Sechelt Aquatic Centre

• Gibsons and Area Community Centre

HOURS OF OPERATION: April 1 to June 30

Monday & Friday 7:30am – 1pm Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

7:30am – 1pm AND 3:30pm – 8:20pm Saturday CLOSED Sunday 10am – 4pm

FITNESS CLASSES

MYPASS DROP-IN:

- Land Meets Water: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:30am
- Mix It Up: Thursdays, 8:45am
- Aquafit: Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays, 9am
- Gentle Waves Aquafit: Monday at 10am

REGISTERED PROGRAMS

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

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:



April		1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM	6AM	7AM	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM	Noon	1PM	2PM	3РМ	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM
Mon	01	14.0	13.7	13.2	12.6	12.2	12.1	12.3	12.6	12.9	12.7	12.0	10.8	9.2	7.6	6.0	4.9	4.2	4.1	4.7	5.9	7.6	9.6	11.4	12.9
Tue	02	13.9	14.2	14.0	13.5	13.0	12.4	12.2	12.2	12.4	12.5	12.3	11.6	10.4	9.0	7.5	6.0	4.9	4.2	4.1	4.6	5.8	7.6	9.5	11.4
Wed	l 03	13.1	14.1	14.5	14.3	13.7	13.0	12.3	11.8	11.7	11.9	12.1	12.2	11.8	10.9	9.6	8.0	6.5	5.2	4.3	4.1	4.5	5.8	7.6	9.7
Thu	04	11.8	13.5	14.5	14.8	14.4	13.6	12.5	11.5	10.9	10.8	11.1	11.6	12.1	12.2	11.7	10.5	8.9	7.2	5.6	4.5	4.1	4.6	6.0	8.0
Fri	. 05						14.1					9.7	10.3	11.3	12.2	12.6	12.4	11.4	9.8	7.8	6.1	4.9	4.5	5.1	6.6
Sat	. 06						14.7					8.0	8.4						=	10.6		6.7		5.2	5.9
	07						15.2				7.9	6.6	6.4	7.2					13.9					6.4	
	08	7.2					15.5						4.8	4.9	6.2				14.2						
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	1 10	8.7					15.0					7.0	4.5	2.9	2.6	3.5	5.5	8.2	=					13.1	
							14.3						5.7	3.5	2.3	2.4	3.6	5.7	8.4					14.6	
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							\mathbb{Z}						10.3	8.5	6.6	5.1	4.1	3.7	4.7	5.4				13.1	
							=						11.2		8.4	6.9	5.7	4.8	4.6	5.0				11.4	
							=						11.6				7.5	6.4	5.6	5.3	5.7	6.6		9.8	
							=						11.2					8.2	7.1	6.3	5.9	6.2	7.1	8.5	
	18						13.2					9.8	10.3						8.9	7.7	6.8	6.4	6.7	7.7	9.1
Fri	. 19	10.8	12.5	13.7	14.3	14.2	13.4	12.2	10.8	9.6	8.9	8.7	9.2	10.0	11.0	11.7	12.0	11.6	10.7	9.4	8.2	7.3	7.0	7.3	8.4
Sat	20	10.0	11.7	13.1	14.0	14.1	13.5	12.3	10.7	9.2	8.1	7.6	7.9	8.8	10.1	11.4	12.3	12.6	12.2	11.2	9.9	8.6	7.8	7.6	8.2
Sun	21	9.4	11.0	12.5	13.6	14.0	13.6	12.4	10.8	9.0	7.5	6.7	6.6	7.4	8.8	10.4	11.9	12.9	13.1	12.6	11.5	10.2	9.0	8.3	8.4
Mon	22	9.2	10.5	12.0	13.2	13.9	13.7	12.6	11.0	9.0	7.2	5.9	5.5	6.0	7.3	9.1	11.0	12.6	13.6	13.6	12.9	11.7	10.4	9.4	8.9
Tue	23	9.2	10.2	11.5	12.8	13.6	13.7	12.9	11.3	9.2	7.2	5.5	4.6	4.7	5.8	7.5	9.7	11.8	13.4	14.1	14.0	13.2	11.9	10.7	9.8
Wed	1 24	9.6	10.1	11.2	12.4	13.3	13.7	13.2	11.8	9.7	7.5	5.5	4.2	3.8	4.4	5.9	8.1	10.5	12.6	14.1	14.6	14.2	13.3	12.0	10.9
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Tue	30	14.9	14.4	13.6	12.7	12.1	11.9	12.0	12.2	12.3	11.9	11.0	9.6	8.0	6.4	5.0	4.0	3.6	3.9	5.1	6.8	9.0	11.2	13.1	14.5

PENDER HARBOUR LIVING HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Pender Harbour Wooden Boat Show (Aug. 2-4), is looking for help in planning this year's event. All sorts of assistance is needed, including media and advertising co-ordination, grant, permit and licence writing, vendor and entertainment planning, and site management.

Something else you'd like to do? Drop them a line at *PHWoodenBoatShow@gmail.com*.

P. H. GARDEN CLUB

The P. H. Garden Club April meeting will be on Monday, April 29 at 1 p.m. in the P. H. School of Music. Paddy Wales and Sheila Watkins from the Sunshine Coast Botanical Gardens will present "Drought & Deluge."

Please check the website for details at www.phgar-denclub.ca. Membership fees are \$20 for a calendar year or \$5 drop-in. Included with an annual membership is a discount card for 10 to 20% off plants at most garden stores on the Coast and some in the Lower Mainland. Coffee/tea and snacks are complimentary at all meetings.

P. H. MUSIC SOCIETY COFFEEHOUSE

The Pender Harbour Music Society presents this month's School of Music Coffee House on Friday, April 12. It will be an evening of great music featuring Spindrift Street and Sean Peters.

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.

P. H. WOMEN'S CONNECTION

The Pender Harbour Women's Connection is holding their second annual community update on April 9. Our speakers will be Sarah Johnston, chair of the Rotary Club of Pender Harbour, Jim Cameron, P. H. Volunterr Fire Department chief, Maurice Laycock, pharmacist at Marina Pharmacy and Nick Gaskin, executive director of the Pender Harbour Health Centre. Each speaker will have 15 minutes to explain salient points pertinent to their area of interest. Following a refreshment break there will be a short question period. We extend an invitation to our spouses and friends to attend the meeting.

Our guest speaker on April 23 will be a familiar face to many in Pender Harbour. Dr. Lisa Virkela from Pender Harbour Dental will speak about how dentistry began and the amazing changes that have occurred over the years. Virkela graduated from the University of Turku in Finland and received her licence to practise dentistry in Canada in 1992.

Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and there's a drop-in fee of \$4.





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- Home/Palliative care Dressings Holter Monitors

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE: (604) 883-2764

Alternate Thursdays, 10am - 12 noon

- Well Baby Clinic
- Child and Adult Immunizations

FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER: (604) 984-5070

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

Women and Youth Health Services

PHYSICIANS: (604) 883-2764

• By appointment, Tuesday & Thursdays only

DENTISTRY: (604) 883-2997

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

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

BETTER AT HOME PROGRAM: (604) 212-2232

Haida Bolton – Program Co-ordinator Helping Seniors Remain Independent

• Email: betterathome@penderharbourhealth.com

Supplementary services:

HEARING CLINIC: (604) 885-0155

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FOOT CARE NURSE: (778) 244-8503

Alene Barry

Foot care nursing

REFLEXOLOGY: (604) 740-2890

Heel 'n Sole Reflexology - Sharon Gilchrist Reed

Reflexology services

COUNSELLING SERVICES

(604) 885-6101 ext. 4422

Ongoing:

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Meets Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome.

TEENS' DROP IN CLINIC

Offered every Tuesday between 3 and 5 p.m.

LOAN CUPBOARD

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

DIABETES & DIETICIAN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Weekly on Thursdays - call to book an appointment

CHRONIC DISEASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Weekly on Wednesdays – call for an appointment.

ADULT DAY PROGRAM

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



THE SUNSHINE COAST HOSPICE SOCIETY

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

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

Local health matters



Leadership thoughts: PHHC

Nick Gaskin PHHC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Hi, Pender Harbour community.
For many of you I am a new face, so I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself and let you know my current priorities as your new Executive Director of the Pender Harbour Health Centre.

I have been with the PHHC since Januarey 2024, and I am proud and humbled to take on my new role.

I have been a Sunshine Coast resident permanently for the last eight years and my connections to the Coast go back over 20 years.

I am a fiancé to a wonderful partner Lindsey and dad to two amazing girls, Charlotte and Ella.

Prior to joining the Health Centre I worked in the health care sector with Vancouver Coastal Health, RainCity Housing and the shishalh Nation.

I believe in transparent and account-

able leadership and to support this I wanted to share some of my current priorities, including:

PHYSICIAN RECRUITMENT

I know this is the highest priority for our patients and your community.

Although provincially there are challenges related to physician recruitment, I want you to know I am working hard to attract new physicians to the PHHC.

I am working with local health care partners and recruitment organizations to bring both experienced and new-to-practice physicians to the PHHC.

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

This year the Health Centre will be undertaking a community needs assessment of Pender Harbour and its surrounding areas.

The aim of this needs assessment is to identify the current health care priorities for the PHHC based on feedback from the community.

Watch out for upcoming announce-

ments on Facebook, our website and here in the Spiel.

HEALTH CENTRE UPGRADES

The PHHC recently had some upgrades, namely our new washrooms and flooring.

I am looking to build upon this and source funding to make further upgrades to our treatment spaces and clinical areas to ensure we can continue to provide top quality healthcare.

To conclude, I am invested in building on the over 40 years of incredible service the PHHC has given to the community.

I acknowledge the unique community structure of the Health Centre and look forward to working with the community-elected board of directors, the community and the PHHC team to drive the Health Centre forward.

If you would like to connect with me, I can be reached at *nick.gaskin@pender-harbourhealth.com*.

Thank You, Nick Gaskin



OPERATIONAL BUDGET 2023-2024 PHHC annual revenue (\$984,099)

VCH Clinic and Homecare – 32%

SCRD - 16%

Ministry of Health - 13%

Rental Income - 11.5%

Grants (directed funding) - 8.5%

Donations, PHHC Auxiliary – 6%

Community Donations – 6%

VCH Senior Programs - 3.8%

Harbourside Friendship - 1.6%

Interest - 1.6%

WHERE DOES THE FUNDING COME FROM?

While 48% of the Pender Harbour Health Centre budget is funded annually by the nursing contract with Vancouver Coastal Health and

an annual grant from the SCRD, the other 52% of the budget is variable and is funded through donations, grant applications,

rent from tenants and a small amount of interest.

This means that over half of the budget can vary and programs like the seniors program, Harbourside Friendships, diabetes and chronic disease management as well as our social work program are funded by donations and grants. The Pender Harbour Healthcare Auxiliary operates the Bargain Barn which can donate up to 10% of the annual funding.

Your donations are important to the health centre — to ensure we can keep operating, and keep our building in good up-to-date condition.

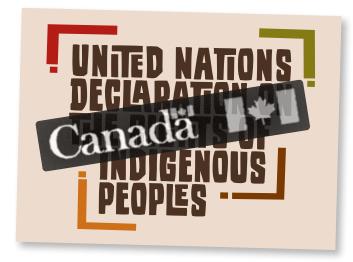
United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is a legally non-binding resolution passed by the United Nations in 2007. It delineates and defines the individual and collective rights of Indigenous peoples, including their ownership rights to cultural and ceremonial expression, identity, language, employment, health, education and other issues.

UNDRIP was adopted into Canadian legislation with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act on June 21, 2021. This legislation aims to advance the implementation of the UNDRIP as a key step in renewing the government of Canada's relationship with Indigenous peoples. The purpose of this legislation is to affirm UNDRIP as an international human rights instrument that can help interpret and apply Canadian law. It also provides a framework to advance implementation of

UNDRIP at the federal level. This legislation requires the Government of Canada, in consultation and co-operation with Indigenous peoples, to take all measures necessary to ensure the laws of Canada are consistent with UNDRIP and to prepare and implement an action plan to achieve UNDRIP's objectives.

The BC government is currently working on the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA) which will be the BC government's legislative implementation of UNDRIP.



Part II (Continued from Harbour Spiel, March 2024 issue)

UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

ARTICLE 15

- 1. Indigenous peoples have the right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information.
- 2. States shall take effective measures, in consultation and co-operation with the indigenous peoples concerned, to combat prejudice and elimi-

nate discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among Indigenous peoples and all other segments of society.

ARTICLE 16

- 1. Indigenous peoples have the right to establish their own media in their own languages and to have access to all forms of non-Indigenous media without discrimination.
- 2. States shall take effective measures to ensure that state-owned media duly reflect Indigenous cultural diversity.

States, without prejudice to ensuring full freedom of expression, should encourage privately owned media to adequately reflect Indigenous cultural diversity.

ARTICLE 17

- 1. Indigenous individuals and peoples have the right to enjoy fully all rights established under applicable international and domestic labour law.
- 2. States shall in consultation and co-operation with Indigenous peoples take specific measures to protect Indigenous children from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, taking into account their special vulnerability and the importance of education for their empowerment.
 - 3. Indigenous individuals have





Healthy Meals service has resumed.

FOR EMERGENCY SERVICE: Call Linda — 604.883.2819, Wendy — 604.883.2514 o<u>r Anky —604.883.0033</u>

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the right not to be subjected to any discriminatory conditions of labour and, inter alia, employment or salary.

ARTICLE 18

Indigenous peoples have the right to participate in decision-making in matters which would affect their rights, through representatives chosen by themselves in accordance with their own procedures, as well as to maintain and develop their own Indigenous decision-making institutions.

ARTICLE 19

States shall consult and co-operate in good faith with the Indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them.

ARTICLE 20

- 1. Indigenous peoples have the right to maintain and develop their political, economic and social systems or institutions, to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities.
- 2. Indigenous peoples deprived of their means of subsistence and development are entitled to just and fair redress.

ARTICLE 21

1. Indigenous peoples have the right, without discrimination, to the improvement of their economic and social conditions, including, inter alia, in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security.

2. States shall take effective measures and, where appropriate, special measures to ensure continuing improvement of their economic and social conditions.

Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities.

ARTICLE 22

- 1. Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of Indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities in the implementation of this Declaration.
- 2. States shall take measures, in conjunction with Indigenous peoples, to ensure that Indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.

ARTICLE 23

Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for exercising their right to development.

In particular, Indigenous peoples have the right to be actively involved in developing and determining health, housing and other economic and social programs affecting them and, as far as possible, to administer such programs through their own institutions.

ARTICLE 24

1. Indigenous peoples have the right to their traditional medicines and to maintain their health practices, including the conservation of their vital medicinal plants, animals and minerals.

Indigenous individuals also have the right to access, without any discrimination, to all social and health services.

2. Indigenous individuals have an equal right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health.

States shall take the necessary steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of this right.

Continued next issue.





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

APRIL

The Artification of the Education (AMI) of Company Trans. Diff Company in Hall 10:20 cm.
Thu. April 4Harbourside Friendships (Who Cares? Tree) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m. Fri. April 5
Sat. April 6
Sun. April 7Skookumchuck Heritage Society AGM - Egmont Heritage Centre, 2 p.m.
Mon. April 8Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10:30 a.m 12 noon
·
Tue. April 9
Thu. April 11Harbourside Friendships drop-in (Spanish guitar) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
Fri. April 12Pender Harbour School of Music Coffeehouse - P. H. School of Music, doors at 7 p.m.
Sat. April 13Pender Harbour Library AGM, P. H. School of Music, 10:30 a.m.
Tue. April 16P. H. Wildlife Society features Duane Sept - PHSS, 7 p.m.
Thu. April 18SCRD electoral Area Services Committee - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
Thu. April 18Harbourside Friendships drop-in (Past and future) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
Sat. April 20Celebration of life for Frank Gough - Pender Harbour Community Hall, 1 to 3 p.m.
Sat. April 20P. H. Music Society presents Rick Scott and Nico Rhodes, P. H. School of Music, 2 p.m.
Sun. April 21P. H. Music Society presents Rick Scott and Nico Rhodes, P. H. School of Music, 2 p.m.
Mon. April 22Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church, 10:30 a.m 12 noon
Tue. April 23P. H. Womens Conection gathering (Dr. Lisa Virkela) - P. H. School of Music, 10 a.m.
Thu. April 25SCRD committee of the whole meeting - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
Thu. April 25SCRD regular board meeting - SCRD boardroom, 1 p.m.
Thu. April 25Harbourside Friendships drop-in (games) - P. H. Community Hall, 10:30 a.m.
Fri. April 26P. H. Community School CORE course (3 days) - P. H. Community School
Sat. April 27P. H. Community Hall Plant and Garden Sale - P. H. Community Hall, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sat April 27P. H. Legion Giant Garage Sale - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 10 a.m.
Sat. April 27April Tools Wooden Boat Challenge - Madeira Park gov't wharf, 10 a.m 3 p.m.
Mon. April 29P. H. Garden Club (Paddy Wales and Sheila Watkins) - P. H. School of Music, 1 p.m.
Tue. April 30P. H. Seniors Initiative "Celebrating Volunteerism" - P. H. Community Hall, 2 p.m.

Harbour Spiel Trivia Answers:

1. b

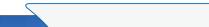
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FERRY DEPARTURES

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

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

Service schedules change regularly, visit **www.bcferries.com** for current schedules.

"April hath put a spirit of youth in everything."

~ William Shakespeare

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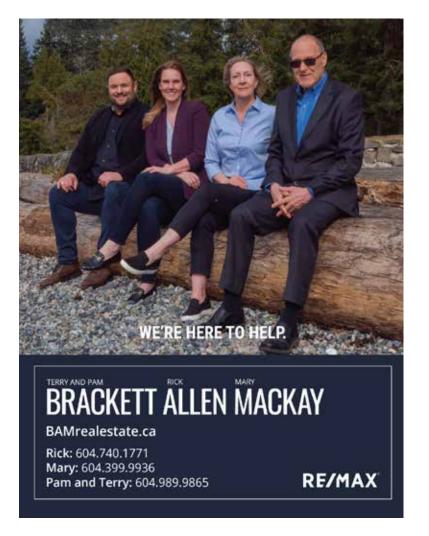


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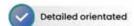
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