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HARBOUR SPIEL

November 2026
Issue 431





We encourage everyone to come out on November 11 to support our veterans and honour their sacrifice.

The day's ceremonies begin at 10:30 a.m. with a solemn procession through Madeira Park.

It will continue to the Royal Canadian Legion No. 112 where Remembrance Day services will begin at 11 a.m.

Lest we forget . . .



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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, Alain Catteau, Bill Charlton, John Dickinson, Natalia Kouznetsova, Robert Livingston, Susan Marlatt, Shane McCune, Joanne Sankew and Myrtle Winchester.

COVER

Trevor Johnson took this photo of Pender Harbour's infamous grizzly family enjoying some well-deserved rest on his property in the Daniel Point neighbourhood on Sept. 28. See p. 15 for another shot taken at the same spot.

(Trevor Johnson 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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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December issue mails Nov. 27
(Advertising bookings before Nov. 15)

editorial

Throwing back dead fish

Brian Lee



By all accounts, this past season was good to local sports fishermen.

There were plenty of springs and coho and just about everyone who spent some time at it has a few in the freezer by now.

I enjoy salmon but prefer pork and don't share the love many have for sports fishing.

But my partner does.

She was raised in the dry mountain hills of the Interior and can't get enough of it.

Even I have to admit that few things spike your heart rate like the sound of a hog reeling off line.

It almost makes it worth the fat wad you spent on fuel to catch it.

But there's a problem with our sports fishery and every conservation-conscious angler knows it.

It's bycatch.

The ninth hardest thing to do in life, right after "knowing what to say to someone grieving," is throwing back a fish you know will die.

In an effort to conserve salmon stocks, Fisheries and Oceans Canada has continued to narrow what anglers can keep and when they are allowed to keep it.

During very specific openings, a legal chinook must be between 62 and 80 centimetres while a coho must be more than 30 centimetres and hatchery produced (identified by a removed adipose fin).

A caught fish that doesn't meet these standards must be released.

Many of those fish will die — and we're releasing more than ever.

DFO recently released the Aug. 2026 South Coast creel bulletin.

(A "creel" refers to the woven basket anglers once used to carry their catch and is the term used to describe

dock surveys of returning anglers.)

South of Cape Scott, DFO estimates that 137,906 chinook were kept and 237,900 released between June and August.

That's roughly in line with the five-year average.

During that same period, they estimate that 107,624 coho were retained and 236,512 released.

That's 42 per cent and 54.5 per cent higher than the five year average.

The term "released" makes it sound like the little fishy gets to swim free in order to grow up to be a big fishy but a UBC tracking study found that 31.5 per cent of tagged coho died within 50 kilometres (or an average of 3.3 days) of being released.

Many fishermen I talk to think the mortality rate is much higher.

The study found that even coho released in "good condition" faced about 17 per cent short-term mortality.

Wild coho bite the hook just like hatchery fish and the exhaustion caused by getting reeled in and handled combined with hook injuries is often, visibly, fatal.

When too many wild coho or undersized fish are biting, I'm happy to quit and go anchor.

But that's not easy when your partner is a fishing junky who threatens mutiny at any suggestion of it.

Local creel surveys in Area 16 (for landings at locations including Buccaneer Marina, Madeira Park, P. H. Resort, Coopers Green and French Creek) this past August averaged .452 chinook and .171 coho caught per trip.

To come home with dinner, there's a temptation to stay out and wade through non-retainable fish to hook a keeper.

In other words, BC's sports fishing regulations encourage anglers to kill more fish than they keep.

And nobody likes it.

REMEMBRANCE DAY: Tuesday, Nov. 11, 11 a.m.

The Royal Canadian Legion No. 112 will host a full outdoor Remembrance Day service at the cenotaph in Madeira Park on Nov. 11. The procession begins its march towards the Legion from Madeira Park at 10:30 a.m. followed by the service at 11 a.m. The service at the Pender Harbour cenotaph will include a colour party, pipers, an emcee, chaplain and a number of local representatives. Poppies are now available and can be purchased by donation at local businesses and poppy sale tables hosted by Legion representatives near Marketplace IGA and the Marina Pharmacy. Stay at the Legion afterwards because The Shamrockers take the stage at 1p.m.

PENDER HARBOUR COMMUNITY HALL 'BEER AND BURGER' FUNDRAISER: Saturday, Nov. 14, 5:30 p.m.

Come out for a beer and a burger and help finish off the fundraising drive for "Raise the Roof," the Pender Harbour Community Club's fundraising effort to pay for the massive renovations at the Pender Harbour Community Hall. All donations will be matched for 60 days by an anonymous donor. It's only \$35 for a beer and a burger at the Royal Canadian Legion 112. There will be a 50/50 draw and silent auction and tickets aren't necessary (just order at the bar). Kicks off at 5:30 p.m.

PENDER HARBOUR MUSIC SOCIETY PRESENTS ROY FORBES: Sunday, Nov. 15, 2 p.m.

Roy Forbes has made his mark for generations of listeners as a solo artist, band leader, ensemble member, interpreter and songwriter. This is not to mention his work as a record producer, film composer, songwriting mentor, radio host at CBC Radio and CKUA, and popular music historian of 78 RPM records. Over the last five decades Forbes has become an organic part of Canadian music. Leading up to the 40th anniversary of the PHMS Concert Series, the society welcomes back a perennial favourite. Tickets are \$30 at www.penderharbourmusic.ca.


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SCAN ME!



Community hall renovation project nears completion

If all goes according to plans, the Pender Harbour Community Hall will reopen by Dec. 10.

Alain Catteau, Pender Harbour Community Hall renovation project manager, told the *Harbour Spiel* that construction is on track to be completed by Dec. 1 despite the project growing considerably as new funding has come in.

Catteau said generous donations and grants has allowed the project to be expanded to include much more than originally planned.

In Dec. 2024, Catteau said they needed to replace the roof, structural framing and trusses and lighting which was budgeted at \$400,000.

Since then, the project has received funding and donations that allowed the budget to grow to \$1.15 million.

In March 2025, the PHCC was awarded a federal Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Program grant for \$532,000.

In Dec. 2025, a community member donated \$250,000.

Including contributions from the PHCC (\$70,000), donations from community members (\$123,000) and smaller grants (\$38,000), the club was able to completely renovate the hall's bathrooms, kitchens, bar and the former RCMP office on the west side of the building.

That has included structural wall reinforcement, insulation and drywall and an automatic door at the entrance.

In addition, crews will replace all windows, install solar panels with a battery storage system, upgrade the electrical service to 400 amps (previously 200 amps) and install a high efficiency heating and cooling system.

That still leaves a shortfall of \$137,000 of which Catteau said they



Alain Catteau

The interior of the main hall on Oct. 6.

need only to raise half (approximately \$68,000) because another anonymous donor has agreed to match any funds that come in.

Catteau said that they are aiming for construction to be completed by Dec. 1 and expect the hall to be available for use by Dec. 10.

If all goes as planned, as it has so far, the first event in the newly renovated hall should be the Pender Harbour Lions annual Christmas dinner in mid-December.

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 line "Raise the Roof Campaign" and mail to #13-127 Lagoon Rd., Madeira Park, BC, V0N 2H0.

The PHCC is also hosting a "Beer and Burger" fundraiser on Saturday, Nov. 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Madeira Park Legion.

Royal Canadian Legion #112

Pender Harbour 2026 Poppy Campaign

Donations to our Poppy Campaign benefit our community:

In 2026, six bursaries were awarded to PHSS graduates.

2026 Poppy Campaign begins SATURDAY, OCT. 24

Please come to our Remembrance Day Ceremony on

Wednesday, November 11

Procession marches off at 10:30 am.

Service at 11:00 am.

Followed by refreshments in the Legion. Everyone welcome including children.

Wear yours proudly!



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Dr. Brian Goldman The CASINO SHIFT

Dr. Brian Goldman is an emergency physician, bestselling author, and the longtime host of CBC Radio's *White Coat, Black Art*. Known for his insightful storytelling and compassionate perspective on healthcare, Dr. Goldman will discuss his latest book, *The Casino Shift*: a powerful look inside today's healthcare system through gripping real-life stories, with moderator Joanna Piros.

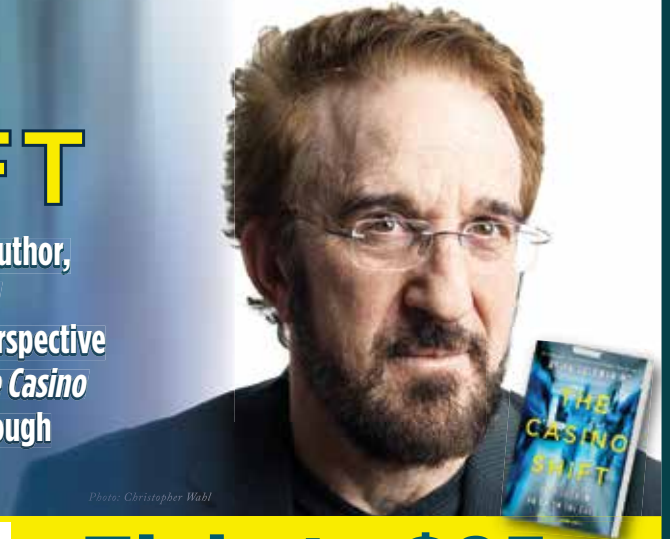


Photo: Christopher Wahl



November 18th, 2026, 2—4pm (Doors 1:00)
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Free transit for youth returns to the Sunshine Coast

The Sunshine Coast Regional District recently announced that youth will once again ride free on BC Transit's bus service on the Sunshine Coast.

On Oct. 13, the SCRd announced they were reintroducing the youth travel pass, also known as the "S-Pass."

The program provides eligible youth with fare-free travel on Sunshine Coast transit routes in an effort to help "young people stay connected to school, friends and their community."

Children aged 12 and under already ride for free on the Sunshine Coast Transit System through BC Transit's "Get on Board" program.

The S-Pass is available to youth aged 13 to 18 who are currently attending secondary school.

To acquire a pass, youth must provide proof of age and Sunshine

Coast residency when registering.

Acceptable documentation includes a valid School District No. 46 student ID card or current government-issued photo identification such as a passport, driver's licence or BC Services card

Eligible youth can register for and receive their S-Pass at any of the following locations:

- Sechelt Aquatic Centre;
- Gibsons and Area Community Centre, or
- Sunshine Coast Regional District Office.

The S-Pass is valid on all SCRd transit buses and can be accessed through either the Umo app or a Umo card.

The SCRd encourages riders to use the Umo app, Transit app, Google Maps or another preferred trip-planning tool to check schedules and track buses in real time.

Area A residents can access the Sunshine Coast Transit Service at its most northerly stop in Halfmoon Bay at the junction of Highway 101 and the northern end of Redroofs Road.

For transit schedules, trip-planning information and customer alerts, visit bctransit.com/sunshine-coast.

For more information about the S-Pass, eligibility requirements and registration, visit scrd.ca/s-pass.



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 May long weekend until Labour Day

photojournal



submitted

The Pender Harbour and District Health Auxiliary Society (which operates the Bargain Barn thrift shop in Madeira Park) recently presented the P. H. Health Centre with two cheques — one for \$13,500 raised in their 'Golden Getaway' raffle and a second cheque for \$45,000 raised from the Bargain Barn. Photo taken Sept. 27 at the P. H. Health Centre annual general meeting. From l-r: Nick Gaskin, PHHC executive director, Diane Hopkinson, PHHC Society president, and Lesley Durrant, PHHC Auxiliary Society president.

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'One seat, two reasons to celebrate' event at Mad Park Art

On BC's municipal election night, Oct. 17, friends and supporters of outgoing Sunshine Regional District Area A director Leonard Lee and incoming director, Christine Alexander, gathered at Mad Park Art to celebrate.

"I spent a few years trying to help the community," said Lee.

"I hope I helped but I am not dead yet and I'm going to try some more but I really feel that I've left it in good hands."

Next, Alexander thanked Lee and the crowd for their support:

"How the heck do I ever step into these shoes?" said Alexander.

"I think the way that I am going to do that is a couple ways.

"One, if you look around you, all of these people here are not-for-profit volunteers, leaders and people so committed to Pender and, for that, I'm grateful to know that you are with me helping me take the next step here and try to fill these shoes."

Alexander announced that her alternate director will be John Lucas, assistant fire chief of the Pender Harbour Volunteer Fire Department.

photojournal



submitted

'One seat, two reasons to celebrate' brought out a crowd on Oct. 17 to witness and celebrate the accomplishments of outgoing SCRD Area A director Leonard Lee and to welcome Area A's new SCRD representative, Christine Alexander.



submitted

Left to right: Leonard Lee, Christine Alexander and John Lucas. Lucas is assistant fire chief for the Pender Harbour Volunteer Fire Department and will stand as Alexander's alternate SCRD director.



Area A from Texada Island on Sept. 5.

Local ‘Trash Bash’ nets 890 kilograms of garbage Sept. 12

At least 890 kilograms of illegally dumped waste was collected by community volunteers on Sept. 12 as part of the Sunshine Coast Regional District’s 13th annual Backroad Trash Bash.

The SCRD recently announced that his year’s Trash Bash gathered 20 volunteers to pluck trash from the backroads of Halfmoon Bay to Pender Harbour.

Volunteers included community residents, members of the Sunshine Coast Off-Road Club, Sunshine Coast Dirt Bike Association, Pender Harbour Hikers and the Conservation Officers Service.

Collected waste included 160 kilograms of scrap metal, 280 kilograms of roofing material, 450 kilograms of garbage, eight tires and two propane tanks.

Not included in these totals are an old trailer and surrounding garbage collected by excavator whose weight has yet to be calculated.

“We sincerely thank all the volunteers who came out to help clean up



submitted

Volunteers loading trash pulled from local backroads on Sept. 12 as part of the 13th annual Backroad Trash Bash.

illegal dump sites,” said Marc Sole, SCRD manager of solid waste services.

“Their efforts help protect our forests, wildlife, and waterways while making the Sunshine Coast a cleaner, safer place for everyone.”

The SCRD thanks the Pender Lions Club for providing a gathering space and cooking the volunteer’s lunch and the Pender Harbour Hikers for their support and volunteer help with the event.

Thank you to this year’s spon-

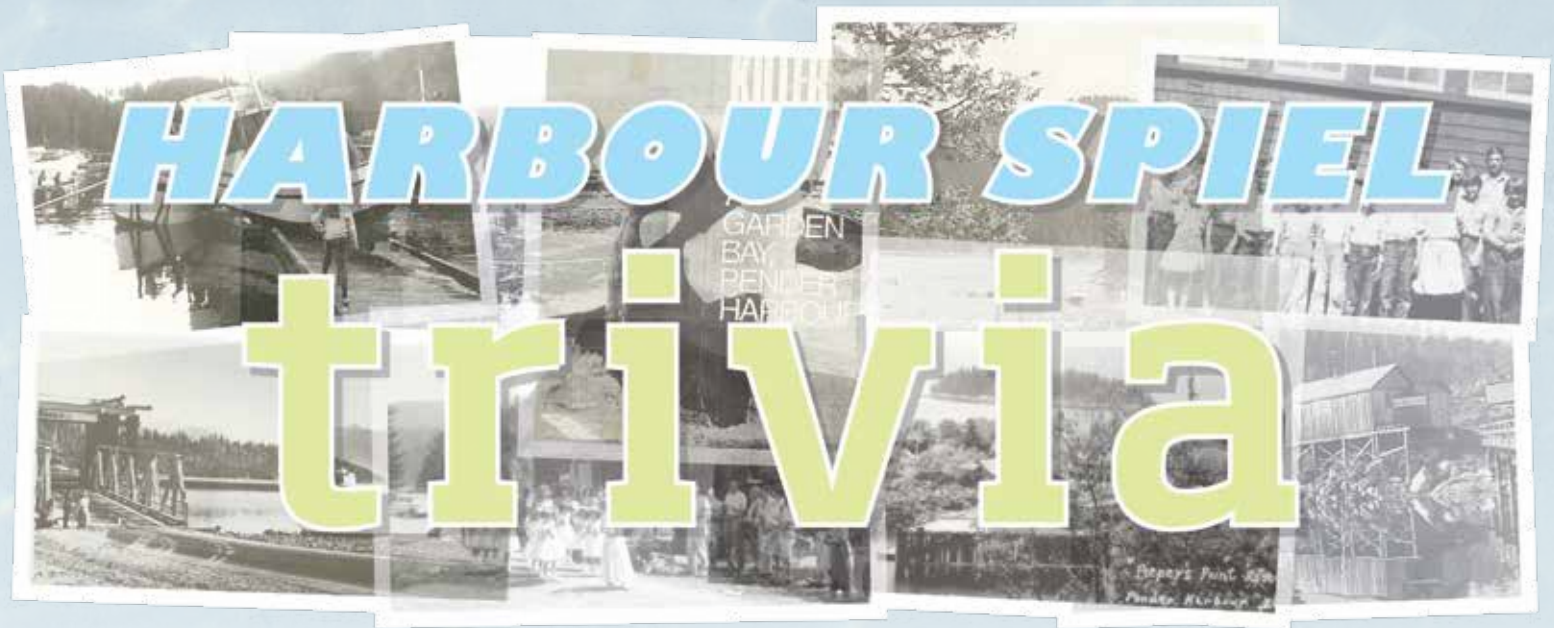
sors, Sustainable Forestry Initiative of Western Canada, IGA and Rona for donating water bottles, gloves and bags for the volunteer’s use.

To learn more about the Backroad Trash Bash, visit letstalk.scrd.ca/trash-bash.

For information on how to clean up an illegal dump site year-round on the Sunshine Coast or how to report sites to the Conservation Officer Service Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP) line, visit www.scrd.ca/illegal-dumping.



Brian Lee



1. What is the company name of the gravel operation in Egmont formerly known as LaFarge?

- ☐ a. Stockwell
- ☐ b. Heidelberg
- ☐ c. Amrize
- ☐ d. Swanson's

2. Which of the following is NOT an invasive plant in BC?

- ☐ a. Common horsetail
- ☐ b. Common periwinkle
- ☐ c. Giant hogweed
- ☐ d. Japanese knotweed

3. What type of business was "The Roost?"

- ☐ a. motel
- ☐ b. grocery store
- ☐ c. pub
- ☐ d. marina

4. The kokanee salmon is considered the same species as what other salmon?

- ☐ a. coho
- ☐ b. chum
- ☐ c. chinook
- ☐ d. sockeye

5. What is the name of a local mountain bike trail near McNeill Lake?

- ☐ a. Scary Hill Bypass
- ☐ b. A-Line
- ☐ c. Half Nelson
- ☐ d. Ned's Atomic Dustbin

6. Name of the "hill" above Madeira Park.

- ☐ a. Frances
- ☐ b. Cecil
- ☐ c. Benny
- ☐ d. Arthur

Answers: p. 34

Four-plus: **Local**

Two-plus: **Newbie**

Less than two: **Townie**



Joanne Sankew

After a week away boating, Joanne Sankew was greeted with this sight — racers sailing in the Garden Bay Sailing Club's Saturday race — when she returned to Pender Harbour on Sept. 19.

news

Sundowner Inn goes on the market

Pender Harbour's historic Sundowner Inn has been listed for sale.

Built in 1930, the former St. Mary's Hospital building is listed for \$2.6 million.

It was the first hospital on the Sunshine Coast and operated until 1964 when the new hospital in Sechelt opened.

Since that time, it has been operated variously as a restaurant and hotel.

From Realtor O'Reilly Real Estate Group:

"The historic Sundowner Inn offers unobstructed ocean views from every room, creating a remarkable backdrop for a truly unique hospitality experience with 10 guest rooms plus suite, an on-site restaurant and dedicated event space."

Listed as a "single family residence," the main building is 6,656 square feet and boasts 11 bedrooms and 12 bathrooms.

The 0.5 acre property also includes an adjoining event building, November 2026



O'Reilly Real Estate Group

The former St. Mary's Hospital and Sundowner Inn in Garden Bay.

a former chapel, and parking for 15 vehicles.

The property can be viewed at www.oreillyrealestate.ca.

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It takes a Winchester to hijack Lee's last Lee Side column

Myrtle Winchester

Since 2018, Myrtle Winchester has provided personal editorial assistance for outgoing Area A director Leonard Lee's Harbour Spiel columns.

Leonard Lee's final words in the *Harbour Spiel* shouldn't be another summary of SCRD board business, although his job has been dealing with exactly that, every day, and thus what he shared with all of us, so we understood what he was doing as our regional director and why.

I've supported Lenny in his role since day one, but I couldn't support him in taking on another term — not because he wouldn't continue to do an excellent job, but because the man deserves to reclaim his personal life after more than eight years of living and breathing municipal government

work — enough is enough, for his sake and his family's.

Lenny is a good ole Pender boy who never lost his loyalty and it remained unshaken, even when the rest of the board tried to change his mind.

Christine, you've got a hard act to follow, but you've had a good mentor who will carry on helping you, and I trust you have the passion and skills to do a good job of protecting the interests of all of us here in Pender Harbour and Egmont.

Over the years, Len taught us all about the higher-level political manoeuvrings of municipal government, a complicated dance which he gracefully navigated through unprecedented changes in provincial legislation and local challenges that directly affected us right here in Area A of the SCRD.

There was COVID-19, which pushed everything into social dis-

tancing, reduced access to resources, removed the ability to meet face-to-face, and included the inevitable Zoom-bombing incident that made it arguably the most interesting of such meetings in our pandemic history.

The water dried up, despite Len's early advice that climate change threatened our supply, so emergency procedures had to be enacted, along with a big-assed tax increase to pay for them, but he tirelessly explained the steps that were necessary.

Wildfires threatened to wipe out a chunk of Madeira Park by a whim of the wind, focusing everyone's attention on firefighting resources that were not prepared for this kind of emergency, and the SCRD, Lenny, was called to task.

In the background, delicate negotiations with the shishàlh First Nation proceeded about rights and titles and



Sunshine Coast Regional District

www.scrd.ca info@scrd.ca

Board and Committee Meetings

Inaugural Board

November 12 at 1:00 p.m.

Regular Board

November 26 at 1:00 p.m.

Electoral Area Services Committee

November 19 at 1:00 a.m.

Pre-Budget Committee

November 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Committee of the Whole

November 26 at 9:30 a.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.

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Stay Informed on SCRD Projects and Initiatives



Lets Talk SCRD is your online space to stay informed and get involved. Help shape the future of the Sunshine Coast and share your ideas on how the Sunshine Coast Regional District can make life better for residents in the region.

Check it out at www.scrd.ca/letstalk



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names, all with the original dock management plan as the first volley fired, but Len maintained a path of diplomatic communication to accomplish small steps forward without igniting a dumpster fire of racism and fractured relationships amongst families and neighbours.

Everybody lost it over water meters, but Lenny patiently explained why detecting leaks in an ancient and failing infrastructure avoided wasting the limited and shrinking resource we must share, and how we can reduce our water bills by not being entitled and wasteful.

Don't forget "East Hastings North," the first encampment on Garden Bay Road, which most people demanded that Len get rid of and clean up, without knowing that neither he nor the SCRD had an iota of jurisdiction or authority in the situation.

There were many other issues over the years, some important to some of us, some behind the scenes, and some front-page news, but Lenny never missed a day, never missed a meeting, never pushed "Ignore" on his phone, and never failed to answer an email.

The salary is paltry for dedicating damn near your every waking hour to your job and, no, there is no fat retirement package and pension.

Lenny was our most accessible director; he picked up calls when he was able, much to Linda's annoyance when in the middle of their dinner, but the community that elected him remained his priority.

I hope that doesn't sound like Linda didn't support Lenny in his role as our representative, because she was his strongest supporter from the beginning, maybe grumbling sometimes because he didn't do the dump run, but always understanding.

She shared her husband with
November 2026

Pender Harbour to attend meetings and conventions, talk with constituents, research issues and sit down face-to-face with the many who needed help navigating a municipal government bump in the road.

Linda, you and Lenny are a great team that I'm honoured to consider as friends, and I'm sure that, now that Lenny's retired, you'll be able to

keep him busy with all those chores at home that he didn't have time for when he was our director.

Lenny, thank you for being our director, and I hope you find time to spend in your happy place, out on the waters of Pender Harbour and beyond, or at least tinkering on your boat with a drink of gin and seven after you get caught up with the recycling.

Discover Your New Home at Campbell House

Only 4 units left!

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Why Choose Campbell House?

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Pender Harbour Seniors Housing Society

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



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Campbell House
Lily Lake

www.campbell-house.org

 SPANI
DEVELOPMENTS

 BC HOUSING

Climate, water and wildlife on the Sunshine Coast

submitted

The Pender Harbour Wildlife Society hosts professor Ray Kostaschuk on Nov. 17 for a presentation titled, “Climate, water and wildlife on the Sunshine Coast: The times they are a changin.”

Kostaschuk is a river scientist, an adjunct professor in the School of Environmental Science at Simon Fraser University, a resident of Garden Bay, and a PHWS director.

During a career spanning more than 60 years, he studied and taught geomorphology, the processes and

landforms that sculpt Earth’s surface, and hydrology, the movement and storage of freshwater.

His research on river dynamics has taken him from coast to coast to coast in Canada and to international locations including Russia, China, Nepal, Fiji and Argentina.

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CLIMATE, WATER AND WILDLIFE ON THE SUNSHINE COAST

Summer is a critical season for wildlife on the Sunshine Coast.

More than 50 years of Environment Canada measurements show that our summers are becoming hotter and drier, while summer streamflows are declining and probably warming.

Vegetation dries earlier, making moist habitats increasingly important.

Lower, warmer streamflows shrink pools, restrict fish passage and increase thermal stress.

What do these changes mean for wildlife, and can it adapt?

We consider several animals ranging from grizzly bears to butterflies, exploring their preferred habitats, their responses to changing conditions and the limits of their ability to adapt.

Grizzly and black bears are flexible omnivores that can switch foods, while Roosevelt elk and black-tailed deer are mobile vegans that move to find suitable forage.

Great blue herons and bald eagles are mobile predators that follow prey while coho and Sakinaw sockeye salmon seek freshwater refuges.

Pink salmon use seasonal avoidance to reduce their exposure to summer drought.

Oregon branded skippers and western painted turtles are local adjusters that modify their activity or reproductive timing to changing

conditions.

Adaptation depends on connected landscapes, freshwater refuges and intact plant communities.

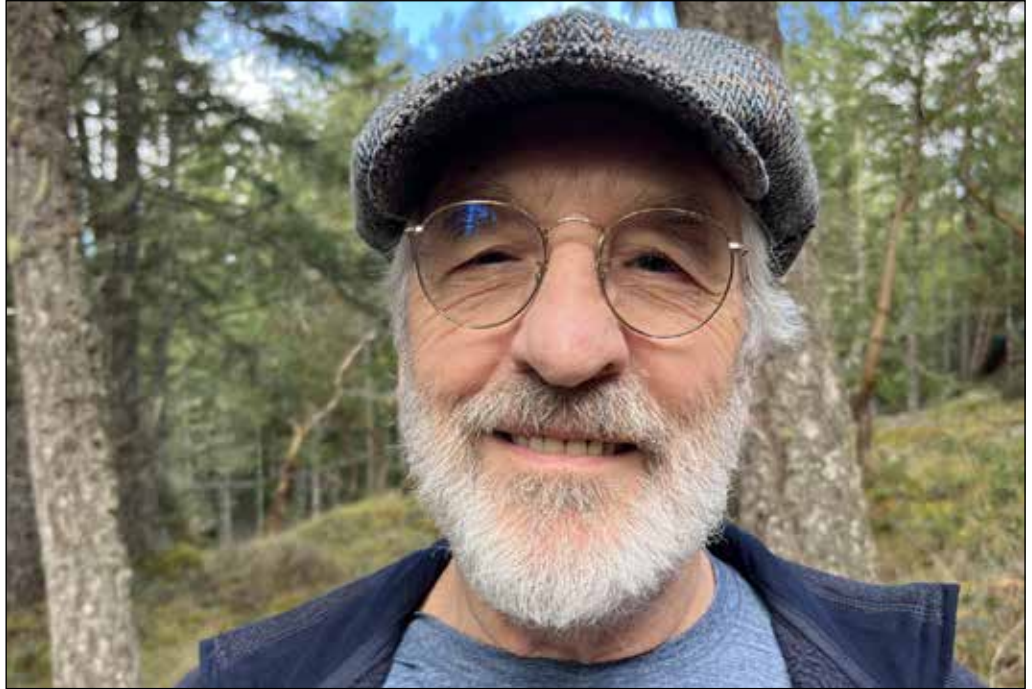
Many animals can adjust, but those adjustments have limits and do not guarantee long-term survival.

Stewardship plays a crucial role in keeping local refuges reliable and ensuring that wildlife can still reach them.

Join the wildlife society and others at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 17 at Pender Harbour Secondary School for this timely presentation.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

After the presentation, there will be coffee, treats and conversation available and an opportunity to take part in the wildlife society raffle for a chance to win a prize.



submitted

Ray Kostaschuk will present 'Climate, Water and Wildlife on the Sunshine Coast: The times they are a changin'' at the Nov. 17 P. H. Wildlife Society meeting.

photojournal



Trevor Johnson

This is a second shot taken around the same time as the cover shot on Sept. 28 in Daniel Point and shows another side to the Pender Harbour grizzly family. Regarding unconfirmed reports on social media that the sow, and possibly a cub, were killed, Sgt. Dean Miller, Sunshine Coast Conservation Officer Service, told the *Harbour Spiel* on Oct. 21 that they are 'looking into this.'

Inspiring adventure on a Garden Bay school bus

Natalia Kouznetsova

Out of thousands of applicants across North America, only 120 people were selected for the first-ever Defender Trophy 2026 — and I was one of them, a local school bus driver from Garden Bay.

DEFENDER TROPHY

The Defender Trophy is described by its sponsor, Land Rover, as “a global adventure competition and community program that combines challenging off-road endurance, navigation, and physical tasks with conservation efforts.

“It brings together Land Rover enthusiasts in a series of global selection events culminating in a 2026 African final to support conservation partner Tusk.”

“Facing harsh outdoor environments, teams must conquer a series of driving, engineering, navigational and physical challenges.”

This preliminary round was held in Stave Lake, Mission, BC.

MY JOURNEY TO ADVENTURE

Nearly 30 years ago, I was part of the Camel Trophy Team Russia, an expedition-style challenge with a similar spirit.

I had to step away before it fully unfolded when my family received the paperwork to move to Canada.

In many ways, taking part in the Defender Trophy felt like returning to something that had been paused, not finished.

By day, I drive kids to and from school — sharing small moments, conversations and routines that become part of everyday life.

Beyond the bus routes of Garden Bay, I also help at a mushroom farm, guide self-planned paddleboarding tours and volunteer with Gorund search and rescue teams and Pender Harbour’s Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue unit 61.

What I didn’t know at the time was that someone else from our small community had been selected as well.

It wasn’t until after the event that I learned Dr. Paul Dhillon — Sunshine Coast Search and Rescue’s medical director — had also been there, taking on the same challenges in a different wave.

Different paths, different backgrounds but drawn to the same kind of experience.

The Defender Trophy pushes participants through demanding driving, navigation, engineering, and physical challenges, all centered on teamwork,



Natalia Kouznetsova

Natalia Kouznetsova at the Defender Trophy competition at Stave Lake.

resilience and conservation.

But what stood out most wasn’t just the competition — it was the people.

Everyone brought a unique story and a shared willingness to push beyond their comfort zone.

Even though I wasn’t selected to move forward (the final takes place in an unannounced location in Africa in October), it was an incredible opportunity to meet people I wouldn’t have otherwise connected with —and it quickly stopped feeling like a competition and started feeling like a team.

Competing on a national stage might seem far removed from school bus routes, but to me, it’s closely connected.

Every day, I see kids growing up in this community, and I hope that by taking on something like this, it shows them that opportunities don’t only exist somewhere else — they can start right here.

Back home, life continues as usual — morning routes, familiar stops, and waves from kids climbing aboard.

But now there’s a new story to share, one about taking chances, stepping outside your comfort zone, and seeing where it can lead.



Natalia Kouznetsova

Contestants’ camp at the recent Defender Trophy competition.



Bill Charlton

Four years after the Rotary Club of Pender Harbour initiated a needs assessment to replace the old Pender Harbour Community School building, and then lead the project from start to finish, both halves of what will be the new building were moved on to the Madeira Park Elementary School field on Oct. 15 (top). By Oct. 17, project lead Bill Charlton told the *Harbour Spiel* that the two halves were joined and bottom skirting installed (bottom). Soon, employees and users of the community school will finally have running water, bathroom facilities and a larger space for community functions.

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 **Carley, Gertruda, Paul, Andrea and Heather of the Madeira Park Veterinary Hospital** for their kindness and care during the recent passing of our dear dog, Tristan.

Also, to **Barb Loftén** for her supporting words and to **Loretta and Tom Walsh** for the flowers and card. And to all our friends and family for their sympathy and understanding. Pender Harbour is the best.

Sharlyne Niemela
and Mario Lowther

Massive Harbour Seals of Approval to **Paul & Chris from Nicholson Concrete** and **Damien from A&E Concrete** for donating their time and expertise for the ramp improvement project at the Bargain Barn.

Also, a huge thank you to **Swanson's Concrete** for donating the concrete itself.

Karen Wells

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Local health matters

Pender Harbour Health Centre physician FAQ

In early September, Pender Harbour Health Centre welcomed Dr. Leo Bay to our physician team. Dr. Bay and his family moved to the Sunshine Coast from Utah. He has practiced medicine in various U.S. communities for more than ten years. Dr. Bay joins Dr. Bazilli and Dr. Williams at PHHC and will work four days per week.

Since Dr. Bay's arrival, we have received questions from community members about physician access and services at PHHC. Below are answers to some frequently asked questions:

Q. I do not have a physician. How can I become a patient of Dr. Bay?

Dr. Bay is building his patient panel at PHHC and is accepting new patients. PHHC is connecting patients with Dr. Bay through the Health Connect Registry. If you need a family doctor, please register through the Health Connect Registry | HealthLink BC.

You may also call PHHC at 604-883-2764, and a medical office assistant can help connect you with Dr. Bay.

Q. I have a doctor outside Pender Harbour but would like to return to PHHC. Can I do this?

Yes. For the first time in many years, PHHC is pleased to welcome patients back. To transfer from your current physician to PHHC, please follow the steps above. After your first appointment with Dr. Bay, our team will arrange to have your medical records transferred from your previous physician.

Q. What is the process for becoming a patient of Dr. Bay?

After registering through the Health Connect Registry or calling PHHC, you will receive a letter inviting you to connect with Dr. Bay and schedule a

meet-and-greet appointment. If you decide afterward that you would like Dr. Bay as your physician, we can add you to his patient panel.



Nick Gaskin (l) and Dr. Leo Bay (r).

Q. Does Dr. Bay's arrival mean another PHHC physician may leave?

No. We welcomed Dr. Williams earlier this year, and based on discussions with Dr. Bazilli, we do not expect any PHHC physicians to leave their practices in the near future.

Q. How many days per week do physicians work at PHHC?

Dr. Bay currently works four days per week at PHHC. Dr. Williams and Dr. Bazilli each work three days per week, giving our community access to ten physician-days of care each week. We are proud to offer this increased level of access.

Q. What happens if I miss my appointment with a physician?

PHHC physicians charge a \$100 fee for missed appointments, consistent with standard practices at other physician clinics. Please let us know if you cannot attend so we can offer the appointment to another patient.

The PHHC board of directors and staff warmly welcome Dr. Bay to the Health Centre and thank Dr. Bazilli and Dr. Williams for their commitment to Pender Harbour and their patients. We are proud of our multidisciplinary team, in which our physicians play a vital role.

If you have questions about PHHC physicians, please contact the clinic and speak with Susan Campbell, PHHC Clinic Manager, or Nick Gaskin, PHHC Executive Director.



Alice Haddock

Construction of the Pender Harbour Community Hall (1946)

After suffering through the Depression and then the Second World War, by 1946 Pender Harbour residents benefited from a universal optimism of the times that they were back on the road to prosperity. The construction of the Pender Harbour Community Hall was a symbol of this feeling that people could again return to their lives and focus locally. Up to this point, there was a community hall that was in Irvine's Landing built by Theodore Dames and Joe Gonsalves. The owner of the hall, Bill Pieper, wanted to close it down but agreed to lease it to the Pender Harbour Community Club until such a time as they could acquire land to build a new one. A property was donated by developers subdividing Madeira Park and work began.

Built almost entirely with volunteer labour and donated material, the hall sits on a former swamp that had to be filled before they could begin on the foundation. The material used for filling turned out to be whatever was available, that being the ubiquitous tree stump and the odd car. Norman Klein used a Cat to push six-foot stumps into the future building site only to watch them completely disappear into the soup. In hindsight, it seems folly to build a town centre over a creek and swamp but it was also the only clear meadow of its kind in the Harbour and had already evolved to become the place for picnics and community events. Local carpenter Nels Andersen was the only paid labourer on the project and directed its construction by local men. Logs were felled nearby and milled at Reg Spicer's mill (located, not coincidentally, on Spicer Road).

The treacherous dirt road we now call Highway 101 wasn't put through until the 1930s and wasn't paved until the mid-1950s so a truckload of pre-made trusses from Rona wasn't an option. The trussed roof was built from oversized rough-cut timbers crossing the entire 35-foot span of the hall. Remodelled many times through the years, the hall underwent a major renovation in the 1960s when the current kitchen and bar area were added. As the only indoor surface of its time, the community hall became the arena, the recital hall, boxing ring, basketball court, roller skating rink and... shooting range. Really. There was a gun club in which kids would walk over to the Hall on weekends with their .22-calibre rifles for shooting practice. It was supervised and they used metal targets to save the walls but that didn't stop a young Catherine McKinnon from once shooting a hole in the roof.

Boxing was also popular then and around the time Rocky Marciano dominated the heavyweight division, Harry Wise and Johnny Haddock ran a boxing club with a make-shift ring and trained kids to get their aggression out by slugging on each other. It worked too well and it can be said that the two were unknowingly responsible for whiskey-fuelled matches at every dance thereafter. Local kids especially loved movie nights. There was no TV so Saturday movies were the hot ticket. Often a hundred kids, more if it was a "duster" (western), packed into the hall. For older folks, the hall became a place to meet, dance and socialize. Everyone has some kind of memory. The late Ted Lee summed it up for many, "I learned to smoke and drink there." (Brian Lee)

P. H. MUSIC SOCIETY COFFEE HOUSE

The Pender Harbour Music Society presents this month's School of Music Coffee House on Friday, Nov. 13. Performing will be Brady Williams (rock, flamenco and classical guitar with vocals). New to Coffeehouse is "Who Knew" with Ted and Joan, Jim McKnight (keyboard) and Wayne Bergman (upright bass). They blend timeless classic rock, pop anthems, blues and folk, alongside originals. Doors (PHMS Performance Centre) open at 7 p.m. and music starts at 7:30 p.m. There is a suggested \$10 donation for entry at the door.

PENDER HARBOUR WOMEN'S CONNECTION

On Nov. 10, the Women's Connection is looking forward to hearing the war years remembrances of Ray and Doris Phillips. Ray was a guest speaker when his book, *The Little Green Valley: The Kleindale Story* was published in 2012 and we are pleased to have him back. Also on Nov. 10, our second speaker will be Randi Gurholt-Seary, one of the actresses featured in the Driftwood Player's production of "Super Seniors" which will be performed on the Performance Centre stage Nov. 28 and 29.

The Nov. 24 meeting will feature a sweet note with John Down from Christopher Norman Chocolates. Down and his partner established a wildly successful business in New York but after 9/11, they moved back to his home province of BC and now ship their exquisite hand-made chocolates internationally from Halfmoon Bay.

The women's connection meetings are held in the PHMS Performance Centre. Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and the presentation begins at 10 a.m. with a drop-in fee of \$4.

PENDER HARBOUR GARDEN CLUB

The Pender Harbour Garden Club is pleased to present local gardener Judy Farncombe to speak at the Nov. 30 meeting. Farncombe has been involved in gardens and gardening all her life, first in the U.K. then in BC. She is also involved in Japanese culture, specifically martial arts and gardening. She and partner Martin will present a slideshow of gardens that they visited in Japan. At 1 p.m. at the Pender Harbour Lions Hall. Free to members or \$5 drop in.

SPREADING KINDNESS FUNDRAISER

For the 10th year, donations to the "Spreading Kindness" fundraiser will assist local youth and families in need throughout the year by supporting the Pender Harbour Community School youth and family support program. The Community School will be accepting donations directly but to donate online, a direct deposit e-transfer can be sent to spreadingkindness@pendercommunity.ca or the Spreading Kindness credit card link is <https://square.link/u/NtXK-KX6Q>.

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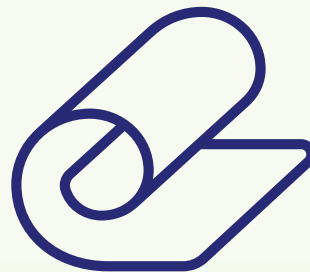
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Monday, 11:45am to 12:45pm



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Visit www.scrd.ca/careers



Learn more about the LIFE Financial Assistance program:
www.scrd.ca/financial-assistance/



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**CFSC**November 7 9am-5pm
November 21 9am-5pm\$200.00 At Pender Harbour Lions Hall
Space is limited. Please email for more information.**CORE**

British Columbia Hunter Safety

\$250.00 At Pender Harbour Lions Hall
Space is limited. Please email for more information.December 4 6pm-9pm
December 5 9am-5pm
December 6 9am-3pmPender Harbour
Community School604.883.2826
PHCS@DCCNET.COM

SPREADING KINDNESS

DID YOU KNOW?

Spreading Kindness helps us provide and connect local families with additional supports as the cost of living increases. Especially the cost of groceries, fuel and clothing.

Youth who are supported by the ministry in Pender Harbour often still need to go to Sechelt to check in and receive supports/benefits. Spreading Kindness donations ensure that youth are able to do that.

Many students rely on food support provided in school. During summer those supports are not available. Spreading Kindness helps ensure those students have access to a variety of food support through summer.

What are donations made to Spreading Kindness used for?



To make a donation online using a credit card:

Scan the
QR code!OR
Visit<https://square.link/u/NtXKKX6Q>

By cheque/mail:

Cheques payable to PH Community School Spreading Kindness in the memo, mailed to :PH Community School , PO Box 232 Madeira Park, B.C. V0N 2H1

By e-transfer:

spreadingkindness@pendercommunity.ca

Seniors Helping Seniors

PENDER HARBOUR SENIORS INITIATIVE

Sponsored by:
Smart Fund

HARBOURSIDE FRIENDSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsored by:

P. H. Health Centre &
P. H. Health AuxiliaryFOR INFORMATION
OR TRANSPORTATION,
CALL MARLENE:
(604) 883-9900

Seniors' activities for November!

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

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

Nov. 5 – TBA

Nov. 12 – Discussion (bring a topic)

Nov. 19 – Rummoli Tournament

Nov. 26 – "Song Pictionary" and free lunch for all who attend the program

CARPET BOWLING: Wednesdays, Nov. 4, 18 & 25

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

CHAIR YOGA: Mondays & Fridays, Nov. 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27 & 30

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, Nov. 4, 18, & 25

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 tides ~ november 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:



November	1AM	2AM	3AM	4AM	5AM	6AM	7AM	8AM	9AM	10AM	11AM	Noon	1PM	2PM	3PM	4PM	5PM	6PM	7PM	8PM	9PM	10PM	11PM	12AM
Sun 01	6.4	4.4	3.1	2.8	3.5	5.0	7.1	9.5	11.8	13.7	14.8	15.1	14.7	13.9	12.9	12.0	11.3	11.2	11.4	11.7	11.9	11.8	11.0	9.7
Mon 02	8.1	6.5	5.1	4.3	4.0	4.6	6.0	7.9	10.1	12.2	13.9	14.9	15.1	14.6	13.7	12.5	11.3	10.5	10.1	10.2	10.6	11.1	11.3	11.1
Tue 03	10.3	9.1	7.7	6.4	5.6	5.3	5.8	7.0	8.8	10.8	12.8	14.3	15.0	15.0	14.3	13.0	11.6	10.1	9.1	8.7	8.9	9.5	10.3	11.0
Wed 04	11.2	10.9	10.1	8.9	7.7	6.9	6.5	6.9	8.1	9.8	11.7	13.4	14.7	15.1	14.8	13.6	12.0	10.2	8.5	7.5	7.2	7.6	8.6	9.8
Thu 05	10.9	11.6	11.7	11.1	10.1	8.9	8.0	7.7	8.0	9.2	10.8	12.6	14.1	15.0	15.0	14.2	12.5	10.5	8.4	6.8	5.9	5.8	6.6	8.0
Fri 06	9.7	11.2	12.3	12.6	12.1	11.1	10.0	9.0	8.7	9.1	10.2	11.7	13.3	14.5	14.9	14.5	13.1	11.0	8.7	6.6	5.1	4.5	4.9	6.2
Sat 07	8.0	10.1	11.9	13.1	13.4	13.0	12.0	10.8	9.9	9.6	10.0	11.1	12.5	13.8	14.6	14.5	13.5	11.6	9.2	6.8	4.9	3.7	3.6	4.5
Sun 08	6.3	8.5	10.8	12.7	13.9	14.1	13.6	12.5	11.3	10.5	10.3	10.8	11.8	13.0	14.0	14.3	13.7	12.1	9.9	7.4	5.2	3.6	2.9	3.3
Mon 09	4.7	6.8	9.3	11.8	13.6	14.6	14.6	13.9	12.8	11.7	11.0	10.9	11.4	12.3	13.3	13.8	13.7	12.5	10.6	8.2	5.8	3.9	2.7	2.6
Tue 10	3.5	5.3	7.8	10.4	12.7	14.4	15.1	14.9	14.0	12.9	11.9	11.3	11.3	11.8	12.6	13.2	13.4	12.8	11.2	9.1	6.8	4.6	3.1	2.4
Wed 11	2.7	4.1	6.2	8.8	11.3	13.5	14.9	15.3	14.9	14.0	12.8	11.9	11.5	11.6	12.1	12.7	13.0	12.8	11.7	10.0	7.8	5.7	3.9	2.8
Thu 12	2.5	3.3	4.9	7.2	9.8	12.2	14.1	15.1	15.2	14.7	13.7	12.7	11.9	11.6	11.8	12.2	12.6	12.6	12.0	10.7	8.9	6.9	5.0	3.6
Fri 13	2.9	3.0	4.0	5.9	8.2	10.6	12.8	14.3	15.1	15.0	14.4	13.5	12.5	11.8	11.6	11.8	12.1	12.3	12.1	11.2	9.8	8.1	6.3	4.8
Sat 14	3.8	3.4	3.7	5.0	6.8	9.0	11.3	13.2	14.4	14.9	14.7	14.0	13.2	12.3	11.7	11.5	11.6	11.8	11.9	11.5	10.5	9.2	7.7	6.2
Sun 15	5.0	4.2	4.0	4.6	5.9	7.7	9.8	11.8	13.5	14.5	14.7	14.4	13.8	12.9	12.0	11.4	11.2	11.2	11.3	11.3	10.9	10.1	8.9	7.6
Mon 16	6.4	5.4	4.9	4.9	5.6	6.9	8.7	10.6	12.4	13.8	14.5	14.6	14.2	13.4	12.4	11.5	10.8	10.5	10.6	10.7	10.8	10.7	10.1	9.2
Tue 17	8.1	7.0	6.2	5.7	5.8	6.6	7.9	9.6	11.4	13.0	14.1	14.6	14.4	13.8	12.8	11.7	10.6	9.9	9.6	9.7	10.0	10.4	10.5	10.4
Wed 18	9.7	8.8	7.9	7.1	6.7	6.8	7.6	8.9	10.5	12.2	13.5	14.4	14.6	14.1	13.1	11.8	10.4	9.3	8.6	8.5	8.8	9.5	10.2	10.7
Thu 19	10.8	10.4	9.7	8.8	8.0	7.6	7.7	8.5	9.8	11.4	12.9	14.0	14.6	14.4	13.5	12.0	10.4	8.8	7.6	7.0	7.2	8.0	9.1	10.2
Fri 20	11.1	11.5	11.3	10.7	9.8	9.0	8.6	8.7	9.5	10.8	12.2	13.6	14.4	14.5	13.9	12.4	10.5	8.5	6.8	5.7	5.5	6.1	7.3	9.0
Sat 21	10.6	11.9	12.5	12.4	11.8	10.8	10.0	9.5	9.6	10.4	11.7	13.0	14.1	14.6	14.2	12.9	11.0	8.6	6.4	4.7	3.9	4.1	5.2	7.0
Sun 22	9.2	11.3	12.9	13.7	13.5	12.8	11.8	10.8	10.3	10.4	11.2	12.5	13.7	14.5	14.5	13.6	11.7	9.2	6.6	4.3	2.8	2.3	3.0	4.6
Mon 23	7.0	9.7	12.1	13.9	14.7	14.5	13.7	12.5	11.5	11.0	11.2	12.0	13.2	14.2	14.6	14.2	12.7	10.3	7.5	4.8	2.6	1.3	1.2	2.3
Tue 24	4.4	7.3	10.3	12.9	14.8	15.5	15.2	14.3	13.0	12.0	11.5	11.8	12.6	13.7	14.5	14.7	13.7	11.7	9.0	6.0	3.3	1.2	0.3	0.5
Wed 25	2.1	4.6	7.8	11.0	13.7	15.5	16.0	15.6	14.6	13.3	12.3	11.9	12.2	13.1	14.0	14.6	14.4	13.1	10.8	7.9	4.9	2.3	0.5	-0.2
Thu 26	0.4	2.3	5.1	8.4	11.6	14.2	15.9	16.2	15.7	14.6	13.4	12.4	12.1	12.4	13.2	14.1	14.5	14.0	12.5	10.1	7.2	4.4	2.0	0.4
Fri 27	0.0	0.9	2.9	5.8	9.0	12.1	14.6	16.0	16.2	15.6	14.5	13.2	12.3	12.0	12.4	13.1	13.8	14.0	13.5	11.9	9.6	6.9	4.3	2.2
Sat 28	1.0	0.8	1.8	3.9	6.7	9.8	12.7	14.9	16.1	16.1	15.4	14.2	13.0	12.0	11.7	12.0	12.6	13.1	13.3	12.8	11.4	9.3	6.9	4.7
Sun 29	3.0	2.0	2.1	3.2	5.2	7.9	10.7	13.3	15.1	16.0	15.9	15.1	13.8	12.5	11.5	11.1	11.2	11.7	12.2	12.4	12.1	11.0	9.4	7.4
Mon 30	5.6	4.2	3.5	3.7	4.8	6.8	9.2	11.7	13.9	15.4	15.9	15.6	14.6	13.3	11.9	10.7	10.1	10.1	10.5	11.0	11.4	11.5	10.9	9.7

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



Brian Lee

A pod of killer whales seemed to be feeding, or teaching their youngsters how to feed, off Roberts Beach for hours on Sept. 26.



Brian Lee

A lone humpback whale refused to leave a small fleet of sports fisherman off Pt. Upwood, Sept. 5. None seemed to mind.



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SKOOKUMCHUCK

VIEWING TIMES

NOVEMBER



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

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

1. 10:16 AM +XL
2. 11:10 AM +XL
3. 12:01 PM +XL
4. 12:46 PM +XL
5. 1:26 PM +L
6. 8:34 AM -M, 2:08 PM +L
7. 9:41 AM -M, 2:36 PM +L
8. 10:29 AM -M, 3:04 PM +M
9. 11:10 AM -M, 3:32 PM +M
10. 11:49 AM -M, 4:03 PM +M
11. 12:27 PM -M
12. 1:07 PM -M
13. 7:52 AM +XL, 2:00 PM -M
14. 2:50 PM -M
15. 8:10 AM +XL, 3:28 PM -M
16. 8:45 AM +XL
17. 9:28 AM +XL
18. 10:58 AM +L
19. 11:37 AM +L
20. 12:15 PM +L
21. 12:54 PM +L
22. 9:07 AM -S, 1:29 PM +M
23. 10:03 AM -S, 2:15 PM +M
24. 10:53 AM -S, 3:01 PM +M
25. 11:38 AM -S, 3:48 PM +M
26. 12:24 PM -M
27. 1:21 PM -M
28. 2:18 PM -M
29. 8:54 AM +XL, 3:21 PM -M
30. 9:38 AM +XL

These are estimates only and not intended for navigation.



CANADIAN ARCTIC

40%

Percentage of Canada's total land-mass made up by the Arctic (approximately 4 million km² across the Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and northern provincial regions).

142,000

Then population of Canada's northern territories.

900,000 km²

The area of "summer minimum sea ice" across Canadian waters in 2024, down significantly from 1.53 million km² in 1980.

~ Statistics Canada, Government of Canada, Arctic Institute

162,000 km

The amount of coastline contained in Canada's Arctic, accounting for 75% of Canada's national coastlines.

18

The number of icebreakers (of varying sizes and abilities) the Canadian Coast Guard's currently has, making it the second-largest icebreaking fleet in the world.

1

Canada's has only one heavy polar-capable icebreaker currently in active service — the CCGS *Louis S. St-Laurent* (commissioned in 1969).

2

The number of polar icebreakers the Canadian Coast Guard is building through the National Shipbuilding Strategy. Expected by the early 2030s, construction is being done by Chantier Davie Canada Inc. (Quebec) and Seaspan's Vancouver Shipyards.

NOVEMBER WEATHER

TEMPERATURES (MERRY ISLAND)

Our November average daily high temperature is 8.8 C and our average low is 5.2 C, giving us a daily mean of 7 C. The highest November temperature recorded is 15 C (Nov. 4, 1975); the lowest is -7.3 C (Nov. 27, 1985).

PRECIPITATION (MERRY ISLAND)

November averages 55.8 hours of bright sunshine and 19 days with precipitation. November's average monthly rainfall is 148.5 mm; snowfall is 2.5 cm. The highest November daily rainfall recorded at Merry Island is 50 mm (Nov. 3, 1989); snowfall is 9.6 cm (Nov. 25, 1985).

NOVEMBER ASTROLOGY

SCORPIO: OCT. 24 – NOV. 22



Scorpios are highly sensitive and compassionate, with a fierce pride and determination. People born under this sign are considered to be dynamic and extreme in their opinions. This month, Mercury in Sagittarius goes retrograde on Nov. 9, creating reciprocal activation of both your ninth and 10th house. This rare occurrence will deliver to you unmatched confidence. Use this time to push your agenda, stand up for your pet project and find love. Don't waste it — after Nov. 22, you'll return to relying on self-pleasure.



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, life will get jiggy as Jupiter arrives in your ninth house. Not only will the volatile Jupiter cause computer problems, it will also potentially deliver a robust boost to your finances. That said, as Venus enters Sagittarius on Nov. 30, anything could happen — so be on guard for one who seeks to deliver misfortune. You know who.

BC BESTSELLERS

For the week ending Oct. 10

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. *Plants of the Pacific Coast: From Alaska to Oregon, including BC and Washington*** by Jim Pojar, Andy MacKinnon, Leigh Joseph & Jamie Fenneman (CanScience Books)
- 2. *The Inbetween Leader*** by Jody Wilson-Raybould and Roshan Danesh (Greystone Books)
- 3. *How to Nourish a Cannibal*** by Jess Housty (Nightwood Editions)
- 4. *I Am Indigenous*** by Anne Tenning, multiple illustrators (Harbour Publishing)
- 5. *A False and Fatal Claim*** by Iona Wishaw (Touchwood Editions)
- 6. *w7ec n7élye ey || We Are Still Here: My Life of Truth and Reconciling Two Worlds*** by Phyllis Webstad (Medicine Wheel Publishing)
- 7. *The Astronaut Children of Dunbar Street: A Memoir*** by Wiley Wei-Chiun Ho (Douglas & McIntyre)
- 8. *Seagoing Women: At Work*** by Sara Donnelly (Harbour Publishing)
- 9. *Never Again, for Anyone*** by Stacy Friedman, illustrated by Elly Stern (Arsenal Pulp Press)
- 10. *Girl on the Roof: Memories of a Remarkable Life*** by Mike McCardell (Harbour Publishing)

~ Association of Book Publishers of BC

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- Nov. 2 ~ **Carrie Hillhouse** and **Charles Lee**.
 Nov. 3 ~ **Charlene Cote**, **Sue Rayment** and **Trevor Ross**.
 Nov. 4 ~ **Sandy Boyd**, **Brennan Bennett**, **Pressley Silvey** and **Daphne Taylor**.
 Nov. 5 ~ **Diana Degraaf**, **Colton Edwardson**, **Finnley Silvey** and **Tanis Zayshley**.
 Nov. 6 ~ **Kathie Atherfold** and **Max Scoular**.
 Nov. 7 ~ **Joni Mitchell**.
 Nov. 8 ~ **Eleanor Reid** and **Ryan Boyd**.
 Nov. 9 ~ **Candace Cruikshank** and **Matthew McKimm**.
 Nov. 10 ~ **Tom Duncan** and **Nicole MacDonald**.
 Nov. 11 ~ **Loretta McDonald**.
 Nov. 12 ~ **Roger Duncan**, **Dwayne Knock** and **Cooper Pantages**.
 Nov. 13 ~ **Hunter Edwardson**, **Tanya Cummings**, **Darrin Jordison** and **John Maveety**.
 Nov. 14 ~ **Amber Kincaide**.
 Nov. 15 ~ **Josey Bennett**.
 Nov. 16 ~ **Janique Peters-Gray**.
 Nov. 17 ~ **Biada Priest**, **Rodney Kammerle**, **Lin Sullivan** and **Barb Watt**.
 Nov. 18 ~ **Steve McCanse** and **Amanda Ross**.
 Nov. 19 ~ **Cheryl Jensen** and **Dennis Levasseur**.
 Nov. 20 ~ **Jill Wagner**.
 Nov. 22 ~ **Jennifer Girard**, **Alysa English**, **Brooke Fraser**, **Anne Fraser** and **Mark Raaflaub**.
 Nov. 23 ~ **Dodie Edwardson**, **May Silvey**, **Dave Daiken** and **Wayne Griffith**.
 Nov. 24 ~ **Maggi Guzzi** and **Chase Campbell**.
 Nov. 25 ~ **Neil Remmem** and **Leah Pockrant**.
 Nov. 26 ~ **Gary Griffith**.
 Nov. 27 ~ **Betty Sladey** and **Natasha Landry**.
 Nov. 28 ~ **Tavia Chandler-Kwan**, **Ryder Noble** and **twins Paige** and **Lexi Pauls**.
 Nov. 29 ~ **Marie Coombes**, **Pete Hannah**, **John McDonald**, **Malcolm McDougall**, **Myrna Pickering** and **Kaila Silvey**.
 Nov. 30 ~ **Lori Clarke**, **Brayden Zayshley** & **Foster Willan**.

The *Book of Gnome*: Season 5

John Dickinson

Once again, I placed a notebook in the trusted hands of the trusted gnome, a four-foot-tall wood carving at the Ruby Lake lookout on the Suncoaster trail.

People from the Sunshine Coast and travellers from across the globe took the time to describe the best advice they've ever received in their life.

The following are samples of what they have shared with the wise gnome:

MISCHA (Germany):

Keep faith that everything will be all right and stay positive. Your positivity will carry on and affect the world around you. The sun will push the clouds away eventually.

MAGGIE, SADIE AND TOM (Roberts Creek):

Enjoy each day living life in the moment.

ROMAIN (France):

May your journey be a long and winding trail.

AA (North Vancouver):

Let them.

MK (North Vancouver):

Before I do something I ask myself, would an idiot do that?

If the answer is yes, I don't do that thing.

ANON (Fairfield, CT):

Today is where your book begins, the rest is still unwritten.



John Dickinson

For the fifth summer, John Dickinson collected comments from visitors on the Klein Lake-Ruby Lake traverse with the help of Gnome.

ROX (Vancouver):

One life, no do-overs.

TEAGAN AND JADEN (Sechelt):

Enjoy today, tomorrow is never promised.

GEORGIA AND GUS

(Sechelt — born and raised):

Stay curious!

ALEX M. (Squamish):

Empathy and perspective.

Don't get trapped in the echo chamber of your own mind.

MELANIE (Langley):

No one said making dreams come true was going to be easy — embrace discomfort.

BEV AND KAREN:

You only get one life, enjoy it all.

Take that step: enjoy your journey!

MICHEALA (Vancouver):

Everyday you wake up breathing is a celebration.

Enjoy it!

WENDY:

The best time to do something brave is when it feels too soon.

Otherwise you're too late.

ADAM AND CHELSEA:

Long may your big jib draw, forever may the wind be in your sails.

MINNA (Belgium):

Live laugh love life. Go nuts!

ZAC C. (Squamish):

Everything happens for a reason.

ARA (Austin, TX):

Back two years later and Sir Gnome continues to impress.

What a great forest pal!



John Dickinson

This sentinel of the Ruby Lake-Klein Lake traverse is aging but somehow his eyes have acquired an emerald glow.



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NOVEMBER

- Sun. Nov. 1.....Live music with Georgia Fats - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 2 p.m.
- Mon. Nov. 2.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church Ministry Centre, 10 a.m.
- Thu. Nov. 5.....Flu & COVID-19 vaccine clinics - RoAccordyal Canadian Legion 112, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Thu. Nov. 5.....Harbourside Friendships (TBA) - P. H. Lions Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Fri. Nov. 6.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 6 p.m.
- Sat. Nov. 7.....Live music with Joe Stanton - Backeddy Pub, 5 p.m.
- Sun. Nov. 8.....Live music with Them Ordinary Things - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 2 p.m.
- Tue. Nov. 10.....Pender Harbour Women's Connection gathering - PHMS Performance Centre, 10 a.m.
- Wed. Nov. 11.....Remembrance Day - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 11 a.m.
- Wed. Nov. 11.....Live music with The Shamrockers - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 1 p.m.
- Thu. Nov. 12.....Harbourside Friendships (Discussion) - P. H. Lions Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Thu. Nov. 12.....SCRD inaugural board meeting - SCRD boardroom, 1 p.m.
- Fri. Nov. 13.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 6 p.m.
- Fri. Nov. 13.....Coffee House - PHMS Performance Centre, 7:30 p.m. (doors 7 p.m.)
- Sat. Nov. 14.....Sunshine Coast Credit Union online services transition
- Sat. Nov. 14.....Live music with Charlie Veaudry - Backeddy Pub, 5 p.m.
- Sat. Nov. 14.....P. H. Community Hall 'Beer and Burger' fundraiser - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 5:30 p.m.
- Sun. Nov. 15.....P. H. Music Society presents Roy Forbes - PHMS Performance Centre, 2 p.m.
- Sun. Nov. 15.....Grey Cup Party - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 3 p.m.
- Mon. Nov. 16.....Pender Harbour food bank pickup - P. H. Community Church Ministry Centre, 10 a.m.
- Tue. Nov. 17.....P. H. Wildlife Society presents Ray Kostaschuk - PHSS, 7 p.m.
- Wed. Nov. 18.....Dr. Brian Goldman - Raven's Cry Theatre (Sechelt), 2 p.m.
- Thu. Nov. 19.....Harbourside Friendships (Rummoli tournament) - P. H. Lions Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Thu. Nov. 19.....SCRD electoral area services committee - SCRD boardroom, 1 p.m.
- Fri. Nov. 20.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 6 p.m.
- Sat. Nov. 21.....Live music with Rebecca and Jeremy - Backeddy Pub, 5 p.m.
- Sun. Nov. 22.....Pender Harbour Christmas Market - Royal Canadian Legion 112, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sun. Nov. 22.....Memorial Service for Lorna and Gordon Klein - Seaside Centre (Sechelt), 12 noon
- Tue. Nov. 24.....Pender Harbour Women's Connection gathering - PHMS Performance Centre, 10 a.m.
- Thu. Nov. 26.....SCRD committee of the whole - SCRD boardroom, 9:30 a.m.
- Thu. Nov. 26.....Harbourside Friendships (song Pictionary) - P. H. Lions Hall, 10:30 a.m.
- Thu. Nov. 26.....SCRD regular board - SCRD boardroom, 1 p.m.
- Fri. Nov. 27.....Live music with Eddy Edrik - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 6 p.m.
- Sat. Nov. 28.....Bargain Barn Christmas and Collectibles Sale - P. H. Lions Hall, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Sat. Nov. 28.....Live music with Joe Stanton - Backeddy Pub, 5 p.m.
- Sun. Nov. 29.....Bargain Barn Christmas and Collectibles Sale - P. H. Lions Hall, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Sun. Nov. 29.....Live music with Matchbox Bluze - Royal Canadian Legion No. 112, 2 p.m.
- Mon. Nov. 30.....Pender Harbour Garden Club presents Judy Farncombe - P. H. Lions Hall, 1 p.m.

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

"Life must be understood backward. But it must be lived forward."

~ Søren Kierkegaard







THE SPA

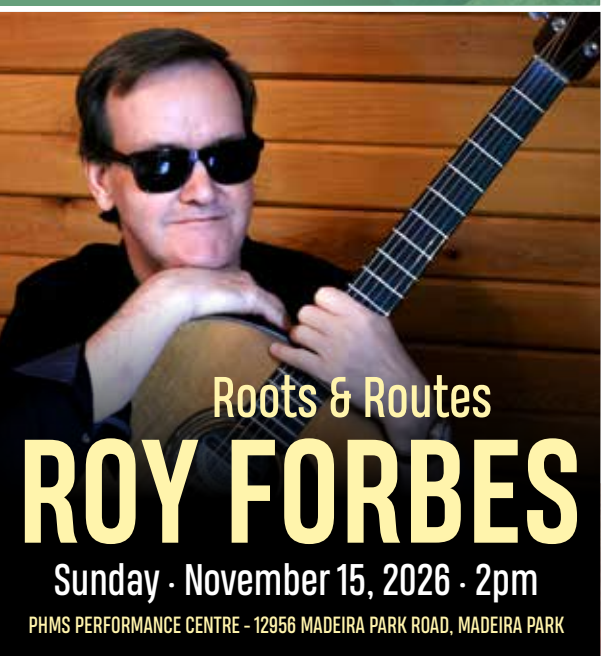
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PENDER HARBOUR MUSIC SOCIETY



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ROY FORBES

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 PHMS PERFORMANCE CENTRE - 12956 MADEIRA PARK ROAD, MADEIRA PARK



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penderharbourmusic.ca, Sechelt Visitor Centre,
 and Harbour Insurance in Madeira Park

@penderharbourmusic @penderharbourmusicsociety | penderharbourmusic.ca



2026/2027 CONCERT SERIES

A message to our members:

Learn about the upcoming transition!

As part of our journey to bring Sunshine Coast Financial, Coast Capital and Prospera together as Canada's largest national purpose-driven credit union, we're excited to share details about the next major milestone in our merger.

On November 15, 2026, Sunshine Coast Financial members will gain access to award-winning digital banking and enhanced accounts. This move brings us onto a shared banking system with Coast Capital, creating a more modern banking experience while preserving the local service and community commitment you've come to expect.

Watch for more information by email or mail and visit us online to learn how to prepare:

www.sunshinecoastfinancial.ca/welcome



Services will be unavailable:

Online Banking	Sat, Nov 14 (evening) – Sun, Nov 15 (morning)
Debit Cards	Sat, Nov 14 (evening) – Sun, Nov 15 (morning) Start using your new debit card on Sun, Nov 15
SCF ATMs	Sat, Nov 14 (afternoon) – Tues, Nov 17 (evening)

We recommend carrying an alternative form of payment in case you need access to funds while services are temporarily unavailable.

Pender Harbour Branch Hours

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



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Before



After



Before



After

