

“As your Member of Parliament, I am proud to be your voice in Ottawa, & I am happy to assist you with federal issues affecting your life. Please contact me if I can be of service to you.”



Elizabeth May, O.C., MP

Elizabeth May, MP, Saanich-Gulf Islands
Constituency office open for public service
10am - 4pm, Tuesday to Friday
9711 Fourth St. Sidney BC, V8L 2Y8
Tel.: 250-657-2000 | Elizabeth.May@parl.gc.ca
www.elizabethmaymp.ca

Constituency office open to serve you: conscientious, caring, non-partisan service

www.4cats.com/royaloak

THE BEST, MOST FUN ART STUDIO EVER!



COPELAND MUSIC
QUALITY PIANOS & ORGANS

Open for Your Business in Brentwood Bay

7139 W Saanich Rd.
778-426-3837

Live your dream.

250-744-3575
www.ipc-royaloak.com



Investment Planning Counsel
IPC INVESTMENT CORPORATION

Brentwood Coiffures Studio

Hair Care • Master Colourists
Manicures • Pedicures • Waxing
Silk Sculptured Nails

Family Owned & Operated

1187 Verdier Ave
250.652.3333

The Place for all your vitamins, natural foods and so much more...



LIFESTYLE MARKETS.com

Victoria
Sidney
Cook Street




Photo by: Ed Johnson

Cooperation Cleans Up Tod Inlet

Author: Ed Johnson, Citizen Journalist

Derelict boats in Tod Inlet gained increased attention from the community when Saanich Voice Online reported on the growing problem back in June 2011. The story was one of conflicting jurisdictions and lack of funding that did not bode well for a simple solution.

Solving this complex problem was no easy task, but that did not stop

of which were a hazard to navigation. Transport Canada hauled the non-compliant buoys and floating debris to the nearby Tsartlip First Nation boat ramp, where the District of Central Saanich supplied the manpower and the equipment to move the debris to a disposal site. The first wave of enforcement netted four vessels, ten buoys and two docks in the two-day operation.

Following the success of the first 'cooperative clean up', a second wave of notices were posted this year on floating docks and abandoned boats, that will have seen further action by the time this story is printed. After costs are assessed, a contractor will begin the work of towing errant floating remains

staff time on a problem that was viewed as federal jurisdiction. Gary Lunn, former MP for the area, even took the concern to Ottawa, but to no avail. As the provincial and federal elections constantly changed the players, the issue was nearly forgotten – but not by the community.

Since the derelict boat problem was not unique to Tod Inlet, a plan was mapped out two years ago, to bring the issue to the Tri-Municipal Council (Central Saanich, Sidney and North Saanich), which forwarded the issue to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC). Located in Victoria the AVICC debates resolutions which are then brought to the UBCM convention.

The Old Attic #26 6782 Veyaness Rd
778-426-1660

Buyers and Seller's of unique quality items.

Councillor Adam Olsen from trying. As a lifelong resident of Central Saanich, Tod Inlet has been enjoyed by his family for generations and is a way of life for the Tsartlip First Nation residents.

Keeping the issue at the forefront at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and with all levels of government was Councillor Olsen's top priority. With the help of the entire former Central Saanich council, the initial efforts to clean up Tod Inlet finally started to pay off when Transport Canada began enforcement proceedings.

In a report to the District of Central Saanich in the fall of last year, Transport Canada indicated that they had posted removal notices with thirty-day deadlines to illegal mooring buoys, docks and vessels in the inlet - some

to a land-based storage, provided by the Tsartlip band of which Councillor Olsen is a member. If unclaimed after thirty days, the District will provide dump truck and backhoe services for removal to a disposal site.

"It is exciting to see three levels of government involved; First Nations, municipal and federal. It is a rare example of working together that has had a positive payback," says Olsen.

A positive payback indeed, but not without a long struggle for many groups, such as the Central Saanich Maritime Society, the Saanich Inlet Protection Society, and numerous local citizens - all voicing alarm about the growing problems in Tod Inlet.

The District was reluctant to spend

As a result of presentations at the UBCM convention, it became clear that almost nothing was being done in Canadian waters.

By this time, however, the Tod Inlet issue had been raised to a high enough level locally, that the once grassroots movement, was finally nearing a solution. The combined efforts of local governments, convinced Transport Canada to make Tod Inlet a priority for remediation.

The leadership that Central Saanich council demonstrated in cleaning up Tod Inlet is a reminder to residents of the importance of local government. In the end, it has been a 'good news story' for local waters; it just took a while to get there.



Photo by: Ed Johnson



Visit us at 5550 West Saanich Rd.
Weekly flyer online at RedBarnMarket.ca
Locals supporting locals

produce • full deli • grocery • meats • pet food



Softub

Canada's Truly Portable Hot Tub!

AFFORDABLE
HOT TUBS & SAUNAS LTD.
250-881-2680
AffordableHotTubs.ca

7 DAY RENTALS FROM \$149

Tia's Heritage Café

250-590-4912
5303 W. Saanich Rd.
Where friends & stories meet

GETZ & BURDEN
CERTIFIED GENERAL ACCOUNTANTS

PERSONAL TAX
TRUSTS & ESTATES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
CORPORATE TAX
BUSINESS PLANS
BOOKKEEPING & PAYROLL

CGA 250-727-6300
#211 - 4475 Viewmont Ave

Moodyville Collectibles
Vintage and Newer Household Items

#102 - 822 Verdier Avenue
Brentwood Bay, BC V8M 1C5




Vehicle Graphics & Wraps
Store Fronts & Dimensional Signage
Billboards • Sandwich Boards
Banners & Portable Displays
Digital Printing • Business Cards

382sign.com



ZEB KING
Central Saanich Councillor

Your Voice For Your Community

- Ensuring food security for families
- Strengthening Businesses and improving our local economy
- 3 generations of family living and caring for Central Saanich

250-508-4645
www.zebking.ca



LEVEL GROUND
trading

Direct Fair Trade & Organic Coffee



levelground.com

Live your dream.

250-744-3575
www.ipc-royaloak.com



Investment Planning Counsel®
IPC INVESTMENT CORPORATION

ROSELAND
Family Dental



NEW PATIENTS WELCOME

101-7135 W Saanich Rd
250-652-5222
www.roselanddental.com

Brentwood Coiffures Studio

Hair Care • Master Colourists
Manicures • Pedicures • Waxing
Silk Sculptured Nails
Family Owned & Operated

1187 Verdier Ave
250.652.3333

FREE 2-WEEK TRIAL

Connect Hearing
YOUR HEARING PROFESSIONALS

- FREE HEARING TESTS •
- HEARING AIDS •
- HEARING ACCESSORIES •
- LATEST TECHNOLOGY •
- SOUND CARE PROMISE •



CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT TODAY!
ROYAL OAK
4456 - A West Saanich Rd.
250.953.9979
www.connecthearing.ca

Sandown: Win, Place or Show?

Author: Susan Stroud,
Citizen Journalist

“Protecting agriculture happens by intention, not by accident,” said Saanich-Gulf Islands MP Elizabeth May. She was speaking at a packed house that came out on Wednesday, January 11th to show their support for the Sandown Community Farm proposal currently before North Saanich Council. The meeting was hosted by the Friends of Sandown Community Farm and chaired by environmental activist Vicky Husband.

By accepting 83 acres of donated Agricultural Land Reserve property and adding 12 acres owned by the District of North Saanich, the proposal would create a farming haven including low-cost acreage for new and existing farmers, a community garden, a farmers’ market, a training facility for school and university agricultural programs and a woodland section with trails on the former Sandown Racetrack site.

The plan has met resistance from several councillors including Ted Daly,

Craig Mearns, Connie McBride and Dunstan Browne.

Four presenters and roughly 400 citizens expressed their enthusiasm for the project, one calling it, **“a once in a lifetime opportunity”** to protect farmland that otherwise could legally be subdivided into eight rural estates, thus **“alienating the farmland from the community forever,”** said another.

Bob Peart, a biologist living in North Saanich stated, **“In these days it has become too difficult to put forward good public policy in an atmosphere of civility. The future,”** he said, **“should be about the economy working with the environment and the environment working with the economy, and our elected officials should represent the entire community.”**

Robert Maxwell, “Max,” a retired agrologist and long-time farmer connected the economy and the environment by talking about the farmers’ market he and others founded twenty years ago. Over \$3 million worth of goods and services have benefited the community (4H, musicians, the Fairgrounds etc) and the farmers who sold the produce: quite a payoff for something that runs for roughly 68 hours a

year. With about 24,000 residents in North Saanich and Sidney, it should be possible to earn over \$600,000 per year from a Sandown Farmers’ Market.

Fourth generation farmer Bernadette Green also spoke to the problem of farm economics. **“Land is not affordable for new farmers ... it’s hard to find land and those that have it won’t agree to long term leases.”** Green explained that long leases are important because it takes at least five years to improve the soil for growing, yet those holding the land are unwilling to wait because they may miss a good opportunity to sell their land.

North Saanich Chief Administrative Officer, Rob Buchan, addressed the issue of costs for this project by stating that they will be paid for by the development taxes from the 12 acre commercial parcel and by donations from the current landowner to help pay for building removal and soil remediation. (See DNS website)

“The Farmlands Trust has offered to take care of this land at no expense to the community,” explained Ed Johnson.

 **Continued online with video at www.SaanichVoiceOnline.ca**



Buckerfield's *Helping BC Grow Since 1919*

SUPPLIES FOR GARDENING, PETS, FARMING, POULTRY, EQUINE, HONEY BEES AND MORE!

1cm Between Life & Death

Author: Alexandria Gortan,
Citizen Journalist

The purpose of a tree protection bylaw, in theory, is to protect trees. In practice however, there are many instances where trees have no protection whatsoever. The effectiveness of the Central Saanich tree protection bylaw may have been called into question when a homeowner authorized a tree service company to cut down a nearly 80 foot tall, rare Dawn Redwood. Located on the corner of Peden and Harding Lane, the old cottage with its once-mature landscape, marks the entrance to the historic Moodyville neighbourhood.

Former gardener for Butchart Gardens Paddy Van Adrichem, now 84 years old, once lived in the historic cottage. Mr. Van Adrichem recalls planting the Dawn Redwood, Ginkgo Biloba, and other unique trees on the property about forty years ago. When asked his reason for choosing these varieties of trees he replied, **“A gardener starts with weeds...he finally wants to grow something rare.”**

The Dawn Redwood is a deciduous tree closely related to the giant sequoia and is the only living species of Metasequoia. Through fossil evidence, the Dawn Redwood was once considered to have been extinct for five million years, until one tree was discovered in 1944 by a forester in China. In 1948, researchers travelled to China and found a few thousand of Dawn Redwoods growing in remote valleys. Cuttings and seeds were collected and sent to other continents to be grown in public and private gardens, where they are enjoyed today.

For the last thirty years, a man by the name of Mr. Cecil Heide lived at the home of the old Dawn Redwood.

Mr. Heide also cherished the trees and enjoyed watching them grow over the decades, until July 7th, 2011 when Mr Heide passed away. The property was sold to Mr. Heide’s neighbour and according to daughter Ann Heide, to protect her father’s beloved trees, they had an agreement in place with the neighbour that the trees would remain.

On February 1st, 2012, the chainsaws of Evergreen Tree Service fired up the quiet Moodyville community, with the intention of bringing down the old Dawn Redwood. According to Central Saanich staff, within minutes their phone lines began to ring with concerned residents wondering how such a magnificent tree could be cut down.

The current tree bylaw in Central Saanich only protects six varieties of trees: Arbutus, Garry Oak, Pacific Yew, Pacific Dogwood, Shore Pine and Trembling Aspen. Other species under 60cm in diameter at breast height, can be cut down without a permit. As well, there is no limit on the number of trees that can be removed and no expectation of replacement.

Although the Dawn Redwood was nearly 80 feet tall, it was only 59 cm in diameter at breast height. One centimetre between life and death.

The Ginkgo Biloba, also planted forty years ago alongside the Dawn Redwood, dates back 200 million years and is considered to be the oldest surviving tree species on Earth. This tree is also threatened under the current tree bylaw. At this time, the Ginkgo Biloba stands about 60 feet tall, but only

has a trunk diameter of approximately 30cm.

Central Saanich Tree Protection Bylaw 1595 was updated in July of 2008 and a section was created to also define a “protected tree” as **“a tree having significant botanical, historical or cultural value as listed in Schedule A.”** When requesting a copy of Schedule A from the municipal hall, staff replied that there is no Schedule A. Council never created one.

The Advisory Planning Committee supported the current version of the Tree Protection Bylaw at their December 12, 2007 meeting - but not without concerns. An excerpt from the minutes states, **“In discussion, some concern was expressed that the size of all trees to be defined as a ‘protected tree’ should perhaps be changed to 50cm from the proposed 60cm. It was suggested that a smaller size could result in significant staff enforcement time.”**

So had Schedule A been completed, or the diameter of a “protected tree” been reduced to less than 60cm, then perhaps the old Dawn Redwood might still be here today.

Councillor Adam Olsen, Chair of the Planning and Development Committee has agreed to review the current tree protection bylaw and consider ways to strengthen the intent. In the meantime, the Moodyville neighbourhood is still adjusting to the loss of their magnificent tree. In the words of daughter Ann Heide, **“If my father knew, he would be rolling over in his grave.”**




KAREN DINNIE-SMYTH
Personal Real Estate Corporation

“Your call is always welcome”
www.karendinnie-smyth.com



RE/MAX
CAMOSUN PENINSULA PROPERTIES
250-655-0608



ADRIANA'S
The Whole Enchilada
The best in Mexican Cuisine

2140 Keating Cross Rd
250-652-7767
adrianascocina.com

Tia's Heritage Café

250-590-4912
5303 W. Saanich Rd.
Where friends & stories meet

FLYING FISH WINERY

Try us, you'll be hooked!

250-652-8818
3-6782 Veyaness Rd

Moodyville Collectibles
Vintage and Newer Household Items

#102 - 822 Verdier Avenue
Brentwood Bay, BC V8M 1C5



GETZ & BURDEN
CERTIFIED GENERAL ACCOUNTANTS

PERSONAL TAX
TRUSTS & ESTATES
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
CORPORATE TAX
BUSINESS PLANS
BOOKKEEPING & PAYROLL

CGA 250-727-6300
#211 - 4475 Viewmont Ave



RROCSS
RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS OF CENTRAL SAANICH SOCIETY

JOIN THE RESIDENTS AND RATEPAYERS OF CENTRAL SAANICH SOCIETY AND BE PART OF THE COMMUNITY VISION.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP ONLY \$10

250-857-8553
105-7088 WALLACE DR., BRENTWOOD BAY, BC V8M 1P4
WWW.RROCSS.ORG