



Photos: Gregory Franklin

Hummingbirds in the cedars. Mom sits on the eggs in a tiny nest until miniscule chicks hatch.

Ferries plan open-deck ships for Routes 9 and 17 - Patrick Brown

BC Ferries is seeking public input on the design and operation of new ferries that will replace the aging vessels on Route 9 (Tsawwassen to the Gulf Islands) and Route 17 (Powell River to Little River (Comox)). These two routes are presently served by the sisterships *Queen of Nanaimo* and *Queen of Burnaby*, which are substantial closed-deck single-ended ships, built in 1964 and 1965 respectively, and nearing the end of their useful life.

Route 17 (*Queen of Burnaby*) makes four round trips each day between Westview (Powell River) and Little River (Comox).

Route 9 (*Queen of Nanaimo*) traffic loads are heavily seasonal, with vehicle space completely reserved on summer weekends. To take the extra traffic, the *Bowen Queen*, a double-ended open deck ferry, with a capacity of 70 vehicles and about 400 passengers, is used on part of the route in the summer (Tsawwassen to Salt Spring).

In the winter (except Christmas), the *Queen of Nanaimo* has very light loads, even on weekends. Linking all the southern Gulf Islands (Galiano, Mayne, Pender, Salt Spring, and Saturna which is connected in through Mayne Island) with Tsawwassen,

Queen of Nanaimo makes two round trips each day.

BC Ferries planners calculate that the peak loads for both routes could be handled with three new 'intermediate' vessels (ICFs): one to be assigned to Route 17 year-round (145 cars), one to serve Route 9 year-round (145 cars), and the third to supplement Route 9 in the summer and shoulder seasons (120 cars), and serve as a substitute vessel for refits. In the interests of a move to standardize ferry types, the three would be similar open-deck double-ended vessels.

It is this strategy, and the design of the new vessels, that BC Ferries put forward for comment at a series of public meetings, held on the Southern Gulf Islands, Salt Spring, Richmond, Courtenay, Powell River and Texada, between April 22 and May 2.

Vessel Design

The conceptual design of the new vessels sets the pattern for more

series of similar intermediate-sized ferries to be built over the decades. A common design will enable increased flexibility in vessel assignment, and the standardization of propulsion systems, controls, and many operational facilities.

Drawing on experience with *Queen of Cumberland*, *Queen of Capilano*, and the more recently constructed *Island Sky* (Vancouver built, it operates on Route 7 across Jervis Inlet, connecting the two halves of the Sunshine Coast), the new design calls for a double-ended open-deck ferry on a common hull design, with two drive units at each end. The vehicle

capacity would be 85 on the main deck, a further 40 on fixed gallery decks attached to the side superstructure, and, if necessary, a further 20 on movable platforms attached to the inside superstructure. BC Ferries have emphasized that the final design and arrangement of vehicle decks provides



Island Sky with fixed upper decks

NEW FERRIES, please turn to page 2



GARY HOLMAN

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- Courtenay—Southgate Centre, Cliffe Avenue
- Port Alberni—Shoppers Drugmart Plaza, 10th Ave
- Campbell River—Willow Point Village

Island Tides AT POINT ATKINSON MAY

Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m.	Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m.
8 WE	0333 1032 1731 2250	13.8 3.6 13.8 9.5	4.2 1.1 4.2 2.9	16 TH	0441 0813 1511 2251	10.2 10.8 5.2 14.4	3.1 3.3 1.6 4.4
9 THU	0405 1107 1814 2334	13.8 3.3 14.1 9.8	4.2 1.0 4.3 3.0	17 FR	0544 0925 1558 2330	9.5 10.2 5.9 14.1	2.9 3.1 1.8 4.3
10 FR	0436 1140 1854	13.5 3.0 14.4	4.1 0.9 4.4	18 SA	0637 1100 1654	8.5 10.2 6.9	2.6 3.1 2.1
11 SA	0016 0506 1214 1933	10.2 13.1 3.0 14.8	3.1 4.0 0.9 4.5	19 SU	0009 0720 1243 1759	14.1 7.5 10.5 7.9	4.3 2.3 3.2 2.4
12 SU	0059 0536 1247 2013	10.5 12.8 3.0 14.8	3.2 3.9 0.9 4.5	20 MO	0047 0759 1408 1908	14.1 6.2 11.2 8.5	4.3 1.9 3.4 2.6
13 MO	0145 0607 1320 2053	10.5 12.5 3.3 14.4	3.2 3.8 1.0 4.4	21 TU	0125 0838 1515 2015	14.1 5.2 12.1 9.2	4.3 1.6 3.7 2.8
14 TU	0236 0641 1354 2132	10.5 12.1 3.6 14.4	3.2 3.7 1.1 4.4	22 WE	0203 0917 1612 2114	14.4 3.9 13.1 9.8	4.4 1.2 4.0 3.0
15 WE	0336 0721 1431 2212	10.5 11.5 4.3 14.4	3.2 3.5 1.3 4.4	23 THU	0242 0958 1703 2208	14.4 2.6 14.1 10.2	4.4 0.8 4.3 3.1

FULL MOON: SATURDAY, MAY 25
ADD ONE HOUR FOR DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Island Tides AT FULFORD HARBOUR MAY

Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m.	Day	Time	Ht./ft.	Ht./m.
8 WE	0250 0954 1729 2208	9.8 2.6 9.8 7.5	3.0 0.8 3.0 2.3	16 TH	0456 0656 1432 2246	7.9 7.9 3.3 10.5	2.4 2.4 1.0 3.2
9 THU	0316 1025 1814 2259	9.8 2.3 10.2 8.2	3.0 0.7 3.1 2.5	17 FR	0552 0812 1517 2319	7.2 7.2 3.9 10.5	2.2 2.2 1.2 3.2
10 FR	0343 1057 1857 2350	9.5 2.0 10.5 8.2	2.9 0.6 3.2 2.5	18 SA	0632 1004 1609 2351	6.6 6.9 4.9 10.2	2.0 2.1 1.5 3.1
11 SA	0411 1130 1938	9.5 2.0 10.5	2.9 0.6 3.2	19 SU	0703 1207 1710	5.6 6.9 5.6	1.7 2.1 1.7
12 SU	0042 0439 1204 2018	8.5 9.5 2.0 10.5	2.6 2.9 0.6 3.2	20 MO	0022 0733 1350 1816	10.2 4.6 7.5 6.2	3.1 1.4 2.3 1.9
13 MO	0138 0507 1239 2057	8.5 9.2 2.0 10.5	2.6 2.8 0.6 3.2	21 TU	0051 0803 1508 1919	10.2 3.6 8.2 6.9	3.1 1.1 2.5 2.1
14 TU	0240 0537 1315 2135	8.5 8.9 2.3 10.5	2.6 2.7 0.7 3.2	22 WE	0120 0837 1610 2017	10.2 2.6 9.2 7.5	3.1 0.8 2.8 2.3
15 WE	0347 0610 1352 2211	8.2 8.2 2.6 10.5	2.5 2.5 0.8 3.2	23 THU	0151 0913 1704 2113	10.5 1.6 9.8 8.2	3.2 0.5 3.0 2.5

FULL MOON: SATURDAY, MAY 25
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Resource economy could be a 'bubble' Patrick Brown

Basing government revenue projections on valuations of LNG, oil, and coal resources may be unrealistic.

This is the warning issued by Carbon Tracker (CT), an initiative of Investor Watch, a non-profit company that works to reconcile capital markets with efforts to contain climate change. In the current election race, both the BCLiberals and the NDP have published budgets based on long-term increases in revenues from fossil fuel extraction.

According to CT, HSBC, CITI, Standard and Poor's, and the Bank of England have warned of price volatility and 'the risk of capital funds withdrawing from resource extraction projects'. Political projections of government revenues and debt reduction are at risk, says CT, calling such a policy 'dangerous'.

Some observers are characterizing resource share prices as 'overvalued', since they rely on the anticipated prices of

estimated reserves which cannot be extracted and burned without risking climate change from CO2 buildup.

It is suggested that the parties work together on a different economic vision for BC, based on growth in the cleantech sector, similar to that proposed by the Green Party. Accounting firm KPMG notes 'tremendous opportunity for growth', with industry revenues increasing by 57% between 2008 and 2011.

To spur innovation, the federal Green Party favours an increase in the carbon tax, with the additional revenues going to support the development of clean technologies. This should be combined with 'clear and consistent procurement and regulatory policies' to create investor certainty.

The alternative to a 'resource bubble' would be the deliberate growth of a clean energy based economy in BC. ☞

NEW FERRIES from page 1

an opportunity for design innovation by the successful shipbuilder. The lounge and all passenger facilities would be on a single level above the vehicle decks, with two elevators (see conceptual design, right).

Why Now?

Some questioned the timing of the meetings, immediately before a provincial election in which the ferry service is inevitably an issue. The answer lies in an overall schedule which aims to have the new vessels in service in 2016 and the spring of 2017. The meetings could not be held earlier, it was explained, because they would have conflicted with a more general public consultation process last winter (which aimed to find, through service cuts and other changes, some \$26 million in savings over the next three years).

The overall timeline allows time for the Ferry Commissioner to pass judgment on the capital cost, strategy and conceptual design of the new ferries, as required by Section 55 of the *Coastal Ferry Act*. The Ferry Commissioner will also provide an opportunity for public comment during his evaluation of the

Program Timelines

Planning, Design Build	
Public input to Section 55 proposal	May/June 2013
Section 55 filed with Commissioner	May 22, 2013
Section 55 Commissioner decision	Summer 2013
Issue design-build RFP	Summer 2013
Award vessel design-build contract	End 2013
Build vessels	Dec 2013–Dec 2016
Vessels in service	
Route 17 (145 cars)	April 2016
Route 9 (145 cars)	October 2016
Route 9 (125 cars)	April 2017

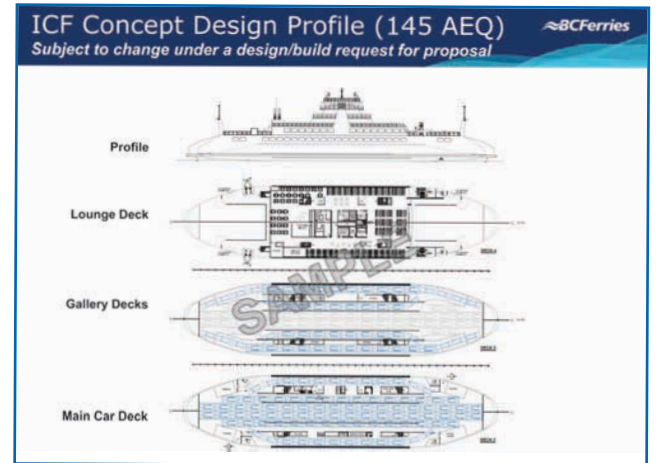
plan in the summer of 2013.

Following a positive decision from the Commissioner, BC Ferries intends to solicit design-build proposals from interested shipbuilders worldwide, with the expected award of a contract by the end of 2013.

Issues

Participants at the Pender Island meeting expressed concern about a few major issues.

Open-deck ferries—much concern was expressed about the operation of open-deck ferries in rough weather in the Strait of Georgia. The *Queen of Nanaimo* seldom misses a sailing, crossing the Strait in winds up to 40 knots; the *Queen of*



Some Specs	Queen of Nanaimo ICF Design(est)	
Length overall	130 m	100 m
Max. Displacement	4,542 tonnes	3,500 tonnes
Car capacity	192	125 – 145
Passenger capacity	996	585
Speed	16.5 knots	16 knots

Burnaby tends to stay in port if winds are over 25 knots (with a southeaster, the increased fetch results in greater wave height further north). It was noted that the conceptual design included 'visors' which would be closed on each end of the ferries, to reduce salt spray on the main vehicle deck, but it was not clear how well these would work in winter storms.

Capacity – BC Ferries have made projections of traffic for the first ten years of operation (until 2027) and, based on forecast traffic increases of 1.8% per year, anticipate that the capacity will be sufficient to satisfy 93% of peak demand, with all overloads accommodated by the end of the day.

Schedules – A key issue, of course, is the schedule, particularly Route 9 on summer weekends. With two vessels of similar capacity, there is a possibility that instead of servicing four ports, each vessel might service two, simplifying and speeding up operation significantly (an extension of the role that the *Bowen Queen* now fills). One vessel would be based at Long Harbour, and one at Tsawwassen.

Inter-Island Travel

The expansion of the reduced ports-of-call program would increase lift-off, (including seasonal flexibility) and shorten travel times to and from Tsawwassen. However, it would affect inter-island connections.

At present, Route 9 is an integral part of available travel between the Gulf Islands, in both winter and summer. It links in with Route 5 (*Cumberland*) and 5A (*Mayne Queen*) to provide varied and almost adequate trip opportunities.

This schedule is vital to island businesses with customers on more than one island, and for inter-island contact, events, and visitor travel. It was eroded when BC Ferries changed to a weekend lift-off concept in the early 1990s. It remains to be seen how much further it will be eroded by an expanded double vessel system. Given the recent Southern Islands economic development initiatives, such as the recently funded 'Experience The Gulf Island's project, scheduling will need to be considered.

No details of schedules were discussed at the Pender meeting, except for the general thought that two vessels would provide more and shorter trips and better capacity from Tsawwassen through-out the summer and shoulder seasons.

Food Services & Amenities – BC Ferries identify four levels of food services, or 'customer amenities'. In BC Ferries terminology, Level 1 is a Snack Bar; Level 4 is a full cafeteria with retail shop. Given the length of the trip (for some travellers) to and from Tsawwassen, preference was expressed for a full cafeteria, with hot breakfasts, burgers, salads, etc for the trip across the Strait. This level of service currently makes money on Route 9, though not on Route 17.

To accomplish an appropriate level of food services both one

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Movie Review by Ray Grigg

Salmon Confidential

Anyone who has been following the sorry saga of inexplicable diseases and unusual mortality in BC's wild salmon will not be surprised that the information in Twyla Roscovich's documentary, *Salmon Confidential*, links the source of this trouble to the salmon farming industry. The surprise, however, is the impact of such information when its complexity is condensed to an intense 70 minutes.

The documentary, of course, is guided by its own perspective. But this perspective is supported by such compelling and powerful circumstantial evidence that it incriminates the salmon farming industry and the government agencies which are so obviously accommodating and protecting it. If the health of wild salmon are at risk, these are prime suspects.

Twyla Roscovich, with her keen filming and editing skills, presents a convincing case. But the highest accolades go to Alexandra Morton, the indefatigable BC biologist who worries about the safety of wild salmon. The entire ecology they support have become her life's concern. Her research and investigations have brought the public's attention to the alien diseases threatening native Pacific salmon. It was ostensibly her work that resulted in the reconvening of the Cohen Commission to hear new evidence on previously undisclosed viral infections in wild fish. This testimony subsequently led to the recommendations in Justice Cohen's Report, which clearly question the environmental safety of salmon farms.

Morton's evidence linking salmon farms to diseases in wild salmon has now initiated 'the world's largest study of salmon health' headed by the genetics expert, Dr Kristi Miller, the same researcher who was silenced in 2012 by pressure from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (where she is still employed). This 5-year study, involving DFO, Genome BC and the Pacific Salmon Foundation, will use state-of-the-art technology developed by Dr Miller to examine salmon diseases from farmed, hatchery and wild sources.

Yet another consequence of Morton's heroic efforts, belatedly announced on March 23 by the BC government, is a moratorium until 2020 on any further expansion of salmon farms in the Discovery Islands area, that narrow cluster of passages where many wild fish are compelled to migrate on their journey from, and back to, their nascent rivers.

This migration, the film contends, is a death trap. One of the most searing images in *Salmon Confidential* is of a single surviving salmon swimming upstream past the white corpses of thousands of dead unspawned fish.

Something alien, unusual and traumatic is happening to BC's wild salmon, testament to an unfolding ecological tragedy. Norway has confronted this same problem by banning salmon farms from the migration routes of wild fish. Why then, according to evidence given by one DFO official at the Cohen Commission's reconvened hearings, has no fishfarm application ever been refused on BC's coast?

A memorable and revealing moment occurs in *Salmon*

Confidential when Dr Kristi Miller testifies that DFO warned her not to do any testing if she didn't know what the ramifications would be. In other words, this government agency has an unofficial agenda that could be compromised by an inconvenient scientific discovery. Placing ignorance ahead of knowledge is the perfect formula for environmental catastrophe.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) seems to have a similar unofficial agenda. Infectious salmon anemia is designated a reportable disease of global health concern. If the CFIA should find ISA in BC farmed salmon, international protocol would require that all exports stop. So the solution to this problem, according to *Salmon Confidential*, is to not find the disease.

The documentary explores the complex ends to which the CFIA has gone in order to hide evidence—complete with a threatened government Bill 37 (2012) that would forbid any individual from revealing the existence of such diseases as ISA. The reality is that at least two other new diseases in wild salmon, piscine reovirus and salmon alphavirus, have also been linked to salmon farms.

Despite the serious tone of *Salmon Confidential*, the documentary does have moments of levity. When salmon farmers refused to give Morton any samples of their fish for testing, she and her fellow investigators found an ingenious solution. They simply bought farmed salmon from a local supermarket—of the 11 fish carefully dated and identified with the name of the grower, 3 tested positive for ISA. And when Morton decided that testing dying fish from a salmon farm would be the definitive evidence, she was even denied 'mortes'. As the researchers plotted how to surreptitiously recover a sample, an eagle picked up one of the carcasses and delivered some crucially important body parts to a nearby rock.

But *Salmon Confidential* is much more serious than it is amusing. For anyone who cares about the future of wild salmon in British Columbia, this is a film that must be seen. It identifies Twyla Roscovich as a skilled documentarian and places Alexandra Morton in the pantheon of heroic environmentalists, not to mention a competent scientist and a gifted detective.

Both these women have the insight, perseverance and fortitude to help save BC's ecological future as they shake the edifice of deception and duplicity that they characterize as the history of salmon farming in British Columbia.

By coincidence, *Salmon Confidential* was finished in time for the upcoming provincial election in May. Both Roscovich and Morton hope its timely arrival makes the protection of wild salmon a part of the political conversation. Indeed it should, given the crucial importance of these iconic fish to BC's identity and ecology.

The film is now touring the province, and was in Campbell River and Courtenay in April. If you missed it, it can be viewed online in abbreviated form at salmonconfidential.ca.

BC Public sector weakest in Canada

Canadian Centre For Policy Alternatives

Our report, released in April, finds that spending cuts and staff reductions have seriously weakened BC's public sector, which is the smallest in Canada when measured as a share of the population.

'The message to the public has been that public sector employment can be cut—usually in the name of reducing the deficit—without any noticeable impact on programs or services,' says Iglia Ivanova, economist and author of 'Reality Check on the Size of BC's Public Sector'. 'But in fact, the latest Statistics Canada numbers on public sector employment in BC tell a very different story.'

These statistics show: BC has the smallest public sector in Canada. In 2011, there were 90 public sector employees per 1,000 people in BC, compared to 92 in Alberta and 100 in Ontario (which have the 2nd and 3rd smallest public sectors).

While other provinces have reinvested in public services since the early 2000s, BC made cuts in 2001–2004 and again after the 2008 recession. As a result, services aren't able to meet the needs of a growing population.

The report also finds no evidence of an 'overspending problem' in BC. In fact, provincial government spending as a share of the economy (or GDP) has dropped significantly over the past two decades. 'The current provincial deficit is the result of a revenue shortfall due to a decade of tax cuts followed by a slow economy—not overspending,' says Ivanova. 'For example, in 2011/12 BC spent 2.3% of GDP (or \$5 billion) per year less than in 2000/01.'

Public sector workers in BC are vital to ensure a high quality of life for all British Columbians. They are a diverse group that includes police and firefighters; employees of Crown corporations like BC Hydro and BC Transit; teachers, nurses, and social workers providing government-funded education, health and social services; and all employees in publicly funded colleges and universities. They also include employees of ministries, departments and agencies at the municipal, provincial and federal levels who provide support for policy development and direct service delivery, as well as key regulatory and oversight functions.

Ivanova points to a number of consequences of public sector cuts, including: reduced monitoring and protection of forests and water, allowing for more illegal logging and pollution; larger class sizes in public and post-secondary institutions, reducing the quality of education; less homecare and other services for seniors; leading to hardship for seniors and overcrowding in hospitals; and less protection for vulnerable children in care, increasing the likelihood of abuse and neglect, as documented by the Representative for Children and Youth.

A reinvestment in a strong public sector would not only improve quality of life, but also reduce the economic and social costs associated with the high levels of poverty and inequality in BC, says Ivanova.

'Reality Check on the Size of BC's Public Sector' is available at policyalternatives.ca/bc-public-sector-reality-check.

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Those Inter-Island Fares—Who Knew?

Dear Editor:

In reply to Kate Emmings letter about inter-island fare discounts, indeed BC Ferries has introduced an inter-island Experience Card fare that's 33% lower than the regular cash fare. The discounted fares are \$4 instead of \$6 for passengers and \$8.80 versus \$13.10 for vehicles. These fares can be found on the BC Ferries website.

These lower fares came about through your Southern Gulf Islands Ferry Advisory Committee's efforts to improve inter-island access.

In that there's nothing for nothing, BC Ferries offered this discounted fare in exchange for adding a nickel to passenger fares and a dime to vehicle fares for non-commercial traffic travelling on Route N°5 from Swartz Bay to all Southern Gulf Islands). It was your committee's advice to BC Ferries that this would be a well-received exchange within our communities.

Brian Hollingshead, Chair, SGI Ferry Advisory Committee

Saanich North & The Island In Cabinet?

Dear Editor

I am writing to tell you why I am supporting Gary Holman in the upcoming provincial election.

First, it is imperative British Columbians replace a tired, less than candid and outright regressive Liberal government. I do not think this point requires a lot of elaboration. The BC Liberal record in the area of the environment, stewardship of provincial assets and support for local communities is unworthy of support.

Second, the environmental track record of Gary Holman is impressive. He has walked the walk and delivered for his community and for the people of BC. I had the opportunity to see first hand his competent dedication to these accomplishments while he was a CRD Electoral Area Director.

Finally, the credentials and expertise of Gary Holman suit him for a cabinet position. Why would we not wish to have a principled, honest and accomplished MLA from our islands as a voice in the highest levels of a provincial government?

For our islands, voting for Gary is a change for the better.

Gary Steeves, North Pender Island

Fun Participating

Dear Editor:

I am really looking forward to election day. On Tuesday, May 14, we get to vote at Satirna's Recreation Centre and know that our action counts. I like lawn signs and welcome people canvassing for their choice of candidate. This identifying of yourself and your values in a small community can seem bald and even pushy. To me, this means Islanders care to participate.

Islanders are plucky and will state their preferences and

participate in an election. They have a good sense of humour and we see in ourselves all of the strengths and foibles of our fellow humans who chose to run for public office. Collectively, we islanders know that at the bottom of it all that we can, without reprisal, declare our preferences—even we women!

Saturna Island always has a huge voter turnout—we were part of getting Elizabeth May voted in federally—we care to participate in the democratic process and I am proud of that.

I have read the excellent questions posed to candidates and their responses printed in *Island Tides* editions, which started in January. What a great public service to not have to search this information out piece by piece! I have also read columns in the *Times Colonist*, and thought about the responses.

I have compiled a list of the decisions made under this achingly long reign of the neo-conservatives that I thought were disrespectful of our democratic process, criminal or just stupid. What a list—if you can remember!

I have only voted under the first-past-the-post system. Saanich North & The Islands has become the poster child for splitting the progressive vote and letting the neo-cons walk down the middle. Nuanced differences between the NDP and the Greens pale in comparison to the neo-conservative values and misuse of the democratic process.

I will vote for Gary Holman-NDP in this election. I like what he has to say. Initially, I was tempted to take a risk and vote Green to perhaps have a Green voice provincially, to shake it up. But to me the risks are way too high. The present drive for extraction of everything and anything from the seas and the land with waffling regulation designed to destroy the common riches for private short-term profit needs redress.

There you have it—declared! Orange NDP poster at my driveway entrance, ready to talk politics and learn from others, eager to attend our All Candidates Meeting and Potluck Dinner and grateful to live within a democratic governance system.

Priscilla Ewbank, Saturna Island

Not An Easy Choice

Dear Editor:

This is a difficult election for the Green Party because we have to be realistic. As a long time supporter of social programs that make some attempt to come to grips with inequality, I usually have voted NDP. However, blindly voting for a party can end up guaranteeing the opposite of what a person wants.

I have heard from a lot of people that a vote for the Green Party is actually a vote for the Liberals here in our riding of Saanich North and The Islands.

As a long time supporter of the federal NDP, in the last federal election, I and many others knew that a vote for the NDP would have ended up being a vote for Harper's Conservatives—we voted Green. In this provincial election, a vote for the Green Party is a vote for Christy Clark's Liberals, pipelines, oil tankers, you name it. A Green vote for the NDP is the only solution.

Doug and Elizabeth Latta, Galiano Island

No Strategic Voting Dilemma For Me

Dear Editor:

Sometimes when uncertain as to which person to vote for I consider voting along party lines. When this happens I am always disappointed as I know that it is the 'person' who can make all the difference when it comes to representing me in parliament.

I am pleased to say that in this 2013 provincial election I have no such dilemma; the right 'person' is the local person, the islander. Gary Holman is an easy and obvious choice as he is one of us, a long-term Salt Spring Island resident who knows our Gulf Island issues.

Gary Holman not only knows Gulf Island issues, he has a long history of responding to them. Gary has always been actively involved in island community affairs. He has served as Chair of the Island Trust Advisory Planning Committee for 6 years and Chair of the Business focus group during Salt Spring's official community planning process. He is also a founding member of Salt Spring Island Enterprise Co-op and Salt Spring's first public transportation system. Gary has a long history of involvement with the Conservancy Association as well as many accomplishments during the two years he was elected as a CRD director for Salt Spring. Currently Gary is President of the Salt Spring Island Abbeyfield Society, he is on the Board of the Gulf Island Alliance and sits on the Salt Spring Shared Space Committee.

Gary was the NDP candidate in the May, 2009 provincial election and he lost by just 260 votes. When I met Gary I realized that he was one of us and if more of us knew him we would be certain that he understands our needs and already has a track record of responding to them. In my mind there is no question that he is the right person to serve as our next MLA.

Julie Roper, Pender Island

Saanich North & The Islands Voting

Dear Editor:

BC Liberals have made of fine mess of BC. Using millions of tax payers money to unashamedly promote themselves, to share with their corporate smart meters friends, their IPP corporate

friends, their fracking friends, the CPBC Rail sell out—I could go on and on.

What is the alternative when voting on May 14? If voting NDP please remember that you are not voting only for Gary Holman. Gary has proven himself to be a responsible upstanding person that is not in question.

However what and who is questionable is Adrian Dix and the weak policies of the NDP. Remember who would not speak out against tankers on our coast till May 2012 after the NDP finally saw that the majority of British Columbian opposed it? Adrian Dix. Who will not put a moratorium on fracking despite overwhelming evidence that it is a toxic process from beginning to end? Adrian Dix. Who has recently stated that it is business as usual with destroying forest and shipping raw logs to China? You guessed it.

I looked at the NDP web site to get a sense of where they stand on coal export. Silence. Where they stand on protecting fresh water resources and fish habitat. Nothing. Will they put in place a framework to assess and regulate the cumulative impacts on nature and citizens of unabated extraction of minerals, water, forests, gas, oil. Nothing. Mitigating climate change? Zero. NDP, you are redecorating the house while the roof is on fire!

On the other hand the Green Party has published their Green Book, their 10 core values as well as their policy backgrounders. How is that for decisiveness and transparency?

Only Adam Olsen of the Green party has the vision and foresight to get my vote. If you are afraid of splitting votes and thereby allow the Liberals to get in again. Not to worry, looks like the NDP is well ahead in the polls and will win anyway so why not vote some Greens in to keep their feet to the fire.

Marcelle Roy, Salt Spring Island

Go Vote

Dear Editor:

Oh No, it's election time and I know many are turned off by listening to the constant promises, the spin and the negative comments made by the politicians, but it is our only chance to turn things around and make our government listen to us. We have a broken system I know, when 4 out of 10 voters constitute a majority but for now it's all we have.

To my fellow females, remember your great-great-grandmothers went to jail and were force fed when they dared demand the vote, don't let them down. There are many countries where going to vote is a life threatening endeavor, please consider the issues and make your mark.

Beautiful BC is in a very precarious position right now, if we don't get it right this time the coastline and Vancouver Harbour will be given over to supertankers, BC Hydro will be gone, ferries will continue to be that which separates us from the rest of BC, we'll spend millions on a dam we don't need, and pollute our water system with the controversial method of fracking, etc etc.

I know it's distasteful but don't throw your vote away, we need this time to vote strategically and I think our only chance to get it right in Saanich North & The Islands is to elect Gary Holman. Those of you who have never voted NDP, please remember here in BC 'Liberal' means 'Conservative,' socialism is not the boogey man, and even though I love Elizabeth May as our federal MP the greens will not form government and we need a strong voice in Victoria. If Salt Spring and the Southern Islands don't come through for Gary the riding will have another neo-conservative MLA.

It's your responsibility to vote and I urge you to carefully consider the alternatives and just do it.

Susan Paynter, Salt Spring Island

Be An Environmentalist - Vote Orange

Dear Editor:

I am an environmentalist. For my family and me, the environment is about the most important issue there is, in this election. In previous elections, I've watched it slide out of view—the whole topic of what we're presently doing to the planet and to all the natural systems that provide us with fresh water, breathable air, a climate that's manageable, food from fertile soil, and other things we might want to still have available for our kids when they're our age, like forests, fish, wildlife, jobs, and hope.

Previously, I've watched the discussion of the environment simply disappear from the media under a 'snow storm' of right wing rhetoric about jobs, growth, wealth creation, GrowthGrowthGrowth. That strategy has certainly worked well for the corporations and the rich, who have contributed massively to parties of the right to ensure that they would continue to get ever richer and pay less tax on it now than they did decades ago. Voters have been repeatedly hoodwinked into believing that they could not possibly have a job *and* take care of the environment at the same time. The environment was presented as a 'luxury' that we could only 'afford' after we had made good and sure that the rich got richer first.

We know the results of electing governments from that side

LETTERS, please turn to page 10



MAY 2013 GENERAL ELECTION

Get ready to vote.


In the 40th Provincial General Election, British Columbia's voters will vote for their Member of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia.

BC Has More Ways to Vote

All voters can:

Vote in any district electoral office from now until 4 p.m. (Pacific time) on General Voting Day, Tuesday, May 14, 2013.

Vote by Mail You can ask for a Vote by Mail package from your district electoral office or through the Elections BC website at elections.bc.ca

Vote at advance voting Voters can attend any advance voting location in the province from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (local time), Wednesday, May 8 through Saturday, May 11. All advance voting locations are wheelchair accessible. 

Vote on General Voting Day Voters can attend any general voting location in the province from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Pacific time), Tuesday, May 14, 2013.

Identification Rules for Voting

Voters must prove their identity and current residential address to get a ballot or register to vote at the time of voting. Any one of the following pieces of identification is acceptable:

- BC drivers licence
- BC identification card
- BC Services Card
- Certificate of Indian Status

If you don't have any of the above, bring two documents that together prove your identity and current residential address. A complete list of acceptable identification is available from Elections BC.

Voters without identification can be vouched for by a voter in their electoral district who has identification, or by a direct family member, or by someone who has legal authority to make personal care decisions for the voter.



Get our **VOTEBC** App for iPhones and iPads to find the closest voting place and for information you need to vote.



Any Questions?

For further information visit Elections BC's website at elections.bc.ca or call toll-free **1-800-661-8683**.

Or, contact your district electoral office.

Hours of operation

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The following persons have been nominated as candidates for North Island for the 40th Provincial General Election.

North Island Electoral District

Candidate's Name:	Financial Agent:	Official Agent:	
Bob Bray BC Conservative Party	David Peters 903 Northmore Rd, Campbell River, BC, V9W 3L2		
Nick Facey BC Liberal Party	Gurdeep Sidhu 1007 Shoppers Row, Campbell River, BC, V9W 2C7		
Claire Felicity Trevena BC NDP	Sandra Doran 173 Mariwood Rd, Campbell River, BC, V9H 1K9		
General Voting Places:	Advance Voting Places:	District Electoral Offices:	
Admin Bldg Gwa'Sala'-Nakwaxda'xw 154 Tsulquate IR Rd, Port Hardy, BC Avalon Advent Jr Academy 4640 Byng Rd, Port Hardy, BC Blind Channel Store W Thurlow Island, Thurlow, BC Campbell River Comm Centre 401 11th Ave, Campbell River, BC Campbell River Sportsplex 1800 S Alder St, Campbell River, BC Chatham Channel Lodge Minstrel Island, Minstrel Island, BC Coal Harbour Activity Centre 371 Albert Hole Rd, Coal Harbour, BC Cortes Island Elem Jr School 950 Beasley Rd, Mansons Landing, BC Eagles Branch 3097 - Fearing Hall 1999 14th Ave, Campbell River, BC Gerry Morgan Memorial Centre 350 Muchalat Dr, Gold River, BC Holberg Comm Hall 1 Main St, Holberg, BC	Kyuquot Band Office - Health Clinic 240 Kyuquot IR Rd, Kyuquot, BC Ocean Grove Elem School 3773 McLelan Rd, Campbell River, BC Oyster River Elem School 2250 Terrain Rd, Campbell River, BC Pierre's at Echo Bay Gilford Island, Echo Bay, BC Port Alice Comm Hall 951 Marine Dr, Port Alice, BC Port Hardy Civic Centre 7450 Columbia St, Port Hardy, BC Quadra Island Comm Centre 970 West Rd, Quadra Island, BC Quatsino Elem School Quatsino Rd, Quatsino, BC Royal Canadian Legion 198 79 Maple Rd, Alert Bay, BC Sandowne Elem School 699 Sandowne Dr, Campbell River, BC Sayward Heritage Hall 1257 Sayward Rd, Sayward, BC	Sointula Rec Hall 110 13th Ave, Sointula, BC St. Peter's Anglican Church Hall 228 S Dogwood St, Campbell River, BC Sunset Elem School 2433 Mountview Cres, Port McNeill, BC Tahsis Rec Centre 285 Alpine View Rd, Tahsis, BC The Bunkhouse 5 Read Island Rd, Read Island, BC The Thunderbird Hall 1400 WeiWaikum Rd, Campbell River, BC Tsawataineuk Band Office 21 Gwa-ye Village, Kingcome Inlet, BC Winter Harbour Comm Bldg Winter Harbour Rd, Winter Harbour, BC Woss Lake Rec Hall 4502 MacRae Dr, Woss, BC Zeballos Comm Centre 161 Maquinna Ave, Zeballos, BC	Campbell River Comm Centre 401 11th Ave, Campbell River, BC Gerry Morgan Memorial Centre 350 Muchalat Dr, Gold River, BC Hardy Bay Seniors Centre 9150 Granville St, Port Hardy, BC Port McNeill Comm Hall 1473 Broughton Blvd, Port McNeill, BC 1414 Ironwood St Campbell River, BC (250) 287-5112 5-311 Hemlock St Port McNeill, BC (250) 956-9883

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BC ELECTION 2013 COMING UP FAST!

What Your Candidates Say...

This edition, Island Tides asked: 'How do we develop the participation of our natural capital of informed, experienced seniors and how do we keep them healthy?'

Thanks to all our candidates for participating since January!

Chris Aikman—Comox Valley (BC Green)

The first step in such a plan would be to maintain a healthy environment of clean air, clean water, unspoiled greenspace. We should improve home and community care to keep seniors as active and independent as possible, while giving voice to their wishes.

We must encourage a preventative approach to health, and seek to avoid the burdens of preventable chronic conditions such as heart disease and diabetes. We must be more proactive against the continuing over-prescribing of drugs.

Restoration of the recently-defunded Therapeutics Initiative will help eliminate the overuse of costly and often damaging prescription drugs. These goals and many more are outlined in the Green Book 2013 available online at greenparty.bc.ca. All successful societies have thrived by drawing on the wisdom of their elders. There are manifold ways we can do likewise.

Bob Bray—North Island (BC Conservatives)

Number one is we do not tell them what to do. We need to offer programs that interest them. The way to do this is to come up with funding that follows the choices of seniors. There are many programs and services on offer now at community centers and at independent seniors organizations. But these often get block

grants from the local municipal government and special grants from the federal government whether they are attended by many or a few.

A new funding arrangement is required whereby when a senior attends an activity, the sponsor of that activity gets a fee from government over and above what the ticket price for that event might be. If elected, I would ask government officials to evaluate my proposal.

Gary Holman—Saanich N & The Islands (BC NDP)

The NDP will invest in home support care to help keep seniors out of very costly hospital and residential care beds, and more engaged with their families and friends. We will restore other health services and invest in multi-disciplinary health clinics, particularly in rural areas, that will help keep seniors in their communities.

We'll reduce the cost of drugs to ensure equitable access for all seniors. We will require hospitals to provide healthier, local produce on their menus. For seniors in residential care, we will improve standards of care.

We will reinvest part of the carbon tax in public transit and pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, improving access to community services and supporting a healthier lifestyle for all ages.

Our poverty reduction plan, including construction of 1,500 units per year of affordable housing, will help seniors living in poverty. We will increase earnings exemptions for social assistance, which will help poor seniors

participate in the workplace.

We will establish a Seniors' Representative to ensure that seniors have a dedicated and independent advocate regarding government services.

Susan Low—Esquimalt-Royal Roads (BC Green)

Seniors have a great depth of knowledge and skills to offer through work, volunteering and mentoring younger generations. Through regional social trusts, we should make sure we're building more community programs that bridge generations. I'm especially interested in seeing seniors who have run businesses provide mentorship to younger entrepreneurs, to make sure we don't lose skills in our small businesses which represent over half of BC employment.

Seniors' health is a community issue. Having more nurse practitioners will increase access to medical care at lower cost. We also need to provide help for transitions from hospital back to home, and for changes in living arrangements as seniors need more support. Affordable housing for seniors should be a government priority.

We need to invest in keeping seniors active, and helping them live independently for as long as possible with community-based services like volunteer drivers and companionship. By helping seniors to participate in the arts and create connections with younger community members, we can keep seniors physically and mentally healthy.

Mayo McDonough—Nanaimo—North Cowichan (BC Green)

In the Green Book, the Green Party has a full policy for Healthy Seniors which focuses on four goals: improving home and community care; giving a voice to patients; providing social support networks; and improving public reporting. This includes providing home support and home care programs and assisted living services so seniors can remain in their own homes and would make available financial assistance to families who provide home care for seniors. One direct area that relies on the knowledge of seniors is to expand BC's Chronic Disease Self-Management Program. I personally participate in the UVic Pain Self-Management Program and find it amazingly effective.

But the brilliantly simple strategy is to focus government effort and resources on local economies. By supporting community networks and services, and by encouraging local businesses, our seniors are well placed to be active participants and advocates in local governance, non-profit and business enterprises. Add to this the Guaranteed Livable Income which unifies all income support programs and a commitment to fund affordable housing through local governments and cooperative or non-profit partnerships.

Adam Olsen—Saanich N & The Islands (BC Green)

We need to encourage greater connectivity between generations in our society. Elders are an important resource for our children and it is unfortunate that they have opportunities to share their experiences.

In order to achieve better connections we should encourage multi-generational housing, co-locating seniors and childcare services, and investing in developing age-friendly communities. Many immigrant cultures, as well as my own First Nations' culture, commonly live with several generations in the same home. We can draw on those lifestyles to find ways to bring intergenerational experiences back to our society.

Municipalities need greater flexibility in their land use plans and community plans to allow for more creative housing solutions to keep housing costs down and families together. Co-location of services encourages more interaction between generations and age-

friendly communities allow seniors to get around our residential and commercial centres.

It has been shown that quality interactions between generations improves the quality of life for old and for the young. We can enhance our quality of life and ultimately our health by enhancing interpersonal connections.

Jane Sterk—Victoria-Beacon Hill (BC Green)

Seniors are an underutilized resource. In other cultures, elders are venerated, consulted on issues and their wisdom informs decisions that are made. I hear great ideas from seniors. One woman suggested seniors have great ideas for how to get children into our empty playgrounds. Another senior told me that she takes it upon herself to help other seniors adjust to assisted living. In my Rotary Club, we have a ninety-year-old who continues to mentor young adults with whom he started playing chess when they attended inner-city George Jay elementary. Those impressive young people credit Jack with helping them become so successful.

Keeping seniors healthy is relatively simple. Engagement in community is a powerful foundation for continued good health. Providing the services that seniors need when they need them and where they live is critically important. That means investing in services like home care, cleaning, and yard work as well as community based wellness and health promotion medical services.

I hope to create a seniors advisory council to assist me in my work as MLA.

Claire Trevena—North Island (BC NDP)

I've observed that more and more seniors are, within the realities of the creaks and pains of aging, staying healthy and active. I see them participating in all sorts of activities. Indeed a fair number are actively engaged in this election campaign.

Where I believe the rest of us can assist is by enabling seniors to stay in their homes for as long as possible so they can continue to remain active in their communities. To this end, the BCNDP has pledged to expand home support and community care. To help seniors stay healthy at home as long as possible, we will strengthen primary and community care, especially in rural areas, by improving access to teams of multi-disciplinary health professions like nurse practitioners.

The longer seniors can comfortably stay in their homes, near to friends and family, the more likely it is they will be able to stay active and involved and the more all of us will benefit from having them continue contributing to our communities through their diverse and productive activities.

Jessica Van der Veen—Oak Bay-Gordon Head (BC NDP)

Seniors in Oak Bay-Gordon Head play prominent roles in many aspects of community life, and they make major contributions to making our community a better place to live and work. I am proud of my work defending seniors' facilities such as Oak Bay Lodge and Mount Tolmie Hospital from closure.

In and around Oak Bay-Gordon Head, we have many services that make life better for seniors, including the health care options available at the Health Point Care Centre, and the programs offered at the Monterey Recreation Centre. These community services help keep seniors in their own homes, and they reduce pressure elsewhere in our health care system. The BC NDP has pledged more and better community and home care services. I will work to make transit easier to access. I recognize the need to improve access to housing options such as independent living and assisted living. The services I mention are enriched and guided by our seniors. A new NDP government will support seniors so they continue to be a vital part of community life.' 



SANSUM NARROWS TRANSMISSION LINE REFURBISHMENT PROJECT

Location: Sansum Narrows

Start: Thursday, May 9

Anticipated Completion: Saturday, June 1

Working days and times: Seven days a week, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

INFORMATION FOR SALT SPRING ISLAND AND MAPLE BAY RESIDENTS

Please be advised that BC Hydro will be doing work on transmission infrastructure in and around Sansum Narrows. The work requires the use of helicopters and large equipment.

To ensure the safety of our crews and the public, Sansum Narrows will be closed to marine traffic on May 9, May 10, May 13 and May 14. For the duration of the project a water taxi will be used at the work zone to manage marine traffic. Delays and temporary closures are expected.

We appreciate your understanding while we undertake this important work and apologize for any inconvenience.

For more information please contact:

BC Hydro Community Relations, Vancouver Island

Phone: 250 755 4713

Email: vancouverisland.communityrelations@bchydro.com

3861





MAY 2013 GENERAL ELECTION

The following persons have been nominated as candidates for Comox Valley for the 40th Provincial General Election.

Comox Valley Electoral District

Candidate's Name:	Financial Agent:	Official Agent:
Chris Aikman Green Party of BC	Donald Munroe 203-2202 Lambert Dr, Courtenay, BC, V9N 1Z8	Donald Munroe 203-2202 Lambert Dr, Courtenay, BC, V9N 1Z8
Kassandra Dycke BC NDP	Theresa Mangnall 2082 May Rd, Courtenay, BC, V9J 1X7	
Diane Hoffmann BC Conservative Party	Phil Parmley 2493 Kinross Pl, Courtenay, BC, V9N 1Y2	Arthur Karpus 201-1995 Cliffe Ave, Courtenay, BC, V9N 2L2
Don McRae BC Liberal Party	Ben Vanderhorst 6215 Headquarters Rd, Courtenay, BC, V9J 1M8	
General Voting Places:		Advance Voting Places:
Airport Elem School 1475 Salmonberry Dr, Comox, BC Arden Elem School 3040 Lake Trail Rd, Courtenay, BC Aspen Park Elem School 2250 Bolt Ave, Comox, BC Black Creek Rec Hall 2001 Black Creek Rd, Black Creek, BC Brooklyn Elem School 1290 Guthrie Rd, Comox, BC Comox Comm Centre 1855 Noel Ave, Comox, BC Courtenay Elem School 1540 McPhee Ave, Courtenay, BC	Cumberland O.A.P. Hall 2674 Dunsmuir Ave, Cumberland, BC D'Esterre House 1801 Beaufort Ave, Comox, BC Denman Seniors Hall 1111 Northwest Rd, Denman Island, BC Fanny Bay Comm Hall 7793 Island Hwy S, Fanny Bay, BC Florence Filberg Centre 411 Anderton Ave, Courtenay, BC Hornby Island Comm School 2100 Sollans Rd, Hornby Island, BC Huband Park Elem School 5120 Mottishaw Rd, Courtenay, BC	Lake Trail Sec School 805 Willemar Ave, Courtenay, BC Lewis Rec Centre 489 Old Island Hwy, Courtenay, BC Mark R. Isfeld Sec School 1551 Lerwick Rd, Courtenay, BC N.I.D.E.S - Tsolum School 2505 Smith Rd, Courtenay, BC Queneesh Elem School 2345 Mission Rd, Courtenay, BC Royston Comm Hall 3902 Island Hwy S, Royston, BC Union Bay Comm Hall 5401 Island Hwy S, Union Bay, BC
		District Electoral Offices:
		150 Mansfield Dr Courtenay, BC (250) 703-2400

The following persons have been nominated as candidates for Cowichan Valley for the 40th Provincial General Election.

Cowichan Valley Electoral District

Candidate's Name:	Financial Agent:	Official Agent:
Heather Alanna Campbell Independent	Heather Campbell 204-2575 Alexander St, Duncan, BC, V9L 4P5	
Kerry Davis Green Party of BC	Kerry Davis 696 Frayne Rd RR 4, Mill Bay, BC, V0R 2P4	
Steve Housser BC Liberal Party	Gay Wise 1757 Shawnigan Mill Bay Rd, Shawnigan Lake, BC, V0R 2W0	
Bill Routley BC NDP	Brenda Morrison 10001 Park Dr, Honeymoon Bay, BC, V0R 1Y0	
Damir Wallener BC Conservative Party	W. Siebring 6320 Genoa Bay Rd, Duncan, BC, V9L 5Y4	
General Voting Places:		Advance Voting Places:
Arbutus Ridge Club 600 Fairways Pl, Cobble Hill, BC Bench Elem School 1501 Cowichan Bay Rd, Cowichan Bay, BC Cobble Hill Farmers' Institute Hall 3550 Watson Ave, Cobble Hill, BC Cowichan Tribes Gym 5574 River Rd, Duncan, BC Discovery Elem School 2204 McKean Rd, Shawnigan Lake, BC Duncan Eagles Hall 2965 Boys Rd, Duncan, BC	Honeymoon Bay Hall 10066 South Shore Rd, Honeymoon Bay, BC Island Savings Centre 2687 James St, North Cowichan, BC Kerry Park Rec Centre 1035 Shawnigan Lake-Mill Bay Rd, Mill Bay, BC Lake Cowichan Centennial Hall 309 South Shore Rd, Lake Cowichan, BC Maple Bay Elem School 1500 Donnay Dr, North Cowichan, BC Mount Prevost Middle School 6177 Somenos Rd, North Cowichan, BC	Quamichan Middle School 2515 Beverly St, North Cowichan, BC Queen of Angels School 2085 Maple Bay Rd, North Cowichan, BC Shawnigan Lake Comm Centre 2804 Shawnigan Lake Rd, Shawnigan Lake, BC Vimy Comm Hall 3968 Gibbins Rd, North Cowichan, BC Youbou Comm Hall 8550 Hemlock St, Youbou, BC
		District Electoral Offices:
		5878 York Rd North Cowichan, BC (250) 715-2734

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BC'S LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, THE HONOURABLE JUDITH GUICHON VISITS THE SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS - 16, 17, 18 & 19 APRIL, 2013

SATURNA ISLAND

After visiting Salt Spring, Pender, Galiano and Mayne Islands, Her Honour Judith Guichon, came to Saturna Island. What a kerfuffle! Her visit was fun and entertaining—and certainly novel! Who knew what to expect? She arrived in a black Lexus, small flags attached and a special license plate, a be-braided aide-de-campe, Lt. Jamie Webb, and a uniformed driver, Pt Elizabeth McCartney, who zipped out smartly and opened doors at previously advertised and impromptu stops. Saturna had been briefed on how to dress, and how to address the Lieutenant Governor and how to pronounce Lieutenant (leftenant)!

As on other Gulf Islands, our Island Trustees had organized her outings and did the introductions. They kindly printed out Honourable Judith's biography and I looked up the title online to better understand it.

What do you choose on your island that would interest a visiting dignitary with provincial ceremonial tasks to perform? The Community has so many wonderful achievements that we all are proud to show to our visitors family and friends.

Two recent notable community achievements are the fabulous Fog Alarm Building which is our natural and social history museum, and the innovative and very successful educational site and teaching facility, Saturna Ecological Education Centre (SEEC). The vice-regal entourage toured these two sites with community members who have played a large part in their creation. All along the trip lively vignettes were recounted.

Trees had come down in the night and the road to East Point and the Fog Alarm Building was blocked by trunks and live wires. Val and John McMillian who were already stuck on the other side graciously picked-up the Lieutenant-Governor and our retired senator, Pat Carney, after they had scrambled through the debris, and took them on

to their East Point destination. Our principal and students took her around the SEEC residential site and explained in their own words what education was like for them in this program.

Young girl guides were visiting the SEEC camp, shy and nervous they blurted out their names for introductions, gave her a small gift and listened while the Lieutenant Governor explained she too had been a guide and offered the guide handshake!

Buildings architect and staunch supporter of the SEEC program, Richard Blagome, toured with the Lieutenant Governor and explained the creation and building of the school.

Lured in by a tale of a system malfunction, Richard was directed to read the blackboard in the main teaching building: 'Congratulations to Richard Blagome, 2013 Partners in Education Award Winner for his tremendous support of the SEEC living and learning centre and for education in general—from the British Columbia Principals and Vice Principal's Association.' What a surprise! Everyone was delighted for Richard and proud of what he has accomplished with many others on our Island. To have our moment—Richard's moment—witnessed by a friendly and interested visitor, who expressed great interest in the wellbeing and welfare of education in BC, was sweet!

Last on the schedule of events was coffee and tea and a general meet and greet at the Saturna General Store. Two dedicated volunteers related the success of our Recycling Centre, observed across the road from the store's cozy cafe.

There was an exchange of gifts at the end—quite like a potlatch! The visit created a lovely community surge of energy: a chance to see ourselves through another's eyes, a meeting with a warm and lively woman, and a chance to participate in pomp and circumstance.

—Priscilla Ewbank



LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS TO SALT SPRING ISLAND

It is wonderful to be here this evening after my first day touring the Gulf Islands. As I told the students and seniors earlier today, one of my goals for the next five years during my tenure as Lieutenant Governor is to get to every region of this diverse province and today is the start of that journey. What an exciting day it has been. You do indeed live in a unique and special place here on Salt Spring Island. I have been privileged to see many interesting facilities today, starting with Gulf Islands Secondary School and then onto Foxglove Farm, the new Abattoir, Salt Spring Vineyards and Salt Spring Island Cheese Company, as well as the library and Meadowbrook Seniors Residence. Imagine what we could have seen if we had been here for a whole day?

As I said earlier this is indeed a very special community. I have always thought that I would stay right at home on the ranch even after I fully retire, but as I told the residents at Meadowbrook, I don't know after today. This island and this community seem like it might be a very nice place to relax and enjoy your later years. From what I have seen today, and even before I got here today, having read Brian Brett's Trauma Farm, you have a wonderful, diverse, rich community here on Salt Spring Island. Boy, it does sound a bit like paradise to me. I especially like the statement, "people here are fiercely independent, opinionated and feisty. Though argumentative, islanders are mostly tolerant of each other." That is an interesting way for a community to advertise itself! But do you have a community band where they will let me play my flute?

Seriously, though, it is indeed a very special place and I commend the foresight of those that instigated the Islands Trust almost 40 years ago as a way to manage development and retain the unique, delicate environment and so protect the nature of this very special island. It is so much harder to instigate planning agencies to protect our special grasslands and other rare ecosystems, as they are spread out in pockets throughout the province. Perhaps we need some neo-hippies in my neck of the woods.

The other rare and insightful quality of this place is the respect for people that raise food, 'farmers'. Although there is finally a growing awareness of the importance of local production, it has been a tough road for producers. Many of the resource people in our communities have suffered from the same loss of stature and although people still buy the wood and like the product, the fellow that owns the truck and works terrible hours to get the product to town is often less than valued. I guess we all still need to walk a mile in the other fellow's shoes before we can appreciate his journey.

On the island here, there seems to be a greater empathy for those initial dollar creators. When I have schoolchildren, and even UBC students, visit the ranch I always ask them if they know what business I am engaged in. I love the imaginative answers from the kindergarten children. The correct reply of course is that I am in the business of harvesting sunshine, the most renewable resource on earth, through grass. (I could use trees, or corn, or cabbages). I choose to use a cow as my tool as our hillsides are very difficult to grow cabbages, but we have wonderful grass. The cow can turn that grass into a healthy product for human consumption. If that is the only message they remember from their visit, I am satisfied.

You have been able through the uniqueness of this community to garner support for agriculture and even a slaughterhouse. When a high-end hotel, or what Jack Knox referred to in his September 2010 column as 'a frou-frou inn', takes up the cause and the whole community champions it, you know you can succeed. We have all been in this difficult situation. In visiting with one of the many agriculture ministers in my previous life with the BC Cattlemen's Association, he pointed to the beautiful crate of shiny red apples on the desk and asked why I had not brought a sample of our product for his barbecue. My reply was, 'because Mr Minister, I would have had to lead it in here on a halter. We cannot get our product dead!'

However, I think we are seeing the dawn of a new attitude to farming and I think a lot of that change in perception has come about because of communities such as this. You folks somehow seem closer to the ground and therefore the understanding of where food actually originates seems to have gotten beyond the farmgate. This is wonderful and although I do not expect this quiet revolution to swamp our larger urban areas overnight, I think we will be surprised at the speed with which the tide will turn.

So I thank you folks for being the leaders. Thank you to those stalwart farmers who have persevered through the years and may we all have better days ahead when the food on our plate may come from just down the road. (Well maybe not the oranges and I do appreciate honest trade.)

Thank you for this wonderful reception tonight. Thank you to Mr McIntyre, Mr Grove and Mr Grams for showing me around to all the very impressive facilities today and for patiently listening to my speech repeatedly. It has been a wonderful start to my journey to discover all the very special places in British Columbia.

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Saturday, May 11
Crimson Coast Dance Multimedia
Performances—Martha Carter's unique & original performance of TWISTED: SOLO, Marian van der Zon opens with Meridian • Malaspina Theatre, Vancouver Island University • Info, advance tickets, workshop registration: 250-716-3230, www.crimsoncoastdance.org • **NANAIMO**

Wed, May 16-17 + May 22-June 1
Intrepid Theatre's UNO FEST—live solo comedy, drama, dance, spoken word and more, featuring Mike Daisey, Andrew Barrett, Evelyn Perry, Monster Theatre, Jayson McDonald, 2 shows en français, and more! • Single tickets \$17-25, discount 5-show passes \$69 • Metro Studio & Intrepid Theatre Club • Info: 250.590.6291, intrepidtheatre.com • **VICTORIA**

Saturday, May 18
Town Hall information and workshop-style meeting about the 'Pender Trails Project' section of the Southern Gulf Islands Economic Development Commission's Experience the Gulf Islands initiative • Community Hall Lounge • 1:15pm-3pm • Everyone Welcome • Info: Peter Pare, peter.pare@hli.ubc.ca • **PENDER**

Saturday, May 18
Mayne Island Conservancy's 8th Annual May Day Celebration—Morris Dancers, procession to Miners Bay Park with drummers & singers, Maypole, labyrinth for the May Queen's crowning, dancing & games, delicious refreshments • Everyone welcome: elves, fairies and others • 1pm • Farmers' Market • Free • Info: Helen O'Brian 250-539-5619 • **MAYNE**

Saturday, May 18
Pender Film Group Showing—Quartet (2012), directed by Dustin Hoffman, starring Maggie Smith: at a home for retired musicians, the annual concert to celebrate Verdi's birthday is disrupted by the arrival of Jean, an eternal diva and the former wife of one of the residents • **PENDER**

Saturday & Sunday, May 18 & 19
26th annual Denman Island Pottery Studio Tour—a treasure hunt featuring new works in 9 unique venues (door prizes) • 10am-5pm • Pick up free map @ the Buckley Bay ferry booth or the Island Arts Centre • **DENMAN**
www.denmanpottery2013.blogspot.ca

Saturday, May 18 & Sunday, May 19
Awakening Aphrodite- movement medicine for the female soul—join Toronto's Erica Ross, founder of award-winning Dance Our Way Home, dance practice for women, for a weekend of dance, creativity and pampering! • Reynolds Road • \$234 (lunches inc) • Register: vanya@danceourwayhome.com or call 250-530-9898 • **SALT SPRING**

Sat, Sun & Mon, May 18, 19 & 20
Victoria Day Weekend Family Fun Swims—enjoy the wavepool, waterslide, Wibit inflatable, diving boards, pirate ship and toddler pool, swirlpool, steam, and sauna • Saanich Commonwealth Place, 4636 Elk Lake Drive (right off Pat Bay Hwy at Royal Oak exit) • Sat: 1-4pm, 6:30-8:30pm; Sun: 1-4pm; 6-8pm; Mon: 10am-noon, 1-4 pm • **SAANICH**

Friday, May 24
18th Annual Bob Dylan Birthday Party—an evening listening to, or performing your favourite Bob Dylan tunes • Galiano Community Hall • Potluck 5:30pm, show 7pm, Bob's cake at 8:30pm • Admission: donation to Galiano Community Land & Housing Trust • Performers' or general info, please call Tom 250-359-2960 • **GALIANO**

Wednesday, May 29
Telephone Tickets Sales Begin for Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts (Aug 15-18)—plan to go to Canada's longest running summer gathering of Canadian writers and readers, including many of the Salish Sea's favourites • Schedule: online Festival Planner • Tickets: 1-800-565.9631 • Info: writersfestival.ca, full bios and photos • **SALISH SEA**

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MAYNE ISLAND

On Thursday 18 April, Her Honour Judith Guichon, Lt Governor of British Columbia, spent nine hours on Mayne Island to meet the people and visit Island institutions.

After an inauspicious start, with the ferry from Galiano 20 minutes late, the first event took Her Honour to the Japanese Memorial Garden in Dinner Bay where a well-informed tour was given in recognition of the Japanese families who were taken from the Island and relocated during the WWII. During this historic event Mayne Island lost a third of its population.

Celebrating the often eclectic and alternative architectural creations around the islands, lunch was served in the home of Michael Dunn and Jessica Willow. This whole-earth structure, featuring 10ft thick walls and an entire cedar tree ridge beam, amazed the guests. A Grown-on-Mayne catered lunch provided the locus for an informal round table discussion with the volunteer leaders of 12 service organizations that sustain the backbone of island life. Interestingly, this was the first time many of these representatives had had an opportunity to meet and listen to each other. The event proved to be an education for Her Honour and many of the long-time residents.

As with all the islands on this odyssey, the Lt Governor visited the Mayne Island School with full protocol honours, later settling into a pleasant Q & A with the children: 'How did you get this job?' 'Who is looking after the ranch now?' 'I forgot what I was going to say.'

Then followed a brief one-hour inspection of several service facilities beginning with the Health Centre where Her Honour performed the duty of a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the newly enlarged Emergency Room. Moving with grace from the professional staff to the contractors and Board of Directors, the Lt Governor found a question for everyone she met.

This was followed in short order, by a meeting with the Fire Chief and several volunteer firefighters. Her Honour was particularly intrigued by the replacement protocols for the vehicles, indicating her wish to buy a tanker for her ranch when the next replacement became necessary.

We continued on under a light, steady rain that Her Honour appeared to relish, 'When it rains at home [near Merritt], we all rush outside and celebrate!' Passed the new Community Centre to the Honouring Figure in Felix Jack Park where she met with the artist and carver, John Aitken of the Cowichan Band.

By now quite wet, the entourage motored passed the new library in Miners Bay Park to St Mary Madeline Church where she was greeted by the strains of a piano and organ rehearsal. Returning to the Viceregal chariot, Her Honour returned to Miners Bay village, the olvenearable Agricultural Hall and on to a B&B for a quiet hour of R&R.

By 5pm the rain had let up and the Lt Governor was returned once again to Miners Bay, this time to venture onto the dock where she met the high school kids as their watertaxi returned from Salt Spring. Fortunately, the original plan to have Her Honour standing on the dock's float had been shelved, the watertaxi made a hard landing causing the float to heave and tip violently. The water looked very cold. Unperturbed, the 18 kids surged up the gangway to the wharfhead to meet Her Honour. Part of the essence of island life is a close relationship with salt water.

The day culminated back at the school where a team of well organised folk had transformed the gym into a spectacular art display and banquet setting for a Pot Luck Party celebrating island cultural life. Her Honour was piped in with an honour guard of the local RCMP in red serge. Gabriolan Sheila Malcolmson, Chair of the Islands Trust Council, congratulated Her Honour on the occasion of the tour and welcomed her to the Islands.

During the three-hour event, the Lt Governor was treated to a rich program of performances ranging from a rendition of *Rawhide*, in celebration of the ranching life, to Debussy's *Claire de Lune*, a rap poem, a modern dance with mime and drum, Celtic folk songs, some dancing and a 15-minute performance from the Mayne Island Drum Orchestra. The Lt Governor spent the last hour viewing fine art and a leisurely meet-&-greet around the hall. As the evening progressed, she was presented with a bouquet of Mayne Island flowers, a map, a certificate for a free riding lesson, and a signed copy of Marie Elliott's book, a History of the Outer Gulf Islands.

As we returned to the ferry terminal, Her Honour exclaimed that she was very pleased and not a little surprised by what she had seen and heard. Her Honour, Lt Jamie Webb, and Pt Elizabeth McCartney all declared the first Gulf Island expedition a success.

—Brian Crumblehulme

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Fishing with Ralph Shaw Saltwater: The Other Fish



If you ask a person what they fish for in the saltwater you will usually get something to the effect that their main interest is salmon, followed by halibut and then it really thins out. With the good news that lingcod and rockfish seasons opened on May 1, in Area 14 waters, I decided to look at what we really can fish for in local waters guided by open seasons and possession limits. Turn to pages 40, 41 and 42 of the Tidal Waters Sport Fishing Guide for some answers.

Codfish: in our waters we have two species, Pacific cod and hake. Of recent years our waters have produced some surprising catches of Pacific cod, homely but tasty fish. The daily limit is eight. We have a large population of hake - they are an important commercial species.

Greenling: They are closely related to lingcod and on that issue I am certain lingcod regard them as treats: like candy. Several species in our waters - some of the larger ones are quite tasty, once you fillet out the bones: limit three per day.

Halibut: seem to be increasing in local waters: limit one per day, season limit for 2013: six - see regulations for details.

Herring: Daily bag limit 20kg: highly rated bait and food fish.

Lingcod: Season opened May 1 and closes September 30, 2013, daily limit one, season bag limit ten: see regulations.

Chub mackerel: Occasionally appear in our waters. Limit 100 per day, an important food fish in southern waters. Voracious feeders, exciting wharf fish for children - serious predators on salmonids.

Pacific sand lance: primarily used for bait but is quite edible: daily limit five kg.

Pacific sardine: pilchard: rare in our waters: daily limit 100: important food and bait fish.

Perch: fairly common in our waters: daily limit eight: sometimes used as food.

Rockfish: there are in excess of twenty species in local waters: important food fish - season opened on May 1st and closes September 30th - daily limit is one.

Sablefish: smaller fish are sometimes present in our waters: also known as blackcod: daily limit four.

Sculpins: many species in Area 14- important as some of the first fish children catch as in bullhead derbies.

Large sharks: no fishery

directed at them in our waters and the season is closed on virtually all species.

Spiny dogfish (small shark): very common in local waters: important food fish in many cultures but rarely targeted by local anglers: daily limit four.

Skate: occasionally caught in local waters- like pulling up a sheet of plywood: daily limit one.

Smelt: were common about twenty years ago, but very rare in recent times: daily limit of 20kg

Sole/flounder: they are one of our most common shallow waters species. We have about twenty individual species in local waters. Larger ones are important food fish: daily limit eight—fun on light tackle—great species for children to target.

Sturgeon: occasionally caught in local estuaries. Catch and release only.

Trout in tidal waters: steelhead, cutthroat, brown, and dolly varden: retention of only hatchery marked fish in local waters: must be 30cm long and daily limit is two.

Wolf eel: catch and release only.

This complex species mix will continue to evolve and change with the advancement of a changing marine environment due to climate change. (Reference on species mix: Bulletin # 180 Pacific Fisheries of Canada by J L Hart- Fisheries Research Board of Canada, Ottawa 1973.)

What this partial list illustrates is that Area 14 has an astounding number of marine species we can target in our fishery; that allows for a huge variety of angling opportunities for all age groups and ability levels. Recreational fishing is an important generator of local food, jobs and economic development.

LETTERS from page 4

of the political spectrum ('Liberals', 'Conservatives', 'Social Credit' etc). The gap between the richest 1% and the rest of us has widened dramatically, and more and more people struggle to make ends meet. Until now, the old lie that's been endlessly repeated was that at least the 'Liberals' knew how to manage the economy, but no-one believes that joke any more. Not with them having presided over the biggest increase ever of the debt, and massive job losses. Only sleepwalkers believe that, against all the evidence available.

So now, we know we're done with that nonsense. Obviously we can do better for a government than the present discredited

bunch of deceivers. Neither the Greens nor the Conservatives are currently considered able to form the next government. The Greens have obviously engaged some progressive voters by knowing that we cannot endlessly keep driving headlong towards a brick wall, as we have been doing for far too long. But a Green government is not just-around-the-corner.

Voting Green at this point will only achieve one thing, and that is to ensure an increased likelihood of splitting the progressive vote in sufficient ridings to permit the BCLiberals to go ahead with the fracking, pipelines, the mine mega-projects, the Site C dam, liquidating the

LETTERS, please turn to opposite page

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The essence of Westminster Parliamentary democracy is that all MPs, including the Prime Minister, are equal, all are elected to represent their constituents, and that, even though a Prime Minister with a majority government can gather up all the levers of power, the Parliament is ultimately supreme. All of this relates to Canada's other distinguishing feature—that we are a constitutional monarchy. None of this applies to the US system of government, in which checks and balances prevail and the Executive is directly elected.

Parliamentary democracy in Canada has been on the ropes for awhile. The Prime Minister does not act as 'first among equals', but increasingly like a Roman Emperor. The Prime Minister and his cabinet do not respect principles of the supremacy of Parliament, but act in arrogant and unaccountable ways—denying Parliament key information, even information as essential to good government as basic background to fiscal decisions.

Fundamental to these dangerous trends is the rise in control of MPs by political parties. The political party overlay on Westminster parliamentary democracy is a relatively new and growing phenomenon. Not until the late 1960s did the name of the candidates' political party appear on the ballot. Simultaneous with that development, the *Elections Act* was amended to require the leader's signature to verify that a candidate was properly from the party claimed. A seemingly innocuous change has led to the ability of leaders of political parties to use the threat, that nomination papers will not be signed, to keep their MPs in line.

And the role of leaders of parties has started to ape the US system to such an extent that federal (and provincial) election campaigns are run as though the ballot choice was the election of a Prime Minister (or Premier). We do not elect Prime Ministers in Canada, but this confusion is undermining the essence of representative democracy.

Compounding these trends, which to greater or lesser degree pre-date Stephen Harper's administration, we now have the political arm of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) reaching into previously off-limit areas. The PMO operatives are bullying the

civil service into corrupting the policy making process with blatant spin and doctoring of evidence.

When Kevin Page, Canada's first Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO), spoke on April 4 at a Green Party sponsored lecture at UVic (well worth watching in its entirety on Youtube: http://www.andrewjweaver.ca/video_an_evening_with_kevin_page), he noted that 'every Parliamentary institution is under assault.' His two take-away messages: that the control of the public purse must return to the House, and that decisions must be based on evidence.

The Court Ruling

For a while, knowledgeable commentators have taken to pondering if Canadian democracy has a pulse. Then on April 22 and 23, two unrelated events took place, quickening the pulse of Canadian democracy.

The first was the ruling of the Federal Court of Canada on the lawsuit launched by the PBO. Kevin Page refused to accept the refusal of the Clerk of Privy Council, shamefully telling the PBO that none of what he wanted was available; accepting commands from the PMO and denying that the impacts of the falling of the axe must be transparent to MPs and to Canadians.

And so Kevin Page went to court. The court ruled that the PBO was within its mandate to request information about the impact of the cuts in the 2012 budget. The Federal Court confirmed the supremacy of Parliament, the right of each MP to have access to information: about where the budget cuts landed and what effect they have on government programmes. In fact, the court ruled this information should be available to any back-bencher.

Thanks to Kevin Page, the right of any MP, and the PBO itself, to access documentation about government finances has been confirmed. The court went on to find that Page had not fully demanded the information after the clerk said he couldn't have the information. So, on that technicality, it might appear Page lost. But the right to access that information has led the acting PBO to demand the information.

The SO31 'Game' - Not

The very next day, the Speaker ruled on a recent complaint by

Mark Warawa, Conservative MP from Langley, BC. To understand his complaint, you need to know that for 15 minutes every day in the House of Commons, there is something called Members statements (under Standing Order 31, so sometimes called "SO31s"). An SO31 allows a member 60 seconds to make an uninterrupted statement. They are usually about events in the riding, or eulogies for recently departed local heroes. Lately, the Conservatives have mis-used the opportunity for prepared attacks on the NDP claiming they want a \$21 billion carbon tax.

Each party whip coordinates which MPs are going to make their SO31s. Apparently, the Conservative whip also vets (and censors) the statements. One day, Mark Warawa was told his statement was unacceptable and his chance to speak was withdrawn. He did something unprecedented in the life of Mr. Harper's reign. He complained to the Speaker.

Over a few weeks, many MPS supported the complaint, making the case that MPs have the right of free speech. Of course, I spoke in support of Warawa's complaint, but so did about 7 other Conservative MPs.

The Chief Government Whip argued that the Speaker was a mere 'referee' and that the party leader and his operatives were like the coach with the right to decide which players to play.

On April 23, Speaker Scheer's ruling supported the right of free speech. He completely rejected the sports metaphor and confirmed that only the Speaker has the right to recognize MPs. The convention of the party whips in giving the Speaker a list of MPs to call on was only adopted to assist a previous speaker who had difficulty remembering names (or so goes the story).

The Speaker's ruling confirmed the absolute right of Members of Parliament to free speech. And it is the duty of the Speaker to maximize that right of free speech. The Speaker, similar to the PBO court ruling, went on to find that Mark Warawa had not tried to speak, by catching the speaker's eye and trying to get the floor. As such, the Speaker found his rights had not been infringed.

Nevertheless, two rulings, back to back have confirmed the absolute right of free speech and of the right of all MPs to have fiscal information essential to the role of the Parliament as a whole to govern.

We have a pulse! ☺

LETTERS from page 4

last old growth stands and all the rest of their agenda.

If you're thinking of voting Green Party, please give your vote to what will actually benefit the environment *this time*. We cannot afford to see our worst environmental nightmares come true with the Liberals, and I don't want to see BC become a polluted and impoverished Alberta West.

In our constituency, we have a sincere, practical and hard-working NDP candidate in Gary Holman, someone who already has long experience of achieving tangible results that are needed: a public transit system for Salt Spring Island, establishing coalitions of environmental groups to conserve natural resources like clean drinking water and green space, promoting progressive policies for families, seniors, healthcare, affordable housing, First Nations, and the local economy—the list of reasons why he deserves your vote is an impressive one.

I'm tired of hearing uninformed people say there are no good candidates—in Gary Holman there's one who will actually do the things he says. I think that merits your support. Please vote for Gary Holman and the NDP.

Rodney Polden, Salt Spring Island

Rising Tide Of A Suburb

A version of the following letter was sent to the Board of The Regional District of Nanaimo:

First of all I would like to make it clear to all members of the board of the RDN that living in Deep Bay as I have for the past 20 years, I discovered long ago that *my service area* is not Nanaimo, but Courtenay.

It takes me exactly 28 minutes to drive to Courtenay WalMart and it takes me 49 minutes to drive to Nanaimo WalMart, both marts being located at the extreme ends closest to Deep Bay.

What I mean by *service area*...is the businesses and government agencies that are available to me in the easiest fashion. Its not easy to travel to Nanaimo ... its easier for Deep Bay residents to travel to Courtenay. That's a fact of life here. Takes us half the time to get the same thing your city offers us if we go up-Island instead.

Our 1200+ population of Deep Bay are mostly rural-minded folks who choose to live 'way out here' away from the hustle and bustle of city life. We don't have sidewalks and we don't have street lights and that's two of the reasons we live 'way out here'. The decision to purchase property in the outback regions of the RDN is to get away from way too many people living way to close to each other.

That said, I now refer to this current application: to bring in more than one half of our current population in the form of this proposed development of 678 city-type strata units to our rural

area of Deep Bay in the RDN.

This application is not in accord with our OCP. For that very reason it should be ignored or at least denied and passed back to the applicant with a note to go elsewhere.

It is also not the way of life out here in rural Deep Bay. We don't have, nor do we want gated, password protected, estrata developments which are inclusive of themselves. We are a community of rural folks out here, mostly retired, involved in fishing, aquaculture, farming and home business. We are not a campground, nor are we a high rise strata unit development area. Development belongs in the city, not in our precious rural areas such as Deep Bay. Live here? Buy an acre of land. It's that simple.

We are mostly living on large acreages with septic system tanks that work better than septic collection systems that dump effluent into the ocean (thus threatening the life of aquatic species) and are very proud of our small Deep Bay waterboard and clean fresh unadulterated (un-chemicalized) which we have developed to serve our homes.

To provide a basic sewage system like the one at French Creek, which deposits its outfall into the Salish Sea (only secondary not tertiary treatment) yields nothing but the stench we all witness every summer as we drive past French Creek. That the RDN blames it on the herring roe deposited on seaweed in February is a joke, we all know about.

Deep Bay community does not need to replicate what you have done at French Creek.

On a bit of a side line here—this authority of the agricultural department to be able to issue a license regarding the harvesting of things from our beaches in Deep Bay really needs to be investigated as to its legal status; They gave out or sold 5 licences in 2012 to harvest our crop of seaweed...something that other creatures of nature have been already using to the fullest extent of natural law—so the human authority to issue a license for this should not even be a possibility; yet it has been done and in the future they envision sucking by vacuum cleaner the deposits off our beaches? This is city insanity at its best; only a dolt would destroy the very food of his life.

We accepted the concept and welcomed Malaspina College when they wanted to change their focus and image to become Vancouver Island University at Deep Bay, via a shellfish research center and we welcome visitors to that facility which we are all proud of hosting in our community.

However, that development has caused a huge amount of vehicle traffic through our community and our main road, Gainsberg, has not held up well to this increase in vehicle traffic. Speed is a very important issue on this road and not many young employed or student types adhere to the 50k limit through our homestead area and it has become a major

problem on how to slow down this city-type traffic to the university facility and to the wharf.

If you as RDN directors are really looking after us...then you would install speed bumps to protect us from this new flow of traffic. And you would fix Gainsberg Road since the increased traffic from the university has added to its current condition which needs fixing.

We are used to vehicles towing boats to the ramp at slow speeds. We are used to locals going home, old folks walking in the middle of the road, bikes, wheelbarrows and even horses but we are not used to the speed of the city population that comes out here and is in a hurry to get—where?

Our road needs to be repaved now....and this proposal is going to bring a minimum of 700 more vehicles into our community? This is not what many residents want. This development proposal is not a good idea for Deep Bay rural community residents.

I can appreciate that the RDN sees nothing but more tax dollars to collect from more residents living out here. If the RDN would just consider what we have already said in our OCP, you will realize that there is only a very small number of \$\$-oriented people that want to make a buck from our beautiful community at our own expense. And we ask you to recognize the fact that this very development proposal is a rape of our community.

Please pay attention to our OCP, what we as a community have said all along about how we want things to be here in Deep Bay. In reality the Deep Bay (and Bowser) communities should not even be attached to Nanaimo since you are so far from us it's a joke. We do not shop in Nanaimo....we shop in Courtenay where everything you offer is also offered, and we spend a lot less gas money getting to and from.

I do realize that this RDN board has more members representing city enterprises and development than it has members representing rural values. This is not very democratic when it comes to voting. The city guys overrule the country folks and that is not a true way to operate a democracy. There are way too many votes coming from the city foks on rural issues about which they know nothing. This needs to be corrected.

Life is not about expand, expand, expand. Life is very short and it is primarily about living the best quality of life that one can and we, the residents of Deep Bay, have chosen this wonderful rural community. We do not need strata-type developments or high-rise condos making this place look and feel like a city. Please hear our concerns and nix this very stupid idea.

Come visit us sometime and see how great it is to preserve a place of beauty and simple lifestyle, living as we all enjoy—away from the city.

Len Walker Bowser/Deep Bay ☺



MAY 2013

GENERAL ELECTION

The following persons have been nominated as candidates for Parksville-Qualicum for the 40th Provincial General Election.

Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District

Candidate's Name:	Financial Agent:	Official Agent:
Barry Avis BC NDP	Paul Grinder 3349 Blueback Dr, Nanoose Bay, BC, V9P 9H9	
David Bernard Coupland BC Conservative Party	Leif Johansen 7460 Relke Rd, Duncan, BC, V9L 6A7	
Michelle Stilwell BC Liberal Party	Campbell MacLean PO Box 760 Stn Main, Parksville, BC, V9P 2G8	John Doan 105-280 Island Hwy E, Parksville, BC, V9P 1K8
General Voting Places:		Advance Voting Places:
Christian Fellowship Centre 825 Village Way, Qualicum Beach, BC Costin Hall 7232 Lantzville Rd, Lantzville, BC Lasqueti Comm Centre 206 Main Rd, Lasqueti Island, BC McGirr Elem School 6199 McGirr Rd, Nanaimo, BC	Nanaimo Ecumenical Centre 6234 Spartan Rd, Nanaimo, BC Nanoose Place 2925 Northwest Bay Rd, Nanoose Bay, BC Parksville Comm & Conf Centre 132 Jensen Ave E, Parksville, BC Parksville Fellowship Baptist Church 550 Pym St N, Parksville, BC	Qualicum Beach Civic Centre 747 Jones St, Qualicum Beach, BC Randerson Ridge Elem School 6021 Nelson Rd, Nanaimo, BC St. Columba Presbyterian Church 921 Wembley Rd, Parksville, BC
		District Electoral Offices:
		Christian Fellowship Centre 825 Village Way, Qualicum Beach, BC McGirr Elem School 6199 McGirr Rd, Nanaimo, BC Parksville Fellowship Baptist Church 550 Pym St N, Parksville, BC
		220-198 Island Hwy E Parksville, BC (250) 951-3080

The following persons have been nominated as candidates for Powell River-Sunshine Coast for the 40th Provincial General Election.

Powell River-Sunshine Coast Electoral District

Candidate's Name:	Financial Agent:	Official Agent:
Patrick Muncaster BC Liberal Party	Brian Hache 1149 Malaview Rd RR 4, Gibsons, BC, V0N 1V4	
Nicholas Simons BC NDP	Michael Goldberg 8049 Wildwood Rd RR 1, Halfmoon Bay, BC, V0N 1Y1	Michael Goldberg PO Box 65, Gibsons, BC, V0N 1V0
Richard Carl Till Green Party of BC	Crystal Penner 686 Conrad Rd RR 26, Roberts Creek, BC, V0N 2W6	
General Voting Places:		Advance Voting Places:
Cooper's Green Hall 5500 Fisherman Rd, Halfmoon Bay, BC Ecole Cote du Soleil 4368 Michigan Ave, Powell River, BC Egmont Comm Hall 6801 Bathgate Rd, Egmont, BC Frank West Hall 1224 Chaster Rd, Gibsons, BC Gambier Island Comm Hall 721 Andys Bay Rd, Gambier Island, BC Gibsons Comm Hall 700 Park Rd, Gibsons, BC Holy Family Roman Catholic Church 5700 Nickerson Rd, Sechelt, BC Italian Hall 5866 Lund St, Powell River, BC	Kinsmen Hall 516 Gower Point Rd, Gibsons, BC Lang Bay Comm Hall 11090 Sunshine Coast Hwy, Powell River, BC Langdale Elem School 1551 Johnson Rd, Langdale, BC Lund Comm Hall 9654 Larson Rd, Lund, BC Pender Harbour Comm Hall 12901 Madeira Park Rd, Madeira Park, BC Powell River Rec Complex 5001 Joyce Ave, Powell River, BC Powell River Seniors Centre 6792 Cranberry St, Powell River, BC Roberts Creek Hall 1309 Roberts Creek Rd, Roberts Creek, BC	Royal Canadian Legion 109 747 Gibsons Way, Gibsons, BC Royal Canadian Legion 140 5591 Wharf Rd, Sechelt, BC St. Hilda's Anglican Church Hall 5838 Barnacle St, Sechelt, BC Texada Island Elem School 106B Waterman Ave, Texada Island, BC Westview Baptist Church 3676 Joyce Ave, Powell River, BC Wilson Creek Comm Hall 5123 Davis Bay Rd, Sechelt, BC
		District Electoral Offices:
		Kinsmen Hall 516 Gower Point Rd, Gibsons, BC Royal Canadian Legion 140 5591 Wharf Rd, Sechelt, BC Town Centre Mall 18 7100 Alberni St, Powell River, BC
		4476A Marine Ave Powell River, BC (604) 485-0601 5712 Teredo St Sechelt, BC (604) 740-8951

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MAY 2013 GENERAL ELECTION

The following persons have been nominated as candidates for Saanich North and the Islands for the 40th Provincial General Election.

Saanich North and the Islands Electoral District

Candidate's Name:	Financial Agent:	Official Agent:
Gary Holman BC NDP	Janis Gauthier 2161 Fulford-Ganges Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC, V8K 1Z7	
Scott McEachern Independent	Joseph McEachern 1756 McTavish Rd, North Saanich, BC, V8L 5T9	
Adam Olsen Green Party of BC	Kenneth Johnston 10373 Patricia Pl, Sidney, BC, V8L 3J7	
Stephen P. Roberts BC Liberal Party	John Vowles 2-2379 Bevan Ave, Sidney, BC, V8L 4M9	
General Voting Places:	Advance Voting Places:	District Electoral Offices:
Bayside Middle School 1101 Newton Pl, Central Saanich, BC Brentwood Bay Elem School 7085 Wallace Dr, Central Saanich, BC Capital City Yacht Club 10630 Blue Heron Rd, North Saanich, BC Community Gospel Chapel 147 Vesuvius Bay Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC Deep Cove Elem School 10975 West Saanich Rd, North Saanich, BC Fernwood Elem School 150 Fernwood Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC Friendship Comm Church 7820 Central Saanich Rd, Central Saanich, BC Fulford Elem School 203 South Ridge Dr, Salt Spring Island, BC	Galiano Lions Hall 992 Burrill Rd, Galiano Island, BC Gathering Strength Facilities 7728 Tetayut Rd, Central Saanich, BC Gulf Island Sec School 232 Rainbow Rd, Salt Spring Island, BC Highway Christian Fellowship Church 10364 McDonald Park Rd, North Saanich, BC Holy Trinity Church 1319 Mills Rd, North Saanich, BC Keating Elem School 6843 Central Saanich Rd, Central Saanich, BC Mary Winspear Centre 2243 Beacon Ave, Sidney, BC Mayne Island Agricultural Hall 430 Fernhill Rd, Mayne Island, BC	Panorama Rec Centre 1885 Forest Park Dr, North Saanich, BC Pender Island Comm School 5714 Canal Rd, North Pender Island, BC Saanich Fairgrounds - Main Hall 1528 Stellys Cross Rd, Central Saanich, BC Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church 9296 East Saanich Rd, North Saanich, BC Saanichton Bible Fellowship 2159 Mt Newton Cross Rd, Central Saanich, BC Saturna Island Rec Centre 104 Harris Rd, Saturna Island, BC Shoal Centre 10030 Resthaven Dr, Sidney, BC
	ArtSpring Art Centre 100 Jackson Ave, Salt Spring Island, BC Saanich Fairgrounds - Poplar Room 1528 Stellys Cross Rd, Central Saanich, BC Shoal Centre 10030 Resthaven Dr, Sidney, BC	1528 Stellys Cross Rd Central Saanich, BC (250) 952-4100

The following persons have been nominated as candidates for Nanaimo-North Cowichan for the 40th Provincial General Election.

Nanaimo-North Cowichan Electoral District

Candidate's Name:	Financial Agent:	Official Agent:
Amanda Lee Jacobson BC Liberal Party	Jason Adair 9-3085 Sherman Rd, Duncan, BC, V9L 2C1	
Mayo McDonough Green Party of BC	Robert Ferguson PO Box 433, Ladysmith, BC, V9G 1A3	
Murray McNab Independent	Murray McNab 4615 Yellow Point Rd, Ladysmith, BC, V9G 1G7	
P. Anna Paddon Independent	Phyllis Paddon 104-450 Stewart Ave, Nanaimo, BC, V9S 5E9	
Doug Routley BC NDP	Robert Smits 4950 Homestead Way, Ladysmith, BC, V9G 1H3	
John James Donald Sherry BC Conservative Party	Betty Bond PO Box 551, Crofton, BC, V0R 1R0	
General Voting Places:	Advance Voting Places:	District Electoral Offices:
Bayview Elem School 140 View St, Nanaimo, BC Chase River Elem School 1503 Cranberry Ave, Nanaimo, BC Cinnabar Valley Elem School 1800 Richardson Rd, Nanaimo, BC Cowichan Fairgrounds 7380 Trans-Canada Hwy, North Cowichan, BC Cranberry Comm Hall 1555 Morden Rd, South Wellington, BC Crofton Comm Centre 8104 Musgrave St, North Cowichan, BC	Davis Road Elem School 444 Parkhill Terr, Ladysmith, BC Gabriola Island Comm Centre 2200 South Rd, Gabriola Island, BC Georgia Avenue Elem School 625 Georgia Ave, Nanaimo, BC Ladysmith Intermediate School 317 French St, Ladysmith, BC Nanaimo Christian School 198 Holland Rd, Nanaimo, BC North Cedar Intermediate School 2215 Gould Rd W, South Wellington, BC	North Oyster Elem School 13470 Cedar Rd, Ladysmith, BC Penelakut Band Office 11330 Clam Bay Rd N, Kuper Island, BC Royal Canadian Legion 191 9775 Chemainus Rd, North Cowichan, BC S'tzuminus First Nation Comm Centre 3949 Shell Beach Rd, Ladysmith, BC Thetis Island Community Centre 292 North Cove Rd, Thetis Island, BC
	Ladysmith Fire Hall 340 6th Ave, Ladysmith, BC Royal Canadian Legion 191 9775 Chemainus Rd, North Cowichan, BC Salvation Army 505 8th St, Nanaimo, BC	1-11 Buller St Ladysmith, BC (250) 245-6600

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One spring thing missing this year

A familiar spring sight on the southern islands will be missing this year. After 38-years of providing a mobile sharpening service for the Southern Gulf Islands, Mayne Islanders Judith and Jürgen, aka The Tinkerers, and their vintage brown truck will not be setting up in the open air. Needing to providing 24-hour hospice care for Judith's mother, Thelma, has hastened a change.

Judith says, 'It's truly a good long time to be satisfied with—we have enjoyed these years doing this sensible and practical work.'

'Now it's time to teach what we know, which actually has some precedents: in the late '80s early '90s we taught the 'Almost Lost Art of Tool Sharpening' and various courses about medicinal herbs and body knowledge through Elderhostel Workshops held at The Tinkerers Retreat on Mayne Island; then again in 2000, 2001, and 2002, we participated as workshop presenters at Nurnberg's annual 'Erfahrungsfeld

zur Entfaltung der Sinne' an outdoor event where people of all ages, but especially children, come to learn through their five senses.

'Last year we hosted a young woman from France, who has now established a tool sharpening workshop on a farm near Grenoble. Sophie also learned about cultivating and processing medicinal herbs, which she can use and sell.'

'To our many friends and valued customers, we say a hearty thank you for your participation over the years! On Mayne Island we will continue sharpening for previous customers. On other Gulf Islands, we imagine sharpeners co-ops that could continue the work.'

Meanwhile, as we continue to walk the many caminos in Europe, we are also teaching lifeskills with medicinal herbs and maintaining/sharpening tools for the many pilgrims we meet along the way.' ☺

New bill targets excessive party discipline

On May 2, Green Leader Elizabeth May told the press about her new Private Member's Bill called An Act to Amend the Canada Elections Act (local endorsement of candidate).

On this day, two years ago, I was elected as Saanich-Gulf Islands' Member of Parliament. In two years, I have seen the noxious effect of party discipline on our democracy,' said May.

The Bill amends the *Canada Elections Act* to require that, where a political party has an electoral district association in a riding, a prospective candidate for the riding must have their nomination papers signed by the chief executive officer and by one board member of the electoral district association in order to stand as that party's candidate.

Currently, the *Canada Elections Act* requires the leader of a political party or their designated representative to sign the

nomination papers for a prospective candidate.

'The law now gives party leaders the power to refuse to allow a sitting MP to be a candidate for that party in a future election. It has become an undemocratic tool for discipline and control over MPs,' said May.

'We recently witnessed the attempts of brave members of the Conservative caucus to assert their speaking rights. It is time to loosen party discipline and curb the 'team mentality' of which Gordon O'Connor was so proud,' said the Green Leader.

With this in mind, I have put forward a legislative solution to end the current climate of fear in caucuses and ensure that MPs are not subject to the harsh sanction of being thrown out of caucus and denied the chance to stand for their constituency due to a leader's ire,' concluded May. ☺

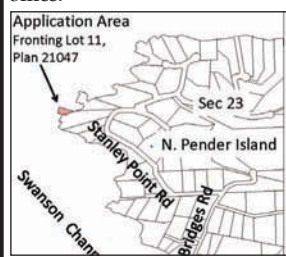
LAND ACT: NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A DISPOSITION OF CROWN LAND

Take notice that **Roger Proctor** of **Pender Island, BC**, intends to make application to Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), West Coast Service Centre for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Pender Island** in the vicinity of **Stanley Point**.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **File #1414074**. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to the Section Head, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations at 142-2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9, or emailed to: **Authorizing Agency.Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca**. Comments will be received by MFLNRO until **May 31, 2013**. MFLNRO may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

Please visit our website: <http://arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/index.jsp> for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FOI Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regional office.



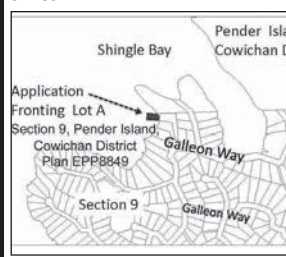
LAND ACT: NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A DISPOSITION OF CROWN LAND

Take notice that **Mary Patricia Guenette** of **Calgary, Alberta**, intends to make application to Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), West Coast Service Centre for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Pender Island** in the vicinity of **Shingle Bay**.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **File #1414077**. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to the Section Head, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations at 142-2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9, or emailed to: **Authorizing Agency.Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca**. Comments will be received by MFLNRO until **May 31, 2013**. MFLNRO may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

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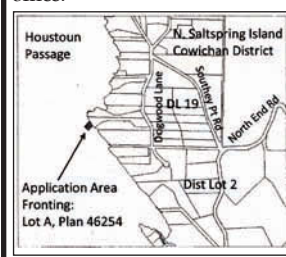
LAND ACT: NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A DISPOSITION OF CROWN LAND

Take notice that **Barbara Lindsey and Norm Hotson** of **Vancouver, BC**, intends to make application to Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), West Coast Service Centre for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Salt Spring Island** in the vicinity of **Houston Passage**.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **File #1414090**. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to the Section Head, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations at 142-2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9, or emailed to: **Authorizing Agency.Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca**. Comments will be received by MFLNRO until **June 30th, 2013**. MFLNRO may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

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Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FOI Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regional office.



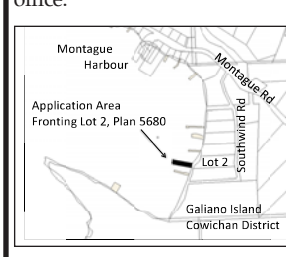
LAND ACT: NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A DISPOSITION OF CROWN LAND

Take notice that **John and Elizabeth Olson**, of **Galiano Island, BC**, intend to make application to Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), West Coast Service Centre for a **Specific Permission for Private Moorage** situated on Provincial Crown land located at **Galiano Island** in the vicinity of **Montague Harbour**.

The Lands File Number that has been established for this application is **File #1414116**. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to the Section Head, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations at 142-2080 Labieux Rd, Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9, or emailed to: **Authorizing Agency.Nanaimo@gov.bc.ca**. Comments will be received by MFLNRO until **June 17th, 2013**. MFLNRO may not be able to consider comments received after this date.

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Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FOI Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regional office.



Ferry finance should be part of highways: Gordon Wilson:

How is BC Ferries going to pay for the dozen or so new vessels it will need in the next ten years? It already owes \$1.3 billion.

Gordon Wilson starts his report by looking briefly at the history of the coastal ferry service. The way it used to be: when WAC Bennett first started BC Ferries, by taking over the Black Ball route and building the first BC Ferries, the *Queen of Tsawwassen* and *Queen of Sidney*, he financed the capital needs of the Corporation through the BC Toll Bridges and Highways Authority, along with the purchase of the Lions Gate Bridge, and the building of the Deas Island tunnel.

The ferries were, Bennett reasoned, a 'government sanctioned tolled highway service'; the government commitment to regional economic growth.

That's the starting premise in a report written by Gordon Wilson of Powell River, and made public a few weeks ago. Many people will remember him: he was the Leader of the BC Liberal Party from 1987 to 1993; defeated for the leadership by Gordon Campbell, he founded and led the Progressive Democratic Alliance from 1993 to 1999, then joined the NDP government of Glen Clark, becoming, among other things, Minister responsible for Ferries and Minister of Finance. He retired from politics in 2001.

This means he's well qualified to write about BC Ferries. He was the Minister during the Ferry Corporation's days as a Crown Corporation, and he refers to both BC Hydro and the Liquor Distribution Board, both of which are monopolies which charge the same price for their product no matter where in the province you are. Revenue from the entire province backs their debt, capital, and operational costs.

So this report is mostly about fairness; 'fiscal fairness' in Wilson's words.

He says that the coast—20% of the province, providing 36% of tax contributions—only benefits from 6% of capital expenditure on ferries and highways. That's not fair, says Wilson.

The current structure of BC Ferries, he says, 'fails the test of fiscal fairness and discriminates against those who live in coastal communities'. He thinks that BC Ferries should become a subsidiary of the BC Highways Finance Authority, where it would benefit from the gasoline taxes collected by the Provincial Government, some \$500 million annually.

Which takes us back to where we came in, treating the ferries as a tolled portion of the province's highways, with its cost amortization equitably shared by all BC. WAC Bennett would feel thoroughly vindicated. ☺

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Authorized by M. Johnston, financial agent, 778-351-0404



NEW FERRIES from page 2

larger and the smaller vessel would need an appropriate and up-front cafeteria design program, including consideration of necessary sprinkler system, crewing facilities, and similar criteria.

Feedback And Comment

These meetings are the first opportunity for public comment on the plan to replace the Route 9 and Route 17 ships. It is inevitable that further concerns will arise. The BC Ferries working group can be reached at: vesselreplacement@bcferries.com. All input received will be included in the proposal to the Ferry Commissioner. The Ferry

Commissioner, in the process of his Section 55 review of the proposal, will invite public comment.

BCFerries anticipates future discussions on schedules and customer amenities, but not until after the shipbuilding contract is awarded. This may work for scheduling but is hardly likely to have a good result for food services and amenities. While a cruise ship is not required, Route N^o9 is the only route on the ferry system that cannot be built quite like a bus.

Ed's Note: In our next edition we will report on the meetings held further north in the Strait of Georgia and the issues arising.

It's time for a clean break.



We know that sometimes letting go feels complicated. But it really isn't. There are ways to make your break-up painless and better for the environment. Don't abandon it as a "free" item in the street. It's time for a clean break. Go to myrecyclopedia.ca and find out how to properly dispose of your unwanted item. Make the smart, safe and environmentally friendly choice to properly reduce, reuse or recycle. Please dispose responsibly.

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NDP's environmental platform has more hits than misses -Wilderness Committee

The environmental platform introduced by the BC NDP on April 24 contained more 'hits' than 'misses', according to the Wilderness Committee.

The platform, much of which has been announced previously, contained some positive environmental commitments including: opposition to the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline and Kinder Morgan pipeline, a pledge to strengthen BC's environmental assessment process and work with the federal government to implement Justice Cohen's recommendations to safeguard wild salmon, as well as a promise to introduce endangered species legislation, expand the carbon tax, improve BC Parks funding and review private river-diversion contracts.

'The decision to commit to a stand-alone endangered species law really hits it out of the park. I am pleased about the NDP's commitment to increase funding for our parks and improve

BC's incredibly weak environmental assessment process, as well as their renewed commitment to tackling climate change—especially their opposition to the Enbridge and Kinder Morgan pipeline proposals,' said Gwen Barlee, policy director with the Wilderness Committee. 'We have been campaigning on these issues for years.'

The Wilderness Committee has called for strong and effective endangered species legislation based on habitat protection, for the government to pump up the operational budget for BC Parks to \$60 million, and for continuing increases to the carbon tax. Thus far the NDP platform proposes to increase the BC Parks budget by \$11 million over three years and provide \$3 million over the same period of time for the protection of endangered species and habitat.

'While there are many environmentally promising initiatives in this platform, there are some key issues on which they strike

out. It concerns us deeply that they haven't committed to ending, once and for all, BC's grizzly bear trophy hunt and shutting down open-net cage salmon farms,' said Joe Foy, National Campaign Director with the Wilderness Committee. 'The NDP also hasn't come to grips with the climate change impacts associated with the export of fossil fuels such as liquefied natural gas and coal.'

'We want assurance that the promised improvements to provincial regulations such as the BC environmental assessment review process will result in some of our worst industrial proposals being stopped dead in their tracks. Of particular concern to us are environmentally damaging projects and activities such as the New Prosperity Mine, the Site C dam, river diversion projects and hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for natural gas,' said Foy.

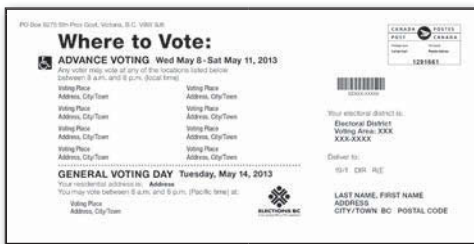


MAY 2013

GENERAL ELECTION

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This card tells you where you can vote in the 2013 Provincial General Election. **Take it with you when you go vote.** If you do not have this card, visit the **Elections BC website at elections.bc.ca**, or call **1-800-661-8683** (toll-free).

Download our **VOTEBC** App for iPhones and iPads to find a voting location near you.

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Vote in any district electoral office from now until 4 p.m. (Pacific time) on General Voting Day, Tuesday, May 14, 2013.

Vote by Mail You can ask for a Vote by Mail package from your district electoral office or through the Elections BC website at elections.bc.ca.

Vote at advance voting Voters can attend any advance voting location in the province from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (local time), Wednesday, May 8 through Saturday, May 11. All advance voting locations are wheelchair accessible.

Vote on General Voting Day Voters can attend any general voting location in the province from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (Pacific time), Tuesday, May 14, 2013.

How to Vote

- Choose only one candidate.
- Mark your ballot with an **X** or **✓**.

Who Can Vote?

You can vote if you are:

- 18 years of age or older, or will be 18 on General Voting Day (May 14, 2013)
- a Canadian citizen, and
- a resident of British Columbia for the past six months

You can Register When You Vote

If you aren't already registered, you can register when you vote. **You will need identification that proves both your identity and current residential address.**

Bring Identification

Under the Election Act, voters must prove their identity and residential address in order to receive a ballot or register to vote in conjunction with voting in a provincial general election or by-election. Voters may present identification, or use a process known as vouching. Some acceptable types of identification and information on the vouching process are found below.

Option 1

A single document issued by the Government of BC or Canada that contains the voter's name, photograph and residential address, such as a BC driver's licence, BC Identification Card (BCID), or BC Services Card.

Option 2

A Certificate of Indian Status as issued by the Government of Canada.

Option 3

Two documents that together show the voter's name and residential address. Both documents must show the voter's name. At least one of the documents must also contain the voter's residential address.

Please note: Digital or electronic documents (e.g. e-bills) are acceptable. Hand-written information on a document, photocopies or electronic scans/photos of a paper document are not acceptable.

The following are examples of the document types authorized by the Chief Electoral Officer for the purposes of voter identification (the list of documents is illustrative, not exhaustive). Other specific documents (not listed below) may be authorized by the Chief Electoral Officer. For questions about the acceptability of a specific document, please contact Elections BC.

Government-issue identity document

Examples: healthcare card, birth certificate, Social Insurance Card, passport, citizenship document/certificate, Old Age Security Identification Card, Canadian Forces identification, Firearm Acquisition Certificate, firearm Possession and Acquisition Licence, Veterans Affairs Canada Health Care Identification Card, Correctional Service Canada Offender Identification Card.

Other government-issue document

Examples: property tax assessment, income tax assessment notice, government cheque, government cheque stub, statement of employment insurance benefits paid, Canada Child Tax Benefit Statement, statement of Canada Pension Plan benefits, statement of Old Age Security.

School/college/university-issue document

Examples: admissions letter, report card, transcript, residence acceptance/confirmation, tuition/fees statement, student card.

Other documents examples

- Provincial Where to Vote card
- Bank/credit card or statement
- Residential lease/mortgage statement
- Insurance statement
- Public transportation pass
- Utility bill
- Membership card
- Hospital bracelet/document
- Prescription medication container
- Attestation of residence
- Personal cheque (printed by bank)

Option 4

Voters without identification can be vouched for by a voter in their electoral district who has identification, or a direct family member or someone who has legal authority to make personal care decisions for the voter.

Future Voters

Elections BC encourages you to bring your children with you when you vote. Show tomorrow's voters how our electoral process works.

Any Questions?

For more information visit Elections BC's website at elections.bc.ca or call toll-free **1-800-661-8683**.

Get our **VOTEBC** App for iPhones and iPads to find the closest voting place and for information you need to vote.



Or, contact your district electoral office.

Comox Valley
150 Mansfield Dr
Courtenay, BC
(250) 703-2400

Cowichan Valley
5878 York Rd
North Cowichan, BC
(250) 715-2734

Nanaimo-North Cowichan
1-11 Buller St
Ladysmith, BC
(250) 245-6600

North Island
1414 Ironwood St
Campbell River, BC
(250) 287-5112

North Island
5-311 Hemlock St
Port McNeill, BC
(250) 956-9883

Hours of Operation
Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
May 8 - 11 and May 14 - 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Parksville-Qualicum
220-198 Island Hwy E
Parksville, BC
(250) 951-3080

Powell River-Sunshine Coast
4476A Marine Ave
Powell River, BC
(604) 485-0601

Powell River-Sunshine Coast
5712 Teredo St
Sechelt, BC
(604) 740-8951

Saanich North and the Islands
1528 Stellys Cross Rd
Central Saanich, BC
(250) 952-4100

ELECTIONS BC
A non-partisan Office of the Legislature
TTY 1-888-456-5448

elections.bc.ca / 1-800-661-8683