

Winter 2025 \$2.00

Random Voices of Area A, qathet

**Proceeds to the Lund Community Society** 



Graphic courtesy of Jordan Maddox, Siteline Architecture

# Open House Scheduled to View Building Design

Kristi McCrae

Construction of the extension to the Northside Community Recreation Centre is just around the corner. Over the past couple of months, the architects from Sitelines Architecture have been busy.

# 

They've collected and integrated community feedback from the open house sessions in October hosted by qathet Regional District, email feedback sent through their portal, and had a lot of back and forth with the Lund Community Society building committee. Now representatives from Sitelines Architecture and Dawn Construction are ready to present the design to the community.

There will be an Open House on **February 11 at 5:00 pm -7:00 pm at the NCRC** to present the design. This will be a drop-in question-and-answer session, with Dawn Construction, Sitelines Architecture, the qRD, and the LCS building committee. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

The LCS building committee has been very pleased with the responsiveness of the design team and feel that they have done their best to create a multifunctional facility that meets as many of the needs expressed by the community as possible, and that is also well-budgeted and beautiful.

They have been very open to community input and participation, including recently putting out a request for

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### **Publisher:**

The Lund Community Society

### **Editorial Board:**

Editor: Sandy Dunlop Layout and Design: Wendy Drummond Advertising: Martha Allen -- Graphic Design: Nicole Narbonne Proofreaders: Margaret Leitner, Malerie Meeker, et al Floggin' Distributor: Barbara Hill

### Writers in this issue:

Deb Bevaart, Laurie Chambers, Saverio Colasanto, Greg Cran, Ria Curtis, Wendy Drummond, Margaret Ducharme, Sandy Dunlop, Ted Durnin, Anna Gustafson, Christine Hollmann, Trish Keays, Monique Labusch, Jason Lennox, Jan Lovewell, Kristi McCrae, Susanne and Aubrey Muirhead, Simone Monkton, Ev Pollen, Sophie Ponsford, Carolina Robinson, Lorne Rubinoff, Roisin Sheehy-Culhane, Ann Snow, Alisha Van Belle, Reed Worthen

### Photo courtesies in this issue:

Debra Bevaart, Rayana Blackwell, Shannon Bomford, Nancy Bouchard, Wendy Drummond, Gustafson family archives, Monique Labusch, Ed Levy, Jordan Maddox, Simone Monckton, Puddle Jumpers Preschool, Ann Snow, Brian Voth

#### Prashbear cartoon:

Prashant Miranda

### **Publication Schedule and Distribution**

The *Barnacle* is published quarterly in winter (January), spring (April), summer (July), and fall (October), and is available for sale at the following locations: **Stockpile Market/Lund Store, Nancy's Bakery, Pat's Farmers Gate, and Ecossentials.** It also can be read at the **Powell River Public Library** and is available online at the Community Society website:

https://www.lundcommunity.com/barnacle

### **Editorial Policy**

Our policy is to print what people submit in their own words as much as possible, reflecting the paper's purpose to provide a forum for expression of ideas on topics of interest to our community members. We reserve the right to edit for clarity, length, and sensitivity. Articles submitted will be included based on available space and compatibility. Opinions expressed or implied in articles and stories are those of the authors and not the editors of the *Barnacle* or board members of the Community Society.

Signed submissions are welcome in the form of articles, stories, news items, letters to the editor, graphics, and photographs. Send to: <a href="mailto:barnacle.articles@gmail.com">barnacle.articles@gmail.com</a>

All proceeds from sales and advertising go to the Lund Community Society, a non-profit organization providing community services and programs to Lund and the region. The editorial staff of the *Barnacle* are volunteers, as are the board of the Community Society. No editor, contributor, or member of the board receives a salary or wages.

### **Editorial**

Hello and welcome to our winter 2025 issue. Welcome, as well, to 2025. Here at the *Barnacle*, we send you our best wishes/greatest hopes/fervent prayers/bravest attempts at not despairing for the kind of year we want. That which our hearts know is possible. That which would make us very, very happy and enable us to say an authentic "happy new year"!

This issue covers a lot of territory. There are quite a few updates to let you know what's happening in matters important to us here, like the Lund water system and the renovation to the Community Centre. There's also the changing of hands of Nancy's Bakery (hopefully more on that in our spring issue), and a report on the progress of our community-supported aging and dying group. We are delighted to tell you of our very successful Christmas Craft Fair and the brand-new Winterlude art event.

And picture this: being little-little, belly-flat and head-first on a Flexible Flyer sled, flying down the snow-covered Lund highway from the corner of Finn Bay Road to what is now the StockPile Market and living to tell the tale, as does Anna Gustafson.

I hope you enjoy this issue.

- Sandy

In respect and gratitude, we recognize that this publication was created on the land of the Tla'amin Nation and Coast Salish People -  $\lambda a$ 2amin (Lund).

We sincerely appreciate the support of our advertisers and encourage readers to support our local businesses.

\*\*We invoice annually for advertising, unless alternate arrangements are made. Invoices will be sent out after the fall issue 2025.\*\*

### **Advertising Rates**

Business Card Size: \$10.00

Double Business Card & 1/6 Page Size: \$20.00

Quarter Page: \$30.00

Send to: barnacle.ads@gmail.com

Next edition is April 2025

Deadline for submissions is April 10, 2025; but reservations for article space are needed in advance and ads need to be submitted by the fifth of the month.



Printer of the Barnacle

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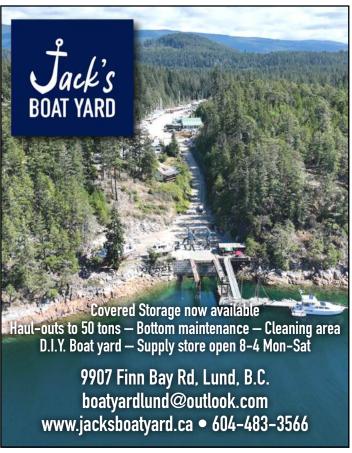
proposals to local labour and subcontractors. The LCS ensured that message was spread widely through the local trades community.

### The design includes:

- New commercial kitchen
- Gym/Hall that is a sports, theatre, and music venue with a multi-use stage
- Lobby/community living room for smaller events, classes, meetings, potlucks
- Universal washrooms with adult-sized toilets!
- Lots of storage for event equipment
- Energy efficient mechanical planning
- The whole facility will be an emergency shelter in case of natural disasters
- Increased on-site parking!
- Large covered outdoor area adjacent to old facility, built for future close-in.

Please join us February 11 to see for yourself! The shovels are coming soon after that!











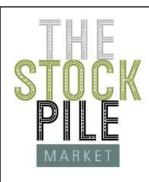
Ecossentials is Powell River's only sales outlet for Lund Barnacle and it's your one stop shop for local and organic foods

**Featuring Wild Soup!** 



### **Your Local Market**

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Market & 101 Cafe hours: 7:30 am - 7 pm

101 Bar & Grill hours:

Noon - 8 pm Friday through Sunday

Gas Dock hours:

7 days a week: 7:30 am - 4:30 pm

Laundromat hours:

7 days a week, 24 hours a day

One Heart, One Mind, One Nation.





Debra Bevaart's studio gallery is a showcase for more than 40 local artists with Debra's stone sculptures brought to life on site

> Open 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Closed Tuesdays



1436 101 Hwy, Lund Resort at Klah ah men 604.413.0637 • aartcreations@shaw.ca "A unique stop at the end of the road"

# Community Society Update

Kristi McCrae

### Happy New Year, Northside!

Though the world has lots of overwhelmingly sad and crazy plot lines running this year, we hope this will be a good year in our little corner of the planet. Here we are so fortunate to be able to come together, recognizing our privilege, and using it to do good, by creating social support and connection, sustainability, joy, and community. We are so lucky to live where we do.

Blessings to the Tla'amin Nation for your tolerance and generosity, peacefully sharing this beautiful territory with the non-indigenous community. May we all work together going forward to ensure all lives are enriched, respected, and supported within this interconnected ecosystem.

For the LCS, the end of 2024 was marked with an even more successful than usual Christmas Craft Fair on November 16. Thanks to all the organizers, volunteers, vendors, and sponsors for supporting our community society.

The news and opportunities for 2025 so far:

- Construction of the extension to the Northside Community Recreation Centre is due to begin soon. See our cover article for more details.
- Games Nights for adults at the NCRC have been ongoing and will continue on the first Friday of the month at 6:30 pm through the winter.
- The LCS would like to host some Music/Coffeehouse events at the NCRC. If you are interested in volunteering to help coordinate this, call Ria at 604-414-0383.
- If you are a Northsider interested in the idea of an EV community car share, see page 20 and contact <a href="mailto:dunlopsandy@gmail.com">dunlopsandy@gmail.com</a>.
- A group has formed to discuss and organize community-supported aging and dying. The group has met a couple of times so far and has great momentum. See page 21, and if you are interested, contact <a href="mailto:kristimccrae@xplornet.ca">kristimccrae@xplornet.ca</a> or <a href="mailto:susannemuirhead@icloud.com">susannemuirhead@icloud.com</a>.
- Our AGM is scheduled for February 21 at the NCRC, with a community potluck at 5:30 pm and the meeting at 7:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to connect with friends and neighbours, eat good food, and get a feel for what is happening in the community. Everyone is welcome, the more the merrier!
- Our general meetings take place at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of the month, except for July, August, and December. The next ones are February 18, March 18, and April 15. We are always open to new energy.

Check out our website at <u>lundcommunity.com</u> for project updates and links. Or you can be added to our group email, called the Northside Community Recreation Area resident list, by sending your contact info to <u>lundcommunity@gmail.com</u>.



Love this community? So do we!

The Lund Community Society welcomes your donations of any size.

Choose to support Barnacle, Bike Lund, Building Fund, or general expenses and receive a Charitable Tax Receipt.

canadahelps.org/dn/43305

### Christmas Craft Fair Success!

Marg Ducharme

### Hello everyone!

On November 16, the Lund Community Society held their annual Christmas Craft Fair at the Italian Hall in Wildwood. I just wanted to let everyone know what a great success it was. It was very well attended, with vendors, and shoppers enjoying the season. It was great to see old friends and evidence of the amazingly talented crafters we have here.

We have a very generous community, and this year was no exception. Our biggest fundraiser would be impossible without you. I especially want to recognize the awesome 50 – 60 volunteers who helped with set-up and organizing, running the kitchen, baking, cooking, serving, cleaning, washing dishes, and then staying late to clean the hall. It's hard to say how many there were because so many just stepped up to help. Thanks again!

And finally, thanks to the local businesses and farms who donated food and supplies for the kitchen, as well as funds to offset the expenses. We appreciate your generosity.



Photo courtesy Brian Voth



Photo courtesy Shannon Bomford



Photo courtesy Brian Voth

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Photos courtesy Shannon Bomford





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Photos courtesy Brian Voth



Photo courtesy Shannon Bomford

# **Lund Water Taxi**

604-483-9749

Reservations Required

Over 35 years providing total coastal service

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Daily transportation to various islands & areas that surround the Lund region.













# What's Happening in Lund?

Sandy Dunlop

### **Downtown Eateries**

The **101 Bar & Grill** (aka **the Pub**) at the **Lund Resort Hotel** is open Friday through Sunday, from noon to 8:00 pm. Full menu; full bar. 604-414-0478.

The Lund Resort Hotel is open! Check Facebook for updates.

The **Stockpile Market** is open daily from 7:30 am to 7:00 pm. As well as their grab and go take-out, open whenever the store is open, there is the 101 Café, where you can get coffee, tea, and eggers. That is also open daily; same hours as the Market, but the eggers go quickly!

The Boardwalk Restaurant is going to be closed until April.

Nancy's Bakery is open daily from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Check the websites of all our businesses for up-to-date info. For those of you reading the *Barnacle* online, check the ads for these businesses as many have hyperlink connections to their websites to make your browsing easier.

### At the Pub

Local band, **Savage**, will be playing in the Pub February 7. No cover.

### At Northside Community Recreation Centre (NCRC)

**Printmaking with Doerte Barker** - Wednesdays 4:00 pm to – 5:00 pm. Participants will explore different methods and experience various options for creating images. February 5 to March 12. Six-week program \$40 or drop-in \$10.

**Games Night** - Cards. Board games. D&D. First Friday of the month at 6:30 pm. Games and cards available or bring your own.

**Music Night/Coffeehouse** – Hey, wanna run a music night/coffeehouse at the NCRC? We have a piano. Anybody have a guitar, an accordion, a drum or two? etc. Contact Ria at 604-414-0383.

**Les Petits Phoques** – a French playgroup for Lund kids. Fridays, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Free and open to everyone. On really nice days, we might move to the Gazebo. Please text Charlie and Meroë at 514-206-0671 to participate.

**Playgroup with Ria** - Mondays from 10:00 am to noon, except when Strong Start comes. See that listing below.

**Puddle Jumpers Preschool / Lund Community Daycare –** Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. See page 24 for more information.

**SD47 Strong Start GO** - January 27, February 10, March 3, April 7, 10:00 am - noon. This is a free, drop-in, outdoor, play-based, early learning program, offered to families with children ages zero to five years old. Qualified educators lead learning activities, share valuable information, and provide a nutritious snack for participating children. The program runs rain, shine, or snow from now through June. This is a family program where parents/caregivers remain with their children and participate in the program together.

**Orca Bus** - Tuesday, February 11 and Tuesday, March 18. April date to be announced. Youth & Family Services brings free Early Years activities and resources for families to Northside Community

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Centre! Join us on board the cozy (heated) Orca Bus! Facilitated by Lesley Sutherland <a href="mailto:lsutherland@youthandfamily.ca">lsutherland@youthandfamily.ca</a> . Thanks to Puddle Jumpers for their collaboration. Visit <a href="http://www.youthandfamily.ca">http://www.youthandfamily.ca</a> to see our full calendar.

**Search Centre Tai Chi –** Saturdays 9:30 am - 11:00 am. 604 -414-5003.

**Lift Literacy Programs – Tech Tips –** February 6, March 6, and April 3, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. Free help with smartphones, tablets, and laptops. Please bring your device with you. See ad on page 3 or contact <a href="myfanwy@liftcommunityservices.org">myfanwy@liftcommunityservices.org</a>

**Community Society Meetings** – We always meet on the third Tuesday of the month, except July, August, and December. The next ones are February 18, March 18, and April 15, at 7:00 pm. All are welcome. Come check us out!

Our AGM is scheduled for February 21, with a community potluck at 5:30 pm and the annual general meeting at 7:00 pm. This is a great opportunity to connect with friends and neighbours, eat good food, and get a feel for what is happening in the community. Everyone is welcome; the more the merrier!

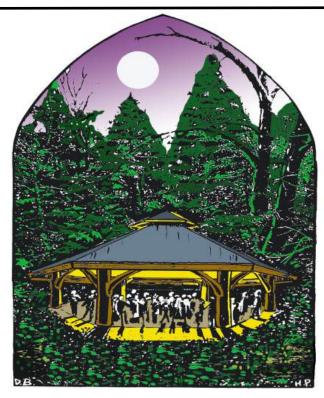
**Open House and Public Info Session** for the NCRC Upgrade project. February 11, 5:00 pm -7:00 pm. See cover article for more info.

<u>At Tidal Art Centre</u> - Lots of great stuff going on. Check out their ad on page 27 and their website at tidalartcentre.com.

If you have an event that you would like to announce, please contact the Barnacle at <u>barnacle.articles@gmail.com</u>.

APJ Services
Garbage Contractor
andrewjohnson7950@icloud.com
604 414 6097





To book events at the Northside Community Recreation Centre, contact Ria at (604) 414-0383. For events at the Klah Ah Men Lund Gazebo Regional Park, call qRD Operational Services Clerk Caroline Visser at (604) 487-1380.

# **Lund Recycling Depot**

9642 Larson Road

(Next to Northside Community Recreational Centre)

Regular hours (September - June)

Wednesday - Saturday

10:00 am - 4:30 pm

Summer hours (Canada Day - Labour Day)

Thursday - Monday

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

**Closed Statutory Holidays** 

Thank you for recycling!







**Post Office Hours:** 

Monday - Friday 9 am - 12:30 pm and 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Closed for lunch from 12:30 - 1:30 pm

5-1436 Highway 101, Lund BC V0N 2G0

### Current Lund Bus Schedule (Route 14) – Fare: \$2.25†

Monday, Tuesday, and Friday

Leave Lund: (Mile 0 Marker) 9:41 am 4:10 pm Leave Town Centre Mall 8:50 am 3:25 pm

† Children 12 and under ride free on BC Transit, however children five and under must travel with an attendant over 12 years old.



### Check BC Transit website for updates.

Download current Rider's Guide for details: https://bctransit.com/powell-river/schedules-and-maps/riders-guide+ † Some conditions apply

# Northside Fire Department Association Update

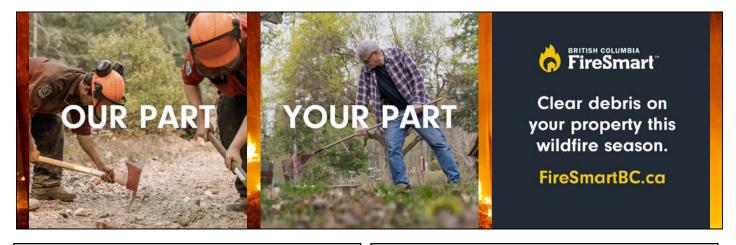
Simone Monckton

A new refundables building, located behind the Lund firehall, will soon be ready to receive your donated beverage bottles and cans; watch for notices! Place your bottles and cans next to the building under the rain protection of the overhanging roof. The Northside Fire Department Association will use the funds raised to support the Northside Firefighters and for some Northside community events, such as the Easter Egg Hunt and Halloween Party.

Special thanks go to Mike Burge, Ron Cochrane, Andy Horsburgh, and Mark Johnston for their extraordinary effort in constructing the building, and to Ben Bouchard for donating gravel. The finishing touches, such as cladding, signage, and porch, will be completed in the spring.



Photo courtesy Simone Monckton



### Northside Community Recreation Centre Upgrade Open House and Public Information Session

February 11, 2025 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM Northside Community Recreation Centre 9656 Larson Road, Lund, BC



Dawn Construction and their architects will speak to the public regarding the centre design.

People can send comments related to the project to qRDCommunity@DawnConstruction.com more info: <a href="https://www.lundcommunity.com">https://www.lundcommunity.com</a>

## Register to Learn CPR/AED

(Cardiopulmonary resuscitation and automated external defibrillator training, and other skills!)

March 6, 2024 at Craig Park Fire Hall

6:30pm - 9:30pm \$50 NFDA member

\$75 non-NFDA member

Visit NorthsideFire.ca for info. To register, email Ann at one.ann.snow@gmail.com

Course fees benefit
Northside Fire Department Association

### Who's in that Helmet?

Lori Brouwer, NVFD volunteer Ann Snow, interviewer



Photo courtesy Ann Snow

The twelfth in a series: an interview with each of the Northside Volunteer Fire Department (NVFD) volunteers as a way of introducing them to our community.

### Who am I?

My name is Lori Brouwer.

# How long have you lived in qathet's Northside Fire Protection Area?

My husband and I bought a property in the area in 2017. I started with Northside VFD in January of 2018.

### Why did you join the Northside Fire Department?

I thought it would be a great way to get to know the people in our new neighbourhood.

### What surprised you most about joining?

I was surprised by the amount of training that was required and provided for each of us. It could be daunting but is achievable with the support of the fellow first responders and firefighters. Chipping away at the courses one week at a time.

### What one thing have you learned that stands out in your mind?

I have learned so much! Not one thing stands out but many things. Learning how to pump water from all kinds of sources, how to keep buildings safe from an encroaching fire with minimal water has been a valuable lesson. And being able to learn how to drive the trucks has been very rewarding.

### What benefits you personally by being a member of the fire department?

All of the training benefits me and my family in so many ways. Learning how to better respond to an emergency situation, on or off the department, has been invaluable. Learning better home fire management and safety, and learning skills through the first responders training, benefits all aspects of life. Being part of a team has also been very rewarding. The bonds of friendship are rewarding and lifelong.



### Hi friends!

I volunteer doing the Barnacle ad design. I'm also a professional graphic & web designer. If you like my work, give me a call.

Competative rates

Nicole Narbonne 604.414.8003

skeenastreetstudio@gmail.com

# Nancy's Bakery Changes Hands

Sandy Dunlop

After 33 bun-derful years, Nancy Bouchard has retired. The Bakery has been sold to Paul Baines and Meghan Stevens, and it is already under the new ownership. Paul and Meghan hit the ground running, and the Bakery is open daily, 7:00 am - 3:00 pm, as usual. We hope an article from both Nancy, saying goodbye, and Paul and Meghan, saying hello, is forthcoming in our April issue. Right now, they are all up to their eyeballs in cinnamon buns and unable to write. Stay tuned.



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# SPCA Fundraiser



## for pets in low-income nouseholds

Donations of clean refundable bottles & cans can be left at Audrey's (2309 Hwy 101) driveway off Krompocker in support of the SPCA spay/neuter program.

Call or e-mail Audrey:

604-483-3506 or spaytoday@xplornet.ca

# Lund Water Update aka "THE CATCH"

Laurie Chambers

While we have been successful in getting an \$11,000,000 grant to upgrade our Lund water system, there is a little catch. In order to receive this grant, we, as users, may have to contribute up to \$4,000,000 from borrowing and this will have to be paid back through taxation. Options for cost recovery are:

a) an annual parcel tax (per lot, frontage or area)
b) an annual tax based upon the value of a person's property.

Whatever option is chosen, the taxes will apply to all parcels in the service area that are capable of receiving water from the upgraded system. Property owners of these parcels will have the opportunity to say 'yes' or 'no' to the proposed costs and borrowing through a <u>petition for service</u> process. This process will be fully explained once the project costs and taxation estimates have been finalized.

To assemble all the information needed for the users to make an informed decision when considering the petition, the qRD board needs to decide the scope, total project cost, and cost recovery approach for the \$4,000,000. As you may imagine, nailing down a cost is not easy in times of high inflation as it's constantly changing. Also, some new costs have arisen with a recent dam inspection and a few more million may be needed to upgrade the dams. Amid this turbulence, the qRD has been short staffed. Hopefully someone will soon be hired who will be enthusiastically inspired to push the file through to completion.

The qRD has a lot at stake here as they are expected to take over the ownership and operation of the Lund water system which has many deficiencies and associated liabilities. They are understandably cautious about being sold a pig in a poke. The objective of the qRD is to inherit a system that, when upgraded, will meet B.C.'s Drinking Water Protection Act and will reliably deliver good quality water to Lund residents.

If the petition fails, we don't get the \$11,000,000. In the meantime, Lund's water infrastructure is deficient (no filtration) and steadily deteriorating, and inflation is rampant. Our main tanks, which hold some 18,000

gallons, were inspected several years ago and deemed to be in very poor condition and most likely unable to deliver potable water in defiance of B.C.'s Drinking Water Protection Act. An engineer has suggested replacing the tanks with three new tanks holding 25,000 gallons each. This would give us ample water to feed the service area by gravity in the event of a major power outage. Also, it would be very comforting to have for firefighting come the fire season. Unfortunately, the \$11,000,000 can't be touched and no work can be started until the petition passes.

We look forward to our qRD doing the work necessary to put together the information property owners will need in order to make their decision on the petition. It's crucial.



### **Organically Grown Fresh Produce**

Hothouse tomatoes, cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, bell peppers, hot peppers Lettuce, sugar snap peas, beans, zucchini, kohlrabi, kale, broccoli, carrots, onions, cauliflower, cabbage, spinach, swiss chard, pickling cucumbers, squash ...and much more!

> 8556A Plummer Creek Road 604-483-3700 cell 604-483-1965

# qathet Regional District Update

Jason Lennox, Director, Area A qathet Regional District (qRD)



Hoping you're off to a good 2025 and are able to stick to those resolutions....

The weather is warm and wet after the holidays, and the qRD and Board members are back at work with a focus on the 2025-2029 Financial Plan, including debate on Grant-in-Aid funding during our current Finance committee meetings. Staff reports show dramatic increases in administrative costs, waste management, and planning services, as well as inflationary increases above expected levels.

I have learned that the decisions and actions we, or our predecessors, take must be paid for at some point.

The Resource Recovery Centre is a case in point. As a comprehensive facility that is well designed and run, it begins to take care of our regional solid waste and recycling and will show us the true cost of how we dispose of our refuse. It turns a major problem for the City of Powell River into a solution and a way for the site to recover and be productive, as well as avoid the massive cost of sending much of the original site to landfill.

I attended the site for the first time today and it was super friendly and efficient. I'm impressed. Now the region is beginning to pay the bill for this service, which was decided upon a decade ago. We must consider this when making future plans.

The Northside Community Recreation Center Upgrade project is underway, with updates in this *Barnacle*, so I'll leave it to the hard-working LCS building committee to tell everyone where it's at. I'm looking forward to the upcoming Open House on February 11, while the Daycare kids are looking forward to the machines and workers showing up soon!

I've been facilitating folks in finding the right BC government agencies responsible for Okeover logging activities along Crowther Road by Mosaic Forest Products. I appreciate the Okeover Ratepayers and local residents' correspondence voicing their concerns.

The Savary Official Community Plan got off to a bumpy start, partially due to the postal strike, but Island property owners (~1107) should soon be receiving notice of upcoming engagement opportunities and how to find information on the process and how to be involved. The Advisory Committee has met and there is much more work to come as summer approaches. I'm looking forward to meeting with people face-to-face, on the Island.



qathet Regional District holds regularly scheduled Board and Standing Committee meetings at #201 – 4675 Marine Ave, Powell River, and webcasts of meetings are available for public viewing online.

For a schedule of public meetings, scan the QR code or go to: https://www.qathet.ca/about/meetings/schedule-locations/

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings, virtually or in person.



**GET INVOLVED IN YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT** 

Continued on page 18...

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Speaking of Savary, I am working with islanders and the Association of the Savary Island Community (ASIC) to improve the provision of contracted road services by the Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT). This has been a long-standing problem, and we must be able to get to some reasonable solutions that can ensure due diligence for safe and timely response by our Fire Department and First Responders.

I continue to support and work closely with the Receiver of the Lund Water Works Improvement District (LWWID). Our Board members have toured the facilities and have recently made the urgency of attention to this matter known during a meeting with our new MLA, Randene Neill. Ms. Neill has also been appointed the new Minister of Water, Land & Resource Stewardship for BC, therefore, she has direct responsibility for this issue in many ways. We look forward to her involvement and expect that this should improve progress toward a solution that works for the users of Lund water, now and in the future.

The Minister and her Assistant seemed well up-to-speed with many local issues that citizens have been bringing forward to her new office. It felt like a good start to the relationship with our MLA.

As always, I can't fail to thank our local Northside and Savary volunteer fire department members, and their families. They give up a tremendous amount of themselves to provide this service to us. I wish I could still be there working with you and I'm very proud of all of you!

I was able to recently attend the Northside Volunteeer Fire Department (VFD) Christmas dinner at the Lund fire hall. Great to see that a new generation of people have stepped up to learn from the veterans we are lucky to still have. Remember that your time working is paid and there is a good medical and benefits package that can really help you and your family. The skills and teamwork that you will experience are priceless. Spread the word!

I must help to promote increasing all of our resilience in the face of emergencies, especially when we witness what has occurred recently in BC and California. There are things we can do to be better prepared and to work with our neighbours to be strong out here.

Please check the qRD website for information on all of these topics and more. <a href="www.qathet.ca">www.qathet.ca</a>

I remain honored to represent Area A.

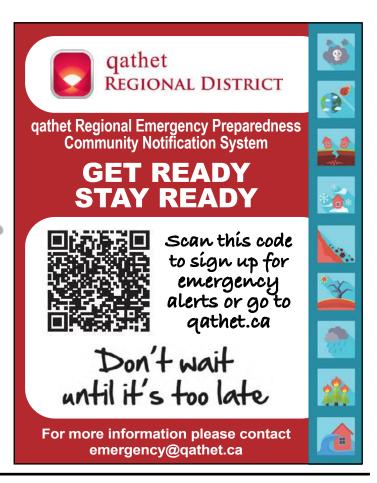
I also want to officially welcome my brother Jordan, and his wife Maria, who have just bought a home out north too. Now you've got both the Lennox brothers!

# **Lund Harbour Authority**



PO BOX 78 Lund BC V0N 2G0

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### From the Office of Our Member of Parliament

Sophie Ponsford and Saverio Colasanto Powell River Community Office



Rachel Blaney
NDP MP
North Island-Powell River
604-489-2286
4683 Marine Ave

MP Rachel Blaney has spent the past year hard at work in Ottawa, making major progress for Canadians. As was reported in previous *Barnacles*, one of the biggest wins in Ottawa in the last year was the creation of the Canadian Dental Care Plan. Thanks to the plan, over one million Canadians now have access to the dental care they need, with millions more to follow. This marks the most significant expansion of healthcare in decades. Several other wins can also be attributed to the New Democrats, including:

- Free diabetes medications, free birth control, and the first steps towards universal pharmacare.
- Anti-scab legislation to protect workers' rights.
- A National School Lunch Program to stop kids from going hungry in school.
- Billions in funding for Indigenous housing and the first phase of the Red Dress Alert.
- The Sustainable Jobs Act to protect our environment and invest in the green jobs of the future.
- The Renters Protection Fund to safeguard families against corporate landlords driving up housing costs.

In November, MP Blaney introduced Bill C-417, an Act to Establish a Framework on Animal-Assisted Services for Veterans. This bill would

ensure that all Veterans in need of a service animal will be able to access one. Veterans face many barriers to getting a service dog, including high costs and uncertainty regarding their training—Blaney's bill would lift those barriers and make national standards mandatory, ensuring that all service dogs are properly trained.

When introducing the bill, Blaney said that "after serving our country, many brave Veterans come back with trauma, PTSD, and physical disabilities. Service animals help our Veterans heal and adapt to life post-service. For many Veterans, however, there are a lot of barriers. Some providers will charge tens of thousands of dollars for a service animal without ensuring the animal has the proper training. We need to make sure this isn't happening; our Veterans deserve that at the least."

On January 20, MP Rachel Blaney co-hosted From Truth to Action: Ending Residential School Denialism, with special guest MP Leah Gazan (Winnipeg Centre), in the Evergreen Theatre. Last September, Gazan introduced Bill C-413, An Act to amend the Criminal Code to criminalize the willful promotion of hatred against Indigenous peoples by condoning, denying, downplaying, or justifying the Indian residential school system in Canada through statements communicated other than in private conversation.

These accomplishments are a testament to what can be achieved from working together. Here's to 2025!

MP Rachel Blaney's Community Office is located at 4683 Marine Ave., Powell River, BC, V8A 2L1. For more information or assistance, contact <a href="Rachel.blaney@parl.gc.ca">Rachel.blaney@parl.gc.ca</a> or phone 604-489-2286.

# Community EV Car Share

Sandy Dunlop

No matter how careful you are with your use of fossil fuels, if you live out here in Lund, you still have to go to town regularly to get supplies. And, it's not just food but also a myriad of sometimes heavy, bulky items that have somehow filled your "town" list since your last trip. You also have a lot of stops to make all over town, so taking the bus and walking isn't practical and, unless your ridesharers all have the same stops on their list, that isn't practical, either.

What if we could share the use of an electric vehicle?

A community car share essentially involves an organized group of participants (usually required to be members) with one or more self-accessing shared vehicles, the usage of which is booked in advance for short periods of time. That is, a day-long town trip, not an overnight to the Island or Vancouver. It likely has a cooperative sort of structure, which is a model familiar to many residents of this area. There are quite a few land-share co-ops that work well here. Even *The Cooperators*, where you likely buy your insurance, is a co-op.

While car sharing is common and popular in major urban areas, numerous examples exist outside of cities. Perhaps the vehicle, or a small fleet of them, is owned by a parent non-profit organization, with a high degree of personal

Influenced by the beautiful colours of nature around her.
Be kind and make someone smile today!
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involvement by members in the coordination of its use. The EVs could, perhaps, be purchased with donations and grant money, but a sustainable business model would ensure freedom from having to apply for annual grants.

It's an idea worth exploring, but it would need a working group to do so. Some research has been done already, and there are a lot of variables and questions to be answered before the idea could be known as feasible, sustainable, and repeatable so as to create a model. We could certainly get help with creating a mission statement and a business plan with a budget. The list of possible stakeholders who might be interested in being part of this project is a long one.

A good place to begin is to assess interest from this community. If the idea sounds interesting and you'd be willing to attend a meeting to talk about it, contact <a href="mailto:dunlopsandy@gmail.com">dunlopsandy@gmail.com</a>.



# Community Supported Aging and Dying

Susanne and Aubrey Muirhead

Exciting news! - A new group is forming in the Northside Community. This group has met twice now and is focused on community-supported aging and dying. There have been engaging discussions about several topics.

Discussed topics were as follows:

1) Creating a Green Burial Ground or Conservational Burial Ground in the Northside Community Area. Many perspectives were shared, and information was provided about other green burial sites in BC.

Primary examples are:

- Salt Spring Island Cemetery, a for-profit burial ground attached to a farm where anyone can buy a plot. A primary aim is to conserve the land and cause no harm. Cost is roughly an average of \$6000.
- Denman Island has a membership only, non-profit cemetery. To be buried there, one must currently or previously have resided on the Island. Cost is roughly \$1,500, with a sliding scale.
- 2) Ways to support our elders to age in place, that is, in their own homes or property.
- 3) Early conversations around the concept of building a home that would house and support elders in the community, even if only temporarily while they recover from a medical procedure.
- 4) Creating a list of current resources that are available to people living in the Northside Community.
- 5) Brainstorming different names for this new group.

Our next meeting is scheduled for January 25 at 10:30 am – 12:30 pm at the Northside Community Recreation Centre (NCRC). Even though that is likely to be just before this *Barnacle* is published, we welcome all those interested in participating in future meetings.

For more information contact Sue Muirhead at 604-483-2131 or susannemuirhead@icloud.com





Photo courtesy Monique Labusch

# Dr. Julia Levy: A Trailblazer in Science and Innovation

Gregory Cran



Photo courtesy Ed Levy

Up until a few months ago, Julia Levy, a proud Lundie, was often seen strolling through the village with her husband Ed and their dog Tish, working in their garden, or enjoying a cappuccino with Nancy at her Bakery. Some may not know that Nancy and Julia were continuing a tradition their mothers enjoyed in Vancouver. And also, that humbly

hidden under that local presentation, Julia was a renowned Canadian microbiologist, immunologist, educator, and entrepreneur. She provoked huge changes in ophthalmology. It may even be said that she revolutionized some areas of medical science, particularly with her contributions to photodynamic therapy (PDT), a groundbreaking treatment initially developed for cancer and later adapted to address agerelated macular degeneration (AMD), a leading cause of blindness among the elderly.

Julia was also a mother. She had two sons and a daughter, grandchildren, and this year, two great grandsons. Ed recalls a student saying that she wanted Julia's life -- a career and a family. Of course it was not all rosy. They lost a son to an overdose. Still, Julia had a successful family life by almost any measure.

Julia's contributions to science and medicine earned her numerous accolades. She was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1980, Pacific Canada Entrepreneur of the Year in 2000, and an Officer in the Order of Canada in 2001. Her work in vision restoration garnered her the Future of Vision Award,

the Helen Keller Award for Contributions to Vision, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from Life Sciences BC.

Her legacy extends beyond awards. Julia's dedication to innovation, her ability to translate research into life-changing therapies, her commitment to creating a welcoming workplace, and her leadership in a male-dominated field have inspired countless scientists, particularly women, to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and medicine (STEM).

It's all well and good to find and develop an effective treatment for a blindness-causing condition, but unless there is a company willing and able to get the treatment into the hands of doctors, it doesn't get far. Julia just shifted gears. Her meticulous nature suited the high stakes of drug development. No matter that marketing was primarily a male-dominated field; so was her work in science; so was her role as a professor of microbiology. With four co-founders, she started Quadra Logic Technology (QLT).

"Being in business, in commercial science, focuses your science", she once remarked, emphasizing the financial and strategic discipline required in the industry. With the cost of advancing a drug far exceeding its initial invention, Julia thrived in an environment where precision and strategic decision-making were paramount. Having the right strategy based on deep science was key.

First as Quadra Logic Technology's Chief Scientific Officer and then as QLT's reluctant Chief Executive Officer, Julia guided the company to international acclaim, balancing scientific rigor with entrepreneurial vision. Her leadership not only bolstered QLT's success as a cornerstone of the biotech industry in British Columbia and Canada but also highlighted the potential of Canadian biotechnology on a global stage.

In December 2024, Julia Levy chose to end her journey through MAID (Medical Assistance In Dying) due to her own serious medical condition, leaving a profound void in the worlds of science, health, and innovation.

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She will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and the countless people whose lives were positively impacted by her groundbreaking contributions. Ed says, after a 55+ year marriage, that there is no greater good in this world than being Julia's partner.

To learn more about Julia's remarkable career and life journey, readers can explore her memoir, *In Sight: My Life in Science and Biotech*, published by the University of Toronto Press. This inspiring account provides an intimate look at the life of a woman whose work built the foundations of a biotech industry and gave the gift of sight to, perhaps, millions of Visudyne users.

Gregory Cran is a 'retired' academic who currently serves as an adjudicator on both the Health Professions Review Board and the Law Society of British Columbia Tribunal.

# Andtbaka Farm

Home of "The Farmer's Gate" farm store **2440 Highway 101 North** 



In spite of all that happens, Pat is always there with a ready smile. We are grateful to her farm store For going that extra mile.

The past month has been a tough one With too many troubles and woes, Pat has had not time for writing Her usual witty prose.

So forgive me if I say What all of us are thinking, We love you Pat, and wish you well, At least your boat's not sinking!

### Visit The Farmer's Gate

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# Puddle Jumpers Preschool and Lund Community Daycare

Alisha Van Belle

With a few months under our belt, we are getting the hang of our new rhythm and making friends young and old. With me being gone for three weeks to finally see family in Germany, we had our old preschool teacher back with us - Sheila Butts! The kids loved her! She did pirate games, created a superhero play, explored musical instruments, and generally made everyone comfortable during my absence. We welcomed a new preschooler as well. Iris and her family - Julia, Chris, and Deacon - have been a fantastic addition and are adding to a growing group of "baby doll lovers".

We, of course, did many Christmas crafts, songs, and games. Making presents for our families was a great way to get into the Christmas spirit. Decorating (and undecorating) the tree was popular, as well as putting endless things into Christmas boxes and giving them away to Alisha. Once again, Kim Gray made our day with gorgeous gingerbread houses that we got to decorate and take home to our families. Now with January bringing us lots of weather, we are taking a look at weather in

our classroom. We have lots of art and experiments to do.





Photos courtesy Puddle Jumpers Preschool

We had a great start to our annual raffle at the Christmas Craft Fair. Tickets are still available until our draw on Thursday, February 6 at noon. We have a pretty amazing selection of prizes to be won! Please contact Alisha or one of the parents for tickets. YOU might be a winner!

I really want to thank all the community members who put in extra help to make the Kids' Zone and raffle ticket table work at the Christmas Craft Fair (Thank You Hazel, Willow, Sheila, Isabelle, and Ria especially). All who helped are rockstars! We are running close to the bone with the Daycare and at a loss at the Preschool, so fundraising helps us immensely.

Our wonderful Marissa is off on maternity leave and soon to have her baby. She has created such a fantastic program for our little ones and will be sorely missed. We could not find a replacement for her (and who could really replace her? ;), so we are merging the two programs into one under the daycare license.

We will be back to normal again in September. We are so

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fortunate to be able to do this without dropping any children from our programs. With a little extra hired help and some really great ideas from our parent group, I think we can meet the needs of both our littles and preschoolers the rest of the year. We have two new little ones joining us in the new year, so our program will be operating at full capacity until July.

I am so very grateful for all the amazing parts that make this program work: parents, community members, staff, and wonderful children who are willing to experiment and play with all the children...from babies to teens. Our room is so functional and beautiful now...we love it...so we also are thankful for the space!









Photos courtesy Puddle Jumpers Preschool

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Photos courtesy Puddle Jumpers Preschool











### Wintering At Tidal Art Centre

### **Artists in Residence:**

February: March:

PrintMaker and Song Writer: Sound Artist: Donna Lytle Shirley Wiebe Artist and Photographer:

Sound Artist: Donna Lytle Edward Peck

Floral Cyanotypes Artist:

Feb 15: Artist in Residence

Feb 22: Artist in Residence

Artists in Residence Show:

Edward Peck & Phyllis

Shirley Wiebe – Artist Talk

Shirley Wiebe - Song Circle

Phyllis Schwartz

March:

Schwartz

### **Events February & March:**

February:
Mon: Beginner W

Mon: Beginner Wheel Throwing 6-8:30

Sat: Beginner Wheel Throwing

10-12:30 & 1:30-4

Sun: 10-12:30 Ceramics Studio basics with Shivaun

Gingras

Sun: 1:30-4 Open Studio with

Kimmy Faerie

Follow our website and Instagram for April event information – Life Drawing dates & times TBA

## TIDAL art centre





Artwork by Prashant Miranda, photos courtesy Brian Voth

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# Through the Eyes of a Local Teen

Reed Worthen

### Fundraiser update and looking at Brooks for next year

I would like to begin by revisiting my last article in the *Barnacle*. In the fall issue, I shared details about a fundraiser for the food bank that I organized as part of a school project. Since then, there have been several developments which I would like to share with you. The biggest part of my fundraiser, a silent auction during the Brooks winter night of music, was highly successful. It was amazing to see the generosity of the local businesses that I visited. Everyone I talked to was happy to donate either gift cards, items, or gift baskets. Thank you to Pollen Sweaters, Paperworks Gifts, Ecossentials, Wild Scoop/Soup, the Max Cameron Theatre, and all the friends and family who donated items. I would also like to sincerely thank those of you who have donated food or money to the foodbank this holiday season. On my last visit to the foodbank right before Christmas, they had bins overflowing with donations. Through the silent auction and some other cash donations, the project raised nearly \$1,000.

This project and the fundraiser happened during the traditional season of giving, but as I wrote in the fall, the needs of those who utilize the foodbank's resources do not disappear in the spring. For this reason, monthly donations are the best way to help. Ideally, foodbanks shouldn't exist. The first foodbank in Canada opened in 1981, during the recession of the early 1980s. Foodbanks were a short-term solution that have now become essential due to high grocery prices and a low minimum wage.

As I come to the end of this project, I am one step closer to finishing the requirements to graduate. This is both incredibly exciting and a bit nerve-wracking. I have been lucky to have had an awesome high school experience and seeing it near its end is bittersweet. Brooks Secondary has some amazing programs, and for kids heading to Brooks and for their parents, here are some recommendations.

The music program is something that I have been a part of since my first year at Brooks and is the reason for some of my fondest high school memories. I joined band as a complete beginner and this program taught me so much. It has also provided the opportunity for international travel, friendships, and exposure to professional musicians.

Another amazing opportunity provided by Brooks is the option to take university courses through Vancouver Island University. Brooks pays the tuition, which makes it a great way to get transferable university credits while still in high school. This is something I am taking advantage of with a 100 level English course this semester. There are also courses available in philosophy and early childhood education.

If you are interested in outdoor learning, there is the Leadership Ecology Adventure Program (LEAP). This is a weeklong summer camp that gives you high school credits and some amazing experiences. In past years, students have sailed through Desolation Sound, hiked the Sunshine Coast Trail, or paddled the Canoe Route. There is also Coast Mountain Academy (CMA), which, in previous years, has offered grade eleven and twelve students the opportunity to be outdoors for an entire semester, gaining credits and certifications in avalanche safety and wilderness first-aid. The program is taking a break this year, but hopefully it will return in 2026.

Some of the other programs offered through Brooks include mechanics, hair dressing, and culinary arts. This is just a fraction of what is available. If I could give any advice to new students, it would be to explore new things and get involved; five years can go by quickly.

### Creative Klah ah men

Monique Labusch

**Winterlude** on December 7 and 8 was fun! Those I talked to had a wonderful time.

Here is the event's creator, Wendy Drummond, owner of Three Stone Soup fibre studio, writing about her experience.

For our first ever Klah Ah Men Winterlude, the sun shone bright and crisp, and the monsoon rains that were anticipated held off for the whole weekend!

In addition to Three Stone Soup Fibre Studio's offering, we were very happy to host Monique Labusch Fine Art and her fabulous Photo Board! All and all, it was a good couple of days with a fair number of visitors from both Klah Ah Men and the surrounding qathet region. Between Monique's Photo Board and Three Stone Soup Challenger Stitch Kits, we were able to raise money for the qathet Food Bank! For those who purchased the Charm Challenger Stitch Kits, don't forget to send a picture of your finished piece to <a href="mailto:three.stone.soup@gmail.com">three.stone.soup@gmail.com</a> before January 31 for your name to go into a draw for a \$100 Gift Certificate. Thank you to everyone who came out to see what the first Winterlude was all about, and we are definitely planning another one for next year!

Christine Hollmann-Prichard from Terracentric Coastal Adventures had a great experience as well.

Those attending seemed to enjoy having activities to partake



Photo courtesy Monique Labusch

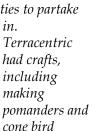




Photo courtesy Wendy Drummond



Photo courtesy Monique Labusch

feeders, and a few people did the scavenger hunt. We enjoyed chatting with those who stopped by and it was good to work together with the other businesses to create an event. There were even visitors who came up from the south Sunshine Coast to enjoy the weekend.

Debra Bevaart from the Tug-Guhm Gallery Studio said,

Winterlude was a chance for the community to show the vibrancy of the people and businesses in Lund, and I personally felt a sense of belonging. The Gallery had an extra boost of sales for all the artists I represent so a merrier season is always welcome, and 20% off everything in the Gallery was also incentive for shoppers wanting fine arts produced locally.

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Nancy's Bakery was open, as always, for breakfast and lunch, and there was mulled apple cider and lots of Christmas treats. They sold quite a lot of gingerbread house kits. A photo of the house creation could be entered in a draw for a prize, and here is a photo of the winning house! Congratulations!



Photo courtesy Rayana Blackwell

Rayana and Roy Blackwell from The Boardwalk Restaurant had an amazing dinner buffet and much more on offer for the Winterlude weekend!

Jan Lovewell of Rare
Earth Pottery wrote...
For Ron and me, the
weekend was a great
time. It was a
relaxed social
event with
friends and
neighbours, hot

apple juice and brownies, as well as an opportunity for pottery viewing and shopping. We had a selection of black and white raku pottery and also new work from the wood-firing in October. It is greatly satisfying to know that some of our pieces will be enjoyed locally by people we know.

RSC Wool Studio owner Roisin Sheehy-Culhane, despite her initial misgivings, had lots of visitors coming by... A Studio Tour, only in Lund? and the first time? For RSC Studio in Lund (aka Great Balls of Wool) Winterlude was an amazing success! More visitors than expected and they were so



Photo courtesy Debra Bevaart



Photo courtesy Nancy Bouchard



Photo courtesy Jan Lovewell

interested in everything in the Studio, including the adventure getting to my property. I believe we are unique artists, living in a unique community with so much to share with our guests. Look forward to growing our Winterlude celebration in 2025.

So the first Kla ah men Winterlude came and went! I think it accomplished what Wendy Drummond had in mind when she created it. It brought people together in the darkest time of the year. Visitors came to our beautiful community and neighbours stepped out of their doors to join in. Thank you, Wendy, and thanks to all who participated, came to visit, and supported local businesses!

Stay colourful and... come together!

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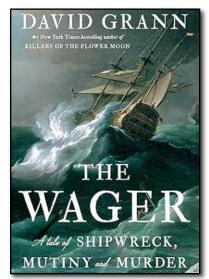


Photos courtesy Monique Labusch

### Ev's Book Review

Ev Pollen

### THE WAGER, by David Grann



This a nonfiction book written by an author best known for KILLERS OF THE FLOWER MOON. It tells the story of an important event in British naval history during war with Spain in the eighteenth century. The Wager, a sailing vessel crewed partly by unfortunate victims of press gangs employed by the Royal Navy, is assigned the task of capturing all the South American gold being transported to Spain. In those times, captains fully expected to lose 25% of their men due to scurvy, and press gangs were very unpopular. Public protests of the practice sometimes caused the gangs to fire on and kill protesters. Does this remind the reader of a similar episode in the U.S. during its war on Vietnam? But I digress.

The Wager pursues a Spanish ship to the Strait of Magellan off Tierra del Fuego, but flounders in the stormy passage and wrecks on a small unpopulated island.

At this point, I had almost abandoned the story due to the hopeless misery of the sailors carrying out the daily chore of putting overboard the corpses of their

shipmates, but the shipwreck made me keep reading. The survivors scramble to recover anything useful from the wreck and create shelter for themselves. The Captain, David Cheap, struggles to maintain order by rank, but the crew becomes divided over distrust of his decisions, and one of the ship's gunners, Bulkeley, believing that common sense and good seamanship are more important than Naval protocol, becomes the leader of a mutiny.

I don't want to spoil the story for you, but it could not have been told if not for the handful of survivors who made it back to England and ignited a controversy by publishing both sides of the story, records which enabled Grann's excellent account.

The themes of loyalty, honour, human rights, and courage will keep you thinking about this book long after the last page.





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# Learning ?ay?ajuθəm - the language of the ła?amın (Tla'amin), k'ómoks (Comox), χ<sup>w</sup>εmałk<sup>w</sup>u (Homalco), and λohos (Klahoose) people

Sandy Dunlop

We thank the Tla'amin Nation for enabling Brianne Louie to work for nearly a year with the *Barnacle* on this regular feature in it, as well as for her previous role as manager at the StockPile Market, and her relationships with the people of Klah ah Men/Lund in the all too brief time she was with us. Brianne Louie was born on December 26, 1994, and passed away on November 27, 2024 - her sunrise and the start of her spiritual journey, respectively. This opportunity for us to learn the ?ay?aỹuθəm language will, hopefully, continue with a new partner in the Nation's language department. In the meantime, ...

If you go to the First Voices website link below, it brings you directly to the Tla'amin page. This website helps you learn the pronunciation of the language, as well as learn songs, stories, etc.

https://www.firstvoices.com/explore/FV/sections/Data/Salish/ Northern %20Salishan/Sliammon/learn/words? page=1&pageSize=25&sortBy=ecm:fulltextScore&sortOrder=desc&searchTerm=travel&searchStyle=match&searchByTitle=true&searchByDefinitions=true&searchPartOfSpeech=Any&searchByTranslatio ns=false

Try to pronounce the words in these simple phrases, using the orthography given, and then check out the way the elders pronounce them on the First Voices website at the link given above:

We are sad. ?ukwštot ?a?qwayegən

She was a good person. hehew?i mot qaymixw oł

this is the way the vowels sound:

a ahe ay as in Mayi eeo ohu oo

y y as in yell

this is the way the orthographic letters for the words in this lesson sound:

? glottal stop: uh oh kw rounded, popping k

š sh

qw rounded q

ε eh ə uh

q k sound, from back of the mouth

i ih, as in ink x<sup>w</sup> Hhhhw

ł breathy L 🚳

# Life From Here

### Reflecting on Christmas ... trees ...

Trish Keays

So, you made it through another Christmas. Hectic or peaceful? Buying battleground or focus on family? However we may feel about the season, it's nearly impossible to avoid it.

Religiosity in Canada has been on a decline for decades, particularly Christianity and especially for younger people. <sup>1,2</sup>

Over those same decades, spending on Christmas has been rising. In 2022, the average spending for each Canadian household relating to Christmas was... get ready!<sup>3</sup>

- \$1,308 for gifts
- \$616 for decorations
- \$451 for food.

People in different countries spend different amounts on each of these. For an interesting comparison, check out <a href="https://www.worldremit.com/en/cost-of-christmas">https://www.worldremit.com/en/cost-of-christmas</a>.

Projections for anticipated Christmas spending in 2024 vary – some lower, some higher than the 2022 figures. Without more internet digging than I'm willing to do, it's challenging to find comparative figures for 2000 or 2010, although what is available shows clear, steady increases in Christmas spending. That could be a result of inflation, increased spending or a combination. And figures from different sources vary, sometimes a lot!

My main point is that Christmas now seems less a religious holiday than a commercial marketing success.

Christmas trees are a symbol of the season for many.

- More than 2.4 million Christmas trees were exported from Canada in 2021, most from Quebec (to the US, Panama, Bahamas), worth \$163.5 million Cdn. <sup>4</sup> I couldn't find any source of figures for how many Christmas trees were purchased within the country – data focus seems to be on exports.
- 350 million live Christmas trees are bought and sold globally each year, for a value of \$7.33 billion US.
- The two-decade trend is away from live Christmas trees and toward artificial trees. <sup>5</sup> Readily available statistics on artificial trees are either country-specific or total value, not numbers of trees.
- For example, statistics for the US show that for 2024, 26% of consumers plan to buy a real tree and 46% plan to buy an artificial tree (the rest don't plan to have a tree) (Source 6) Projections for Canada from the National Tree Company is that 35% of Canadians plan to purchase an artificial tree. Canadians have spent more on artificial Christmas trees than real ones since 2001, 97% made in China. <sup>6,7</sup>

The history of Christmas trees shows that delinking the trees from Christianity makes sense, as celebrating with plants that stay green all year goes back millennia. The winter solstice – the shortest day and longest night (December 21 or 22) – has been an important time for annual celebrations as far as history can show us – Romans, Celts (Druids), Vikings. Green boughs brought into homes marked the return of the gods of sun and agriculture. <sup>8</sup>

The use of evergreen trees to mark Christmas is attributed to German Christians in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. In the Middle Ages, Germans brought "paradise trees" into their homes - evergreen trees decorated with apples to celebrate December 4, the feast day of Adam and Eve. <sup>9</sup> As Germans migrated, they took the tradition with them, including to England and North America.

Pennsylvania's German community in the 1820's brought the Christmas tree to the US, but the tradition was rejected as pagan by most Americans until the 1840s. New England's puritan settlers viewed Christmas trees as unholy, "pagan mockery". The Christmas tree in its more modern usage "arrived" in Britain, east coast US, and

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Canada from 1846 when Queen Victoria and her consort Albert were shown in newspaper illustrations around a Christmas tree in their home at Windsor Castle. The Queen's popularity helped spread the custom. <sup>8</sup>

As German settlers migrated from the US to Canada in the 1700s, Canada's first Christmas trees came with them. Gingerbread houses and Advent calendars followed. <sup>8</sup>

Best selling types of Christmas trees are firs, spruces, and pines. Preferred species include Douglas Fir, Fraser Fir, Balsam Fir, and Noble Fir, Scotch Pine, Sugar Pine, Blue Spruce, and Norway Spruce. <sup>8,10</sup>

Some plants that grow here with us are great additions to Christmas greenery. Next year, consider adding some of these to your household decorations: rosehips, snowberry, white pinecones, withes of red osier dogwood, holly (naturalized or garden), boughs of bay, salal or rosemary (maybe even some with unseasonal blue flowers!).

### Sources

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# doingtheundoing

### **ABOUT**

Carolina Robinson and Lorne Rubinoff carolinaandlorne@icloud.com

doing theundoing undoing that which makes us feel separate that which makes us feel unlovable that which makes us feel unworthy

we are doing the undoing we are living the undoing we are sharing the undoing we are undoing the known

as we remember as we feel as we share as we love we are doingtheundoing

### WHY

because we need to because we feel separate because we live in a world that teaches separation because we live in a world that creates barriers to connection

because we remember a world where everything is connected

### **HOW**

holding hands with each other as we enter the unknown the world where we belong

### THE INVITATION

to join with us as we do the undoing we believe that doingtheundoing is about everyone there are no exceptions there is no separation we all belong

The following is one of many writings we have shared with others while doingtheundoing:

remembering what is before our experience runs through the constructed veils of this paradigm of separation

the superimposition

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### Continued from page 36...

the shoving in the distortion through ideas the imprisoning

the mass production of mutilated humans by upbringing that share a communality the pain of not having our needs met, seen or heard leaving each one of us isolated and in exile in this insane world

the display of symptoms shown within all us humans different shadings, crackings, distances, brokenness that scream and warn us of this decaying structure

look around you this world scares me instead of finding safety within the other we are so distant from each other that we react holding our beliefs as truth rather than holding the other in need

### WE ARE ALL IN NEED

attending to and addressing these primal necessities with the same old decomposed and rotting structures of thinking a structure that has never worked a structure based on pillars of separation

one or the other right or wrong better or worse good or bad

boxing in describing what has to be and what can't be creating and feeding these deathly and gushing wounds that polarize that take us further apart from each other veiling and forgetting the need for the other

we share our uniqueness the sameness of us we all are in pain we need to remember, feel and share this

becoming and being aware that we play this constructed and taught game of ones vs others and in this process forgetting me, you, and ultimately all in this fabricated illusion branded by default

# Lund Kid Revisionist History

Anna Gustafson

### Sleigh Ride Together

This time last year in Toronto, the city banned tobogganing at nearly 50 of the most fun hills. Warning signs went up, and fun was forbidden. "Tobogganing is not allowed on this hill. Hazards such as trees, stumps, rocks, and rivers make this hill unsafe". Thankfully, the ban was swiftly overturned after a massive uproar from people who knew to watch out for nature.

Thankfully, Lund Kids were taught to watch out for the more troublesome of the natures at an early age. It prepared me well for the beefy raccoons I've encountered since migrating to the big city. One of the assurances we received as kids was that most animals were more scared of us than we were of them. I believed that until I met my first urban trash panda, the size of a kindergartener. A much more warranted warning sign, in my opinion.

Tobogganing opportunities were few

and far between for Lund Kids and without warning signs. Because of that, it was an event more so than an activity. West Coast snow was a thing of beauty when it happened. Heavy and sticky, it made all the trees look like Dr. Seuss had a hand in creating them. Lund is a quiet place, but when tucked under a big fluffy duvet of snow, it's as close as you can get to silence. But for the odd baritone plop in the woods when a branch lets go of winter's burden.

The hill of all hills was where we wanted to be—that final descent of the trans-Canada highway that ends in our fair town. Back when the old hall kept it in the shade and prolonged our winter adventures. When cars gave up on getting to the top of the hill, it was

Lori and Anna, c, 1968, Gustafson family front yard, Photo courtesy Gustafson family slides

ours to get dangerous on. With a generous amount of snow and all our rural upper body strength, we'd construct a bank at the foot of the hill that looked like it was snapped off a NASCAR track. If it were hit at the right speed, you'd be gifted another 100 meters of hill with enough runway to slow you down before plowing into The Machine Shop.

The Machine Shop was our name for what is now the Stockpile. A pragmatic name being that it was full of machines back then. The last time I checked, it was full of deli sandwiches and liquor. Not a bad way to travel.

Speaking of machines, we need to talk about the rigs we used to country-luge on and then marvel at the fact that we're alive to relive this history.

The Original: Cold metal runners with affixed wood slats, a mildly responsive steering shingle, and an ohso-safe tow rope. These

gravity-powered units were called Flexible Flyers, and head-first was the position of choice.

The Wooden Sled: Just like the one The Grinch and his dog Max rode down into Whoville, our wooden sled showed up one Christmas morn, and we headed for the hill. It could fit three extra friends who were used as shock absorbers. This artifact came with a tow rope but pulling it back up the hill was like hauling a dead deer out of the hunting grounds.

**The Disc:** Plastic. Disc-shaped. Fun until you needed to steer or stop spinning. Some kids barfed. The sport model was constructed by smearing Crisco on the bottom.

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Continued from page 38...

**Crazy Carpets:** What's more '70s than flying down a snowbank on a yoga mat?

**Super Slider Snow Skates:** Plastic shoe sleds. Fun and fashionable in theory - gimmicky in real life. Great way to include the back of your head as an injury option.

**Wild Dads:** Legend has it...and by "Legend," I mean Wally Pence... following a significant snowfall, Wally pulled a group of local kids clinging to the upsidedown roof of a VW Beatle behind his Bronco by a boat

rope. There were some hairy moments on corners, and eventually, the car roof was replaced by a Sportyak. You know, for safety. If warning signs were present, we would have interpreted them as "Circus."

Anna Gustafson is a comedian, producer, writer, and forever Lund Kid now living in Toronto. Talk to her at annagustafson.ca









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# Speaking in the Barnacular

Ted Durnin

### I may be getting a FOBIa.

No, a fobia. Perhaps I should call it obifobia. "Of Being Invisible: Fear of." Or if you want to be all fancy you could call it fear of annihilation. But it's got this handy acronym: FOBI. Fear of Being invisible. Fobia.

Look, I used to be famous. Not global fame. Not national. A bit provincial. But certainly, I have been regionally or municipally famous. In a limited radius. For a short time. Now I have children to do that for me. I don't have to do it anymore. But what if I still want to? These days all I'm famous for is being their dad. Fame, you are so fleeting and fickle! I shake my fist at you!

### Does anyone notice?

Prominence: the condition of being out standing in your field. Outstanding. Darn spell check. The point is, it's not just about fame. People gain stature over time. They find their place and their work, and they do it and they get recognition for that. They become a very good plumber or a sympathetic listener or damn good at playing pool. Something. People become known for something. "Yeah, you know her; the one with the green front yard." Outstanding.

And then a few years on it fades. It's not, "You know that guy?" anymore; it's, "You remember that guy? From Lund? With the thing?" Past tense. You have become a person in the past tense. You might be right there in the room overhearing the conversation but for

those people you are no longer present. You're past. You've become invisible. That's the fear.

And you know, I think it's pretty rare for people to speak up and say, "Hey! That's me! I'm still here!" I don't know why but it seems more proper to remain silent, to remain invisible. It isn't, of course, but many of us are Canadian, or we've been hanging around Canadians for so long that we've become polite and modest and self-effacing. There's a good word: self-effacing. So modest you remove your own face. That's a problem.

What do you do? There's probably someone else filling the role you used to fill, but you realize that in some way you really are past that. You used to be that.

What do you really want? It's not about the reputation or the stature, is it? Maybe what you want to know is that people still see you. Really see you. In English, the phrase "I see you" means that you get them, understand them, accurately understand where they are at and how they might be feeling, not an interpretation of where they are at based on preconceptions. That last part is the hardest.

I particularly like the Zulu definition "I bring you into being by seeing you."

Yeah. Like that. 🌑



Photo courtesy Brian Voth



# Community Page

Sandy Dunlop

### **Birth Announcements**

No babies were born that we heard about.

### Sympathy and Condolences

### Mike Sadler

### June 23, 1952 - November 9, 2024

Mike and his wife Judy were two of the earliest residents of Bliss Landing, and they lived there year-round after he retired. Mike was a contractor, and his company built most of the houses in that area. They were very supportive community members.

### **Terry Bolton**

### January 22, 1967 - November 16, 2024

Terry might as well have been born with a fishing pole in his hand. He loved the ocean, and he loved fishing. His family, especially his wife Denise and sister Leanne, looked after him when his health deteriorated, with loving support and care right to the end.

Julia Levy	May 15, 1934 - December 5, 2024
See article on page 22.	

### Thinking of You

Hello out there! Whether you've just moved here, have lived here for decades, or grew up here and then moved away, you're a valued part of our community. Healing thoughts and much love go out to you all, wherever you are, and especially if you are struggling for wellness in any area of your life.

The Goodwill Committee of the Lund Community Society exists to help create and bolster a sense of community in Lund with the knowledge that people here care about each other. Please email <a href="mailto:barnacle.articles@gmail.com">barnacle.articles@gmail.com</a> to let us know of any births, deaths, or announcements you think should be shared.

Among other things, this Committee sends cards to people for congratulations or sympathy or thank you and more, if we hear about it. Thanks to volunteer Peg Campbell for sending cards when asked. We also put together welcome packages of wonderful donations from some of our local businesses for newbies to Lund. Many thanks to Margaret Leitner for looking after this, to the generous businesses who donate, and to the post office for making it easy.

### Northside Community Recreation Area Resident List

The Lund Community Society has a group email for all Area A residents who wish to learn about information and events in our community. It's called the Northside Community Recreation Area resident list. If you wish to be one of those bcc'd on this list, send your contact info to <a href="mailto:lundcommunity@gmail.com">lundcommunity@gmail.com</a>.











Photos courtesy Brian Voth