

The School Report

September finds us grateful to be starting out in the modular school we are embracing as our temporary home. We opened the doors to families for our first day on September 3. Everyone is settling into routines and setting goals for the year ahead. We are continuing to await news of what will happen for our school rebuild. As presented at the recent HIRRA meeting, at this time, the Ministry of Education Capital Branch has accepted the Project Report for the replacement of the school. Ministry staff are now preparing a submission to Treasury Board for funding. As soon as we have further news we will get a notice out on our school website and to the community.

School District #71 has a new strategic plan to guide our planning, programming, and resources. The areas for strategic priority are: Educational Excellence, Community Engagement, Organizational Stability and Environmental Stewardship, and Physical Health and Mental Well Being. All of these areas are a natural fit for our community school. If you wish to check it out in depth, please visit, <https://www.comoxvalleyschools.ca> under the Leadership and Governance top tab.

Our school wide theme for this term is "Light" and currently we are exploring "Spheros" as part of a robotics unit. Our Teacher Librarian, Tonya Lowe, has provided us with several kits and we've been using them inside and outside! To see more about Spheros check this out <https://www.sphero.com/education/>. I will also soon post some activities we have been doing with them at our school website <https://hornbyisland.comoxvalleyschools.ca/>.

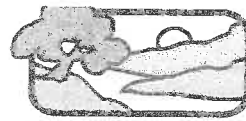
Every day I take some time to think of why I love to be at our Hornby Island Community School. Our building is different now, but the people are the same. I am always so grateful to the path we have followed after our fire, and to all of the support and all that we have. We have been sending loving thoughts to Kamloops SD#23. They lost their school, Parkcrest Elementary, in a fire in the first week of this school year. These occurrences are so rare but have such a huge impact on the communities they serve.

To finish off...a few of my favourite things about coming to work each day: Greetings in the morning from kids, families, and staff, watching the confidence in movement and skill grow in the kids on the playground, watching the creation of "mouse houses," forts adorned in beads and other trinkets, and forest materials of sticks, stones, and other nature bits transforming themselves into spaceships and pathways. Our kids are amazing!

We are so looking forward to a year of learning and growing supported by our community. Thank you to all for helping us move forward together.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any clarifications or with any questions you may have. ¶

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Islands Trust

Islands Trust Update with Grant Scott

Over the next few months we hope to:

1. Reactivate the Advisory Planning Committee (APC)

As the name implies the purpose of the APC is to advise and assist the Local Trust Committee (LTC) and the community on various planning issues. The LTC is going to ask the APC to take a look at the Official Community Plan (OCP) and Land Use Bylaws (LUBs) that now guide the Trust planning staff and Local Trust Committee members in their decision making. A lot has changed on Hornby since the present OCP and LUBs were enacted. There are more tourists on the island, more demand for water and sewerage, more short-term vacation rentals and global warming have all had an impact on the ability of the island to sustain our way of life. Meetings will start in the fall and be open to the public. There are now seven members of the APC. Please see Alex's article for who is on the APC.

2. BEN, meaning Bylaw Enforcement Notification

Presently we have LUBs that were put in place after an exhaustive community planning

process. Over the years the present LUBs have not been taken seriously as there is no way of enforcing them except by taking someone to court which is very expensive. It is if all the RCMP could do on the island highway to someone who is driving at 180 km per hour is give them a letter that says they should only go 110 km per hour. No ticket or fine for the infraction.

Presently, all the Bylaw Enforcement Officer can do to someone breaking our community planning bylaws is give them a letter or take them to court. BEN will make it more difficult and costly to ignore our bylaws. This may sound like we are creating a police state, but all other municipalities in BC and some of the Gulf Islands have implemented BEN in one form or another. What we have to do is similar to what they have done on Denman in implementing BEN: encourage islanders and visitors who want to buy here, build homes and cottages, use water and create sewerage systems and rent their property in such a way so as to respect the environment and way of life of the Island. Some people do not want any restrictions but most people say without being able to enforce our community bylaws, why would we have an OCP and Bylaws? We need to see how it is done on other islands and implement a BEN system that works for us.

3. Islands Trust Information Sessions

The Islands Trust with the OCP and Bylaws is our local government. We need to better understand how the system works. Where does the Trust get its planning power and what services do the Trust staff on Gabriola and in Victoria provide? Is our local government working well? Can we improve it? We hope to hold two sessions at the Hall this fall and winter to answer these questions.

Islands Trust Vision 2050. On October 28, 2019 Trust staff and your Trustees will be holding an Open House in the Hall. There will be a number of stations set up around the Hall with information and staff available to answer your questions and discuss what the people of Hornby see as the important issues we will face going into the future.

There will be information on the Trust, with statistics on population growth, demand on water, increase in tourism, number of short-

term vacation rentals, etc. There will also be questionnaires to fill out either on paper or on line. This will be an opportunity to get your answers and provide your input. It will inform the Trust in its planning for the short and long term.¶

WTF: Words That Flabbergast

According to a 2018 poll conducted for the Ecofiscal Commission, Albertans happen to be the Canadians least likely to believe that climate change is happening, with only 52% saying they see conclusive or solid evidence, compared to 61% nationwide. Of those who believe the Earth is warming, 54% of Albertans say they believe warming is caused by human behaviour, compared with 70% of Canadians overall. (CS Monitor, August 2019)¶

A judge in Kelowna has ruled against a woman who tried to fight a ticket that she received for eating with chopsticks while speeding on Highway 33, after a constable saw her with a bowl in her left hand and a pair of chopsticks in her right hand. According to court documents, the officer “described the action of the chop sticks as ‘shovelling’ the food.” He estimated her speed as about 60km/h on a stretch of road with a 50km/h limit and he radioed his partner who pulled her over.

In trying to fight the ticket – which was for driving without due care and attention – the woman told the court that she held the bowl with the thumb and forefinger of her left hand, with the remaining three fingers on the wheel, while using her right hand to eat with the chopsticks. “The question for the court to decide in this case is whether the driving of Ms. Jackson, holding a bowl in her left hand, holding chopsticks in the right hand and

