



Representing the Residents and Ratepayers of Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River

[www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca)

## **OPSRRA'S OTTER POINT, SHIRLEY & JORDAN RIVER NEWSLETTER: DECEMBER 2015**

**CELEBRATING 12 YEARS OF PUBLICATION!**

**WISHING EVERYONE MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A  
SAFE & HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

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**OPSRRA** is a registered non-profit society with an elected Board of Directors and strives to present the points-of-view of its members to local government. OPSRRA was founded in 1992 and has a membership of over 400. Residents or property owners within the Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point Official Community Plan boundaries who are age 18 or over are eligible for membership.

**Lifetime memberships cost \$10.00 per person** and are available from OPSRRA directors - see our web site ([www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca)) for further information. Associate (non-voting) memberships are available for persons who do not reside or own property in Shirley, Jordan River or Otter Point but wish to support the association.

The purpose of our society is to:

1. Ensure that the development of the communities of Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point takes place in an orderly way and in the best interests of its residents.
2. Co-operate with local government and other public bodies in the furtherance of the objectives of the society and benefits to the community.
3. Concern itself with the performance of government agencies.
4. Encourage citizens to stand for public office.
5. Promote community spirit and sense of identity by organizing or supporting appropriate activities.

Are you an OPSRRA member? Do you want to receive the OPSRRA's monthly newsletter and notice of meetings directly to your e-mail address? We began publishing this newsletter in June 2003. It is e-mailed to over **300** of our members as well as local elected representatives, media and archival organizations. Contact Marika Nagasaka at: [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com) if you want to receive this membership service.

### **OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS**

Marika Nagasaka	President	Debb Read	Vice-President
Phone: 642-2133		Phone: 646- 9998	
Brenda Mark	Treasurer	Fiona McDannold	Director
Phone: 646-2598		Phone: 646-2730	
Sandy Barta	Director	Bill Dushenko	Director
LauRa Barker	Director		
Phone: 642-5124			

**Note:** All OPSRRA directors can now be reached at a common e-mail address: [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com)

## **1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

Contact Marika Nagasaka at: [opsrranewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:opsrranewsletter@gmail.com) to have your community event listed in our monthly **Community Events** calendar.

Visit the OPSRRA web site: [www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca) to view a Calendar of Events.

<p><b>Tuesday</b> <b>Dec 1<sup>st</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Juan de Fuca Emergency Services</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>JdF Search &amp; Rescue Campus Training Bldg.</b> <b>2028C Idlemore Road, Sooke</b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b> <b>Dec 2<sup>nd</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sooke &amp; Electoral Area Parks &amp; Recreation Commission (SEAPARC)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monthly meeting 6:30 pm Boardroom, SEAPARC Leisure Complex,</b> <b>2168 Phillips Road, Sooke</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular meetings of the Commission take place at SEAPARC on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month and are open to the public.</li> <li>• Meetings are also held at the call of the Chair.</li> <li>• Agendas and Minutes are posted for each meeting at: <a href="http://www.crd.bc.ca/seaparc/commission.htm">http://www.crd.bc.ca/seaparc/commission.htm</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Saturday</b> <b>Dec 5<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike</b></p> <p><b>East Sooke Park: Endurance Ridge to Aylard Farm.</b> This is a hike along the inland trails of East Sooke Park through gorgeous forests. This is rated as a difficulty level 3 hike. Meet at Aylard Farm parking lot at 9:00 am to car pool to the start at Endurance Ridge (the hike will end at Aylard Farm). Dress for the weather and bring good footwear, a lunch and water. Everyone is welcome.</p> <p>For more information contact Rosemary Jorna at 250 642 2767 or email <a href="mailto:jdf.cts@gmail.com">jdf.cts@gmail.com</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Web site: <a href="http://www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca">www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca</a></p>
<p><b>Sunday</b> <b>Dec 6<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Moss Cottage Christmas</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>12:30 – 3:30 pm at the Sooke Region Museum</b> <b>Snowman Building, Roasted Nuts, Hot Drinks.</b></p>

	<p>For more info contact Sooke Region Museum 250-642-6351</p>
<p><b>Monday</b> Dec 7<sup>th</sup></p>	<p><b>OPSRRA Directors Meeting</b></p> <p>7:30 pm Boardroom, SEAPARC, 2168 Phillips Road, Sooke Members welcome to attend.</p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b> Dec 8<sup>th</sup></p>	<p><b>Shirley Hall Foot Care Clinics</b></p> <p>Foot Care Nurse, Marlene Beaulieu, LPN, holds clinics at the Shirley Community Hall, on the second Tuesday of each month.</p> <p>Diabetics and others with foot care issues are encouraged to attend the clinics.</p> <p>For appointments please call Marlene at 250-664-6810.</p> <p>Marlene is also available for home visits if you are unable to attend the regular clinic.</p>
<p><b>Wednesday</b> Dec 9<sup>th</sup></p>	<p><b>Shirley Women's Institute Meeting</b></p> <p>Monthly meeting second Wednesday of the month</p> <p>10:30 am at the Shirley Hall</p>
<p><b>Saturday</b> Dec 12<sup>th</sup></p>	<p><b>Juan de Fuca Parks &amp; Recreation Advisory Commission and the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike</b></p> <p><b>East Sooke Park: Pike Point to Iron Mine Bay.</b> This is a relatively easy JDFEA Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission sponsored hike of difficulty level 2. Hike from Pike Point along East Sooke Park trails to Iron Mine Bay. Meet at William Simmons Memorial Park parking lot at 3220 Otter Point Rd at 9:00 am to car pool to the trailhead. If more convenient meet at the Pike Rd parking lot in East Sooke Park at 9:45 am. Dress for the weather and bring good footwear, a lunch and water. Everyone is welcome.</p> <p>For more information contact Sid Jorna at 250 642 2767 or email <a href="mailto:jdf.cts@gmail.com">jdf.cts@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Web site: <a href="http://www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca">www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca</a></p>

<p><b>Saturday Dec 12<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Otter Point Fire Department Candy Cane Run</b> See Newsletter Item # 2 for detailed Route and Schedule info.</p>
<p><b>Tuesday Dec 15<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p align="center"><b>JDFEA Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission</b> 3:00 pm at the Juan de Fuca Local Area Services Building 3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point Public Welcome. For enquiries call 250 642 1500</p>
<p><b>Friday Jan 1<sup>st</sup></b></p>	<p align="center"><b>DON'T FORGET THE ANNUAL OTTER POINT POLAR BEAR SWIM!!</b> Registration at 11:30 am Cannon start at 12:00 pm Whiffin Spit Park, Sooke. Sponsored by the Otter Point Volunteer Fire Department</p> 
<p><b>Saturday Jan 2<sup>nd</sup></b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike</b> <b>Sooke River Walk.</b> Start the year with an easy 9 km loop on a good trail. Meet at 9:00 am at the upper parking lot of the Sooke Potholes. Dress for the weather and bring good footwear, a lunch and water. Everyone is welcome. For more information contact Rosemary Jorna at 250 642 2767 or email <a href="mailto:jdf.cts@gmail.com">jdf.cts@gmail.com</a> Web site: <a href="http://www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca">www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca</a></p>
<p><b>Tuesday Jan 5<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Juan de Fuca Emergency Services</b> Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm JdF Search &amp; Rescue Campus Training Bldg.</p>

	<b>2028C Idlemore Road, Sooke</b>
<b>Wednesday Jan 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sooke &amp; Electoral Area Parks &amp; Recreation Commission (SEAPARC)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Monthly meeting 6:30 pm Boardroom, SEAPARC Leisure Complex, 2168 Phillips Road, Sooke</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular meetings of the Commission take place at SEAPARC on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month and are open to the public.</li> <li>• Meetings are also held at the call of the Chair.</li> <li>• Agendas and Minutes are posted for each meeting at: <a href="http://www.crd.bc.ca/seaparc/commission.htm">http://www.crd.bc.ca/seaparc/commission.htm</a></li> </ul>
<b>Saturday Jan 9<sup>th</sup></b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Juan de Fuca Parks &amp; Recreation Advisory Commission and the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike</b></p> <p><b>East Sooke Park: Coppermine Loop.</b> This is a JDFEA Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission sponsored hike of difficulty level 3. Meet at William Simmons Memorial Park parking lot at 3220 Otter Point Rd at 9:00 am to car pool to the trailhead. If more convenient meet at the Pike Rd parking lot in East Sooke Park at 9:45 am. Dress for the weather and bring good footwear, a lunch and water. Everyone is welcome.</p> <p>For more information contact Sid Jorna at 250 642 2767 or email <a href="mailto:jdf.cts@gmail.com">jdf.cts@gmail.com</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Web site: <a href="http://www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca">www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca</a></p>
<b>Tuesday Jan 12<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Shirley Fire Protection Society AGM</b></p> <p>7:30 pm at the Shirley Hall</p>
<b>Wednesday Jan 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<p><b>Shirley Community Association Meeting</b></p> <p>7:30 pm at the Shirley Hall</p>
<b>Thursdays</b>	<p><b>Shirley Quilters and Crafters</b></p> <p>10:30 am at the Shirley Hall</p>
<b>Fridays</b>	<p><b>Yoga at the Shirley Hall</b></p> <p>Fridays at 10:00 am – 11:00 am</p>

	<p align="center"><b>Gentle Flow Class for all levels</b>  <b>Contact: Nicole Spackman</b>  <a href="mailto:shirleyhallyoga@gmail.com">shirleyhallyoga@gmail.com</a></p>
<b>Saturdays</b>	<p align="center"><b>Pilates at the Shirley Hall</b></p> <p align="center"><b>9:30 am</b>  <b>Level 1 class, suitable for beginners</b>  <b>Contact: Sandra Smith</b>  <b>Website: <a href="http://www.svakayoga.com">www.svakayoga.com</a></b>  <b>Email: <a href="mailto:info@sandrasmithyoga.com">info@sandrasmithyoga.com</a></b></p>
<b>Thursdays &amp; Sundays</b>	<p align="center"><b>Nia Dance/Movement Class at the Shirley Hall</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Thursdays from 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm</b>  <b>Sundays 11:00 am – 12:15 pm</b>  <b>Contact: Melody Kimmell, 250-646-2995 email</b>  <b><a href="mailto:movingmelody@gmail.com">movingmelody@gmail.com</a></b></p>

## 2. OTTER POINT FIRE DEPARTMENT **CANDY CANE RUN** SCHEDULE

On Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> the Otter Point Volunteer Fire Firefighters Association will sponsor the annual **Candy Cane Run** through Otter Point with Santa Claus atop a decorated fire truck. Walk out to the end of your driveway for 10 or 15 minutes and enjoy this festive event! The following route information was provided by the Otter Point Volunteer Fire Fighters Association. **Route Times are Approximate**

**The Otter Point Fire Department will be accepting donations for the  
Sooke Community Food Bank**

### Route & Times

#### 1700 HRS. (5:00 pm) START

- Thelmita Place, Sarah Drive, Helen Place, Patricia Marie Place
- 2900 block Otter Point Road to Young Lake Road
- Up Young Lake Road to Poirier Road and back to Otter Point Road

- Up Butler Road to far end of Lemare Cres. and back down Lemare Cres. to Butler Road and Otter Point Road
- Otter Point Road to Robinson Road (entire length) then to Tugwell Road

**1800 HRS. (6:00 pm) approx.**

- Tugwell Road to Michelson Road (entire length)
- Tugwell Road to Goudie Road (entire length)
- Return to Otter Point Road

**1815 HRS. (6:15 pm) approx.**

- Otter Point Road to Amanda Road (entire length) and back to Otter Point Road
- Otter Point Road to King Road (entire length) to Corby Ridge (entire length) and back to Otter Point Road
- Otter Point Road to end of Otter Point Place (entire length), Clark Road and back to Otter Point Road and down to West Coast Road

**1915 HRS. (7:15 pm) approx.**

- West Coast Road towards Sooke to Olympic Place (entire length) and back to West Coast Road
- Up Otter Ridge Drive (entire length) to Taylor Place (entire length) and back to West Coast Road
- West Coast Road to Olympic View mobile home park
- West Coast Road to Carpenter Road
- Carpenter Road (entire length) to Dalrae Place (entire length)
- Back to West Coast Road and turn east to end of our district
- Turn around and come back to Kemp Lake Road

**2015 HRS. (8:15 pm) approx.**

- Kemp Lake Road to Milligan Road (entire length) and back to Kemp Lake Road
- Kemp Lake Road to Otter Point Road and back to the Fire Hall



### 3. NEW COMPREHENSIVE HISTORICAL MAP OF OTTER POINT

Are you a resident or property owner in Otter Point? Have you ever wondered who was first given registered title to your property? Have you thought about where the old logging railways, the original power line from Jordan River to Victoria or the old Jordan River Road were located? If so, this new map will help to answer some of those questions. It can be located on the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area web site under Otter Point Official Community Plan: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/about-the-region/juan-de-fuca> or click here to go directly to the map: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/jdf-pdf/ppsjdf-2015-11-09-otterpointhistoricalsites.pdf?sfvrsn=4>

**Note:** The map can be enlarged either by clicking the zoom feature that should show at the bottom right on the map or by clicking anywhere on the map to open a Tool Box and then click Marquee Zoom.

A 2014 version of the map was part of **Otter Point History – Heritage Sites & Areas of Historical Interest**, done in conjunction with the Otter Point OCP review. This updated version was undertaken with the support of Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Planning Services and digitalized by CRD Information Services. The new and corrected information was researched by Otter Point resident Arnie Campbell and Elida Peers – Historian, Sooke Region Museum.

Here is an outline of what you can find:

- The location, date and name(s) of the original property owners (pre-empters) given provincial title of ownership starting with Lot 1 to Daniel McMillan on September 21, 1872.
- The original routes, through Otter Point, of the Old Stage Coach Road, B.C. Electric Power Line, Sylvania /Panama Logging Railway, proposed Canadian Puget Sound Logging Railway and the Kemp Lake waterline to the Depression era Relief Camp and later Army Camp.
- The location of 47 heritage sites and areas of historical interest.

### 4. ROYAL ROADS ACCEPTS ASSESSMENT OF WATER RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY WITHIN OPSRRA BOUNDARIES PROPOSAL

This fall, OPSRRA submitted a proposal to be considered by the Royal Roads BSc Environmental Studies Class as a Major Project entitled “**Assessment of Water Resource Sustainability in Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River**”

The proposal was accepted and has been assigned to a team of five BSc students working with a faculty advisor. The students will begin the project in January that will conclude with a public presentation. An OPSRRA subcommittee has been formed to liaise with the students.

The students have been asked to compile a water resources database for the communities of Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River and present it in a geographic information map that can be easily accessed, extracted, revised, updated and maintained. There are several other objectives as well, which will be detailed in successive newsletters when the project commences.

## 5. SOOKE SEEDY SATURDAY 2016 VENDOR REGISTRATION OPEN

[Sooke Seedy Saturday 2016](#) is around the corner; mark your calendars for Saturday February 27 2016 from 10 am - 3 pm at the [Sooke Community Hall](#).

We welcome local, ecologically grown, GMO-free seed and plants and from local seed producers and growers, grown out by the vendor or at least clearly indicated if not.

Priority will be given to vendors who

- Grow/produce seeds and plants
- Promote sustainability related education and resources
- Specialize in original or innovative gardening practices and products

Registration is now open for vendors. Register and pay online through our website [here](#). Table fees are \$40 with no percentage of sales. There is a \$10.00 discount if you register before January 1, 2016.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at any time  
Looking forward to seeing you at this event.

Marika Nagasaka

[seedysaturday@gmail.com](mailto:seedysaturday@gmail.com)

Sooke Seedy Saturday | Vendor Coordinator

## 6. OTTER POINT FIRE DEPARTMENT AGM

The **Otter Point Fire Protection and Emergency Response Service Commission** held its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, November 10th. Re-elected for another two-year term were commissioners Marie-Ann Davidson (Secretary), Lloyd Heinemann and Harold Melville. Commissioners with another year remaining in their two-year term are: Kenny Jones (Chair), Bud Gibbons (Treasurer) and Joanne Hemphill. Scott Hemphill remains as the firefighters' representative on the commission. The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFA) Regional Director sits as an ex officio member of the commission but does not attend meetings unless there is a specific agenda item requiring his participation.

The commission was established by the Capital Regional District (CRD) in 1980 and is the successor to the Otter Fire District Society. The commissioners are responsible to the

CRD Board of Directors and the taxpayers of Otter Point for the general operation of the Otter Point Fire Department (OPFD) and they appoint the Fire Chief, who manages the day-to-day operations of the department.

The fire department responds to a range of fire and other emergencies in the community including:

- Structural, chimney, appliance, brush, beach and open burning fires
- Motor vehicle accidents, where fire or trapped occupant(s) is a concern
- Hazardous material spills
- Alarm bells
- First Response for medical assistance
- Open burning complaints
- Downed Hydro lines where fire or public safety is a concern
- Mutual aid to other local area fire departments (**see note**).

**Note:** A new mutual aid arrangement with neighbouring fire departments has increased call-outs. For example, the fire department assisted the Sooke Fire Department (SFD) on 12 occasions this year, and the SFD assisted the OPFD on numerous occasions.

The OPFD also operates the Fire Training Centre located behind the Otter Point Fire Hall. In addition to providing live fire training for the OPFD, this facility provides regional training sessions in conjunction with the BC Justice Institute and is rented to other volunteer fire departments. The other fire departments rent the facility for \$1,000 a day. The money received doesn't show as revenue in the fire department's budget or financial statements. Instead, the revenue is used to offset the costs of the training centre. Although this arrangement doesn't see any money going into the department's budget, there is a considerable savings in training costs as it enables the OPFD to use the facility all year without the cost of sending Otter Point firefighters away to another facility.

The OPFD is supported by taxpayers who own property within the Otter Point Fire Protection District boundary. Some owners of undeveloped land in Otter Point choose not to pay for fire protection and are therefore not covered by the OPFD. The commissioners prepare an annual operating budget, which is approved by the JDREA Regional Director and the Finance Department of the CRD. The budget for the department's operation in 2014 was \$283,753. The budget for 2015 is \$295,584. This is a 4.2% increase over 2014. The estimated cost per average Otter Point household in 2015 was about \$260. The cost to individual property owners in Otter Point for fire protection and emergency response services appears as a line item on your provincial tax assessment; for 2015 it was \$78.61 per \$100,000 of assessed property value.

The 2015 OPFD annual report notes a significant increase in the volume of call-outs, with a year-to-year increase from 130 to 174. The most notable statistic was the increase in **Fire** calls, which went from 28 in 2014 to 62 in 2015. The increase can be attributed to a dry summer and the new mutual aid agreement (**see note 1**). The number of **First Response** incidents remains high, and has gone from 40 in 2010 to 69 this year. They now account for 40% of the fire department's total requests for service. First Response

incidents are generated by 911 calls to the BC Ambulance Service who then request that the fire department also attend.

**Incident Response Statistics for the period November 2014 to October 2015**

Incident Category	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Alarm Bells	0	3	3	1	3	3
Assist Public	5	12	19	10	11	10
Fire (See <b>Note 3</b> )	10	6	11	33	28	62
First Response	40	60	63	64	68	69
HazMat	0	1	3	3	2	0
Hydro Lines (See <b>Note 2</b> )	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	7	5
Misc. Complaints	7	15	16	1	2	16
Mutual Aid (See <b>Note 1</b> )	2	7	5	3	N/A	N/A
MVI	11	9	13	11	9	9
Rescue	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	75	119	133	126	130	174

**Note 1:** Starting in 2014 some calls were categorized differently. **Mutual Aid** calls are no longer separate and are now captured under **Fire**.

**Note 2:** **Hydro** calls are when a line is down and the OPFD responds to provide public safety until a Hydro crew arrives.

**Note 3:** The category **Fire** includes: brush/grass; hydro; open burning; appliance; chimney; structural (commercial, residential and mobile home/trailer) and vehicle fires as well as smelling smoke.

The volunteer firefighter man-hours for all incidents this past year totaled 1129; a 44% increase over 2014. In addition to these hours, the volunteers logged another 2900 hours of training. This equates to an average of 182 hours - the equivalent of 4 ½ forty hour work weeks per member.

The Otter Point Volunteer Firefighters Association provides the following community services in conjunction with the OPFD:

- Otter Point “Candy Cane Run” with Santa
- New Year’s Day Polar Bear Swim at Whiffin Spit
- Children’s Halloween party and fireworks at Camp Barnard
- Fire hose activity on Canada Day at the Sooke Flats

More information about the OPFD and the Otter Point Fire Fighters Association can be found on their web site: <http://www.otterpointfire.bc.ca/>

## 7. WILD WISE SOOKE

Fall is here and we need to continue to think about how to help keep bears out of our communities and continuing to live in a natural and safe environment.

There have been reports of bears in Shirley, Otter Point and Jordan River - the conflict is overwhelmingly bears getting into improperly stored garbage.



Did you know that bears don't hibernate because it gets cold out or they know it is winter? They hibernate because their natural food supply has run out. It is essential to keep all non-natural food secure, even over the winter. If there is food readily available, bears will not hibernate. Bears are ruled by their hunger. If they can't find the food they need, they will leave the area. Garbage that is improperly stored is the number one reason for conflict between humans and bears. Other reasons include livestock and their feed, fruit trees and bird feeders. Once a bear has been food conditioned, it may be labeled as a 'problem' bear, which may result in the bear having to be destroyed. It is our responsibility not to attract bears into our communities.

See our website at [wildwisesooke@gmail.com](mailto:wildwisesooke@gmail.com) and view our Facebook page: Wild Wise Sooke.

Debbie Read  
Wild Wise Sooke Community Coordinator

## 8. REPORT AMPHIBIAN ROAD KILL IN OUR AREA

If you are aware of amphibian road kill problem areas on our local roads please follow this link to fill out a report through the Habitat Acquisition Trust.

[www.hat.bc.ca/i-want-to/report-a-turtle-slug-or-snake/amphibian-roads](http://www.hat.bc.ca/i-want-to/report-a-turtle-slug-or-snake/amphibian-roads)

Amphibians are a major indicator of environmental health and they need all the help they can get from us. In our area, they seem to get hit especially hard travelling between their forest and wetland habitats as they often have to cross the road to get from one to the other.

The more information they have about our area, the more likely that an effort be made to try to improve problem areas.

## **9. TEAM SOOKE/JDF TO SUPPORT REFUGEE**

**The following was submitted to OPSRRA by the Chair of the Team Sooke/Juan de Fuca Refugee Sponsorship Committee.**

Team Sooke/Juan de Fuca has been formed under the auspices of St Rose of Lima (Catholic) Parish as a Refugee Sponsorship Committee but involves all Sooke parishes and the wider community. Under the Private Sponsorship Program (different from the Government Sponsorship Program) we are aiming to raise the necessary funds to bring a refugee family to Sooke/Juan de Fuca area and support that family for a period of one year. Our legal commitment will be expressed through becoming a "Constituent Group" (CG) under the Aegis of the Anglican Diocese of BC who is a "Sponsorship Agreement Holder" (SAH) with Immigration Canada.

Supporting a family means physical support such as: housing, food, clothing and transportation; medical and dental support; cultural support: language training, schools, counselling, banking, shopping.... the list goes on.

As to fund raising: we need a minimum of \$35,000.00 in the bank in order to qualify as a CG of the SAH. We have estimated an operating budget of \$40,000.00 to support a family of 4 for one year. We have identified a contingency of \$10,000.00, as we know not the extent of our challenges. Our fund raising goal is therefore \$50,000.00

Money donated will get a tax receipt. There can be no refunds. However, all funds raised will go to refugee sponsorship even if our particular group fails to qualify. Contingency not used will also go to the next refugee family whether in our group or another.

Currently we have three donation means:

**Cash:** Name and address required to get a tax receipt

**Cheque:** Made to St Rose of Lima Parish, "Refugee sponsorship" in the memo line

**On line:** [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org); click on donate, search for St Rose of Lima, choose St Rose of Lima (Sooke), add for Refugee sponsorship in the message box, complete and get an instant tax receipt.

Please Note: Annotating donations with "Refugee Sponsorship" is very important to keep funds in the correct pot.

Yours truly,  
Sid Jorna, Chair-Team Sooke/Juan de Fuca  
Refugee Sponsorship Committee  
(250) 642-2767  
[sid2767@shaw.ca](mailto:sid2767@shaw.ca)

## 10. OPSRRA SMALL BUSINESS LISTINGS

**Do you operate a small business?** Are you an OPSRRA member? OPSRRA offers a free business listing service for members, on its web site: [www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca). We will list non-members for a suitable donation!

The purpose of this service is to provide an opportunity for businesses in Jordan River, Shirley and Otter Point to advertise their goods and services to their local community. We invite listings for accommodation, farm produce, art, furniture-making, fishing charters, eco-tours, firewood, knitting, soaps, landscaping, bookkeeping, sewing, spas and more. More information, businesses already listed and a registration form are available on OPSRRA's web site ([www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca)) under **Business Listings**.

**Note:** OPSRRA does not accept responsibility for the services provided. Always check references and ask for confirmation of Work Safe B.C. registration if applicable.

**Support local businesses. The OPSRRA web site [www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca) has more information about the following local business listings:**

1001 Welding & Equipment Repair	Le Sooke Spa
Accent in Grooming	Malahat Farm Heritage Cottage
A Point of View B & B	Migration Design
ALM Organic Farm	Ocean Wilderness Inn
Beaches West B & B	Otter Point Beach House
Bear Home Remodelling	Otter Point Electrical Service
Birds Edge Press	Perfect Grade Plumbing
Coastal Crunch Granola	Reflexology by Marlene Barry
Eco Craft Lights	Road's End Construction
Eagle Cove Beachfront Guest Suites	Saltwest Naturals
Farmer Notary—Shawna Farmer, Notary Public.	Sooke Water Inc.
Full Circle Seeds	Shards Glass Studio and Workshops
Glen's Gardening Company	Stick in the Mud Coffee House
Heron's Rest B & B	Straitview Ridge Bed & Breakfast



“In A Fix” Bookkeeping & Accounting Services  
Jambo Pet Sitting Service  
Kemp Lake Store Café  
Knotty Beds by Nature and Cedar Surfboards

Three Sisters Farm  
Tugwell Creek Honey Farm  
Tugwell Creek Meadery  
Welcome Wagon  
Wildewood Custom Homes  
Wood Visions

## **11. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER**

Back issues of the OPSRRA newsletter are available on the OPSRRA web site:  
[www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca)

This monthly newsletter is prepared by the directors of OPSRRA. It is available to members by e-mail and to others on our web site. To have an item you would like to have considered for placement in the newsletter, or make a comment about the newsletter, contact an OPSRRA director or email [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com)

**OPSRRA tries to verify the correctness of the information in this newsletter; if we have got it wrong we will acknowledge that and make a correction as quickly as possible.**