



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: FEBRUARY 2016 CELEBRATING 12 YEARS OF PUBLICATION!**

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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: [opsrrnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:opsrrnewsletter@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.

<b>Tuesday</b> <b>Feb 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<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>
<b>Feb 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<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 1:00 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 usually 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</b> <b>Feb 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike</b></p> <p><b>Exploration of parks in the District of Sooke.</b> Details to be confirmed. Meet at John Muir School at 9:00 am for a walk &amp; ride around Sooke District. 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>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>Feb 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shirley Women's Institute Meeting</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monthly meeting second Wednesday of the month</b> <b>10:30 am at the Shirley Hall</b></p>

<p><b>Wednesday</b> <b>Feb 10<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><a href="#">Awareness Film Night: Permaculture Evening</a></b>  <b>7:00 pm – 9:30 pm EMCS Theatre (6218 Sooke Rd, Sooke)</b>  <b>For more info see Newsletter Item # 8</b>  <b><a href="http://www.awarenessfilmnight.ca">www.awarenessfilmnight.ca</a></b></p>
<p><b>Saturday</b> <b>Feb 13<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><a href="#">Juan de Fuca Parks &amp; Recreation Advisory Commission and the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike</a></b></p> <p><b>Sooke Potholes River Walk.</b> This is a JDFEA Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission sponsored hike of difficulty level 2. 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 upper parking lot of the Sooke Potholes (Barnes Station) at 9:00 am. Dress for the weather and bring good footwear, a lunch and water. Everyone is welcome.</p> <p><b>For more information contact Sid Jorna at 250.642.2767 or email <a href="mailto:jdf.cts@gmail.com">jdf.cts@gmail.com</a></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Web site: <a href="http://www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca">www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca</a></b></p>
<p><b>Saturday</b> <b>Feb 13<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><a href="#">Shards Glass Studio: Bowl, Plate and More</a></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1:00 pm – 4:00 pm Shards Glass Studio in Otter Point</b>  <b>To register: <a href="mailto:susan@shardsglass.com">susan@shardsglass.com</a>, 250.642.4942</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Web site: <a href="http://www.shardsglass.com">www.shardsglass.com</a></b></p>
<p><b>Monday</b> <b>Feb 15<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><a href="#">Shirley Fire Commission Meeting</a></b>  <b>Monthly meeting third Monday of the month</b>  <b>7:00 pm at the Shirley Fire Hall</b></p>
<p><b>Tuesday</b> <b>Feb 16<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><a href="#">Juan de Fuca Land Use Committee</a></b>  <b>7:00 pm at the Juan de Fuca Local Area Services Building</b>  <b>3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point</b>  <b><a href="https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-">https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-</a></b></p>

	<a href="https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/documents/committeedocuments/juandefucalandusecommittee">library/documents/committeedocuments/juandefucalandusecommittee</a>
<b>Tuesday Feb 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	<p align="center"><b><a href="#">JDFEA Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission</a></b></p> <p align="center"><b>3:00 pm at the Juan de Fuca Local Area Services Building</b></p> <p align="center"><b>3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Public Welcome. For enquiries call 250.642.1500</b></p> <p align="center"><a href="https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/documents/committeedocuments/juandefucaeparksrecreationadvisorycommission">https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/documents/committeedocuments/juandefucaeparksrecreationadvisorycommission</a></p>
<b>Sunday Feb 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<p align="center"><b><a href="#">Shards Glass Studio: Bowl, Plate and More</a></b></p> <p align="center"><b>1:00 pm – 4:00 pm Shards Glass Studio in Otter Point</b></p> <p align="center"><b>To register: <a href="mailto:susan@shardsglass.com">susan@shardsglass.com</a>, 250.642.4942</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Web site: <a href="http://www.shardsglass.com">www.shardsglass.com</a></b></p>
<b>Tuesday March 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<p align="center"><b><a href="#">Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission</a></b></p> <p align="center"><b>7:00 pm at the Juan de Fuca Local Area Services Building</b></p> <p align="center"><b>3-7450 Butler Road, Otter Point</b></p> <p align="center"><a href="https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/documents/committeedocuments/otterpointadvisoryplanningcommission">https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/document-library/documents/committeedocuments/otterpointadvisoryplanningcommission</a></p>
<b>Tuesday March 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<p align="center"><b><a href="#">Juan de Fuca Emergency Services</a></b></p> <p align="center"><b>Monthly Meeting 7:00 pm</b></p> <p align="center"><b>JdF Search &amp; Rescue Campus Training Bldg. 2028C Idlemore Road, Sooke</b></p>
<b>Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<p align="center"><b><a href="#">Sooke &amp; Electoral Area Parks &amp; Recreation Commission (SEAPARC)</a></b></p> <p align="center"><b>Monthly meeting 6:30 pm Boardroom, SEAPARC Leisure Complex,</b></p>

	<p style="text-align: center;"><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 March 5<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Hike</b></p> <p><b>Details TBA.</b> 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>Saturday March 12<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<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>Details TBA.</b> 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>
<p><b>Tuesdays</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>KIDS Club!</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">4:00 pm – 5:30 pm at the Shirley Hall  After-school drop in for ages 5+  <a href="mailto:kellywilliams@yahoo.ca">kellywilliams@yahoo.ca</a> for more info</p>
<p><b>Thursdays</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Shirley Quilters and Crafters</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">10:30 am at the Shirley Hall</p>
<p><b>Saturdays</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pilates at the Shirley Hall</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">9:30 am</p>

	<p><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>Sundays</b>	<p><b><a href="#">Kemp Lake Store Music Café Music Jam</a></b></p> <p><b>1:00 pm – 5:00 pm @ 7875 West Coast Rd</b>  <b>For more info phone 250.642.7875</b></p>
<b>Tuesdays &amp; Fridays</b>	<p><b><a href="#">Yoga at the Shirley Hall</a></b></p> <p><b>Tuesdays at 6:00 pm – 7:15 pm</b>  <b>Fridays at 10:00 am – 11:15 am</b></p> <p><b>Class for all levels</b>  <b><a href="mailto:megan.einarson@hotmail.com">megan.einarson@hotmail.com</a></b></p>
<b>Thursdays &amp; Sundays</b>	<p><b><a href="#">Nia Dance/Movement Class at the Shirley Hall</a></b></p> <p><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. UPDATE ON ROYAL ROADS WATER RESOURCE PROJECT**

Assessment of Water Resource Sustainability in Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River

An OPSRRA subcommittee of the Board (formed to manage the Water Resource Sustainability project) met with the four students and faculty advisor assigned to the project in early January to initiate discussions and provide them with information.

The following objectives have been identified for the project:

- Create a GIS map and central database of wells, water licenses, watersheds, groundwater and aquifers that is compatible with the existing databases of the CRD and Provincial Government, which can be archived and is easily accessible to the community
- Identify information gaps in existing water source data, and potential barriers to water sustainability, as well as aquifer studies and areas for further research needed in addressing these information gaps
- Summarize and critically analyze the Water Sustainability Act in terms of its ability to ensure the sustainability of current and future water resources in the Shirley, Otter Point, and Jordan River communities.

A budget for the project has now been determined which includes costs for: printing of the final project report, mapping, photos, other printing and photocopying, software rental and mileage. The terms of reference have been discussed and the students will be presenting the final terms to OPSRRA soon.

The students are currently acquiring data from public sources to incorporate into them into an Arc GIS database. The GIS layers will include known wells, water licences, watersheds and aquifers. The student team will conduct a field trip(s) in February with the subcommittee to familiarize themselves with the area and gain an “on the ground” understanding of the status of our water resources, water-dependent uses and associated issues.

The students and the instructor think this is a really interesting and timely environmental project subject. OPSRRA will be kept abreast of the project’s progress and will receive a comprehensive database in Arc GIS, in a written report on Word, on disk and associated mapping. All deliverables will provide a valuable tool to access accurate information and will enable water resources to be better managed on a local level. Currently that information is not compiled on one database and is difficult to obtain.

The subcommittee is being assisted by an OPSRRA member in liaising with government (CRD and Provincial) officials. The OPSRRA Directors always welcome help from members, who have a wealth of knowledge, experience and ability, and encourage members to make their interests known to the board when opportunity arises.

### **3. JDFEA REGIONAL DIRECTOR’S 2015 GRANTS-IN-AID**

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) has a budget for discretionary grants which allows the JDFEA Regional Director to respond to requests from non-profit organizations and agencies providing a service to residents of the JDFEA. These grants were previously



reviewed and recommended by the JDFEA's Economic Development Commission; the commission is now disbanded. Grant requests are now received and reviewed by the JDFEA Regional Director, recommended to the Capital Regional District's (CRD) Electoral Area Services Committee and approved by the CRD's Board of Directors. This shows the budgets and expenditures for the past six years, as well as the amount proposed for 2016.

Year	Budget	Actual \$ Granted	CRD Administration
2010	\$40,710	\$22,500	Unknown
2011	\$38,500	\$13,300	Unknown
2012	\$40,000	\$21,500	Unknown
2013	\$40,000	\$18,890	Unknown
2014	\$41,090 (See Note)	\$25,425 (See Note)	\$1,090
2015	\$25,710	\$19,100 (to Jan. 2016)	\$1,090
2016	\$19,830 (Proposed)		

**Note:** The requisition for 2014 was \$19,980 but a surplus of \$21,110 was carried over from 2013, so the compounded 2014 budget was actually \$41,090. \$25,425 was paid out in Grants-in-Aid and \$1,090 was paid to CRD Finance to administer the grants. A surplus was also carried into 2015.

The proposed Grants-in-Aid budget for 2016 is \$19,830. This amount will not be finalized until approved by the CRD Board of Directors in April, 2016. The Grants-in-Aid budget item is usually underspent and Director Hicks has indicated that he intends to continue this practice.

The CRD and the JDFEA operate on a financial year that runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>. The following Grants-in-Aid were approved for the period April, 2015 to January, 2016. With less than two months remaining in this fiscal year, no further grants are anticipated. Director Hicks tries to disburse Grants-in-Aid in proportion to the population of each of the sub-areas in the JDFEA.

Most of this year's grants went to organizations that are not located and/or exclusively providing a service in the JDFEA. It's the regional director's responsibility to decide if a regional organization provides a service which benefits the residents of the JDFEA. The following table identifies the 2015 grant recipients and their project(s)

Sooke, Saseenos, John Muir Parent Advisory Councils (See note below)	\$7,000
OPSRRA - School program studying and cleaning-up garbage on roads	\$ 600
JDF Rural Publication Society - Rural Observer, keeping them viable	\$2,000
Sooke Community Arts Council - Helped fund "Art in Park"	\$ 500
Sooke Fine Arts Society - Helped fund Sooke Fine Arts Show	\$1,500

Sooke Community Choir - Purchased lighting for performances	\$ 500
Juan de Fuca Salmon Restoration Society - Web site	\$1,000
Sooke Lions - Helped fund Canada Day Festivities	\$1,000
Team Sooke/Juan de Fuca - Help towards sponsoring Syrian refugees	\$5,000
Total:	\$19,100

**Note:** The grants to the three schools Parent Advisory Councils (PAC) go towards the cost of hiring school crossing guards and are in proportion to the percentage of children from the JDFEA attending these elementary schools in Sooke. The District of Sooke contributes the remainder.

More information about the JDFEA budget can be found on the JDF web site:

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/about-the-region/juan-de-fuca/property-tax-budget-information-for-the-juan-de-fuca-electoral-area>

Or by researching the proposed 2016 CRD budget. That document can be viewed by following this link:

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/docs/default-source/crd-document-library/committeedocuments/electoralarareaservicescommittee/20151021/2015-10-21agendaesc.pdf?sfvrsn=4>

#### **4. LETTER TO BC HYDRO: WHAT IS TO BECOME OF JORDAN RIVER HAMLET?**

In response to concerns raised by members about the future of the Jordan River Hamlet, OPSRRA submitted the following to BC Hydro Spokesperson Ted Olynyck as well as John Horgan and Mick Hicks on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

RE: Request for information on the Disposition of the Jordan River Townsite

The Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River Resident and Ratepayers Association (OPSRRA) was established in 1992 and represents approximately 400 residents of these three small communities located west of Sooke, B.C.

OPSRRA supports the Official Community Plan for Shirley/Jordan River and a pattern of land use which

1. retains both the rural and natural character of the area
2. protects and enhances the natural environment, its ecosystems and biological diversity,
3. supports planned community development in conjunction with residential, agricultural, forestry, commercial, tourism and recreational activities.

B.C. Hydro has offered to purchase the nine residences in the evacuation zone in the Jordan River Townsite. This purchase will impact the remaining residents of Jordan River and they need to be informed of the future plans for this area. To further their understanding of the situation and to explore potential solutions, OPSRRA is writing to you on behalf of our members to ask the following questions:

1. What is the time frame for the removal of the current residences?
2. Once the purchases are completed and the current homes removed, what will this land be used for?
3. How will the land look in the future and who will maintain the land?
4. Will the community be involved in discussion regarding the future of this land?

These questions are important to the residents of Jordan River as well as to the larger community and we look forward to your response.

In the event BC Hydro is unable to clarify the future of the townsite and its land use, we request a meeting to discuss the community's involvement in the future plans for this area

Thank you,

Marika Nagasaka  
President, OPSRRA

## **5. SEAPARC TO BUY SOOKE PAR 3 GOLF COURSE?**

The proposed purchase of a 23-acre property on Throup Road, in Sooke, will likely be going to a taxpayer referendum in April. The former turf farm and par 3 golf course is located next to the Skate Board Park and Journey Middle School, and across from Throup Road Park. The directors of the Sooke & Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Commission (SEAPARC) have recommended to the Capital Regional District (CRD) that the property be purchased for an already negotiated price of \$999,000. The land could be used as playing fields to meet the growing demand for outdoors recreation space.

On January 13<sup>th</sup> the CRD Board of Directors voted to support the SEAPARC recommendation. SEAPARC has \$250,000 in reserve which it proposes to apply towards the land purchase. However the ratepayers of Sooke and the JDFEA need to approve borrowing \$750,000 to finance the remainder. The referendum is scheduled for this spring. Borrowing terms for the loan would be 3% interest over 15 years. Taxpayer support for SEAPARC is based on population and is currently fixed at 75% for Sooke and 25% for the JDFEA. More information can be found by following this link to the CRD media library:

<https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/news/2016/01/13/seaparc-seeks-approval-for-land-purchase>

## 6. IS WHAT'S GOOD FOR THE GOOSE ALSO GOOD FOR THE GANDER?

The times for shooting geese damaging crops in the CRD may be expanded, except for the District of Sooke and the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA).

The Parks Committee of the Capital Regional District (CRD) recently passed a motion intended to lessen crop damage caused by the ever increasing resident (non-migratory) Canada Geese population in our region. The confusing motion said, in part, that *“Any landowner or nominee with a current Canadian Wildlife Service Crop Protection permit, may hunt on their permitted lands using the Federal Migratory Birds regulations and in possession of a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit.”* However, if a municipality doesn't allow the discharge of firearms (i.e. District of Sooke) or an unincorporated area's No Hunting/No Shooting boundary is regulated by the province (i.e. the JDFEA) can this CRD motion apply? A follow-up discussion with Regional Director Hicks, who is also Chair of the Parks Committee, helped to clarify the intent of the motion and his efforts to have it adopted through-out the CRD.

There is an estimated resident, non-migratory population of 6,000 geese in the CRD; this number is expected to grow to 60,000 geese in the next 20 years. According to farmers the geese are already causing tremendous harm to their crops, and a projected increase to 60,000 could be devastating. The Canadian Wildlife Service can issue a Crop Damage Permit allowing limited shotgun discharge for scaring and killing geese. However, there are limitations on when, where and how geese can be shot. Such as:

- It can only happen on approved farmlands, golf courses and airports.
- Is subject to municipal bylaw approval, and in consultation with the RCMP or municipal police.
- Blinds and decoys are not permitted.
- The geese can't be eaten.

The CRD Parks Committee proposes that municipalities in the CRD allow holders of Crop Damage Permits to also hunt geese during hunting season on the same properties. This requires a separate provincial permit. The goose hunting season is between September and March and has four two-week openings with a limit of 10 geese per day per hunter. Blinds and decoys are allowed and the geese can be eaten. It's anticipated by the Parks Committee that this would be an economical and effective way to contain the expansion of the resident goose population.

Farmlands in the municipalities of North Saanich, Central Saanich, Saanich, Metchosin and Sooke are experiencing the most crop damage. The Parks Committee motion requested that these municipalities adopt an amendment to their Firearms bylaw which would allow shooting geese in the federally approved areas, during Hunting Season.

Two more complicated permissions need to be obtained before the Parks Committee proposal could come into effect in our area. The District of Sooke doesn't allow the discharge of a firearm within their municipality for any purpose. Therefore, Canadian Wildlife Services Crop Damage Permits can't be issued. Director Hicks has written the municipality requesting they consider amending their Firearms bylaws. He will also be attending a Council meeting to speak on the matter. The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) is unincorporated and therefore doesn't have the legal ability to create a Firearms bylaw. The discharge of firearms in East Sooke, Otter Point, Shirley, Jordan River, Port Renfrew and the Rural Resource Lands is regulated by the province. At present, most of the residential portion of the JDFEA, west of Sooke, is inside the provincial No Hunting/No Shooting boundary. Director Hicks has written to the province requesting a change to the hunting/firearms regulation, to allow farmers that qualify for federally issued Crop Damage Permits to hunt Canada Geese in the JDFEA's No Hunting/No Shooting areas.

The province's response to the request was immediate. The province will not agree to change the present No Hunting/No Shooting boundaries in the JDFEA. However, if someone from the area is granted a federal Canadian Wildlife Services permit to protect their crop from damage from geese, the Provincial Fish and Wildlife Branch of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources will consider issuing a provincial hunting permit on a case-by-case basis.

If someone is granted permits to shoot geese in the JDFEA, Section 8 of CRD Bylaw 3441 for the JDFEA would still apply:

Without limiting the generality of the prohibition contained in Section 2 the following acts are considered by the Board to cause noises or sounds which are objectionable or liable to disturb the quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, comfort or convenience of individuals or the public in the neighbourhood or vicinity of those acts:

8. No person shall discharge a firearm before the hours of 9:00 am or after 7:00 pm that disturbs or tends to disturb other people as described in Section 2 of this Bylaw.

## **7. ZERO WASTE SOOKE**

**The following was submitted to OPSRRA by Zero Waste Sooke.**

Can Sooke be a Zero Waste Community? Zero Waste Sooke is a citizen's initiative started in January 2015 that is dedicated to changing the way we look at and create waste. This is born from the understanding that waste is an opportunity, a resource and a responsibility, not something to throw "away", out of sight. ZWS champions the 5 "R"s of the international Zero Waste Movement: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot, in that order.

Zero Waste Sooke is a wing of Transition Sooke.

Do any of these working groups pique your interest? Ban the Bag; Planning Your Zero Waste Event guidelines; April Zero Waste Open Space Meeting; lobbying and engaging local government and businesses on waste reduction; zero waste public education and awareness; roadside cleanup; digital media. If so, contact [info@zerowastesooke.ca](mailto:info@zerowastesooke.ca) or come along to the next ZWS meeting on Wednesday February 17th from 6:30-8:00 at the Sooke Library.

## **8. AWARENESS VIDEO PERMACULTURE EVENING**

The following was submitted to OPSRRA by Awareness Film Night

Awareness Film Night will present a Permaculture Evening Wednesday February 10th featuring the film "Inhabit" followed by a panel of permaculture maestros.

As we realize that the habits of endless growth, people trying to rule nature and the disregard for our fellow Earthmates are all wreaking havoc in our world, it is time to explore different ways of being. "Inhabit" introduces Permaculture, a way of living that involves observing the patterns and interactions of the natural life around you and applying that to whatever you wish to create. If that sounds a tad obscure, the film presents a vast array of people and projects in order to translate the diversity of permaculture into something that can be understood by an equally diverse audience. If you still have questions there will be a post screening discussion with local permaculture maestros Tony St. Pierre and Erin Newell of Cast Iron Farm, a collectively run permaculture farm in Sooke.

The event will be held from 7-9:30 pm in the theatre at Edward Milne Community School, 6218 Sooke Rd. in Sooke. Admission is by donation.

For more info about awareness film night: [www.awarenessfilmnight.ca](http://www.awarenessfilmnight.ca)

## **9. CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH CLASSES AT SHIRLEY HALL**

I am offering Spanish classes at the Shirley Community Hall.  
Would you like to join me?

This course is designed to get you familiar with the language: pronunciation and intonation, some simple necessary vocabulary, day to day expressions, and a sense of the Spanish culture. We will do it in a fun interactive way using specifically designed materials, games, audio, videos and songs.

**The complete course** consists of 6 classes

Morning course:

Tuesdays from 10:00 to 11:30am

(Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>)

**Fees are:** \$ 90

Gracias,

Vivi Curutchet

Native speaker from Argentina, teaching Spanish in the Sooke region since 2007

[lacuruch@yahoo.com](mailto:lacuruch@yahoo.com)

778.528.2299

## **10. NEW YOGA PROGRAMS AT SHIRLEY HALL FOCUS ON KIDS & FAMILY**

Elizabeth Tse, a new resident to the Shirley community is offering some new and exciting Yoga programs at the Shirley Hall. Start dates and times will be confirmed once she gets an idea of interest.

Programs being offered include (with tentative day):

- Ecstatic Yoga Dance Rave (Sat pm)
- Gentle Community Yoga for Women, Pregnant Mamas & New Mamas w/Babes (Mon am)
- Story Yoga (Ages 3-5) (Mon am)
- Kids Yoga (Ages 6-12) (Tues)
- Family Yoga (All Ages Welcome) (Sun)
- After-school Yoga (Kids Ages 7+, Tweens &Teens) (Wed)

Please contact Elizabeth for further information and to sign up.

Email: [bloomingyoga4kids@gmail.com](mailto:bloomingyoga4kids@gmail.com) or phone 778.528.2602.

## **11. SOOKE SEEDY SATURDAY 2016 CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

Come be part of the Sooke region's premier seed and local food growing event: [Sooke Seedy Saturday](#)! Volunteers are still needed, lots of short shifts to fill and ways to get involved. For more information about volunteering see the website [here](#) or contact Emily at: [parsonsemily@hotmail.com](mailto:parsonsemily@hotmail.com).

## **12. 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 | Three Sisters Farm                |
| Jambo Pet Sitting Service                    | Tugwell Creek Honey Farm          |
| Kemp Lake Store Café                         | Tugwell Creek Meadery             |
| Knotty Beds by Nature and Cedar Surfboards   | Welcome Wagon                     |
|  | Wildewood Custom Homes            |
|  | Wood Visions                      |

### **13. 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.**