

**OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY  
RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA)  
INFORMATION UPDATE FOR JANUARY 2005**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR FOLKS  
WELCOME TO 2005!**

**I wish you health and comfort  
and hope the coming year finds you with family and friends and plenty of  
memories.**

**Ken Pungente, President OPSRRA**

**The Otter Point & Shirley Residents & Ratepayers Association (OPSRRA)** is a representative community organization with an elected Board of Directors and strives to present the points-of-view of its members, residing in the rural communities of Shirley and Otter Point, to local government. It was founded in 1992 and has a membership of about 350.

**Lifetime memberships are \$5.00** and available from OPSRRA directors—see our web site ([www.opsrra.com](http://www.opsrra.com)) for further information.

The purpose of our society is to:

1. Ensure that the development of the two communities of Shirley 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 newsletter and notice of meetings directly to your e-mail address? OPSRRA is now e-mailing this newsletter to over 60 of our members. Contact Arnie Campbell at: [d.acampbell@shaw.ca](mailto:d.acampbell@shaw.ca) if you want to receive this membership service.

**OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS**

Ken Pungente    President  
Phone:            642-5177  
Email:  
[pungentetheplumber@shaw.ca](mailto:pungentetheplumber@shaw.ca)

Arnie Campbell    Vice-President  
Phone:            642-3113  
Email:             [d.acampbell@shaw.ca](mailto:d.acampbell@shaw.ca)

VACANT            Secretary/Treasurer

Byron Tweedy    Director  
Phone:            642-3480

Mitch Moneo    Director  
Phone:            642-5146

Virginia Boyd Director  
Phone: 646-2345  
Frances Stocks Director  
Phone: 642-6868

Wendy Morton Director  
Phone: 642-3542

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### 1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

[Contact OPSRRA](#)

[to have your community event listed in our monthly community events calendar](#)

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Saturday<br>January 1   | <b>Otter Point Fire Department<br/>13<sup>th</sup> Annual Polar Bear Swim</b><br>12 noon<br>Registration: 11:15 am<br>Whiffen Spit  |
| Sunday<br>January 9     | <b>Shirley Education &amp; Action Society (SEAS)<br/>Public Forum on Proposed Amalgamation with<br/>Sooke</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Shirley Community Hall  |
| Monday<br>January 10    | <b>Otter Point &amp; Shirley Residents &amp; Ratepayers<br/>Association (OPSRRA) Membership Meeting<br/>about Proposed Amalgamation with Sooke</b><br>7:30 p.m.<br>Otter Point Fire Hall<br>3727 Otter Point Road |
| Wednesday<br>January 12 | <b>Shirley Community Association Meeting</b><br>7:30 p.m.<br>Shirley Community Hall   |
| Wednesday<br>January 12 | <b>Trails Association Meeting</b><br>7:30 p.m.<br>Otter Point Fire Hall<br>3727 Otter Point Road  |
| Saturday<br>January 15  | <b>Boundary Restructure (Amalgamation) Open House</b><br>10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.<br>Otter Point Fire Hall<br>3727 Otter Point Road  |

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|---|---|
| Sunday<br>January 16                            | <b>Boundary Restructure (Amalgamation) Open House</b><br>10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.<br>Shirley Community Hall                            |
| Tuesday<br>January 18                           | <b>Boundary Restructure (Amalgamation) Public Forum</b><br>7:00 to 10:00 p.m.<br>Otter Point Fire Hall<br>3727 Otter Point Road       |
| Tuesday<br>January 18                           | <b>JDF Land Use Committee Meeting</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>District of Sooke Council Chambers<br>Council Chambers<br>2225 Otter Point Road |
| Wednesday<br>January 19                         | <b>Boundary Restructure (Amalgamation) Public Forum</b><br>7:00 to 10:00 p.m.<br>Shirley Community Hall                               |
| Wednesday<br>January 26                         | <b>Advance Poll—Boundary Restructure Referendum</b><br>8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.<br>Sooke Community Hall                                 |
| Second and Fourth<br>Thursday<br>of every month | <b>Shirley Quilters and Crafters</b><br>10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.<br>Shirley Community Hall   |

## 2. MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON PROPOSED AMALGAMATION WITH SOOKE

OPSRRA will be hosting a meeting to give the membership a chance to discuss the proposed amalgamation of the rural areas of Shirley, Otter Point and East Sooke with the District of Sooke.

|       |                        |
|-------|------------------------|
| Date  | Monday, January 10     |
| Time  | 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. |
| Place | Otter Point Fire Hall  |

Note: This meeting proceeds, but is not intended to replace, the public forums being hosted by the Boundary Restructure committee in Otter Point on January 18th and in Shirley on January 19.

Contact Ken Pungente (OPSRRA President) at 642-5177 for further information

## 3. MINUTES OF OPSRRA'S NOVEMBER 2004 MEMEBERSHIP MEETING

Minutes of the OPSRRA November membership meeting are now available on the OPSRRA web site ([www.opsrra.com](http://www.opsrra.com)). Go to the Index Page and click on 'Meeting Minutes'.

## 4. HIGHLIGHTS OF OPSRRA'S 2004 ACTIVITIES

OPSRRA has had another busy year. Here is a summary of the activities and events that OPSRRA has participated in:

1. Executive and directors have met 5 times.

2. Maintained the Association's web site.
3. Published 10 on-line newsletters on OPSRRA's web site ([www.opsrra.com](http://www.opsrra.com))
4. Maintained a Business Services listing on the web site for local businesses.
5. Attended the JDF Land Use committee, SEAPARC Parks committee, public hearings, Advisory Planning Commission and Official Community Plan committee meetings.
6. Wrote the JDF Electoral Area regional director expressing support for a Ministerial study to examine the apparent discrepancy in SEAPARC's tax assessment between taxpayers in the JDF Electoral Area and the District of Sooke.
7. Wrote the JDF regional director expressing support for the acquisition of crown land on the northeast side of Broom Hill for parkland.
8. Repeatedly meet with and corresponded with the regional director and CRD Planning Services planners concerning a variety of land use matters.
9. Spoke to the Land Use committee in opposition to the removal of the restrictive covenants on the Chew property in Shirley.
10. Met with the executive of the Sooke Salmon Enhancement Society regarding their opposition to the covenant on De Mamiel & Rocky Creeks.
11. Spoke to the Public Hearing in support of the Conservation covenant on the De Mamiel Estates property in Otter Point.
12. Kept contact with representatives of TimberWest concerning their pesticide spraying plans.
13. Initiated contact with provincial Crown Land Sales to find-out location and planned use of local Crown Lands.
14. Responded to a request from SEAPARC for an opinion on needed community services in the event that a large parcel of crown land in Otter Point was sold and subdivided.
15. Submitted an article on the history of OPSRRA to the Rural Observer.
16. Arranged with Welcome Wagon to distribute an information flyer on OPSRRA to new residents of Shirley and Otter Point.
17. Sent a letter (see below) to the regional director and SEAPARC in support of trails development in conjunction with local subdivision.

## **5. CORRESPONDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRAILS**

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8448 West Coast Rd.  
Sooke, BC V0S 1N0  
December 12, 2004

Mr. Erik Lund, CRD Director  
2205 Otter Point Rd.  
Sooke, BC V0S 1N0

Dear Director Lund:

The Otter Point and Shirley Residents and Ratepayers' Association (OPSRRA) is concerned over the preservation of green space, parklands and recreational community trails. We recognize that the long-term well being of our district in both commercial and health aspects depends upon a comprehensive allocation of parkland, green space and community trails. Future visitors will be attracted to the natural beauty of our district only if there is reasonable multi-use access. We in OPSRRA have worked diligently to support our Official Community Planning process in this and other respects. Through this process, we have come to realize that it is necessary to empower higher levels of government to protect access in the face of increasing pressure of development.

It is because of this, a motion was put forward and approved at our recent membership meeting to support the inclusion in your future long-range parks plan, some form of mapping that includes trails in the Otter Point and Shirley area.

We would be more than happy to meet with your parks committee to explain our concerns and request.

Yours truly,

Ken Pungente – President OPSRRA

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## **6. FREE ADVERTISING FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES ON OPSRRA'S WEB SITE**

Do you operate a small business? Are you an OPSRRA member? OPSRRA is offering a free business listing service for members, on its web site: [www.opsrra.com](http://www.opsrra.com). 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 anticipate having listings for accommodation, farm produce, art, furniture, fishing charters, eco tours, firewood, knitting, soaps, landscaping, bookkeeping, sewing and more. More information, businesses already listed and a registration form are available on OPSRRA's web site ([www.opsrra.com](http://www.opsrra.com)) under Business Listings.

**OPSRRA welcomes 1001 Welding & Equipment Repair (8650 West Coast Rd.) to the Business Services listings. 1001 Welding & Equipment is owned by Nick Young and offers welding, heavy equipment repair and brush mowing. Phone: 642-1001**

Other local businesses listed on the OPSRRA web site are:

|                       |                   |                          |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Malahat Farms B&B     | Beaches West B&B  | Birds Edge Press         |
| ALM Organic Farm      | Full Circle Seeds | Tugwell Creek Honey Farm |
| Tugwell Creek Meadery | Kemp Lake Store   |                          |

## **7. YOUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES & HOW TO CONTACT THEM**

**Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Regional Director:  
Erik Lund**

Office: 2205 Otter Point Road  
Sooke, BC V0S 1N0

Phone: 642-1620  
Fax: 642-5274  
email [jdfdirector@crd.bc.ca](mailto:jdfdirector@crd.bc.ca)  
Web Site: [www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm](http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm)

Note: The regional director's web site now features a newsletter with updates and a personal perspective on local issues in the JDF Electoral Area.

**Sooke School District (SD # 62) Trustees:  
Rob Gordy, Don Brown and Margot Swinburnson**

Office: SD # 62 General Offices  
3143 Jacklin Rd., Langford  
Phone: 474-9800

**Malahat-Juan de Fuca Provincial Member of the Legislative  
Assembly:  
Brian Kerr**

Office: Parliament Buildings, Victoria  
BC V8V 1X4  
Phone: 387-8105  
Fax: 387-9091  
Constituency Office \*: 102A-814 Goldstream Avenue  
Victoria, BC V9B 2X7  
Phone: 391-2831  
Fax: 391-2844  
email [brian.kerr.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:brian.kerr.mla@leg.bc.ca)  
Web site: [www.briankerrmla.bc.ca](http://www.briankerrmla.bc.ca)  
\* Langford

**Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca Federal Member of Parliament:  
Dr. Keith Martin**

Office \*: 2820B Jacklin Road  
Victoria BC V9B 3X9  
Phone: 474-6505  
Fax: 474-5322  
email [victoria@keithmartin.org](mailto:victoria@keithmartin.org)  
Web site: [www.keithmartin.org](http://www.keithmartin.org)  
\* Langford

**8. JUAN DE FUCA LAND USE COMMITTEE**

The next meeting of the JDF Land Use Committee is tentatively scheduled for:

Date: Tuesday, January 18  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Place: District of Sooke Council Chambers  
2225 Otter Point Road

The agenda will be available Friday, January 14. It can be viewed on the CRD web site or at the JDF Planning Services office, 2205 Otter Point Road.

## 9. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER

Back issues of the OPSRRA newsletter are available on the OPSRRA web site. Go to the Index page and click-on Back Issues.

## 10. BOUNDARY RESTRUCTURE (AMALGAMATION) UPDATE

The provincial referendum, to decide whether the residents of Shirley, Otter Point and East Sooke want to amalgamate with the District of Sooke, will be held on Saturday, February 5. There will be Advance Polls on Wednesday, January 28 and Wednesday, February 2.

Information flyers were delivered to all rural mailboxes the last week of December. These information flyers contain a summary of the final report of the Boundary Restructure committee, as well information on:

- Who is eligible to vote;
- Location, date and times of polls;
- Dates and locations of public information events;
- Contact numbers, etc.

If you do not have a rural mailbox or for some reason did not receive an information flyer, they are available at the District of Sooke general office, from rural representatives to the Boundary Restructure committee (see below), the Otter Point fire hall and the Shirley Community Hall. A limited number of copies of the complete Final Report of the Boundary Restructure committee are available at the Shirley Community Hall, the Otter Point Fire Hall and from the rural representatives to the Boundary Restructure committee. The Final Report is also available on-line at the District of Sooke web site: [www.district.sooke.bc.ca](http://www.district.sooke.bc.ca)

There will be two different public events organized by the Boundary Restructure committee to explain the amalgamation proposal prior to the February 5 referendum.

### Drop-in Open Houses

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Saturday<br>January 15 | <b>Boundary Restructure (Amalgamation) Open House</b><br>10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.<br>Otter Point Fire Hall<br>3727 Otter Point Road |
| Sunday<br>January 16   | <b>Boundary Restructure (Amalgamation) Open House</b><br>10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.<br>Shirley Community Hall                         |

### Public Forums

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Tuesday<br>January 18   | <b>Boundary Restructure (Amalgamation) Public Forum</b><br>7:00 to 10:00 p.m.<br>Otter Point Fire Hall<br>3727 Otter Point Road |
| Wednesday<br>January 19 | <b>Boundary Restructure (Amalgamation) Public Forum</b><br>7:00 to 10:00 p.m.<br>Shirley Community Hall                         |

For further information contact the rural representatives to the Boundary Restructure committee from your area:

Shirley: Sue Smee (Phone 646-2298)

Otter Point: Bruce Lemire-Elmore (Phone 642-5607)  
Arnie Campbell (Phone 642-3113).

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This newsletter is published monthly on the [www.opsrra.com](http://www.opsrra.com) web page by OPSRRA—the Otter Point and Shirley Residents and Ratepayers Association. Comments or requests to have information included in the newsletter can be directed to: Arnie Campbell, Vice President. Phone: (250) 642-3113 or e-mail [d.acampbell@shaw.ca](mailto:d.acampbell@shaw.ca)

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