

OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA) INFORMATION UPDATE FOR JULY 2004

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 50 of our members.

Contact Arnie Campbell at: d.acampbell@shaw.ca if you want to receive this service.

OPSRRA is a representative community organization with an elected Board of Directors and strives to present the points-of-view of the residents of 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) 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.

OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

Ken Pungente	President (away)	Arnie Campbell	Acting President
Wendy Miller	Secretary/Treasurer		
Byron Tweedy	Director	Mitch Moneo	(Acting) Vice-President
Virginia Boyd	Director	Wendy Morton	Director
Frances Stocks	Director		

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1. UPCOMING JULY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

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| Monday, July 12 | Otter Point Official Community Plan Committee (OCP) Meeting
6:30 p.m.
Otter Point Fire Hall
3727 Otter Point Road |
| Monday, July 19 | Shirley/Jordan River Official Community Plan (OCP) Meeting
6:00 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall |
| Sunday, August 22 | Shirley Day family celebration
Shirley Community Hall.
Featuring teddy bears and the Otter Point Honey Farm—
because where there are bears there has to be honey! |

2. BC HYDRO COMMUNITY "REGREENING" PROJECT

The CRD Planning Services department has requested OPSRRA's assistance in distributing the following information within Otter Point and Shirley:

BC Hydro has secured funding for local tree planting initiatives across the province. Partnering with local governments and communities in this program, BC Hydro will work with them to replace unsightly or hazardous trees near power lines.

As part of our ongoing work to protect the public and provide reliable electricity supply, BC Hydro removes and prunes trees growing near the power lines. We recognize there are impacts with this practice, however with this program, we can work with communities to replace lost trees with trees appropriate to your area.

For this initiative to be successful, it needs to be accompanied by community support. Although there is some flexibility in how funds are spent, this is a community partnership initiative; therefore it requires local funding and volunteer contribution to be successful.

If your community has 2004 fall planting objectives and would be interested in partnering with BC Hydro or if you would like more information about Community Regreening, please contact:

Brian Fisher
Vegetation Management Strategic Coordinator
BC Hydro
400 Madsen Road
P.O. Box 1500
Nanaimo, BC V9R 5M3

Phone: (250) 755-4722
Fax: (250) 755-4742
E-Mail: brian.fisher@bchydro.com

The funding is available until March, 2005 and is in the range of \$5,000 to \$25,000

3. HOUSE ADDRESSING PROJECT UPDATE

The CRD is presenting reviewing house numbers throughout the JDF Electoral Area to ensure that they are predictable and consistent (i.e. in sequence and odd numbered on one side and even numbered on the other). Canada Post originally requested this project five years ago as a pre-requisite to the installation of the newer Canada Post mailboxes. Since then, the importance of being able to find a specific address has expanded beyond Canada Post to include the police, fire, ambulance, BC Hydro, Telus and others.

Kelly Edwards, the CRD Planning Technologist who is conducting the addressing review, is currently driving around the Otter Point and Shirley neighbourhoods confirming existing addresses and filling in some of the 'holes' in her data. She will sometimes need to drive up people's driveways to confirm the location of the house and to make sure that there are not any surprise addresses not posted at the road. According to Kelly, she often finds a second or third address on a property not posted at the road! So, don't be surprised if she stops by your house sometime during the summer.

She is also recording driveway access points as that is important for emergency vehicles attempting to find access to a property.

Although most of the residents of Shirley and Otter Point will not have to change their house number, some will as some numbering problems have already been identified—mostly in the Shirley area.

A civic addressing bylaw was passed for the Malahat region and can be viewed at <http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/addressing.htm>.
A similar bylaw is being considered for our area.

4. JDF LAND USE COMMITTEE

No development applications are coming before the Land Use committee in July.

The Arden Logging development application (West Coast Road at Anderson Road) is still being reviewed by the CRD's Planning Services staff—it may be contrary to the CRD Regional Growth Strategy.

The DeMamiel Estates development application (CRD Bylaws 3155 and 3156) for 2901 Otter Point Road has been recommended for second and third reading by the CRD Board. Bylaw 3155 has been forwarded to the provincial minister of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services for their approval, (because lot averaging is being requested) before the CRD Board can proceed.

5. SHIRLEY/JORDAN RIVER APC MEMBERS

The new Shirley/Jordan River Advisory Planning Commission has the following appointed members: Sonja DeWit, Joen Nelson, Volker Metz and Jane Munro. Robert Steele, who would have continued as a member from the previous Otter Point/Shirley APC committee, has resigned. This vacancy has been filled by appointment, by the regional director, by James Powell who attempted to file nomination papers for the recent APC election but had missed the filing deadline.

6. OTTER POINT APC MEMBERS

The previous Otter Point/Shirley Advisory Planning Commission now becomes the new Otter Point APC and continues with three of the former members from Otter Point. They are: David Stocks (Chair), Colin Corby and Bruce Lemire-Elmore. The regional director chose not to hold an election for the remaining two vacancies on this APC and will instead recommend appointments to the CRD Board of Directors come the early fall.

7. SHIRLEY/JORDAN RIVER OCP COMMITTEE

This committee has now elected a chair (Maureen Nelson) and vice-chair (Bob Van Veen), the other committee members are: Dominique Bernardet, Cleo Gardiner, Sue Innes, Dick Kirby, Max Kuo, Christa Lissy and Gerhard Wild. The next meeting of the Shirley/Jordan River Official Community Plan committee will be Monday, July 19th at 6:00 P.M. at the Shirley Community Hall. These committee meetings are being held monthly through until December and are open to the public.

8. OTTER POINT OCP COMMITTEE

This committee elected its chair (Wayne Fritz) and vice-chair (Greg Whincup) at its May meeting. The other committee members are: Sandy Barta, Ken Douch, Ivan Harrison, Manfred Maurus and Wendy Miller. The next meeting of the Otter Point Official Community Plan committee will be Monday, July 12th at 6:30 p.m. at the Otter Point Fire Hall. These meetings are being held monthly through December and are open to the public.

9. 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. 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) under Business Listings.

10. SHERINGHAM LIGHTHOUSE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

A new preservation society is being formed in Shirley to try and purchase the federal (Coast Guard) property surrounding the Sheringham Point lighthouse. Society memberships are \$5.00. If you want to sign the petition to help acquire the lighthouse site from the federal Coast Guard, you can obtain further information from Rob or Karen Van Veen at 646-2213 or Terri Alcock at 642-2528.

This newsletter is published monthly on the 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
