

OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA) INFORMATION UPDATE **May 2012**

The Otter Point & Shirley Residents & Ratepayers Association (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 about **400**. Any resident or property owner in Shirley and Otter Point who are age 18 or over are eligible for membership.

Lifetime memberships cost \$5.00 per person and are available from OPSRRA directors—see our web site (www.opsrra.ca) for further information and on-line registration. Associate (non-voting) memberships are available for persons who do not reside or own property in Shirley or Otter Point, but who wish to support the Association.

The purpose of our society is to:

- 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.
- Co-operate with local government and other public bodies in the furtherance of the objectives of the society and benefits to the community.
- Concern itself with the performance of government agencies.
- Encourage citizens to stand for public office.
- 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 now emails this newsletter to over **300** of our members. Contact Arnie Campbell at: opsrra@gmail.com you want to receive this membership service.

OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

Arnie Campbell	President	Fiona McDannold	Vice-President
Phone:	250-642-3113	Phone:	250-646-2730
		Bob Philips	Treasurer
		Phone:	250-642-3297
Sandy Barta	Director	Erik James	Director
		Phone:	250-642-6368
Caroline Larsen	Director	Brenda Mark	Director
Phone:	250-642-1772	Phone:	250-646-2598
Marika Nagasaka	Director		
Phone:	250-642-2133		

Note: Contact any OPSRRA director at the following email address:
opsrra@gmail.com

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1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Contact Arnie Campbell at: opsrra@gmail.com or **250-642-3113** to have your community event listed in our monthly community events calendar.

Tuesday
May 1

**Our Forests, Our Future
Forum**

Planning for the future of our regional forest lands
7:00 p.m.
Edward Milne Community School Auditorium
Sooke BC

Tuesday
May 1

**Juan de Fuca Emergency Services
Monthly Meeting**

7:00 p.m.
JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

Wednesday
May 2

**East Sooke, Otter Point & Shirley
Board of Variance**

6:30 p.m.
JDF Electoral Area Planning Services Meeting Room
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Agenda: 8668 West Coast Road, Otter Point

Board of Variance Application Reports available at:
http://www.crd.bc.ca/reports/juandefucaeaboardsof/_eastsookeotterpointa_/2012_/index.htm

Wednesday
May 2

**Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation
Commission (SEAPARC)
Monthly Meeting**

7:00 p.m.
Board Room
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Saturday
May 5

**Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Hike into the Bone Yard Hills**

9:00 a.m.

A 5 hour hike on single track trails of similar difficulty to last month's Matterhorn hike.

Meet in the parking lot at William Simmons Memorial Park off Otter Point Road at the Sooke Business Park to carpool (parking is limited at the trail head)

Bring a lunch, snack, water and dress for the weather.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767
or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details.

Web site:

www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Every
Saturday
May 5 to
October

Sooke Farmers Market

10:00 a.m to 2:00 p.m.

On Otter Point Road across from Eustace Road in Sooke.

Farmers from throughout the Sooke Region participate.

More information: <http://www.sookecountrymarket.com/>

Saturday
May 5

Coronation Oak Rededication

1230 hours

Sooke Legion Cenotaph

See this issue's **Did You Know That ...** for details about the Coronation Oak.

Sunday
May 6

Seaweed Workshop

10:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m.

Ocean Wilderness Inn, Shirley

Presented by Amanda Swinimer and Christine Hopkins

Learn to identify local seaweeds; to harvest edible seaweeds sustainably; the health benefits and properties of seaweed and more. Includes: a wild seaweed lunch; a trip to the beach at low tide; and presentations on seaweeds.

Cost: \$85.00/person.

For more details or to register:

<http://dakinitidalwilds.blogspot.ca/>

Tuesday
May 8

New Library for the Sooke Region?

Public information meeting to consider a new library in Sooke.

5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

formal presentations at 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

See newsletter story below for details.

Wednesday
May 9

**Shirley Community Association
General Meeting**
7:30 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Wednesday
May 9

Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission

First in a series of public meetings to collect community comment on the proposed changes to the Otter Point Official Community Plan.

See newsletter story item below for details.

Sunday
May 13

Shirley Farmers Market
9:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m.

Pioneer Park (next to Shirley Community Hall)

Contact Christopher Lucas for table information:
Phone: 250-900-8817

Monday
May 14

**OPSRRA Board of Directors
Monthly Meeting**
Members welcome!
7:30 p.m.

Board Room
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Agenda available on request.
Contact Arnie Campbell at opsrra@gmail.com

Tuesday
May 15

**JDF Electoral Area Land Use Committee (LUC)
Meeting**
7:00 p.m.

JDF Electoral Area Planning Services Meeting Room
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Obtain the agenda the Friday before the meeting on the CRD website at:
http://www.crd.bc.ca/agendas/juandefucalandusecom_/index.htm
Select the year and month of the agenda you wish to read.

Wednesday
May 16

Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission

Second in a series of public meetings to collect community comment on the proposed changes to the Otter Point Official Community Plan.

See newsletter story item below for details.

Tuesday
May 22

Otter Point Heritage Open House

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

JDF Electoral Area Planning Services Meeting Room
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Old photos, maps and stories about the history of Otter Point will be on display. The public is invited to come and share their memories of an earlier time. The information collected will be used to update the heritage section of the Otter Point Official Community Plan.

Light refreshments served.

For more information contact:

Arnie Campbell, Chair, Otter Point OCP Review Committee:

d.acampbell@shaw.ca

Elida Peers, Historian, Sooke Region Museum:

historian@sookeregionmuseum.com

See newsletter story below for more information about the Otter Point OCP review.

Wednesday
May 23

Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission

Third in a series of public meetings to collect community comment on the proposed changes to the Otter Point Official Community Plan.

See newsletter story item below for details.

Tuesday
May 24

Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Commission

Monthly Meeting

5:00 p.m.

JDF Electoral Area Services Meeting Room
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Wednesday
May 28

Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission

Fourth in a series of public meetings to collect community comment on the proposed changes to the Otter Point Official Community Plan.

See newsletter story item below for details.

Saturday
June 2

Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Hike the Lakes Carriage Way to Kapoor Park & back
9:00 a.m.

Meet at the upper parking lot in the Sooke Potholes Regional Park. **Bring parking money.**

A 16 km hike along the Galloping Goose.

Bring wter and a lunch, and dress for the weather.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767 or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details.
Web site:
www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Tuesday
June 5

Juan de Fuca Emergency Services
Monthly Meeting
7:00 p.m.
JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

Wednesday
June 6

Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Commission (SEAPARC)
Monthly Meeting
7:00 p.m.
Board Room
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Mondays

Karate for all ages
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall
Contact Alida Long: 250-642-4631

Tuesdays

Yoga
6:30 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall
With Alanda Carver

Thursdays

Shirley Quilters and Crafters
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall
Everyone welcome
Contact Christien Shipton: 250-646-2687

Thursdays &
Sundays

Nia Dance / Movement Class

Thursdays: 6:45 to 8:00 p.m.

Sundays: 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

Contact Melody Kimmell:

250-646-2995

movingmelody@gmail.com

2. OTTER POINT OCP REVIEW

The Otter Point Official Community Plan (OCP) Review Committee concluded its work on April 5 and submitted its recommendations to the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Planning Services Department. A draft OCP has now been completed and will be forwarded to the Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission (APC) who will begin community meetings on Wednesday, May 9 to review the draft and make any further recommendations. Additional meetings have been scheduled for May 16, May 23 and May 28. All meetings begin at 7:00 pm and are at the Otter Point Fire Hall.

The OCP Review Committee met 13 times and hosted 3 community workshops between October 2011 and April 2012. It received 13 submissions and met with delegations from the T'Sou-ke First Nation, Kemp Lake Waterworks District and the Otter Point Fire Department. This committee's purpose was to help identify key issues relating to the community's future land use, share information with the community, review community comment and background material and make recommendations.

All of the meetings and the material received and reviewed by the committee is on the OCP web site: http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/landuse/otterpoint_ocp.htm

Summary of the committee's recommendations:

<http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/landuse/documents/2011-10-07recommendationssummary.pdf>

First draft of the revised OCP:

<http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/landuse/documents/draftOCPwithtrackedchangesApril.pdf>

Associated maps:

<http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/landuse/documents/revisedmapsforApril5.pdf>

OPSRRA directors will attend the APC meeting to monitor the process and ensure that the community's priorities identified through surveys, workshops, submissions and the APC public consultation process continue to be reflected in the draft OCP. We encourage residents of Otter Point who have an interest in the community's future to read the work prepared by the OCP Review Committee and the Planning Department and to share their comments with the APC and the Planning Department. These public sessions could be the last opportunity for community comment on the Otter Point OCP for another 5 years.

3. PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER A NEW LIBRARY

A joint public consultation session has been scheduled with the Vancouver Island Regional Library, the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and the District of Sooke to discuss plans for a new library in Sooke.

Date:	May 8, 2012
Time:	5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Location:	Community Hall, Sooke
Formal presentation:	6:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Agenda

- District of Sooke: Mayor Wendal Milne provides welcoming comments and introductions and speaks briefly about Sooke's Official Community Plan

- VIRL: CEO Rosemary Bonnano speaks briefly about what a modern library could and should look like
- VIRL: Director of Finance Adrian Maas goes over the VIRL site selection criteria
- Public Comments and feedback

If you are not able to attend, you can complete an online survey:

www.surveymonkey.com/s/Sookelibrary

Background

The OPSRRA newsletter spoke with the Executive Director of the Vancouver Island Regional Library to get some background to the May 8 public meeting.

The Vancouver Island Regional Library (VIRL) has been reviewing the need for a new library in Sooke since 2009 and is now at the stage where it is ready to consult with the public about where to situate a new facility, and what holdings and services should be included. As the library will be available to everyone in the Sooke Region, the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area has been included in this public consultation process. The VIRL has set aside money for the acquisition and operation of a new facility. No capital cost would be associated with this proposal as it would be a rented facility.

The District of Sooke, the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (except Willis Point and the Malahat), the Town of Sidney and the Saanich Peninsula are members of the VIRL, a separate library system from the Greater Victoria Library which services the remainder of the Capital Regional District. The VIRL maintains 38 branches on Vancouver Island, Bella Coola and Haida Gwaii and operates as a cooperative with all branches sharing in the operating costs. The VIRL is supported through our property taxes and access to library services is free to residents of the areas covered by the VIRL. The VIRL assessment to the JDFEA has increased about 22% in the past 5 years from \$187,895 in 2008 to \$229,160 in 2012. The average cost per household in the JDFEA for 2012 is \$65.47.

The Sooke library presently occupies 3,696 square feet. Based on the present population of the Sooke Region, it should have 8,789 square feet with the ability to expand to 12,217 to allow for future population growth. When assessing the location for a new facility the VIRL policy is to consider the physical site, accessibility and the building itself. Some of the specific considerations are:

- Highly visible central location, close to community and commercial activity and where future growth will happen.
- Located in a permitted zone.
- Accessible by public transit, availability of vehicle and bicycle parking and service truck delivery allowed.
- Building meets minimum area size, building code and no barriers to access.
- Access to internet, cable and phone services.
- Affordable building in good condition with a suggested 20 year lease.

4. UPDATE: PROPOSED KEMP LAKE DOCK

The Manager of Parks & Recreation for the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area submitted the following to the OPSRRA newsletter:

The CRD and Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations would like to thank all those who actively participated in

the public information session held at the Otter Point Fire Hall on February 8, 2012. We appreciate the thoughtful and constructive comments that were submitted on the project proposal questionnaire. The public feedback for the proposed work on the Kemp Lake foreshore access of Milligan Road, did not demonstrate a strong level of support for this initiative, and were not convincing enough to continue to move this project forward at this time. If at some future point there evolves strong public support to revisit this project, the CRD and Ministry would be interested.

5. COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS

We live in a forested community and summer will soon be here. Now is the time to finish clearing fire breaks around your house and outbuildings and reducing the amount of flammable material on your property. Here is the link to the Otter Point Fire Department's list of suggested precautions you can take:

<http://www.otterpointfire.bc.ca/publicinfo/wildfireprotection.shtml>

Wildfire protection plans were recently completed for Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point. The Capital Regional District (CRD) undertook these plans in response to serious forest wildfires which spread into some urban areas of the province in 2003 and 2008. The plans include:

- Extensive mapping of fire risk areas in Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point.
- Assessment of the probability and consequences of a wildfire.
- How to protect a community from wildfire and lessen the damage when a wildfire happens.

View the reports on the following CRD web sites:

http://www.crd.bc.ca/reports/electoralareaservice_/2011_/09september7_/cwppshirleyjordanriv/cwppshirleyjordanriv.pdf

http://www.crd.bc.ca/reports/electoralareaservice_/2011_/09september7_/cwppotterpointfinal2/cwppotterpointfinal2.pdf

6. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION GRANTS

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Economic Development Commission (EDC) held its inaugural 2012 meeting on April 19 to review grant applications and elect its Chair and Vice-Chair.

Chair: Yale Shap, East Sooke

Vice Chair: Blair Cusak, East Sooke

Other members appointed to the commission by the Regional Director are:

Ken Douch, Otter Point

Mary Alice Johnson, Otter Point

Elizabeth Petersen, Otter Point

The role and meeting schedule of the EDC was recently changed by JDFEA Regional Director Mike Hicks. Rather than the previous system of 6 meeting per year, one meeting will now be held in the spring and another in the fall. Additional meetings, if necessary, may be called by the chairperson. According to Director Hicks, the reduction in meeting times will hopefully reduce the administration costs while meeting the demand for grant applications. The committee no longer intends to pursue its other objectives:

- Developing and promoting an economic strategy for the Electoral Area.
- Working with First Nations.
- Preserving and strengthening existing businesses.
- Attracting new businesses.
- Coordinating local economic development opportunities.

The Economic Development Commission allocates funds to support community initiatives that improve the economy and create jobs. Projects are expected to be self-sustaining following the initial grant; ongoing activity is not normally supported. Applicants are encouraged to visit the CRD web site:

www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/economic/economic.htm or
phone the JDF office 250-642-1500 for application forms.

The Commission has a budget of \$40,000, part of which is used to cover the commission's administrative costs. Efforts are underway to identify what portion of the commission's budget is used for administration.

The Commission approved the following grants at its April 19 meeting:

- Shirley Farmers' Market: \$1,000 for start-up costs and advertising.
- Sooke CASA: \$2,000 towards the cost of a youth volunteer fair.
- Sooke Fine Arts: request for help with gallery lighting was referred to the Regional Director for consideration as a Grant-in-Aid.

Three other grant requests were turned-down because they did not meet the funding criteria.

Note: The bylaw which established the EDC allows up to 9 appointees, so there are presently 4 vacancies. Contact Director Hicks if you would be interested in being appointed to the commission.

7. PUBLIC MEETING TO CONSIDER TRIATHLON CONCERNS

Shirley and Otter Point residents were given the opportunity to meet on Thursday, April 26 to discuss the Sooke Subaru Triathlon and its impact on our communities. This year the Triathlon will be held on Sunday, August 12, 2012 and the cycling portion takes place on Otter Point Road and Highway 14 resulting in road closures on both roads.

Unfortunately the main representative from the Triathlon organizing committee was unable to attend due to illness, however Ken Pungente, who represents the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFA) to the triathlon organizing committee and Gerard Leblanc who has attended several triathlon organizing meetings were able to provide information and answer some questions and concerns.

Organizers have made some changes to the bike race as a result of their experience from last year. Some of these changes are:

- Sections of the bike race will be "branded" to attempt to recognize the communities west of Sooke where the race actually takes place.
- Safety for the riders will be increased with 2 doctors available on race day along with a roving first response service. Dangerous stretches of the road will be marked with hay bales and netting used to buffer sharp corners.
- Cyclists who do not give way to emergency vehicles will be disqualified.
- "Guide" vehicles will be used to lead traffic once one lane is open.

Residents voiced their comments and concerns regarding the following:

- Road closures and the resulting confusion and inconvenience.
- Lack of consultation with the affected residents before the decision to hold the event.
- Much concern regarding the fact that there is no alternative route.
- Lack of organization and training of volunteers regarding safety of riders on an already bad road.
- No acknowledgement of the impact on residents or compensation or thanks to the communities west of Sooke who bear the brunt of the event.
- Little or no commercial or tourism benefit to the communities west of Sooke.
- Changing the name of the event to the “Sooke-Juan de Fuca Triathlon” would be some sort of recognition that 99.9% of the event takes place outside the borders of Sooke.
- Inappropriate to close a public, provincial highway, which is the only route in or out, for a commercial sporting event.

The meeting organizers will forward a report from the meeting to the Triathlon organizing committee.

8. UPDATE: TIMBERWEST MEETING

When representatives from OPSRRA met with TimberWest in March, we asked for information on logging in watersheds, reforestation and local land sales. (See the April 2012 newsletter for details.) One unanswered question concerned the reforestation of Blueberry Flats along Highway 14 in the Rural Resource Lands. This is the follow-up reply from TimberWest:

“We’ve done some field reviews of the Blueberry Flats area. The parts of the area that are gravel pit will remain non-productive until that aspect of the site is properly closed and rehabilitated at the end of the supply life. In the meantime, our foresters have walked the area and confirmed that it is otherwise stocked at around 900 stems per hectare of Douglas-fir, pine, and alder.”

A representative from TimberWest also confirmed that, for safety reasons, their logging trucks are not supposed to use Young's Lake Road because of the poor sight lines at the intersection with Otter Point Road. All TW logging trucks have been directed to use Butler Main and to access Otter Point Road across from the Business Park.

9. WHERE TO FIND INFORMATION ABOUT DEVELOPMENT PERMIT AND STEEP SLOPE APPROVALS IN THE JDFA

Development Permit Areas (DPAs) are identified in each community's Official Community Plan (OCP). Development Permits (DPs) are presently required where development is taking place within the following areas:

- Steep Slopes
- Foreshore and Marine Shoreline Area
- Watercourses, Wetlands and Riparian Areas
- Protection of Farming Areas

- Commercial and Industrial Development Areas

Depending on the DP's application the request can be considered for approval by either Planning Services or referred to the Juan de Fuca Land Use Committee. For more information about DPs visit the following JDFA Planning Services web site: http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/landuse/current_apps.htm

Information about DPs which have been approved can be found at the following location: <http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/landuse/documents/WebAppsMar2012.pdf>

The following links may be helpful if you are searching for additional information:

- The Sooke Land Use Bylaw, 1992, Bylaw No. 2040 has been revised and renamed a consolidated version of the Juan de Fuca Land Use Bylaw, 1992, Bylaw No. 2040 is on the website at this link http://www.crd.bc.ca/bylaws/juandefucaelectorala_/2040jdflandusejan201/2040jdflandusejan201.pdf
- Zoning and Development Permit Area information on lands in Juan de Fuca is now available on the CRD Atlas and can be accessed at this link <http://crdatlas.ca>
Once you launch the map viewer and open the map, look for the Layers icon on the right hand margin. Click and open the Juan de Fuca Planning box.

10. JORDAN RIVER PARK RESERVE LANDS

The Capital Regional District held public consultations on the possible park boundary for the new [Jordan River Regional Park Reserve](#) on February 22 and 23, 2012. When the CRD purchased the lands from Western Forest Products, it had to do so based on legally defined parcels that were up for sale even though some portions may not have had park value. CRD Regional Parks is now exploring which lands should be retained for parkland, and what lands could be declared as surplus.

Fast Facts about the Jordan River Regional Park Reserve:

Established 2010

187 Hectares / 462 Acres

Purchase price \$9.945 million

Purchase of the Jordan River lands will be completed in August, 2012 when the last of three payments is due.

The preliminary report by CRD Regional Parks staff to the CRD Regional Parks Committee happened on April 18. The report summarized the public comments received as follows:

- Support exists for keeping all the parcels.
- Concern that the CRD doesn't have all the necessary environmental information to make a decision.
- The CRD shouldn't be in a rush to dispose of some of the lands as community planning for the area is still in progress and the real estate market is soft.
- There is a need to engage the Pacheedaht First Nation re their land claim.
- If any lands are to be disposed of the Jordan River community should be consulted re their needs.

- If any parcels are sold there should be consultation re how their use could best support recreation, community, economic development and environmental protection.
- If any lands are sold there is resistance to having them used for rural residential development.
- There is a strong support for keeping all the waterfront properties for the environmental and recreational attributes.
- Strong support for keeping the lands as a showcase for a true “West Coast” experience.

11. COMPOSTING KITCHEN & GARDEN SCRAPS IN THE JDFA

Trying to reduce the amount of garbage being delivered to the Hartland Road dump in Saanich is an on-going challenge for the Capital Regional District. An estimated 260,000 tonnes (40,000 garbage truck loads) of recyclables have been diverted since the Blue Box program was instituted in 1989. This effort was further extended on April 11 when the CRD Board of Directors approved an expansion of the two year kitchen scrap collection pilot project in View Royal and Oak Bay to the remainder of the CRD.

The removal of kitchen scraps from the landfill is an attempt to extend the life of the Hartland Road dump by 5 years, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and make compost. Beginning in 2013, municipal and private garbage haulers will be responsible for keeping kitchen scraps out of the garbage they collect. As an incentive they will be given a discount of \$20.00 per tonne in 2013 and 2014 for delivering separate loads of kitchen scraps to CRD approved garbage transfer points and composting sites. Beginning in 2014, they will be penalized with a 20% surcharge for any garbage containing kitchen scraps which arrives at the Hartland Road dump. Finally, in 2015, any garbage mixed with kitchen scraps will be refused at the dump. It is estimated that 30,000 tonnes of kitchen scraps will generate 17,000 tonnes of usable compost.

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area is not exempt from this recycling initiative and Regional Director Hicks has submitted the following request to the OPSRRA newsletter:

In less than 2 years, we in the JDF will be asked to take care of our kitchen scraps including meat and bones. I have started my research and was hoping that through OPSRRA, I could find some answers.

For those in the JDF wishing to compost, with a minimum of effort, I am looking at a green cone digester. <https://www.greencone.ca/Intro/whatsagreencone.php>. I wonder if it would be an idea to somehow get some feedback on this technology or hear through your readers and members of other great, proven, inexpensive composters or digesters. It would be my hope to find the best, and then bulk purchase to receive the best possible price. Please tell me if you can help and/or your own feedback.

Mike Hicks, JDFA Regional Director.

These digesters retail for \$170. If we buy 1,000 (between the 3 Electoral Areas) the price is \$80.

Contact Director Hicks at: directorjdf@crd.bc.ca

12. KEMP LAKE WATERWORKS DISTRICT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM for the Kemp Lake Waterworks District (KLWD) was held on Wednesday, April 25. There was a better than usual turnout with about 20 people attending.

There are three trustees for the KLWD, with one being elected each year for a three year term. Kevan Brehart's term had ended and there was almost an election. Members of the strata at Olympic View Park decided to learn more about the waterworks and as part of their active interest decided to put forward a nominee. However, the proposed nominee could not attend the AGM and had not sent a letter indicating that he would accept a nomination. After some discussion, the strata representatives decided not to nominate their candidate but to accept an active role with the water district over the next year. Kevan Brehart was returned by acclamation and will continue in his role as Chair of the Board.

Other points of interest from the meeting included the following:

- In 2011, expenditures exceeded income by \$7,133 due to an unexpected increase in the cost of materials for repairs and maintenance.
- The shortfalls show as line items so it is easy to see where the overage occurred.
- Revenues and expenditure for 2012 were projected at \$123,600 before a 2.5% increase in the honorarium was added to the budget by vote of the members.
- Provincial legislation requires a 4-3-2-1 treatment process. The Vancouver Island Health Authority is overseeing the water district's move to compliance.
- One option is to build and maintain a treatment plant. A second option is to purchase bulk water from the CRD. Trustees also need to explore how the options can be financed. When the information is organized, land owners within the District will be asked to decide on which water system option, as well as their choice of financing. Approvals can be sought by either an Alternative Approval Process, or by Referendum.

Note: Although estimates were given at the AGM for the cost of a treatment plant and the hook-up of the KLWD to CRD water, these amounts were incomplete and need further exploration before being considered for public discussion.

- The trustees will need to work with the water system users to adapt to any changes in the Official Community Plan for Otter Point that will affect the Kemp Lake Waterworks District mandate.
- The Juan de Fuca Parks & Recreation Commission voted to shelve the proposed Kemp Lake recreational dock at the Manatu Road beach access, for the time being, due to low community interest.
- The Chair told the meeting that Department of Fisheries & Oceans regulations do not permit even electric motors on the lake. Signs posted with this information regularly disappear but the fact is people may be fined for using motors on the lake.
- The Chair explained that when new residences are hooked into the water system, there is a charge of \$4,000 per residence. A strata with four houses may have only one water meter but is still charged for each residence.
- Property owners are billed for all water that passes through their meter. Meters are read every three months. Administrators can usually identify over-use and alert the property owner if there is a probable leak. It is up to

the property owners to watch for wet spots and breaks in the lines on their property and to make the necessary repairs. The water district crew can assist in a repair by shutting of the meter valve so the repair can be done. It was also explained that meters are the property of the water district. People should not touch the meters or even open the meter boxes.

For more information, including the results of water quality testing, go to the Kemp Lake Waterworks District website at: www.kemplakewaterworks.bc.ca

13. DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

One of the two Coronation Oaks brought to this area by the Shirley Women's Institute is located at the Sooke Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion? The Legion's oak tree will be rededicated at 1230 hours (12:30 pm) on Sunday, May 6 in a tribute to those who served in Battle of the Atlantic and fought for victory in Europe in World War II.

The Shirley Women's Institute obtained the two oak seedlings from England and they were planted locally on May 12, 1937 to commemorate the coronation of King George VI. The seedlings were grown from acorns taken from Great Windsor Park at Windsor Castle, the royal family residence located in Windsor, Berkshire County, England. One tree was planted in front of the old Sooke Legion at the corner of Shields and Eustace Road. When the new Legion building was erected on the same site in 1976 the tree was protected and now has a commemorative plaque placed next to it. The opening procession for the Sooke Fall Fair has begun at this location. The other Coronation Oak is growing in Pioneer Park on the west side of the Shirley Community Hall. It was provided with a heritage tree designation in 1976 by the Victoria Horticultural Society. According to the Heritage Tree certificate, which hangs on the wall at the Shirley Hall, it is classified as a historical tree belonging to a heritage group and notes that it is one of the Coronation Oaks distributed through-out the British Empire to commemorate the coronation. Coronation Oaks were also shipped around the Commonwealth following the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in April 1952 but it is unknown if any were ever planted in our area.

Do you have local historical information about Shirley and Otter Point you would like to share, or questions that you would like answered? If so, let us know and we'll try to help. Contact Arnie Campbell by phone (250-642-3113) or by email opsrra@gmail.com

14. OPSRRA SMALL BUSINESS LISTINGS

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.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 anticipate having 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 an on-line registration form are available on OPSRRA's web site (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 has more information about the following business listings

1001 Welding & Equipment Repair
Accent in Grooming
A Point of View B & B
ALM Organic Farm
Beaches West B & B
Bear Home Remodelling
Birds Edge Press
Coastal Crunch Granola
Eagle Cove Beachfront Guest Suites
Farmer Notary—Shawna Farmer, Notary Public.
Full Circle Seeds
Glen's Gardening Company
Heron's Rest B & B
"In A Fix" Bookkeeping & Accounting Services
Jambo Pet Sitting Service
Kemp Lake Store Cafe
Kirsten Sykes, Realtor
Knotty Beds by Nature
Le Sooke Spa
Malahat Farm Heritage Cottage
Ocean Wilderness Inn
Otter Point Beach House
Otter Point Electrical Service
Reflexology by Marlene Barry
Rhythm's Edge Percussion Shop
Road's End Construction
Sandy's Drywall Ltd

Stick in the Mud Coffee House
Straitview Ridge Bed & Breakfast
Three Sisters Farm
Tugwell Creek Honey Farm
Tugwell Creek Meadery
Welcome Wagon
Wood Visions

15. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER

Back issues of the OPSRRA newsletter are available on the OPSRRA web site.

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