

OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA) INFORMATION UPDATE NOVEMBER 2008

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 **385**. Any resident or property owner in Shirley and Otter Point is 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 e-mails this newsletter to over **225** of our members. Contact Arnie Campbell at: d.acampbell@shaw.ca if you want to receive this membership service.

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1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Contact Arnie Campbell at: d.acampbell@shaw.ca or 642-3113 to have your community event listed in our monthly community events calendar.

Saturday November 1	Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society Walk the trail at Sheringham Point 9:00 a.m. An hour and half walk on a good trail. Meet at the end of Sheringham Point Road. We will spend some time at the lake to swim or explore, and return to the cars late in the afternoon. Phone 250-642-2767 or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details. Please note our new web address: www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca
Monday November 3	Otter Point All Candidates Meeting 7:00-9:30 p.m. Everyone welcome! Otter Point Fire Hall A public meeting hosted by OPSRRA Presentations from the School Trustee and Regional Director candidates. Introduction of the candidates for the Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission. Question and answer period.
Tuesday November 4	JDF Electoral Area Land Use Committee (LUC) Meeting 7:00 p.m. District of Sooke Council Chambers 2225 Otter Point Road You can obtain the agenda the Friday before the meeting at the CRD Planning Services office, 2-6868 West Coast Road or on the CRD website at: www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm Click on "Agenda" at the top of the page.

Wednesday
November
5 & 12

Advance Poll for School Trustee, Regional Director and Sooke Region Museum referendum.
8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
**Sooke Community Hall or
SD #62 School Board Office**
(3143 Jacklin Road, Langford)

Note:

Advance Poll for Land Use Community representative and Advisory Planning Commission representatives (Shirley/Jordan River Only):
CRD Planning and Building Inspection offices
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Thursday
November 6

Juan de Fuca Parks Committee
5:00 p.m.
JDF Electoral Area Services Office
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Sunday
November 9

Shirley Craft Fair
10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Monday
November 10

Shirley/Jordan River All Candidates Meeting
7:00 p.m.
Everyone welcome!
Shirley Community Hall

A public meeting hosted by the Shirley Education & Action Society (S.E.A.S.)
Presentations from the School Trustee and Regional Director candidates. Introduction of the candidates for the Shirley/Jordan River Advisory Planning Commission.

Tuesday
November 11

Remembrance Day Ceremony
10:30 a.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Wednesday
November 12

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

Saturday
November 15

Voting Day
School Trustees, Regional Director, Land Use Committee representative, Advisory Planning Commission (Shirley/Jordan River only) and Sooke Region Museum referendum

See newsletter story item 3 for details on times and locations.

Wednesday
November 18 **Otter Point Fire Department
Annual General Meeting**
7:00 p.m.
Otter Point Fire Hall

Thursday
November 20 **Sooke Electoral Area Recreation Commission (SEAPARC)
Meeting**
7:00 p.m.
Multi-Purpose Room "A"
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Thursday
November 27 **JDF Economic Development Commission
Monthly Meeting**
6:00 pm
Village Foods Meeting Room
6661 Sooke Road, Sooke BC

Monday
December 1 **OPSRRA Board of Directors
Monthly Meeting**
Members welcome!
7:30 p.m.
Boardroom
SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Thursday
December 4 **Juan de Fuca Parks Committee**
5:00 p.m.
JDF Electoral Area Services Office
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Saturday
December 6 **Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society**
**Check out the trails recently opened by Canada World Youth
and JdF Community Trails Society**
9:30 a.m.
2 to 3 hour hike.
Meet at the end of Manatu Road.
Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767 or email sid2767@shaw.ca
for details.
Please note our new web address:
www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Second &
Fourth
Thursday
of every month **Shirley Quilters and Crafters**
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

2. INTERIOR'S TREES GET A BETTER DEAL

What would local communities have done with a share of about \$35 million? That is the equivalent amount that could have been available to our community and others if the Province had provided us with the proportionate amount of compensation that they gave to communities and businesses in the Kootenays as part of a deal to release 4,431 hectares of private forest lands from an Interior of B.C. Tree Farm License (TFL). The following press release from the Minister of Forests explains the compensation provided and the process that was used; including public meetings and extensive consultation with local governments, First Nations, government agencies and businesses.

Remember that the province refused to consult with the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area, the Capital Regional District or the local community when it decided to remove about 28,000 hectares of Western Forest Product's (WFP) private forest lands from TFL 25 and that no compensation was offered to local communities.

OPSRRA has written the Minister of Forests requesting an opportunity to meet to discuss this inequity. Meanwhile, WFP has recently informed OPSRRA that it sold 614 hectares of its private forest lands that were released from TFL 25. These properties were purchased by Ender Ilkey, in June 2008, for an unconfirmed price of about \$3 million. The 7 properties border the Juan de Fuca Marine Trail and stretch for about 10 kilometres between China Beach and Botanical Beach.

NEWS RELEASE—Ministry of Forests and Range

LOCAL BUSINESS, COMMUNITIES BENEFIT FROM TFL DECISION

VICTORIA – Ensuring payments to local suppliers and contractors affected by Pope & Talbot's bankruptcy, along with other community benefits, were key factors in a decision to approve the removal of private land from Tree Farm Licence 23, Forests and Range Minister Pat Bell announced today.

"This was an important decision and one of much interest to the residents of the Kootenays," said Bell. "We engaged in extensive consultations and I want to thank everyone who participated. As a result, I think we've arrived at a good outcome for the communities and particularly for the local suppliers and logging contractors hurt by Pope & Talbot's bankruptcy."

The minister approved the removal of 4,341 hectares of private land from Tree Farm Licence (TFL) 23 in the Arrow Boundary and Columbia forest districts based on the following:

- The forest management concerns associated with the deletion can be largely mitigated.
- 130 hectares of private land considered high value mountain caribou habitat will not be removed from the TFL and will continue to be managed as Crown land.
- Payment of \$4,150,000 to 92 Arrow/Boundary local suppliers and logging contractors whose primary business emanated from woodlands operations of Pope & Talbot Ltd.
- Payment of \$211,000 to Arrow/Boundary contractors that provided surety bonds to Pope & Talbot Ltd.
- Donation of \$50,000 to the Nakusp Community Forest.

- Province's purchase of the nine-hectare Eagle Bay recreation site for \$1.00 (estimated value \$425,000).
- Province's purchase of the 55-hectare Oatscott property for \$1.00 (original asking price was \$495,000), contingent on the issuance of a foreshore lease for the Needles log dump.
- Continued road access through private land formerly part of the tree farm licence as well as other private land parcels formerly held by Pope & Talbot (estimated value between \$418,000 and \$528,000).
- Continued Crown access to log dumps and gravel sources.

"Times are tough in the forest sector right now – and especially for local logging contractors that were affected when Pope & Talbot ceased operating," said Wayne Lintott, general manager, Interior Logging Association. "I'm thrilled that government was able to secure more than \$4.3 million in payments to local contractors as a condition to removing the private land from TFL 23."

In October 2007, Pope & Talbot sought protection under the Canadian Companies' Creditors' Act and began selling off its assets. It listed private land within TFL 23 for sale, subject to ministerial approval of the land being removed from the tree farm licence. In December 2007, Interfor purchased the logging rights associated with the Crown portion of the tree farm licence.

In approving the private land removal, the minister considered input from local governments, First Nations, other government agencies, local contractors and the public. Public meetings were held in May in Revelstoke, Nakusp and Castlegar, where issues of compensation for local logging contractors and suppliers affected by Pope & Talbot's bankruptcy were raised.

"The minister and I spoke at length about TFL 23," said Nakusp Mayor Karen Hamling. "There were a lot of factors to consider and I'm pleased that Minister Bell took the time to work with us and to ensure that our contractors will receive the monies owed to them. The contribution to the Community Forest, maintaining road access and the properties acquired by the Province are all very important decisions for our communities."

Forest management issues such as old growth management areas, wildlife habitat, recreational access, road access, water users and others, were also considered. When it was discovered that two of the private land parcels were high-value mountain caribou habitat, the request to remove those parcels was withdrawn. Instead, they will continue to be managed as part of TFL 23.

If the land is managed for forestry, the Private Managed Forest Land Act will apply. As well, regardless of use, the private land must continue to be managed in accordance with the Heritage Conservation Act, Drinking Water Protection Act and the federal Fisheries and Species at Risk acts. In addition, the use of private lands removed from the TFL must follow all local government zoning and land-use restrictions.

There remains 12,817 hectares of private land in publicly managed tree farm licences around British Columbia. In comparison, there are about 2 million hectares of privately owned forest land in the province.

A copy of the decision briefing note and other supporting information is available on the ministry's website at www.for.gov.bc.ca/pab/media.

3. OTTER POINT ALL-CANDIDATES MEETING

OPSRRA WILL HOST A PUBLIC ALL-CANDIDATES MEETING BEFORE THE NOVEMBER 15 ELECTION

Date: Monday, November 3
Time: 7:00 - 9:30 p.m.
Place: Otter Point Fire Hall
3727 Otter Point Road
(at Kemp Lake Road)

This All Candidates meeting will be for candidates running for election for the following:

- Sooke School District #63 School Trustees (Milne's Landing Zone) (3 positions)
- Otter Point representative to the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) Land Use Committee (1 position)
- Juan de Fuca Regional Director (1 position)

The following candidates filed nomination papers by the October 10 deadline:

Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Regional Director (1 elected)

- Michael Hicks
- Ute Schnarr

Otter Point Representative to the JDFEA Land Use Committee (1 elected)

- Heather Phillips
- Gerry Niedermeiser

Representatives to the Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission (5 elected)

- Sid Jorna
- Wayne Fritz
- Sandy Sinclair
- Wally Vowles

Note: 4 elected by acclamation and one to be appointed by the Regional Director.

The Shirley community will be holding a separate All Candidates meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 10 at the Shirley Community Hall. The following elections are being held for residents of Shirley and Jordan River:

Shirley/Jordan River Representative to the JDFEA Land Use Committee (1 elected)

- Terri Alcock
- George Miller

Representatives to the Shirley/Jordan River Advisory Planning Commission (5 elected)

- Dominique Bernardet
- Sonja De Witt
- Barbara Ferrett
- Cleo Gardener
- Fiona McDannold
- Jane Munro

School District #62 (Milne's Landing Zone) (3 elected)

- Marian Flett
- Rob Gordy
- Bob Phillips
- Margot Swinburnson

4. CANDIDATES PERSONAL STATEMENTS

OPSRRA offered all the candidates running for election in Shirley, Jordan River and Otter Point an opportunity to submit a personal statement. We received the following:

School District #62 (Milne's Landing Zone) School Trustees

Marian Flett:

No submission received.

Rob Gordy:

The years ahead will be challenging for Public Education. With the current financial crisis governments are burdened with bail-out packages that will greatly stress their resources. The people of Sooke will need experienced voices who have advocated for the needs of students. They need representatives who have dealt with Ministers, Deputy Ministers, MLAs, MPs, Municipal Politicians and Bureaucrats. The road we traverse requires trustees with strong skill sets. A provincial election looms on the horizon. Now is the time for seasoned trustees to lobby political parties to commit to sustainable and predictable funding. We need a mature approach to advance the cause of student achievement. Programs like French Immersion, Fine Arts, Advanced Placement, Avid and others must not suffer because the Province decides to cut District funding. I have fought for the rights of students, programs, Special Needs support and working conditions for District employees. I believe in respecting the rights of everyone. And I will take the time out to listen to your concerns and respond. My three children have succeeded in this District and I am pleased with their progress. I still wish to be a voice for them and all children in our District. With your continued support I hope to provide opportunities for every student to live up to their potential. I Thank-you for taking the time to read this and I hope everyone gets out to vote.

Respectfully

Rob Gordy, Vice-Chair SD62, Sooke

Bob Phillips:

At age 62, I can't imagine my life without the benefits of my own public education. I am committed to affordable, accessible public education as one of society's primary responsibilities to its children. This is my motivation to be a school board trustee.

I believe I bring valuable experience to this office. I have a BA and Masters of Social Work and have taught at the secondary, college and university levels. I worked for over 30 years as a child protection and medical social worker. I have over 20 years experience in labour relations focusing on contract negotiation, administration and arbitration.

I have been a trustee for SD 62 for 9 years now. I have a record of being fair, open minded, hard working and well informed. I think this is why, for each of my three terms, fellow trustees have elected me as our District's rep to the BC Public

Schools Employers Association. Over the years, the other trustees have—in today’s jargon—put me to work on such “files” as: sustainable policy for French Immersion, enhancement of Aboriginal Education, Vice-Chair of the Board, funding to convert schools in Milnes Landing zone to natural gas and contract negotiation with the District’s Administrative Staff, Principals and Vice-Principals.

School Districts face many challenges. I’ll mention three.

First, we have to develop programs and services so that our senior students complete secondary school and graduate. This means we have to talk with those students and create new opportunities and “inducements”. We, as a community, must lobby the government to fund a new secondary school in the Belmont Zone.

Second, in the coming months the Provincial government will inform us on how we are to proceed with all-day kindergarten and early childhood education. These initiatives will require re-thinking and re-structuring our elementary schools. The starting point for this task is in-depth consultation with our families and their communities.

Third, the new Board’s term will include another round of collective bargaining with all District employees. We must all work to insure that public education (K-12) receives an adequate, sustainable “funding envelope” from the Province and that these negotiations respect free collective bargaining as affirmed by the Supreme Court of Canada.

Please come out and vote on November 15th. I hope you will consider me for one of your 3 votes for school board trustee.

Bob Phillips, Kemp Lake Road, Otter Point

[Margot Swinburnson:](#)

Hello. My name is Margot Swinburnson. I am running for my fourth term as a school trustee, Milnes Landing Zone. The question that I am often asked by my friends is “Why are you doing this again?” The decision to run again was not made lightly. To ask for the honour of serving again as your trustee is one that I take seriously, and I will not do this unless I think that I have the time, commitment and passion to be your representative. With the challenges that the Board faces in the future, and what we can to accomplish, I think my experience and focus will be useful to the Board, and our community.

Like our community, our Board is facing enormous change. Demographically, our student ratios are shifting. We expect more elementary age school children in the future and more high school age students at EMCS in our zone. In the next three years, the Board needs to continue with the public consultation process about school in the Milnes Landing Zone. Some of our elementary schools are nearing the end of their useful life, which gives us the opportunity to look at the future needs of our community and our District. Edward Milne Community School is in need of expansion, and targeted lobbying and planning on the part of the School Board will make this happen. I commit to continue to work with the EMCS Board to look at community needs in this planned expansion.

As your trustee, I would ensure that Milnes Landing educational needs are brought forward to the Board and the Province. As someone familiar with Otter Point specifically, I will keep encouraging dialogue between our administration and the municipalities as we grow.

Specific goals that I have for the next three years are:

- To continue to be fiscally responsible as a Board;
- To encourage literacy, both for adults and children;

- To encourage and promote Green schools, and environmentally friendly practice;
- Continuing support for educational excellence in all fields.

We have some of the best schools, some of the best students, some of the best staff in the Province and in Canada in School District 62. As your representative to the Board, I will continue to strive to keep that focus in mind.

Thank you for your support over the last 9 years. Margot Swinburnson

Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Regional Director Candidates

Mike Hicks

At this time I have visited most of the Otter Point and Shirley residents on my scooter. To my relief, I have discovered that my values, my concerns and my issues are similar if not extremely close to those of Otter Point and Shirley residents.

Earlier this spring I spent a day at the Otter Point Fire Hall participating in the Strategic Vision Project. My travels, door to door throughout the area have confirmed to me the principles that have been described in the Strategic Vision Report.

The deep issue that is splintering our communities from East Sooke to Port Renfrew is that residents in general feel that their homes and lives are being regulated from outside their community. When Shirley residents apply for a development permit, representatives from 5 other Juan de Fuca communities plus Central Saanich and Metchosin decide their fate! Although representation and governance is the main issue, down zoning of Rural A lands, museum funding, water, and economic development are also pressing issues.

In response to the issues I will:

- Seek more local input by referring all land use issues **first** to the community APC. This means that land use issues will be considered **by** the community in open meetings held **in** the community **before** they are referred to any committee composed of non-residents.
- Gather the best governance strategists, including members from Otter Point and Shirley to formulate a new system that could eventually ensure that to the greatest extent possible, that Otter Point governs Otter Point and Shirley governs Shirley.
- Review the Rural A and Rural B zoning changes with the goal of helping those affected
- Support the Regional Museum which will cost our average household less than a pack of cigarettes each year
- Work towards establishing “Small Suite” zoning, if desired by residents, to allow for a secondary family or rental dwelling in a detached building.

My background involves building the impossible with creativity and hard work. I can promise to apply this same drive as your representative and Regional Director. With hard work, and some flexibility we can make Otter Point, Shirley and Jordon River exactly what the Strategic Vision Project outlines. We can make the “almost” perfect rural community.

Thank you for allowing me to participate in your newsletter and please visit my web site www.mikehicks.ca for my full background and resume.

Ute Schnarr

Our Communities, Our Values, Our Future

Thank you for this opportunity to address OPSRRA members about the values important to our communities, our challenges for the future, and the reasons I am asking for your vote on November 15.

As a 24 year resident of East Sooke, I have lived in and worked for the community. I have raised four children in the Electoral Area. My parents live here. I have experienced many of the joys and difficulties faced by other families throughout our region.

As economic opportunities change and we move away from a resource based economy, making a living in a rural area where jobs are at a premium, transportation options limited and costs skyrocketing due to high fuel and food prices can be difficult.

And yet, with the difficulties of rural life come extraordinary rewards – enjoying the bounty of the land and integrating the great outdoors into our daily lives. These are values we all share. I am rooted here and would not want to live anywhere else.

That is why I have always been an active participant in community and why, for the past 6 years, I have been Alternate Director for the Electoral Area, serving on many committees and working to improve and enrich our lives. **I believe in our common values and future.**

I have been to every community in the Electoral Area. I've learned to listen and respect their unique perspectives. While we have different situations, we also have many common interests. They include keeping costs down, economic development and job creation, managing development, transportation and more - we must come together to solve these problems in order to flourish as a region. We need to:

- Think creatively about our land base – its value as a climatic, recreational, social, agricultural and food resource must not be undermined - and we need to be mindful of environmental issues – watersheds and wildlife habitat, and First Nations heritage;
- Promote economic development by finding alternatives like agriculture, community forests and value-added opportunities to replace lost resource sector jobs;
- Establish Protocol Agreements with neighbouring municipalities to work cooperatively on sustainability, boundary extension/annexation, emergency preparedness, recreation and transportation;
- Update our OCPs and enact a Zoning Bylaw to put proper planning tools in place;
- Add an Approving Officer to the local planning office so that land use decisions are made here at home; and
- Resolve our differences on land use issues – we can sit down together and find solutions that answer the concerns of rural landowners, but also respect community needs and standards.

As your Regional Director, I will choose an Alternate from a community other than East Sooke, in order to broaden representation. I will protect our shared rural values and promote social, environmental and economic stability.

Please vote **Schnarr** on November 15. For more information, call 250 217-3840, or visit my website, www.voteSchnarr.ca. Thank you, Ute Schnarr

Shirley/Jordan River Land Use Committee Representative

Terri Alcock

I am asking for your support as I seek re-election to the Land Use Committee on behalf of Shirley/Jordan River. I have served on LUC for 5 years, and it has been both interesting and rewarding to represent our communities and to work with all communities of the Electoral Area and beyond.

The years ahead will be especially important for the region. With the release of lands from TFL 25, changes to CRD bylaws, subsequent subdivision applications by Western Forest Products and the imminent outcome of two court challenges to the bylaws, it is certain that the Land Use Committee will play a major role by hearing subdivision applications for some of these lands, and by recommending changes to Zoning bylaws and OCPs as communities update their vision and goals for the future and put proper planning tools in place.

I believe that change is inevitable – managing that change to benefit our communities, protecting ecologically sensitive areas, and preserving green space to maintain the region’s rural nature is our challenge.

Almost all current Land Use Committee members will not seek re-election, so LUC will be comprised of many new faces after December. It will be important to have continuity and experience at the table. I can offer both, as well as a commitment to work with whoever is elected from Electoral Area communities and to consider each application on its merits, weighing the benefits to and impacts on Shirley/Jordan River residents and the region as a whole. I ask for your vote on November 15. Thank you, Terri Alcock 646-2528

George Miller

My wife and I purchased our property in 1966. We were weekend and holiday visitors until 1993, when we moved here permanently. We love our land, our neighbourhood and community.

My wife is a retired special education teacher and registered nurse. I am a retired British Columbia land surveyor. We are both 76 years old and enjoy reasonable health.

I believe that my experience and knowledge can benefit the Land Use Committee. Here with a partial curriculum vitae:

Education

1958	Professional Land Surveyor Commission (BC)
1969	Senior Diploma, Municipal Administration (UBC)

Experience

1952-1955	Surveys & Mapping Branch, BC Government.
1956-1958	Location Engineer, Banff - Jasper Highway.
1959-1963	BC Land Surveyor (sole proprietor) surveys of all types.
1963-1970	Chief Surveyor, District of North Vancouver. Responsible for all surveys for municipal lands and municipal works. Actively participated in administration.
1970-1992	President of Miller Engineering Surveys Ltd., North Vancouver. Medium sized consulting company that provided surveys throughout BC for heavy construction, tunnels, roads, railways, ship building, subdivisions and mapping. In many cases, acted as agent where municipal or provincial government approvals were complicated or demanding.

1987-1992	President, Miller Technical Surveys Ltd., North Vancouver. Specialized in complex surveys for heavy industry, construction and complex survey data for litigation.
1993	Moved to Shirley to semi-retire. Returned to sole proprietor status to provide rural, local surveys.
2007	Retired (almost).

Philosophically, I am programmed to find positive solutions or compromises problems. I sincerely respect all individuals and their rights to be heard. I believe that all communities should live in harmony and that everyone should enjoy their lives. I have profound respect for rural values and am fully committed that this community remain rural.

Thank-you. George B. Miller

Otter Point Land Use Committee Representative

[Gerry Niedermeiser](#)

No submission received.

[Heather Phillips](#)

“Living Spaces for our Grandchildren”

Why vote for me?

I have attended Land Use Committee meetings regularly since March 2005. Most land use proposals are not controversial. All proposals that need development permits go the LUC. All proposals that need a bylaw amendment go to the LUC and to public open house and public hearings.

I would like the LUC commissioners to more often visit the sites for proposals in their areas. I would like the Advisory Planning Commissions to call in the neighbours for consultation more often and bring their recommendations to the Land Use Committee. (I was on the Otter Point Advisory Planning Commission for four years. We met four times.) I would like a review and revision of the land use bylaw and official community plan so that the documents describe the needs of the community.

The current land use bylaw says land use issues should be decided with regard to health, safety, convenience and public welfare. It describes the need to prevent over-crowding and to preserve the amenities enjoyed by the area residents. It describes the need to consider the land’s ‘peculiar suitability’ for a particular use and the need to preserve the value of the land. How do we make all this happen?

We zone the land and say what activities and housing are allowed. The April amendments to the land use bylaw aim to limit subdivision of land outside the settlement containment areas. We need to make sure the settlement containment boundaries are where we want them. We also need to make sure the acceptable uses of the land are supported by the other regulations in place. For example, we should expect market gardens to generate traffic.

Increasingly, we understand that not all values are dollar values. Housing is not always the ‘highest, best use’ of a particular piece of land. People need places to live, but we cannot just have bedroom communities. We also need food, water, work space and resource lands. We know the fisheries are affected by land use. We need conservation spaces. We need space to exercise for physical and emotional health. We need to preserve the potential of all such living spaces for our grandchildren.

Shirley/Jordan River Advisory Planning Commission

Dominique Bernardet

I am currently a member of the Shirley/Jordan River APC and am seeking a second term. In addition to my service on the APC, I am a member of the Shirley Fire Department and Coordinator of Shirley/Jordan River's Emergency Services. I was a member of the original team that worked to draft the Shirley/Jordan River OCP. I recognize that it will need to be amended and would like to continue to be part of that process.

I believe that all residents of our community should have an opportunity to review and comment on subdivision applications for lands within our Official Community Plan area. I will approach all applications with an open mind and listen to all points of view. I will work with other APC members to find solutions and make recommendations that will benefit the community, while respecting the community's vision as expressed in the OCP.

Please vote on November 15 – Vote Dominique Bernardet

Sonja DeWit

I have been a member of the Shirley APC for the past two years. The Advisory Planning Commission is there to reflect our community's vision of what we want our community to be. It is grassroots democracy in action. As a member of the APC, I will listen to what the Shirley Community wants and I will be part of whatever decisions or recommendations we arrive at together.

Barbara Ferrett

As a contented resident of Shirley District for 11 years, I, like most of us, would like to preserve the placid, rural nature of our community. I recognize, however, that individual residents have their dreams and plans; thus all proposals for change should be reviewed objectively – each on its own merits. With 30 plus years experience on the boards of a wide-ranging number of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) at the international, regional and local level in both metropolitan and small town settings, I believe I can make a useful contribution to the work of the APC.

Cleo Gardener

What can I bring to the community, should I be elected as an Advisory Planning Commission Member? Predominantly, it is a dedication to fair process. As a proponent of civil and process rights, I strongly advocate for a level playing field, for all. Additionally, I have been able to contribute innovative and workable solutions, to community projects.

When residents' rights are infringed, I will speak out. As a Shirley, Jordan River Official Community Plan (OCP) committee member, I queried restrictions (waterfront set backs, development permit and wildfire protection permit areas) asking that the OCP not move forward, unless these vast restrictions truly reflected the informed wishes of the community.

I felt so strongly about this point, that when it was stated that the OCP would continue on—uncorrected, I resigned from the committee, as I could not endorse this deception against residents. Until this wrong is fully righted, the pursuit for full disclosure will proceed.

Was fair process served?

- When a community group negotiated an agreement with developers, without public knowledge- over matters such as public park lands?
- When Shirley residents signed in support of restricting forestry, TFL lands to 1 dwelling on 300 acres and these signatures were misused to demonstrate public support for down zoning to rural land owners, who had never held TFL land?
- When some residents on the TFL petition, state that they did not sign it- at all?

Support my candidacy if you support ...

- Transparency of government and community groups.
- Better checks and balances in decision making processes.
- Increased accessibility, to ensure that your own voice is heard at meetings.

The upcoming Shirley event, hosted by SEAS, will not permit APC and LUC candidates to make personal statements or answer questions from the floor. SEAS President Berdardet, has scheduled the Shirley event to devote the time for School Board Trustees and Candidates for Regional Director, to speak and answer questions.

In contrast to the meetings held in East Sooke and Otter Point, much of the other time at the Candidates meeting, will be committed to a coffee session.

I greatly look forward to having a coffee with you, at the upcoming Candidates meeting!

Certainly, I will be bringing with me the many letters and the TFL petition and bylaws that demonstrate the above issues, for your further consideration. If you wish to view these communications at an earlier or later date, please contact me. treefrog@telus.net

Sincerely, Cleo Gardener

[Fiona McDannold](#)

The Advisory Planning Commission provides the neighbourhood level of access to land use issues within our community. When you come before the Commission regarding a land use matter, your submission should be considered fairly, objectively and thoughtfully.

If elected to the APC, I will listen with an open mind and will use my common sense approach to issues to come to reasonable and informed conclusions regarding matters before the Commission, while seeking to preserve the values and vision which we share about the future of our community. Shirley/Jordan River is a rare and beautiful place and I will always be mindful of this in recommendations on land use issues.

I was born and raised in Victoria and raised my 3 children there. For over 15 years, I was a board member and registrar/administrator for community soccer organizations. This experience has provided me with the skills and experience to work with a wide range of people and organizations to achieve community goals.

I hold a degree in Political Science from UVic and am currently Counsellor Registrar and Board Member of the Operation Trackshoes Society, as well as a Director of the Shirley Community Association.

I am committed to learning about, participating in and making a meaningful contribution to our community, and I ask for your support on November 15.

Jane Munro

As we were crossing West Coast Road on Thanksgiving weekend, I told my three-year-old grandson, *Stop, look, and listen / Before you cross the street. / Use your eyes and use your ears / And then use your feet.*

I'd give similar advice to our communities as we approach future developments. The Advisory Planning Commission is a place where people from the local community do get to *stop, look, and listen* to applications for variances to our bylaws.

If you elect me, I will use my eyes, my ears, and also my common sense, to help the communities of Shirley and Jordan River make informed and intelligent choices on matters brought to the commission.

I've lived in Shirley since 1993, and have twice served on the Advisory Planning Commission. This has not been a big job in the past, but it could become more important.

My background in Adult Education (I hold a doctorate in Education from UBC) gives me tools for working in a collaborative and consultative way with community groups.

Also, I'm a poet. My fourth poetry collection, *Point No Point* (McClelland & Stewart, 2006), makes it clear that I love this place. I will do my best to protect it. I want future developments that will create healthy communities for those of us living here now, and for the generations to come.

5. ELECTION INFORMATION

You will have 3 opportunities to vote for **School Trustees** and **Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Regional Director** in the up-coming elections:

Wednesday November 5	Advance Poll 8:00am-8:00 pm Sooke Community Hall, Eustace Street, Sooke, or School District #62 offices, 3143 Jacklin Road, Langford
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Wednesday November 12	Advance Poll 8:00am-8:00 pm Sooke Community Hall, Eustace Street, Sooke, or School District #62 offices, 3143 Jacklin Road, Langford
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Saturday November 15	General Election Day Juan de Fuca Electoral Area voters 8:00am-8:00 pm Otter Point Fire Hall Shirley Community Hall East Sooke Fire Hall Port Renfrew Elementary School
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You will have 3 opportunities to vote for a representative to the **Land Use Committee** for Shirley/Jordan River and Otter Point. Shirley/Jordan River residents will also have 3 opportunities to vote for their representatives to the Shirley/Jordan River **Advisory Planning Commission**.

Wednesday
November 5 **Advance Poll**
8:00am-8:00 pm
CRD Juan de Fuca Planning & Building Inspection Offices
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Wednesday
November 12 **Advance Poll**
8:00am-8:00 pm
CRD Juan de Fuca Planning & Building Inspection Offices
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Saturday
November 15 **General Election Day**
Juan de Fuca Electoral Area voters
8:00am-8:00 pm
Otter Point Fire Hall
Shirley Community Hall
East Sooke Fire Hall
Port Renfrew Elementary School

You will have 3 opportunities to vote on the **Sooke Region Museum Funding Referendum**.

Wednesday
November 5 **Advance Poll**
8:00am-8:00 pm
Sooke Community Hall, Eustace Street, Sooke, or
School District #62 offices, 3143 Jacklin Road, Langford

Wednesday
November 12 **Advance Poll**
8:00am-8:00 pm
Sooke Community Hall, Eustace Street, Sooke, or
School District #62 offices, 3143 Jacklin Road, Langford

Saturday
November 15 **General Election Day**
Juan de Fuca Electoral Area voters
8:00am-8:00 pm
Otter Point Fire Hall
Shirley Community Hall
East Sooke Fire Hall
Port Renfrew Elementary School

Voter Qualifications

- **Resident Electors:** 18 years of age or older on Election Day, a Canadian citizen, have resided in B.C. for the past 6 months and within the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area for the past 30 days.
- **Non-Resident Electors:** 18 years of age or older on Election Day, a Canadian citizen, have resided in B.C. for the past 6 months and have owned and held title to property within the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area for the past 30 days and do not qualify as a resident elector.

Note: Bring identification with you when you go to vote.

**IN 2005 ONLY 38% OF THE ELIGIBLE VOTERS TURNED OUT
BECOME A STATISTIC: VOTE!**

6. FREE SMALL BUSINESS LISTING 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.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.

The OPSRRA web site has more information about the following business listings

1001 Welding & Equipment Repair	Accent in Grooming
ALM Organic Farm	A Point of View B&B
Beaches West B&B	Bear Home Remodeling
Birds Edge Press	DanCyn Kioti Excavation
Eagle Cove Beachfront Guest Suite	Fancy That Esthetics & Body Care
Full Circle Seeds	Heron's Rest B&B
Jambo Pet Sitting Service	Kemp Lake Store
Knotty Beds by Nature	Le Sooke Spa
Malahat Farm Heritage Cottage	Otter Point Beach House
Rhythm's Edge Percussion Shop	Road's End Construction
Sandy's Drywall Ltd	Stick in the Mud Coffee House

Straitview Ridge Bed & Breakfast

Tugwell Creek Honey Farm

Tugwell Creek Meadery

Wood Visions

7. 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. 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.
