

# OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA) INFORMATION UPDATE **November 2010**

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 **410**. 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](http://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 **285** of our members. Contact Arnie Campbell at: [d.acampbell@shaw.ca](mailto: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](mailto:d.acampbell@shaw.ca) or **250-642-3113** to have your community event listed in our monthly community events calendar.

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Wednesday  
November 3     **Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation  
Commission (SEAPARC)**  
Monthly Meeting  
7:00 p.m.  
Board Room  
SEAPARC Leisure Complex  
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

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Saturday  
November 6     **Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society  
Gallopig Goose and Pearson College**  
9:30 a.m.

A 1 to 1.5 hour walk.  
Meet at the Gallopig Goose parking lot on Rocky Point Road.

A walk in the woods around Pearson College. After the trail leaves the Goose, it is a single track through some the the Island's beautiful untouched forests.  
We have spotted an intriguing side trail for those who wish to do more exploring.  
Dress for the weather and bring a lunch if you wish to explore the side trail.  
Those who must watch the time can return directly to their cars via the Goose (no chance of getting lost from this point).

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767 or email [sid2767@shaw.ca](mailto:sid2767@shaw.ca) for details.  
**Web site:**  
[www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca](http://www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca)

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Sunday  
November 7     **Town Hall Meeting  
With Elected Representatives:**  
Dr. Keith Marting M.P.  
John Horgan, MLA &  
Mike Hicks, Regional Director  
2:00 p.m.  
Shirley Community Hall  
See newsletter item below

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Sunday  
November 14     **Shirley Fall Craft Fair**  
10:00 a.m. To 4:00 p.m.  
Shirley Community Hall



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Sunday  
November 14     **Shirley Fire Commission**  
Annual General Meeting  
2:00 p.m.  
Shirley Fire Hall

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Monday  
November 15     **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 [d.acampbell@shaw.ca](mailto:d.acampbell@shaw.ca)

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Tuesday  
November 16     **Otter Point Fire Department**  
Annual General Meeting  
7:30 p.m.  
Otter Point Fire Hall  
3727 Otter Point Road, Otter Point BC

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Tuesday  
November 16     **JDF Electoral Area Land Use Committee (LUC)**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
7:00 p.m.  
District of Sooke Council Chambers  
2225 Otter Point Road, Sooke BC  
  
You can obtain the agenda the Friday before the meeting  
on the CRD website at: [www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm](http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm)  
Click on "Agenda" at the top of the page.

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Wednesday  
November 17     **Food CHI (Community Health Initiative)**  
Annual General Meeting  
6:30 to 9:00 p.m.  
Potlatch Room  
Sooke Harbour House  
1528 Whiffen Spit Road, Sooke BC  
  
Contact Jessica Boquist for details: 250-589-2577

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Friday,  
Saturday,  
Sunday  
November  
19, 20 & 21     **All Sooke Fall Craft Fair**  
Friday: 1:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday:  
10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
Sooke Community Hall  
  
Free admission  
Pictures with Santa  
Everything is crafted locally

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Saturday  
November 20 **Otter Point Official Community Plan  
Community Mapping Event**  
Drop in 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
  
John Muir School  
7179 West Coast Road, Sooke BC  
  
See OPSRRA newsletter item below

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Sunday  
November 21 **Shirley Soup and Sandwich Lunch**  
12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.  
  
Shirley Community Hall  
  
All you can eat soup and sandwiches  
\$10 Adults  
\$ 5 Children

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Tuesday  
November 23 **Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks & Recreation  
Commission  
Monthly Meeting**  
5:00 p.m.  
JDF Electoral Area Services Office  
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

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Wednesday  
November 24 **Otter Point Official Community Plan Review  
Meeting**  
7:00 p.m.  
Otter Point Fire Hall  
3727 Otter Point Road, Otter Point BC  
  
See OPSRRA newsletter article for details.

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Thursday  
November 25 **JDF Electoral Area Economic Development  
Commission  
Monthly Meeting**  
6:00 p.m.  
JDF Electoral Area Services Office  
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

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Sunday  
November 28 **OPSRRA Membership Meeting**  
2:00-4:00 p.m.  
Otter Point Fire Hall  
3727 Otter Point Road, Otter Point BC

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Wednesday  
December 1 **Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation  
Commission (SEAPARC)  
Monthly Meeting**  
7:00 p.m.  
Board Room  
SEAPARC Leisure Complex  
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

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Saturday  
December 4      **Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society**  
**Royal Roads University**  
9:30 a.m.  
Meeting location TBA.  
A two hour walk on the forestry roads at Royal Roads University in one of the last remaining intact Douglas fir forests.  
Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767 or email [sid2767@shaw.ca](mailto:sid2767@shaw.ca) for details.  
**Web site:**  
[www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca](http://www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca)

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

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**Tuesdays**      **Yoga**  
6:30 p.m.  
Shirley Community Hall

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**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

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## 2. TOWN HALL MEETING WITH ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

OPSRRA is sponsoring a Town Hall meeting with our three elected representatives. This event was tried for the first time last year. It was well attended and requested to be repeated this year. Join us for an entertaining and informative session. Coffee and cookies included.

**DR. KEITH MARTIN, MP**

**JOHN HORGAN, MLA**

**MIKE HICKS, REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

**A public meeting intended for residents and property owners of Port Renfrew, Jordan River, Shirley and Otter Point.**

DATE:      Sunday, November 7  
TIME:      2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
PLACE:     Shirley Community Hall

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2:00 to 2:30 p.m.      Brief presentations from each of the representatives.  
Focus the future of the area west of Sooke.

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2:30 to 3:45 p.m.	Question and answer session
3:45 to 4:00 p.m.	Concluding comments
4:00 to 4:30 p.m.	Informal opportunity to meet with your elected representatives.

### 3. OPSRRA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

OPSRRA's fall membership meeting is scheduled for Sunday afternoon (2:00 - 4:00 pm) November 28 at the Otter Point Fire Hall.

Agenda items include updates on:

- Filling a vacant director position.
- Otter Point Official Community Plan review.
- Governance options review.
- Marine Trails Holdings group development proposal.
- Welcome to Shirley and Otter Point signs along the Pacific Marine Circle Route.

**Note:** A complete agenda will be sent in advance to members on email.

### 4. ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING AN OPSRRA DIRECTOR?

The recent passing of OPSRRA director John Charles leaves a vacancy on the OPSRRA Board of Directors. Rather than waiting until the spring Annual General Meeting to fill the vacancy, the OPSRRA directors would prefer to appoint or elect someone by the time of our November 28 membership meeting. This would be for a 5 month term.

If you require further information or are interested in becoming an OPSRRA director, contact Arnie Campbell at [d.acampbell@shaw.ca](mailto:d.acampbell@shaw.ca) or phone 250-642-3113.

### 5. CORRECTION: SHIRLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT PHONE NUMBER

We gave an incorrect **non-emergency** phone number for the Shirley Fire department in the October newsletter.

Please note: the correct phone number for **non-emergency** calls to the Shirley Fire Department is: 250-646-2107

### 6. UPDATE: OTTER POINT OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN REVIEW

A ten month review of the Otter Point Official Community Plan (OCP) is underway! The initial meeting of the eleven member OCP Review Committee was held on October 25.

The process being used for the review is unique for the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) and is made possible by a \$100,000 grant from a portion of the JDFEA's Federal Gas Tax Rebate account at the CRD. The money has been used to hire HB Lanarc, a community planning firm, and Raincoast Applied Ecology who will assist with the development of a Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory. HB Lanarc will also provide staff support to the OCP Review Committee. The review will consist of a series of public events and OCP Review Committee meetings that will endeavour to identify important community issues such as land use, development patterns, water conservation, transportation, ecosystem protection and engaging youth. Full

details of the process and opportunities for public participation are available on the JDFEA web site: <http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/index.htm>

The first public event is a drop-in Community Mapping workshop.

Date: Saturday, November 20  
Time: 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
Place: John Muir Elementary School  
7179 West Coast Road, Sooke.

HB Lanarc describes **Community Mapping** as an exercise that will focus on the identification of current development patterns, sensitive areas, favourite places, etc. This is a quick and engaging visual way for community members to document their understanding of the community. Base maps are produced digitally using a Geographic Information System (GIS) and, along with existing data, describe the current ecological system. These maps will be available in hard-copy at the workshop to present to, and gather information from, community members.

Engaging the public to help identify remnant ecosystems is a valuable way to gather local knowledge and recognize the value of biodiversity and its conservation for Otter Point residents. This approach is most appropriate when representatives of the whole community can be involved. It is critical to have a broad spectrum of the community as the very process itself can build capacity. This enables the community to establish for itself what problems it faces, and to begin to look for and implement solutions.

Community mapping is useful for a number of reasons:

- By physically mapping the area, participants gain a clearer understanding of what they know and don't know about the community; this enables participants to learn more about the site from each other.
- Mapping helps to communicate to others (landowners, design consultants, elected officials) what people value about their community so that this can be taken into account during the planning and design process.
- The maps become the basis for more in-depth discussion about the issues facing the community such as environmental quality, access, safety, development, and recreational opportunities.

The next meeting of the of the OCP Review Committee will review the information gathered at the Community Mapping workshop and is scheduled for 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 24 at the Otter Point Fire Hall. Committee members are:

Arnie Campbell            Chair  
Marlaina Elliot           Vice-Chair  
John Brohman  
Wally Vowles (Alternate Regional Director)  
Bud Gibbons  
Sandy Sinclair (Chair, Otter Point APC)  
Les Monnington  
Frank Limshue (Couverdon/TimberWest)  
Paul Clarkston  
Gordon Cameron (Canadian Horizons)  
Sid Jorna



## 7. UPDATE: WILLIAM SIMMONS (POIRIER LAKE) PARK

Ron Hamilton, Manager, Juan de Fuca Community Parks and Recreation submitted the following update on the William Simmons Park located on Poirier Lake in Otter Point to the OPSRRA newsletter. Pictures of the restoration of the park are available on the OPSRRA web site under William Simmons Park.

Many of you have been watching the transformation of the new Otter Point Community Park since the approved Site Management Plan went into implementation last spring. As the primary focus of the Community Parks and Recreation Program for this year, contractors and the new parks work crew (all two of them) have worked hard to achieve the development objectives set out in the first phase of the plan. These improvements have included: landscaping and seeding of the day use area and Poirier Lake viewpoint; construction of the picnic shelter and 535 metres of trails; construction of the parking lot (via the new Sooke Business Park access road off Otter Point Road); picnic tables, pads and two memorial benches (at the pond and at the Poirier Lake View Point); split rail fencing at the Otter Point Road walk-in entrance and wayfinding posts and signs.

As a great addition to the multiple use objectives of the park plan, the Sooke Saddle Club was instrumental in donating equestrian facilities (a hitch rail, picnic table and manure bin) in the open field area; they will also be responsible for keeping the area clean and emptying the bin). The Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society has also been very supportive, providing a donation for the development of kiosk information messages and maps illustrating trail connections to and beyond the park. Volunteers have already stepped forward as well, who will assist in the development of vegetation plans for ongoing restoration work, landscaping needs, enhancement of exotic and endemic plants and removal of invasive species.

Both CRD staff and JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commissioners have appreciated the many positive comments and strong support received from the community since June. Because key facilities were not completed till the end of summer, the park is available for public use now, but the **Parks and Recreation Commission is pleased to announce that the official opening of William Simmons Memorial Park will now occur on Saturday, May 21, 2011**; more information on this event will be provided closer to that date.

Prior to our official grand opening, there is still work to be done to complete trail standards, install two information kiosks, complete road and park signage, and of course ongoing restoration and landscaping work. In the interim, please enjoy your new community park, and we hope to see many of you next May 21.

## 8. GOVERNANCE MEETING

Regional Director Hicks responded to a request from OPSRRA for a meeting to consider governance options. A review of Governance Options in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) has been a longstanding priority of our association and was reflected in the *Developing a Strategic Vision for Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River* project and the earlier efforts of the Otter Point and Shirley Governance Options Committee.

On October 25, Director Hicks convened an exploratory meeting with invited representation from each of the six JDFEA communities. Those who were able to

attend expressed an interest in further discussions and identified Fringe Area Management Agreements and regional director workload as two areas to begin to gather information on.

OPSRRA presented the following background information at the meeting:

### **Possible Governance Options for the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area**

There is a long history of trying to resolve the governance issues in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA). A number of communities within the JDFEA have consistently identified the following problems related to the present governance model:

1. The JDFEA is too geographically scattered to be adequately represented by one elected representative. It needs different elected representation.
2. The Alternate Director performs the duties of the Regional Director but is not elected.
3. Key decisions on Official Community Plans, Zoning Bylaws and land use are made, primarily, by CRD directors from municipalities outside of the electoral area.
4. Planning and services issues in the electoral area are becoming more complex; critical decisions are made with limited planning resources and very little topographical, environmental and watershed data.
5. Subdivisions and road specifications for the JDFEA must be approved by the province through the Ministry of Transportation and do not have to conform to a community's OCP.
6. Properties bordering other municipalities can be annexed without consultation or consent by either the JDFEA or the CRD.
7. Residents of the urban First Nation lands in View Royal and Esquimalt are 30% of the eligible voters in the JDFEA but do not live in the electoral area and are not governed through the CRD.
8. The provincial government is not required to consult with the CRD about major changes in its land use policies (i.e. termination of Tree Farm Licenses, disposition of Crown Lands, etc.) although such changes have major impacts for regional land use planning by the CRD and local planning within the JDFEA.

The provincial government and the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) have been involved in a joint venture since September 2008 looking at problems facing Regional Districts and ways to identify possible solutions and strategies to solve these problems. Three specific interest areas have been identified: electoral area governance; municipal-rural interests in areas at the fringe of municipalities; and relationships between provincial and regional jurisdictions.

### **The Governance Options Proposed in the Task Force Report:**

1. Elect a second regional director.
2. Elect a regional director and the alternate from a slate.
3. Elect a regional director and appoint the "runner-up" as the alternate.
4. Elect a Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) Local Community Commission with possibly one representative from each sub-area. Its role would be advisory to the regional director. This would be like the JDFEA Land Use Committee (LUC) but with a wider advisory role.

5. Elect an Electoral Area Body (EA) of 3 to 5 representatives. The regional director and alternate would be appointed by the EA from among the elected members. The EA would assume the responsibilities of the Advisory Planning Commissions and would be allowed to make some land use decisions delegated to it by the CRD Board of Directors. The EA would assume the responsibility for the administration of the JDFEA presently carried-out by the sole regional director.

Note: This option does not exist in legislation and could only come-about if the province changed the law.

### **Assessment of these Options**

None of the five options address the following community issues:

1. The annexation of portions of the JDFEA by adjoining municipalities.
2. Land use decisions which regulate planning and land use management such as zoning, official community plans and other development issues would continue to be made, primarily, by the CRD Board.
3. All subdivision applications in the JDFEA would go to the provincial Ministry of Transportation for approval.
4. Residents of urban First Nations lands would continue to remain voters in the JDFEA.

Incorporation is the only option which addresses these governance issues. However, the present provincial government policy is that no new municipalities will be permitted in the CRD. The CRD Board of Directors has also previously voted not to increase the number of regional directors at the Board table.

### **Some Alternatives**

1. In January of 2010 the Regional Director and representatives from OPSRRA met with two senior staff from the Governance Structure Branch of the Ministry of Community & Rural Development to review governance options. In their opinion the Regional Director and the CRD have the powers to implement changes that would address concerns.
2. In an August 2009 meeting the Executive Director of the Governance Structure Branch suggested that appointing or electing a First Nations regional director to the Board of the CRD would allow the removal of urban First Nations lands from the JDFEA. There may already be precedence for this elsewhere in the province.
3. Fringe Area Management Agreements between municipalities and electoral areas have been negotiated in other parts of the province. The review of the Otter Point OCP presents an opportunity to negotiate a FAMA with the District of Sooke.
4. Review the role of the JDF Land Use Committee.
5. Review the role and scope of the current Advisory Planning Commissions.
6. Consider delegating representational responsibility for some of the meetings and duties assigned to the Electoral Area Director.
7. Have the candidates(s) for regional director identify their choice for alternate regional director before the election.
8. Create an elected Community Services Commission.

## 9. MARINE TRAIL HOLDINGS OPEN HOUSE

A proposal by Marine Trail Holdings group to construct a lodge and 279 cabins on 583 acres of former Western Forest Products private forest land removed from Tree Farm License (TFL) 25 between Jordan River and Port Renfrew is now before the Juan de Fuca Land Use Committee (LUC). This development proposal requires a rezoning of the seven separate properties as the present zoning for the Rural Resource Lands, where the properties are located, allows for only one dwelling on a minimum of 120 hectares. Part of the process being used by LUC, to gather public comment on the rezoning and development proposal, included a public information meeting on October 27. OPSRRA has not made any comment about the proposed development or the rezoning application; however your OPSRRA directors did have concerns about how the public meeting was organized and wrote to the Regional Director on October 20. Both our letter and Director Hicks' reply follow:

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Mr. Mike Hicks, JDF Regional Director and Chair of the JDF Land Use Committee

Dear Mr. Hicks:

I am writing on behalf of the Otter Point and Shirley Residents and Ratepayers Association in regard to the October 27, 2010 public information meeting organized by the Juan de Fuca planning staff at the direction of the Juan de Fuca Land Use Committee in response to the rezoning applications from Marine Trails Holdings No. 1, 2 and 3 Ltd.

It is our understanding that given its potential impacts on the Rural Resource Lands, the JDF Electoral Area and the broader CRD region, both you and the JDF Land Use Committee have been supportive of a wide community consultation process for this rezoning request. However, the OPSRRA directors have some concerns about the process being used including the structure and the unusual lack of communication about the forthcoming public information meeting. We would therefore appreciate some clarification about the process being used and the role of JDF Planning Services in this community consultation process. Here are the specifics of our concerns:

1. Although the Chairs of the Advisory Planning Commissions have been contacted about the meeting, the notification was extremely brief, uninformative and with no request for the information to be forwarded to other members of the APC's. As a result, members of these commissions may be unaware of the meeting, although the Land Use Committee specifically asked that they be invited.
2. Only one week's public notice was given to this important meeting. This likely means that members of the public will have insufficient notice as to when the meeting is being held, what the purpose and structure of the meeting will be or whether they might be able to speak to different issues of concern.
3. The meeting is described as "a public information session" commencing at 5:30 pm and ending at 8:30 pm with a presentation at 7:00 pm. It would appear that there is no opportunity at this meeting for public comment or questions; in fact this meeting sounds very much like an "open house" to

showcase the developer's proposals, rather than a forum for community consultation.

4. Although it seems unusual for planning staff to be directed to hold a meeting of this nature, such a meeting may help staff better understand a proposed development project and public reactions to it. However, it is important that JDF planning staff maintain an impartial role in providing professional planning and zoning advice to the Land Use Committee and CRD Committee members who are elected to make zoning and other land use decisions in the JDF Electoral Area. Thus said, in our opinion the JDF planning staff should not appear to be used as advocates of a particular development project in place of decision making by elected officials.

Given these concerns, we request you clarify what measures are being taken to:

1. Ensure that the public has a fair opportunity to provide comment and to ask questions at the public meeting.
2. Maintain the impartiality of JDF planning staff during the public information meeting.
3. Describe the respective roles of JDF planning staff and the Marine Trail Holdings Group with respect to:
  - The planning; funding and management of the meeting
  - The type of information publicly presented, planning issues spoken to, public comment and record keeping during the forthcoming public information meeting.

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Dear Mr. Campbell:

It is my pleasure to respond to your letter of Oct. 19. I hope that I can address your concerns and criticisms of our planning department and public information session.

Our planning department advised all APC Planning Chairpersons of the public Information session on Oct. 4. Although it was assumed the chairpersons would inform their members, Juan de Fuca planning staff e-mailed all APC members with e-mail addresses on October 20.

Advertisements announcing the meeting were placed in the Sooke News Mirror on October 20 and 27. It was also placed in the Times Colonist October 20. In addition, the meeting date and information was posted on the CRD web site as a "Hot Topic" on October 7.

Because the Marine Trail Holding's development is not located directly in any particular community but in the Resource Lands centred between Jordon River and Port Renfrew, we felt we should present the application to the whole of the broader community with a Public Information Meeting. We hope through this meeting, we will give the public an opportunity get information, ask questions and give opinions concerning the proposed development. We also hope the Land Use Committee and LUC A directors will gain valuable information to help them make their decision on the future of this project.

The meeting will be moderated by myself and Mr. Ilkay (the developer), Mr. Bob Lapham (head of CRD Planning) and Ms. June Klassen (Manager, Juan de Fuca Planning) will be front and centre to answer any questions. I can assure you that as always, the staff and myself will be professional, courteous and impartial. The question and answer session will be recorded and public comment noted in compliance with CRD guidelines.

The meeting will be funded by the developer and planned and managed by our Juan de Fuca and CRD Planning staff.

I hope this helps answer most or all of your questions and concerns.

Sincerely,

Mike Hicks

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## 10. DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

**Uglow Creek, west of Jordan River was originally named China Creek because of the laborers who worked there?** Chinese labourers were used in the logging industry, throughout this area, in the period between the two World Wars.

A recent story in the Sooke News Mirror by Elida Peers, Historian for the Sooke Region Museum, mentioned the role of Chinese logger Yat Fan, who in the 1920s and 1930s cut timber in the vicinity of Harbourview Road and Ayum Creek in Sassenos. However, he also cut timber in Otter Point in the vicinity of Young's Lake and had a mill north of the present day Scouts Canada Camp Barnard.

Chinese laborers worked as fallers and were used to help build logging railway and trucking roads in Shirley and Otter Point including the uncompleted railway from Point No Point to Jordan River and a five mile road on the east side of Muir Creek. In the 1930s Boyd's steam-powered planer mill in Shirley was producing up to 40,000 board feet of lumber a day and employed mostly Chinese labour in its 40 man operation.

This month's **Did You Know That?** was prepared with the help of information in *The Sooke Story—The History and the Heartbeat* and *4,000 Years—A History of the Rainforest*, both written and published by the Sooke Region Museum.

Do you have local historical information that 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: [d.acampbell@shaw.ca](mailto:d.acampbell@shaw.ca)

## 11. 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](http://www.opsrra.ca). We will list non-members for a suitable donation!

The purpose of this service is to provide an opportunity for businesses in Jordan River, Shirley and Otter Point to advertise their goods and services to their local community. We 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](http://www.opsrra.ca)) under **Business Listings**.

**Note:** OPSRRA does not accept responsibility for the services provided. Always check references and ask for confirmation of Work Safe B.C. Registration if applicable.

**Support local businesses. The OPSRRA web site 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

Bridge over Troubled Water Autism Intervention & Respite Service

DanCyn Kioti Excavation

Eagle Cove Beachfront Guest Suite

Fancy That Esthetics & Body Care

Farmer Notary—Shawna Farmer, Notary Public.

Full Circle Seeds

Heron's Rest B & B

Jambo Pet Sitting Service

Kirsten Sykes, Realtor

Knotty Beds by Nature

Le Sooke Spa

Malahat Farm Heritage Cottage

Ocean Wilderness Inn

Otter Point Beach House

Otter Point Electrical

Reflexology by Marlene Barry

Rock Beach Grill and Groceries  
(formerly Kemp Lake Store & Cafe)

Rhythm's Edge Percussion Shop

Road's End Construction

Sandy's Drywall Ltd

Smiling Goat Farm Sitting Service

Stick in the Mud Coffee House

Straitview Ridge Bed & Breakfast

Three Sisters Farm

Tugwell Creek Honey Farm

Tugwell Creek Meadery

Wood Visions

## **12. BACK ISSUES OF THE OPSRRA NEWSLETTER**

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

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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](http://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.

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