

# OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA) INFORMATION UPDATE **September 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 over **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](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 emails this newsletter to over **300** of our members. Contact Arnie Campbell at: [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com) you want to receive this membership service.

## OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

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

**Note:** Contact any OPSRRA director at the following email address:  
[opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com)

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## 1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

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

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Saturday  
September 1      **Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society**  
**Hike to Grassy Lake**  
9:00 a.m.

Meet at the Charters River bridge.

A 9 kilometre round trip; a full day hike

Bring a lunch, a snack, and plenty of water. Dress for the weather. We may have a swim.

Phone Sid 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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Tuesday  
September 4      **Juan de Fuca Emergency Services**  
**Monthly Meeting**  
7:00 p.m.  
JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building  
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

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Wednesday  
September 5      **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 &  
Sunday  
September  
8 & 9      **Sooke Fall Fair**  
**All Creatures Great and Small**  
a celebration of 50 years of the pet parade

Saturday: 1:00 to 6:00 pm  
Sunday: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Sooke Community Hall

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Sunday  
September 9      **Shirley Fire Protection Society**  
**Meeting**  
2:00 p.m.

Shirley Community Hall

See newsletter item below for details

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Sunday  
September 9      **Shirley Farmers Market**  
10:30 a.m to 3:00 p.m.  
Pioneer Park (next to Shirley Community Hall)  
Contact Christopher Lucas for table information:  
Phone: 250-900-8817

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Tuesday  
September 18      **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](http://www.crd.bc.ca/agendas/juandefucalandusecom_/index.htm)  
Select the year and month of the agenda you wish to read.

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Sunday  
September 23      **Shirley Farmers Market**  
10:30 a.m to 3:00 p.m.  
Pioneer Park (next to Shirley Community Hall)  
Contact Christopher Lucas for table information:  
Phone: 250-900-8817

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Sunday  
September 23      **Sooke Region Food CHI Society  
A Taste of Harvest Feast**  
4:30 pm (for ticket holders)  
5:00 pm, feast begins  
Sunriver Community Garden  
2380 Phillips Road (Sunriver Community Gardens)  
Tickets:  
Adults: \$20  
Kids: \$10  
Children under 5 eat for free  
After the daytime excitement of the Sooke Slow Food Cycle come enjoy a garden party feast. Ticket holders will be treated to a feast of locally harvested produce and seafood in a garden party setting complete with live music.  
For tickets, email [info@sookefoodchi.ca](mailto:info@sookefoodchi.ca)

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Wednesday  
September 26      **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](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com)

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Tuesday  
October 2      **Juan de Fuca Emergency Services**  
Monthly Meeting  
7:00 p.m.  
JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building  
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

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Saturday  
October 6      **Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society**  
**Hike to the trails on the Harbour View side of Charters River**  
9:00 a.m.  
  
Meet at the parking lot at the Charters River Bridge on Sooke River Road.  
  
A half day hike  
  
Bring a snack. Dress for the weather.  
  
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 4:00 p.m.  
Shirley Community Hall  
  
**Everyone welcome**  
  
Contact Christien Shipton: 250-646-2687

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Saturdays      **Pilates**  
9:30 am  
Shirley Community Hall  
  
Level 1 class (suitable for beginners)  
  
Cost: \$5.00  
  
Contact: Sandra Smith  
website: [www.svakayoga.com](http://www.svakayoga.com)  
email: [svakayoga@gmail.com](mailto:svakayoga@gmail.com)

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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](mailto:movingmelody@gmail.com)

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## 2. LOCAL ROAD CONDITIONS TOUR

We did it. It took us a year but we did it (we hope). With the help of our local MLA John Horgan, OPSRRA was able to arrange a tour of our local roads on August 24 with a representative from the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. The list of concerns that we presented ran to three pages and included the more obvious problems in Shirley and Otter Point such as shoulders not being regularly mowed, overgrown ditches which flood the roadways, inconsistent winter road clearing and sanding, unsafe intersections and the generally poor condition of secondary roads including broken pavement and the lack of line painting in most areas. No promises were made, but it would be surprising and disappointing if we didn't begin to see some immediate improvements.

## 3. JDF PLANNING SERVICES LOOKING FOR PHOTOS

June Klassen, Manager of Planning Services for the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area is looking for some representative photos of the Otter Point area to insert into the new Otter Point Official Community Plan (OCP). If you have a photo to submit, or need more information about this project, contact June at her office in the CRD building at 6868 West Coast Road in Sooke or email her at: [jklassen@crd.bc.ca](mailto:jklassen@crd.bc.ca). You won't be paid for your photos used in the OCP, but you will be acknowledged.

## 4. OPSSRA'S MONTHLY SURVEY

**In July**, we introduced a monthly survey as a new feature for the newsletter. The initial questions related to proposed changes to our association's constitution. You can see those results in the August newsletter or on the OPSRRA web site: [www.opsrra.ca](http://www.opsrra.ca).

Last month's survey questions dealt with the proposed construction of a services building to house Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Planning, Building Inspection and Protective Services when the lease on their building at 6868 West Coast Road, in Sooke, expires at the end of December 2013. There were 38 responses to the survey.

The survey results:

Question	Yes	No
Should the cost of borrowing the estimated 1.3 million dollars to build a JDFEA Services Building go to public referendum?	20	18
Would you support the idea of owning a building if the cost was about the same as renting?	35	3
Is locating the building in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area an important consideration?	33	5
Do you support the idea of adding an 80 seat meeting room to accommodate community meetings?*	33	4

\* One respondent said it would depend on any additional cost

OPSSRA will submit these results to Regional Director Hicks.

## September Survey: August 12 Sooke Subaru Triathlon

In 2011, the race organizers changed the cycling route for this event from numerous loops around Otter Point and Sooke to a linear route starting at Camp Barnard in Otter Point, along Otter Point Road to Highway 14 at Gordon's Beach and then west on the highway to a point midway between Jordan River and Port Renfrew. This route change required limiting access to Highway 14 from Gordon's Beach to Port Renfrew. Following complaints about last year's closures from residents west of Sooke, the race organizers limited this year's closures to 7:00 am to 10:30 am for westbound traffic from Gordon's Beach to Port Renfrew and from 7:00 am to 12:30 pm for eastbound traffic from Port Renfrew to Gordon's Beach. Provision was also made for more local travel around the area. However concerns were still being expressed about:

- The impact of these closures on local businesses west of Sooke.
- The ability of volunteer fire fighters and first responders to get to the Shirley Fire Hall in the event of an emergency.
- Emergency services being able to navigate the bicycle racers and single-lane approaching traffic to respond to both race and non-race emergencies.
- The general inconvenience resulting from closing the only road between Sooke and Port Renfrew.

The survey questions:

Question	Yes	No
Which community do you reside in? Shirley, Otter Point, Jordan River, other		
Were you aware that there was a triathlon race on Sunday, August 12?		
Were you inconvenienced by the closure of parts of Otter Point Road and/or Highway 14?		
Should the cycling event be relocated from this portion of Highway 14?		
If this route is maintained, should response times for emergency vehicles be guaranteed by the event organizers?		
If this route is maintained should local businesses be compensated for lost business?		
If this route is maintained should the event organizers be required to meet with representatives from local fire, police and ambulance to agree on an emergency services plan for race day?		
Comment		

Note: All responses are collected anonymously and will be reported in the October newsletter. Click here to follow a link to answer this month's survey questions.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?fromEmail=true&formkey=dE9UMjFLTEhHTGpzOG05VmtFQms4enc6MQ>



## **5. UPDATE: SHIRLEY FIRE PROTECTION SOCIETY**

The Shirley Fire Society will meet at the Shirley Hall at 2:00 pm on Sunday, September 9. In addition to the regular business of the meeting, there are proposed Special Resolutions to update and amend the Society's Bylaws which will be discussed and voted upon. The general purpose of the proposed changes are to have the Society's Bylaws reflect the actual practice of the Society on membership in the Society and its financial reporting; and to give greater flexibility in the scheduling of general meetings of the Society.

During the past year the Fire Commission has:

- Prepared a draft budget for 2013 and a Five-Year Financial Plan for review by the CRD.
- Coordinated the installation of a new communications tower with the CRD & CREST with financial assistance through a Gaming Grant to improve paging and area of service communications. The tower will soon be erected near the Shirley Fire Hall.
- Coordinated and approved the acquisition of a new First Responder Vehicle with the CRD and the Shirley Fire Protection Society with funds from a bequest from a Shirley resident.
- Coordinated the siting of a diesel fuel storage tank with the Shirley Community Association and funds from the Shirley Fire Protection Society.

## **6. CAMP BARNARD SEEKING A COMPOSTING PARTNER**

Last month's newsletter ran a request from Scouts Canada-Camp Barnard regarding composting. They were looking for a local farm that would be interested in the raw fruit and vegetable scraps from their kitchen.

The Camp has since been contacted by a farm on Otter Point Road who are now picking up buckets of fruit and vegetable scraps for their pigs. The project is being described as a learning curve for all, as each group using Camp Barnard brings its own cooks who all need some coaching on what CAN and CAN'T go in those buckets. The Camp Committee hopes the plan will work well for all as they begin making plans for the 2015 National Jamboree.

## **7. NO HUNTING OR SHOOTING BOUNDARY IN SHIRLEY AND OTTER POINT**

September is the beginning of that season of the year when we start to hear gunfire in the neighbourhood. Some of it is from legally licensed hunting; some is not. The province, through the Fish & Wildlife Branch of the Ministry of the Environment, issues hunting licenses, determines hunting areas and regulates hunters. If you go to Map A5 on page 30 of this link you will see our local area **No Shooting and No Hunting** boundary:

[http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/hunting/regulations/1214/docs/region\\_1.pdf](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/hunting/regulations/1214/docs/region_1.pdf)

The boundary is generally described as north of the BC Hydro power line (which runs from Jordan River through Shirley and Otter Point) except between Muir Creek and DeMamiel Creek in Otter Point where the boundary is an additional 800 metres north of the power line. The extended area in Otter Point came about in 2007 following a request from OPSRRA. This was in response to complaints from residents living north of the power line where guns were being legally discharged in their neighbourhood. OPSRRA arranged for the local Conservation Officer to attend our 2007 Annual General Meeting, and based upon comments received, he

recommended that the boundary be moved further north of the power line in the Tugwell, Robinson and East Glen neighbourhoods.

The local RCMP detachment shares responsibility for the discharge of firearms inside of the No Shooting and No Hunting boundary. According to S/Sgt. Wright of the Sooke RCMP detachment, any incidents concerning the discharge of firearms, regardless of time of day or night, or where they occur, are investigated by the RCMP. Allegations of illegal hunting are investigated by the Conservation Service.

To contact a conservation officer call 1-877-952-7277.

The provincial Fish & Wildlife Branch also maintains a 24 hour hotline for reporting poachers and polluters. Visit [www.rapp.bc.ca](http://www.rapp.bc.ca) for more information.

## **8. UPDATE: BILL JAMES DAM DECOMMISSIONING**

The provincial Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources recently gave permission, under the provincial Water Act, to the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) to decommission the Bill James Dam. In an August 24 letter to OPSRRA, the ministry states that DFO has confirmed that:

“.... the Bill James Dam Reservoir is not adequate to fulfill its intended purpose of storing sufficient water to augment water flows in DeMamiel Creek, and therefore DFO have applied to abandon the (two) water licenses and decommission the dam.”

DFO first proposed decommissioning this dam in the fall of 2011. The dam is located in the Rural Resource Lands about 5 kilometres north of Otter Point. It was built by DFO in 1988 on Percy Brown Swamp to help control the flow of water in the stream during those times of the year when fish are present and was re-built in 2001. The dam is one of three built for this purpose. The others are at Bradford Swamp, operated by the Ministry of the Environment and Young's Lake, operated by the Sooke Salmon Enhancement Society (SSES). The SSES depends upon these dams to regulate water in DeMamiel Stream to enhance the survival rate of Coho salmon, native trout and steelhead fry. The SSES was offered the choice of assuming the cost of operating the dam, but the expense of installing a new valve, maintenance, establishing a road for emergency access and liability insurance was over \$100,000 and beyond their resources as a non-profit society.

The water behind the dam covers an area of about 34 acres and is on land owned by TimberWest. Neither DFO nor TimberWest want the liability associated with maintaining the dam. DFO has already dismantled the valve that controls the flow of water from the dam and now wants to remove the dam.

OPSRRA became involved at the time that the decommissioning was proposed as we felt that the community had an interest in this matter for three reasons:

- OPSRRA directors supported efforts to maintain DeMamiel Stream as a fish-bearing resource in our community. Its flow levels are exceedingly low in the months of July and August and these flow levels could be further depleted under local climate change predictions.
- There are 15 known water licenses on DeMamiel Stream; thirteen are domestic licenses and local households could be affected by a decrease in water flowing in the creek during the summer months.
- DFO did not notify major stakeholders. When OPSRRA undertook to ensure that stakeholders were aware of the intent to decommission the dam, only SSES knew. DFO had not informed Scouts Canada, which maintains Camp Barnard on Young Lake; the T'Sou-ke First Nation, which

include the area of the dam in their traditional territory; or the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Regional Director.

In the spring, Regional Director Hicks wrote a letter to the provincial Ministry of the Environment expressing concern with the decision to decommission the dam and asked for a meeting with the Ministry and DFO. John Horgan, MLA wrote both the federal Minister of Fisheries and the Regional Water Manager for the provincial Ministry of the Environment asking that the decision to decommission the dam be reconsidered. OPSRRA also wrote a letter requesting that the decision be reconsidered. No further community consultation took place prior to the Ministry granting permission for the dam to be removed.

## **9. UPDATES: JDFEA PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

The JDFEA Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission submitted the following Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission update to the OPSRRA newsletter.

There were no parks meetings in July or August. Summer maintenance work is ongoing at local JDFEA Parks. Park workers and members of the Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society cut and removed broom from the Wieland Trail, in Otter Point, on August 17.

Sandra Smith, from Jordan River, has received a subsidy from the JDFEA Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission for her Saturday morning Pilates class. The classes are held weekly at 9:30 am at the Shirley Hall and cost \$5.00.

A bench in memory of long-time Shirley resident Jean Whiffin, who passed away in April 2012, has been placed at the Priest Cabin Park. Jean Conway, Jean Whiffin's partner, was able to establish the memorial bench and plaque in coordination with JDFEA Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, making the bench a generous donation to the park as well.

Jean Whiffin and Jean Conway had known Father Sherburne, who built the cabin in 1980 at what is now a community park in Shirley. Jean Whiffin was in touch with Father Sherburne over the years, and he sent her many pictures and documents relating to the cabin. She wrote an article for the Rural Observer about Father Sherburne and the cabin in July 2011.

The bench has a fabulous view of French Beach and Juan de Fuca Strait and will be enjoyed by many who visit the park. It is a fitting and serene location for a memorial to Jean Whiffin, and will remind us of the connection of Father Sherburne with the history of the area.

Ron Hamilton, JDFEA Parks Manager, Brenda Mark, JDFEA Parks Commissioner for Shirley/Jordan River, Mark Wilson and Robert Helmy, JDFEA Parks workers were there for the occasion. Jean Conway was able to get up to the site in the 'gator' and see the bench and the park. Guy McDannold took photographs to chronicle the event.



**Jean Conway seated on the bench which she donated to the Priest Cabin Park in memory of Jean Whiffin.**

**10. WHAT WOULD YOU SUGGEST BE ADDED TO THE BASKET?**

Last month we began a new newsletter feature in support of small businesses in our area. Christmas is only 116 days away (yes, we're sure that everyone needed that reminder) and we're asking you to help us promote small businesses in Shirley, Otter Point and Jordan River. What we want are suggestions for products and services that could fill examples of gift baskets which could be used as gift ideas for the Holiday Season or other times.

Give us your suggestions for single items or make-up a complete basket. Include an approximate price for the items or items and send your list to us at [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com). We'll post the contents of baskets in the monthly newsletter. Local businesses are welcome to participate too.

**August's Gift Basket:**

<b>Contents</b>	<b>Approximate Cost</b>
Selection of seeds from <b>ALM Organic Farm/Full Circle Seeds</b>	\$8.00
Bag of Coastal Crunch Granola from <b>Sheila's Coastal Crunch</b>	\$8.00
Jar of wildflower honey from the <b>Tugwell Creek Honey Farm</b>	\$9.00

## September's Gift Basket:

Contents	Approximate Cost
Bag of Kemp Lake Café coffee beans from the <b>Kemp Lake Store</b>	\$10.00
Coco–Artisanal Body Butter from the <b>Jordan River Soap Works</b>	\$12.00
Lavender Earl Grey tea from From the <b>Garden at French Beach</b>	\$8.00

P.S. If a local business wants to donate a product or service as a door prize which we can use in support of this project, let us know by email [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com) or call Arnie Campbell at 250-642-3113.

### 11. **SOOKE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION OF SERVICE AGENCIES (CASA) & THE SOOKE REGION COMMUNITY HEALTH INITIATIVE (CHI) INTEND TO MERGE**

The Sooke Co-operative Association of Service Agencies (CASA) and the Sooke Region Community Health Initiative (CHI) recently announced that they intend to merge into one Sooke Region co-operative agency with the aim of improving the health and well-being of people living in the communities of the Sooke Region that extend from East Sooke through to Port Renfrew.

In the following information letter and request for community support, CASA and CHI outline their history, the services they provide, the reasons for considering a merger and the work that will need to be done to realize this goal.

It is with great pleasure that we announce the intention of the Sooke Co-Operative Association of Service Agencies (CASA) and the Sooke Region Community Health Initiative (CHI) to merge into one Sooke Region Cooperative. This new, as yet unnamed, Co-op will build on the respective strengths of CASA and CHI, and will have as its aim the improvement of the health and well-being of people living in communities that extend from Beecher Bay to Port Renfrew.

CASA was established with a mission “to develop and operate a child, youth and family services centre from which our members deliver health, education, poverty relief and other charitable services to the people of the Sooke region”. With \$2.5 million of support from the Queen Alexandra Foundation for Children, CASA completed the construction of the Sooke Child, Youth and Family Centre, 2145 Townsend Road in Sooke, which opened in April 2004. During the Centre’s initial years of operation, CASA acted as a governing body for member agencies operating within the new facility. As the operations and relationships within the Centre matured and evolved a property management company was introduced, enabling the tenant agencies to concentrate on services and collaboration, rather than the physical building. The role and contribution the Co-operative can achieve is not restricted to the building, and the CASA Board is revisiting its role with respect to how it can best serve Sooke Region’s community.

CHI was established in 2003 by a broad partnership of citizens and local professionals with a keen interest in supporting development of healthy and live-able communities in the region through assessing



and addressing disparities in the social determinants of health. Since that time it has assumed a leadership role in the design and delivery of regional health, social and recreational programs that are of direct benefit to the almost 15,000 residents who call Sooke Region “home”. CHI is known for its responsiveness to local needs and over the years has initiated and supported a number of new projects including the Sooke Navigator Project, Food CHI, the Regional Transportation Review, the Integrated Health Network Community Programs, the Volunteer Centre, the Sooke Region Resource Inventory and the Sooke Region Youth Council, Youth Clinic, and Youth Friendly Business project. CHI recently completed a Strategic Plan for 2012 – 2013 that will focus its efforts more clearly on strategies that will continue to build community capacity.

CASA and CHI have collaborated on a regular basis over the years, with each entity assuming a necessary and complementary role in the success of each other’s projects. CASA has brought its status as a charitable organization to the table, its community presence and connections, its formal structure and dedicated Board of Directors, and its effective relationship with the Queen Alexandra Foundation. CHI has brought its relationship with the Vancouver Island Health Authority, non-profit organizations and local residents. These assets have been used creatively for the benefit of the Sooke region.

Both CASA and CHI members have initiated a discussion of the opportunities that a merger would present for both entities and the community, as well the liabilities that would have to be addressed. It is our intent to work towards a new structure that utilizes an updated version of the formal structure of CASA, the newly developed strategic priorities of CHI, and the relationships and experience of both CASA and CHI to develop a new organization. This new organization will reflect our shared values and principles and enable us to enhance our capacity for health and social planning for the region even further.

As we prepare for a merger, we recognize that much needs to be done. First, CASA’s constitution and by-laws need to be re-written to reflect the focus and aims of a new entity. The Board will be reconstituted. CHI membership will transition, bringing its fully developed strategic plan. Both CASA and CHI will need to develop a communication strategy informing the community, regional and municipal bodies, the non-profit sector and their many funding partners about the plan to merge. They will also determine how these and other parties can be involved in the process. With this in mind, CASA and CHI are seeking support from specific sectors and organizations that may be able to be of assistance during this transition, either by providing advice, personnel, time or financial resources. We believe that you are a critical friend to us in this process and would like to invite you to join us in the way that best suits your capacity and skills.

Thank you for your support.

On behalf of Sooke Region Community Health Initiative and Sooke Cooperative Association of Service Agencies,  
Mitzi Dean and Linda Nehra

## 12. DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

### On 27 September, 1992, the old Butler Log Sort in Otter Point briefly became a race track?

The property is now the site of the Business Park, but in 1992 it was owned by Canadian Pacific Forests Products and was leased to the Victoria Motor Sports Club. The club's plan was to use the paved area for slalom racing for drivers of street legal cars who wanted to race against the clock over a "tricky track". The initial event attracted 31 cars and about 40 spectators. In addition to weekly races the long term plan was to host over 300 cars from all over the Pacific Northwest for an annual event. The club also had plans to use the site for driver training through Edward Milne Community School and for police and fire department driver training. Neighbours of the race track were not impressed with the noise and about 20 petitioned then Regional Director Lorna Barry to stop the racing. In November of 1992 Director Barry said that the Victoria Motor Sports Club would have to apply to the CRD for a permit as auto racing was not a permitted use at the log sort. She also said that she would support a permit if the neighbours supported the use but she would not support a rezoning because she didn't want to see the log sort become another Western Speedway. Race organizers tried to get support for their race track from the neighbours and at a meeting hosted by OPSRRA, but in the end their permit was not issued and the club abandoned the idea.

This month's **Did You Know That?** is based upon stories in the September and November 1992 issues of the Sooke News Mirror. Back issues of the Sooke News Mirror are archived by the Sooke Region Museum.

Do you have local historical information about Shirley or Otter Point 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 OPSRRA by email [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto:opsrra@gmail.com)

## 13. 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  
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

#### **14. 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 or email [opsrra@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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