

OTTER POINT & SHIRLEY RESIDENTS & RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION (OPSRRA) INFORMATION UPDATE **February 2013**

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) for further information and on-line registration. Associate (non-voting) memberships are available for persons who do not reside or own property in Shirley or Otter Point, but who wish to support the Association.

The purpose of our society is to:

- Ensure that the development of the two communities of Shirley and Otter Point takes place in an orderly way and in the best interests of its residents.
- Co-operate with local government and other public bodies in the furtherance of the objectives of the society and benefits to the community.
- Concern itself with the performance of government agencies.
- Encourage citizens to stand for public office.
- Promote community spirit and sense of identity by organizing or supporting appropriate activities.

Are you an OPSRRA member? Do you want to receive the OPSRRA newsletter and notice of meetings directly to your e-mail address? OPSRRA now emails this newsletter to over **300** of our members. Contact Arnie Campbell at: opsrra@gmail.com you want to receive this membership service.

OPSRRA's EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS

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

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

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1. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

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

Saturday
February 2

Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Hike the Mackenzie Trail

9:00 a.m.

Meet at the Thetis Lake parking lot

A 3+ hour walk on good forest trails.

Bring a snack. Dress for the weather.

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

Web site:

www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Tuesday
February 5

Juan de Fuca Emergency Services
Monthly Meeting

7:00 p.m.

JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

Wednesday
February 6

Sooke & Electoral Area Parks & Recreation
Commission (SEAPARC)

Monthly Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Board Room

SEAPARC Leisure Complex
2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Monday
February 18

OPSRRA Board of Directors
Monthly Meeting
Members welcome!

Note location
change

7:30 p.m.

The Studio

3708 Otter Point Road

(across the street from the Otter Point Fire Hall)

Agenda available on request.

Contact Arnie Campbell at opsrra@gmail.com

Tuesday
February 19 **JDF Electoral Area Land Use Committee (LUC)
Meeting**
7:00 p.m.
JDF Electoral Area Planning Services Meeting Room
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

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

Staff reports available:
http://www.crd.bc.ca/reports/juandefucalandusecom_/2013/index.htm

Saturday
February 16 **Souper Saturday Lunch**
Lunch by donation
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Wednesday
February 20 **Shirley Fire Protection & Emergency Response
Commission**
Monthly meeting
7:00 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall

Saturday
February 23 **Seedy Saturday**
10 a.m to 3:00 p.m.
Sooke Community Hall

Don't miss this great event!
See newsletter item below

Tuesday
February 26 **Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks & Recreation
Commission**
Monthly Meeting
3:00 p.m.
JDF Electoral Area Services Meeting Room
2-6868 West Coast Road, Sooke BC

Wednesday
February 27 **Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Annual General Meeting**
7:30 p.m.

Otter Point Fire Hall
3727 Otter Point Road

Wednesday
February 27 **Planting Calendar Workshop**
ALM Farm
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

OR

Saturday
March 16

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The key to having food from your garden year round is to create a good seeding schedule.

In this course we will create a planting calendar for the year, look at pushing plants dates in the spring and fall to extend the season and plan harvest successions sowing for continual, extended harvest of certain vegetables. We will discuss materials and shelters that help extend the season for the more delicate crops.

Please bring a blank calendar to the course.

Fee: \$30

Instructor: Marika Nagasaka

For more information or to register,
contact ALM Organic Farm:

web site: www.almfarms.org

email: info@almfarms.org

phone 250-642-3671

Saturday
March 2

**Juan de Fuca Community Trails Society
Hike to Mt. Manuel Quimper**

9:00 a.m.

Meet at the CRD Parks parking lot on Harbour View Road.

A 5 to 6 hour hike, 9 kilometres with a 450 metre climb on a forest trail.

Bring a lunch and dress for the weather.

Phone Rosemary Jorna, 250-642-2767

or email sid2767@shaw.ca for details.

Web site:

www.jdfcommunitytrails.ca

Tuesday
March 5

**Juan de Fuca Emergency Services
Monthly Meeting**

7:00 p.m.

JDF Search & Rescue Campus Training Building
2028C Idlemore Road Sooke BC

Wednesday
March 6

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

Monthly Meeting

7:00 p.m.

Board Room

SEAPARC Leisure Complex

2168 Philips Road Sooke BC

Mondays **Karate for all ages**
6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall
Contact Alida Long: 250-642-4631

Mondays **Pilates**
10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Shirley Community Hall
Level 1 class (suitable for beginners)
Contact Sandra Smith:
website: www.svakayoga.com
email: svakayoga@gmail.com

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

Saturdays **Pilates**
9:30 am
Shirley Community Hall
Level 1 class (suitable for beginners)
Contact: Sandra Smith
website: www.svakayoga.com
email: svakayoga@gmail.com

**Thursdays &
Sundays** **Nia Dance / Movement Class**
Thursdays: 6:45 to 8:00 p.m.
Sundays: 11:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Shirley Community Hall
Contact Melody Kimmell:
250-646-2995
movingmelody@gmail.com

2. PROPOSED CHANGES TO OPSRRA CONSTITUTION

Last month's newsletter outlined some proposed changes to the OPSRRA constitution. The changes were discussed at the January 20, 2013 membership meeting and met with general approval.

The most significant amendment would be a change to the Association's boundaries from the current Shirley and Otter Point fire protection boundaries to the Shirley/Jordan River and Otter Point Official Community Plan boundaries. This would automatically include Jordan River within the boundaries of OPSRRA and extend full membership to eligible residents of that community.

Additional changes suggested by members at the January membership meeting will be reviewed by the OPSRRA directors at their February 18, 2013 directors' meeting.

The Directors will send a revised proposal to all members before April's Annual General Meeting to put the proposed changes to a vote of the members at the AGM.

3. SUGGESTIONS FOR AN OPSRRA LOGO

Does OPSRRA need a logo? A committee of OPSRRA directors has been reviewing our publicity activities and one suggestion is that we adopt a logo that could be used on our pamphlets, web site, community notices, newsletter and perhaps T-shirts!

Here are two suggestions that we have come up with. We invite your comments at opsrra@gmail.com



4. OPSRRA'S MONTHLY SURVEY

January results

Last month's survey was a follow-up to the October, 2012 survey on water. So many additional concerns and suggestions were raised in the comments portion that we decided to do a supplementary water questionnaire to further our understanding of local water needs and how water is used in our community. The results of the October water survey can be seen on the OPSRRA web site: www.opsrra.ca

The complete results of the January survey will be available on the OPSRRA web site in about a week. There were 44 responses to this survey.

The *preliminary* survey results:

Question	Community Response		
	Otter Point	Shirley	Jordan River
Which Community do you live in?	31	13	-

Question	Response
What is your primary source of water?	
Deep well	17
Shallow well	8
Community water	12
Water delivery	0
Rain water collection/storage	2
Water license on lake, stream, pond	1
Other	3

Question	Response
Which of the following is your water used for?	
Household	44
Garden (residential)	40
Garden (commercial)	2
Lawn	8
Livestock	7
Commercial business	0
Other	8

Note: Most households identified multiple uses.

Question	Response
Are you presently using other ways to supplement your primary water source?	
Yes	23
No	21

Question	Response
If yes, identify these sources	
Deep well	2
Shallow well	2
Community water	0
Water delivery	6
Rain water collection/storage	16
Water license on lake, stream, pond	2
Other	3

Note: Some households are using more than one supplementary source

Question	Response
Are you considering ways to supplement or replace your water needs?	
Yes	19
No	25

Question	Response
If yes, what other sources are you using?	
Deep well	4
Shallow well	2
Community water	0
Water delivery	5
Rain water collection/storage	12
Water license on lake, stream, pond	2
Other	2

Note: Some households are using more than one supplementary source

Question	Response
Are you already trying to reduce your water use?	
Yes	39
No	5

Question	Response
If yes, what ways are you using to reduce your water use?	
Low flush toilet	32
Rainwater collection & storage	18
Bottled water	7
Reusing water	16
Repairing leaks	14
Other	9

Question	Response	
How much water do you estimate your household uses in a day?		
	Less than 400 litres	13
	400 – 600 litres	14
	600 – 800 litres	2
	800 – 1000 litres	2
	More than 1000 litres	0
	Don't know	13

Question	Response	
How much water do you estimate you are getting from your water sources?		
	Less than 400 litres	6
	400 – 600 litres	10
	600 – 800 litres	6
	800 – 1000 litres	0
	More than 1000 litres	3
	Don't know	19

Question	Response	
Would you be willing to pay more to access enough water to meet your needs?		
	Yes	20
	No	24

Question	Response	
If you answered yes, how much more would you be willing to pay per month?		
	Less than \$100 per month	12
	Between \$100 and \$150 per month	1
	Between \$150 and \$200 per month	0
	More than \$200 per month	1
	Don't know	6

February Survey: Community Services

This month's survey concerns itself with community amenities and services.

We have listed amenities and community services that most residents of our area can access. We are asking you to identify the ones which are most important to you and whether you would support paying more taxes or an additional service fees to gain access to, maintain or improve any of those services. The survey is already posted on the OPSRRA web site. Here is the link to this month's survey: [Click here](#)

An important reason for supporting community services, such as a fire department or a hospice, is that usually such services can only be provided through a joint effort. While some can be operated as a business such as our garbage collection service, most must be funded by tax dollars or donations and operated by a combination of paid staff and/or volunteers.

Amenities are different. The days when local families donated land for a community hall or school site as part of their life in the community seem to be moving into history. Nowadays parks, wildlife protection areas and land for playing fields or schools are usually funded through tax dollars or donations,

More and more, communities depend on developers to provide such amenities when new housing is added to a community. The Local Government Act mandates, for some subdivisions, that 5% of land or 5% of the cash value of land be dedicated for parks. It also requires school sites in some instances. In addition to providing amenities required by the Act, developers may also negotiate two way benefits such as greater density in a subdivision in return for a higher percentage of land or value provided for parks and trails. Other amenities may be negotiated with a developer as well.

All responses to our surveys are anonymous to us and others. Survey results are included in the following month's newsletter and are also posted, along with the comments, to the OPSRRA web site: www.opsrra.ca

Note: This survey must be completed by Thursday, February 28, 2013.

OPSRRA's monthly surveys are proving to be popular; we'll continue them as long as there is an interest and we have suitable topics. If you have a suggestion for a survey let us know by emailing OPSRRA at: opsrra@gmail.com or by contacting one of the OPSRRA directors.

5. SOOKE REGION VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Joanne Thompson, Volunteer Coordinator for the Sooke Region Volunteer Centre, submitted the following. See their survey (an attachment to this newsletter).

According to the Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating (CSGVP), 45% of British Columbia residents aged 15 and over (1.6 million people) volunteered in 2004. Each volunteer contributed an average of 199 hours, for a total of 315 million hours or the equivalent of approximately 164,000 full-time jobs.

Volunteering and the helping spirit are alive and well in Sooke and the surrounding areas. So much so, that the citizens of our community are currently supported by over 160 Non-Profit Organizations, from local Food Banks, to Little League Teams, to Community Theatre and Volunteer Fire Fighters. We are touched on a regular basis by those in our midst who give back to the community where they live.

Individuals choose to volunteer because they want to make a contribution to community (93%), to use their skills and experiences (73%), or because they have been personally affected by the cause that an organization supports (62%).

The Sooke Region Volunteer Centre Committee completed a survey in 2009 to assess the need for a Volunteer Centre in the region, from East Sooke to Port Renfrew. After this survey had been completed, the Committee partnered with the District of Sooke to create a Virtual Volunteer Centre on the internet. This Website can be found at sookeregionresources.com and has access to a Community Calendar Volunteer Positions, and information on the many Community Groups working in the Region.

In 2011, the Committee applied for a grant through the Victoria Foundation, and has hired a part-time Volunteer Coordinator. In June of 2012, the Committee held a regional Volunteer Fair at Edward

Milne Community School, with a grant by the Juan de Fuca Economic Development Commission, that showcased 55 Non-Profit and Community Groups, and was attended by approximately 200 members of the public.

As the development of the Sooke Region Volunteer Centre is taking place, we are asking for feedback from the agencies that are working in the region- what their needs are, who they are working with and assisting, and how the Volunteer Centre could best support them in their work- whether it be space to hold a meeting, help in recruiting volunteers, holding Volunteer Recognition Events, or Networking with other agencies working in the region.

We are also planning a Volunteer Fair to take place during National Volunteer Week, on April 27, 2013, at the Sooke Community Hall from 10am-6pm. Non-Profit and Community Groups will be showcasing their work and members of the public are invited to come and see the agencies that are hard at work in the area, making us the "Volunteer Capital of Canada".

If you are working with an Agency and would like to take part in our survey, or upcoming Volunteer Fair, or if you are an individual wanting to volunteer, please contact Johanne Thompson, Volunteer Coordinator at 250-514-8865 or volunteersooke@yahoo.ca

If you are looking for ways to give back to the community, or are interested in the many agencies that are working in the region, please see our website at sookeregionresources.com

Sooke Region Volunteer Centre Survey

The Sooke Region Volunteer Centre Committee is working towards the development of a sustainable Volunteer Centre for the Organizations and Agencies in the Sooke Region, from East Sooke to Port Renfrew. At this time, they are gathering information from the 160+ Non-Profit and Community Groups in the area on what their needs and requirements are. A questionnaire requesting information on your organization's needs is attached to this newsletter.

6. NEW OTTER POINT CELL TOWER IN OPERATION?

The new Telus cell phone tower in Otter Point is built and three antennas installed. The tower is producing a signal, but are you receiving it?

In February of 2012, Telus announced a \$500,000 project intended to improve and extend cell phone and wireless communications coverage to parts of Sooke and Otter Point with a western boundary of Kemp Lake Road. The result is the 150 foot (49 metre) high tower at the back of the Sooke Business Park in Otter Point.

Telus built the tower in response to requests from their customers for better cell phone coverage west of Sooke. Some of their customers are residents of the local area but others are tourists, delivery companies and other businesses with employees who travel to or through the area and expect to be able to access cell phone and other wireless communications.

The tower was activated in December, 2012 but some Telus customers couldn't get a signal. After a frustrating month of trying to get reception, these customers were told by Telus that the new tower uses a different technology than most other cell phone towers. If you don't have a newer model cell phone you can't pick-up their signal. Here is the technical explanation from Telus:

The area around the Business Park in Otter Point does not have coverage under the CDMA (3G) network. The new tower that you see in that area is for our newer network HSPA (4G). If your device is CDMA, your phone cannot take advantage of the newer tower that was recently built. We recommend upgrading your current device to a newer HSPA handset to take advantage of the new coverage area.

If you would like to compare the coverage area, you can see how the two different networks differ with the link below:

<http://www.telusmobility.com/en/BC/Canada/3Gplus.shtml>

If you look under the 4G tab, you can see the coverage for our HSPA network. If your phone is on the 3G network you can click the 3G tab at the top to see the coverage there.

Definitions:

3G means 3rd generation and 4G means 4th generation.

HSPA means High Speed Packet Access

UMTS means Universal Mobile Telecommunications System and is a type of frequency which operates on the Telus 4G Network.

CDMA means Code Division Multiple Access, which is a method of transmitting multiple digital signals simultaneously over the same carrier frequency.

7. SEEDY SATURDAY

The Seedy Saturday organizers submitted the following:

You are invited to attend Sooke's Seedy Saturday, spring's premier gardening and local food event! Our fourth annual Seedy Saturday will be held on February 23rd, from 10 am – 3 pm at the Sooke Community Hall. This is a fun and educational event for the whole family, and an excellent way to get prepared and inspired for the coming growing season. Whether you grow tomatoes on your deck, have a small farm, or just want to learn, this is the event for you!

The day will feature a seed exchange and trading table; a range of seed and plant vendors; wild harvesters and local food artisans; and diverse educational displays featuring information on everything from composting to bees to the history of farming in our region.

Entrance is by donation with proceeds funding this and future seedy events. This event is sponsored by the Sooke Region Food CHI Society.

Love local food? Want to meet more gardeners? We need your help to make Seedy Saturday a success!

Volunteering is a great way to experience Seedy Saturday and support Sooke's local food movement. Volunteer positions include set-up, directing parking, hosting at the door, concession, vendor relief, and take-down. We also need volunteers to distribute posters between Sooke and Sidney.

Want to volunteer, or want more information?
Contact Jessica at seedysaturday@gmail.com or at home at 250.642.0503.

More information can also be found on our web site at sookefoodchi.ca.

We hope that you can attend.

Best wishes,

Jessica Boquist
Sooke Food CHI Director and Seedy Saturday Coordinator
seedysaturday@gmail.com

250.642.0503

8. RCMP COASTAL WATCH PROGRAM

The RCMP Coastal Watch Program is asking residents of our area who have waterfront property and residents who frequent local beaches to assist them by reporting any suspicious activity or threats to our environment on or near the water.

Here are some of their local areas of interest:

- Small vessels or boats suspected of landing or picking up illegal drugs.
- Customs infractions such as smuggling guns, ammunition, liquor and tobacco.
- Criminal code violations such as impaired boaters, theft from boats and improper vessel registration.
- Protection of coastal industry by investigating theft of logs and illegal harvesting.

The RCMP Coastal Watch Program will also direct environmental reports of toxic spills, illegal bilge dumping and abandoned and distressed vessels to the appropriate agency for follow-up.

The Coastal watch program can be contacted toll-free at: 1-888-855-6655.

Looking for more information? Their web site address is: www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca. Search for Airport/Coastal Watch Program.

9. KLWD RATEPAYERS MUST MAKE AN IMPORTANT DECISION

The following story was prepared from information provided at two public information sessions for the landowners within the Kemp Lake Waterworks District (KLWD) located in Otter Point.

Following the Walkerton, Ontario water tragedy in May 2000, Canada's federal and provincial governments enacted new laws and regulations to ensure drinking water safety. In our area, the Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) Health Protection and Environmental Services adopted the **4321 Drinking Water Treatment for Surface Water Policy**, which describes safe drinking water standards for public water systems that serve more than 500 people. This standard has been adopted all across North America.

The Kemp Lake Waterworks District (KLWD) currently serves about 450 residences (1,000 people) in Otter Point within a provincially approved improvement water district boundary. It treats and delivers over 22 million gallons of water per year. In June 2008, The KLWD was notified that it would be required to meet the 4321 drinking water standard and this was supposed to happen within four years. KLWD undertook a number of consultations and studies to examine potential compliance alternatives. In 2009, it was determined that ultraviolet

treatment would not work without first reducing the turbidity of the water coming from the lake. The most recent report prepared by the engineering firm GENVAR Inc. is dated December 7, 2012 and is available on-line at: www.kemplakewaterworks.bc.ca

Note: The web hosting company for the KLWD website has been experiencing problems and at this time the KLWD has been unable to update their site. It is hoped that the hosting issues will be resolved quickly and updates made.

The KLWD Board of Trustees hosted two meetings for KLWD landowners. These meetings were held on Wednesday, January 23 (attended by about 35 people) and Saturday, January 26 (attended by about 18 people). At Wednesday's meeting there was a short presentation by representatives of VIHA Health Protection and Environmental Services, and a representative from the Engineering firm GENVAR Inc. was on hand to provide technical information and answer questions. Given that VIHA was unable to attend on Saturday, a video was shown of the Wednesday meeting. The representative from GENVAR was again present to answer questions. All written material will be available on the KLWD website and KLWD landowners can still forward opinions and questions to the Board of Trustees by mail, or email to: kbrehart@kemplakewaterworks.bc.ca

The most recent report by GENVAR presents two options, both being major infrastructure projects.

The two basic options for provision of treated drinking water to the 4321 standard are:

- construction of a treatment plant (lake source); or
- connection to the Capital Regional District (CRD) Juan de Fuca water distribution system.

VIHA supports either option as a means to achieve compliance with the 4321 objective. While there are variants in the two models, they both cost out at over \$1 million dollars. Please see the December 7 report by GENVAR Inc. for details on cost estimates.

Those attending the meetings decided that Kemp Lake is no longer a viable source of water, given the added long term cost and responsibility for maintaining a treatment plant. Nearly everyone present at the meetings supported the construction of the waterline along West Coast Road (approximately two kilometres) to connect the KLWD system to the CRD water system. Those in attendance at the two meetings expressed their thanks for the excellent service and work by the KLWD Board and staff.

The next steps for the KLWD Board will be to determine the current cost to finance the selected option. Then, the Board will develop a Landowner Approval process to authorize the Board to carry out the proposed action and the necessary borrowing. The Ministry recommends an *alternative approval process* rather than a *referendum*. The KLWD website will be updated with detailed information concerning both financing and the approval process.

With completion of either option, it is estimated that water delivered through the KLWD system should be 4321 compliant within a year. It is important to note that the KLWD can only deliver water within the

area defined by the letters patent issued to it by the provincial government.

10. VOLUNTEERS WANTED FOR NATIVE PLANT PROJECT

Otter Point resident Heather Phillips submitted the following:

About two years ago, the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFA) Parks and Recreation Commission asked members of the public for ideas on how to use the William Simmons Memorial Park, which is located next to Poirier Lake in Otter Point. One idea put forward by me, Heather Phillips, is to restore a diversity of native plants to the park. This will also involve removing invasive species from the park. The catch is that the project will have to be volunteer driven and this is the year to get moving on it.

Several people have already filled out their volunteer papers for Ron Hamilton, the JDFA Parks Manager, so that they can work with me on this William Simmons Native Plant Project. We will decide what will grow in different areas of the park, find a source of plants, seeds or cuttings and put them in. For example, we can put in various violets, saxifrages, lily family plants, ferns, anemones and whatever else grows in the Sooke area that we can convince to take root and survive in the park. The next step will be to make sure they are left to grow and not accidentally disturbed. We are not going to put in a garden that needs constant care. If the plants don't take after a reasonable period of care, we may have chosen the wrong plants for the site. Each of us will have our own ideas and knowledge but please keep in mind that we want to establish plants that are native to our area.

If you want to join the project and spend some time working with native plants, get in touch with me at 250-642-3297 or with Ron Hamilton at 250-642-1500. We will also be looking for native plant stock; if you can donate a few from your property, please get in touch.

Heather Phillips: 250-642-3297

11. REPORT: SOOKE REGION MUSEUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Sooke Region Historical Society, operator of the Sooke Region Museum and the Visitor Information Centre, held its Annual General Meeting on January 27, 2013. The society operated on a budget of \$390,560 in 2012, compared with \$340,080 in 2011. It had a surplus of \$68,110 in its overall operation. This was accomplished by economies, the release of some endowment funds into general revenue and increased funding and gift shop revenues. The operation of the museum is supported by donations, fund raising, gift shop revenues, sale of memberships, exhibition fees, government grants and an annual tax levy of \$154,740 from the residents of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and the District of Sooke. The tax levy was approved in two separate referendums by the ratepayers of the District of Sooke and the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and presently amounts to 45 ½ cents per \$1,000.00 of assessed property value.

Elected to the Society's Board of Directors for a two year term:

Liz Johnson:	Vice President
Lorna Berry:	Treasurer
Lorne Christensen:	Director

Pete Wilford: Director
 Darryl Randolph: Director
 Dino Vieira: Director

Directors with one year remaining in their term:

Ray Vowles: President
 Wendy Milne: Secretary
 Shirley Vowles: Director
 Joan Titus: Director
 Jim Eaton: Director

Appointments to the Board of Directors:

Rose Dumont: T'Sou-ke Nation
 Zach Doeding: Juan de Fuca Electoral Area
 Maja Tait: District of Sooke

12. JUAN de FUCA ELECTORAL AREA GRANTS-IN-AID

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JDFEA) has a budget for discretionary grants that allows the Regional Director to respond to requests from organizations and agencies which provide a service to residents of the JDFEA. These grants are recommended by the Regional Director and approved by the Electoral Area Services Committee of the Capital Regional District Board. The budgets and grants for the past three years are shown in the following table.

Year	Budget	Actual Granted
2010	\$40,710	\$22,500
2011	\$38,500	\$13,300
2012	\$40,000	\$21,500
2013	\$40,000	????

The 2013 budget will not be known until after it is approved by the CRD in April. This budget item is usually underspent and Director Hicks has indicated that he intends to continue that practice.

The Regional Director tries to disburse these discretionary funds in proportion to the population of each of the sub-areas in the JDFEA. More information about the JDFEA budget can be found on the JDF web site:

<http://www.crd.bc.ca/jdf/budget.htm> or by going directly to the JDF budget spreadsheet: [Tax Report](#)

Note: The CRD and the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area operate on a financial year that runs from April 1 to March 31.

The following Grants in Aid were approved for the period April 2012 to January 2013. Two months remain in this fiscal year however the regional director does not anticipate any further grants being made.

Grant	Amount
John Muir Elementary School Parent Advisory Council	\$2,334.00
Saseenos Elementary School Parent Advisory Council	\$2,333.00
Sooke Elementary School Parent Advisory Council	\$2,333.00
Juan de Fuca Marine Rescue Society	\$1,000.00
RCL #4 Sooke Seniors Society	\$500.00
Juan de Fuca Salmon Restoration Society	\$3,000.00
Scouts Canada – Camp Barnard	\$1,000.00
Juan de Fuca Rural Publication Society	\$2,000.00
Navy League of Canada	\$500.00
Sooke Canada Day Society	\$1,000.00
Sooke Fine Arts Society	\$2,000.00
Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society	\$1,000.00
John Muir Elementary School Parent Advisory Council	\$2,000.00
Sooke Moon Community Wellness Society*	\$500.00
TOTAL	\$21,500.00

*This amount was approved but the cheque was never picked up.

Note: The grants to the three School Parent Advisory Councils are towards the cost of hiring school crossing guards and is in proportion to the percentage of children from the JDFEA attending schools in Sooke.

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 We will list non-members for a suitable donation!

The purpose of this service is to provide an opportunity for businesses in Jordan River, Shirley and Otter Point to advertise their goods and services to their local community. We anticipate having listings for accommodation, farm produce, art, furniture-making, fishing charters, eco-tours, firewood, knitting, soaps, landscaping, bookkeeping, sewing, spas and more. More information, businesses already listed, and an on-line registration form are available on OPSRRA's web site (www.opsrra.ca) under **Business Listings**.

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

Support local businesses. The OPSRRA web site has more information about the following business listings

1001 Welding & Equipment Repair

Accent in Grooming

A Point of View B & B

ALM Organic Farm
Beaches West B & B
Bear Home Remodelling
Birds Edge Press
Coastal Crunch Granola
Eco Craft Lights
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.

This monthly newsletter is prepared by the directors of OPSRRA. It is available to members by e-mail and to others on our web site: www.opsrra.ca. To have an item you would like to have considered for placement in the newsletter, or make a comment about the newsletter, contact an OPSRRA director or email opsrra@gmail.com.

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