

DECEMBER 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Grief Support- Legion, 3 pm	3 Rock Your Body GB Hall -5:30	4 Trans Station: 10 - 4 pm Youth Group Pizza Night Sr. Ctr., 4:45	5 qRD Community Check-in— Sr.Ctr. 7-8:30 pm	6 Spirit Brkfst Mary Mary 7-11 am TICS BINGO Comm. Hall @ 7	7 Photos With Santa Sr. Ctr. 11-2 United Church Bake Sale 12-2
8 Library Xmas Readings 2-4	9 TICS Gen. Mtg. Legion @ 10:30 a.m Home & Garden Xmas Market 5-8	10 Food Bank Call In	11 Food Bank Pick Up VAID Mtg.-1:30	12 TWIN Lunch @Pub 11:30 TIRC Mtg.- Sr. Ctr.—5 pm	13 Community Lunch— Sr. Ctr @ Noon Legion Mtg. Doors @ 5	14 Trans Station: 10 - 4 pm TCOTR** Sr.Ctr -5 pm
15 Santa Brkfst— Legion, 10-12 Raise the Rooms Texada Inn 2 pm Community Xmas Dinner-GB Hall Doors@5:30	16 Grief Support @ Legion, 3 pm	17 Rock Your Body GB Hall -5:30 Christmas Truck Parade 5:30 start.	18 Trans Station: 10 - 4 pm Youth Group Xmas Party Texada Inn 4:45 pm	19	20 Bingo Legion Doors @ 5:30 Express Lines Deadline	21
22 Xmas Carols GB Hall 1:30-3	23 Legion Closed Dec. 23—Jan. 4	24	25 XMAS!	26	27	28 Trans Station: 10 - 4 pm TCOTR** Sr. Ctr. -5 pm Grief Support Walk—11am
29	30	31	<i>Happy New Year!</i>			**TCOTR Texada Church On The Rock

EVERY MONTH

MONDAY:

Tai Chi, GB Community Hall @ 9:30 am
Fire Dept Practice GB & VA Fire Halls @ 6:30 pm
KIDS SPORTS CLUB

TUESDAY:

Sandpiper Playgroup, 10 am—1 pm

WEDNESDAY:

Tai Chi, GB Community Hall @ 9:30 am
Museum: 10-Noon
Scrabble & Games, Legion, 1:30—4 PM
Youth Group: Sr. Ctr—4:45-6:30 PM

THURSDAY:

Fun Darts, Texada Inn @ 7 pm

FRIDAY:

Karaoke—Texada Inn @ 7 pm

SATURDAY:

Tai Chi, GB Community Hall @ 9:30 am
Circle of Light Meditation, United Church—2-3pm
Meat Draw, Legion, 3:30 pm

SUNDAY:

Church Services, United Church, 10:30 am
Trivia Meat Draw, Legion 3:30 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous, United Church, 6:30 pm



Texada Island's Monthly Events

December 2024

TEXADA ISLAND COMMUNITY SOCIETY (TICS)

TICS President's Christmas Message

It is that time of the year when we all can reflect on the year we have had and look to the future, as a New Year starts. I believe Texada has pushed through 2024 and looking ahead to 2025.

All of us involved in Texada Island Community Society (TICS) would like to thank you all for your help and generosity. Get out and support local vendors and our community.

EVENTS THIS MONTH:

December 6th: The Spirit Breakfast at Mary Mary Café from 7:00am – 11:00am. This is a TICS fundraiser for our Texada Food Bank. Bring your food items, eat and help those in need.

December 6th: TICS Bingo at the Gillies Bay Community Hall from 7:00pm-9:30pm.

December 15th: Breakfast with Santa at the Legion 10:00am-12:00pm Open to everyone.

December 15th: Texada Community Dinner at the Gillies Bay Community Hall from 5:00pm-9:30pm. Due to BC Health regulations the dinner needs to be catered. Mary Mary Café is providing the Ham and Turkey dinner. Get your Tickets! Your cost is \$15.00, TICS is paying the additional \$10.00 as a way to give back to the community.

In the past this dinner has been a way for new comers to the island to meet people and learn what groups are on the island. This is

The Annual
Newcomer & Oldcomer
Welcome

Christmas

COMMUNITY DINNER

Please Join Us
For a Catered Turkey Dinner

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
At Gillies Bay Community Hall
Doors Open at 5:00 pm

Tickets - \$15
Presale Only - Adults Only Due to Wine Sales

Door Prizes, Entertainment, Community

Tickets can be pre-purchased via
Doriana @ 604-414-4895
Debra @ 604-578-1989
Texada Credit Union or Centennial Gas Station

Childcare for ages 2-10 is generously offered by
Sandpipers Play Group at the Senior Centre - By Donation
Please let us know if their services will be required.

*Please Bring a Food Bank Donation
Catered by Mary Mary Cafe*

an adult event and babysitting has been organized.

I hope this season fills you up with things that mean the most to you and energizes you for a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays to Everyone! - Warren



TEXADA ISLAND HEALTH CENTRE

Hours of Operation

Monday to Thursday
8:30 am to 11:45 am, 1:15 pm to 4 pm
Friday
8:30 am to 11:45 am

Phone Number:
604-486-7525

If no reply, please leave a message.

Emergencies: 911

Information

B.C. Health Hotline: 811

COVID Changes:

- Visits strictly by appointment, except for emergencies. We will try to deal with issues by phone as much as possible and give appointments when patients need to be seen in person.
- Lab tests by appointment only.
- Extended lab time: 8:30 am to 9:45 am.
- If you are ill and suspect you may have COVID, please come to the back door marked COVID and follow the posted instructions.
- TAP forms can be picked up after 1:15 pm.

Making Donations to the Texada Health Services Society

When donating, please make the cheque out to :

Texada Health Services Society and mail to **P.O. Box 249, Van Anda, B.C., V0N 3K0.**

Please indicate on your cheque, or attach a note, whether you wish your donation to go to either: **Cancer Support Group; Green Armband Fund;** or to the **General Fund** (to be used for equipment for clinic, etc.).

Currently, there is a greater need for funds for our Cancer Support Group and we would appreciate any funds that we receive to help our residents who are affected by Cancer. We are reviewing ways in which we can raise funds so we can increase the current \$500 per year per person. As you can appreciate \$500 does not cover much these days.

Texada Breast Cancer Support



Contact: Joan Martisca
604-483-6438

Udith Teuner
604-486-6744

Canadian Cancer Society-Trained
Peer Facilitators

LIVE - LOVE- LAUGHTER

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

The Cancer Support Group has funds available for those on Texada who are needing additional financial support, while being treated for cancer.

We are here to help and can provide up to \$500 per year, per patient.

Forms can be picked up at the Texada Island Health Centre, or from **Amber Brewer** who lives in Van Anda, and can be reached at 1-250-644-6024 (toll free).

All inquiries are held in the strictest of confidence. *Barb Egglestone*



BC FERRIES

TEXADA ISLAND TO POWELL RIVER

Monday to Friday Saturday & Sunday

Leave Texada Island	Leave Powell River	Leave Texada Island	Leave Powell River
6:00 am	6:50 am	6:00 am	6:50 am
7:50 am	8:35 am	7:50 am	8:35 am
9:20 am	10:20 am 10:10 am*	9:20 am	10:20 am
11:25 am	12:15 pm	11:25 am	12:15 pm
3:00 pm *	3:45 pm	3:30 pm	4:15 pm
5:05 pm	6:00 pm	5:10 pm	6:40 pm
6:50 pm	7:40 pm	7:25 pm	8:15 pm
8:35 pm	9:20 pm	9 pm	9:45 pm

**Dangerous Cargo
Wednesdays Only—no passengers*

COMMUTER BUS THURSDAYS

To reserve a seat:

Phone Wednesday before 3 pm
604-483-2008

Departs: Gillies Bay Store at 8:25 am, and Van Anda Market at about 8:50 am.

Departs: North entrance of Town Ctr. Mall at 3 pm.
Fare: \$8 and \$2.25 for seniors (65+).
(each way)

POWELL RIVER - SECHLT

GIBSON - VANCOUVER (**XMAS ONLY)

Leave Salter Bay	Leave Earls Cove	Leave Langdale	Leave Horseshoe Bay
5:40 am*	6:35 am*	6:20 am	7:30 am
7:30 am	8:25 am	8:40 am	9:45 am
9:25 am	10:25 am	10:50 am	11:55 am
11:20 am	12:25 pm	1:05 pm	2:10 pm
3:50 pm	4:55 pm	3:15 pm	2:40 pm**
6:00 pm	7:00 pm	3:50 pm**	4:20 pm
7:55 pm	8:50 pm	5:25 pm	5:30 pm
9:45 pm	10:40 pm	6:40 pm	7:50 pm
<i>*Daily except Sunday</i>		8:55 pm	10:55 pm

Always call or visit **BC Ferries website** to confirm your sailing times.
1-888-223-3779, or www.bcferries.com

Powell River

Comox

Leave

Leave

8:05 am

6:15 am

11:50 am

9:55 am

5:15 pm

3:25 pm

8:45 pm

7:10 pm

Recycling Stations Hours

Van Anda:
Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am - 5 pm

Gillies Bay:
Wednesday, Friday & Saturday, 9 am - 5 pm





Classified Ads

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Texada Vacation Rental

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 1925 Sturt Bay Road, Van Anda

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Austin Rycroft 604-413-1402

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Jorg's Custom Woodwork
 40 years residential carpentry & boat building.
 250-889-2534

SERVICES

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 TexadaEats.ca
 604-414-7504

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TEXADA ISLAND PHONE BOOKS

ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com
\$5.00

Express Lines

is a TICS Publication

Editors: TICS

Deadline: The 20th of the month prior to publication. Send announcements (max. 350 words) or ads to:

TICS
 PO Box 233, Van Anda, V0N 3K0
 E-mail: ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com
 Phone: 604-414-5619

EXPRESS LINES SUBSCRIPTION

For a 12-month off-island subscription to the *Express Lines*, please send **\$40** to; TICS, PO Box 233, VAN ANDA, BC, V0N 3K0.

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____

 CITY: _____
 PROVINCE: _____
 POSTAL CODE: _____



Texada Library Christmas Party Readings

Sunday, December 8, 2-4 pm
 Seniors Centre, Gillies Bay



To celebrate Christmas this year, we thought it might be fun to hold a different kind of Christmas Party that would include local Authors readings. Please bring a short story, memoir, poem, or even a good joke, about Christmas to read to the group, while we sip on tea or hot apple cider and munch on Christmas goodies. (Please keep readings to a maximum of one page, or five minutes.)

If you have any questions or wish to take part in the readings, please contact Irene Kyle at ijkyle@me.com and you will be added to the list.



TEXADA ISLAND UNITED CHURCH

Christmas Bake Sale

AT THE
UNITED CHURCH
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7
NOON - 2



TEXADA ISLAND
 COMMUNITY SOCIETY (TICS)

SPIRIT BREAKFAST WITH SPIRITED TICS SERVERS



Enjoy the Breakfast & Get In the Spirit

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

MARY MARY CAFE
 7:00 AM - 11 AM



Come - Be Our Guest
 BRING A DONATION OF FOOD OR
 CASH FOR THE FOOD BANK AND
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PANCAKES, EGGS, BACON
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Breakfast with Santa

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15,
 BREAKFAST 10 - NOON
 SANTA ARRIVES AT 11 AM
 AT THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

BRING YOUR LETTER FOR SANTA!

ALL CHILDREN & PARENTS
 WELCOME!





GILLIES BAY & VAN ANDA FIRE DEPARTMENTS



The Christmas Truck Parade—December 17th!

Gillies Bay and Van Anda Fire Departments did a truck parade during covid to honour health care workers, which seemed far more effective than banging pots and pans together. People said that they enjoyed it, so we did it again last Christmas—this time with the trucks lit up!

This was popular enough that a Christmas Truck Parade has become a tradition for emergency services. Over the years, the Parade has expanded to include RCMP and BCAS as well; subject to operational requirements.



We design the parade so any calls can still be attended to, which might make for a shorter parade, but no one needs to worry about an emergency going unattended. Although, if you are watching for an emergency vehicle, don't be surprised if it has additional lights on it!

This year we will be having our parade on December 17th.

We will start at 5:30 pm at the Gillies Bay Fire Hall, go up to the

High Road, then back along Shelter Point Road/Gillies Bay Road, before winding through Gillies Bay.

The parade will continue over to Van Anda, with a loop through the Blair Road Subdivision. Then into Van Anda, where again, we try to do as many streets as possible.

We can't drive past everyone's place because some roads won't accommodate a lot of heavy vehicles.

Join us in our 3rd Annual
Old-Fashioned
Christmas

Carol Singing
Sunday, December 22
1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
At the Gillies Bay Community Hall

Come with your family and neighbours to sing some of the best known and loved Carols and Christmas songs.
Song sheets provided.

Admission is free, but we would appreciate it if people would bring Christmas Cookies for sharing after we sing.
Tea and hot chocolate will be provided.

We will also be collecting donations for the Sandpipers Play Centre to support the Drop-in Program

TEXADA YOUTH GROUP

WEDS 4.45PM - 6.30PM

DEC 4 PIZZA NIGHT
OLD SCHOOL GILLIES BAY

DEC 18 XMAS PARTY
TEXADA ISLAND INN

Ages 10+

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Texada Seniors Council Community Lunch

Seniors Centre in Gillies Bay

Friday, December 13

Noon to 1 p.m.

This will be the last lunch for 2024 and will resume January 10, 2025.

**Homemade Soup * Sandwiches
* Dessert * Tea * Coffee
\$10.00 per Person**

Thanks to all who have supported this lunch during the year.

The Executive of the Texada Seniors' Council sends a big **thank you** to Joyce Wiebe and her cast of volunteers who make lunch run smoothly, to Gayle Chouinard who handles door registration and last, but not least, to our kitchen magician, **George**, who continues to delight our taste buds!

COMMUNITY BINGO at the Seniors' Centre will not take place in December, but will resume in January.

BINGO!

TICS Bingo

Friday, December 6, Community Hall—7 pm

Legion Bingo

Friday, December 20, Legion—7 pm

Community Bingo

No Bingo in December



YOUR TEXADA ISLAND WOMEN'S NETWORK

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DRAW

TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM T.W.I.N. MEMBERS AND AT MOST BUSINESSES

1. A HAMPER FULL OF GOODNESS FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS DINNER
2. \$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE FROM THE TEXADA ISLAND INN
3. A BASKET OF PRESERVES

TICKETS ARE \$2 EACH.
THE DRAW WILL BE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2024

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO OUR TWO MAIN CHARITIES: THE GREEN ARM BAND PROGRAM AND THE CANCER SUPPORT GROUP.





Texada Winter Pickleball

Pickleball



Tuesdays & Thursdays 6 pm to 8 pm

at the Texada School Gym

\$2 Drop-in Fee

(Equipment available for try outs)

Pickleball is a combination of the best parts of tennis, badminton and ping pong - with a huge shot of fun!

Join in the fun!

Hosted by
The Texada
Dragon Boat Club

Sandpipers Presents Photos with Santa

KIDS AND PETS WELCOME! JOIN US FOR PICTURES WITH SANTA AND A CHRISTMAS CRAFT! BY DONATION

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7
11:00AM TO 2:00PM

@ SANDPIPERS PLAYSCHOOL
OLD SCHOOL IN GILLIES BAY

SANDPIPERS

PLAYCENTER

THE OLD SCHOOL IN GILLIES BAY

DROP IN PLAYGROUP EVERY TUESDAY 10AM - 1PM

SNACKS AND ACTIVITIES

MERRY CHRISTMAS



BETTER AT HOME

We are actively recruiting Better at Home volunteers for various roles, including Snow Angels! Would you consider volunteering to help a Texada senior by shoveling the snow from their driveway & front entrance this winter? Contact us today!

If you are interested in volunteering, visit our website for the online application: <https://inclusionpr.ca/pages/volunteer> or call 604-485-4008 ext. 102 for Belinda Shelton, Community Program Assistant Manager.

Better at Home helps B.C.'s older adults live safely and independently in their own homes by providing simple, non-medical support services for people aged 65 and older.

The province of B.C. funds the Better at Home program, managed by United Way Healthy Aging, and provided by inclusion

powell river society.

On Texada Island, we offer limited transportation to appointments, assistance with grocery shopping, and basic lawn care. Some services have a sliding-scale fee based on household income. For information on costs, eligibility or to complete the required intake appointment, please call 604-485-4008, #101 or email betterathome@inclusionpr.ca.

Contact us if interested in our Light House-keeping services, or basic lawn care for next season, so we can consider this in the budget planning for next year.

Thank You! Sonia Furstrand, Community Program Manager



Jake Zaikow
*Canadian Residential Appraiser (CRA) 2005.
*Member of the Appraisal Institute of Canada.
*Licensed B.C. Realtor. (1993)
*Associate Broker (2018)

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TEXADA ISLAND UNITED CHURCH



“Jesus stands at the door knocking (Rev. 3:20). In total reality, he comes in the form of the beggar, of the dissolute human child in ragged clothes, asking for help. He confronts you in every person that you meet. As long as there are people, Christ will walk the earth as your neighbour, as the one through whom God calls you, speaks to you, makes demands on you. That is the great seriousness and great blessedness of the Advent message. Christ is standing at the door; he lives in the form of a human being among us.” - Dietrich Bonhoeffer, God is in the Manger

Bake Sale: Dec. 7, 12-2 p.m. at the church

Worship Services:

Sundays services begin at 10:30 a.m., with fellowship and coffee afterwards. Communion Dec. 1, 2024. Everyone is always welcome at our table.

Worship service cancelled Dec. 29, 2024.

Advent Series:

Advent every Sunday between Dec. 1-22 with a Christmas Eve service on Dec. 24 at 2 p.m.. We will be celebrating the themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Focus on Spirit:

Published weekly (except for the last week of the month) on website. Links on Texada Message Board and Texada United Church Facebook page.

Minister's Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-3:30 pm.

Minister: Rev. Gayle Chouinard:

604-414-7309,
trollhollow123@gmail.com

Board Chair:

Dale Rinehart, 604-486-0050

Website:

<http://texada-island-unitedchurch.weebly.com>

Facebook Page:

Texada Island United Church

Texada Island United Church Mission...

To foster the spiritual development of all members of our community as revealed in the Bible.



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December 9, 5 pm-8 pm

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ALL PROCEEDS GO TO
THE TEXADA ISLAND
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SENIOR HOUSING SOCIETY

See you there!

(250) 706-2947

TEXADA WOMEN'S ISLAND NETWORK T.W.I.N.'S DECEMBER LUNCHEON

Thursday, December 12, 2024
at the Texada Island Inn Pub

Doors Open at 11:30 a.m.
Lunch is at Noon

There will be no guest speaker,
as this is our Christmas party

To reserve, please call Moe at
604-414-7312, *no later than December 5.*
If you have food allergies, please let her
know when you make your reservation.

If you would like to take part in the gift
exchange, please bring a wrapped gift
(\$15 limit) with your name on it.
If you have a game to play, please bring a
prize. If you can, please bring a
non-perishable food item.

Members not wearing the name tag will be
fined a loonie. If you are wearing your name
tag, you will be automatically entered into
our draw for a free lunch, to be drawn
next June. **Good Luck!!!**

The winners of our annual Christmas Draw
will be drawn at our luncheon.





Royal Canadian Legion Branch 232

NEXT GENERAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Friday, December 13

Doors Open 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Starts at 7:00 p.m.

BINGO

Friday, December 20th

Doors open at 5:30—Game at 7:00

MEAT DRAW

Saturday and Sunday

Doors Open at 3:30 pm

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season!

A big thank you to all who came out to our Remembrance Day service.

Special thanks go out to our First Responders, the RCMP, and the Cadets and their officers. Also, our thanks to Shelly, Evelyn, and Rolly for the delicious soups for lunch. Thank you to Barb for manning the bar.

The Legion will be closed for the holidays following the meat draw on December 22nd and will reopen for the meat draw on January 4th.

...lest we forget.

Booking the Legion

Anyone wishing to book the Legion for an event must text or phone Fred at **(604)414-4113.**

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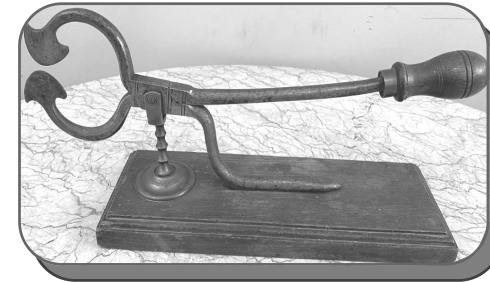


TEXADA ISLAND MUSEUM MUSINGS—A MYSTERY SOLVED

Occasionally the museum receives donations of objects that puzzle the volunteers.

A pair of recently acquired items that could have been pliers, tongs, or maybe grabbers, proved to be such a challenge. The object resembled fire or barbecue tongs, but the blades were obviously manufactured to be sharp and cutting.

The mystery was solved when our Curator, Brenda Rairie, displayed the object at a recent TWIN luncheon. Luckily, one guest was able to identify it immediately as a sugar cutter.



In the old days sugar was transported as “sugarloafs”, which were tall, hard cones wrapped in blue paper with a red wax seal. These blocks of sugar could be bought in different sizes: the smaller the cone the more refined and more expensive the sugar.

Sugar cutters (also sugar nips and sugar hammers) would be used to cut small pieces off the main block for easier use. In those times sugar was so precious that it was kept in locked “sugar boxes” to prevent pilfering servants (or children!).

Sometimes called “white gold”, sugar has had an interesting but brutal history. This sweet product fueled the Atlantic slave trade—sugar (molasses) from the Caribbean was shipped to Europe where it was refined. The profits were then used to buy slaves from West Africa to take back to the New World to sell. This was called a “triangle route.”

In the Caribbean, sugar cane plantations slaves provided the back-breaking labour

of hacking down the sturdy canes and feeding them into crushing rollers, often hand-cranked by slave boys. They then had to cut wood and stoke the fires to boil the cane juice down to molasses for export.

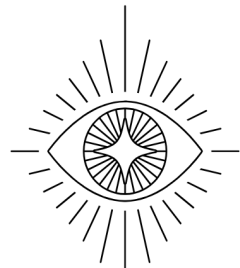
At the refineries the molasses was boiled with egg white, lime, charcoal and oxblood (!) and poured into the cone-shaped “sugarloaf” molds. Each mold tapered down to a small hole at the bottom to drain the dark syrup (called “the bastard”). A slurry of clay was added to whiten the mixture before being dried in storage sheds, wrapped and shipped overseas.

Our mysterious “sugar cutter” is just one example of how objects from the past can speak volumes and reveal our history.

Peter Lock
Texada Island Heritage Society



P.O. Box 160
Van Anda, B.C. V0N 3K0
Telephone: (604) 486-7627
Fax : (604) 486-7280



Circle of Light Meditation

Saturday Afternoons
2-3 pm
United Church, Van Anda

On December 7th, we will meditate at Bob Timms' yurt in Van Anda.



GILLIES BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

PO Box 102
Gillies Bay, BC V0N 1W0
www.gillies-bay.ca ♦ info@gillies-bay.ca
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www.facebook.com/groups/gilliesbayID/



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JOB BOARD

Gillies Bay Improvement District Job Opportunity

Operations Manager Gillies Bay Improvement District

Part-time - 16 hours per week
Salary: \$30 to \$34 per hour based on experience

Position Overview:

The Operations Manager will play a key role in managing the daily operations of our water system, ensuring the efficient delivery of clean, potable water to our customers. This position requires a hands-on leader with a strong understanding of water system operations, maintenance, and regulatory compliance. The ideal candidate will have excellent problem-solving skills, leadership experience, and a commitment to safety and quality.

Key Responsibilities:

- Working knowledge and experience with Water Distribution systems.
- EOCP certification a benefit
- Keep abreast of industry standards and innovations
- Ability to communicate and liaise effectively with public officials, ratepayers, local committees and interest groups.
- Project Management skills and ability to manage multiple projects, both small and large, with diverse objectives and deadlines.
- Proficient computer skills including Microsoft Word and Excel programs
- Proficiency with Water Operations software, such as SCADA and meter reading software.
- Excellent report writing skills

Interested candidates should submit a resume and a cover letter outlining their qualifications and interest in the position to admin@gillies-bay.ca by January 15, 2025. A complete job description is available upon request.

R.C.M.P.

Winter is here. We ask that you be mindful of the snow and ice while driving.

Last December, there were a few vehicles in the ditch that were not equipped with proper tires. Please ensure your vehicles are road worthy.

As most of you know, Patricia Collins has retired. She will be missed and we wish her all best! That being said, if you come to RCMP Detachment and do not see a police vehicle in the parking lot, chances are no one is there. But we encourage you to contact the office if you wish to report an issue.

Don't forget the Texada Kids Sports Club is every Monday evening and Youth Group drop in will still be taking place, but watch the Texada Facebook page for dates.

Buckle up and drive safe! - Josh and Kevin

Texada Arts, Culture & Tourism Society (TACT)

TACT has had a busy year putting on Run the Rock. Blues and Roots Festival, Pleinair Paint Out, and Kids Aerospace camp.

First off we would like to thank ALL of the Volunteers who helped at these events. Without you there would be no events. We have had new people join TACT and that is great. The Directors for all of the events are already making plans for 2025. With a little luck it looks like we might be having the Fly In back.

One thing we need is a Coordinator for Run the Rock. It would be a shame to lose this event. If anyone knows of someone that would like to take it over please don't hesitate to contact us. Texada.org@gmail.com



Texada Food Bank

Texada Food Bank is offered on the Second Wednesday of the month **ONLY**.

Call on the Tuesday before pickup day, between 10am and 3pm.

Pick up on the second Wednesday between 11am and 12pm.

Call in—December 10
Pick up—December 11
(604) 483-1219

Texada Food Bank Financial Donations can be made at the First Credit Union or by mail to: PO Box 233, Van Anda, B.C. V0N 3K0

Non-perishable food donations may be put in the baskets at the Gillies Bay General store, the Texada Market and the First Credit Union in Van Anda. Donation tins for cash are available at Gillies Bay Store, Texada Market and the Credit Union. Thank you so much.

If you have any questions regarding Volunteering or contributions to the Food Bank, please call Pauline Fleming at 604-414-9590.

Texada Food Bank Thanks You!

We are very thankful to everyone who makes regular anonymous financial deposits at the First Credit Union and to everyone for all the anonymous cash and food donations that are dropped off at the Gillies Bay store, Texada Market and Credit Union. Our only request is that all food donations be intact and **not previously opened**.



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Sundays: 6:30 pm. at the United Church.



TEXADA AGRICULTURE GROUP & FOOD HUB

The Texada Food Hub is available to all and is located inside Texada School. The Hub is a Vancouver Coastal Health-approved community food preservation kitchen equipped with commercial equipment for flash-freezing, dehydrating, freeze-drying, baking, juicing, fermenting and canning all kinds of foods.

Anyone can join Texada Agriculture Group and use the Hub. Life membership in TAG costs a one-time fee of \$10 for individuals or \$15 for a household with two adults. For a nominal usage fee, Hub members can use the kitchen for stocking up a personal household food supply and for making commercial food products (but not for catering).

If you are already a TAG member and would like to schedule time at the Hub, please contact Breanne Percy by email at: breanne@why-health.com

For more information or to become a TAG member, please contact Tom Read, home phone 604-483-1471 or email: ravenbaywoods@gmail.com.



Gillies Bay General Store

5150 Gillies Bay Rd, Gillies Bay
TEL: 604-486-7208

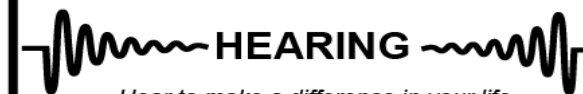
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Call (604) 485-0036

Located next to the
Medical Clinic Associates
4794B Joyce Avenue



Powell River Public Library—December at a Glance!



See prpl.ca for details or email info@prpl.ca

KIDS. szagwyn@prpl.ca

Seasonal Puppet Show: Time to Sing: Community Room, Sat., Dec. 21, 10:30-11:30 am. Join Sonia, Deb, Mel and Marilee for our annual holiday extravaganza! Drop-in.

Preschool Storytime: Children’s Reading Room. Every Weds. & Thurs., 10:30-11:00 am. Library Storytime. Drop-in.

Tinker Trunk: Makerspace, Every Tues. & Thurs., 3:30-4:30 pm, until December 12. Kids 8-12, choose-your-own-tech-adventure. Drop-in.

Prime Time: Community Room, Wednesdays, 3:00-4:30 pm, until December 11. Primary grades K+ connect & play. Drop-in.

Drawn Together: Room A, Thursdays, 3:45-4:30 pm, until December 12. Kids draw at the library. Drop-in.

TEENS. edgar@prpl.ca

Young Writers Group: Meeting Room B. Fridays, 3:30-4:30 pm, when school is in session. Ages 10+. Drop-in.

Fantasy Adventure Club: Meeting Rooms A, B & the Rotary Makerspace, 4:00-5:30 pm, when school is in session. Afterschool roleplaying adventure for youth 12+. Drop-in.

First Dibs: Review books for volunteer credit. Registration required. ALL AGES, edgar@prpl.ca

Winter Moon Poetry SLAM: Community Room. Friday, December 6, 6:00-8:00 pm. Doors open at 5:40 pm, come early to register! Compete or join the open mic at the end of the night! Come to listen or share.

Winter Break - Matinee Movie: Chasing Ice (2012, 75 minutes, Rated PG-13). Community Room. Saturday December 28, 1:00-2:15 pm. Hot chocolate & popcorn provided! Drop-in.

ADULTS. mmerlino@prpl.ca

Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution: Community Room. Tuesday Dec. 3, 6:30 pm. Free film screening of a documentary following a group of teenagers on to becoming disability rights activists. Drop-in. For information contact Karen at kwootten@prpl.ca

The History of Local Newspapers: Community Room. Thursday December 5, 2 pm. Stewart Alsgard & Doug Mobley share stories of local newspaper history. Drop-in.

Now You Know Me—Seeing the Unhidden Truth in Settler Colonialism. Community Room. Sat. Dec. 7, 11:00 am, k’wunəməŋ (Joe Gallagher) & John Matterson in conversation about their new book. Drop-in.

Memoir Masala: Community Room. Sat., Dec. 7, 2:00 pm PRPL’s memoir writers share their work. Drop-in.

Tech Savvy-Press Reader: Community Room. Tues. Dec. 10, 3:00 pm. Learn about free access to newspapers & magazines. Drop-in.

Book Making Workshop: Community Room. Fri. & Sat., Dec. 11 & 12, Noon. Join Stuart Isto and learn how to make your own bound book. Registration required.

Write On: Via Zoom. Fridays 2 pm.. Writing group. Registration required. Contact edgar@prpl.ca.

December at the Gallery
Closed from Dec. 22.

Open Friday to Sunday, from 1 to 4:30 pm
5868 Gillies Bay Road

Season’s Greetings
See you at the gallery!



qathet REGIONAL DISTRICT



POWELL RIVER REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

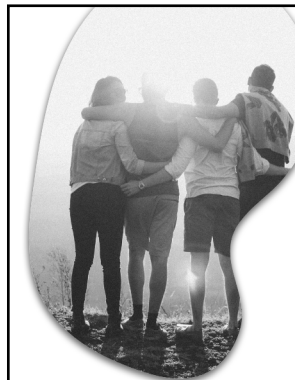
Budget Meetings

The qathet Regional District will meet to consider the proposed 2025 budgets and 2025-2029 Financial Plan at the Finance Committee meetings from December, 2024 through February, 2025.

The Regional Hospital District will meet to consider the proposed 2025 budget at the Regional Hospital District meetings between December, 2024 and March, 2025.

Meeting dates and times can be viewed on the Regional District website at qathet.ca.

For more information, please contact Linda Greenan, Manager of Financial Services at finance@qathet.ca or call 604-485-2260.



Texada Island GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

For the bereaved and for those close to the grieving, no matter at what stage, participants have the opportunity to share their stories and are supported in their healing journey.

DECEMBER 2 & 16

at the Legion, 3:00 to 4:00

Group Walk
December 28, Saturday
11-Noon

This support group is held in a safe, non-judgmental environment where you can meet others who have also experienced a loss.

Children are welcome.



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Texada Island Non-Profit Senior Housing Society

Wishing everyone a safe and joyous holiday season!



Our Board is looking forward to the possibilities that the New Year will bring TINSHS, namely the possession of 8-acres of land in the GBID to make safe, accessible and affordable seniors housing on Texada a reality!

The deadline for applications for an Administrative and Social Media Coordinator was November 28 th. Hopefully by the January issue we will have an announcement of a new member of the team.

Some of the Board members attended the BC Non-Profit Housing Association (BCNPHA) Housing Central 2024 Conference in Vancouver last month. The venue provided opportunities for the them to make connections and network to help further our project.

If you wish to make a donation to TINSHS in lieu of a seasonal gift to family or friend, please make the cheque out to TINSHS and mail to P.O Box 32, Van Anda BC V0N 3K0. Or alternatively, you can donate via the website:

Website: texadaseniorshousing.ca
Charitable Registration #: 705676682RR0001

Stay informed. Become a member of our Facebook Group. The number of members of the group is climbing.



In Loving Memory Of
Mel King
11/20/2024

Mel King, age 87, passed away Wednesday, November 20, 2024. Mel had recently moved to Alberta to be with family where he passed at a hospital there. Before moving to Texada Mel spent many years as a long-haul trucker. On Texada he was known as a Jack of all Trades. With his numerous skills he was always in high demand but no matter how busy his day, he was always willing to help a person in need. Mel liked to keep busy; he liked building things from scratch and enjoyed gardening and spent much time trying to detour the deer from his garden with creative fencing and barricades. Whether it be cruising in town, having a coffee at the Texada Island Inn or enjoying the view at Shelter Point Park, Mel always had a smile and story to share. Mel and his stories will be greatly missed.

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TEXADA ELEMENTARY

"A Whale of a School"



The Case for Outdoor Education

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." *John Muir*

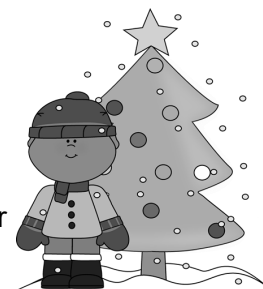
Outdoor education is a practical, hands-on way to tackle the problems associated with too much screen time and a growing disconnect from the outdoors. Did you know that 36% of kids aged 10-13 are glued to screens for three or more hours a day? That 21 hours a week, according to Dr. Brisson-Boivin of Media Smarts.

To address this, schools in B.C. have cracked down on personal digital devices in classrooms. Outdoor education is stepping up as a great alternative, giving kids a break from screens and a chance to connect with world outside of school.

Spending time outside does more than just get kids moving. Research shows that being in green spaces helps reduce stress, lower anxiety, build stronger friendships, and improve focus in the classroom. In fact, students often learn better and are more engaged in their studies after time spent outdoors (Bell & Dymont, 2008; Kuo et al., 2018). For older students, like those in college, spending time outside has been linked to a better quality of life (McFarland et. Al., 2008)

Outdoor education also teaches kids to value the environment for its own sake—not just for what it can do for us. This idea, called deep ecology, helps students see nature as something worth protecting. Plus, outdoor learning builds teamwork, problem-solving skills, and the kind of adaptability you can't learn from a screen. It's practical, hands-on, and gives kids tools they can use in the real world.

By getting kids outdoors, we're not just cutting down on screen time—we're giving them the chance to grow into well-rounded, grounded individuals who are connected to their surroundings and ready for whatever challenges come their way. Remember to touch grass!



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Thur, Fri, Sat, Sun.....8 am—7 pm.



NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY



Texada Library
Your library... in living homes!

**Seasons Greetings Everyone!
Wishing you a safe and happy
holiday season!**

Welcome to our new volunteers, Pat Parsley and Johan Axen. They begin their shifts on December 1st. Come in and say hello! Both Pat and Johan bring past library experience with them.

The library has opened up two more shifts effective December 1st: Monday 2-4 pm and Thursday 10-12 pm. Please give us your feedback about the new shifts.

Our Friends of the Texada Library Facebook group is growing. Check it out and add your name for new information.

Mark your calendars.

The Texada Library Christmas Party is on Sunday, December 8th, from 2 pm to 4 pm in the Seniors Room, Gillies Bay. Everyone is welcome. For more information, please contact Irene Kyle at ijkyle@me.com.

A big thank you for the donations during the month of November.

The December Library display will showcase new juvenile Christmas themed DVDs, a couple of classic DVDs, paperbacks by Robyn Carr, Debbie Macomber, Susan Malley and Karen Swan.

For Christmas bakers, there is "Mary Berry's Christmas Collection". Mary was one of the judges from the "Great British Baking Show".

The winner of the 2024 Giller Prize was Anne Michaels for her novel "Held".

Pam Kenny

The Texada Island Library is a volunteer-staffed community service located in the Gillies Bay Old School: phone 604-486-6728, during open hours.

Library Open Hours:

- Monday 2 pm to 4 pm
- Tuesday 12 pm to 2 pm
- Wednesday 12 pm to 2 pm
- Thursday 10 am to 12 pm
- Friday 12 pm to 2 pm
- Saturday 12 pm to 2 pm
- Sunday 12 pm to 2 pm

For more information about The Library, or about becoming a volunteer, please phone Charlotte Dawe, Library Coordinator, at 604-486-7440.

Texada Market

- In-store fresh cut meat.
- Fresh produce weekly.
- Fresh made in store deli items.
- We are your Liquor Agency store.
- A good supply of household items.

Thank you for your continued support.

Follow us on Facebook

Check out our website to see the specials

HOURS

Sunday: Noon to 5 p.m.
Monday—Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

December 24th 10am-4pm, 25th Closed, 26th Closed.
December 31st 10am-4pm, January 1st Closed

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

5105 Copper Queen St
Van Anda, BC, V0N 3K0

Fax: 604-486-7279
PH: 604-486-7418



qathet Regional District Searching For New Recycling Options

The qathet Regional District (qRD) is reminding residents that our special license to collect Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) packaging and paper products (PPP) recycling has been discontinued.

Starting August 1st, 2024, all qathet Regional District recycling depots will only be allowed by Recycle BC to accept residential PPP recycling. Recycle BC, the non-profit organization and provincial contractor responsible for managing residential packaging and paper recycling in BC, previously allowed the qRD to collect industrial, commercial, and institutional (ICI) sector recycling at one of our depots.

This arrangement was unique, with only six locations, other than ours, in BC, authorized to collect ICI recycling through the residential program. This means that many paper, plastic, foam, and glass items businesses are used to recycling must go in the garbage for the short-term.

The provincial government is currently working on a province-wide solution for ICI recycling, and in the interim, the qRD is searching for a region-specific solution that we hope to implement as soon as possible. Staff will continue to provide updates as more information becomes available.

In the meantime, the qRD is encouraging businesses, institutions, and affected individuals

to contact the Premier, the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, and Member of the Legislative Assembly to share their concerns about this service change and to request a new ICI recycling program in our region.

Office of the Premier: premier@gov.bc.ca
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy: ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca
MLA Constituency Office: (604) 485-1249



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DIRECTOR'S REPORT, Area D

qRD COMMUNITY CHECK-IN

with Director Sandy McCormick

Thurs., Dec. 5, 7-8:30 pm
Seniors Centre

Please join me Thursday, December 5 for the semi-annual qRD Community Check-in, formerly called the RD Discussion Night.

At this informal gathering, I'll provide information about what's happening at the qathet Regional District. Bring your questions, comments and ideas and join me from 7 to 8:30pm at the Seniors Centre. *Everyone is welcome.*

Meanwhile, construction of the qRD's Resource Recovery Centre above Willingdon Beach in PR is almost complete. All garbage must now be taken there, not to Augusta.

The rate for dropping off garbage is \$7.50 for up to 50kgs. Cash as well as plastic are acceptable for payment. While I've not been a fan of this costly project since its inception, I admit it is an appropriate re-use of the former waste incinerator site.

Also regarding waste, the qRD is seeking a local place to dispose of industrial, commercial and institutional packaging and paper products. Throughout BC, this material is no longer accepted by Recycle BC at our recycling depots. Residential products continue to be accepted. In the absence of a province-wide solution, the RD is actively seeking a region-specific solution for implementation ASAP.

Closer to home, a new sign will soon appear on the gate at the GB ball field informing everyone that the ball field is officially designated as a multi-use community park. This means the park is available to all users on a year-round basis. It has always been so designated, but in the past unofficial signs indicated otherwise.

Congratulations to the Texada Island Non-

profit Seniors Housing Society (TINSHS) and Selkirk Mountain Forest Reserve. Their joint application to the Agricultural Land Commission for an ALR land exclusion for construction of seniors housing has been given conditional approval. The site is across from the Community Hall in Gillies Bay and full approval is expected early in the new year.

Finally, as we celebrate the festive season this month, let's all take a moment to appreciate this special, caring island community that we are so fortunate to call home. In a world full of uncertainty, we are truly blessed.

I wish everyone a happy and healthy 2025.

Sandy McCormick
Area D director
604-414-3525, sandynleeti@gmail.com

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TEXADA ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

HOE! HOE! HOE!

Everyone is invited to join us in January - Sarah Bacon has been rescheduled to give her pruning presentation! See you on Wednesday, January 15th, at the Gillies Bay Senior Center, beginning at 2pm. Our December meeting will be for members only. Wishing you an amazing New Year.

This month Lori John shares what she found out about one of our favourite holiday plants.

The holiday season often brings colourful displays of festive flora, but why does my Christmas Cactus bloom early? It is because I actually have a Thanksgiving Cactus! Yes, there are three holiday plants: A Christmas Cactus, an Easter Cactus and a Thanksgiving Cactus! A blooming holiday confusion!

These three cacti are all relatives having similar appearances and care requirements. Most Christmas cacti sold are actually Thanksgiving cacti because of their blooming period.

Here is a list of key differences that set the three apart:

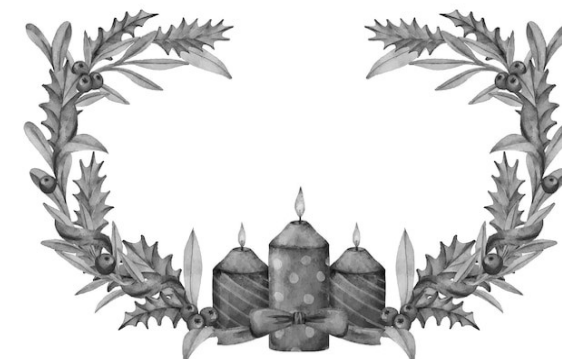
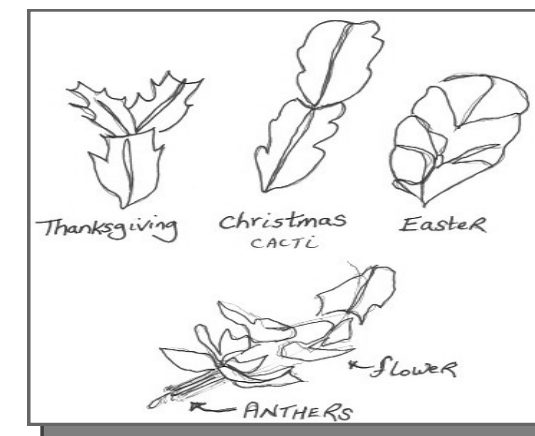
- Thanksgiving cacti (*Schlumbergera truncata*) bloom from late fall to mid-winter and are often mislabeled Christmas cacti. The leaves have pointed teeth along the outside that look like hooks or claws. The flowers are similar to the Christmas cacti. They are long, tubular and point downward, but their anthers are yellow.
- Christmas Cacti (*Schlumbergera x buckleyi*) bloom from early winter to mid-winter. The leaves have more scalloped step like projections. The flowers are similar to the Thanksgiv-

ing cacti being long, tubular and pointing downward, but they have purplish-brown anthers.

- Easter Cacti (*Schlumbergera gaertneri*) bloom from late winter to mid-spring. The leaves have smooth, rounded edges. The flowers are star-shaped and point upward.

I enjoyed the blooms of my Thanksgiving cactus. Now for the poinsettia.

Happy Holidays!
Lori John





TEXADA ISLAND INN



YOUR ISLAND HOSPITALITY
AND TOURISM
INFORMATION CENTRE

604-486-7711

Hello Texada, December Is Here, Warm Wild Winds. A Little Snow And Here We Go. Arts & Crafts Are Always Changing, Come See What's New. Shop Local Buy Beautiful. Friday Karaoke, Saturday Steak Lunch. Sunday 25% Off All Draft Beer. Monday, Free Pool 3-Ball Tourney, Tuesdays 25% Off All Seniors Meals, Wednesdays, Wolf & Wings, Thursday Fun Darts. We Do Have A Room Now, Please Call For Details. Food Is Amazing, Beer Is Cold Great Service, Good Cheer.

RAISE THE ROOMS JAM DEC.15TH 2PM. Come Join Us For An Amazing Day Of Musical Talent. We Are Having **A NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY DEC. 31ST, TUESDAY** With **FRENZY Live Band** Rock & Roll 8PM To Late .We Are Doing A 2 Seating **New Year's Eve Dinner** & WE Will BE Open Till 9PM More Details To Come. MENU TBA. We Will Be **Closed On DEC 22ND SUNDAY** For Our Staff Party, A Hugh Shout OUT To My Fantastic Amazing Staff. I Could Not Do This Without You. **ALSO CLOSED DEC.24TH & 25TH** We Would Like To Wish EVERYONE A WONDERFUL MAGICAL HOLIDAY & A HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025!

- Full Lotto Ctr.
- Gift Certificates
- Bagged Ice
- Island Info
- Local Art
- T- Shirts, Vests & Hoodies
- Ice Cream
- ATM

Thank you,
Texada, for all your love
and support & help!
*Cymry, Evan,
& Kaitlyn*

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Fri-Sat, Sun:
Noon to Closing

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VAN ANDA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Hello Texada! Here are some notes on recent events:

THANKS! The Board would like to express their gratitude to VOID employees and other community members who helped deal with several water system crises recently. You are appreciated!

WINTER IS COMING – please ensure your water lines and outside faucets are insulated. A single blown-out garden hose can waste over 10,000 US Gallons overnight, at a cost of about \$50.

ANNUAL INVOICES for Water Tolls and Parcel Tax will be sent early January. The Budget was not finalised at this writing, but we estimate the overall increase will be around 6%, with a single-family residence on a parcel sized less than 1/2 acre estimated at \$1,220 for 2025. Due date is March 10. To learn more about how Tolls & Taxes are calculated, visit our webpage vananda-id.ca/water-rates/

LEAK DETECTION CONTRACTED: Leaks have continued to increase. Using recorded amounts to date, we estimate the volume of water treated for 2024 will be about 20% more than 2023. A leak detection specialist has been contracted - Velocity Water Services will be here in January using their industry-leading technologies in acoustic leak detection to locate water leaks.

Preliminary surveys are completed using listening devices called loggers that are strategically placed throughout the water distribution system. These loggers activate overnight and log potential leak locations. During the overnight hours, water usage is down, pressure is up, and background noise is reduced. This allows for the best conditions to survey

a distribution system. Once leak locations have been identified, their technicians use a correlating device to better pinpoint a leak location. This is then followed up using a ground microphone that can listen at any specific location.

WATER QUALITY ADVISORY: The Water Quality Advisory continues. This will likely stay in effect until the media replacement in the Ion Exchange units is complete, which will allow the UV Treatment to be fully effective.

TEXT NOTIFICATION for WATER EMERGENCIES: If you or anyone you know would like to be texted about water emergencies, please let us know. Text notifications will begin in the next few weeks.

SUBSCRIBE: Be notified by email for outages, monthly newsletter, and other events at vananda-id.ca/subscribe/

CONTACT INFO: Please let us know your concerns! contact@vananda-id.ca – 604-486-7035

NEXT MEETING: The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday Dec 11th 1:30pm

WATER EMERGENCY: Water Operator Marianne Segers 1-604-315-1363

FIREFIGHTERS ALWAYS NEEDED! No experience necessary. Training, gear, and 24-hr (*now includes off-duty*) accident insurance coverage provided. Many practices and training events held together with Gillies Bay as Texada's 2 Fire Departments continue to work together. Contact Fire Chief Mark Robert 604-414-9662 or firechief@vananda.ca





GILLIES BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (GBID)

Why is the water toll and tax going up again?

The GBID trustees have resolved to set the 2025 Water Toll at \$735 and the parcel tax at \$650. This will be unpleasant news for some residents, and the Trustees feel some explanation for the policy will be wanted. Very simply, the reasons for increasing the Water Toll are inflation, the increasing cost of maintaining our ageing water system, and preparing to meet the BC standards for water systems.

A little history

When the Ideal mine closed in 1963, the water system they had built was transferred to the community for the sum of \$1. GBID took over management of the system, which included the Cranby Lake dam and some 9 km of pipes. Thanks to the excellent engineering and construction by Ideal Mines, the system has functioned to supply

water at low cost for more than 60 years. That \$1 price was a superb investment. Just how good it was can be seen by looking at water costs around the coast and Gulf Islands. (See *Chart Below*)

In 2012, GBID commissioned a study to estimate the funding required to gradually replace the system as ageing infrastructure wears out. The report recommended that GBID set an annual levy of \$130,000 with 2% added per year to cover the infrastructure renewal over the next 25 years. This recommendation would have added about \$540 to the Water Toll and Parcel Tax combined. The Trustees did not apply the levy, and the gradual deterioration of the system has continued without building up a funding reserve.

In 2012 the Water Toll was \$400, and it did not increase until 2020. However, there has been considerable inflation since then. By 2024 the

Nearby Water Improvement Districts - 2024

Comparison of Water Costs Per District - est. based on 450 M³ per year (99,000 gallons)

District	Serv. Con.	Water Annual Toll	Water Metered Costs	Total Water	Parcel Tax	Fire	Other	Total	Note
Brew Bay		450		450				450	2022 data, Anomaly
Deep Bay		258	317	575	403	351	225	1554	
Gillies Bay	238	590		590	610		70	1270	
Cherry Creek		560	45	605	457			1062	Anomaly
Bowser	388	216	435	651	290			941	2020 data
Van Anda		706		706	548			1254	Anomaly
Saturna Island - Lyall Harbour	153	773		773	842			1615	
Union Bay		874		874	554			1428	
Fanny Bay		520	454	974	318			1292	2022 data
Saltspring - Beddis	128	1092		1092	660			1752	
Mayne Island - Skanna System	48	1234		1234		383		1617	
Saltspring - Highland & Fernwood	321	1290		1290	245			1535	
Myrtle Pond	917		1364	1364	807			2171	
Mayne Island - Surfside Park	67	1498		1498	247			1745	
Saltspring - Cedar Lane	37	1560		1560	507			2067	
Saltspring - Fulford	95	1729		1729	570			2299	
Galliano Island - Sticks Allison	35	1702	50	1752	146			1898	
Saltspring - Cedars of Tuam	16	2298		2298				2298	



GILLIES BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (CONT'D)

general inflation-adjusted Water Toll would have been around \$531 without any additional costs. Unfortunately, operating costs have risen faster than general inflation so the water supply costs are budgeted to be \$609 in 2025 without system upgrades. Aging infrastructure is not the only challenge. Coastal Health has placed GBID on a Boil Water Advisory which will not be lifted until we meet the water quality standards for BC. The Board is working on a plan for slow sand filtration plus UV sterilization to meet the standards. We are currently running several experimental filters to ensure the plan is feasible before we put forward a design and costing for the community to approve. In the meantime, we are modestly increasing the parcel tax to build up the reserves.

Looking to the future

Fortunately for the community, the fact that our water is slightly alkaline has preserved our pipes much longer than expected. The pipes remain in surprisingly good condition, but the mechanical parts, such as pumps, valves and connectors are

beginning to fail and must be replaced. A recent leak caused by a failed pipe-saddle revealed that several valves no longer close properly so that it was very difficult to shut off the water flow to repair the leak.

The Board of Trustees has decided GBID must begin a program of systematically replacing mechanical components before they fail catastrophically, and the cost of this is added to the Water Toll.

The work for 2025 is projected to be \$30,000 which adds \$126 to the Water Toll on top of the \$609 cost of treating and delivering water. Barring major failures, the Board expects that only modest increases in taxes will be needed over the next few years for rebuilding.

While no one wants to pay more, the alternative is to allow the system to decline until the Province takes over and sticks us with the bill.

GBID Trustees

TEXADA ISLAND RECREATION COMMISSION (TIRC)

The Texada Island Recreation Commission will meet on December 12 @5:00 PM at the Seniors Center in Gillies Bay. The public is always welcome.

We are still accepting names for membership on the commission for next year; one position still available. Members are appointed by the qRD board for a two year term, with four meetings a year.

Membership is a great way to influence recreation policy on our island. If you are interested in finding out more phone Roger at 604 486 0009 or email: rogerkimmerly@gmail.com

Roger Kimmerly, TIRC Chair



**Texada Church
On The Rock**

Services held every Second
and Last Saturday of the
month starting at 5:00pm
At "The Old School"
5079 Gillies Bay Rd
Everyone is welcome

TCOTR

Gillies Bay Internet Society

For Wireless Internet
from Spragge Road
to Shelter Point and up to Bell Road.

Call **1-855-767-4247**
or email **GBISoc@shaw.ca**

www.gilliesbay.ca/wireless