

FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 TICS Bingo 7pm CommHall 3rd Qtr	3 Circ of Light 2pm Tex Church
4	5	6 Kids Sport Tex School 6:15 p.m. Art Get Tgthr 10 am Old School	7 Trans Station: 10 - 4 pm Scrabble 1:30,Legion	8 TWIN Mtg: 11:30 am, Texada Island Inn Pub	9 Comm Lunch Noon Sen Ctr Legion Mtg: 7 pm New Moon	10 Trans Station: 10 - 4 pm VAID Crt of Rev 10am VA Firehall
11	12	13 Food Bank Call In Kids Sport Tex School 6:15 p.m. GBID Meet 4:30 GB Fhall	14 Food Bank Pick Up Valentines Day Scrabble 1:30, Legion VAID Meet 1:30 VA Fhall	15	16 Legion Bingo: 7 pm	17
18	19	20 Express Lines Deadline STRICT Kids Sport Tex School 6:15 p.m.	21 Trans Station: 10 - 4 pm Gard Club SnrCntr 2pm Scrabble 1:30, Legion	22	23 Comm Lunch Noon Sen Ctr	24 Trans Station: 10 am - 4 pm Full Moon
25	26	27 Kids Sport Tex School 6:15 p.m.	28 Scrabble 1:30, Legion	29		

EXPRESS LINES SUBMISSIONS BY THE 20TH OF THE MONTH PLEASE!!!

EVERY:

MONDAY: Tai Chi, Tennis Court, 9:30 am
Fire Dept Practice GB & VA Fire Halls 6:30 pm
WEDNESDAY: Tai Chi, Comm Hall, 9:30 am
THURSDAY: Fun Darts, Tex Inn, 7 pm
FRIDAY: KARAOKE, Tex Inn, 7 pm

SATURDAY: Tai Chi, Tennis Court, 9:30 am
Meat Draw, Legion, 3:30 pm
SUNDAY: Trivia Meat Draw, Legion 4 pm
Church Services, United Church, 10:30 am
Alcoholics Anonymous, United Church, 6:30 pm

Express Lines

Texada's Calendar of Events

February 2024

NEW 2024/2026 PHONE BOOK INFO

TICS is gathering info for the newest edition of the Texada Island Phone Book. Included in this edition of the Express Lines is an insert, a form to record your new or edited info. Please follow the instructions on the form to ensure your contact information is included in the new 2024/2026 Phone Book. Personal information can be updated at this time too. TICS has a team of dedicated, attentive and positive volunteers who are making sure this will be an excellent phone book. Business listing info is needed as well. Business owners can also purchase ad space ranging from 1/2 business card size up to a full page. Please see page 5 in this edition of the Express Lines for business ad info. Please return the form, email your ad request or speak to a TICS member to make sure your business and/or listing is represented.

ALL LISTING INFO, personal & business related, MUST go to this email:

texadaphonebook@gmail.com

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Circle of Light

A Meditation
for us all.

2 pm Saturday February 3, at the
Texada United Church.

This will be a guided meditation.

All Welcome!

Facilitator; Morna Rockingham

Please join us.

Texada Kids Sports Club

Beginning on February 6th, Texada Kids Kindergarten to Grade 6 are invited to the school gymnasium Monday evenings from 6:15pm-7:00pm to take part in learning the fundamentals of sport!

The first session will run for 6 weeks and focus on soccer skills! Parent supervision is required and participation is encouraged!



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 there's 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.
- Masks and hand sanitizer compulsory on entering the health centre.
- 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.

PLEASE WATCH FOR SPECIAL STAFFING NOTICES ON SOCIAL MEDIA. THANK YOU.

Donations to Texada Medical Clinic

If you or someone you know is making a donation to the Texada Clinic, please make the cheque out to **Texada Health Services Society** and mail to Box 84, Gillies Bay, V0N 1W0. Thank you in advance.

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 readily available funds for individuals on Texada Island needing additional financial support while obtaining treatment for their 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



The Little Free Pantries are always available for anyone with food insecurities. Located at the Food Bank porch and in front of **4758 Cedar St. Gillies Bay .**

Take what you Need. Leave what you Can.
PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

BC FERRY SCHEDULE

TEXADA ISLAND TO POWELL RIVER			
Monday to Friday		Saturday and Sunday	
Leave Texada Island	Leave Powell River	Leave Texada Island	Leave Powell River
6 am	6:50 am	6 am	6:50 am
7:50 am	8:35 am	7:50 am	8:35 am
9:20 am	10:10*/10:20 am	9:20 am	10:20 am
11:25 am	12:15 pm	11:25 am	12:15 pm
		3:30	4:15
3 pm *	3:45 pm	5:10 pm	6:40 pm
5:05 pm	6 pm	7:25 pm	8:15 pm
6:50 pm	7:40 pm	9 pm	9:45 pm
8:35 pm	9:20 pm		

**Dangerous Cargo Wednesdays Only—no passengers*

POWELL RIVER - SECHLT	
Leave Saltery Bay	Leave Earls Cove
5:35 am*	6:30 am*
7:25 am	8:20 am
9:25 am	10:35 am
11:45 am	12:55 pm
2:30 pm	3:40 pm
4:55 pm	6 pm
7:05 pm	8:05 pm
9:00 pm	10:50 pm

**Daily except Sunday*

GIBSON - VANCOUVER	
Leave Langdale	Leave Horseshoe Bay
6:20 am	7:30 am
8:40 am	9:50 am
9:30am	10:40am
11 am	12:10 pm
11:45 am	12:55pm
1:15 pm	2:25 pm
2:05 pm	3:15 pm
3:35 pm	4:45 pm

Always call to check sailing times!

To confirm sailing times please call:
1-888-223-3779 or go to www.bcferries.com

COMMUTER BUS THURSDAYS

Phone Wednesday before 3 pm to reserve a seat (604-483-2008).

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

Departs the North entrance of Town Centre Mall at 3 pm.

Fare (each way): \$8 and \$2.25 for seniors (65+).

Recycling Stations Hours

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

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

ALWAYS CALL OR VISIT THE WEBSITE TO CONFIRM YOUR SAILING TIMES !!!!!!!!!!!

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

Express Lines is a TICS Publication.
Editors: Texada Island Community Society Executive.

DEADLINE: The 20th of the month prior to publication. Please call for information on advertising or insert rates.

- Send announcements (max. 350 words) or ads to: **PO Box 233, Van Anda , V0N3K0**
- E-mail to : ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com
- Phone : 604-414-7764
- Concerns & complaints : 604-414-7764

Classified Ads

Texada Vacation Rental

3 bedroom unit, fully equipped
Website: www.texadavacationrental.com
604-414-5897
1925 Sturt Bay Road, Van Anda

Kel's Lawn, Yardwork and Handyman

604-578-0266

Certified Personal Trainer Now Available

Also offering Yoga, Strength and Core Training.
For more information please call Udith: 604-486-6744

Food, Groceries & Liquor Delivery

TexadaEats.ca
604-414-7504

Jorg's Custom Woodwork

40 years residential carpentry & boat building.
250-889-2534

**YOUR ADVERT HERE!
\$ 2.00 PER LINE!**

**EMAIL:
ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com**

If you want to drink; That's your business.
If you want to stop; That's ours.
Call **Alcoholics Anonymous** anytime.
604-414-9811, 604-486-7180, 604-414-5232
Meetings: Wednesdays & Sundays at the
United Church

Stay at Welcome Harvest Farm

Private Studio available to rent for one night stay or
more
604-486-7137 2001 Crescent Bay Rd.

Custom Tilework & Flooring

Professional installation and quality service.
6042290573, mark_inmeadows@hotmail.com

TEXADA ISLAND PHONE BOOKS

PHONE BOOKS ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE
FOR A \$5.00 FEE AT:

THE GILLIES BAY STORE, TEXADA MARKET
& THE GAS STATION.

*NEW PHONE BOOKS COMING!!
NEW LISTINGS & INQUIRIES:*

texadaphonebook@gmail.com

EXPRESS LINES SUBSCRIPTION

FOR A 12-MONTH OFF-ISLAND
SUBSCRIPTION TO THE *EXPRESS
LINES*, PLEASE SEND \$30 TO PO
BOX 233, VAN ANDA, BC, V0N
3K0.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

PROVINCE: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

ORG NEWS



qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT



POWELL RIVER REGIONAL
HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Budget Meetings

The qathet Regional District will meet to consider the proposed 2024 budgets and 2024-2028 Financial Plan at the Finance Committee meetings from January through February, 2024.

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

Meeting dates and times can be viewed on the qathet 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.



qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT

qathet Regional District

2024-2025 Texada Island Mowing Contract

The qathet Regional District is requesting quotes (RFQ) for scheduled mowing and trimming services for regional district properties on Texada Island. Commercial mowing equipment must be supplied by contractor. View and download the RFQ at qathet.ca/projects/bid-opportunities. **Deadline for quotes: 4pm, Friday, March 1, 2024.**

For all inquiries, contact Patrick Devereaux, Manager of Operational Services at 604-485-2260 or by email at operations@qathet.ca.

**TEXADA SENIORS' COUNCIL
COMMUNITY LUNCH**

The Friday Community Lunch will be at the Seniors' Centre in Gillies Bay starting at noon until 1pm.

Friday February 9 and Friday February 23

The menu will be homemade soup, your choice of sandwich and dessert, tea or coffee. It will start at noon and be open until 1 pm. The cost will be \$10.00 per person. The lunch is open to all residents of Texada (not just seniors) and it is great place to socialize and meet people. We welcome all newcomers to our island. We look forward to seeing you there.

We are in need of volunteers for kitchen help.

Please contact Joyce at: **778-318-3359** For further information please call Dale Rinehart, Seniors Council President at: **604-486-0050**.

*****COMMUNITY BINGO POSTPONED UNTIL APRIL 25*****

And to our ever-changing cavalcade of volunteers: Thank You!!!!!!

Texada Frozen Meals Program

If you are interested in purchasing frozen meals because you are unable to make your own meals; please call or text

Pauline at: 604-414-9590



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LTD**

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- Gravel truck services • Excavation work
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Providing services on Texada for over 50 years

Contact Rick Jones
604-483-8308 • 604-486-7207
jonesandcompany48@gmail.com

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Home:
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Text:
604-483-1063

E mail:
fudgecontracting@gmail.com
Land Clearing, Septic Installation,
Skidsteer, Excavating Work and Hauling

TEXADA

HOME & GARDEN

PIZZA SHOP NOW OPEN 3-7 EVERYDAY

OUR GARDEN CENTRE OPEN 10—7

604-486-0065



LIMESTONE

Phone (604) 486-7623 PO Box 190 Imperial Limestone Products
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imperiallime@xplornet.com VON 3K0 Agricultural Lime

**Nicholas
Simons**

MLA FOR
POWELL RIVER-
SUNSHINE COAST

**Powell River
Constituency Office**
109 - 4675 Marine Ave
604 485 1249
Nicholas.Simons.MLA
@leg.bc.ca



POWELL RIVER

HEARING

Hear to make a difference in your life.

Powell River Hearing offers hearing care solutions for individuals with hearing loss. We also provide services to those who qualify for hearing aid benefits through **WorkSafeBC, Veterans Affairs, First Nations Health and Ministry for PWD.** Contact our office to book a comprehensive hearing test to learn more.

Call **(604) 485-0036**
Located next to the
Medical Clinic Associates
4794B Joyce Avenue



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

Garden Club Notes

Do not collect seaweed washed up on the beach during the months of February, March and April because herring choose seaweeds as their anchor for their eggs.
On Wednesday, February 21st, the Texada Garden Club will meet at the Senior Center in Gillies Bay starting at 2pm. We'll address ways to garden that prevent wasting water. Hopefully you can join us. Do dress in layers as we have the doors and windows open for good ventilation. As always we will have masks and hand sanitizer for you to use.

February is recognized as the month of love and acceptance. And with this in mind Joyce Wiebe, has written the following article.

A Garden of Friendship

As Valentine's Day approaches and we reflect on the joy of love and friendship in our lives, I wanted to wander my yard and reflect on the friendship I find there. My garden is a little bit of history, a little bit of newbie experimentation and many gifts given to me by many of you. I am still (five years later) finding gifts left to me from the previous owner. There are blue-bells, and yellow loosestrife and a glorious coral coloured azalea; there are fruit trees and japonica, tulips and English Daisies, crocosmia and hardy fuchsias. At every season I see the touch of the previous owner's hard work, there for me to enjoy.

And then, there are the pieces you have brought me... roses from Kerstin, gladiolus and iris' from Diane, calendulas from Jocelyn, and asters from Morna. In the vegetable garden are glorious ox heart tomatoes from Peter, lettuce from Cheryl and much more. A few years ago, my neighbour Mike offered me raspberry canes from his garden. And, it turns out, the raspberry canes had been given to him by the previous owner! So, I brought them back to their original yard all these years later. In exchange I have shared too, it is a glorious thing to do! Snippets of plants, and strawberry babies, flower seeds and tomato starts have wandered their way into your yard too.

Every year I try something new. Experimenting, embracing change, being challenged as you learn as a gardener is all part of the journey. Be careful though, if you plant a yucca it will be with you forever! If someone brings you a yucca plant, run the other way!! Or, if you plant comfrey too close to other plants it's difficult to get all the roots up for the move, and you may in your eagerness have lots more comfrey than you ever planned. When you order seeds it's hard to really visualize how many seeds 100 grams of carrot seeds will be!! No worries though, you can always share!! Happy Valentines from my garden to yours!



EVEN MORE ORG NEWS



TICS monthly Bingo (always the first Friday of the month) at the Community Hall : February 2 , 7:00 p.m.

Our next meeting will be at the Texada Legion at 10:30am on March 11, 2024, which happens to be our Annual AGM.

The following positions are up for Election: Vice President, Secretary, & 2 Directors.

If you feel like you want to become involved in helping Texadans of all ages, Come out, Join and Volunteer.

TICS is involved in many aspects of life on Texada: ie: Express Lines, Food Bank, Texada Phone Book, Purdy's, Spirit Breakfast and the Winter Market

We have something for everyone!

Stay Safe!

Warren

TEXADA ISLAND 2024/2026 PHONE BOOK

BUSINESS ADVERTISING SPACE SIZES AND COSTS.

FULL PAGE AD: 7.75" x 5"	\$135.00
½ PAGE AD; 3.5" x 5"	\$ 75.00
¼ PAGE AD: 3.5" x 2.5"	\$ 45.00
BUSINESS CARD AD: 3.25" x 2"	\$ 35.00
½ BUSINESS CARD AD: 2" x 2"	\$30.00

BUSINESS'S MAY SUBMIT PRINT READY ARTWORK TO:

texadaphonebook@gmail.com

OR CALL STEVE 604-414-7764

ARTWORK CAN BE PREPARED FOR BUSINESS OWNERS.

MORE ORG NEWS

GILLIES BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

G I L L I E S B A Y
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

PO Box 102
Gillies Bay, BC VON 1W0
www.gillies-bay.ca ♦ info@gillies-bay.ca
604-486-7757
www.facebook.com/groups/gilliesbayID/



An Update from CityWest

We're excited to provide an update about services on Texada Island.

CityWest has been collaborating closely with the Gillies Bay Internet Society (GBIS), Gillies Bay Television Association, and the Texada Community Television Association to bring improved services across Texada Island.

For residents of Gillies Bay, CityWest is using a combination of internal and GBIS funding to construct a fibre-to-the-home network. We expect this build to begin in the Spring of 2024.

For Van Anda, CityWest has funding in place and plans for a fibre-to-the-home build. With the announcement that Twincomm will no longer be providing their services, we have expedited our build plans to bring you improved connectivity even sooner. We expect to have a construction start date for residents soon.

Both builds will be supported by the Connected Coast's subsea network. The Connected Coast, along with the on-island networks will bring lightning-fast, fibre-optic Internet, TV, and phone services to residents and businesses alike.

We're excited about the connectivity future for Texada Island, and we look forward to bringing you improved services very soon!

To learn more about CityWest and its services, please visit www.citywest.ca

Texada Island Recreation Commission

One of the specific directions to the TIRC, contained in the founding bylaw is: "work in cooperation with other community organizations". There are lots of possibilities here! Can you imagine any projects that might be a win-win result by partnering with the TIRC? We are also authorized to receive delegations from individuals or organizations and to hold public meetings. Our next regular meeting is scheduled for March 14 and 5:00 PM.via zoom. To contact the commission, on Texada, call Roger @ 604 486 0009 or email rogerkimmerly@gmail.com

BETTER AT HOME

Better At Home on Texada Island matches volunteers with seniors to provide non-medical support so seniors can continue living independently in their own homes. Currently we offer limited transportation, friendly visits and light yard work.

For more information please contact Tom Read (Texada volunteer coordinator) at 604-483-1471 or email: ravenbaywoods@gmail.com.

Better at Home is administered by Inclusion Powell River and BC United Way, with funding from the Province of BC.



YOUR ISLAND HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM INFORMATION CENTRE
604-486-7711

Hello Texada, February is Here, Spring is Coming .Every Week We Do: Monday, Free Pool & Blender Drinks Bar Open 3 to Closing. Tuesday, Kids Play Zone Bar Side .Full Service In Restaurant 15% Off All Seniors Meals. Wednesdays Wolf & Wings, Thirsty Thursdays, Buy A Drink For A Chance To Win A Free Lunch. & Fun Darts Starts By 7pm. Friday Is Karaoke 7pm Bring Your Voices .Saturday Is Steak Lunch,11 To One. Sunday Is 25% Off All Draft Beer. Lobby Arts & Crafts Are Always Changing, Buy Beautiful Shop Local. Chinese New Years Feb.10th Menu TBA Super Bowl Sunday Feb,11th Doors Open At Noon Prizes, Munchies, Chili, Appie Plates Squares. Valentines Day Feb, 14th Menu TBA Reservations Recommended. Feb,19th Monday Closed For Family Day. Enjoy...We Have A Hotel Room Now. Mini Kitchen, Two Queen Size Beds. Couch, &T V. Please Call For Rates...

- Full Lotto Center
- Gift Certificates
- Bagged Ice
- Island Information
- T-Shirts, Vests
- Hoodies
- Local Art
- Ice Cream
- ATM

Thank you, Texada, for all your love and support,
Cymry, Evan, and Kaithyn

Bar Hours
Mon - Open 3pm
Tues-Wed: closed
Thurs: 3 - closing
Fri, Sat, Sun: 12-8

Restaurant Hours
EVERYDAY
11 am—7 pm

Myrtle Point Environmental Services Ltd. dba

- Septic Tank Pumping
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MUSEUM MUSINGS

SOME TEXADA HISTORICAL FUN FACTS

DID YOU KNOW...

Texada has been given a few different names. The Tla'amin called it Sah-yeh-yeen. Spanish Captain Narvarz named it San Felix as the island was sighted on July 12, 1791 (Saint Felix's festival day).

In the early 1900's Emily (Turtle) Lake was a beehive of activity with Cornell mine operations, a railroad, two Chinese work camps and a rumoured "red light" district.

Our popular Sandcastle festivities had their origin in 1963 when the Chamber of Commerce proposed a community celebration (Texada Days) for the July 1st weekend.

In 1963 Rock Island Players' first production (*Kempy*) stopped abruptly when the power quit just before intermission. "The show must go on!" Audience members brought gas lanterns into the community hall to resume the performance.

Shelter Point Park was the site of a First Nations village over 3000 years ago. House depressions can be seen today. Bones, shells and other artifacts have been discovered in the middens. Today's "group site" was once a lagoon joined to the sea by a channel at the base of the hill, affording a protected harbour for canoes.

Texada's first newspaper, the *Coast Miner*, lasted one year (1900) until its editor, John Lawson, provoked community disquiet with an editorial criticizing social snobbery. The outraged party mentioned in the article stormed into Lawson's office, a fist fight ensued, the paper shut down and Lawson left the island (accompanied by his new wife, school teacher Emily Raper).

Texada's first car ferry *Atrevida* (1955-1969) was able to transport only 5 cars on a run. Residents would often park in the lineup overnight to secure a spot the next day.

Texada's first airstrip (1953) was roughed in at the south end near Anderson Bay to serve the loggers working in that area. In the early 1960's a site was chosen near Cranby Lake (above Gillies Bay) for a runway which has been improved over the years to become "Texada International".

The famed Van Anda "opera house" turned its back on dances and concerts to become the town hospital in 1900. In 1907 it was donated to the Columbia Coast Mission to serve patients from up and down the coast

Peter Lock

Texada Island Historical Society

EVEN MORE ORG NEWS

TWIN

FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Thursday February 8, 2024 at the Texada Island Inn Pub.

Doors open at 11:30 a.m., lunch at 12 noon and guest speaker at 1 p.m.

Guest speaker/Topic: TBA

To reserve, please phone Moe at 604-414-7312 no later than Thursday February 1, 2024. If you have food allergies, please let Moe know when you make your reservation.

If you can, please bring a non-perishable food item.

Members not wearing their 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 this coming June. Good luck!!!



Thank you to all our members who came out to our potluck dinner and installation of officers. A good evening was had by all. **This month's events:**

Friday February 9th General meeting, doors open at 5:30 Meeting starts at 7:00

Friday February 16th, Bingo doors open at 5:30 game starts at 7:00.

Saturday and Sunday meatdraws; Doors open at 3:30 .

Anyone wishing to book the Legion for an event must text or phone Fred at:

(604)-414-4113.

Thank you.

...lest we forget.

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

EVEN MORE ORG NEWS

VAN ANDA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Hello Texada! Here are some notes from our last meeting, held Jan 14.

THANK YOU to all who have paid their annual invoices promptly!

WINTER WATER USE has increased considerably. Please check for leaks that can develop after freeze/thaw cycles, especially in outside fixtures. We are aware that some residents keep water running to avoid freezing of water lines and encourage you to insulate your water lines. Please contact us if you need assistance with this. More information is available at vananda-id.ca/winter/

LEAK REPAIR: A substantial leak was repaired on Sturt Bay Rd. Several suspected leaks are under investigation; please contact us if you have any information that could help.

ANNUAL INVOICES for Water Tolls and Parcel Taxes were mailed in early January. If you have not received yours, please contact us. Invoices are due March 10 and payment plans are available. Payment options and plan information are available on VAID's webpage vananda-id.ca/payments/ COURT OF REVISION will be held Saturday February 10th from 10 am till noon. The annual Court of Revision is for trustees to listen and resolve issues regarding water tolls and parcel tax assessments. Please contact us first so we can gather the required information and set up an appointment. An appointment is not required, however having one will speed up the process.

MEETING DATES CORRECTION: The dates given in the Annual Newsletter were incorrect, including the AGM date. Apologies for any confusion caused.

The Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Saturday April 20 at the Legion.

Regular Board Meetings in 2024 are scheduled for Feb 14, Mar 13, Apr 10, May 15, June 12, July 10, Aug 14, Sept 11, Oct 16, Nov 13, Dec 11.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: A fire was attended in January which started from a compost chemical reaction. Composting can produce a large amount of heat, even in the cold weather, so compost piles and bins should be located away from any structures or flammable material.

FIREFIGHTERS NEEDED! No experience necessary. Training, gear, and on-duty insurance coverage provided. Phone or text Acting Chief Mark Robert for more information 604-414-9662 or email firechief@vananda.ca

CONTACT INFO Email: contact@vananda-id.ca – Phone: 604-486-7035 – Website: vananda-id.ca

NEXT MEETING: Residents are encouraged to join us for regular Board Meetings. Next meeting is Wednesday Feb 14 at 1.30 at the Van Anda Firehall (upstairs).

Texada Policing & Public Safety Committee

Following last month's article on the theme of promoting resilience and community connection for youth, here are some additional thoughts. Being a youth today is probably more stressful than it ever has been. Getting through times of stress or crisis is a crucial skill. Things that help are: pay attention to basic self-care - avoid chaotic sleep and tiredness, eat regular meals. Risky behavior is even riskier when overtired or under stress. Exercise is a positive safe way to move through anger. Isolation can be dangerous so it is a good idea to look to supportive friends and keep in touch with people you trust. If needed phone for help (Qathet SAFE has a helpline for youth at 604 485 6968). One of the best ways to predict a healthy mature life is maintaining a strong community connection.

Our steering committee is a small group that takes direction from public meetings. If you are interested in joining, or have a question or comment phone Roger at 604 486 0009 or email; rogerkimmerly@gmail.com



Rycroft Construction
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 INTERIOR/EXTERIOR FINISHING
 GENERAL CONTRACTING
gavayne.rycroft@gmail.com
604-578-8996

TEXADA ISLAND UNITED CHURCH NOTES



Living is the art of loving. Loving is the art of caring. Caring is the art of sharing. Sharing is the art of living. If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else. **Booker T. Washington**

Worship services: Sundays services 10:30 a.m., communion Feb. 4, 2024. Everyone welcome with fellowship and coffee afterwards.

Bible Study: The Chosen season 1; episodes will be shown throughout Feb. and March directly after the services so bring your lunch, (we will provide coffee and tea). (Not on Feb. 25)

Annual Meeting: will be held Feb 25 after a short service (no Bible Study)

UCC Remit1: on autonomous indigenous church info available Feb. 4.

Focus on Spirit: Published weekly on website. Links on Texada Message Board and Texada United Church Facebook page.

Minister's Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-3:30 p.m

Minister: Rev. Gayle Chouinard, 604-414-7309
trollhollow123@gmail.com

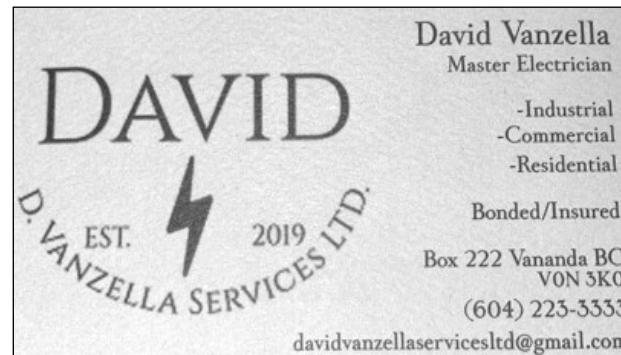
Board Chair: Dale Rinehart, 604-486-0050

Website: <http://texada-island-united-church.weebly.com>

Facebook Page: Texada Island United Church

Texada Island United Church Mission Statement

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

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Texada Food Bank 2024

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

Call on the second Tuesday between 10am
and 3pm

Pick up on the second Wednesday between 11
and 12 (NEW TIME)

Call in February 13 – pick up February 14

Call in March 12– Pick up March 13

(604) 483-1219

The Little Free Pantries are always available

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 both stores-
Gillies Bay Store and Texada Market in Van Anda and
the Credit Union. Thank you so much.

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

The Little Free Pantries are always available
for anyone with food insecurities.

Located at the Food Bank porch and
in front of 4758 Cedar St. Gillies Bay

Take what you Need, Leave what you Can
Texada Food Bank Thanks You!

Big Thanks to Santa (Bob McGuire) and his helper
(Linda Blanchett) they raised \$425 for the Food Bank
during a fundraiser at the Texada Island Inn. Big
Thanks as well to the Texada United Church for the
many warm socks!

We are very thankful to everyone that make 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 Gil-
lies Bay store, Texada Market and Credit Union, our
only request is that all food donations be intact and
not previously opened.



- In store fresh cut meat.
- Fresh produce arriving twice weekly.
- New items continuing to come weekly.
- If you don't see it , please ask we'll get it for you!
- We are your Liquor Agency store.
- Thank you for your continued support.
- Family Day Feb 19 , noon—4 p.m.

HOURS:

Sunday: Noon—5 p.m.

Monday—Saturday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

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Van Anda, BC, V0N 3K0

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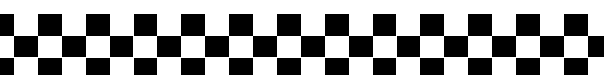
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John Wick

Thank You...

A Happy THANK YOU to the LEGION for allowing SCRABBLE games to be played by anyone on Wednesday afternoons.

...to Ann Snow and our volunteer firefighters for the time and energy they put into teaching the community about CPR training. I learned what I needed to know!



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AT THE VAN ANDA SERVICE STATION

Texada Tai Chi
 9:30 am Monday,
 Wednesday and Saturday at
 the Texada Island Commu-
 nity Hall. For information,
 call: Naomi : **604-910-2170**



Greetings,
 Texada community!
 Our classes have been bustling with community volunteers and support. This month, we had our Family Literacy Week, which included student-made stories and a reading fair. Thanks to the Feeding our Futures fund as well as fundraising by PAC, gift card donations, and community donations (Zed!), we've been able to offer a small breakfast program and universal lunch program. Students take turns making lunches every Wednesday afternoon, and where possible make additional breakfast items such as muffins with the help of volunteers Diana and Stacia and After-School Care provider Lisa. Our grade 3-7 students recently had the opportunity to fine-tune their recipes and submit them for review.

What do you think of this potato chilli recipe submitted by Myles Clayton and Malakai Liebich? We added in some quantities and spices to help their draft along – it's their first recipe, I'm sure this combination is a great start!



February at a Glance!
 See prpl.ca for detailed listings.

KIDS, szagwyn@prpl.ca
Preschool Storytime Children's Reading Room, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 10:30-11:00 am
ASL Story Hour for Kids!
Children's Reading Room. Monday, February 26, 3:30-4:30 pm.
Tinker Trunk Makerspace, Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 pm.
After School Prime Time First Credit Union Community Room, Wednesdays, 3:00-4:30 pm.
Drawn Together Room A, Thursdays, 3:45-4:30 pm.
TEENS, edgar@prpl.ca
Young Writers Group Meeting Room B. Fridays, 4:00-5:00 pm.
Fantasy Adventure Club Meeting Room B. Wednesdays, 4:30-6:00 pm.
Cinematic Saturday: Beauty and the Beast (2017, 139 minutes, Rated G)
First Credit Union Community Room. Saturday, February 24, 1:00-3:35 pm.
First Dibs ADULTS, mmerlino@prpl.ca
Medicinal Plants of the qathet Region First Credit Union Community Room. Friday, February 9, 7:00-8:00 pm.
Author Talk – Under Paris Spies First Credit Union Community Room. Tuesday, February 20, 7:00-8:00 pm.
Dancing in Small Spaces First Credit Union Community Room. Thursday, February 22, 11:00 am -12:00 pm.
The Slough at Albion First Credit Union Community Room. Tuesday, February 27, 7:00-8:00 pm.
Poetry Circle First Credit Union Community Room. Thursday, February 29, 4:30 – 6:00 pm
Write On Via Zoom. Fridays 2:00 pm.

Ingredients:
 Can of beans, 2 bell peppers, ½ cup onions, 1 lb beef, 1 can of tomato sauce, 1 can corn, 1 stick butter, 4 potatoes, 3 tbsps of Tex Mex mix

Steps:
 1. Cook beef in pan
 2. Chop veggies
 3. Put everything in slow cooker
 4. Cook for 5 hours

We thank you,
 Texada School
alexandra.bella@sd47.bc.ca

EVEN MORE ORG NEWS



Thank you to everyone who gave a show of support at the qRD hearing for the exclusion of the Selkirk parcel of land from the ALR, that we are pursuing for seniors housing! Hopefully the ALC will hear us and we can get on to the next stage of the project.

We are planning a "Triple A Auction" this spring --- "Art, Activities and Accommodations". We are honoured to have original pieces from local artists as well as others donated from off island. Activities will include fishing charters, eco tours, camping gear and great places to eat. Accommodations will vary from the budget minded to high end. As we were not able to auction off all of the Fall Frolic items that were donated, the balance of those will be available as well!

The Capital Campaign thermometer reads \$183,100 towards the goal of \$250,000. We have \$46,900 to raise. Then our generous donor's pledge of the final \$20,000 will bring us to our goal! Thank you very much for your donations and kind words of support. It inspires us to keep moving forward.

We continue to develop our organizational capacity ensuring a strong and stable foundation now and into the future.

**GILLIES BAY FIRE DEPT.
VAN ANDA FIRE DEPT.**

What goes on at the Fire Hall?

Ever wonder what firefighters are doing when they aren't riding in parades or washing their trucks? A recent survey of Canadian Fire Departments provided some interesting information. The average Fire Department statistics for 2023 revealed that 10% of calls were for fire suppression (which includes wild fire and structural fires); 10% were for extreme weather (which on Texada is largely for downed power lines); 48% are medically related; and 30% are other hazards (like motor vehicle accidents). When we compared our annual statistics to these national numbers both Van Anda and Gillies Bay had similar numbers. The reason for providing this information is to demonstrate that we aren't just sitting around waiting for a house fire.

These statistics show the type of calls we respond to, but what they don't mention is the amount of training fire fighters do to be able to deal with all the incidents that we respond to. We need to have the training to respond effectively to a wide variety of situations. As volunteer departments we have to work around our members availability. Everyone has work and a personal life that we need to accommodate. We train weekly, most are evening practices, but we also do a Sunday practice once a month so we have time to do more involved scenarios.

We do this training, and are prepared to jump into a fire truck at any time of the day or night, regardless of the weather, to answer a call because we want to support our communities. If you also want to help protect your community, have you thought about joining your local fire department? Right now Van Anda needs more members, and they would welcome new recruits. Could you help? If you want more information please contact your local Fire Department.

GENERAL MEETINGS

GILLIES BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

GBID Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting –February 13 at 4:30 p.m.

Gillies Bay Fire Hall.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Texada Artists' Get Together

February's Artist Get-Together is on Tuesday, February 6th, from 10 am to noon. At The Old School

This month's topic: language.



qathet REGIONAL DISTRICT

qathet Regional District receives \$96,000 grant to support Health and Wellness Initiative for Northside, Savary, Malaspina and Lasqueti Island Volunteer Fire Departments

qathet, BC – The qathet Regional District (qRD) is pleased to announce the receipt of a grant award of \$96,000 through the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) for the Volunteer and Composite Fire Departments Equipment and Training funding stream of the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF). The intent of this funding stream is to build the resiliency of volunteer and composite fire departments.

The funds will be used for a health and wellness initiative designed to boost resiliency of our firefighters and first responders by supporting mental and physical health and wellness.

The project will kick off in Spring 2024 and will include mental health resiliency training, a holistic suite of mental and physical health and wellness training and workshops offered to our fire department members over the course of the year. These training initiatives and workshops aim to promote and bolster mental and physical health and wellness, fortify group dynamics, and enhance team cohesiveness and engagement.

The qRD has approximately 120 firefighters who respond to hundreds of emergency calls each year. These individuals are routinely exposed to traumatic events in the course of their duties. Recent research in this field shows that first responders are at a higher risk of mental health injuries. The qRD Occupational Health & Safety Program, in conjunction with the Fire Chiefs and Joint Occupational Health & Safety Committees from the Northside, Savary Island, Malaspina, and Lasqueti Island Volunteer Fire Departments have recognized the unique stresses on fire department members' mental health resulting from their service.

"In the last three years, the qRD has taken a number of steps to support our first responders' mental health. These initiatives include developing a Critical Incident Stress Management and Peer Support Program and related training, providing fire department members with a robust Member & Family Assistance Program, and providing proactive Occupational Stress Injury Check Ins with clinical case managers to assess our firefighter's health and wellness and prevent mental health injuries," said qathet Regional District Board Chair, Clay Brander.



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Every year around this time I send out a warning that there will likely be an increase in this year's property taxes. As work on the qRD's 2024 budget evolves, there's no escaping the fact that this year **there will definitely be an increase in the property tax rate** throughout the region.

Several factors contribute to this. One is that property assessments are down overall which means a higher tax rate to equal the same amount of tax dollars to finance RD services. Another factor is the peak in debt financing charges this year for construction of the new Resource Recovery Centre (RRC), scheduled to be completed in 2024. There will be one-time start-up costs for training and equipment, plus costs for the actual operation of the facility once it opens. Because waste management is a regional service, all taxpayers in the qRD pay for it. Area D's share of these costs is about six per cent, based on our population.

I've not been a big fan of the RRC and related Waste Transfer Station because of the high cost, in addition to grant funding, at a time when many people are stretched thin financially. Nonetheless, the project has the support of a majority of Board members and we will hear a lot more about it as opening day comes closer.

Here on Texada, additional funds are planned for our Recreation Commission for **structural analyses of both the Community Hall and the Old School**. The hall has significant structural issues which need to be addressed related to long-term settling of the building, poor ventilation and deterioration of the crawl space. The Old School, which houses the Seniors Centre, Texada Library and Sandpipers Pre-school, is in better shape but it is an older building sitting on an area subject to flooding and sea level rise.

The analyses will include costing of immediately-required repairs, as well as the cost of potential new construction. Additionally, the analyses will review major maintenance requirements of both buildings over the next 20 years. With this information, the Commission will be able to compare immediate and long-term costs of both buildings with the potential cost of a new "Texada Community Centre" facility. Stay tuned.

Sandy McCormick
Area D director
sandy@leeti@gmail.com
604-414-3525

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NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY



Greetings Everyone.

The Library volunteers are pleased to announce that Charlotte Dawe has accepted the position of Library Coordinator. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Anne Carney who has held this position for 12 years. Anne will still be involved in the Library.

Bibliographies, Blogs and Books on Facebook. I have been curious about the numerous postings on Facebook about books. I decided to research who is behind the postings.

Lost in Bookland is a book blog by Anna Dushan, an English Language and Literature Teacher. She has book reviews, book challenges and reading lists and much more on her blog.

Modern Mrs Darcy is a book blog by author and podcaster, Anne Bogel. Anna has an online shop for her books, reader's guides and book clubs.

Aunt Agatha's Mysteries is an online bookstore. Robin and Jamie Agnew had a bricks and mortar bookstore in Ann Arbor MI until they closed the shop and went online in 2018. They have an extensive used book collection at abebooks.com. ***Good Reads*** is a subsidiary of Amazon founded by Otis and Elizabeth Khuri Chandler in 2006. Their slogan is "meet your next favourite book". It is a great site for *what to read next*. ***Reading is my favourite sport*** is Pinterest's site for ideas and inspiration for book lovers. Here are just a few that are appearing on Facebook. Check them out.

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:

Wednesday	noon to 2 pm
Thursday	5 pm to 7 pm
Fri, Sat, Sun	noon to 2 pm

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

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