

JANUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 New Years Day	2	3 Trans Station: 10 am - 4 pm Scrabble 1:30, Legion Legion Last Qtr.	4	5 TICS Bingo 7pm CommHall	6 Circ of Light 2pm Tex Church
7	8 TICS Meet 10:30 Legion	9 Food Bank Call In	10 Food Bank Pick Up Scrabble 1:30, Legion	11 TWIN 11:30 TextslInn	12 Comm Lunch Noon Sen Ctr Legion Pot Luck 6pm	13 Trans Station: 10 - 4 pm VAVFFA AGM 10 am Legion
14	15	16 qRD Meet 5pm TexCommHall	17 Garden Club: 2 pm, SenCntr Trans Station: 10 am - 4 pm Scrabble 1:30, Legion	18	19 Legion Bingo 5:30	20 <i>Express Lines</i> Deadline STRICT
21	22	23	24 Scrabble 1:30, Legion	25 Community Bingo: 1 pm, Srs Ctr Full Moon	26 Comm Lunch Noon Sen Ctr CoC Meet 5:30 Legion	27 TransStation: 10 am - 4 pm CPR Train 1pm GB FireHall
28	29	30	31 Scrabble 1:30, Legion			

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

January 2024



Circle of Light

A Peace Meditation
-for yourself
-for the Earth
-for all Life on the planet
2 pm Saturday January 6, at the
Texada United Church.
This will be a guided meditation.
All Welcome!
Facilitators: Roger Kimmerley
Please join us.

A guide on how to save a life
CPR 
Free Training

The Gillies Bay Fire Department is offering
free training on
January 27th 2024 from 1pm -5pm at the
Gillies Bay Fire Hall
Hot Dogs and
Light Refreshments will be served
Learn how to call 9-1-1
Understand signs of cardiac arrest and what to do
Learn the signs of choking (adult or baby)
Learn how to use an AED





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

Texada Taxi Rideshare Service

TexadaTaxi.ca
 604-913-5388

Food, Groceries & Liquor Delivery

TexadaEats.ca
 604-913-5388

Stay at Welcome Harvest Farm

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

Rosebank Cottage by the Sea

A vacation rental suite with fabulous ocean view. BBQ, Internet, cable TV and private deck. Full kitchen, just bring your suitcase!
 604-413-0994

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.

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

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: _____

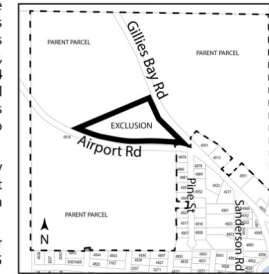
 CITY: _____
 PROVINCE: _____
 POSTAL CODE: _____

ORG NEWS

PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024 - 5pm

The Board of qathet Regional District gives notice that it will host a Public Hearing to consider the exclusion of 3.2 hectares of land (outlined in BOLD in map) from the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) to accommodate a proposed seniors housing project at the corner of Gillies Bay Road and Airport Road in Gillies Bay, Texada Is, on **Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 5 pm** at the Texada Community Hall. All persons who believe that their interest is affected shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard.

Description of Land
 Parcel Identifier: 010-095-691
 Legal Description: THE NORTH EAST 1/4 OF SECTION 9 TEXADA ISLAND DISTRICT EXCEPT PLANS 12042, 14959, 16670, 17746, 21635 AND BCP44229



The intent of the Public Hearing is to satisfy the requirements for qathet Regional District to submit an application for ALR Exclusion under the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*.

The application can be examined online or at the qRD Administration Office, 202-4675 Marine Ave, Powell River.

More information can be found on the qathet Regional District website:

www.qathet.ca/current_project/ALRexclusion

If you have questions about the ALR Exclusion application, please contact the Planning Department 604-485-2260 or planning@qathet.ca.



Michelle Jones, Manager of Administrative Services

Ways You Can Participate

Attend In-Person
 Tuesday, January 16 at 5:00pm
 Texada Community Hall,
 5079 Gillies Bay Rd

Send a Letter
 Attention: ALR Exclusion
 202-4675 Marine Ave,
 Powell River BC V8A 2L2
planning@qathet.ca

All submissions **must** be received prior to the close of the Public Hearing.

Kittens for Me

By Whitney

One evening there was a kitten outside my door. I called it Scooter. It came to me and snuggled. That Christmas I found another cat and it was named Roxie. They were newborn and they got bigger and then they had a walk. We lived happily ever after.



TEXADA SENIORS' COUNCIL
COMMUNITY LUNCH

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

Friday January 12 and Friday January 26

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**.

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

TEXADA CERAMICS & SCULPTURE STUDIO

Located in the basement of Texada Elementary School. TCSS is collecting email addresses for interest in our next Beginners Class in 2024. When we get to 10 names we will set one up. It is 3 sessions over a couple of weekends, and now require to join up for drop in classes if you have no prior clay/ceramic experience. The class is \$60 and includes everything you need to make 2 finished slab built pieces. Look for our fund raiser, Soup for the Soul to happen again in April of 2024.

Email texadaartroom@outlook.com

TEXADA



HOME & GARDEN

PIZZA SHOP NOW OPEN 3-7 EVERYDAY

OUR GARDEN CENTRE OPEN 10—7 FOR THE HOLIDAYS! WITH A GREAT SELECTION OF EVERYTHING CHRISTMAS!

BEST WISHES TO ALL!

604-486-0065

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.

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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



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

Garden Club Notes

Our next regular meeting will be on Wednesday, January 17th, 2pm at the Senior's Center in Gillies Bay. Chris Bernard will be leading a discussion on saving seeds. Please join us, all are welcome. This month Morna Rockingham, writes about the impressive Hollyhock.

Who hasn't been captivated by the romance of English gardens with tall spires of crepe-crinkled flowers? Hollyhocks.

Alcea rosea, a genus in the mallow family Malvaceae, is native to China, although hollyhocks are most often associated with old English country gardens, grown close to cottages to promote abundance in the household: power, wealth and fertility.

Used medicinally in the Middle Ages and by herbalists to soothe sore throats, aid digestion. Also applied to rituals in pagan and Wiccan circles, requesting abundance due to the hollyhock's ability to reseed itself at the end of its cycle to ensure the next generation.

In the Victorian era, their six-to-eight-foot height was used to disguise a privy, ladies knew its location from the hollyhock patch! However, there is also a dwarf version of twenty inches. They prefer full sun, rich, moist, well-drained soil, grow best as a biennial flower, attracting butterflies and bees to its luxuriant pollen.

Rust, a fungal infection, is detrimental to the plant's beauty and health, causing unsightly spots or lacy dying leaves - a problem in our garden. Rust spores over winter, reinfecting new plants every year. Although the calyces that hold the seeds may be the problem, not the seeds themselves, it is usually recommended that infected plants be removed from the garden and replaced by cultivars that are more rust resistant. Before buying, check the undersides of leaves and stems; buy seeds from uninfected plants; water only in the mornings at the base of the plant; prevent air stagnation by thinning the patch, removing the infected parts, cutting stems at the base. Don't compost! Hollyhock's intriguing beauty of single or double-ruffled blossoms come in a variegated array of colours: pale yellow, apricot, shell pink, brick red, to a deep purple/scarlet, almost black shade. A beautiful plant to add to your garden.



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS



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.



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E mail:
fudgecontracting@gmail.com

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Well then 2024, here we come !

Our Chamber has been simmering along and is well positioned to take on some new tasks, revitalize previous ones and engage more with our community. I have listened to members about how our Chamber should align and focus itself to move forward. There are four distinct directions of opinion: business-only focus, community information, social interaction and digital presence. I initially thought we cannot be all things. Then it occurred to me, yes we can?

Next meeting is Friday January 26th at the Royal Canadian Legion in Van Anda. Doors at 5:30pm

SOCIAL

Social hour beginning 5:30 with nibbles and cash bar. I trust everyone has lots of stories to share now that we have closed out 2023. I know I do.

COMMUNITY

Dinner at 6:30 with community information updates. I ask all Texada community organization representatives, leaders, societies and committee chairs to contact me directly to make sure your voice is shared at our table.

BUSINESS

A fast round-table point of hot topics. Let's create a business-focused sub-committee to report back at our next dinner.

PRESENCE

Our website will be the core of our digital presence with social media platforms driving interest and engagement to it. A place for Chamber member-to-member chat and discussion.

There will be more information about our guest speaker and dinner posted around town. Have a look at the *Texada Chamber of Commerce* page on FaceBook and posters on our community notice boards.

Many thanks,
Joseph
texanomic@gmail.com

**Passenger • Cargo
Sightseeing**

PLEASE CALL FOR 2024 PRICING.

Gilles Bay Airport to anywhere...

BCAir  (250) 895 9979
info@flybcair.com www.flybcair.com




THANK YOU
TO THE GROUP WHO MADE THE
CHRISTMAS DINNERS FOR SENIORS
IN DECEMBER
GOOD STUFF!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Christmas Elf
By River

There once was a Christmas elf. His name was Stick. It was Christmas evening. Stick wanted to sleep and was on the naughty list because he did mean things. He was at school on a normal day and Stick ate his lunch during Math time. Then Stick didn't even do his Math.

Now Stick wants presents too. He brings cards to his friends. Stick also gave his mom and his teacher a present.

One year later, Stick had been good all year and he got presents. Santa brought Stick a toy and a candy. He was so happy. And that's my story.

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Texada Tai Chi
9:30 am Monday,
Wednesday and Satur-
day at the Texada Is-
land Community Hall.
For information, call: Naomi :
604-910-2170




**Texada Island
Heritage Society**
texadaheritagesociety.com

The Museum will reopen Jan 3 2024

**THE
RETREAT**  **RYCROFT
ART GALLERY**

All the best in 2024!
Gallery open by appointment.
www.texada@gmail.com



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

Hello Texada, What Warm, Wet, Windy, Weather We Are Having, A Wonderful New Year Is Upon Us. Thirsty Thursday, Buy A Drink For A Chance To Win Lunch, Stay For Fun Darts Toes On The Line By 630 Karaoke Every Friday Night 7pm Bring Your Voices. Steak Lunch Every Saturday 11 To Gone. Sunday 25% Off All Draft Beer. Monday Is Free Pool. Tuesday & Wednesday Bar Is Closed, Full Service In Restaurant. Tuesday Is Seniors Discount, Wednesday Is Wolf & Wings. Lobby Art, Come Check It Out, Always New Stuff Coming In. We Would Like To Thank All Of Texada For Your Continued Support & Love. A Very Happy New Year 2024 To All. Also To My Fantastic Staff, A Very Very Happy And Healthy New Year.

Cymry. Texada Island Inn

LOOKING FOR WAIT STAFF & PART TIME COOKS. WE WILL TRAIN YOU.

- 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 Kaitlyn

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

Restaurant Hours
EVERYDAY
11 am—7 pm

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DAN ROBINSON

www.RuralSeptic.ca | ASTTBC Certified | RuralSeptic.Dan@gmail.com

MORE ORG NEWS

GILLIES BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Report from the Chair

We should have a good 2024 within GBID. The Volunteer Fire Department has healthy numbers of excellent well trained members. A great crew doing a great job! Water quality has improved with the cooler weather. In 2023 we were able to demonstrate that we have adequate water even though we started with a record low reservoir level that was followed by a summer drought. It was great opportunity to answer a whole pile of “what if” questions. Short answer is Texada Mines did a great job of designing and building the system back in the early 1960s and as a result we are in good shape with more than adequate volume. Early 2024 should see the “plan” from MRS Solutions for upgrading the water quality presented to ratepayers. If all goes well, the sand filtration construction might happen in the spring/summer of 2025. That’s it for now. On behalf of the Board I wish the best to all and a great year ahead in 2024.

Chuck Childress Chair GBID

**GILLIES BAY
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

PO Box 102
Gillies Bay, BC V0N 1W0
www.gillies-bay.ca ♦ info@gillies-bay.ca
604-486-7757
www.facebook.com/groups/gilliesbayID/

Texada Island Recreation Commission

The Texada Island Recreation Commission wishes everyone all the best in 2024. With the start of the new year we have modest Grant in Aid funds available. Please send your requests and questions for TIRC to Roger Kimmerly. (rogerkimmerly@gmail.com), the new acting Chair. Thank you all.

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.

EVEN MORE ORG NEWS**TWIN****January Luncheon**

Thursday January 11, 2024 at the Texada Island Inn Pub. Doors open at 11:30 a.m., lunch at 12 noon and the guest speaker at 1 p.m. Guest speaker: TBA. To reserve, please phone Moe at 604-414-7312 no later than Thursday January 4, 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. January is Jammie Month. Please come in your favorite jammies. Stuffies are welcome. 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 in June. Good luck!!!

Winners of the T.W.I.N. annual Christmas draw are: Doriana Kiland winning the wooden Santa, Elsie Paddock winning the gift certificate to the Garden Centre and Gwen Davis winning the set of Christmas dishes with homemade baking. Thank you to everyone who bought tickets and sold tickets to support our two charities: The Green Armband Program and Grace House.

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.



Happy New Year, we hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday.

We would like to thank Comrade Sid Boloten for his years of service on the executive, time to retire for real now.

We also take this opportunity to welcome Comrade Rolly Thorpe to the executive.

Upcoming events:

A members only potluck dinner will be held on Friday January 12th at 6pm followed by the installation of officers at 7:00.

Bingo Friday January 19th doors open at 5:30 game starts at 7:00.

Meatdraw returns on Saturday January 6, and Trivia meatdraw on Sunday January 7th, doors open at 3:30.

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

...lest we forget.

MUSEUM MUSINGS

THANKS TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED OUR MUSEUM THIS YEAR
January 1st ushers in a new year of positive hope and renewal for our Texada Museum and Archives.

We have been honoured by the wonderful response from the community and summer visitors alike who have found the museum to be “the best little museum on the coast.”

We are working on new concepts to help bring Texada’s history to life. Plans are being made to utilize the last room to provide new display areas which will necessitate reorganizing our collection.

All work is done by dedicated volunteers who have to reorganize their personal lives accordingly. Thank you all!

Our archives are so full of gratefully-accepted donations of historical artifacts that we, unfortunately, have to refuse any more for the time being. The only exceptions are historical records (papers, memoirs, letters, etc) - they don’t take up much space in our archive room! - and unique items that are important to Texada’s history.

Looking forward to seeing you again this winter and spring.

WINTER OPENING HOURS are, as usual, Wednesday mornings 10am to 12 noon.

Have a wonderful New Year!

News from the Texada Museum

Our repository (storage area) is overfull.

Until further notice we will no longer be accepting objects.

We will continue to accept photographs and documents.

Thank you for your consideration.



TEXADA ISLAND UNITED CHURCH NOTES



Behold, Behold I make all things new

beginning with you and starting from today!

More Voices # 115

Worship Services: Sundays 10:30 a.m. Communion Jan. 7, 2024. All are welcome at our communion table, it is Jesus, himself, who sets the table and invites you. Everyone is welcome to come and worship with us. ,

Christmas Sock Tree: Thank you to everyone who has contributed, the socks will be distributed throughout the year.

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.

*N.B. no office hours on Tuesday, Jan. 16th

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

Board Chair: Dale Rinehart, 604-486-0050

Legion Chaplain: Karen May, 604-413-0994

Website: 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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... Don't feed the DRAMA llama!!

EVEN MORE ORG NEWS

Texada Policing & Public Safety Committee

VAN ANDA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Hello Texada! Seasons greetings to all!

VAID's trustees and employees wish to acknowledge the immense contribution Walter Gussman made to the continued development of our water system. His knowledge, insight and expertise helped us through several challenges over many years. His recent passing has affected many in our community and beyond. He will be truly missed.

Mike Craggs has retired as Fire Chief, and he will also be greatly missed. Mike gave so much of himself to the Van Anda Fire Department over the years. We wish him the best for the future. Mark Robert will continue as Acting Fire Chief for now.

Annual invoices for Water Tolls and Parcel Taxes will be sent to property owners in early January. Even though the last year brought many cost increases, we managed to keep the rate increase down to less than 6% for most residents. Payment is due on March 10 and payment plans are available. CONTACT: 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 Dec 13th 1.30 Van Anda Firehall (upstairs).

The last Policing and Public Safety Committee meeting focused on drug use; more specifically, on resilience of children and teenagers. Firstly, police advice is that talking to youth cannot wait until teenage years; age appropriate conversation is best starting before age ten. Parental modeling is vital. What is crucial for the resilience of children is familial connection, or in the absence of this, connection to a community member; this leads to connection with the wider community and listening, empathic connection, and critical thinking skills. Teaching children self care is a life skill that is fundamental to healthy responses to stressful situations. Sleep, exercise, diet, regular routine and balanced fun activities all lead to resilience at difficult times. Familial modeling is more important than the words used. Our steering committee is a small group that takes direction from public meetings. If you are interested in joining us, or making any comment, or have questions, please contact Roger at rogkimmerly@gmail.com or phone 604 486 0009 or write PO Box 48 Van Anda B.C. V0N 3K0

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Supporting Texada Island Since 1930

Happy New Year to Everyone!
YES, it is the New Year and you are looking for things to fill your calendar. At TICS we are always looking for individuals who want to make a difference... come on out and join.

Its inexpensive and Fun!

It is now 2024 and these are the upcoming TICS Events!

January 5th – is the 1st Community Hall Bingo of the Year.

January 8th - is the 1st TICS General Meeting to be held at the Texada Legion, starting at 10:30am

Looking ahead, we are getting ready to produce the new updated **Texada Phone Book**.

If you want to update or remove information, PLEASE Send it to texadaphonebook@gmail.com. This will be our contact point with the Public.

The 2024-2025 Phone Book will be out in late Spring.



R.C.M.P.

Happy 2024!

Hope everyone enjoyed their Holiday Season.

Now that winter is upon us, we ask that you be mindful of the road conditions. With the temperature dipping there is the possibility of black ice and occasional snowfall can make for hazardous driving conditions. Slow down and drive responsibly for a safe drive home.

Reminder again with the shorter days please take a few minutes to check your vehicle that all lights are operational. SAFETY FIRST. We all want to see and be seen on our roads. Drive Safe!

Josh, Kevin and Pat

Texada Island RCMP



**TEXADA
AUTO
REPAIR**

604-413-1606

AT THE VAN ANDA SERVICE STATION



On Saturday December 9th, Texada NatureKids travelled to MARS Wildlife Rescue Centre (marswildliferescue.com)! It was interstellar and we didn't need a rocket to get there! Despite turbulent weather and our late arrival, our guides welcomed us with full heart and stayed 2 hours (with flashlight in

hand) to host our tour after closing!

A dark morph red-tailed hawk ambassador bird and her human guide greeted us at the door to share her rescue story. Then, Texada NatureKids families split and continued with two tour guides. With parents included we had a total of 16 – eight adults and eight children.

Our guides led us through both the indoor nature centre, where Texada NatureKids families learned how to rescue an injured eagle from the wild. Starting with covering them with a blanket and picking them up correctly, assessing them in the animal hospital and hopefully if they are fully recovered, with time, and able to survive in the wild, they are released. Once outdoors, the rain pelted down, and our tour guide was alive with the passion for sharing rescued animal's important stories. Soaked NatureKids matched the enthusiasm with eager questions until the end! In the rescue enclosures, we visited a barred owl, a western screech owl, two eagles and two albino crows. We were gifted tips like avoiding using lead weights on fishing lines (which poison animals), continuing to cut the plastic rings open on can holders and avoiding throwing things like biodegradable food like apple cores out vehicle windows as they attract animals to roadsides increasing collisions. At the end, NatureKids had time to explore the indoor centre further, which is full of neat nature treasures and engaging mysteries and scavenger hunts.

Texada NatureKids were each gifted a t-shirt from MARS and a surprise bag as souvenirs - thank you to the Texada Island Recreation Commission (TIRC) who made this trip possible by funding us with \$1000. A deeply valued learning experience and a must see if you are travelling to Comox!

Stay tuned for our winter/spring schedule coming in January! Happy New Year!

Co-Leaders: Lisa Levez-Bordeleau , Carolanne White



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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 January 9 – pick up January 10
Call in February 13 – pick up February 14
(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 Shelby for donating the turkey to
raffle off at the Legion Bingo which raised \$124.
For the Food Bank.

We are very thankful to everyone that make regu-
lar 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



- 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 looking forward to serving you in 2024.
- Thank you for your continued support.

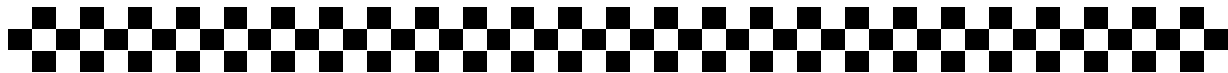
HOURS:

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

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

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

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Thank you.



Texada Shores Vacation Suites

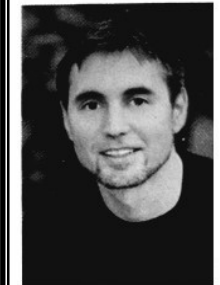
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Tiffany Loves Parties

By Ila

Tiffany loved parties. Parties were her favourite thing to do. She went to her friend's party, and it was a Christmas party too. Molly had lots of snacks – everyone loved the chocolate ice cream and said Molly did a good job. They played with snowmen and loved to eat. Molly even hosted an ice cream eating contest. Then Mark went crazy knocking down all the snowmen because he wanted his to be the best. Suddenly the snow men came alive and got angry. Mark said sorry and everything went back to normal.

Tiffany gave Mark some red and white rose flower and said have these. You said that you had a good time and that is all that matters. Merry Christmas. Mark and Molly and Tiffany went to the movies and had the best time. It was Star Wars Christmas and Tiffany was the Princess Leia in the movie. It was another great party.

Thank You...

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

THE FLOWER AND THE BEE

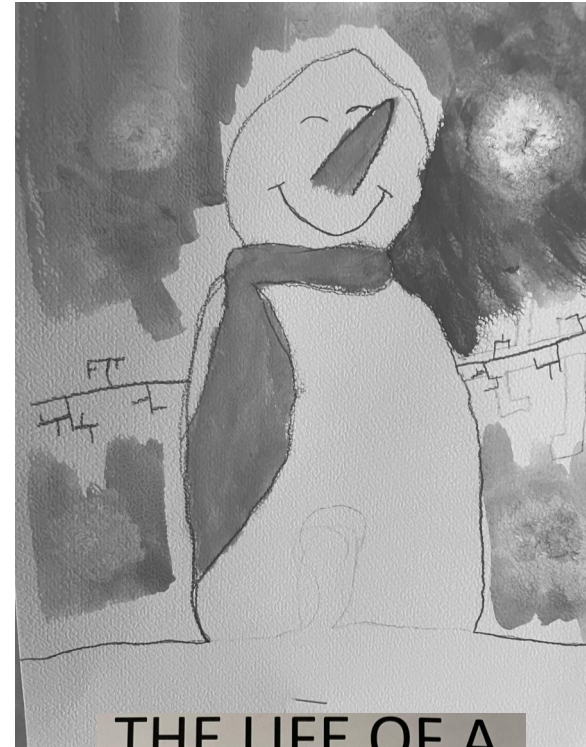
Anyone with gift cards with balances that would like a refund, please email tracey@theflowerandthebee.com with your card number.

Thank you for your understanding and all the kindness during this difficult time.
 Sincerely, Tracey

Editors note:

Rather than the usual article from the school, I was sent a number of stories and pictures by students. There are 7 of them and they are distributed throughout this issue of the Express Lines.

Steve



THE LIFE OF A SNOW MAN

BY: VANCE

One day, I was playing outside in the snow, and we just live in a farm, then I got lost in the forest, then I got cold, and it was dark. So, I went to bed. The next day, I turned into a snow man! I didn't feel that cold. I felt my temperature was normal and it was hard to walk because I had no legs! My nose was a little bit tickly, and my nose was a carrot! I was so worried, because I'm thinking that it might get rotten! I've been panicking a lot because in summer! I was wishing to turn back to normal, but how!? I tried to walk back to our farm, but I took days! Finally, I made it back! My parents were so confused why is there a walking snowman. Good thing I could talk so they could recognize my voice. They were shocked! And they helped me back to normal and they were so happy to see me back! Then we went inside to warm up and talk about it. And wrote it down to share it to the others.



January at a Glance!

See prpl.ca for detailed listings, or email info@prpl.ca
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, January 29, 3:30-4:30 pm.

Tinker Trunk

Makerspace, Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 pm. When school is in session.

After School Prime Time

First Credit Union Community Room, Wednesdays, 3:00-4:30 pm. When school is in session.

Drawn Together

Room A, Thursdays, 3:45-4:30 pm. When school is in session.

FAMILY LITERACY WEEK AT PRPL - January 21-28

Books for Babies

Pick up at the Service Desk

Print-a-Baby

First Credit Union Community Room. Friday, Jan

Family Board Game Jam

First Credit Union Community Room. Tuesday, January 23, 6:00-8:00 pm.

TEENS, edgar@prpl.ca

Young Writers Group

Meeting Room B. Fridays, 4:00-5:00 pm. When school is in session.

Fantasy Adventure Club

Meeting Room B. Wednesdays, 4:30-6:00 pm. Starts January 24.

Cinematic Saturday: The Little Mermaid (2023, 135 minutes, Rated PG-13)

First Credit Union Community Room. January 27, 1:00-3:20 p

First Dib

ADULTS, mmerlino@prpl.ca

Tara Teng Presents: Your Body is a Revolution

First Credit Union Community Room. Saturday, January 13, 2:00-3:00 pm.

Celebrating the healing Power of Quilting

First Credit Union Community Room. Saturday, January 20, 2:00-3:00 pm.

Tech Savvy – Open Art AI

First Credit Union Community Room. Friday, January 26, 4:00-5:00 pm.

Write On

Via Zoom. Fridays 2:00 pm.

EVEN MORE ORG NEWS

Happy New Year! TINSHS extends its' gratitude for the community's support of & continued interest in our goal of seniors housing on Texada as we begin 2024.

Important notice: To satisfy the conditions of the ALR Exclusion application, the qRD staff will be hosting a public hearing on January 16, 5 pm, 2024 at the Texada Community Hall. Come on out in support & help us move this process forward!

Congratulations to the winners of the Texada Island Non-profit Seniors Housing Society Raffle draw held at the Texada Legion on December 16th.

1st Prize - Sue Russell "Dawn's Early Light"

2nd Prize - Dave McClelland \$500 Texada Groceries

3rd Prize - Jan Armstrong 3 BC Ferries passes for Car, Driver & Passenger

Thank you to John Redekop, President, Legion for officiating the draw.

As of December 15th, the Capital Campaign Thermometer level reads \$177,700 towards the goal of \$250,000. The following events contributed to that total: Online Auction; Sagittarius Party: Giving Tuesday; and the Raffle. When we get to \$230,000 we have a pledge from a private donor who will top us up with the last \$20K! There is \$52,300 more to raise.

On November 20, 2023, TINSHS sent six representatives to the BCNPHA Housing Central Conference to learn & network. See our website for more information.

Website: texadaseniorshousing.ca **Email us at:** info@texadaseniorshousing.ca

Phone us at: 604-486-6766

Tax deductible donations can be made locally to our Capital Campaign account at the First Credit Union or by cheque to TINSHS, P.O. Box 32, Van Anda V0N 3K0

CRA Charitable Registration No. 705676682RR001

**GILLIES BAY FIRE DEPT.
VAN ANDA FIRE DEPT.****Community CPR Training**

We hope you all had a happy and safe holiday season. As you are making New Year's resolutions, we have a suggestion for you. Learn a valuable skill that will help you to help others.

Van Anda and Gillies Bay Fire Departments both have first responder programs to provide medical assistance until more advanced medical care is available. This can include providing CPR. However, we are all volunteers, and it can take some time for members to assemble and get to the scene. When dealing with cardiac issues time is critical. CPR should be started immediately. After just **four minutes**, brain damage begins to occur. After **ten minutes**, it is unlikely they can be saved. Would you know what to do?

We would like to help you. Captain Ann Snow, Medical Trainer for the Northside Fire Department has agreed to come to Texada to put on a community CPR course. This will be as low stress as possible. No fee, no test, and consequently no certificate. But you will know how to administer CPR and use an AED after calling 911 to get help. Training is scheduled for Saturday, January 27 from 1:00 to 5:00 at the Gillies Bay Fire Hall.

If you are interested in participating please contact the Gillies Bay Volunteer Fire Department (604-414-5121 or Chief@gilliesbayvfd.ca) to register. That will help us to know how much equipment we need to set up.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The Van Anda Volunteer Firefighters Association will be having their final AGM on January 13, 2024, at the Legion in Van Anda, beginning at 10:00 am. The Van Anda Volunteer Firefighters Association is stepping aside and dissolving. This will clear a path forward for both Gillies Bay and the Van Anda Firefighters to join under one umbrella to be called the "TEXADA Firefighters Association". The differences in criteria for Society members meant that the associations could not be merged. I am currently the President of the Van Anda Firefighters Association. Our Society will cease to exist once the dissolution is complete and then the new "Texada Firefighters Association" can be formed. Thanks to all of the Community for your support and participation in many fundraising events. Thank you to the members and volunteers for the success that was achieved. Our assets are dispersed in our community. I look forward to the benefits and support to firefighters of both communities in this unifying move forward. All association members are invited to attend the AGM. There will be a final resolution made to dissolve the association which will read: A motion is being made by the President of the Van Anda Volunteer Firefighters Association to dissolve the association. Thank you Angela Beaumont



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Happy New Year, Texada! Kudos to all of you who volunteer in some capacity to support our community. Kudos, too, to those who aren't yet volunteers but will step forward during the year ahead. It's we the people who make a community strong and on that score our island is truly blessed.

Last fall, the qRD conducted a region-wide **survey regarding the future of the concession at Shelter Point Park**. It was done region-wide as the regional park's expenses are financed by taxpayers from throughout the region. Applause to everyone who sent in a response. These made a huge difference. The results have been tabulated and **a whopping 91 per cent of respondents supported keeping the concession open**.

In all, 662 responses were received, of which 67 per cent were from Texada residents and property owners. **Clearly we are very passionate about the concession.**

Some other survey responses:

89 per cent said the concession was part of the camping experience at Shelter Point
Among park users, 69 per cent of campers use the concession, while 80 per cent of day users do likewise

56 per cent said the concession should be open for a longer season

Regarding finances:

76 per cent said a subsidy is necessary for the concession

62 per cent supported additional taxation to subsidize the concession

77 per cent opposed the qRD receiving proceeds from concession sales, though

63 per cent supported the concession operator paying the qRD a fee towards maintenance costs

The Board's Committee of the Whole agreed to ask staff for a report about potential **options that enable the concession to remain open**. This will be voted on by the qRD Board in January.

Meanwhile, the application by **Texada Island Non-profit Seniors Housing Society and Selkirk Mountain Forest to exclude land from the Agricultural Land Reserve goes to a public hearing this month**. Input from this hearing will form part of the application to the Agricultural Land Commission to use the 3.24 hectare site across GB Road from the hall for seniors housing.

Please have your say about this important project. Attend in person **Tuesday, Jan. 16, 5pm at the hall**. Written submissions may be sent to planning@qathet.ca and must be received by the end of the public hearing.

Sandy McCormick

Area D director

sandynleeti@gmail.com

604-414-3525

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY



Greetings Everyone.

Happy New Year 2024

I recently reread "*The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society*" by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows, c2008. The author, Mary Ann Shaffer died before the novel was finished. Her niece, children's author, Annie Barrows completed her aunt's novel.

The story begins in January 1946. The book is based on historical fact, although the characters are fiction. The mass evacuation of Island children 24 hours before the occupying forces arrived and the conditions under which the Islanders lived during the occupation are factual.

The novel is in letter format. The Reader's Guide in the back of the book asks the question: *What was it like to read a novel composed entirely of a letter? What would you answer?* The primary character, Juliet Ashton, a writer receives a letter from an Islander who has an old book with her name & address written on the inside front cover. Juliet becomes curious about Guernsey during the WW11 occupation and the creation of the *The Guernsey Literary & Potato Peel Pie Society*. Thus follows a flood of letters from Society members, each telling their own experiences and stories. Juliet has an assignment is to write a 3 part series of articles for the *TIMES* on the occupation of Guernsey.

Friendship develops between Juliet and Society members. The Society was formed as a ruse to explain why residents were out after curfew. This book is a novel of joy, sadness, humour and strength. It is worth adding to your 2024 reading list or watch the 2018 Netflix movie.

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:

Anne Carney, Library Coordinator,
at 604-223-3443.

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or email **GBISoc@shaw.ca**

www.gilliesbay.ca/wireless