

DECEMBER 2025—MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 GBID WATER MTG Firehall 11 am	3 TRANSIT STN 10-4 GBID FIN/GOV. MTG. Firehall 4:30 YOUTH GROUP 4:45 PM	4 TIRC Mtg. Srs. Ctr. 4pm	5 SPIRIT BREAKFAST Mary Mary Café 7-11 am	6 Dragon Boat Xmas Party The Inn, 6 pm
7 BREAKFAST W/ SANTA LEGION 10 AM LIBRARY XMAS PARTY 2-4PM GRIEF SUPPORT CHURCH 3-4PM	8	9 FOOD BANK Call In 10-3 GBID TRUSTEE MTG Firehall 4:30 pm Rock Your Body Hall—5:30pm	10 FOOD BANK Pick Up,11-12 Xmas Swag Workshop 2 PM Garden Center	11 TWIN Luncheon Legion-Noon	12 COMMUNITY LUNCH Srs Ctr...Noon LEGION MEETING Doors, 5:30pm Starts at 7 pm	13 TRANSIT STN 10-4 UCW XMAS BAKE Sale 12-2pm
14 Community Xmas Dinner The Hall, 4 PM	15	16 Fire Departments Christmas Light Parade 6PM	17 TRANSIT STN 10-4 VAID Mtg Firehall 1:30pm YOUTH GROUP 4:45PM	18	19 LEGION BINGO Doors at 5:30 pm Game at 7 pm	20 <i>Express Lines Deadline</i>
21 RAISE THE ROOMS Texada Inn, 2-7 pm	22 Legion Closed Until Jan 3	23 Rock Your Body Hall—5:30pm	24	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS 	26	27 TRANSIT STN 10-4 **TCOTR Sr. CTR 4:30 PM
28 GRIEF SUPPORT UNITED CHURCH 3-4PM	29	30	31 Murder Mystery Legion Doors at 6 pm	January 1 POLAR BEAR SWIM	2026	**TCOTR— Texada Church On The Rock**

ONGOING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

MONDAY:

TAI CHI , GB Hall @ 9:30 am
Fire Dept Practice GB & VA Fire Halls @ 6:30 pm
3-Ball Pool—Texada Inn @ 7pm

TUESDAY:

TAI CHI FOR BEGINNERS, Senior Centre @ 9:30AM
SANDPIPER'S PLAYCENTRE, GB Old School 10-1
Free Pool & Shuffleboard—Legion, Doors @ 3:30
Pickleball—Texada School @ 6 pm

WEDNESDAY:

TAI CHI , GB Hall @ 9:30 am
Texada Museum, by Texada School @ 10-Noon
Scrabble—Legion @ 1:30 pm

THURSDAY:

Pickleball—Texada School @ 6 pm
Fun Darts, Texada Inn @ 7 pm

FRIDAY:

Karaoke—Texada Inn @ 7pm

SATURDAY:

TAI CHI , GB Hall @ 9:30 am
Pickleball—Texada School @ 10 am
Circle of Light Meditation –Yurt @ 2 pm
Meat Draw, Legion @ 3:30 pm

SUNDAY:

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

TEXADA ISLAND

December 2025

EXPRESS LINES

A Texada Library
CHRISTMAS PARTY!
Sunday, December 7th
2 pm to 4 pm
Senior's Centre in Gillies Bay

Let's gather to share our Christmas stories, songs, memoirs, poems - and Christmas cheer.

Bring something special to share, to sing, or to read - a format that resonates with you. Seasonal or just deeply appreciated. Or just simply come to enjoy the offerings by others and to be in Christmas community.

A sign up sheet will be at the door. Under five minutes, please.

Let's share our light, wit, and laughter.
All are welcome!

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION #232
& MARY MARY CAFE'S
10TH ANNUAL

Breakfast
With Santa

SANTA ARRIVES AT THE LEGION
BY FIRE TRUCK AT 11 AM ON
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025
BREAKFAST IS FROM 10 - NOON

BRING YOUR LETTER FOR SANTA!

COME SIT ON HIS KNEE!

ALL CHILDREN & PARENTS WELCOME!

TEXADA ISLAND COMMUNITY SOCIETY

Spirit BREAKFAST
TICS ANNUAL FOOD BANK FUNDRAISER

HELP US SUPPORT THE FOOD BANK, & THEN JOIN US FOR A FESTIVE, FUN BREAKFAST - OUR TREAT!

PANCAKES * EGGS * BACON * COFFEE OR TEA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5
7 AM - 11 AM
AT MARY MARY CAFE

2025

For more information:
Doriana at 604-414-4893

Texada Island Community Society's
Annual Newcomer & Oldcomer
Christmas Dinner
Sunday, December 14

DOOR PRIZES | CLASSIC TURKEY DINNER | WINE SALES

(Coffee/Tea/Water Provided)

Doors Open: 4:00 pm Dinner: 6:00 pm
Gillies Bay Community Hall

Tickets - \$15

PRESALE ONLY & ADULTS ONLY DUE TO WINE SALES

Only 100 Tixs Being Sold
Contact Doriana at 604-414-4893 to purchase ticket(s)

FREE Childcare for ages 2-10 by Sandpipers Play Group at the Senior Centre
Prebook their services.



TEXADA ISLAND HEALTH CENTRE

Hours of Operation

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

Phone Number:
604-486-7525

If no reply, please leave a message.

Emergencies: 911

Information

B.C. Health Hotline: 811

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



Texada TAI CHI

Monday, Wednesday & Saturday
9:30 am at the
Gillies Bay Community Hall

Tai Chi is a gentle art for mind, body and spirit.

Beginners meet Tuesdays at 9:30 am at Senior Centre

TEXADA ISLAND BREAST CANCER SUPPORT



Need To Talk?

604-486-6744
604-414-3789

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

TEXADA HEALTH SERVICES SOCIETY DONATIONS

Please make your donation cheque out to: **Texada Health Services Society** and mail to P.O. Box 249, Van Anda, B.C., V0N 3K0.

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

The Cancer Support Group now provides funds up to \$1,000 per person, per year for those individuals dealing with Cancer. Please contact Amber Brewer at 250-644-6024. Everything discussed is held in confidence.

BC FERRIES

Always confirm times with BC Ferries at www.bcferries.com or, 1-888-223-3779

Texada to Powell River	Powell River to Texada
SEPT. 02—MAR. 31, 2026	
6:00 am	6:50 am
7:45 am	8:35 am
9:25 am	10:15 am **DG Weds
11:50 pm	12:40 pm Mon-Fri
3:00 pm **DG Weds.	1:15 pm Sat & Sun
4:55 pm	3:55 pm
6:40 pm	5:50 pm
8:55 pm	7:30 pm
	9:45 pm

****DG—Dangerous Goods Sailings, Wednesday, No PASSENGERS PERMITTED**

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 25 & JANUARY 1
THERE WILL BE NO 6 AM & 6:50 AM SAILINGS

Powell River To Comox	Comox To Powell River
7:55 am	6:00 am
12:00 pm	9:55 am
5:15 pm	3:15 pm
8:45 pm	7:10 pm

THURSDAY
DECEMBER 25 & JANUARY 1
THERE WILL BE NO 7:55 AM & 6:00 AM SAILINGS



Langdale to Horseshoe Bay	Horseshoe Bay to Langdale	Saltery Bay to Earls Cove	Earls Cove to Saltery Bay
Nov 25—Dec. 17, 2025		Nov 25 TO DEC 17, 2025	
6:20 am	7:30 am	5:35 am <i>(Except Sunday)</i>	6:30 am <i>(Except Sunday)</i>
8:40 am	9:50 am	7:25 am	8:20 am
11:00 am	12:10 pm	9:25 am	10:35 am
1:15 pm	2:25 pm	11:45 am	12:55 am
3:35 pm	4:45 pm	2:15 pm	3:25 pm
5:55 pm	6:10 pm	4:35 pm	5:40 pm
7:20 pm	8:25 pm	6:45 pm	7:45 pm
9:35 pm	11:30 pm	8:40 pm	9:40 pm

Langdale to Horseshoe Bay	Horseshoe Bay to Langdale	Saltery Bay to Earls Cove	Earls Cove to Saltery Bay
Dec. 18, 2025—Jan 4, 2026		Dec. 18, 2025—Jan 4, 2026	
6:20 am <i>(Dec. 18 Only)</i>	7:30 am <i>(Dec. 18 Only)</i>	5:35 am <i>(Dec. 18 Only)</i>	6:30 am <i>(Dec. 18 Only)</i>
8:40 am	9:50 am	7:25 am	8:20 am
11:00 am	12:10 pm	9:25 am	10:35 am
1:15 pm	2:25 pm	11:45 am	12:55 am
3:35 pm	4:45 pm	2:30 pm	3:40 pm
5:55 pm	7:05 pm	4:55 pm	6:00 pm
8:15 pm	9:25 pm	7:05 pm	8:05 pm
10:30 pm	11:30 pm	9:00 pm	10:00 pm

BC TRANSIT BUS

THURSDAYS: To reserve a seat:

Phone Wed. before 3 pm at 604-483-2008

Departs: Gillies Bay Store-8:25 am,
Van Anda Market at 8:55 am.

Departs: Town Center Mall at 3:25 pm
\$8 & \$2.25 for seniors (65+) per trip



Classified Ads



ACCOMMODATION

Stay at Welcome Harvest Farm

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

LAWN & GARDEN & HOME REPAIR

Kel's Lawn, Yardwork, Handyman

604-578-0266

WOODWORK

Jorg's Custom Woodwork

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

SERVICES

Meals, Groceries & Liquor Delivery

TexadaEats.ca
604-414-7504

HEALTH

Certified Personal Trainer

Yoga, Strength and Core Training. Udith: 604-223-4501

Fudge Contracting



Home: 604-486-7364
Text: 604-483-1063
Email:

fudgecontracting@gmail.com

Land Clearing, Septic Installation,
Skidsteer, Excavating Work and Hauling

NEW TO YOU GOODS

SADIE AND DAISY'S NEW TO YOU STORE

I will be open until **December 20th**, Wed. to Sat. from 10-4.
Thanks for your donations & for shopping at my store.

I will be opening again March 2025.

604-486-6990

Express Lines

is a Texada Island Community Society (TICS) Publication

Send announcements (max. 350 words) or ads to:

E-mail: ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com

Phone: 604-414-5619

EXPRESS LINES SUBSCRIPTION

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

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

PROVINCE: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____



Recycling Station Hours



Van Anda:

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am - 5 pm

Gillies Bay:

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 9 am - 5 pm



qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT

TEXADA AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Call for Applications

qathet Regional District is seeking volunteer members to sit on the **Texada Airport Advisory Committee (TAAC)** for a three-year term. Interested, eligible individuals should submit a written application explaining why they want to sit on the Committee and what qualities and/or expertise they will bring to the Committee.

Copies of the Committee's Terms of Reference are available on the qathet Regional District website (qathet.ca/about/committees-and-commissions/). Committee members must be 18 years of age or older, be a resident of Texada Island (Electoral Area D), and be generally available to attend regular on-island Committee meetings and meet the Terms of Reference criteria, which includes not having an interest in a business that regularly operates from or near the airport or who may otherwise be in a conflict of interest.

The deadline for applications is 4 pm, Wednesday, December 31, 2025.

Applications may be submitted by mail or e-mail:

Address: qathet Regional District

Attn: Heather Gillespie,

Technical Services Clerk

202 - 4675 Marine Avenue

Powell River, BC V8A 2L2

Phone: 604 485-2260, ext 412

Fax: 604 485-2216

E-mail: capitalassets@qathet.ca

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR
DRAGON BOAT & PICKLE BALL
CHRISTMAS
party

Ho ho ho! It's that wonderful time of year to swap paddles for presents and parties! AND, for an evening full of holiday cheer, laughter, celebration & a bit of friendly mischief.

Saturday, December 06
6 PM...until the reindeer go home
at the Texada Island Inn Pub

RSVP: texadadragonboat@gmail.com

Bring a wrapped Secret Santa gift (Homemade, gently used, or under \$20) And, bring your favorite appetizer to share

Your friends, family & the paddle curious are welcome!



United Church Women's
Christmas Bake Sale

Saturday, December 13
12 - 2 pm
at the United Church

TEXADA ISLAND COMMUNITY SOCIETY

Isn't it crazy that another year is going to pass by. With our crazy lives, it is hard to find time to enjoy the season... well TICS has put together a December list of our events:

Friday, December 5: 7am-11am come to our **Spirit Breakfast** at Mary Mary Café. This is our Annual Texada Food Bank Fundraiser. Bring a food item or a financial donation and receive a **Pancake and Sausage Breakfast** on us. Thanks to Mary Mary Cafe and Texada Market.

Sunday, December 7: 10am-12pm at the Texada Legion, **Santa** will be making a stop with help from the Van Anda Fire Department and enjoy a Pancake Breakfast compliments of Mary Mary Cafe.

Sunday December 14: Join us for the Texada **Community Dinner** at the Community Hall. This year you will enjoy a full **Christmas dinner** for only \$15.00, thanks to TICS. Tickets can be purchased from Doriana Kiland - 604-414-4893

The next TICS meeting is Monday, January 12, 2026, 10:30 am at the Legion. Remember to enjoy the Christmas season and we will see you in 2026!

Merry Christmas to all!
Texada Island Community Society



Sea Dreams & Texada Home & Garden
3rd Annual
Christmas Community Swap Workshop

December 10 at 2:00 PM
at Texada Home & Garden
Cost: **Just Your Smile Folks!**



qathet REGIONAL DISTRICT MEETING NOTICE

Members of the public are advised that the **TEXADA ISLAND RECREATION COMMISSION** will be holding a public meeting on **THURSDAY DECEMBER 4 AT 4:00PM.**

The meeting will take place in the Seniors' Centre in Gillies Bay.

Please visit the qRD meeting portal <https://qathetrd.civicweb.net/Portal/> for access to current and previous meetings. The agenda will be available two days prior to the meeting.

Members of the public may attend virtually. Follow the instructions on the qRD website.

For further inquiries, please contact administration@qathet.ca or call 604-485-2260.



* NOW OFFERING *

- Garbage bin rental & disposal
- Deliveries of soil, bark mulch & wood chips
- Deliveries of sand, gravel & pit run
- Personalized hauling from PR to Texada (such as lumber, equipment, etc)

* Texada seniors (65+) receive 10% off

(call/text) 778-882-9939 - Devin

(call/text) 778-323-3247 - CJ

Coastalfirewood.ca

7460 Hwy. 101, Powell River BC, V8A 0R1

PLANNED GIVING USING LIFE INSURANCE

Overview

Planned giving through life insurance policies serves as a strategic method for individuals to maximize the impact of their charitable donations while also benefiting from various tax advantages.

Tax Benefits

Life insurance policies provide several tax-related incentives. Donors may receive tax deductions for the premiums they pay on the policy. Additionally, the death benefit paid out from the policy can be directed to charitable organizations, further enhancing the overall tax efficiency of the gift. For individuals with limited assets, contributing to a charity is made accessible by either paying a modest premium for a new life insurance policy or by designating an existing policy's beneficiary as the charity of choice.

Charitable Donations and Estate Planning

By naming a charity as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, donors ensure that the charity receives the proceeds directly. Importantly, the proceeds from the policy do not form part of the donor's estate. As a result, there are no probate fees associated with the transfer, and the donor's charitable intentions are protected from potential challenges that may arise under a will variation.

Control and Flexibility

Donors maintain control over their life insurance policies throughout the process. This means they can alter the designated charity if their priorities shift, offering valuable flexibility and peace of mind as

circumstances change over time.

Non-Refundable Donation Tax Credit

The death benefit proceeds from a life insurance policy may be used to claim a non-refundable donation tax credit. This feature can play an important role in the donor's overall tax planning strategy and may further increase the appeal of planned giving through life insurance.

Consultation and Planning

It is important for donors to consult with a qualified tax advisor to gain a clear understanding of the specific tax implications associated with this form of planned giving. Professional guidance ensures that the chosen strategy aligns with the donor's objectives and optimizes the benefits for both the donor and the charitable organization.

We strongly advise all potential donors to seek independent legal and financial advice from a professional who is familiar with Planned Giving.

Barb Egglestone,
STI (Specialist in Trust Industry)

(Texada Island Non-Profit Seniors Housing Society)



one truck
DUMP RUNS

Call/Text 250-334-6492
to schedule a pickup

FROM AND FOR TEXADA ISLAND

TEXADA ISLAND UNITED CHURCH

"I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else."
C.S. Lewis

Worship Services:

Sunday services begin at 10:30 a.m. with coffee and fellowship afterwards.
Communion Service: Dec. 7, 2025.
Everyone is always welcome in our church and at our communion table.
Advent begins Nov. 30 and our Christmas Eve Service starts at 2 pm on December 24, 2025. Don't forget the Christmas Bake Sale Dec. 13th, 12-2 pm.

Focus on Spirit:

Published weekly (except for the last week of the month) on the website. Links can be found on the Texada United Church

Facebook page.

Minister's Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-3:30 pm. The church is also open during these times for prayer and quiet meditation.

Minister: Rev. Gayle Chouinard:

604-414-7309, trollhollow123@gmail.com

Board Chair:

Dale Rinehart, 604-486-0050

Website:

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

Facebook Page:

Texada Island United Church

Church Mission:

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



Ladies
**SPIRITUAL
CIRCLE**
AT THE YURT ON STURT
IN VAN ANDA
**WEDNESDAY
6-7 PM**
ALL LADIES ARE
WELCOME



Circle of Light Meditation
Saturdays in December
2-3 pm
at the Yurt on Sturt
in Van Anda
All Are Welcome!



Texada Women's Island Network
T.W.I.N. DECEMBER LUNCHEON
THURSDAY. DECEMBER 11. 2025
AT THE LEGION
DOORS OPEN AT 11:30 A.M.
LUNCH AT 12 NOON
THERE WILL BE NO GUEST SPEAKER.
THIS IS OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY.

To reserve, please call Moe at 604-414-7312 no later than Thursday, December 4. 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 next June. Good Luck!!!

If you bring a game, please bring a prize. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, please bring a wrapped gift (\$15 limit) with your name on it.

Winners of the Christmas draw will be drawn at the luncheon. If you haven't bought your tickets, they are available at most businesses and TWIN members.

Come as you are, or come as an elf! Please come wearing hats with bells on ladies.




December 6, 2025 11 am - 4 pm
6917 Staaf Road, Texada Island, BC

BARB AASEN
Bag Designer
TOTE BAGS, LAP TOP SLEEVES,
TOILETRY BAGS & MORE...
Upcycled Fabric, Cork & Waterproof Fabric

LIN JOHNSON
Hand Weaver
SCARVES, TOWELS, COWLS & MORE...
Refreshments, Demos & more
604.414.3508 PT



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Island Resident

Getting Home After a Medical Emergency

The Texada Health Services Society Can Assist
You With Our **Green Armband Program (GAP)**

Do you know how to get home from the hospital?

Unexpected health emergencies do occur and it is not uncommon for residents to find themselves in a tough situation afterwards with no money, wallet, ID—sometimes even without clothes. Some Texadans have even been discharged from health care facilities at night when no ferries were running, or with no way to get to the ferry if it is running. No one expects it to happen to them, but it does happen—maybe more often than you think!

The **Green Armband Program (GAP)** is a program that will support you when you unexpectedly have to leave home due to a medical emergency. A simple green band on your wrist (similar to a concert band) will alert the hospital or other medical staff that you may have transportation, accommodation, or other considerations to take into account when you are released from their medical care.

The **GAP** kit contains your armband and step-by-step instructions detailing what to do to get home safely. There is even a small amount of cash in each kit for vending machines.

GAP kits are primarily for patients who do not have a family member or an escort present and who are lacking a way to return home. These kits are readily available with the Texada Island ambulance staff, as well as in the Emergency Department at qathet General Hospital.

Unfortunately, there are only four local employees at our ambulance station; the other staff come from Powell River, or further away, which means that staff on your ambulance call may not have heard of the **GAP** program. Around three quarters of the nursing staff in Powell River are travelling nurses who also might not be familiar with the program.

If you feel that you need this type of assistance to get home, don't hesitate to ask your paramedic or nurse for the **Green Armband Program** kit. Your well being is important and they are there to help you!

GAP is paid for by the Texada Health Services Society. Any person using **GAP** does not have to pay for the service, but they may wish to make a small donation to Texada Health Services Society.



Island Resident



Coyote Tales...the all you can eat buffet

Well, this story is not about frightful bears, cougars or tragedies, but more about showcasing British Columbia's pristine wilderness and bounty... and I must say, it's done me good and proper through the years.

I was camped out with my brother Phil "the wolf" who accompanied me on a prospecting project I was longing to do on the North West Coast of B.C. Our tent camp was located near the shoreline of a narrow pristine inlet. The beach was loaded with oysters and clams that we surely took advantage of on the first few days of our prospecting adventure. Pasta with clam sauce and fried oysters were the first week's favourite dishes.

Early every morning while drinking coffee and planning our day, we would stare off down the inlet and watch a couple of fat and healthy looking black bears waddle down to the beach to chew up a few clams and oysters. They would spit out the shells and then meander back up into the bush hunting berries, roots and what have you.

To arrive at an area of interest in the following few days for prospecting, we would cross a wide flowing creek by hopping across on boulders and stones. I would always carry a sharpened axe to cut brush, blaze our trail or to break off rock samples while traversing the countryside. Halfway across the creek a salmon sprang out and up inches from my face taking me by surprise in a startle. Instinct took hold of me as I swung my axe around and cut the salmon behind the head in mid air and pinned it down between a few rocks. I hauled it up and out of the creek declaring, "look what's on the menu for tonight". What a wonderful surprise. We smoked that salmon

with alder leaves as it kept us in sustenance for a couple more days. We hardly touched the grub we brought as nature had been very kind to us.

A few days later we were planning our departure by week's end over coffee at our favourite spot watching the black bears during their morning routine. On this morning I noticed something different. The bears were tossing and clawing at something that had covered the beach. We walked closer to have a look at what they were pawing at and eating. Well I'll be damned! The beach was loaded with Dungeness crabs that were crawling up out of the water surely to get away from something chasing them from the deep. We had a few burlap sand bags for rock samples that we used to gather up a dozen crabs, they were beauties. The bears were occupied doing their own thing feasting on what they could gather.

Whatever it was that chased them ashore must have been frightful. Maybe a ray or shark I thought. I still don't know what it was but me, my brother and the bears sure had a treat that day.

We left camp two days later with very fond memories of our time on the North West Coast together. This trip I'll always remember as it showcased nature's scenic beauty, bounty and my brother's company.

There are some who take advantage of nature's rich bounty for profit but for those pioneers and adventurers of old and new who realize what a gift we have... may it always be, and with respect, may we always be thankful for nature's generosity.

Cheers, Coyote

TEXADA ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow. Season Greetings and Happy New Year.

The Garden Club is having a members only gathering this month to celebrate us! Our next general meeting will be at the Seniors Center on Wednesday January 21, at 2pm. You don't have to be a member to attend the January meeting. Wear layers as we crack open windows and doors for ventilation. We have masks and hand sanitizer for you to use if you choose.

December is a month when we reminisce and share stories. **Sam Haines** takes us on a trip down memory lane, sharing with us a special moment with her mom in a garden.

Years ago my mom lived in a very rural area in Southern Alberta. We grew up with huge vegetable gardens and flower beds, as my mom was an avid gardener and food preserver.

I stopped in to visit her on the weekends when I could and help with whatever she was up to at that time. This particular weekend was all about making dill pickles for the winter shelves.

My mom had been purchasing pickling cucumbers from a very aged man who had a farm close by, as he sold them cheaper than the labour involved to grow them. So off we went to get the cucumbers.

When I pulled into the old guys yard an equally aged spaniel came sauntering over to our truck. I made a comment about how old they both seemed to be,

but still were very active boys. The gentleman had a few buckets already picked, so we just needed a few more pails for the weekend project.

My mother took a look at the buckets of cukes already picked and noticed that many of them had tiny holes in them. We assumed he used some type of tined picking tool to gather them, but at that time it was a mystery that would be made clear as we entered the fields.

The old dog ran ahead, happy to be in our company. He feverishly looked between the rows and leaves, running the mounds until he found the perfect sized cucumber. He plucked it gingerly from the vine, with his tiny teeth piercing the skin, and plopped it into the pail.

It only took him twenty minutes to fill the pail to capacity—and it took us days to stop laughing.

We had been eating these pickled cucumbers for years and most were hand-picked by this old spaniel that seemed to love his job.



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Tubs and showers ● Video camera inspections ● Line flushing
Line locating ● Extinguishers Perimeter drain installations and repairs



TARGET
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Office 604-483-5192 office@targetinstallations.ca
targetinstallations.ca MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8 AM TO 4 PM



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

A very big **THANK YOU** to all who came out to our Remembrance Day service. Thank you to the RCMP, First Responders, and Cadets. Thank you to Shelly, Rolly, and Evelyn for the wonderful

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 232

soups. Thank you to Dianne for the sweets and Colleen for the Remembrance cookies, and Barb and Denise for all their hard work.

GENERAL MEETING
Friday, December 12
Doors—5:30 pm,
Meeting starts at 7 pm

POTLUCK
NO POTLUCK THIS MONTH

BINGO
Friday, December 19
Doors Open at 5:30 pm
Game Starts at 7 pm

MEATDRAWS
Saturdays and Sundays
Doors open at 3:30 pm

Murder Mystery
Wednesday, December 31
Doors Open 6 pm
Game Starts at 7 pm,
Finished by 9 pm.

The Legion will be CLOSED from Monday, December 22 and REOPEN on January 3rd, with the exception of the 31st.

...lest we forget.

Texada Market

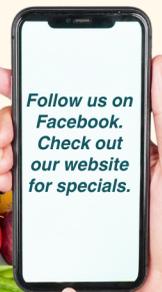
- In-store Fresh Cut Meat
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TEXADA ISLAND INN



YOUR ISLAND HOSPITALITY
AND TOURISM
INFORMATION CENTRE

604-486-7711

Hello Texada, December Is Upon Us, Still Beautiful & No Frost Yet.

Our Very Talented Artists Have Been Busy, Lots Of New Stuff. Shop Local, Buy Beautiful!

WE WILL BE CLOSED DEC. 12TH BAR SIDE ONLY, FOR A PRIVATE PARTY. THE RESTAURANT WILL BE OPEN FOR FULL SERVICE, FOOD & DRINKS. **Raise The Rooms Jam** Dec.21st 2 To 7pm

Dancing, Free Snacks, Cold Drinks, Fantastic Musical Guests. 50/50 Raffle. Come Join Us.

MONDAY Free Pool, 3 Ball Tourney. **TUESDAY** 15% Off All Seniors Meals. **WEDNESDAY** Free Classic PinBall. **THURSDAY** Fun Darts, All Welcome. Starts At 7pm. **FRIDAY** Karaoke 7pm. **SATURDAY** New York Strip Steak Lunch, 5pm Steak Dinner. **SUNDAY** 25% Off All Draft Beer, Bar Side Only.

HOTEL WILL BE CLOSED DEC, 24th & 25th

A VERY HAPPY HOLIDAY TO ALL OF YOU, FROM ALL OF US.

NEW YEARS EVE DINNER TBA STARTS AT 5. RESERVATIONS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. BAR 8pm

D J MIKE LANG Party Favors, Snacks. A Toast At Midnight. **HOTEL CLOSED JAN. 1st. 2026**

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026 TO MY AMAZING STAFF, & PATRONS WITH LOVE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Lotto Ctr. • Gift Certificates • Bagged Ice • Island Info 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Art • T- Shirts, Vests & Hoodies • Ice Cream • ATM 	<p>Thank you, Texada, for all your love, support & help! <i>Cymry, Evan, & Kaitlyn</i></p>	<p>Restaurant Open 7 Days A Week 11—7 pm</p>	<p>Bar Hours 3 pm-Closing 7 Days A Week</p>
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SANDY MCCORMICK ELECTED VICE CHAIR FOR REGIONAL DISTRICT

Area 'D' Director Sandy McCormick was elected on November 12, 2025, as Vice Chair for qathet Regional District Board for 2026.

Area 'C' Director Clay Brander was re-elected as Chair.

"Thank you to the Board for electing me as Vice Chair. I value your confidence and remain dedicated to fostering collaboration, strengthening relationships, and supporting the important work we do as a Board," said Vice-Chair McCormick. "It's a privilege to serve in this role, and I'm committed to working alongside the Chair and all the members of the Board to advance the interests of our region."



Jake Zaikow

*Canadian Residential Appraiser (GRA) 2005.

*Member of the Appraisal Institute of Canada.

*Licensed B.C. Realtor. (1993)

*Associate Broker (2018)

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founded on Texada Island in 1961.

4471 Joyce Ave. Powell River, V8A 3A8



604-414-5063
jake@zaikow.ca



Powell River Public Library—December at a Glance!

For full listings visit prpl.ca or email desk@prpl.ca.

KIDS, zsagwyn@prpl.ca

Seasonal Puppet Show: Night Lights Community Room. Saturday, December 20, 10:30-11:30 am Join Sonia, Deb, Mel and Marilee for our annual extravaganza! Drop-in.

MODS on Mondays—Makerspace. Monday, 3:15-4:45 pm. For neurodivergent kids aged 7+ & their families. Registration required.

Preschool Storytime—Children's Reading Room, Wednesday & Thursday, 10:30-11am Library Storytime. Drop-in.

Storytime featuring Orca Bus—Children's Reading Room. Thursday, Dec. 11, 10:30 am-12:00 pm. Enjoy a library story-time and then explore the Orca Bus. Drop-in.

Tinker Trunk—Makerspace, Tuesday & Thursday, 3:30-4:30 pm, until Dec. 11. Kids 7-12, choose-your-own-tech-adventure. Drop-in.

Prime Time—Community Room, Wednesday, 3:00-4:30 pm, until Dec. 10. Primary grades K+ connect & play. Drop-in.

Drawn Together—Huckleberry Room, Friday, 3:30-4:30 pm, until Dec. 12. Kids aged 7-12. Drop-in.

TEENS, edgar@prpl.ca

Switch Time—Huckleberry Room. Tuesday & Thursday, 3:30-4:30 pm, until Dec. 20. Ages 10+. Multiplayer Nintendo. Drop-in.

Fantasy Adventure Club—Herring & Huckleberry Rooms. Wednesday, 4:00-5:30 pm, until Dec. 19. Youth 12+. Roleplaying games. Drop-in.

Young Writers' Group—Huckleberry Room. Friday, 3:30-4:30 pm, until Dec. 21 Youth 10+. Drop-in.

Minecraft Afternoons—Makerspace. Saturday, 2:00-3:00 pm. Youth 10+. Drop-in.

ALL AGES, edgar@prpl.ca

Winter Slam—Community Room. Friday, December 5, 6:00-8:00 pm. Doors open at 5:45 pm, come early to register! Drop-in to listen or register to compete/join the open mic.

Midwinter Matinee: Velvet Queen (2022, 92 minutes, Rated G) Community Room. Tuesday, December 30, 1:00-3:00 pm Hot chocolate & popcorn provided! Drop-in.

ADULTS, mmerlino@prpl.ca

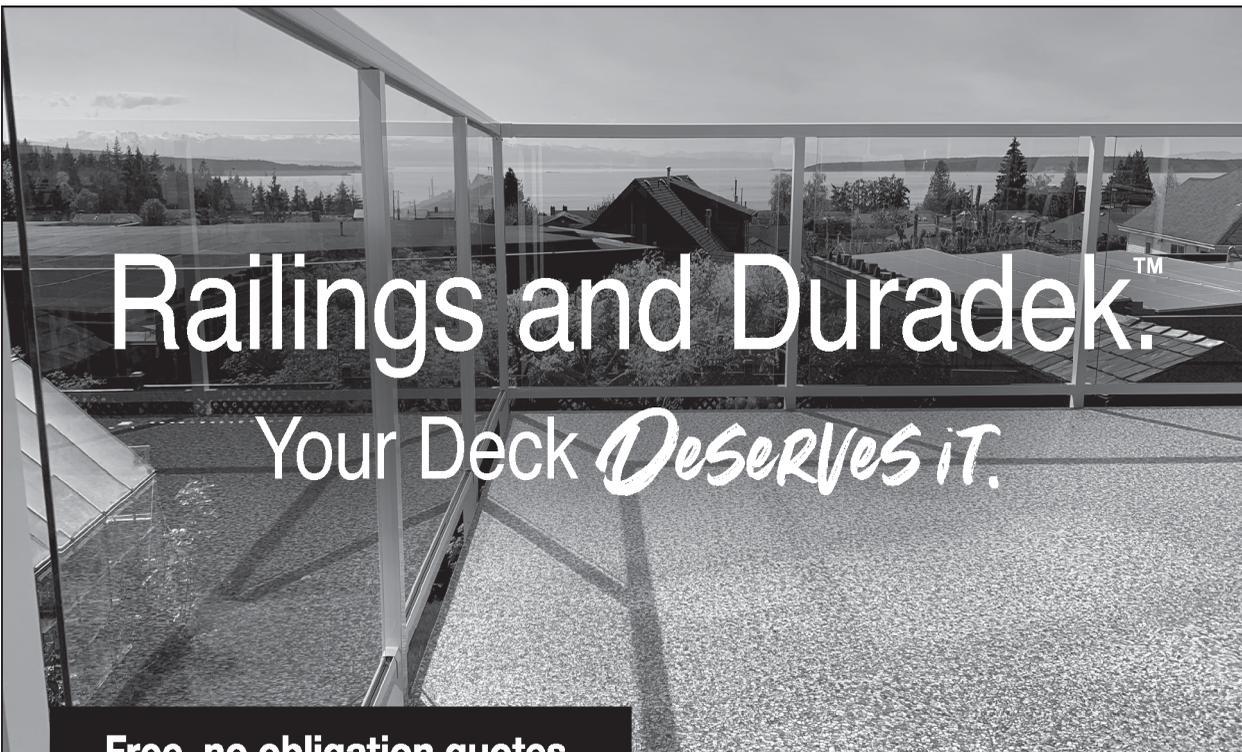
Identity Frauds and Scams—Community Room. Friday, December 5, 3:00-4:00 pm With Cst. Paula Perry. Drop-in.

Memoir Masala—Community Room. Saturday, December 6, 2:00-3:00 pm Readings by 12 local writers. Drop-in.

The Other Side of the Flag—Community Room. Tuesday, December 9, 4:00-5:00 pm Lance Brown discusses his work in the Royal Hong Kong Police. Drop-in.

Archaeology of the Island in the Middle of Everywhere—Community Room. Friday, December 12, 7:00-8:00 pm. SFU archaeologist discusses the xw̓εʔəɬay /Lasqueti Archaeology Project. Drop-in.

Write On—Online. Friday 2:00 pm. Writing group. Registration required. Email edgar@prpl.ca.



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TEXADA FOOD BANK 2025

Texada Food Bank is offered on the **Second Wednesday of the month ONLY**
Call on the Tuesday (day before pick up) between 10am and 3pm
Pick up on the second Wednesday between 11 and 12

Call or Text on December 9
Pick up December 10

Call or Text on January 13
Pick up January 14

(604) 483-1219

Texada Food Bank Financial Donations can be made by mail to
PO Box 233, Van Anda, B.C. V0N 3K0
or E-Transfer to ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com.
Please include 'Texada Food Bank' in the message of the e-transfer.

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.

Texada Food Bank Thanks You!

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



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Gillies Bay and Van Anda Fire Departments



Winter is right around the corner and the festive season is approaching. With that in mind, here are a few safety tips to help reduce your fire risk and keep your loved ones safe.

Please ensure that your wood burning appliances have been serviced and that your chimney is in good condition and free of creosote. If you don't have the capability to clean the chimney yourself there are several companies in Powell River that will come over and do this for you.

When putting up Christmas lights make sure that they are in good condition and UL or CSA certified. Consider using energy efficient LED lighting which produces less heat and therefore poses less of a fire risk. Keep trees, wrapping paper, decorations and other flammable materials away from heat sources. Ensure your live tree stays green and fresh by watering it daily and dispose of it promptly after the holidays or when it has dried out. Use good quality extension cords, do not put too many lights on one circuit and ensure that electrical outlets are not overloaded.

Use candle holders that are sturdy and will not tip over easily and extinguish lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. Keep children and pets away from lit candles. For added safety consider using battery operated candles.

Please ensure that you have working smoke alarms installed on every level of your home. Make sure that they have good batteries and have been regularly tested and cleaned.

The Gillies Bay and Van Anda Fire

Departments will be conducting their **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LIGHT PARADE ON DECEMBER 16TH.**

We will be leaving the Gillies Bay Fire Hall at 6pm, proceeding up to the high road, then back down through Gillies Bay village and then on to Van Anda where we will tour the village!



Both departments are always on the lookout for new recruits. Please consider coming out to join our team and help make a difference with this challenging and rewarding volunteer service to your community.

For further information please contact Chief Mark Robert in Van Anda at 604-414-9662 or Acting Chief Dave Beech at 604-389-8884 in Gillies Bay. We can also be contacted by email at firechief@vananda.ca or chief@gilliesbayvfd.ca

From all the Firefighters and First Responders on the island we wish you a very happy and festive Holiday Season and please stay safe.

THE RETREAT
RYCROFT ART GALLERY

In December, visit the gallery from
Friday to Sunday, 1:00 to 4:30
Watch for the open sign or by appointment
texada@gmail.com
5868 Gillies Bay Road
Season's Greetings to all!



Better at Home

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

We Need You! Do you enjoy supporting older adults? Are you looking for a way to support your community? If you are interested in volunteering, visit our website for the online application: https://inclusionpr.ca/pages/volunteer_or_call **Belinda Shelton at 604-485-4008** ext. 102

WE ARE SEEKING A NEW LAWN CARE CONTRACTOR FOR THE 2026 SEASON. We welcome proposals to be submitted by e-mail to betterathome@inclusionpr.ca.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS DECEMBER 31, 2025.

For more information please call Gerry Gray Place at 604-485-4008 ext.101.

Sonia Furstrand
Manager



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TEXADA ISLAND MUSEUM

Mines on Texada—1900—Name the Claim!

An old map shows the 150 mining claims registered on Texada in 1900. Rather than simply listing their names, I undertook the challenge to incorporate as many colourful names as I could into this “very contrived” story:

Bitten by the Gold Bug, I hopped the old Iron Horse and crossed Canada to Malaspina Strait. Legends of Spanish treasure buried years ago by a Salish Tyhee, a Great Copper Chief, were enough for me to seek my Nest Egg on this rich island.

I am Cameron Goodall (nicknamed the Yellow Kid) accompanied by my Two Friends. Dressed like a character in a Charles Dickens novel was Crackerjack (Jack North AKA Lucky Jack) - a Lion of a man - no Tinker Bell he!

My other partner was (Little Billy) Prescott, once a Volunteer Cadet in the French navy, his father a Commodore serving Francis, LeRoi. I was a Dandy, fresh from Cornell, studying to be a Priest.

For good luck my Loyal Retriever, Holly, tagged along. Would she be the Keystone to launch us into our Golden Era?

Thus began our Saga.

A Butterfly fluttering among the Bluebells and Fairy slippers made me think of home and my lovely Nancy Bell. I knew Billy would be pining for his sweetheart, Hazel Ruth. Jack had several women on his mind - all working in Victoria at the Iron Duke saloon in the Grand Devon hotel. Margery, Olivia, Gladys and Many More - especially the lusty Maud Adams with her Golden

Slipper he promised to fill with treasure.

Our first night under the Northern Lights revealed a strange Red Cloud. An Eagle and a Raven circled overhead. Were these omens the Last Link to our dreams?

The next morning Holly's nose led us to the Summit of a steep hill - a tough climb, a real Nutcracker! Bounding ahead the dog spotted a mysterious Boulder Nest and stood like a Sentinel barking on its peak. Did Holly have X-Ray powers? Or maybe the Midas touch?

Removing the stones we uncovered a Surprise - the Hidden Treasure, the Climax of our quest! Enough gold to make us all Mountain Chiefs and our girlfriends Forest Queens. We were richer than Aladdin!

I pictured myself in Europe - strolling the streets of Paris sporting my Silver Tip cane! We all returned home with the Security of a fabulous life ahead.

Thank you Holly!

Peter Lock
Texada Island Heritage Society

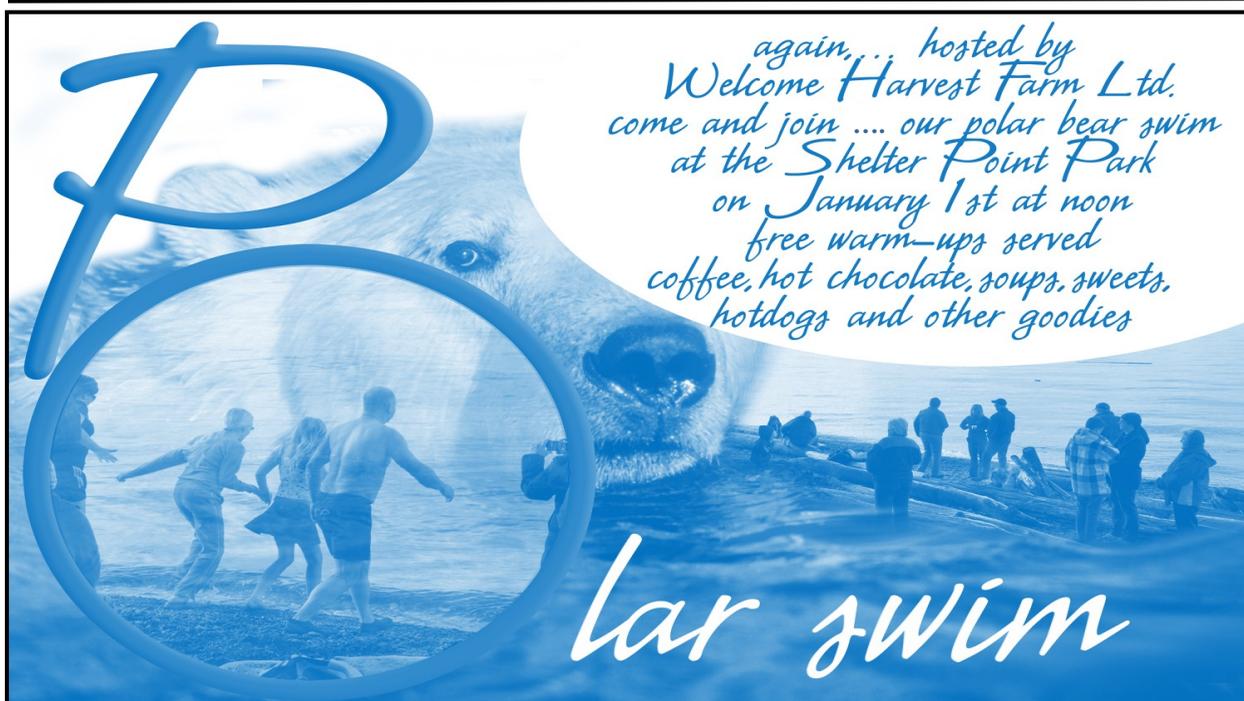


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Thursday to Sunday, 3-7*

Robbie Burns Dinner

Scottish Fare and Entertainment
Roast Beef / Haggis
Neeps & Tatties

Saturday, January 24th, 2026
Cocktails 5:30 - Dinner 6:30



Branch 232 - Royal Canadian Legion
Van Anda, Texada Island
Tickets \$40, sales start at the Legion General Meeting on Friday, November 14th

NO TICKET SALES AT THE DOOR

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Monday-Saturday
10 am - 6 pm
Sunday
Noon - 6 pm

TEXADA AGRICULTURE GROUP & FOOD HUB (TAG)

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.

This just in: TAG has **received a \$500 contribution from Arcosa Specialty Materials Texada!** We are grateful to Arcosa General Manager Sarah Bond for her and Arcosa's support, which will help our freeze drier project at the Texada Food Hub.

Anyone can join TAG 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).

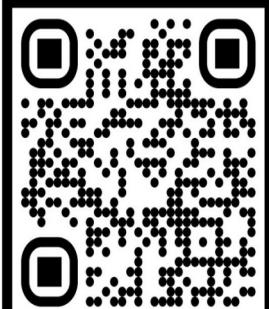
If you are already a TAG member and would like to schedule time at the Hub, please contact Breanne Percy by email at: breanne@why-health.com

For more information or to become a TAG member, please contact Tom by email at: ravenbaywoods@gmail.com or leave a voice message at 604 483-1471.



THE TAG FOOD HUB

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 Randene.Neill.MLA@leg.bc.ca





TEXADA ISLAND NON-PROFIT SENIORS HOUSING SOCIETY

Well, the bean counting is in...

Thank you to our amazing community for raising **\$22,450** with TINSHS 1st annual (yes, you heard it right!) Road Rally! We could not have done this without our volunteers, drivers, donors and hosting businesses. Stay tuned for the 2026 date!

A big welcome to **Lucia Capretti** who joins our team as Project Coordinator! We are looking forward to working with her!

Thank you to all who attended the **Estate & Legacy Giving Session** at the Legion. Some very thoughtful questions were brought up. Amber won the grocery gift card draw, then generously donated it back to be used at another event. Thank you!

December 2nd is **Giving Tuesday**, a global generosity movement that encourages people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. Make a donation, give your time, and share your voice. Start close to home: There are five registered charities on Texada. We encourage you to make your tax-deductible donations local, where they can support and enrich our community!

Thanks to those who stopped by the TINSHS table at the TICS Christmas Market! We had a small fundraiser by selling some beautiful Fifth Avenue Collection jewelry that was kindly donated to us. Any unsold items may be found on the Texada Swap & Shop.

We have been asked, **“Where is all of this donated money going???”**

In order to acquire land, assist with subdivision and apply for construction funding, as of now, funds raised by both our community efforts and grant writing have made the following possible:

- Needs and Demands study (to prove our goal is valid)
- Website construction and maintenance
- Agrology study (to help exclude the 8-acre site from the Agricultural Land Reserve)
- Hydrology study (VCH subdivision septic requirements)
- Market Study & Strategic Analysis (determined we will start with 20 units)
- Site investigation (to satisfy funders)
- In reserve for balance of land purchase funds (20% of the land value - 80% will be donated by Selkirk Mountain Forest Ltd when the subdivision process is completed)
- In reserve for legal transfer costs and taxes
- Annual Tax Filing & Insurance
- Grant writer and project manager (who has made sense of it all and helped get us to this stage of readiness!)
- Legal costs associated with advice and contract agreements
- Consultants to help us navigate and submit pre-development seed funding and construction funding applications
- Education / short courses to help the TINSHS board gain understanding, skills and make progress with this endeavor

With Gratitude & Wishes for Your Health & Happiness in 2026.

Cathy Brown, on behalf of the Texada Island Non-profit Seniors Housing Society

604-486-6766
info@texadaseniorshousing.ca
texadaseniorshousing.ca & on Facebook.
 Charitable Registration # 705676682RR0001

Tipping Fee Notice

Resource Recovery Centre

**New tipping fee takes effect
January 1st, 2026**

Municipal Solid Waste (Garbage)

Fee by Weight	\$420.00/Tonne
	\$10.00 Minimum Fee
Fee by Quantity	\$5.00/Bag
(Same as 2025 rate)	\$35/Mattress

All other material tipping fees remain unchanged



qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT

604-413-6861
 EnvironmentalServices@qathet.ca

GILLIES BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Boil Water Notice

Finally, the Boil Water Notice was lifted on November 18 after we received the all-clear from Vancouver Coastal Health! Now that the water upgrades have finished for the year and the temperature has cooled at Cranby Lake, with less turbidity, we can enjoy improved water quality.

Boil Water Advisory

For those of you who are new to Gillies Bay, it is important for you to know that we remain on Boil Water Advisory full time until we are able to install a secondary water filtration system. If you are immune-compromised or have an infant, please continue to boil your water for everyday use.

New Chair Elected

At the Board Meeting on November 12, Roger Kimmerly stepped down as Chair. Keith Franklin was elected Chair until the AGM in April.

Water Line Upgrades

In case you missed the notice, we have started a multi-year water line upgrade to replace old pipes and valves in our water system. This is paused for the winter and will resume in the spring, once the rains stop and the soil is dry enough to start digging again. Stay tuned for when and where the next dig will be.

Sand Filtration Project

Speaking of a secondary filtration system, we have been running pilot sand filters for more than a year and we are in the process of reviewing the data to see if we are ready to move on to the next stage of developing design specifications for a new water

treatment plant.

Hot Water Tanks

Just wondering if you've drained your water tank lately. The sediment in our water can build up pretty quickly and draining it regularly can extend its life.

Housekeeping

Do you sometimes get a strong chlorine smell in your water? This can happen when more chlorine than usual is automatically injected into the system during unusually high usage of water. This might be the result of a fire tanker pulling water from a hydrant. This can also happen if there is a water valve failure at the chlorinator or when the main valve has had to be shut down during repairs. When you smell chlorine, make sure you turn on your taps for at least ten minutes until the chlorine level goes back to normal.

Emergency Alert System

This project is ongoing, and we appreciate your help. Thank you for your feedback. If we haven't got to you yet, don't worry we will. John Bikadi will contact you, or you can contact the office with your updated information at admin@gillies-bay.ca or 604-223-7757.

You are invited to our meetings at the Gillies Bay Fire Hall.

December 2 at 11:00 am
Water Quality Meeting

December 3 at 4:30 pm
Finance & Governance Meeting

December 9 at 4:30 pm
Board of Trustee Meeting

We wish you all a wonderful December!

NEWS FROM THE TEXADA ISLAND LIBRARY

Season Greetings Everybody! Wishing you a safe and happy holiday season.

Seasonal Closure Hours:

December 25, December 26 and January 1.

Texada Library Christmas Party: December 7, 2 – 4 pm in the Seniors Room, Gillies Bay. Everyone is welcome. It is a gathering to share Christmas stories, songs, memoirs, poems and Christmas cheer. For more information, please contact Dawn Massey at dawnmassey0@gmail.com.

Thank you to Carolyn Walton-Kay and Lee Thorpe for their wonderful donations received last month.

The winner of the 2025 Giller Prize is Souvankham Thammavongsa for her novel, *Pick a Colour*, published by Knopf Canada.

The December display will showcase new juvenile Christmas themed story books. In addition, for Island bakers there will be a good selection of holiday entertaining cookbooks with traditional and twists on traditional recipes.

The volunteers look forward to continue serving you in the new year.

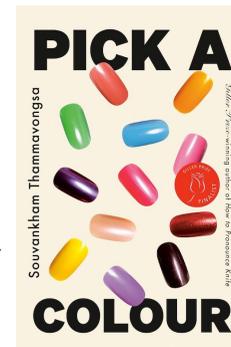
Pam Kenny

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

LIBRARY OPEN HOURS:

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

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





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SANDPIPERS (TEXADA ISLAND PRESCHOOL SOCIETY)

Dear Texada Residents,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Texada Island Preschool Society, fondly known as Sandpipers, a dedicated organization that fosters early childhood development for children ages 0-5. Our weekly playgroup provides a nurturing environment where young children engage in creative, educational, and social activities, laying a strong foundation for their growth.

We are excited to share our plans to expand our early childhood services on Texada Island, creating more opportunities for local families to access enriching, supportive, and inclusive programming for our youngest residents.

We continue to partner with organizations in Powell River — such as Public Health and the Cranberry Children's Center — to bring essential resources directly to our community, including physiotherapy, speech-language therapy, dental hygiene, eyesight screenings, and general healthcare services for children and their families.

To bring this broader vision of expanded early childhood services to life, we are reaching out to our community for support.

Your generous donation will help us acquire additional supplies, maintain our facilities, develop new program resources, and coordinate these vital health and developmental services, ensuring that Sandpipers remains a vibrant, accessible, and sustainable hub for Texada's families.

As a registered non-profit, the Texada Island Preschool Society is committed to transparency and to ensuring that every

dollar directly supports our mission. If you are able to contribute, please send your donation to:

Texada Island Preschool Society
PO Box 183, Gillies Bay, BC V0N 1W0

Cheques should be made out to Texada Island Preschool Society. For alternate donation methods please reach out to the contact below.

We would be happy to provide more information about our current programs, our expansion goals, or how your support can make a lasting difference.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to invest in the future of our community's children.

Your generosity will help Sandpipers grow and continue creating joyful, educational, and health-focused experiences for our little ones and their families.

Warm Regards,
Jonina Selbie-Parker, President,
Texada Island Preschool Society
(Sandpipers)
604 578 1243 sandpiperstexada@gmail.com



**TYG
YOUTH GROUP**
WED. DEC. 3 & DEC. 17
4.45-6.30

TEXADA YOUTH GROUP
TEXADA YOUTH GROUP@GMAIL.COM

DIRECTOR'S REPORT, Area D

I wish everyone a happy, healthy holiday season. May 2026 bring us peace and the continued blessing of living in the caring community that is Texada Island. May we preserve and protect it forevermore.

At the regional district, changes in the Local Government Act now require all RDs to elect vice-chairs, as well as chairs each year. This is a change for the qRD where the vice-chair position has always rotated among directors other than the chair for two months each per year.

I've never sought to be chair of the board because of possible conflicts between taking the position of Texada and the position of the Board as a whole, as required of the chair. I represent Texada, and that will always be first and foremost. However, I was nominated to be the Board's first vice-chair and was elected to that position. Clayton Brander from area C south of PR was re-elected chair of the qRD. Here's hoping he remains healthy all year.

The last 12 months were busy in terms of issues which the qRD addressed affecting Texada. Thanks to the many of you who spoke up loud and clear, Lot 6 survived yet another staff attempt to prohibit our salvaging of useful materials. I hope the qRD has finally got the message about the high value we place on having access to "the mall."

Staff did finally resolve the issue of deterioration under the community hall. They've greatly increased ventilation, improved the crawl space and repaired the sub-floor. Taxes were kept to a reasonable level, the concession remained open (and the food was delicious) and grant funding

was received for installation of two EV chargers at Shelter Point Park. Work continues regarding the expansion of Emily Lake Park.

It wasn't all happy times, however. The qRD voted to support an American company's application to Victoria for landing sites on Texada for kayaking courses, with me as the lone dissenter. And in other news there was Tex, may he rest in peace. Next month I'll be looking ahead to what we can expect in 2026.

In closing, the Texada Airport Advisory Committee is looking for new members (see ad in this edition). If you have an interest in our airport or knowledge of the aviation industry, please step forward and apply.

Sandy McCormick
Director, area D
604-414-3525



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VAN ANDA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

WELCOME TYLER

Please help us welcome Tyler Andres to the VAID Water Operations team! Tyler started training as a water operator on Nov 1, and his strong work ethic and upbeat attitude are already making a big difference.

METER PROJECT UPDATES

Work has started on installing a new water line for the Copper Queen area. These homes were previously connected through lines running across properties, so this upgrade will make things much more reliable. Please take extra care in the area and use alternate routes when you can.

We've received the meters and most of the hardware. VAID operators have already installed some meters where a meter setter was already in place.

All costs for this project are covered by Provincial Government funding.

PLANNED WATER OUTAGES

There will be water outages during the meter installation project, usually affecting only small sections at a time. We'll post notices on the website, Facebook page, and send emails. We'll also try to call you before your meter is installed—so if your phone number has changed, please update it with us.

RATE INCREASE FOR 2026

Heads up that rates will increase by at least 10% in 2026. A report explaining the reasons behind this will be available.

FIREFIGHTERS NEEDED!

The Fire Department needs volunteers! Training, gear, 24-hour accident coverage, a volunteer tax credit, and more are provided, with all costs covered.

If you're interested, contact Fire Chief Mark Robert at 604-414-9662 or firechief@vananda.ca

NEXT MEETING

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held Wednesday, Dec 17 at 1:30pm, upstairs at the Firehall.

CONTACT INFO

Questions or feedback? contact@vananda-id.ca | 604-486-7035

WATER EMERGENCY: 1-672-882-9901



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IN APPRECIATION OF BOB TIMMS

Dear Timms Family,

On behalf of the Van Anda Improvement District, we wish to extend our sincere appreciation for Bob's long-standing service to our community. His dedication supported all of us more than we may ever fully realize.

Recently, Bob's brother Dan shared how it was Bob's persistence, determination, and clear-eyed advocacy that led to the acquisition and installation of our new water tank. How he refused to accept anything less than what the community deserved. "Well, that's not acceptable," he'd say. And with that unwavering resolve, he ensured that Van Anda received the treatment, respect, and attention it needed from the Regional District. That resolve has benefited every household here.

Bob and Maggie have been central to this community for many years. Their care, their time and their continued presence ripple outward in ways that will be felt for generations. We are deeply grateful for everything they have brought to the life of this village.

Please accept our heartfelt thanks and recognition for Bob's years of service, commitment, and community stewardship. His work continues to nourish and protect us every day.

With gratitude, *Van Anda Improvement District Trustees & Staff*

Resource Recovery Centre Holiday Hours

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
DEC 21 CLOSED	DEC 22 OPEN 8 am—5 pm	DEC 23 OPEN 8 am—5 pm	DEC 24 CLOSING EARLY 8 AM—2 PM	DEC 25 CLOSED	DEC 26 CLOSED	DEC 27 OPEN 8 am—5 pm
DEC 28 CLOSED	DEC 29 OPEN 8 am—5 pm	DEC 30 OPEN 8 am—5 pm	DEC 31 CLOSING EARLY 8 AM—2 PM	JAN 01 CLOSED	JAN 02 CLOSED	JAN 03 OPEN 8 am—5 pm