

MARCH 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tues-	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5 Trans Station 10 - 4 pm Texada Film Museum, 10-2	6 Texada Film Museum. 10-2	7 TICS BINGO Comm. Hall @ 7 Doors @ 6:30 pm	8 Trans Station 10 - 4 pm TCOTR** Sr.Ctr -5 pm
9 	10 TICS MTG. Legion, 10:30 am Grief Support Legion, 3-4 pm	11 Food Bank Call In 10-3 pm	12 Food Bank Pick Up 11.am-12 pm VAID Mtg. 1:30 pm	13 TWIN Lunch @Pub, Noon	14 Community Lunch Sr. Ctr @ Noon Legion—General Mtg. Doors, 5:30, Mtg. 7 pm Rock Your Body At the Hall, 5:30 to 7:30pm	15
16 NatureKids Event, 11-1pm Raise the Rooms Texada Inn—3 pm	17 	18 GBID MTG 4:30 PM	19 Trans Station 10 - 4 pm Garden Club Sr. Ctr. 2 pm	20 TIRC Virtual Mtg., 5 pm	21 Legion Bingo Doors -5:30 pm. Starts 7pm Express Lines Deadline	22 Trans Station 10 - 4 pm
23	24 Grief Support Legion, 3-4 pm	25	26 Museum AGM- 10 am Youth Group— 4:45pm	27 Community Bingo Sr Ctr, 1 pm	28 Community Lunch Sr. Ctr @ Noon Rock Your Body At the Hall,	29 Health Services AGM, Legion, 1 pm TCOTR**
30	31				UPCOMING: TINSHS AGM—May 4th TICS Swap Meet—The Hall, May 25th	

ONGOING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

TCOTR—Texada Church On The Rock

MONDAY:

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

TUESDAY:

Sandpiper Playgroup, Old School, 10 am—1 pm
Pickleball—School Gym, 6-7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY:

Tai Chi, GB Community Hall @ 9:30 am
Museum: 10-Noon
Scrabble & Games, Legion, 1:30—4:00 pm

THURSDAY:

Pickleball—School Gym, 6-7:30 pm
Fun Darts, Texada Inn @ 7 pm

FRIDAY:

Karaoke—Texada Inn @ 7 pm

SATURDAY:

Tai Chi, GB Community Hall @ 9:30 am
Pickleball 2.0, School Gym, 10-Noon
Circle of Light Meditation, Yurt on Sturt—2-3pm
Meat Draw, Legion, 3:30 pm

SUNDAY:

Church Services, United Church, 10:30 am
Euchre—Legion, 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
Trivia Meat Draw, Legion 3:30 pm
Alcoholics Anonymous, United Church, 6:30 pm

Express Lines



Texada Island's Monthly Events

March 2025

VIRTUAL REALITY FILM BASED ON TEXADA SHOWS AT MUSEUM

The Texada Heritage Society

Presents

TEXADA

A Virtual Reality Film

By Claire Sanford and Josephine Anderson

Wednesday, March 5 & Thursday, March 6

10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

At the Texada Island Museum

Everyone is welcome!



The Texada Heritage Society is honoured to host the island's first public viewing of a virtual reality documentary film.

TEXADA is a 17-minute "impressive, poetic experience" created by Texada's own Claire Sanford, along with co-director Josephine Anderson. This captivating film explores the theme of "rocks, people and time." Scenes of Texada mixed with voices of residents flow throughout.

Viewers use headsets to immerse themselves in the head-turning 360-degree live footage, along with spectacular 3-D animation of geologic upheaval.

Claire's previous films have garnered awards (Canada Screen Awards 2024) and achieved Toronto International Film Festival's "Top 10 List" (2022), as well as nominations for "Best Cinematography in a Documentary."

Visitors will be accommodated on a first come first serve basis. Several headsets will be available (sanitized before each new viewer), so the wait shouldn't be too long. Guests are invited to tour the museum while waiting.

Refreshments will be available and a small donation will be greatly appreciated.

Don't miss this chance to experience virtual reality and Texada like never before, and support our local talent, before Claire and Josephine take their presentation to Powell River's qathet Film Festival the following week.

Peter Lock

Texada Island Historical Society

**Texada Island Museum,
Archives and Historical Society**

Annual General Meeting

**Wednesday, March 26th, 10 a.m.
at the Texada Island Museum**



TEXADA ISLAND HEALTH CENTRE

Hours of Operation

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

Phone Number:
604-486-7525

If no reply, please leave a message.

Emergencies: 911

Information
B.C. Health Hotline: 811

COVID Changes:

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

Making Donations to the Texada Health Services Society

When donating, please make the cheque out to :

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

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

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

Texada Breast Cancer Support



Contact: Joan Martisca
604-483-6438

Udith Teuner
604-486-6744

Canadian Cancer Society-Trained
Peer Facilitators

LIVE - LOVE- LAUGHTER

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

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

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

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

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

BC FERRIES

January 2, 2025—March 31, 2025

TEXADA ISLAND TO POWELL RIVER	
Leave Texada Island	Leave Powell River
6:00 am	6:50 am
7:45 am	8:35 am
9:25 am	10:15 am **DG
11:50 am	1:15 pm
	12:40 pm Wednesdays ONLY
3:00 pm **DG	3:55 pm
4:55 pm	5:50 pm
6:40 pm	7:30 pm
8:55 pm	9:45 pm
**DG—Dangerous Goods Sailings NO PASSENGERS	

POWELL RIVER - SECHULT		GIBSON - VANCOUVER	
Leave Saltery Bay	Leave Earls Cove	Leave Langdale	Leave Horseshoe Bay
5:40 am	6:35 am	6:20 am	7:30 am
7:30 am	8:25 am	8:40 am	9:45 am
9:25 am	10:25 am	10:50 am	11:55 am
11:20 am	12:25 pm	1:05 pm	2:10 pm
3:50 pm	4:55 pm	3:15 pm	4:20 pm
6:00 pm	7:00 pm	5:25 pm	5:30 pm
7:55 pm	8:50 pm	6:40 pm	7:50 pm
9:45 pm	10:40 pm	8:55 pm	10:55 pm

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



March 9, 2025 • Set your clock ahead!

BC TRANSIT BUS—THURSDAYS

To reserve a seat:
Phone Wednesday before 3 pm
604-483-2008

Departs: Gillies Bay Store at 8:25 am,
Van Anda Market at 8:55 am.
Departs: Town Center Mall at 3:25 pm.
Fare: \$8 and \$2.25 for seniors (65+) per trip

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

Recycling Station Hours

Van Anda
Tuesday & Thursday,
9 am - 5 pm

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

Classified Ads

ACCOMMODATION

Texada Vacation Rental

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

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

Austin's Services

Household repair, plumbing repair, painting, portable / alaskan milling, lawn mowing, weed wacking, firewood and dump runs.
Austin Rycroft 604-413-1402

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: 604-486-6744



ART GALLERY

The Retreat and Rycroft Gallery

5868 Gillies Bay Road
Watch for announcements for opening dates
www.texada-retreat.ca

BACKYARD BURNING

Why is Burning Garbage Illegal? Because it creates toxic, foul-smelling smoke & carcinogens. (This goes for anything containing chlorine, including driftwood.) Let's make Texada a healthier place to live. To discuss our options, contact janslavkov@proton.me (602) 223-9328.

Express Lines

is a TICS Publication

Deadline: The 20th of the month prior to publication. Send announcements (max. 350 words) or ads to: **TICS** PO Box 233, Van Anda, V0N 3K0

E-mail: ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com
Phone: 604-414-5619

EXPRESS LINES SUBSCRIPTION

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

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

PROVINCE: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

Texada Health Services Society VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Why Volunteer with Us?

This is your opportunity to make a difference while gaining leadership experience and working alongside passionate individuals who are also dedicated to positive changes within our community.

President's Position

- Lead and Inspire the Team
- Oversee projects and help create new health related initiatives through sub-committees
- Coordinate with community organizations
- Represent the Society at public events.
- Encourage and promote new volunteers.

Secretary's Position

- Take minutes at meetings
- Handle correspondence
- Assist President with administrative tasks

Director's Position is also open.

Interested parties please contact Barb Egglestone, President, Texada Health Services Society, at 604.223.7494

or barb.egglestone@gmail.com

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



GET INVOLVED!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



GET INVOLVED!

Texada Health Services Society Annual General Meeting

March 29, 1 pm
 at the Legion

Membership
 \$10 for Singles, \$15 for Couples.

TEXADA ISLAND RECREATION COMMISSION (TIRC)

will meet virtually
 Thursday, March 20 at 5pm.

If you'd like to join the meeting, please call

Joseph Scott at 604-818-5667,
 or email him at texanomic@gmail.com

BINGO

TICS Bingo

Friday, March 7, Community Hall—7 pm

Legion Bingo

Friday, March 21st

Doors Open at 5:30 pm, Game—7 pm

Community Bingo

Senior Center, March 27th —1 pm

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

Thursday, March 13
at the Texada Island Inn Pub

Doors Open at 11:30 a.m.
Lunch is at noon and guest speaker at 1 pm.

Guest Speaker:

Zella Knutson,

The Compassionate Friends

To reserve, please call Moe at 604-414-7312
no later than Thursday, March 6 2025.

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 in June.

Good Luck!!

Please show us your "Irish" and wear green.

**Texada Island
Community Society (TICS)**

TICS Presidents Message

March is the month of Change.
It comes in like a Lion, goes out
like a Lamb.



Days are longer and Spring is on the Hori-
zon! At TICS that is a true statement.

We start off the month with a fabulous Bin-
go on Friday, March 7th in the Community
Hall with a 7:00pm start.

Then two days later on Sunday, March 9th,
we have the **Daylight Saving Time** change
Remember to set your clocks ahead 1
hour.

Next day, on Monday, March 10th will be
the TICS AGM. It will be held at 10:30 am in
the Texada Legion. Several executive posi-
tions are open.

Eight days later is St Patrick's Day... WOW,
what a month!

TICS Swap Meet—Vendors

A heads-up, keep May 25th open. If you
would like to book a table, please call Do-
riana at 604-414-4893.

Hope everyone has a great month!

Texada Seniors Council

COMMUNITY LUNCH

Friday, March 14, & Friday, March 28

Noon to 1 p.m.

Seniors Centre in Gillies Bay

Homemade Soup * Sandwiches * Dessert

* Tea * Coffee

\$10.00 per Person

Everyone Welcome!



PICKLEBALL

Pickleball Club (Dragon Boat)

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6—7:30 pm

Saturday Pickleball Club 2.0

Saturday, 10 am—noon

At the Texada School Gym—\$2.00 drop-in Fee

All skill levels are welcome!

Bring your own paddle—a few are available.

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*Member of the Appraisal
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*Licensed B.C. Realtor. (1993)

*Associate Broker (2018)

Zaikow Westview Realty

is an independent company
founded on Texada Island in 1961.

4471 Joyce Ave. Powell River, V8A 3A8



604-414-5063

**Never iron a four-leaf
clover. You don't want
to press your luck.**

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250-616-8762

mborteleki@gmail.com

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| Software Installation | Custom Built Computers |
| Hardware Upgrades | Training/Tutoring |
| PC Cleanup | Password Management |
| Virus Removals | Initial Computer Setup |
| Troubleshooting | Software Updates |
| PC Backup/Remote Backup....and much more! | |

TEXADA ISLAND UNITED CHURCH

“You learn to speak by speaking, to study by studying, to run by running, to work by working and just so, you learn to love by loving. All those who think to learn in any other way deceive themselves.”

St. Francis de Sales

Worship Services:

Sundays services begin at 10:30 a.m., with coffee and fellowship afterwards. Communion Service: March. 2. Everyone is always welcome in our church and at our communion table. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5, We will celebrate the distribution of ashes on Sunday, March 9, 2025.

Bible Study:

We are watching Season 3 of *The Chosen* with study handouts after the worship service. Please bring a lunch. Coffee and tea provided.

Focus on Spirit:

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

Minister's Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-3:30 pm. The church is 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:

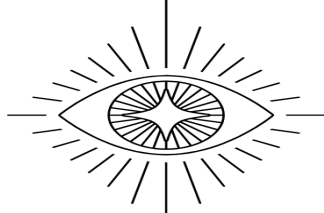
http://texada-island-unitedchurch.weebly.com

Facebook Page:


Texada Island United Church

Church Mission:

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



Circle of Light Meditation
 Saturday Afternoons
 2-3 pm
 at The Yurt
 on Sturt Bay Rd. in Van Anda
 All Are Welcome!



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Let's Connect: Shaping Future Engagement

At BC Ferries, we believe that every voice matters, that's why we're creating a new engagement framework with input from coastal communities! Our goal is to understand how to best stay connected with you to build a framework that will allow us to deepen connections and drive impactful outcomes that reflect diverse voices.

Between December 2024 and May 2025, we're conducting in-depth research and seeking input from diverse groups to develop our new engagement framework.

So far, we have met approximately 70 FAC members, community leaders and mayors virtually and had 375 conversations out in communities, on board vessels and at terminals with more to come! Thank you to everyone from Texada that connected with us. We were pleased to visit as our second stop on our six-week roadshow!

If you missed the community meeting, we are still seeking input until **March 18** on our projects page - <https://www.bcferriesprojects.ca/letsconnect> - where you can participate in weekly discussion forums, quick polls, or our survey. Scanning the QR below with your cell phone camera will link you to the Engagement site.

A paper version of the survey is enclosed in the Express Lines. Your completed paper survey can be dropped off at the Westview terminal ticket booth.

Your voice matters! Help shape the future of BC Ferries' engagement by sharing your feedback.



Help shape the future of engagement with **BC Ferries**.



Your voice matters!

We're creating a new engagement framework with input from coastal communities. This framework will allow us to deepen connections and drive impactful outcomes that reflect diverse voices.

Join the conversation online or in person until **March 18, 2025.**

If you want to receive a paper copy of the survey, please email engagement@bcferries.com or call **1-888-BCFERRY (1-888-223-3779)**.

Sign up for updates and get involved:



bcferriesprojects.ca/letsconnect





...lest we forget.

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



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 232

GENERAL MEETING
FRIDAY, MARCH 14TH
Doors at 5:30pm, Meeting at 7 pm.

BINGO
Friday, March 21st.
Doors at 5:30, Game at 7 pm.

POTLUCK
Wednesday, March 26th
Doors at 5:30 p.m.
Starts at 6 pm.
Bring your favorite dish
And utensils.

MEAT DRAWS
Saturday & Sunday
Doors Open at 3:30 pm.

Thank you to all who came to our Tacky Tourist event.
A good time was had by all!
Thanks to Sue and Shelly for planning this event.

Scrabble
Wednesdays, 1:30 pm-4:00 pm

EUCHRE
Sundays, 1:30 to 3:30 pm
All Are Welcome!

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- Mechanical Services

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texadahvac@gmail.com



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V8A 0R1



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* Texada seniors (65+) receive 10% off

(call/text) 778-882-9939 - Devin
(call/text) 778-323-3247 - CJ

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Like and follow us on Facebook



More Coyote Tales. . . Horsefly Lake

Joe Christensen was a prospector, inventor and all around handy man. When it came to choosing a partner to team up with on a remote field assignment he was your man. Dollars for donuts you could count on Joe.

We rented a boat from the owner of Horsefly Lake Lodge for the 50 km journey down the lake to prospect.

The East end of Horsefly Lake was geologically favourable for hosting large placer and lode gold deposits, our target area.

It was a barren and lonely landscape on that cool autumn morning when we set out travelling down the lake. As we landed and started prospecting Joe and I were quick to note the quartz veining and altered greenstone and schist formations as we traversed the landscape prospecting. The day ended with our pack sacks loaded up with maps, rock and soil samples as we prepared for our return journey.

What! Boat won't start! battery dead! only one oar in the boat! Oh no! Quick as a squirrel Joe grabbed his sharpened axe and started hacking away at a small cedar tree. "Find some branches to make oar locks", he shouts. Desperately I scavenged material to make the boat seaworthy. I couldn't believe it, in no time Joe had carved and shaped a second oar from that cedar tree. We lashed Y shaped branches to the gunwales for oar locks and fashioned a make shift sail from chopped poles and a bright orange tarp we found. With a heave-ho we set out from shore rowing.

It was cold and wet as we swapped turns

rowing to keep warm but 50 km is a long way to row in a heavy boat. As night was falling around us we tried to navigate a short cut between a shallow strip of water and a rock isle. The shallow water beached the boat as we jumped in to lighten the load to free the boat.

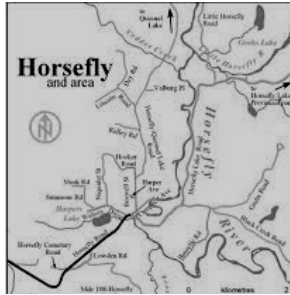
We were exhausted, and now cold and wet but determined to push onward regardless. Our lives depended on it. Just at last light we could see a boat headed our way. A lone hunter had spotted our bright orange tarp sail and came out from shore to investigate. Lucky for us he had a generator and charger back at his camp.

We arrived late back at the Lodge ready to strangle the lodge owner as he forgot to tell us the alternator on the boat wasn't working. To make amends he kept Joe and I up the rest of the night with all the hot rum toddies we could drink and placed that wonderfully carved oar that Joe made above the fireplace mantle as a show piece as we toasted each other's good luck and fortune.

Needless to say, we didn't work the next two days, for medicinal reasons, and the last I heard, that carved oar still rests above the fireplace mantle with the owner still telling tall tales of two rough and tumble prospectors paddling their way back to the lodge, with that oar, in a near death icy blizzard.

It's funny how tales and stories get more colourful, exaggerated and mellow with age, kinda like wine, whiskey and gray whiskered old prospectors.

Cheers, Coyote



Gerald Albert Rairie (Stump)

May 18, 1943–February 7, 2025

Gerald Albert Rairie (Stump), passed away peacefully surrounded with family in Powell River, B.C. on February 7th, 2025.

Stump was born on May 18th, 1943 in Sudbury Ontario. He lived in Manitoba until his family moved to Texada Island when he was 8 years of age.

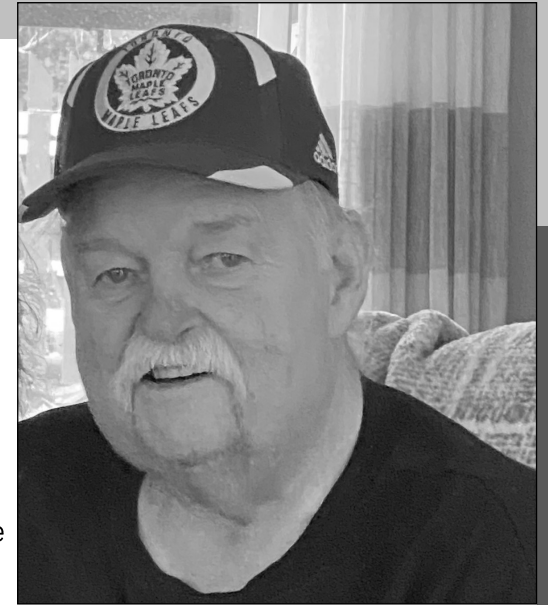
Growing up he loved fishing and spending time with his buddies outdoors. His passion for playing baseball in his earlier years kept him busy in his spare time. He always enjoyed watching the Blue Jays and Maple Leafs. "Go Leafs Go"

Stump was always a hard worker and spent most of his working career in the logging industry. "He always said you have to love the job you do" and that he did, as he continued working well into retirement age. You could always count on a story or two from him about his life, which would end up in a laugh.

Stump will be deeply missed and remembered by his wonderful partner Eloyce Evans of 24 years, whom he loved very deeply, his three boys Warren (Rose), Devin and Trevor (Tiffany), six grandchildren and two great grandchildren, Eloyce's children, January (Brad), Tyler, Carley, and Carl (Stephanie), 11 grandchildren and four great grandchildren, Stump's six siblings Thelma, David, Marilyn, Mervin, Katherine, Beverly, and spouses, and many dear friends.

As per Stump's request, no service will be held.

He will be missed and fondly remembered by us all.



TEXADA FOOD BANK

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 in March 11 – pick up March 12
Call in April 8 – Pick up April 9
(604) 483-1219

Texada Food Bank Financial Donations can be made at the First Credit Union or by mail to PO Box 233, Van Anda, B.C. V0N 3K0 Non-perishable food donations may be put in the baskets at the Gillies Bay General store, the Texada Market and the First Credit Union in Van Anda. Donation tins for cash are available at 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.



"Wishing you a pot o' gold and all the joy your heart can hold."

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. The province of B.C. funds the Better at Home program, managed by United Way Healthy Aging, and provided by inclusion powell river society. **We are actively recruiting volunteers for various roles, contact us today!**

Visit our website for the online application: <https://inclusionpr.ca/pages/volunteer> or call 604-485-4008 ext. 102, Belinda Shelton, Community Program Assistant Manager.

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

Contact us if you're interested in Light House-keeping services, or basic Lawn Care for 2025. Thank You!

Sonia Furstrand, Community Program Manager

D.A.T.T. Bookkeeping

Heidi Sorichta
**Personal and Sole Proprietorship
Income Tax Preparation**

Guaranteed on time E-filing if received by April 15

604-414-8606
dattbookkeeping@gmail.com
2274 VAN ANDA AVE, VAN ANDA
(1ST DRIVEWAY ON THE LEFT OFF MIDAS AVE)

TEXADA ISLAND GARDEN CLUB

Please join us for our Garden Club meeting at the Gillies Bay Senior Center on Wednesday March 19th at 2pm. We will have a virtual tour of local gardens and we will also be sharing our seedlings and seeds! This month's article is from Shirley McCune who shares the story of her winter garden.

A Winter Garden is both structure and calm. I would like to tell you how I developed my dream oasis and how it came to be real over the years.

I built my house in 2007. Starting from scratch, I had a blank canvas. Using colour, shapes, shades, blooms and a vision, I now feel joy and gratitude in the long winter months. For 17 years I took my gravelly land and turned it into my sanctuary, where I can enjoy morning coffee, while contemplating my design and life, and watch the birds and insects enjoy it as well.

At first I chose deer resistant plants and shrubs; and after 10 years I was able to fence my small backyard. I used a layered lasagna garden approach: bark mulch, cardboard, seaweed and paper. As this decomposed, I was able to create whimsical islands of trees and shrubs. My inspiration was that of Tuscan. I loved the layers of tall Cypress and rolling hills.

The Hedge Cedars, lemon Cypress, dwarf pillar Ewes, column Boxwoods give height and structure. Bottom pruning Portuguese Laurel, Red Maple and Lilac give a decidu-

ous element of bare branches. Rounded shapes of blooming Heather, Hellebores, ferns, Rhododendron mimic the rolling hills.

In the winter the dark dirt is exposed enhances the colours of spiked yellow and gold grasses; like sunlight across the landscape contrasting with dark foliage. Climbing Hydrangeas, evergreen honeysuckle add texture with buds and flowers.

Then, bringing your eye down to ground level, little Cyclamens cavort with miniature Iris of different shades of colour along with Sasafra, sedums, snowdrops and Thyme.

I think the winter months are my favourite time of year. Nothing to do, nowhere to go, just...be.

My winter garden brings me peace.

Shirley McCune

If you want to drink; that's your business.

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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 by email at: ravenbaywoods@gmail.com.



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Texada Island Non-Profit Senior Housing Society

TINSHS has just signed the formal purchase agreement with Selkirk Mountain Forest Ltd!

Their generous donation of 80% of the assessed land value is a milestone in our creating affordable seniors housing on Texada. The agreement is conditional on completion of the subdivision process before the property title is exchanged, but we are moving forward!



At \$202,848, TINSHS capital campaign has pushed the fundraising thermometer past the \$200,000 mark!

Heartfelt thanks to our community. You inspire us!

Our AGM date is **May 4th, 2025, 1 pm** at the Gillies Bay Seniors Room. Come on out to hear more details!

Cathy Brown, President
Texada Island Non-profit Seniors Housing Society
pres@texadaseniorshousing.ca

Be sure to check out our Website & Facebook group to stay informed.

Website: texadaseniorshousing.ca
Email: info@texadaseniorshousing.ca
Phone us at: 604-486-6766
Facebook: Texada Island Non-profit Seniors Housing
Charitable Registration # 705676682RR0001

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Thur, Fri, Sat, Sun.....8 am—7 pm.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT, Area D

Parkland is precious, even in communities like ours which abound with natural beauty. Protecting and preserving land with special features helps ensure that our quality of life can be enjoyed by future generations.

Opportunities to increase parkland are rare, but one such opportunity is now before us and you can help achieve this goal by commenting positively to the province by March 13.

The park in question is at Emily Lake (aka Turtle Lake), where the qRD, on the recommendation of our Recreation Commission, applied to expand the existing provincial Crown lease which constitutes the park. The qRD's application is to occupy the land for 30 years, to compliment the existing 30-year lease for the current park, which is 12.8 hectares in size. The expansion area is 164 hectares to include the complete area around Emily Lake and parts of VA Creek.

The application is now in Phase Two of Victoria's approval process, which is First Nations and public consultation. The expanded park is referenced in our OCP and is supported by Tla' Amin Nation.

Please comment at this link: <https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/applications?id=67893fa2586dcb00220575e2#details>

You can also send comments in by snail mail, to Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, attn Senior Authorizations Specialist, #200-10428 153 St., Surrey, BC V3R 1E1. The application file number is 2412694.

The area contains majestic old growth, historical wooden water lines and is habitat for threatened species of stickleback and Western Painted Turtles. Within the VA watershed, the walking trail system is based on old, un-

maintained industrial roads from both mining and forestry. As a qRD park, these trails would be maintained, helping to prevent sedimentation from entering the watershed from failing trails and roads. And what an amazing recreational asset these 177 hectares of parkland would be for Texada!

The decision by the province could take up to three years, but now is the time the community can tell Victoria that we support this important park expansion. If you haven't yet been to Emily Lake Park, the best access and parking is in VA along Legion Road.

Special thanks to Terry Hollo for her vision and drive to protect this special area.

Finally, all community groups are reminded that March 31 is the firm deadline for the first intake of applications for 2025 grants-in-aid. Forms are available at the qRD, administration@qathet.ca, 604-485-2260.

Sandy McCormick
Director, area D
sandynleeti@gmail.com
604-414-3525



Powell River Public Library—March at a Glance!

See prpl.ca for detailed listings, or email info@prpl.ca

SPRING BREAK COMIC CAMP

In Library, 5 days, Mon.-Fri, March 17-21. Artist Maya McKibbin! For Teens 11+, 10:00 am-12:00 pm, contact edgar@prpl.ca to register For Kids aged 7-10, 1:00- 3:00 pm, contact szagwyn@prpl.ca to register

ACCESSIBILITY, kwootten@prpl.ca

SILENT BOOK CLUB

Friends of the Library Lounge. The fourth Thursday of the month, 6:00-8:00 pm. An introvert's book club.

KIDS, szagwyn@prpl.ca

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Children's Reading Room, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 10:30-11:00 am. Library Storytime. Drop-in.

TINKER TRUNK

Makerspace, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 pm. When school is in session. Kids 8-12, choose-your-own-tech-adventure. Drop-in.

AFTER SCHOOL PRIME TIME

Community Room, Wednesdays, 3:00-4:30 pm. When school is in session. Primary grades K+ connect & play. Drop-in.

DRAWN TOGETHER

Room A, Thursdays, 3:45-4:30 pm. When school is in session. Kids draw at the library. Drop-in.

TEENS, edgar@prpl.ca

MINECRAFT AFTERNOONS

Makerspace. Saturdays, 2:00-3:00 pm. Aged 10+ explore Minecraft. Drop-in.

FANTASY ADVENTURE CLUB

Makerspace, Meeting Rooms A & B. Wednesdays, 4:00-5:30 pm. When school is in session. Youth 12+ play role-playing games. Drop-in.

YOUNG WRITERS GROUP

Meeting Room B. Fridays, 3:30-4:30 pm. When school is in session. Ages 10+. Talk writing, make new friends. Drop-in.

ADULTS, mmerlino@prpl.ca

UKRAINIAN-HEILTSUK CARVER IVAN ROSYPYSKE
Community Room. Saturday, March 1, 2-3 pm. Learn about Ukrainian and Indigenous cultural and historical revival and the Carving Lost Family History project. Drop-in.

VIRTUAL REALITY TEXADA

Community Room. Tuesday, Mar. 4, 7-8 pm. Claire Sanford and Josephine Anderson discuss their project. Drop-in.

FUNDAMENTALS OF FILM REVIEWING

First Credit Union Community Room Wednesday, Mar. 5, 6:30-8 pm. Join film theory instructor Emma Morgan-Thorp for a DIY, creative, and empowering course. All ages. Drop-in.

NOSING AND TASTING THE WATER OF LIFE

Community Room. Saturday, Mar. 15, 2-3 pm. Local authors Greg Gran and Adam Drummond present their book on Scottish whisky. Drop-in.

DISCOVER THE POWER OF ARCHETYPES:

INTRO TO SOULCOLLAGE®

Community Room. Saturday, Mar. 29, 2-5 pm. Heather Conn facilitates this art workshop. Registration required.

POETRY CIRCLE

Community Room. Second and Last Thursday of the Month. 4:30-6:00 pm. With Amira Abouelalla. Drop-in.

WRITE ON

Via Zoom. Fridays 2:00 pm. Writing group. Registration required. Email edgar@prpl.ca.

TEXADA ISLAND INN



YOUR ISLAND HOSPITALITY
AND TOURISM
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Hello Texada. Still Having Amazing Weather, Clocks Go Ahead Soon, Spring Is Arriving, Flowers Are Blooming. **NEW VENDORS WELCOME** in Our Always Changing Arts & Crafts, Shop Local Buy Beautiful. Every Friday Is Karaoke at 7pm, Saturday is Steak Lunch, Sunday is 25% Off All Draft Beer, Monday has Free Pool & 3 Ball Tourney. We **WILL BE CLOSING** Tuesday & Wednesday-*Bar Side Only*, Full Service In Restaurant, 15% Off All Seniors Meals. Thursday Fun Darts 7pm Start Time.

RAISE THE ROOM JAM: Sunday, March 16th, 3pm To Whenever
Come Join Us For A Day Of Musical Talent.
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VAN ANDA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Hello Texada! Here are some notes on recent events:

THANK YOU to all the people who have helped us find leaks, especially after the thaw. There is always high water use after a thaw due to frost damage to uninsulated outside faucets. Everyone, please check your fixtures are prepared for the next freeze/thaw cycle.

ANNUAL INVOICES DUE MARCH 10: Thank you to those who have already paid. To property owners who have not yet paid—avoid penalties with payment before the due date. If you will be using the VAID payment plan, we need details and first payment before March 10. For more information, visit our webpage vananda-id.ca/payments/

WATER QUALITY ADVISORY LIFTED: Media replacement in the Ion Exchange units is complete with units back online, which allows the UV Treatment to be fully effective.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING will be held Saturday April 26. If you believe changes are needed, come to the AGM! This year, there will be two Trustee positions for election. Do you or anyone you know want to be part of managing these important resources?

TEXT NOTIFICATION: System is now live. If you want to be texted about important water issues, provide us with your mobile number and we'll add you to the list.

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

NEXT MEETING: The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday Mar 12 at

1:30pm, upstairs at the Firehall.

FIRE HYDRANT COVERS: 3 hydrants are leaking and water will be shut off to them until repaired. They will be identified with a special cover. Firefighters have a key to turn water back on if these hydrants are needed for fire-fighting.

RESCUE VEHICLE UPGRADE: The Fire Dept is purchasing a better rescue vehicle with more room for personnel. The old one will be set up for forestry fire fighting.

FIREFIGHTERS ALWAYS NEEDED! Contact Fire Chief Mark Robert 604-414-9662 or firechief@vananda.ca

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

TYG
YOUTH GROUP
WED MAR 12
& MAR 26
4.45-6.30
TEXADA YOUTH GROUP
TEXADAYOUTH@GMAIL.COM

GILLIES BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Gillies Bay Improvement District
Annual General Meeting
 will take place
 at the Gillies Bay Fire Hall
 at 2:00 pm, on Sunday, May 4th 2025.

Why attend?

- Coffee/tea and cookies will be served and time for neighbourly discussion
- **Meet the new Fire Chief:** Mike Corcoran
- **Meet the water operator** George Kapetanakis and discuss water issues like pressure and chlorine concentration
- Inform yourself of our financial position
- Hear our report of activity in 2024/25
- Hear our plans for 2025/26
- Vote for two new trustee positions
- Express any concern around climate change, our water supply, and protection for long term environmental health

The Improvement District is very much like a co-operative and depends on the will and satisfaction of the ratepayers. Be included!

Nominations for trustee positions will not be taken at the meeting, but must be made in advance in accordance with the official notice of meeting. Ownership of property within the boundary is required to be eligible to vote.

All are welcome to attend.

Roger Kimmerly
 GBID Chair



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 www.facebook.com/groups/gilliesbayID/



On Saturday, February 8th, the Texada Naturekids embarked on a tour to Stromberg Falls.

The frozen falls were absolutely spectacular, especially considering they had been fully flowing just a couple of weeks prior, before the recent snowfall. The forest seemed to be in a playful mood as snow bombs dropped from the trees, catching us off guard and adding a bit of fun to the day.

A few of us had snow land right in our tea or hot chocolate or got caught by surprise, turning our eyes upward in search of the culprit and it was up in the trees!

The day also featured youth helping younger friends through treacherous terrain as the snow made some areas slippery, some playful snowball fights.

We were in awe of the icy and rocky nooks of the falls.

Texada Naturekids March Event

We are blessed to have Stephanie Weinstein and Robyn Lakes, from the Invasive Species Council of BC, return to play and help protect our unique Emily Lake area on **Sunday, March 16th 11-1 pm** for our next Texada Naturekids adventure. Stay tuned for more details on our Texada Naturekids Facebook group and on the Texada Message Board.

Are you starting to notice any signs of spring, like tiny buds opening on trees or shrubs, or maybe the return of birds like the varied thrush (with its haunting whistle)? Even longer days and the fresh, earthy smell in the air can be early hints that spring is on its way!

If you have a nature passion that you would like to share with Texada Naturekids. Please contact Lisa and Carolanne at texada@naturekidsbc.ca

Happy Spring!



LAFARGE

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Are You Grieving the Loss of Your Child?

Have you experienced the profound loss of a child?
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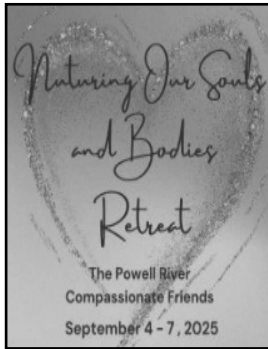
Powell River Compassionate Friends

Nurturing Our Souls and Bodies Retreat

2nd Annual Retreat

September 4-7, 2025

Bethlehem Retreat Centre, Nanaimo, BC



Our first retreat last year was born from a dream I had to bring together the shared experiences of parents who needed to connect, explore and process this unique grief—a group of which I become a member when my son and his girlfriend were killed by someone who ran a stop sign.

The retreat at Bethlehem Retreat Centre brought 38 people together who cried, connected, and nurtured their souls. The serene setting of the Bethlehem Retreat Centre—nestled in BC's water and mountains—provided the perfect backdrop for healing and hope.

A Moment from the Retreat

One of the most meaningful activities was the Heart Stone Sharing. Each parent selected a heart-shaped stone that resonated with them, representing their child. Parents then found quiet spots around the grounds—by the water, on the lawn, in the Chapel—to reflect and write about the gifts from their child or messages they wished to share. During this time, one parent shared a heartfelt song she used to sing to her unborn "angel" baby. Her beautiful voice touched everyone deeply, creating a connection we all carry with us.

What Parents Said About Our First Retreat

- "The atmosphere was accepting, compassionate, and non-judgmental";
- "I liked the workshops, loved the yoga, the variety, the art experiences";
- "I found tools to help me heal and they gave me hope for the future";
- "There's no 'fix' for this loss, but the retreat offered comfort and Connection";

Looking Ahead

The love and support shared during the retreat will remain with us for a long time. If you feel ready to explore new ways to process your grief and connect with other parents, we would love for you to join us at our 2nd annual retreat, "Nurturing Our Souls and Bodies".

For more information or to register,
please contact Ariel or Zella at powellrivertcf@gmail.com
Keep in mind that registration filled up quickly last year.

GILLIES BAY & VAN ANDA FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Changing Faces

The only thing constant in life is change. Texada Island Fire Departments are experiencing this right now.

In Gillies Bay, after 20 years; six as Fire Chief, Rob McWilliam is stepping down.

Effective March 1st, Mike Corcoran will assume the position of Fire Chief. We are very pleased that he is willing to step forward, since Mike was a career firefighter, retiring as a Captain with the North Vancouver City Fire Department. His expertise will be invaluable.

Van Anda is also experiencing some staffing issues. One member has recently moved on, and two others are on temporary leave. There are opportunities for others to step forward. If you have any interest in volunteering, now would be a great time to see if this would be right for you.

The Fire Departments provide all the required equipment and will give you the training that you will need to do the job. Contact the local Fire Chief or just come on down to a Monday night practice to check it out.

While we are all volunteers, there are some perks that go with the job; the most important one being the appreciation of your community for your service.

On a separate note, we are pleased to announce that Van Anda will be purchasing a used 2011 4x4 crew cab from the Qualicum Beach Fire Department, to use as an additional rescue truck and a quick response unit for wildfires.

The Texada Firefighters Association was successful in getting a donation of a skid unit from Global Medic that will allow us to

get water quickly to a wildfire. This unit will be mounted on the 'new to us' truck for summer operations. We are looking forward to seeing it in operation.



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NEWS FROM THE TEXADA ISLAND LIBRARY



Meet the **Canada Reads 2025** shortlist and their Contenders.

The Debates take place March 17-20 on CBC TV, CBC Radio and CBC Books.

The five shortlisted novels and their contenders are:

Watch Out for Her, by Samantha M. Bailey—championed by Olympic gold medalist Maggie MacNeil.

A Two-Spirit Journey, by Ma-Nee Chacaby—championed by podcaster and wellness advocate Shayla Stonechild.

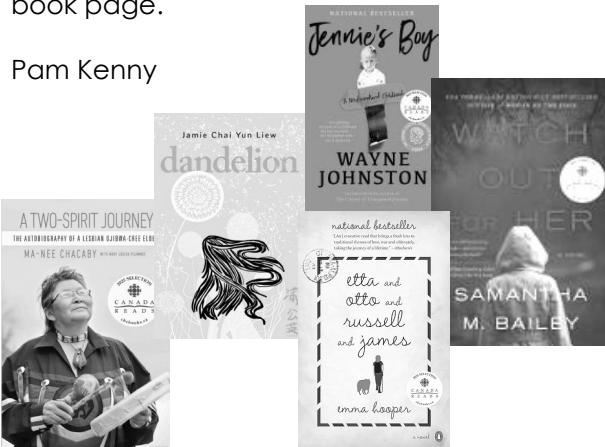
Etta and Otto and Russell and James, by Emma Hooper—championed by Heartland actor Michelle Morgan.

Jennie's Boy, by Wayne Johnston—championed by thriller writer Linwood Barclay.

Dandelion, by Jamie Chai Yin Liew, championed by pastry chef Säid M'Dahoma.

The library has a standing order for Canada Reads. They do not always arrive together. I will keep you posted on the Friends Facebook page.

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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INVITATION TO TENDER
SHELTER POINT PARK CONCESSION

The qathet Regional District is seeking tenders to operate a food concession at Shelter Point Park for the 2025 camping season. View and download the Invitation to Tender online at BC Bid (new.bcbid.gov.bc.ca) and on qathet.ca under Projects - Bid Opportunities.

Please submit Appendix C: the Registration of Intent to Respond form as soon as possible.

Direct inquiries to Patrick Devereaux at 604 485-2260 or operations@qathet.ca.

Tenders must be received no later than 4 PM on **Friday, March 28, 2025.**

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