

February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Transit STN., 10am Ladies Circle Yurt on Sturt , 6-7	5	6	7
8 GRIEF SUPPORT UNITED CHURCH 3-4PM	9	10 FOOD BANK Call In 10-3 Rock Your Body GB Hall 5:30 pm	11 FOOD BANK Pick Up, 11-12 Texada Youth Group —4:45 pm	12 TWIN Luncheon Legion, Noon	13 COMMUNITY LUNCH Sr. Ctr..-Noon LEGION INSTALLATION & POTLUCK Doors, 5:00pm Dinner at 6 pm	14 Transit STN., 10am LEGION VALENTINE DINNER & AUCTION STARTS—3 PM
15 RAISE THE ROOMS Texada Inn, 3pm	16 FAMILY DAY	17	18 Transit STN., 10am Garden Club Sr. Ctr., 2 pm Ladies Circle Yurt on Sturt , 6-7	19	20 EXPRESS LINES DEADLINE LEGION BINGO Doors/5:30 pm Game/7 pm	21
22 GRIEF SUPPORT UNITED CHURCH 3-4PM	23	24 Rock Your Body GB Hall—5:30-pm	25 Texada Youth Group—4:45pm Legion Potluck Doors 5:30pm	26 COMMUNITY BINGO Sr. Ctr., 1:30pm	27 COMMUNITY LUNCH Sr. Ctr..-Noon	28 Transit STN., 10am

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 @ 7:30 pm

TEXADA ISLAND EXPRESS LINES

February 2026

Rock Your Body

Dance into bliss at Rock Your Body on Texada Island!

Let the music guide you in our bi-weekly ecstatic dance event.

We transition from indoor sessions to outdoor depending on the season; each location offers a unique experience.

Explore a prompt or theme each session that can evoke a new depth and texture of movement.

This space fosters freedom to move, express, and connect. We share in hand crafted nourishment and drinks after each session.

Join us for a soulful celebration of rhythm and community!

This month:
February 10 & 24, 5:30 - 7:30 pm
at Gillies Bay Hall

Legion

Cupid Caper Valentine Dinner & Silent Auction

SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER
Silent Auction, Games, A Special Show

Tickets \$25.00 Saturday, February 14, 2026 Tickets \$25.00
at The Legion

Silent Auction & Meat Draw Starts at 3:00 PM
Dinner at 6:30 PM

For Singles & Couples - Come for the fun!

Tickets Sold at the Legion

HAVE SOME IDEAS?



If you have an idea and would like to initiate an event, contact Texada Arts, Culture & Tourism at texada.org@gmail.com.

Do you have an idea for a **NEW** one-time, or annual, Texada event that you would like to see become a reality? Something fun to add to life on Texada, and perhaps attract visitors from off-island?

Texada Art, Culture Tourism (TACT) has funds available to:

- Subsidize one-time events
- Provide Initial seed funding & support in following years for annual events.



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 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: 7:30pm. 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.



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

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 Only, Wednesday, No PASSENGERS PERMITTED**

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



Langdale to Horseshoe Bay	Horseshoe Bay to Langdale
JAN 21 —MAR. 31, 2026	
6:20 am	7:30 am
8:40 am	9:50 am
11:00 am	12:10 pm
1:15 pm	2:25 pm
3:35 pm	4:45 pm
5:55 pm	6:10 pm
7:20 pm	8:25 pm
9:35 pm	11:30 pm

Saltery Bay to Earls Cove	Earls Cove to Saltery Bay
JAN 21 —MAR. 31, 2026	
5:35 am <i>(Except Sunday)</i>	6:30 am <i>(Except Sunday)</i>
7:25 am	8:20 am
9:25 am	10:35 am
11:45 am	12:55 am
2:15 pm	3:25 pm
4:35 pm	5:40 pm
6:45 pm	7:45 pm
8:40 pm	9:40 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, Texada Market at 8:55 am.
Departs: Town Center Mall at 3:25 pm
\$8 & \$2.25 for seniors (65+) per trip

Recycling Station Hours

Van Anda:
Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am - 5 pm
Gillies Bay:
Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 9 am - 5 pm

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Jorg's Custom Woodwork

40 years residential carpentry.
250-889-2534

SERVICES

Meals, Groceries & Liquor Delivery

TexadaEats.ca
604-414-7504

HEALTH

Certified Personal Trainer, Yoga, Strength & Core Training. Chair Yoga Upon Request. Udith: 604-223-4501

ART GALLERY

The Retreat and Rycroft Art Gallery

Gallery viewing by appointment:
texada@gmail.com / 604-486-7360

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

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FROM AND FOR TEXADA ISLAND

Dez Del Rio

AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE WOMEN OF T.W.I.N.

The Texada Women's Island Network (T.W.I.N.) would love to have you join them for networking, fundraising for helping women, education, fun and monthly lunches.

Come and try it for two lunches—if you like it, join! If you don't, we will have enjoyed your company.

The group has been around for a quarter century and has raised funds for many charities, including Grace House, the island's fire departments, scholarships, Texada Breast Cancer, riding for the disabled and many more.

T.W.I.N. hands out bursaries every year for women returning to post-secondary education, or who need training for a new career. While fundraising is one of the goals, no one has to take part, though any help is always appreciated.

The monthly lunches are the highlights, with celebrations on the month's themes. January was a 'wear your jammies' day—and who does not like the idea of cozying down after Christmas?

The lunches at the Legion are prepared by the amazing Shelly Selbie and the friendships blossom, as the chatter sweeps through the room. There is always a raffle or two of the day for those who want to take part. Guest speakers educate us on such diverse topics as our Island museum, wildlife rescue, PROWLs, and how to have a wedding in a British castle.

"I love just being with the other ladies, getting out of the house and it's something to look forward to," says Linda Johnson, who has been a member since T.W.I.N. Started.



Texada Women's Island Network T.W.I.N. FEBRUARY LUNCHEON

Thursday, February 12, 2026

at the Legion
Doors open at 11:30 a.m.
Lunch at noon & Guest Speaker at 1 pm

Guest Speaker & Topic:
To be announced later.

To reserve, please call Moe at 604-414-7312 no later than Thursday, February, 5, 2026. If you have food allergies, please let Moe know when you make your reservation. If you can, please bring a non-perishable food item.


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

PLEASE WEAR RED OR PINK!

Texada Women's island Network's ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DRAW

Congratulations to winner's: Yurgen Yurgens who won the wooden Christmas tree: Carolyn Kay who won the quilted table runner & the matching placemats, and to Maureen Woodhead who won the B.C. Ferries gift card. Thank you to all who bought tickets and those who sold tickets.

So, join in! Come and have lunch on Thursday, February 12, 2026 at 11:30 at the Legion. Call or text Moe at 604-414-7312 no later than February 5th to reserve your lunch.
See you there!



Memoir Writing
Course - On Texada


Discover the joys of memoir writing. In this course, you will learn how to recall and record your memories. Previous attendees wishing to deepen or refresh their skills are welcome. To Register email - mmerlino@prpl.ca

Thursday March 19 & April 2, 12pm-2pm

At the
Texada Library

PR POWELL RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY prpl.ca

For more details contact Mark: mmerlino@prpl.ca or call 604-485-4796



COMMUNITY 

LUNCH at the Seniors Centre

SECOND & FOURTH FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH
at Noon

\$10.00



Freshly made
Soup & sandwich
dessert,
tea/coffee

Everyone is welcome!



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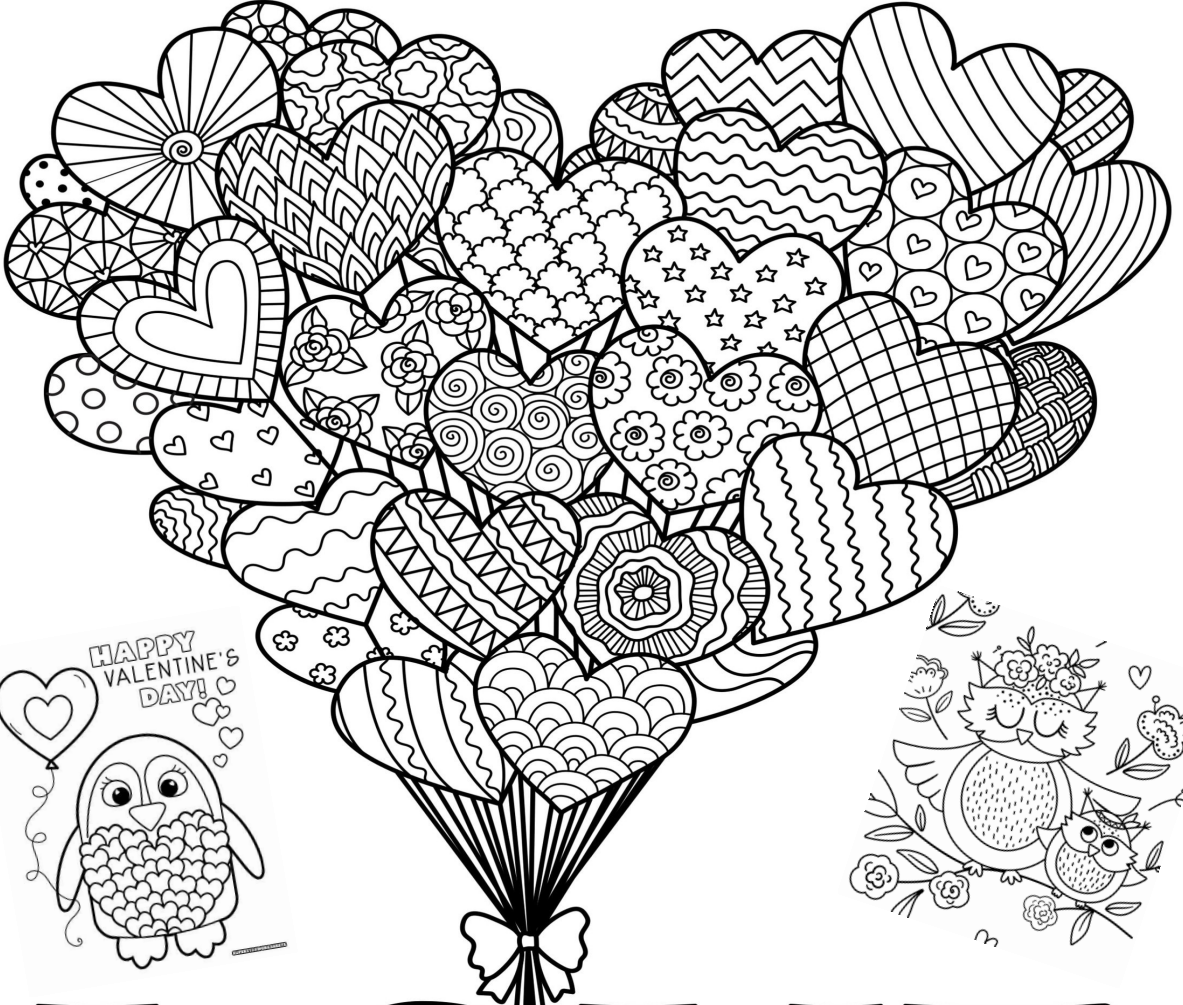
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HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

LOVE

is in the air

TEXADA ISLAND UNITED CHURCH

"I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. That is why right, temporarily defeated, is stronger than evil triumphant."
Martin Luther King

Worship Services:

Sunday services begin at 10:30 a.m. with coffee and fellowship afterwards. Communion service, Feb. 1, 2026. Everyone is always welcome in our church and at our communion table. The last week of the month, Feb. 22, is an hour long Gospel Singing Hour with fellowship afterward.

Bible Study:

Sundays after the service Jan. 11-Mar. 1: The Chosen Season 4

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.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to all the people who came and enjoyed our Robbie Burns night.

Thank you to Sue and Al for arranging the evening. Shelly for cooking and Evelyn for bartending. Also our thanks to all the servers and other volunteers.

BOOKING THE LEGION

Text or phone Fred at (604)414-4113.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 232

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS & POTLUCK DINNER

Friday, February 13th
 Doors—5 pm, Dinner—6 pm
 Followed by the Installation

VALENTINES DAY DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

Saturday, February 14th
 Doors at 3 pm.
 Dinner at 6:30pm

BINGO

Friday, February 20th
 Doors Open at 5:30 pm
 Game Starts at 7 pm

POTLUCK DINNER

Wednesday, February 25
 Doors Open at 5:00 pm
 Dinner at 6:00 pm
 Bring your favourite dish and utensils

TUESDAYS GAME NIGHT!

Free pool & shuffle board
 Kitchen will be open.
 Doors—3:30 pm

WEDNESDAYS SCRABBLE

Doors—1:30 pm

MEATDRAWS

Saturdays and Sundays
 Doors open at 3:30 pm

Ladies
SPIRITUAL CIRCLE
 (Every 2ND Wednesday)
 February 4th & 18th
 6 - 7 pm
 AT THE YURT
 (1925 STURT BAY RD., VAN ANDA)
 ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME

Circle of Light Meditation
 Each Saturdays
 2-3 pm
 at The Yurt
 1925 Sturt Road,
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TEXADA FOOD BANK 2026

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

Call or text 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 Feb. 10 – pick up Feb, 11
Call or text on Mar. 10 – pick up Mar. 11

(604) 483-1219

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

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 And.

Donation tins for cash are available at both stores - Gillies Bay Store and Texada Market in Van And and the Credit Union. Thank you so much.

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

Texada Food Bank Thanks You!

Thank you so very much to the Texada Island United Church for the donation of cash and a whole lotta socks.

We are very grateful to everyone who make regular anonymous financial deposits at the First Credit Union and to everyone for all the anonymous cash and food donations that are dropped off at

the Gillies Bay store, Texada Market and Credit Union, our only request is that all food donations be intact and not previously opened.

Thank you!

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Hear to make a difference in your life.

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Coyote Tales... Slezzy Bill

Old Slezzy Bill was a prospector, miner and Cat operator who worked out of Dawson City, Yukon back in the 80's, mainly during the summer's placer mining operations. He was a knowledgeable and experienced character, a legend in his own right.

In the winter of '81, we hired Slezzy to drive a D6 Cat and sleds out to our new camp location in the foothills of the Wernecke Mountains, Yukon. The sleds were loaded with camp building supplies, fuel and operational equipment. Our task was a two day crossing of frozen rivers, hills and tundra with supplies to our camp area. The Cat would also be used to clear drill sites later during the summer's thaw and drill program.

Slezzy and I set out in early March with the Cat train and high hopes. On the first day we fabricated and welded metal tabs to the Cat tracks to aid its gripping power traversing the hills and frozen rivers. Nothing more terrifying than sliding down a hill with eight tons of Cat and heavy sleds flying backwards. Every once in a while a loud frightening explosion would scare the B' Jesus out of us, from ice build-up between the Cat tracks and frame, as it stretched and released.

The sun was warming during the day, but the temps dropped to minus 30 as the evening approached. We set up our first night's camp out with a prefab insulated plywood canvas tent and oil stove. We burned JP4 jet fuel in the stove to keep us warm throughout the night hours.

The sky was ablaze with northern lights and

the Milky Way. What a sight it was, one that I'll remember for the rest of my days. We had to sleep on elevated cots two feet above the floor as everything below that froze solid even with the oil stove going full blast. We survived the night but the morning brought more trouble...

And by more trouble I mean everything was frozen solid, including my insulated boots frozen to the tent floor. We lit a propane torch to free up the Cat tracks, oil pan, sleds and everything with moving parts. It took all morning to get things running again to continue our next day's journey across the river.



Most of the river crossings were snow covered, but in a few places you could see the dark black icy river below as we

crossed. Ice cracked in a few places under the weight with scary connotation, but with relief we made it across.

After two more cold and frozen days, we finally arrived at our camp destination where we then covered and insulated what we could for our planned arrival in the Spring breakup for the summer's exploration program. It was time to call in the aircraft on skis for our flight out. Job well done.

You may ask how Slezzy got his name... well, so the story goes, for swallowing the famed sourdough pickled toe preserved in alcohol at the Dawson City Sourdough Saloon years ago. Yup... he surely earned that title. Not my cup of tea for darn sure.

Cheers, Coyote

TEXADA ISLAND GARDEN CLUB NOTES

The Garden Club meeting will be at the Seniors Center on Wednesday February 18th, at 2pm. Dennis Premack will be giving us pointers on how to prepare for spring; seeds, pruning, soil prep, etc.

You don't have to be a member to attend this 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.

In this February edition, **Sandy McCormick** explains how flowers express feelings beyond words.

There's nothing like a bouquet of flowers to brighten someone's day. Flowers have been recognized as the universal symbol of romance and affection since the days of ancient Greeks and Romans. They associated flowers with the goddesses of love and fertility.

While we nowadays may not make that same association, for us they do brighten up the dreary, grey days of February. This month as we celebrate the special valentines in our lives, many will turn to the colors and fragrances of blooms to put a smile on a loved one's face.

The tradition of giving flowers for Valentine's Day dates from the Victorian era, when bouquets were more than just romantic tributes. The natural beauty of each blossom was said to convey a unique message, and a whole bouquet could tell a story, if you knew the language of "floriography." From the passion of red roses to the serenity of lavender, each flower was reputed to have its own way of saying "I love you."

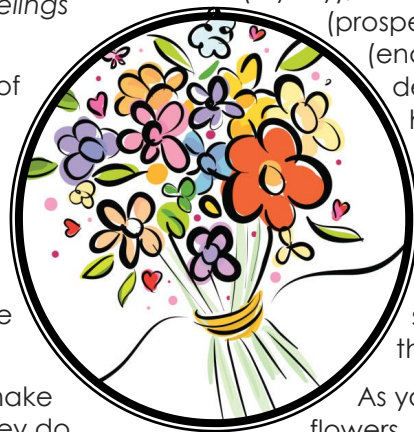
Roses are the quintessential symbol of Valentine's Day for their delicate petals and enchanting fragrances, the classic symbol of romantic love. But did you know that different colors of roses also convey different messages? Red is for romance, pink for admiration, yellow for friendship and white for purity.

Other flowers are also said to represent emotions, including: tulips (perfect love), lilies (commitment), irises (admiration), sunflowers (loyalty), carnations (fascination), peonies (prosperity), chrysanthemums (enduring love), lavender (calm, devotion), camellias (adoration), hydrangeas (gratitude) and orchids (strength). Even humble daisies which cover Texada in the summer months send a floriographical message of "innocence and simplicity." Maybe that's why the deer don't like them.

As you may have guessed, I love flowers, even though the only fenced part of our yard is devoted to growing vegetables. Flowers wouldn't be growing now anyways.

So if you buy a floral bouquet for your sweetheart this month, think about the message you're sending and, by all means, support our local businesses and share the love.

Happy Valentines Day from the Texada Garden Club.



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE—TEXADA



We wanted to give a final farewell to Cst. Fralick and a huge thank you to the Texada Home & Garden for hosting his farewell last month.

see him around!

As a reminder, the detachment will now be open most Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings.

Stay safe!

Texada RCMP

We would also like to welcome Cst. Jansen to Texada—be sure to give him a wave if you

Texada Home & Garden

- Plants, Trees, Seeds, Soil
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call it a tribe, call it a family:
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Submit your resume to:
Texada Island Community Society
Publisher, Warren Kiland
ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com

TEXADA ISLAND COMMUNITY SOCIETY (TICS)

It looks like February is upon us.

As we work our way through Winter and with not too many more weeks, we'll be heading into Spring.

One of TICS Spring projects is to find a Co-Editor for the Express Lines. Someone who could take on shared duties with our current Editor.

If you have desktop publishing skills, or enough computer skills to build on, then we want to hear from you.

Interested individuals, can send an email to Warren Kiland at ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com

We would love to hear from you.



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Coastalfirewood.ca

...continued from previous page (PRP Library)

Snippets from a Small Coastal Town: Understanding the Sunshine Coast

Community Room. Saturday, February 1, 2:00-3:00 pm—Local authors present an anthology of prose, poetry and art. Drop-in.

Working with Artificial Intelligence

Community Room. Friday, February 27, 2:00-3:00 pm. David Dumaresq shares his experience with Perplexity AI. Drop-in.

Write On

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



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TEXADA ISLAND NON-PROFIT SENIORS HOUSING SOCIETY



Mark your calendar for
TINSHS AGM
June 28th, 2026 1:45 pm
at the Gillies Bay Ballpark,
right after the Farmers' Market!

Would you like to share your knowledge, skills or energy to help create something positive for our island? Are you open to exploring the possibilities? Consider becoming a Director on the TINSHS Board. We are a group of dedicated volunteers navigating the process of making affordable seniors housing on Texada a reality. Contact us by May 31st, so we can answer your questions and prepare you for the AGM.

If you would like to volunteer without being on our Board, that is very welcome too!

Another date for your calendar:

2ND ANNUAL ROAD RALLY
August 15!
A volunteer meeting will be held
May 12th—7 pm (location TBA).

Be sure to check out our Website and 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 # 705676682RR001



Powell River Public Library—February at a Glance!

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

KIDS, szagwyn@prpl.ca

qathet Play and Connect

Community Room. Thurs., Feb. 19, 10-11:30 am.—PRPL hosts this early years development series for families with children ages 0-5. Drop-in.

MODS on Mondays

Makerspace. Every other Monday, 3:15-4:45 pm, starting January 5.—For neurodivergent kids aged 7+ & their families. Registration required.

ASL Kids Club

Huckleberry Room. Monday, February 9, 4:00-4:30 pm—Join ASL Specialist Donna Lee for stories and games in American Sign Language. Drop-in.

Preschool Storytime

Children's Reading Room. Wednesday & Thursday, 10:30-11:00 am.—Library Storytime. Drop-in.

Tinker Trunk

Makerspace. Tuesday & Thursday, 3:30-4:30 pm, when school is in session.—Kids 7-12, choose-your-own-tech-adventure. Drop-in.

Prime Time

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

Drawn Together

Huckleberry Room. Friday, 3:30-4:30 pm, when school is in session. Kids aged 7-12. Drop-in.

TEENS, edgar@prpl.ca

Switch Time

Huckleberry Room. Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 pm, when school is in session.—Multiplayer

Nintendo. Drop-in.

Fantasy Adventure Club

Herring & Huckleberry Rooms. Wednesday, 4:00-5:30 pm, when school is in session. Roleplaying games. Drop-in.

Teen Takeover

Herring & Huckleberry Rooms. Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 pm, when school is in session. Play Nintendo or make art. Drop-in.

Young Writers' Group

Huckleberry Room. Friday, 3:30-4:30 pm, when school is in session. For youth 10+. Drop-in.

Minecraft Afternoons

Makerspace. Saturday, 2:00-3:00 pm For youth 10+. Drop-in.

ALL AGES, edgar@prpl.ca

Banned Book Open Mic

Community Room. Friday, February 27, 6:00-7:30 pm. Doors open at 5:45 pm, come early to register! Register at the door to read or drop-in to listen.

Poetry Circle

Community Room. Second and Last Thursdays of the month, 4:30-6:00 pm. A creative space for poetry. Drop-in.

ADULTS, mmerlino@prpl.ca

Caregiver Support Group

At the library. Wednesday, February 11, 7:00-8:30 pm. Confidential support group for caregivers of individuals living with dementia. Registration required.

Award Winning Author Iona Wishaw

Community Room. Saturday, February 14, 2:00 pm-3:00 pm. Wishaw presents her new novel **A Season for Spies**, set in wartime England. Drop-in.

...continued on next page

TEXADA ISLAND INN



YOUR ISLAND HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM INFORMATION CENTRE

604-486-7711

Hello Texada, February Is Here, That Much Closer To Spring. Can Not Wait, Artists Are Bringing In New Items, Come See What Is New. Shop Local Buy Beautiful.

Still Closing BAR SIDE ONLY on Tuesdays & Wednesday, Full Service In Restaurant.

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY Feb, 8th Doors Open At 1pm Kick Off At 3pm Prizes, Chili & A Bun, Chili Dogs, Chili Fries, Appy Special, 25% Off All Draft Beer, Munchies. Big Screen. **SQUARES ARE UP.**

VALENTINES DAY Feb. 14th 5pm Menu TBA. Reservations Strongly Recommended.

RAISE THE ROOMS JAM Feb. 15th 3pm To 7pm Or Later, Dancing, Free Munchies, Cold Drinks, 50 50 Raffle, Great Music All Welcome. Come Join Us For A Worthy Cause. FYI-2nd Room Is Almost Complete. Pictures Coming Soon To Message Board.

Feb. 16th Hotel Closed For FAMILY DAY Enjoy With Yours.

MONDAY Free Pool & 3-Ball Tourney. **TUESDAY** 15% Off All Seniors Meals.

THURSDAY Fun Darts 7pm **FRIDAY** Karaoke 7pm. **SATURDAY** New York Strip Steak Lunch & Steak Dinner At 5pm **SUNDAY** 15% Off All Draft Beer. Bar Side Only.

<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><i>Thank you,</i> 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 Closed Tues. & Weds.</p>
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TAN (TEXADA ISLAND ACTION NOW) - A FLASHBACK

Almost all long time residents are familiar with the high profile battles TAN has fought. Many new residents do not. Even old Texada is not aware of some of the issues TAN has been quietly involved in that do not show up in the written history. Let's look at few.

Shortly after the garbage battle was won, the TAN executive took a look at Texada and decided to get a bit involved in some land use issues.

The first was trying to preserve and improve public access to the waterfront. The first action was to convince the Regional District to acquire three lots overlooking Marble Bay, known locally as "the old hotel site", for park purposes. We now know this area as Marble Bluffs Park.

Soon after, a good friend of Texada and Regional District Chair, Len Emmonds, alerted TAN of a pending land swap in the Cook Bay Area. Len and TAN Chair Joko Cawthorpe had logged around Davie and Cook Bays in the 1950's and loved the area. We arranged an on-site meeting with Minister of Forests staff and myself, Joko and Len.

To our horror we were told that the Province already had a deal in the works to trade about 4.7 km of waterfront property, known locally as Shingle Beach, for about 160 acres of privately held land above and just touching Cook Bay.

The three of us made it very clear that TAN, the whole Texada community, and the Regional District would fight hard to stop that from happening. Forestry backed off, and that was the beginning of the process to establish Shingle Beach as a recreation area.

Looking at the north end of Texada, it

became apparent that legal public access to the waterfront was almost non existence. To help alleviate that, TAN worked with the Regional District to acquire a small piece of foreshore at Blubber Bay as public access and a possible boat launch site.

We also met with Lafarge land management staff, to convince them to sell Erickson's Beach and another small piece at the mouth of Van Anda creek.

Both those areas are now public parkland.

Til next time..

Chuck Childress



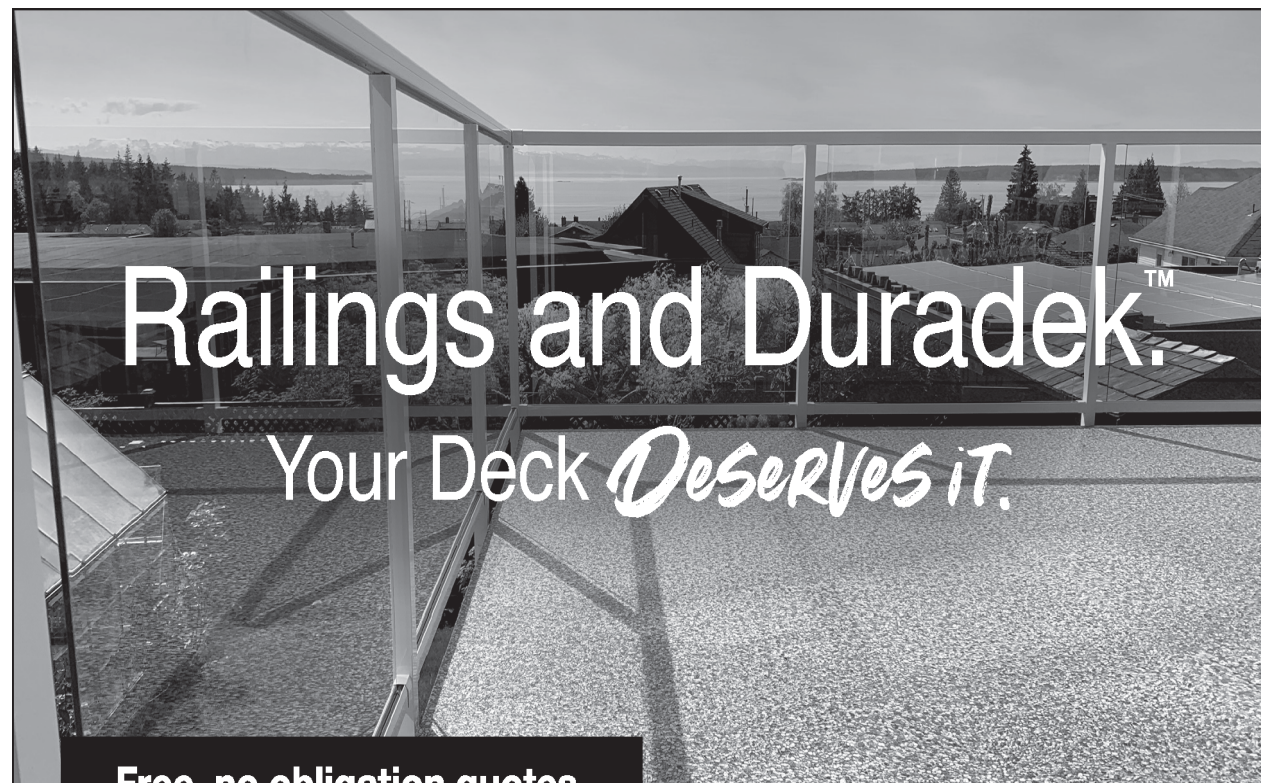
qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT

TEXADA ISLAND RECREATION COMMISSION Call for Applications

The qathet Regional District (qRD) is seeking residents of Texada Island (Electoral Area 'D') to be members to sit on the Texada Island Recreation Commission (TIRC).

TIRC acts as an advisory body to the qRD Board regarding the needs and use of public recreational facilities, programs, and services in Electoral Area 'D'.

Please e-mail applications to operations@qathet.ca by **4:30 pm, Thursday, February 26, 2026.**



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We welcome proposals to be submitted by e-mail to betterathome@inclusionpr.ca.

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

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/>

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Service Canada and Service BC will be in your community

Service Canada and Service BC will be in **Gillies Bay, Texada Island**

When: **February 25, 2026 10:00 - 15:00** (Closed 12:00 - 13:00)

Where: **Texada Island Community Hall, 4913 Gillies Bay Road, Gillies Bay**

Please note this is a walk-in session, so you do not need to book an appointment.

We will be able to help you with:

- Employment Insurance Social Insurance Number
- Old Age Security
- Canada Pension Plan
- Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Survivor benefits
- Disability benefits
- Passport application intake
- Vital statistics (birth, death and marriage documents)
- Income and disability assistance (information and pathfinding)
- BC Services card and app-based ID verification
- BC billing and payment services (provincial sales tax, ambulance, Medical Services Plan)
- Pathfinding for BC government forms and benefits
- BC rural property tax (payment and information services)



Access Service Canada online at Canada.ca/service-canada-home.

Access Service BC online at servicebc.gov.bc.ca.

The Van Anda Staff and Trustees, and Davis Ventures Ltd.

wish to thank everyone for their co-operation and support as we move forward with the Universal Metering Project. We have made good progress and look forward to continued community support.



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DIRECTOR'S REPORT, Area D

Sometimes it's hard to give money away.

The qRD each year sets funding aside for both general and area grants-in-aid (GIAs). This money is to benefit new and existing local organizations which enhance life for residents in some way.

Do you have ideas for future events or initiatives which could help bring people with similar interests together? Grants from the qRD may be used to kick-start initiatives with seed funding and support capital projects to construct new, or to upgrade, repair, renovate or otherwise improve existing community indoor or outdoor public-use facilities. GIA funds can also be used to promote or foster economic activity or support social well-being.

Additionally, grants can be used to match funding obtained through provincial and/or federal programs. Everyone in the region, including PR city, contributes to general GIAs, which typically support region-wide initiatives such as Search-and-Rescue, Outdoor Recreation Users Group (ORUC) and the Brain Injury Society.

General GIAs also benefit some Texada-based organizations with "regional" projects with funding going toward TACT and TINSHS in recent years.

Taxpayers in each electoral area fund grants specifically for that area. In area D, this year about \$20,000 is available to support our local community. This costs us less than two dollars per \$100,000 in assessed residential property value.

Last year Texada Sandcastle was the only local applicant for GIA funding. Their application was successful, but

considerable funds were left over in the area D GIA account. And when funds are not needed for local organizations, they end up supporting regional initiatives, such as PRISMA, qathet Arts Council and qathet Victim Services.

These are all worthy applicants, **but I'd rather see the local area D GIA funding go toward local area D organizations and activities.**

Surely some Texada group needs money for something!

Applications must be received by the qRD by March 31 for the first intake of grants, and Aug. 31 for the second intake each year.

There's always more money at the start of the year, so if you're considering applying, please do so by March 31 if possible.

GIAs typically fund 25 per cent of the total cost of the project or event. Applications are available on the qRD website, or by contacting the office at 604-485-2260, administration@qathet.ca

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



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TEXADA ISLAND MUSEUM—Another One Bites the Dust (#2)?

Is it in danger of happening again? Barely three years after the demolition of Van Anda's premier heritage "Astor" house, another 100-year old historical home is threatened.

The Burditt house is the elegant two-story farmhouse with the wrap-around porch located below the tight highway bend just before the Oasis.

Haddon Burditt with his Irish bride, Mary, moved into a rough cabin (still standing on the property) some time after 1915. They paid \$1638 for the cabin and the 160 acres of farmland.

As well as selling their produce (vegetables and meat) Haddon worked wherever he could to get by - mining, road work, delivering mail.

Haddon was able to gain salvage rights to the infamous Pocahontas whiskey still after it was raided in 1928. In fact, parts of the structure were used to build the currently endangered house.

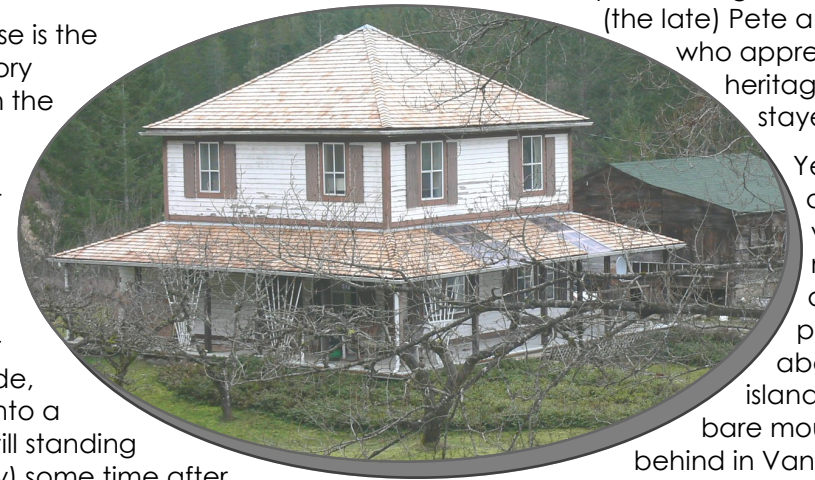
Over the years the Burditt house became a centre of local community activities. The family also offered lodging to teachers employed at the nearby Marshall school. In 1954, 16 acres with house and meadow were transferred to their daughter (also Mary) and the remainder was sold to BC Cement in 1954. After a series of renters the house was rescued in 1981 by the late

Mary's husband, Reg Kelly who, with Heritage support, refurbished the interior, replaced the roof and renovated the porch and moved in. The unique history of the home attracted its latest occupants - longtime Texada residents (the late) Pete and Monica Stiles who appreciated its heritage value and stayed 25 years!

Yes, I'm sure from a certain point of view there are many reasons to demolish the place. But what about the loss of our island history? The ugly bare mound of rubble left behind in Van Anda is a sad remembrance of the stately 1899 Astor house that once stood there.

If demolished, how soon will it be until we miss the familiar vista of the Burditt house and orchard as we hug the highway corner and rush onwards to chase after our modern lifestyle?

Peter Lock
Texada Island Heritage Society



Texada Museum Donations

Donations will once again be welcome at our museum. Our repository now has more room, however, limited space will continue to result in minor selections.

We are not accepting large items such as furniture. Please come in on Wednesdays between 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. We look forward to seeing you.

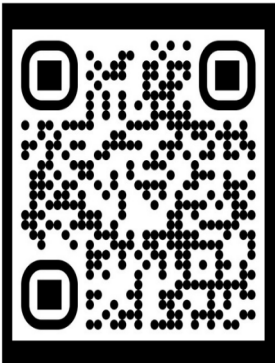
TEXADA AGRICULTURE GROUP & FOOD HUB (TAG)

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.

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.

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Randene.Neill.MLA@leg.bc.ca

VAN ANDA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Community Update

Thank you to everyone in our community for staying engaged and informed. We'd like to share a few important updates and reminders.

Court of Revision

Saturday, February 7, 2026
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

The Court of Revision provides an opportunity for Trustees to hear and resolve concerns related to Parcel Tax assessments and other related matters.

An appointment is not required, but booking one in advance will help speed up the process.

To make an appointment or to get more information: phone 604-486-7035 or email contact@vananda-id.ca

Invoices Reminder

If you have not yet received your annual invoice, please contact the office so we can ensure your account information is up to date.

2026 Rate Increase Report

This is a reminder that a detailed report on the 2026 rate increase is available. vananda-id.ca/2026-water-rate-update/

The report explains the reasons for the increase, including rising operational costs and steps being taken to improve fairness and long-term affordability. Thank you to those who have already taken the time to review it.

Meter Project Update

The water meter project continues to make good progress. More meters are

now installed, tested, and online, helping us better understand system use and losses. This work is an important step toward improved efficiency, leak detection, and fairer billing in the future.

Contact Us

If you have questions or need assistance, please reach out: 604-486-7035 or contact@vananda-id.ca

For water emergencies, phone: 1-672-882-9901

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support as we work to improve water services for the Van Anda community.

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Gillies Bay Volunteer Fire Department



This is the time of year that many people like to get that burn pile going or fire up the old burn barrel. On Texada Island you are allowed to use a burn barrel or have Category 2 open fire to burn vegetative waste, between October 15 and May 15 providing you follow the regulations below. It is extremely important to ensure none of the following prohibited materials are burnt:

Animal carcasses and slaughter waste, domestic waste, plastics, asphalt products, electrical wire, batteries, polystyrene foam, fuel and lubricant containers, biomedical waste, fiberglass, railway ties, carpets, rubber, furniture and appliances, construction waste, hazardous waste, tar paper, demolition waste, tires, manure, drywall, treated or painted wood products, paint and varnish and used oil.

Before you burn:

- Check to see if there is a category 2 open fire prohibition in your area
- To reduce risk and smoke, consider whether you need to burn at all. Other options may include composting and chipping.
- Check the current and forecast weather conditions. If it's foggy, windy or wind is in the forecast—Do Not Burn.
- Go online to check the Venting Index at Gov.bc.ca/ventilation/index or call 1-888-281-2992. Unless the ventilation category is fair or good be considerate of your neighbours—Do Not Burn.

Choosing your location:

- Your fire should be a safe distance from

buildings, shrubs, trees or other flammable materials

- Do not build your fire beneath low-hanging branches
- Create a wide fuel break (sometimes called a firebreak) around your fire by scraping the area around your fire down to bare dirt to remove any flammable material

During your burn:

- Ensure at least one person is equipped with a firefighting hand tool for fire control. A firefighting hand tool could be a shovel, axe, Pulaski, backpack pump or fire extinguisher
- Have a fire suppression system adequate for fire control available near the burn area. A fire suppression system means a system for suppressing fire by delivering water, a suppressant, a surfactant, or any combination of these substances
- Never leave the fire unattended for any amount of time

Extinguishing your burn:

- Ensure your fire is fully extinguished before you leave the area
- When you are ready to put your fire out, pour lots of water on it, stir the ashes, then pour more water on it. Continue doing so until the ashes are cool to the touch.

Thank you for your cooperation and have a safe and environmentally responsible burn.



NEWS FROM THE TEXADA ISLAND LIBRARY



Please Note: The library will be closed on Monday, February 16, 2026 for the Family Day Holiday.

Last month we received some marvelous donations from Jane and Terry Waterman. Thank you so much.

Your Garden in February. The library has a well circulated copy of **The Twelve-Month Gardener: West Coast Guide**. Anne is ordering the 2000 edition for the collection. This is the last known edition of the guide. Take a look.

The guide outlines tasks for each month of the year. The month of February includes the following topics:

- Annuals, perennials and bulbs
- Trees, shrubs and climbers
- Fruits, vegetables and herbs
- General gardening activities
- A plan for shade gardens, native plants and wildflowers.

Some of the tasks under those topics are: start seed flats; tidy and prepare beds; pruning; and plant trees and shrubs.

Dawn has some exciting programs planned for the Spring. Watch for the posters and check the Friends of the Texada Library Facebook Group for more details. Join the Friends group for latest additions to the collection.

Donations: The library does not accept stained, torn and mildew books, nor magazines or textbooks.

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.

