

# January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <b>Polar Bear Swim,</b> Shelter Point @NOON	2	3
4	5	6 GBID Water—11	7 Transit STN.,10am GBID Fin./Gov. Firehall 4:30 pm Ladies Circle Yurt on Sturt , 6-7	8 Cst. Fralick Farewell H&G, 10:30 am TWIN Luncheon Legion, Noon	9 <b>COMMUNITY LUNCH</b> Sr. Ctr.-Noon <b>LEGION MTG.</b> Doors, 5:30pm Starts at 7 pm	10 Transit STN., 10am
11 <b>GRIEF SUPPORT UNITED CHURCH</b> 3-4PM	12	13 <b>FOOD BANK</b> Call In 10-3 GBID Brd—4:30 Rock Your Body GB Hall 5:30 pm Legion Dinner Special	14 <b>FOOD BANK</b> Pick Up,11-12 VAID Mtg—1:30pm TYG—4:45 pm	15	16 <b>LEGION BINGO</b> Doors/5:30 pm Game/7 pm	17
18 <b>RAISE THE ROOMS</b> Texada Inn, 2pm	19	20 <b>Express Lines Deadline</b>	21 Transit STN., 10am Garden Club Sr. Ctr, 2 pm Ladies Circle Yurt on Sturt , 6-7	22	23 <b>COMMUNITY LUNCH</b> Sr. Ctr.-Noon	24 Transit STN., 10am Robbie Burns\ (Sold Out)
25 <b>GRIEF SUPPORT UNITED CHURCH</b> 3-4PM	26	27 Rock Your Body GB Hall—5:30-pm	28 TYG—4:45 pm Legion Potluck Doors 5:30pm	29 <b>COMMUNITY BINGO</b> Sr. Ctr.,1:30pm	30	31

## 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

# HAPPY NEW YEAR TEXADA ISLAND

January 2026



A big thank-you to Mackenzie Douglas, our Sunshine Coast WildSafeBC representative, who travelled to join qathet

NatureKids to share important WildSafe learning. We gathered at Willingdon Park on Saturday, October 25th for hands-on activities, where participants became Junior WildSafeBC Rangers and explored ways to help prevent negative interactions with wildlife. One key takeaway was the importance of keeping garbage securely contained (ideally indoors until collection morning) and removing attractants to help keep both people and animals safe.



In December, Carols at the Park at Shelter Point, Texada, on Saturday, December 13th, was a truly memorable gathering. The fireside carols, glowing ambiance, and community voices coming together created a warm and joyful evening. Thank you to all the NatureKids who joined beforehand to craft music sticks and bells. It was a wonderful celebration of togetherness.



As our membership has grown to include families from Powell River/qathet, we have decided to evolve our name from Texada NatureKids to qathet NatureKids, with the intention of hosting events throughout the qathet region so all are welcome to attend.

We're looking ahead with excitement to a fire safety and skills event in February — stay tuned for more details!

As the year turns, we wish you a happy Winter Solstice, a warm and joyful Christmas season, and a bright start to the New Year. Thank you for being part of our growing NatureKids community.

With gratitude and holiday cheer,

qathet NatureKids  
Lisa Bordeleau





# 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: 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.

## BC FERRIES

Always confirm times with BC Ferries at [www.bcferries.com](http://www.bcferries.com) or, 1-888-223-3779

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

**THURSDAY**  
**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**  
**JANUARY 1 - THERE WILL BE NO 7:55 AM & 6:00 AM SAILINGS**

Langdale to Horseshoe Bay	Horseshoe Bay to Langdale
<b>JAN 5, —MAR. 31, 2026</b>	
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

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

Langdale to Horseshoe Bay	Horseshoe Bay to Langdale
<b>Jan 1—Jan 4, 2026</b>	
6:20 am (NOT Jan. 1)	7:30 am (NOT Jan. 1)
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	7:05 pm
8:15 pm	9:25 pm
10:30 pm	11:30 pm

Saltery Bay to Earls Cove	Earls Cove to Saltery Bay
<b>JAN 5, —MAR. 31, 2026</b>	
5:35 am (Except Sunday)	6:30 am (Except Sunday)
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

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

Saltery Bay to Earls Cove	Earls Cove to Saltery Bay
<b>Jan 1-Jan 4, 2026</b>	
5:35 am (NOT Jan. 1)	6:30 am (NOT Jan. 1)
7:25 am	8:20 am
9:25 am	10:35 am
11:45 am	12:55 am
2:30 pm	3:40 pm
4:55 pm	6:00 pm
7:05 pm	8:05 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.  
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](mailto:texada@gmail.com) / 604-486-7360



## Recycling Station Hours



### Van Anda:

Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am - 5 pm

### Gillies Bay:

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 9 am - 5 pm

# Express Lines

is a Texada Island Community Society (TICS) Publication

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

**E-mail:** [ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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## TEXADA ISLAND COMMUNITY SOCIETY (TICS)

**Happy New Year & Welcome to 2026 Everyone!**

To windup 2025, starting in November:

The Texada Christmas Craft Fair at the Community Hall had 29 fabulous Vendors who were selling all kinds of products.

Thank you to all the Volunteers who worked the Craft Fair and Mary Mary Cafe for the soup & sandwiches.

The Spirit Breakfast Fundraiser for our Food Bank was a huge success. The great people of Texada raised a large amount of money and 155 lbs of canned food.

Thank you to all the TICS Volunteers, Colleen Diamond and the Mary Mary Cafe and the Texada Market for their donation of the breakfast foods.

The Texada Community Christmas Dinner was another huge success. One hundred tickets

were sold plus 10 Volunteers all received a fabulous dinner. Thank you to Lizetta and her seven volunteer serving helpers from the Texada Inn.

Thank you to the Texada Legion #232 for there financial donation to the dinner.

Thank you to Rhoda Reese-Stuart, Roger Hort, Janet McDonald and Texada Home and Garden for their grand prize donations.

Thank you to the volunteers who decorated the Community Hall for the season.

If you would like to help the Community and meet new people, come on out and be part of Texada Island Community Society. We would love to see you!

The January TICS Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 12 at 10:30 am in the Texada Legion. I hope you can make it!

*Texada Island Community Society*

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**YOUTH GROUP**

**WED JAN 14**  
**& JAN 28**  
**4.45-6.30**

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[TEXADAYOUTH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:TEXADAYOUTH@GMAIL.COM)



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## 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](mailto:operations@qathet.ca)

by 4:30 pm, Friday, January 16, 2026.

## TEXADA ISLAND UNITED CHURCH

When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone, When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with their flock, The work of Christmas begins: To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry, To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations, To bring peace among peoples, To make music in the heart.

### Worship Services:

Sunday services begin at 10:30 a.m. with coffee and fellowship afterwards. Communion service, January 4, 2026. Everyone is always welcome in our church and at our communion table.

### 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. No office hours December 25 to Jan

### Minister: Rev. Gayle Chouinard:

604-414-7309, [trollhollow123@gmail.com](mailto: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

## C I R C L E

January 7<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>  
6 - 7 pm

Every 2<sup>ND</sup> Wednesday

AT THE YURT ON STURT  
IN VAN ANDA  
(1925 STURT BAY RD.)

ALL LADIES ARE  
WELCOME

*Circle of Light Meditation*

Saturdays in January  
2-3 pm  
at the Yurt on Sturt  
in Van Anda  
(1925 Sturt Bay Rd.)

*All Are Welcome!*

## Coyote Tales...

When someone says, "take the wheel, I'm gonna have a nap," it's not normally a big deal, but when the wheel is in a Beaver floatplane flying in the Makenzie Mountains, Yukon... well, that's another story.

In the land of the midnight sun, summer daylight is twenty-four hours long and for those pilots flying aircraft, the hours they fly surely pile up. Stress and fatigue from many hours flying add up and with those demands your faculties wear thin... and that's when accidents can happen.



We were flying along on our way back to camp when the exhausted pilot asked me to take the wheel. "I'm gonna have a nap, keep the nose up on the horizon and aim towards that distant peak," he said, "wake me when we get close," as he slouched back and fell asleep almost instantly. I didn't have a pilots license, but had flown many hours with bush pilots—I guess he figured that was good enough, as he passed out from fatigue.

The plane felt easy to control, as I kept the nose up and headed towards the high peak he had pointed out. The landscape was colourful, but the ceiling was gray and getting darker.

I nosed down a little, as I could sense the cloud ceiling was dropping lower. I felt a little nervous, as I was now flying below most of the peaks on the hills on route. I had shaken the pilot a few times in flight, but now I figured it was time to wake him, as he was snoring up a storm.

By the time he came to, the ceiling had

dropped down where you couldn't see any peaks at all, but only the contours of the surrounding hills. As he woke and took the wheel he was in shock. "Why didn't you wake me sooner?" He said, "I tried but you were out cold," I said.

Around and around we went following the contours of the hills. We roughly knew where we were, but any miscalculation at these lower elevations in fog could be catastrophic. Lower and lower we flew... we were at tree top level now and visibility was minimal to say the least.

We radioed the camp, as we knew we were getting close. The camp manager who was monitoring the radio said he could hear us circling the lake, "Fire up a flare at the dock" said the pilot.

From the corner of my eye I could just make out the signal flare, as I elbowed the pilot and pointed. We finally landed the float plane and tied up at the dock. I was exhausted, but the pilot badly needed sleep to recover... at least we were safe.

Back In the day bush camp risks were more common, it was just a natural fact. These days, in the Territories, just to locate and build an outhouse, there would be a public inquiry, WCB, Transport Canada Civil Aviation reports, fines, fees, permits, consultation with several levels of government and First Nations.

Times have changed from those early days... I guess it's for the better?

Cheers, Coyote



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

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**  
We hope everyone had a very Merry Christmas.  
Congratulations to your Executive on being elected for another term.

## Royal Canadian Legion Branch 232

Thank you to all the volunteers who made our Christmas Day dinner a success.

**GENERAL MEETING**  
Friday, January 9th  
Doors—5:30 pm,  
Meeting starts at 7 pm

**DINNER SPECIAL**  
Tuesday, January 13th  
Beef dip & fries,  
or Caesar salad.

**BINGO**  
Friday, January 16  
Doors Open at 5:30 pm  
Game Starts at 7 pm

**ROBBIE BURNS DINNER**  
(Sold Out)  
January 24

**POTLUCK**  
Wednesday, January 28  
Doors Open at 5:00 pm  
Dinner at 6:00 pm  
Bring your favourite dish and utensils

**MEATDRAWS**  
Saturdays and Sundays  
Doors open at 3:30 pm

*...lest we forget.*

**Texada Market**

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

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**ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE**

**"Happy New Year, Texada!"**

As we begin 2026, you can expect the detachment to be open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings.

We will also be saying goodbye to Cst. Fralick and invite you to stop by the Texada Home & Garden Centre on **January 8 at 10:30 a.m.** Join us for a coffee and a treat, as we wish Cst. Fralick good luck on their next island adventure.



As a reminder, cold weather means slippery roads—please drive safely.

*"Wishing you loads of joy, love & laughter in 2026!"*

Texada Women's Island Network  
**TWIN LUNCHEON**  
**January Luncheon**  
**Thursday, January 8, 2026**  
 at the Legion  
 Doors open at 11:30 a.m.  
 Lunch at 12 noon  
 There will be no guest speaker.  
**It's Our Jammie Day.**  
 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.  
 We are asking that you all come in your jammies, please...stuffies are welcome!  
 Members not wearing their name tag will be fined a loonie. If you are wearing your name tag, you will be automatically entered into our draw for a free lunch to be drawn next June.  
 Good Luck!!!

**TEXADA ISLAND GARDEN CLUB**

The Garden Club meeting will be at the Seniors Center on Wednesday January 21, at 2pm. **Chris Barnard** will be talking about Sunflowers, then, we will be talking about "Weird things in the Garden". 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.

In this article **Shirley McCune** exclaims "**My garden has gone to the birds!**" Note: She also recommends the app Bird Sound Recognition, by Cornell Lab.

Never before have I had so many sightings and sounds in my little world. The mature shrubs and trees in my front yard hosted huge flocks of Red Finches. Wow!



I sowed grass seed after our long, dry summer only to see flocks of Redwing Blackbirds descend for a feast. I didn't mind that they left some.

Crown Sparrows by the hundreds have made this place their home.

Nuthatches ( I always feel lucky when they show themselves), Chick-a-dees, House Wrens, Robins, and the odd Stellar Jay made homes in my Noble Fir housing complex.

Mornings filled with birdsong. Glorious. Sunflowers standing heads bent down were a dining advertisement for Rufous Backed Towies and a host of others mentioned above. Cedar Wax Wings enjoyed the natural Red huckleberries on their yearly fly-by. Burgundy Elderberry flowers hanging over my neighbour's fence (borrowed landscape) fed

Goldfinches, Canaries, Western Tanagers who surprise me as I wander with my morning coffee.

All kinds of feathered friends bathing and drinking in the water features. Constant hum and chittering of the hummingbirds, always good entertainment.

While lying in bed, the haunting calls of the Barred Owls, oh what joy! The geese flying overhead with their chorus of honks and my favourite, the Sandhill Cranes way up high, little chattering specks in a perfect "V", never fail to make me look up in late

October. Saw them twice this year! I am blessed. If you ever get a chance to observe them on the ground, you'll see their actual size!

Amazing. Swallows leave and make way for the ( Goatsuckers) NightHawks. They come here to raise their young, then fly all the way back to Argentina. I wait for their amazing evening acrobatics in July and then.....

They're gone. My year has been delightful. No wonder I don't go anywhere.

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**HAVE SOME IDEAS?**

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.

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

**Powell River Public Library—Continued**

**ADULTS, mmerlino@prpl.ca**

**Ageing and Longevity**—Community Room. Friday, January 9, 7:00-8:30 pm  
Todd Caldecott discusses aging. Drop-in.

**Elderdog and Senior Wellness**—Community Room. Saturday, January 17, 2:00-3:00 pm  
Rachel Koopman-Gough presents tips for helping senior dogs. Drop-in.

**You are not Alone, I Will Listen: Cross Canada Journey**—Community Room.

Friday, January 20, 4:00-5:00 pm Paul Jenkinson shares stories. Drop-in.

**Non-Profit Murder Society Book Club**—

Community Room. Friday, January 24, 3:30-5:00 pm For info contact [edgar@prpl.ca](mailto:edgar@prpl.ca)  
Registration required.

**Negotiating Buck Naked: Doukhobors, Public Policy, and Conflict Resolution**—

Community Room. Friday, January 31, 2:00-3:00 pm Gerg Cran presents his book on

Russian Doukhobors in Canada. Drop-in.

**Write On**—Online. Friday 2:00 pm.

Writing group. Registration required. Email [edgar@prpl.ca](mailto:edgar@prpl.ca).

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**Become a Friendly Caller Volunteer**

Do you enjoy connecting with people and making a difference in the Texada community?

The Friendly Caller Program is looking for volunteers (19+) to provide regular phone support to individuals who may be feeling isolated or in need of a friendly voice.

Virtual training provided on three consecutive Wednesdays:  
**January 14, 21, 28; 2-3:30 p.m.**  
\*Criminal record check required.

For more information or to register, please contact 604 223 7309 or [anna.byrne@fourtideshospice.org](mailto:anna.byrne@fourtideshospice.org)

Funding generously provided by Pacific Blue Cross a Philanthropist Funding Partner

**TAN (TEXADA ISLAND ACTION NOW)**

We are often asked "What is TAN?" Old Texada knows and just takes it for granted.

TAN was formed in 1982 to try and overturn a contract that had been awarded to Genstar, a company later purchased by Lehigh/Heidelberg, with extensive holdings on Texada. The contract was to dump Metro Vancouver's garbage on Texada Island for an initial period of twenty years.

After TAN led that hard fought battle it was decided to keep TAN going—"just in case." So simply put, TAN is here to have Texada's back.

TAN avoids internal and divisive issues, and sort of sits in the weeds, surfacing only when needed. TAN held its AGM on November 30 and the membership unanimously decided to keep TAN alive and active.

Bree Nicholl was acclaimed as the new TAN president, passing the torch on to a younger generation, marking the first time since TAN's

founding that the president/chair was not occupied by either Jack (Joko) Cawthorpe or Chuck Childress.

Leslie Goresky stepped down as Secretary Treasurer. Lin Johnson was acclaimed as her replacement, along with Colleen Mudry and Chuck Childress, as directors-at-large, joining Rob McWilliam, Lee Stephens, Roger Kimmerly and Joseph Scott on the executive.

Leslie Goresky has been a pillar of strength for TAN for what seems like forever. She was the glue that held it together making sure all the Ts were crossed and the Is dotted. Leslie is part of Texada's heart and soul. Leslie "Gets" Texada. Many who come here never do. She might have left the TAN executive, but I am certain she will still always be there for Texada. For all of Texada.

THANK YOU!! Leslie.

Chuck Childress

**TEXADA ISLAND NON-PROFIT SENIORS HOUSING SOCIETY**

We wish everyone a Happy New Year with renewed optimism for peace, positivity and progress!

Thank you to Terry-Lynn, Brad, their awesome staff at the Texada Home & Garden, the Foxgloves and everyone who came out for a fun evening of Christmas shopping, a burger or hot dog and music! Your annual fundraising efforts are very much appreciated!

I am grateful to be on this journey to create safe, affordable seniors housing on Texada with a wonderful board, great support staff and the strength of our community behind this project!

With gratitude, Cathy Brown

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

Website: [texadaseniorshousing.ca](http://texadaseniorshousing.ca)

Email: [info@texadaseniorshousing.ca](mailto:info@texadaseniorshousing.ca)

Phone us at: 604-486-6766

Facebook: Texada island Non-profit Seniors Housing

Charitable Registration # 705676682RR0001



## 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.**

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- 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)



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Access Service BC online at [servicebc.gov.bc.ca](https://servicebc.gov.bc.ca).



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## Powell River Public Library—January at a Glance!

For full listings visit [prpl.ca](http://prpl.ca) or email [desk@prpl.ca](mailto:desk@prpl.ca).

**Family Literacy Week** (Jan. 25 to Feb.1)

**Books for Babies**—Did you welcome a soon-to-be reader in 2025? Come to the library's Service Desk and pick up a free bag of books for your baby!

**Print-a-Baby**—Herring & Huckleberry Rooms. Tuesday, January 26, 10:30-11:30 am. Drop-in. Replicate small hands and feet for your scrapbook. Take home early literacy resources along with your prints.

**Retro Family Jam**—Community Room. Sat., Jan. 31, 10am-12pm.

Join qatthet Museum and Archives at the library and get hands on with some retro tech. Drop-in.

**Community Matters**—Free books on a range of topics. One book per family while supplies last. Pick up at the service desk

**Next Reads Rocket**—Complete a questionnaire for a reader aged 9+ and receive five book recommendations. Online - [prpl.ca](http://prpl.ca)

**KIDS**, [szagwyn@prpl.ca](mailto:szagwyn@prpl.ca)

**Far Out Storytime at Family Place**—Lift Family Place (#101-4871 Joyce Ave. in Crossroads Village). Tuesday, January 20, 10:30-11 am. Join Sonia at Family Place for story time! 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 January 12, 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](mailto: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.

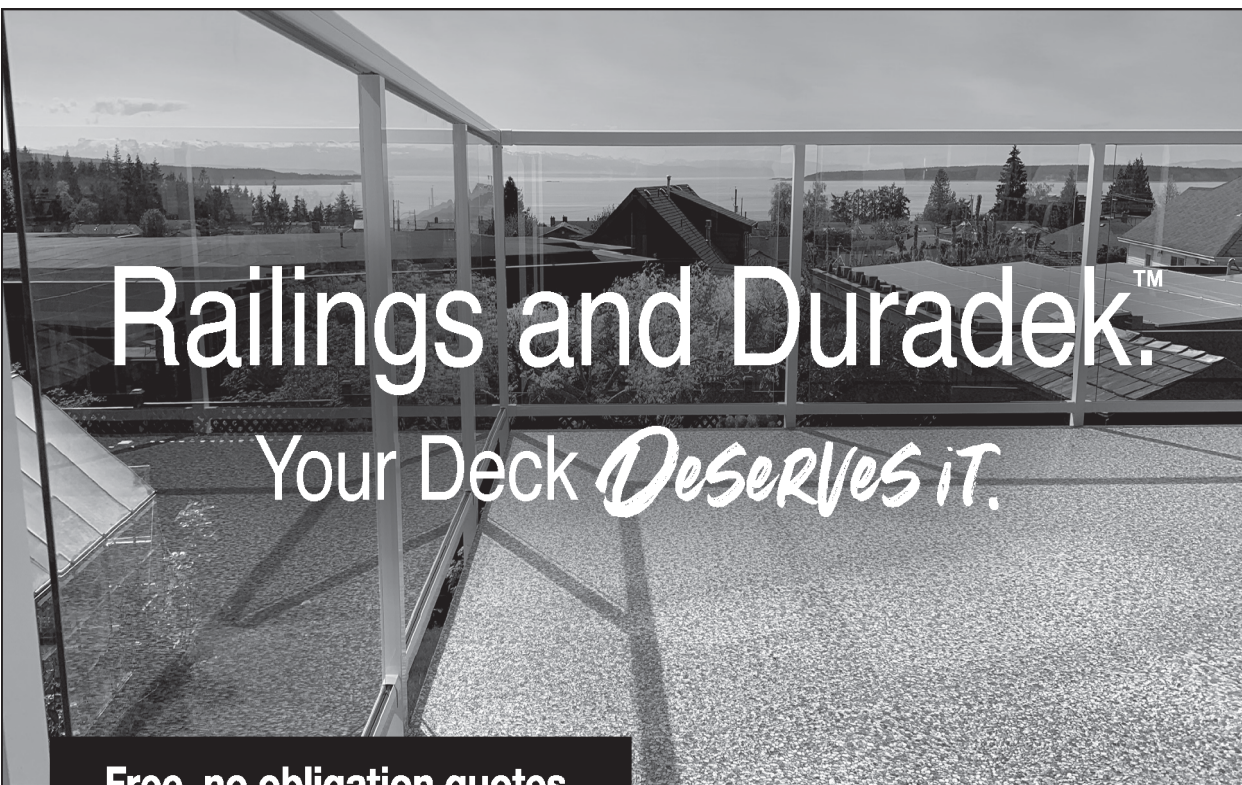
**Young Writers' Group**—Huckleberry Room. Friday, 3:30-4:30 pm, when school is in session. For youth 10+. Drop-in.

**Minecraft Afternoons**—Makerspace. Saturday, 2-3 pm For youth 10+. Drop-in. ALL AGES, [edgar@prpl.ca](mailto: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.



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	Hello Texada, <b>A Very Happy New Year 2026</b> To All, Thank You For Everything You Do. Lots Of New Art Showing In The Lobby, Shop Local, Buy Beautiful.	

Hello Texada, **A Very Happy New Year 2026** To All, Thank You For Everything You Do. Lots Of New Art Showing In The Lobby, Shop Local, Buy Beautiful.

We Will Be Closing—BAR SIDE ONLY-Tuesdays & Wednesdays For The Month Of JANUARY, Full Service In Restaurant. Thank You For Your Understanding.

**RAISE THE ROOMS JAM** JANUARY 18TH 2PM TO 7PM Dancing, Snacks, 50/50 Raffle, Great Musical Guests, Cold Beer, Hot Drinks, COME JOIN US!

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

**THURSDAY** Fun Darts. All Welcome, Starts At 7pm

**FRIDAY** Karaoke 7pm **SATURDAY** New York Strip Steak Lunch & Steak Dinner At 5pm

**SUNDAY** 25% Off All Draft Beer. Bar Side Only.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full Lotto Ctr.</li> <li>• Gift Certificates</li> <li>• Bagged Ice</li> <li>• Island Info</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Art</li> <li>• T- Shirts, Vests &amp; Hoodies</li> <li>• Ice Cream</li> <li>• ATM</li> </ul>	<p><i>Thank you,</i>                  Texada, for all your love,                  support &amp; help!  <i>Cymry, Evan, &amp; Kaitlyn</i></p>	<p><b>Restaurant</b>                  Open 7 Days A Week                  11—7 pm</p>	<p><b>Bar Hours</b>                  3 pm-Closing                  Closed Tues. &amp; Weds.</p>
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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 am and 12 pm

Call or text on Jan. 13, - pick up Jan.14  
 Call or text on Feb.10, - pick up Feb. 11  
**(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](mailto: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 or text Pauline Fleming at 604-414-9590.

**Texada Food Bank Thanks You!**

Thank you so very much for the generous financial donations from Pete and Hilary Stiles, Nelmes Excavating, Arlene Rycroft, Greta Tully and - Thank you to The Kiwanis Club of Powell River.

Thank you to Lynn Cole for creating and gifting beautiful lap blankets again this year  
 Thank you to Wen Warn for creating and gifting tuques again this year. And thank you to Cory Chouniard for his support.

Big Thank you to TICS for putting on the Spirit Breakfast and to the team of volunteers, Colleen Diamond and Mary Mary Cafe, Doriana Kiland, Jane Waterman, Carolyn Walton-Kay, Joyce Hull and Dawn Hughes. Again, a big Thank You to the community for supporting the Spirit Breakfast.

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.

We hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and we hope everyone has a **Healthy, Happy, Prosperous 2026.**

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**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 welcome proposals to be submitted by e-mail to [betterathome@inclusionpr.ca](mailto:betterathome@inclusionpr.ca).

**Deadline for submissions extended to January 31, 2026.**

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

**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

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**TEXADA ISLAND MUSEUM—Even More Texada History Fun Facts**

DID YOU KNOW ....

... the rock terraces visible at the south end of Davie Bay were constructed by teenagers in the 1920's?

The Devaney family (mother Mary and her 7 children - the oldest 15 years) moved into old loggers' bunkhouses in 1924 and proceeded to clear 5 acres, dig out 52 stumps and build numerous terraces on which they grew vegetables, planted fruit trees and tended flower gardens.



Rich soil was packed down from a swamp 1/2 mile uphill and water was carried to the beach in buckets where they boiled their laundry in tubs set atop beach fires.

These stories of Texada's pioneers make it hard to complain when our high-tech appliances quit working!

... in the 1920's a visitor to Gillies Bay beach could witness logs careening down a 1/2 mile chute into the bay? Alberta Logging Company used a steam-powered donkey engine to help pull cut logs down the chute which was formed by simply laying 3 logs along-side each other. These were butted end-to-end and greased. Most of the lovely sandy beach was occupied by log booms waiting to be towed.

... after numerous fund-raising projects (dances, bake sales, raffles, etc) and hours of volunteer labour, in 1951 the new community-built schoolhouse at Davie Bay was removed from its site, winched onto a log raft and floated north to Gillies Bay?

(Photo)

"Population dynamics" had changed. Many of the families needing the school had moved to the new Gillies Bay townsite when Texada Mines opened. Better jobs

beckoned.

The relocated building became Gillies Bay's first school.

... Texada was once served by "fast ferries" that could move passengers and freight to Vancouver in under 5 hours! Decommissioned WWII naval vessels (Gulf Wing and Gulf

Stream) with 400 hp diesel engines made trips from Van Anda, Blubber Bay and Powell River in record time.

A coffee bar, staterooms and mens' and women's lounges were enjoyed by passengers. The service came to an end in 1951 when the road was completed to Earls Cove and the Blackball Ferry service made vehicle connections easier.

Peter Lock  
Texada Island Heritage Society



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**Dear Santa,**

Thank you for coming to Texada for the 10th Annual Breakfast With Santa Party, at the Legion. It was so nice to see you again. The children had a great time seeing you and eating all the yummy food!

It was also nice to have Gerry in the kitchen, with Rhonda, Garner and Mikey—the Special Kitchen Helpers. A big thanks to Joyce and Doriana for helping with the children.

Thanks to the Legion and Mary Mary Café for their support.

Special thanks to the Van Anda Fire Department for looking after the reindeer after they drove you to the Legion in the big fire truck. I know I get excited along with the children when we hear the siren bringing you up the hill!



Looking forward to seeing you next year!

From your Elf,  
George Childress



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## Texada Aviation Museum (TAM)

### Season's Greetings from The Texada Aviation Museum!

The Texada Aviation Museum (TAM) staff wishes the Texada Community and our supporters, sponsors and patrons a very heartfelt Season's Greetings!

To all we extend a hearty thanks for your generosity and very welcome support. It is important to know that the main goal for the facility is to provide a specialized venue for the Texada AeroSpace Camp and the maintenance of its training aids.

This year has been a most productive one, with the facility hosting four major events including the 2025 Texada AeroSpace Camp, the 2025 Fly-In, and two regional aero-club meetings.

All of the events raised funds for the Museum's operating expenses and promoted Texada's Culture and Tourism.

The TAM promotional team also attended off-island events, such as, the Sechelt's Elphinstone Flying Club fly-in, Teen- Flight Wings

and Wheels in Campbell River, 858 Air Cadet Squadron's Social, and the Comox Valley Exhibition. Busy or what..??

The Museum has recently become the home base for the Texada Emergency Communications Unit, which is organized by local amateur radio operators under the leadership of Vince MacDonald. The group has installed their radios in the Museum's mezzanine for specialized use in case of emergencies and disasters.

A reminder: The TAM library is open to the public by appointment, with an astonishingly wide selection of aviation science and technical books, aviation history, as well as, dozens of books on astronomy. Tours of the exhibits and both AirBuzz flight simulators will again be

available for public demonstration flights just after the New Year.

Please call 604-223-2588 or 604-223-0834 for tour appointments and simulator flights.



“When that ball drops at midnight—and it will drop—let’s remember to be nice to each other, kind to each other. And not just tonight but all year long.” - Anon.

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## 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](mailto:breanne@why-health.com)

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



"Every gardener's New Year starts with a euphoric gush of hope."  
- Christopher Lloyd.

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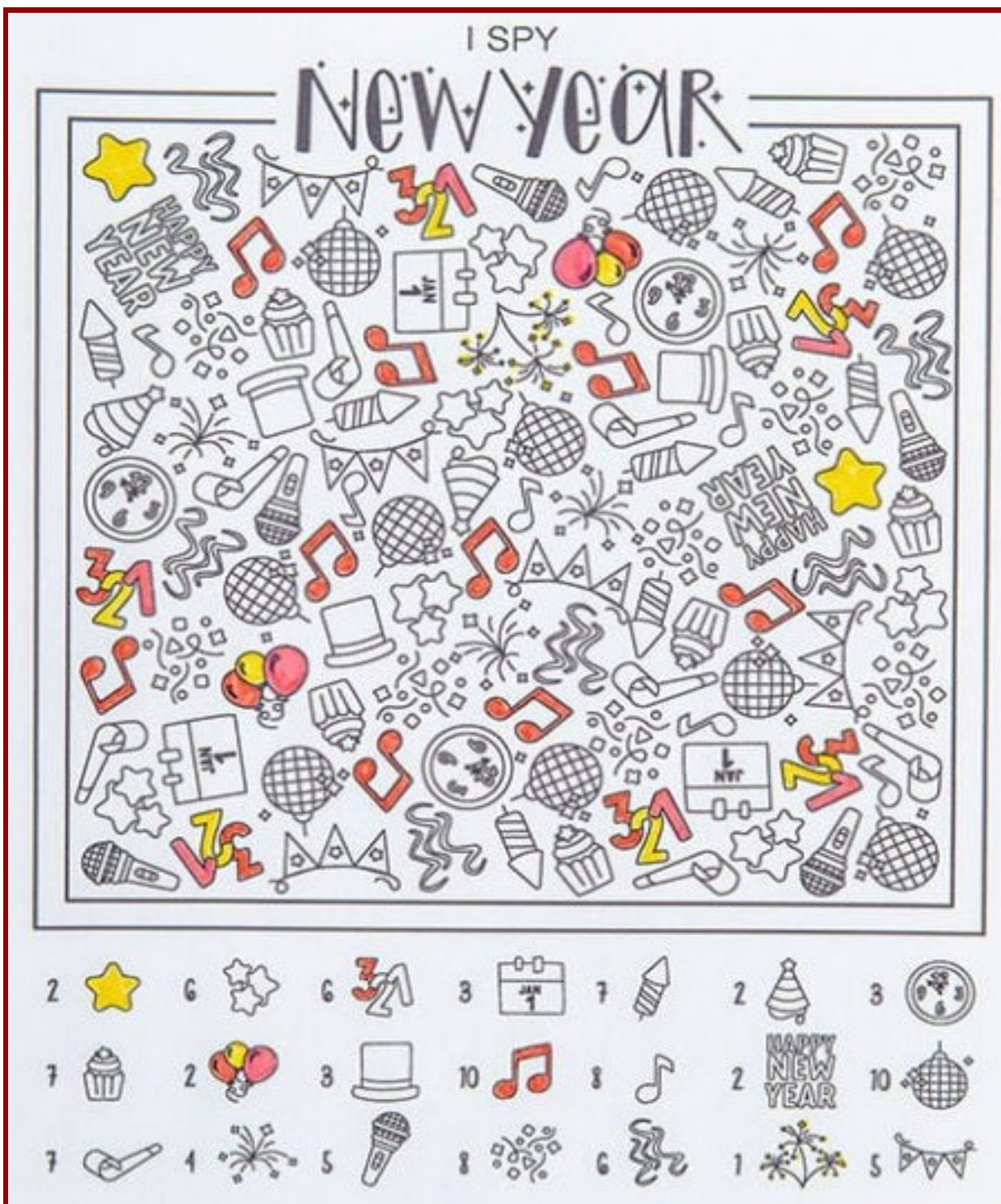
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✉ [Randene.Neill.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Randene.Neill.MLA@leg.bc.ca)



# 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 (Same as 2025 rate)	\$5.00/Bag \$35/Mattress

**All other material tipping fees  
 remain unchanged**

## 2026 qathet Regional District Meeting Schedule



qathet Regional District holds regularly scheduled Board and Standing Committee meetings at #201 – 4675 Marine Ave, Powell River. Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings, virtually or in person. Closed meetings are conducted by resolution in accordance with the *Community Charter*.

Finance Committee 1:00 pm	Planning Committee 4:00 pm	Committee of the Whole 1:00 pm	Regional Board • 4:00 pm
January 13, 2026	January 27, 2026	January 28, 2026	January 13 & 28, 2026
February 10, 2026	February 24, 2026	February 25, 2026	February 10 & 25, 2026
March 18, 2026	March 24, 2026	March 25, 2026	March 18 & 25, 2026
April 7, 2026	April 28, 2026	April 29, 2026	April 7 & 29, 2026
May 12, 2026	May 26, 2026	May 27, 2026	May 12 & 27, 2026
June 9, 2026	June 23, 2026	June 24, 2026	June 9 & 24, 2026
July 7, 2026	July, 2026 - No Meeting	July 8, 2026	July 8, 2026
August, 2026 - No Meeting	August 25, 2026	August 26, 2026	August 26, 2026
September 8, 2026	September 22, 2026	September 23, 2026	September 8 & 23, 2026
October, 2026 - No Meeting	October, 2026 - No Meeting	October, 2026 - No Meeting	October, 2026 - No Meeting
November- No Meeting	November 24, 2026	November 25, 2026	<b>November 5, Inaugural</b> November 25, 2026
December 8, 2026	December 9, 2026	December 10, 2026	December 10, 2026



The qathet Regional Hospital District holds regularly scheduled Board and Committee meetings, in person and virtually, at #201 – 4675 Marine Avenue, Powell River, BC, in January, March, April, June, August, October, and December only as follows:

Regional Hospital District Board • 3:00 pm			
January 27, 2026 Inaugural	April 28, 2026	August 25, 2026	December 8, 2026
March 24, 2026	June 23, 2026	October, 2026 - No Meeting	

The public may attend meetings in person, or electronically via Zoom. For more information on how to participate, please visit [qathet.ca/meetings](http://qathet.ca/meetings), or contact Michelle Jones, Corporate Officer at [administration@qathet.ca](mailto:administration@qathet.ca) or call 604-485-2260.

*Additional meetings may be scheduled. Notices of any schedule changes will be made available as soon as possible and updated in the [qathet.ca](http://qathet.ca) events calendar. Notices of Special Meetings are issued separately from the regular meeting schedule. Please check our website and the Public Notice Board located at 202-4675 Marine Avenue, Powell River, BC for any scheduling updates.*

## NEWS FROM THE TEXADA ISLAND LIBRARY

### Happy New Year 2026!

The library will be closed on Thursday, January 1, 2026, New Years Day.

Sadly, we say goodbye to a longtime volunteer, Jill Henry. Jill's experience with early childhood education made her a perfect fit to manage the children's & youth collection. We wish Jill all the best.

**Reflect, Renew and Review.** Some of us make New Year's resolutions! Some of us try a different approach. We review and reflect on the past year. Did we accomplish what we wanted? Did we have fun? Did we contribute to our community? Are we ready to try a new hobby, take a course, challenge ourselves to a different exercise or read more books?

I have selected five books from the collection that touch on those aspects:

- The Atlas of Happiness** by Helen Russell, c2019.
- The Beginning Runner's Handbook** by Ian MacNeil, c1999.
- The Life Changing Magic of Tidying Up** by Marie Kondo, c2010.
- Barron's Art Handbooks: drawing**, c1997.
- The Healthy Kitchen** by Andrew Weil and Rosie Daly, c2003.

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.

"Today is where your book begins.  
The rest is still unwritten."  
—Natasha Bedingfield

### 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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## Gillies Bay and Van Anda Fire Departments



### Happy New Year!

Is 2026 the year you consider doing something new and exciting that will make a huge contribution to your community?

Is this the year that you decide to “answer the call”?

The Gillies Bay and Van Anda Fire Departments are both looking to recruit new members who are motivated, dedicated and eager to learn.

Benefits include great training opportunities, and a strong sense of accomplishment and pride in being a part of an organization that is there to help and support our community members, often in their times of greatest need. For most of us, becoming a volunteer firefighter is about community service, teamwork, and camaraderie.

We provide training and experience in structure fire ground operations, vehicle rescue, technical rescue, hazmat, wildland firefighting, medical first responder and more.

If you are over 19, reasonably fit, male or female, can pass a criminal record check,

and want to learn some new skills, or if you already possess some skills and abilities that are relevant to the fire service, we would like to chat with you.

On Texada Island the Gillies Bay Fire Department and the Van Anda Fire Department collaborate closely with both resources and training. We have an Automatic Mutual Aid Agreement which means that in the event of a structure fire incident within either Fire District, both departments receive the general page, and both departments are dispatched to the scene.

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 Chief David Beech at 604-389-8884 in Gillies Bay.

We can also be contacted by email at [firechief@vananda.ca](mailto:firechief@vananda.ca) or [chief@gilliesbayvfd.ca](mailto:chief@gilliesbayvfd.ca)



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*Serving Italian thin crust pizza  
Thursday to Sunday, 3-7*

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT, Area D

Happy New Year! May 2026 bring peace, good health and happiness throughout the world!

Lots of things will be happening on Texada this year. Here's a look at some of them:

- BC Transit will be offering a second day of community bus services (Tuesdays) starting approx. mid-March.
- At the Community Hall, the subfloor work is substantially complete so new flooring will be installed.
- At the airport, crack sealing will take place to prolong the life of the runway. A new storage shed to house bikes for visitors to use when they arrive at the airport is under consideration.
- Shelter Point Park will get new picnic tables and the footbridge will be replaced.
- A new RCMP officer is expected in mid-January.
- The electrical system at the Farmers Market will be upgraded and consideration will be given to an additional structure to shelter market vendors.
- Sandpipers Preschool will receive a new fence, gate and sandbox.

At the regional level:

- Evacuation plans will be updated and a public meeting about this on Texada can be expected this spring.
- qRD staff will continue to seek grant funding to refinish our tennis courts (\$50,000-ish).
- The regional board will consider a new method of allocation of Community

Works (gas tax) funding which will prioritize the needs of electoral areas.

- This year's qRD budget is up by 3.7 per cent in preliminary estimates.

The Board's advocacy work this year will include working with MOTT to support a possible shoulder-widening project on GB Road between GB and the park, and further work on defective culverts identified in the Texada Drainage Study.

Last year the Board's advocacy to the RCMP and Conservation to work together to enforce illegal burning regulations paid off.

The two agencies have agreed to collaborate and be equipped to respond to complaints made under the Environmental Management Act and Hazardous Waste Regulations, including enforcement. Thank you to both agencies for this valuable collaboration.

Sandy McCormick  
area D director  
[sandynleeti@gmail.com](mailto:sandynleeti@gmail.com)  
604-414-3525

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## GILLIES BAY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

### Boil Water Notice

Well, I spoke too soon. We had to go back on Boil Water Notice on December 6, due to a failure with the chlorine regulator. This is a critical piece of electronic equipment that controls precise chlorine dosing into the water system for disinfection. The regulator has been fixed. All we need now is for two consecutive good water tests for us to lift the Notice. This should be accomplished by mid-January. Please continue to boil your water for everyday use until you hear otherwise.

### About Those Potholes

Thank you to everyone who let us know about the significant potholes caused by the water line upgrades along Sanderson and at the intersection of Oak and Cedar. They have been temporarily filled in with gravel, but the real work of fixing them will occur when the rain stops. Please let us know if these areas become a nuisance again.

### Water Line Upgrades

Shout-out to George and Doug, who could be seen last year up to their neck in the mucky trenches replacing 60-year-old water lines on Sanderson and Cedar! The next round of water line upgrades will resume in May, if the weather cooperates.

### Streetlights

Not everyone likes them when we are trying to go to sleep, but they are important to help the walkers at night be seen. Please let the office know if any on your street are not working and we'll send BC Hydro by to replace the bulb.

### Housekeeping

A word about leaving your taps running

during cold weather. While it is tempting, we are asking you to not let outside taps run all night. This uses up expensive chlorine that just runs out onto your lawn. Instead, try letting an inside tap lightly drip (if you can stand it). This accomplishes the same goal of keeping the taps from freezing up.

### Big Thanks!

We wish to thank John Bikadi for his wonderful work phoning people and going door to door to update our Emergency Alert System. John went above and beyond to get your contact information, and we would never have gotten this far without him. So, the next time the office texts, emails or calls you about an emergency, John is the one to thank! Please make sure you let us know if any of your contact information changes!

### Another Big Thanks!

To Carolyn Walton-Kay, for providing support in the office and at Board meetings, especially for sorting out old boxes of files.

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

January 6 at 11:00 am—Water Quality

January 7 at 4:30 pm—Finance &  
Governance

January 13 at 4:30 pm—Board of Trustee

### Contact Information

Water Emergency 604-208-3955

Fire Emergency 911

Fire Chief 604-414-5121

GBID Office 604-223-7757

Office Hours Mon – Thurs. 9:00-12:00

From all of us at GBID, we wish you all the best for a wonderful 2026!

## VAN ANDA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

### SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM VAID!

As we reflect on the past year, we want to extend our sincere thanks to all our residents for your patience and support during what has been a very challenging year. Despite the difficulties, we've made important progress to ensure a continued, reliable water supply and to build a foundation for better affordability in the future. We look forward to working together in the coming year to keep our community strong, resilient, and well-served.

### ANNUAL INVOICES

Water invoices for 2026 will be mailed out in early January. If you do not receive your invoice by mid-January, please contact us so we can ensure your account is up to date. Annual newsletters for both Water and the Fire Department will be included with your invoice.

### 2026 RATE INCREASE

We're committed to keeping water service safe, reliable, and transparent. For 2026 the average household seeing around a 13% increase. Key drivers include higher costs for treatment plant parts, cartridge filters, and labor, plus adjustments to ensure leak-related costs are shared more fairly across all customer categories. A full report with details, FAQs, and tables is available on our website.

### VAID PAYMENT PLAN

VAID offers a payment plan option. For more information, please visit our website at [vananda-id.ca/payments/](http://vananda-id.ca/payments/). Then, email or mail us your proposed payment plan details and make the first payment by March 10. If you need assistance with planning or have questions, please

contact us—we're here to help.

### METER PROJECT UPDATES

More meters have been installed, and the new Copper Queen line installation is complete.

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

### WORKING ON YOUR WATERLINE?

Please check with us before making changes to your waterlines—recent cut-offs have occurred for those who didn't!

### CONTACT & SUPPORT

Questions or feedback?

Email [contact@vananda-id.ca](mailto:contact@vananda-id.ca) or call 604-486-7035.

**WATER EMERGENCY:** 1-672-882-9901



**BUILD YOUR AMBITION**

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*To all who answered the whimsical call and decorated a Christmas Tree along our Island roads...*

**THANK YOU**

*You Provided Us With Good Christmas Feels!*

