



SEPTEMBER 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 TRANS. STN 10-4PM	3	4	5
6	7 LABOUR DAY HOLIDAY	8 FOOD BANK Call In 10-3PM DEMENTIA AWARENESS Sr. Centre, 2:30-4:30PM BACK TO SCHOOL	9 FOOD BANK Pick Up 11-12PM WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL CIRCLE at the Yurt, 6-7pm	10 TWIN LUNCHEON Legion, Noon TIRC MTG. Credit Union 4 PM	11 COMMUNITY LUNCH Sr. Ctr. @ Noon LEGION GENERAL MEETING Door @ 5:30PM Starts @ 7PM	12 TRANS. STN 10-4PM
13 MINI FALL FAIR GB Ballpark Noon—2PM	14 TICS MEETING Legion, 10:30AM	15	16 TRANS. STN 10-4PM	17 YOUTH GROUP 4:45—6:30PM	18 GENTLE MAT YOGA @ The Yurt 10-11 am BINGO LEGION Door @ 5:30PM Starts @ 7 PM DANCE TEMPLE Shelter Pt. 7-9PM	19 5Rythm Dance Workshop GB Hall, 11-5pm (must register)
20 RAISE THE ROOM JAM 3PM, The Inn EXPRESS LINES DEADLINE	21	22	23	24 COMMUNITY BINGO Sr. Centre, 1PM	25 GENTLE MAT YOGA @ The Yurt 10-11 am COMMUNITY LUNCH Sr. Ctr. @ Noon LEGION BINGO Door @ 5:30PM Starts @ 7PM	26 TRANS. STN 10-4PM
27	28	29 Texada Airport Advisory Comm. MTG GB Hall, 9:45am	30 LEGION POTLUCK Door @ 5PM			

TEXADA ISLAND EXPRESS LINES

September 2026

On Our Shores...Beached Dead Grey Whale on Texada

While out kayaking in early July, Candi Little spotted whale bones on a beach just north of Davie Bay.

Over the next couple of weeks, several Texadans hiked down from Shingle Beach Road and started collecting scattered bones, including ear bones and baleen, some several hundred meters away. Even the long spinal column, would change shapes from what seemed perfectly straight to various curves, probably from tidal action.

Turning over several choice pieces such as the tail, and skull was met with trepidation as the smell was rank. To save the bones from wandering off for carvings or yard art, the location was kept quiet.

Mich Macauley contacted her network of whale specialists, who in turn passed the information to John Ford, a semi-retired whale biologist in Nanaimo and the Whale Interpretive Centre (WIC) in Telegraph Cove on Vancouver Island. WIC had lost their feature whale skeleton and building in a fire.

On July 31, nine volunteers hiked down for the 6:30 am high tide to meet a 4-crew skiff from Vancouver Island and a safety boat from Texada.

Following instructions from experts, we were broken into groups. The cutting group with sharp common kitchen knives easily cut through the cartilage between the vertebrae, breaking the spine into carriable sections. Smaller bones were placed in five

gallon buckets. Ribs and large bones were carried down to a staging area closer to the boat.

The skull was placed on a provided crib which took four people to load onto the boat. The large tail, still very much intact, not sure why it was not eaten,

was cut open to check for bones and then bagged up in sections. With a bucket brigade line everything was processed and loaded in less than an hour to beat the falling tide. Left on the beach were only bits of hide.

More than just an end of life for a magnificent giant, but a legacy that will live on in a coastal museum to study and enjoy.

Beach Volunteers

Candi Little, Mich Macauley, Terry Hollo, Leslie Goresky, Fran Feuer, Brenda Currie, Adam and Roger Gagnon, Brenda McIntyre

To Be Continued...

...More 'Beached Whale' on page 18 & 19





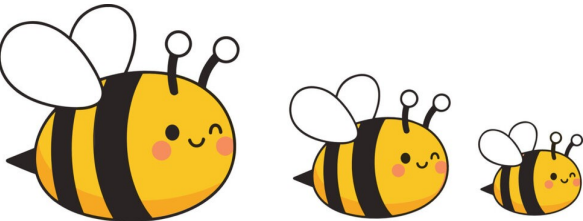
TEXADA ISLAND HEALTH CENTRE

HOURS OF OPERATION:
Monday to Thursday
8:30 am to 12:00 pm and 1 pm to 4 pm
Friday
8:30 am to 12:00 pm
PHONE NUMBER:
604-486-7525
If no reply, please leave a message.
EMERGENCIES: 911
Information
B.C. Health Hotline: 811

- Visits by appointment only.
- We are happy to support you in virtual visits.
- Lab tests by appointment only.
- Extended lab time: 8:30 am to 9:45 am.
- TAP forms can be picked up after 1:15 pm.
- There is currently no provider in the clinic, so for all urgent concerns, please go to qathet General Hospital.

VCH is working hard to bring a permanent health-care provider to Texada Island Health Centre.

In the meantime, care will look a little different, please be kind to the staff as we transition.



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.

ONGOING WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

MONDAY:
TAI CHI—GB Tennis Court @ 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 @ 9:30 AM
LEGION GAMES—Doors @ 3:30 pm
PICKLE BALL—Texada School @ 6 pm

WEDNESDAY:
TAI CHI—GB Tennis Court @ 9:30 pm
CHAIR YOGA—Legion @ 10 am
TEXADA MUSEUM—by Texada School @ 10-Noon
SCRABBLE—Legion @ 1:30 pm

THURSDAY:
PICKLE BALL—Texada School @ 6 pm
FUN DARTS—Texada Inn @ 7 pm

FRIDAY:
KARAOKE—Texada Inn @ 7pm

SATURDAY:
TAI CHI—GB Tennis Court @ 9:30 am
PICKLE BALL—Texada School @ 10 am
CIRCLE OF LIGHT MEDITATION—Yurt @ 2 pm
LEGION MEAT DRAW—Legion @ 3:30 pm

SUNDAY:
CHURCH SERVICES—United Church @ 10:30 am
LEGION MEAT DRAW—Legion @ 3:30 pm
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS—United Church @ 7:30 pm



"Ah, September! You are the doorway to the season that awakens my soul."
- Peggy Toney Horton



"All the months are crude experiments, out of which the perfect September is made "
- Virginia Woolf



Myrtle Point Environmental Services Ltd.dba



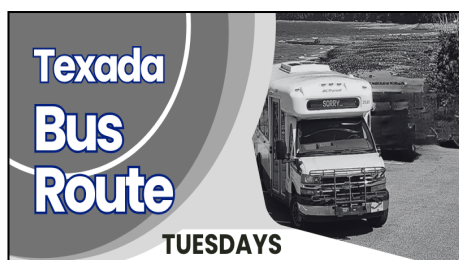
- Septic Tank Pumping
- Installations & Repair
- Portable Toilet Rentals
- Hand Wash Stations
- RV Pumps
- Holding Tank Pumps
- Grease Traps
- Catch Basins



Call us for fast, friendly service
604.487.1175
ruralseptic.ca
ruralseptic.dan@gmail.com

Dan Robinson, ASTTBC Certified

Texada to Powell River	Powell River to Texada
SEPT 8, 2026—MARCH 31, 2027	
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
SEPT 1—SEPT 7, 2026	
1:30 PM (M-F)	2:15 PM (M-F)
ADDED SUMMER SAILINGS END AS OF SEPT 8.	
**DG—Dangerous Goods Sailing Only (Wednesday)	



Texada Bus Route

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS ONLY

To reserve a seat phone 604 - 483-2008 a day ahead before 3 pm

Departs - Gillies Bay Old School - 8:25 am and Texada Market - 8:50 am.

Departs: Town Center Mall - 3:25 pm

\$8 & \$2.25 for seniors (65+) per trip

Saltery Bay to Earls Cove	Earls Cove to Saltery Bay
SEPT 1—OCT 12, 2026	
5:35 am	6:30 am
7:25 am	8:20 am
9:25 am	10:35 am
11:45 am	12:55 pm
2:30 pm	3:40 pm
4:55 pm	6:00 pm
7:05 pm	8:05 pm
9:00 pm	10:00 pm
LANGDALE TO HORSESHOE BAY	
HORSESHOE BAY TO LANGDALE	
JUNE 25—SEPT 7, 2026	
6:20 am	7:30 am
7:40 am NOT SUN	8:50 am NOT SUN
8:40 am	9:50 am
10:00 am	11:10 am
11:00 am	12:10 pm
12:15 pm	1:20 pm
1:15 pm	2:25 pm
2:35 pm	3:40 pm
3:35 pm	4:40 pm
4:50 pm NOT SAT	6:05 pm NOT SAT
5:55 pm	7:05 pm
7:10 pm ONLY SUN	9:25 pm
8:15 pm	11:30 pm
10:30 pm	

Langdale to Horseshoe Bay	Horseshoe Bay to Langdale
SEPT 8—OCT 12, 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	3:45 pm NOT SAT
4:55 pm NOT SAT	4:45 pm
5:55 pm	6:05 pm NOT SAT
7:15 pm NOT SAT	7:05 pm
8:15 pm	9:25 pm
10:30 pm	11:30 pm
Sunshine Coast Connector 1-844-613-8222 www.sunshinecoastconnector.ca/ <i>Starting Sept. 9th</i> Bus will run DAILY b/w Earls Cove & Sechelt ferry terminals. BC Transit's #12 bus runs b/w Town Centre Mall & Saltery Bay. Check both BC Transit & Sunshine Connector websites for connection times and more information.	
Powell River To Comox	Comox To Powell
7:55 am	6:00 am
12:00 pm	9:55 am
5:15 pm	3:15 pm
8:45 pm	7:10 pm



MINI FALL FAIR

FARMER'S MARKET

SEPTEMBER 13, 2026
NOON TO 2 PM
GILLIES BAY BALLPARK

How the summer has flown by!

September 13th will be our final market of the year & we will wrap it up with our annual mini Fall Fair.

Our very own Foxglove's will be playing, we'll have our usual super fun donut chew, corn cob chomp, and the infamous pie eating contests!

New to this year - A Cake Walk 🥰.

Come and join in on the fun!

Your Farmers Market coordinator,
Dawn Hughes

COMMUNITY DEMENTIA CONVERSATIONS

A GATHERING FOR DEMENTIA AWARENESS & DISCUSSION



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH
2:30 PM - 4:30 PM



GILLIES BAY OLD SCHOOL SENIORS CENTRE
5079 GILLIES BAY ROAD



REGISTER BY:
EMAIL: RWOODS@ALZHEIMERBC.ORG
WEBSITE:
PHONE: 1-800-936-6033

- Learn more about brain health, dementia and long-term care.
- Learn about supports and services available through the Alzheimer Society of BC and Yukon for you and your community.
- Share and provide insight about your communities needs and strengths.



Alzheimer Society
BC & YUKON

Funded in part by the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program



**Wireless
System Update**

CityWest has extended its fibre network on Texada. However, many wireless customers are not served by this network, and some more remote areas are likely to remain outside the network for the foreseeable future.

To ensure continuity of service, GBIS will soon assume responsibility for the operation of the wireless system.

GBIS intends to operate the wireless service as a community network providing basic internet service. To receive service, however, customers must be able to see one of the system's towers or access points.

CityWest has offered to supply an internet feed from its Connected Coast cable service in Gillies Bay. This should improve both reliability and available bandwidth.

This plan is possible thanks to the expertise and efforts of Leigh Phillips, who rescued the wireless system last year. However, more help is needed to ensure that the system remains stable and sustainable, and we would like to hear from anyone interested in assisting. GBIS is also looking for a bookkeeper with knowledge of Sage 50, to be hired at an hourly rate.

If you are interested in helping, either in a paid or volunteer position, please contact GBIS at GBISoc@shaw.ca.

More details on rates will be published in the October Lines. If you have questions, please send a message to GBISoc@shaw.ca.

The GBIS Board

Texada Women's Island Network Luncheon

Thursday September 10, 2026
at the Legion.
Doors open at 11:30 a.m.,
lunch at 12 noon
& the guest speaker at 1 p.m.

Guest Speaker: TBA

To reserve, please call Moe at
604-414-7312 no later than
Thursday, September 3, 2026. If
you have food allergies, please
let Moe know when you make
your reservation.

Memberships are due.

Members not wearing their name
tag will be fined a loonie. If you
are wearing your name tag, you
will be entered, automatically,
into our draw for a free
lunch. The winner will be drawn
next June.

WELCOME BACK LADIES!





Classified Ads



ACCOMMODATION

Stay at Welcome Harvest Farm
Private Studio available for one night stay or more.
604-486-7137 2001 Crescent Bay Rd.

Our Sheltering Place Loft House
3 bedroom house in Gillies Bay
Short Term Accommodation
June to October 250-880-8405
ourshelteringplace@gmail.com

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



✓ Improve flexibility
& posture

✓ Build strength gently

Tai Chi

...a gentle art for
mind, body
and spirit



Monday, Wednesday, Saturday
9:30 am

Gillies Bay Tennis Court

Beginners meet Tuesdays & Thursdays
at the Senior Centre - 9:30 am

NEW TO YOU GOODS

SADIE AND DAISY'S NEW TO YOU STORE
Open from 10 to 5, Tuesday to Saturday
Across from the Texada Market in Van Anda.
604-486-6990

Express Lines
is a Texada Island Community Society
(TICS) Publication
Send announcements
(max. 350 words) or ads to:
E-mail: ticsv0n3k0@gmail.com
Phone: 604-414-5619
EXPRESS LINES SUBSCRIPTION
For a 12-month off-island subscription to
the *Express Lines*, please send \$40 to:
TICS, PO Box 233,
VAN ANDA, BC, V0N 3K0.
NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____
PROVINCE: _____
POSTAL CODE: _____

RECYCLING STATION HOURS



Van Anda
Tuesday & Thursday
9 am - 5 pm



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

4

TEXADA ISLAND UNITED CHURCH

The most fearless thing we can do is keep showing up with love and grace and joy in our real right-now lives.

Sarah Bessey

Worship Services: Sunday services begin at 10:30 a.m. with coffee and fellowship afterwards. Communion service Sept. 6, 2026 Everyone is always welcome in our church and at our communion table.

Focus on Spirit: Published weekly on the website. Links can be found on the Texada Island United Church Facebook page.

Minister's Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursday's 1:30- 3:30 p.m. 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: 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.



Women's SPIRITUAL CIRCLE

September 9th
6 - 7 pm
(One circle in September)

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

ALL ARE WELCOME



Circle of Light Meditation

Each Saturday in
September
2 - 3 pm

at The Yurt
1925 Sturt Road
Van Anda

All Are Welcome!





qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT

MEETING NOTICE

Members of the public are advised that the
**TEXADA ISLAND RECREATION
COMMISSION**

will be holding a meeting on
THURSDAY September 10TH at 4:00PM

**The meeting will take place in the
Community Room in the
First Credit Union in Van Anda**

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

The agenda will be available
two days prior to the meeting

Please visit the meeting portal
<https://qathetrd.civicweb.net/Portal/>
for access to current and previous meetings

If you have any questions, please contact:
administration@qathet.ca 604-485-2260



The Grey Whale Beached Volunteers

Joseph Scott

is seeking your support for



Director

qathet Area D,
Texada Island

in the next **General Election:**
Saturday, October 17, 2026

I am running because I believe in Texada. I believe in its people and its future. I possess the experience at the Regional District level and will bring strong, effective representation for the residents of our island. Let's...

Keep it LOCAL Keep it REAL

Questions or ideas?

Email: joseph4director@gmail.com
Text: 604-818-5667
Facebook: Joseph 4 Director

Advertisement authorized by Joseph Scott

Tom Read for Texada Director, Area D qathet Regional District

Texada Resilience means we can thrive as a more self-reliant island community



My vision: I stand for Texada islanders’ aspirations as expressed in Texada’s 2021 Official Community Plan:

“Texada Island’s vision is to sustain an independent rural lifestyle with minimal regulations. We envision our island economy fostering a diverse and balanced mix of resource industries, tourism, small business enterprises, agriculture, and services for seniors. Texada Island will adapt to change carefully, while always preserving our freedoms, stewarding the natural beauty of our island, our coast, and our island lifestyle.”

Cell/Text: 604-414-9998 Email: ravenbaywoods@gmail.com Website: <https://texadaresilience.com>

Goals:

PROTECT our friendly rural island way of life by actively bringing islanders together to defuse potentially polarizing issues and by preventing government over-regulation, large-scale development and loss of essential services.

PREPARE our community better for resilience from events beyond our control, such as economic shocks, wildfires, flooding, earthquakes and the next pandemic.

IMPROVE existing public services on Texada Island and rein in qathet Regional District property taxes.

Professional Experience:

Texada (2000 to present): local wood products manufacturing and marketing, construction project management, real estate sales, farming, community health worker, now retired pensioner

Pre-Texada (before 2000): journalist, educator, city government staff, project manager, corporate strategic planner, small business owner/operator

Texada Volunteer Experience:

Van Anda Volunteer Fire Department/First Responder (1 year to present); Texada Agriculture Group & Food Hub, co-founder and Hub coordinator (14 years to present); Texada Official Community Plan Advisory Committee, 2002 - 2005; Texada Librarian (9 years); Texada Better at Home Coordinator (6 years); Texada Arts, Culture & Tourism Society, co-founder and executive (4 years); Texada Island Community Society executive (9 years), Texada Chamber of Commerce executive (15 years); Royal Canadian Legion Branch 232 (Texada) executive (5 years)

During my 26 years living on Texada Island I’ve developed strong connections with individuals from all walks of life in our community. I’m reliable, caring, open-minded and approachable.

Link to Tom’s Texada Resilience website:



Authorized by Tom Read,
financial agent,
ravenbaywoods@gmail.com

Texada Garden Club

SHARING & GROWING ON THE ROCK

By Lori Anne John

This year marks the 20th anniversary of The Texada Garden Club. It all started in 2004 when Mary Leopkey moved to Texada full time from Qualicum, where she had enjoyed the local garden club saying, "it was so much fun". Mary was talking to Cheryl Nyl in the library and suggested that perhaps Texada should also form a garden club.

The seed was planted and in the fall of 2006 Cheryl started The Texada Garden Club.

The first meetings were members talking about their gardens successes and problems. Local knowledge was shared.

Some of our best meetings even today are when we help each other with gardening issues. We have so many gifted gardeners living on our Island who love sharing their expertise! Some of the topics have covered soil amendment, composting, saving seeds, bad bugs, pruning, building mason bee houses, attracting pollinators to the garden, how to sharpen tools and actually sharpening them at the meeting, water management, lot 6 - metal dump finds, bio-char, and so many more topics.

The Texada Garden Club has also welcomed guest speakers from off Island. Some of the topics covered have been; food as medicine, replacing a lawn with plants, winter vegetables, planting native species, converting chest freezers to the "Hot Damn Composter" and many more. Our most well known speaker was Carolyn Herriot who is the author of "A 52-week Organic Gardening Guide" and "The Zero-mile diet".

We have maintained a good relationship with the Powell River Garden Club. They share their guest speaker list with us and we send them our Express Line articles to be included in their monthly newsletters.

We have two social events each year. First our December Potluck tea where we exchange a gift in a playful game. The gift might be stolen from you especially if it happens to be local honey or garlic! And the Fabulous Potluck year end gathering.

In the past we have had Garden Tours of our members' gardens which attracted people from the Sunshine Coast and Vancouver Island culminating in a grand tea with lovely finger sandwiches, sweets and tea in fine china tea cups! Through the years we have shared plants and seeds at the farmer's market.

With money that we raised from these events we donated to local charities, some of them being; the Fire Hall, Breast Cancer group, Memorial Garden for Linda Bienia, Texada Island Health Center, Play School, The Texada Agriculture Society and the Food Bank. Our club is community minded and we like to share when we are able.

Cheryl stepped down as president in 2018 and Lori John became organizer in 2019. Lori started the Garden Club Notes Express Lines articles during Covid as a way of staying connected with the gardening community. Lori has now stepped down and our new president is Virginia D'Arcangelo. We are fortunate to have such a thriving gardening community here on Texada Island.

Come join us - Wednesday, October 21, 2pm, at the Seniors Center.



The Wild Wild West ... By Coyote

I was in Ross River 1977 working for a company looking to cash in and extend known mineral deposits in the Anvil Range. One of the largest mines in Canada at the time, the huge Faro lead, zinc and silver mine, had been discovered by a group of local and indigenous prospectors working together for a number of years.

I was just a greenhorn new to prospecting and mineral exploration. I loved it. I was keen and like a sponge soaking up whatever knowledge came my way. I had just arrived in Ross River with our crew to start staking claims and prospecting for the following year's program. We were all sitting at a table in the Welcome Inn with my working buds as this story of an event happening a few weeks prior was told to us by the Welcome Inn Barkeeper.

Al Kulan was an early pioneer and prospector who worked out of Ross River, Yukon. An historical figure of renown, celebrated and honoured as one of the founders of modern hard-rock mining in the Yukon. His discoveries ultimately led to the development of the Cypress Anvil Mine in Faro and transformed the Yukon's economy.

Kulan's success in business and prospecting provided him with a number of opportunities and ventures, one of which was the purchase of the Welcome Inn in Ross River. Jack Rolls Sr. purchased the Inn from Kulan in '67, but his poor business ways and knowledge resulted in him selling it back to Kulan in '73. Jack Rolls' luck continued to decline as he struggled with alcoholism and depression.

In the early evening on September 12, 1977,

Al Kulan was seated with friends at the Welcome Inn bar when Jack Rolls Sr. entered the bar, ordered a drink and walked calmly up to the table where Kulan sat. Without speaking a word he pulled a 357 magnum revolver and fired one shot at point-blank range into Kulan's head. He then walked to the bar placed the revolver on the counter finished his drink and told the barkeeper, "There, now call the RCMP". He continued drinking until they arrived. It was one of the Yukon Territories most notorious murders of the '70s.

We all sat there stunned as the story was told. It had happened just weeks prior to our arrival. Psychiatrists testified that Rolls had developed a fixed delusion that Kulan was responsible for his failures.

My work in the Yukon in the '70s was a real education. It opened my eyes to early memorable and historic years of BC and Yukon's mining industry and history that made my career prospecting enjoyable, brutally aware of the fragility of all life and, at the same time, respectful of it.

Looking back, my reflection. There are untold billions who could have lived and never did because they have not been born. We are of the very few who are fortunate to have been born. Celebrate every day, live life to the fullest. Don't say no to chance. Don't underestimate fate or coincidence and don't say no to love... for there are many who will never know of it.

Cheers, Coyote



Gillies Bay Tennis & Pickle Ball Courts Receive Professional Resurfacing



Our thanks to the **Powell River Community Forest** for a grant that enabled professional resurfacing and repainting of the community courts in Gillies Bay. Lines were repainted for tennis and pickle ball. The new surface also helps protect the underlying asphalt from damage caused by ultraviolet exposure and moisture infiltration.



Yoga

September

CHAIR YOGA on WEDNESDAYS, 10 am @ the Legion.

Gently restore mobility, release tension and dial down the stress response.

Please bring a mat if you have one, call Jing for info or to reserve a spot.

GENTLE MAT CLASSES @ the YURT on STURT

Fridays, Sept 18 & 25 10 am - 11 am

This class is a blend of gentle yoga and somatics, standing and on the mat, suitable for anyone that can get up independently from the floor. Call or text to reserve your spot.

☎ 250-650-4324
✉ jing.darcangelo@gmail.com

Rock Your Body

Presents

'THE TURN'

A Day-long 5Rhythms® Workshop with Shauna Devlin

SEPT 19 | 11am-5pm | Texada Island Community Hall

The Equinox is the turn. Feel the shift. Find your rhythm. Dance into what's next.

Join for a day-long 5Rhythms® workshop exploring the turning of the seasons and the turning points within ourselves.

Through creative, reflective, and collective practices, we'll move with transition, making space to feel what is shifting, honour what has been, release what is ready to go, and listen for what wants to emerge in the coming season.

A day to dance, connect, reflect, and meet the season ahead with an open and curious heart.

- Please pack a lunch, water bottle & journal.
- We may dance outside as well, so come prepared.

PLUS Friday night, Sept. 18th from 7-9

Shauna will host a Dance Temple at Shelter Point (outdoors with headsets) OR at the Hall, weather depending.

COST: \$60-\$90 Sliding Scale, **not** including Friday night. \$20 Drop-in for Friday only.

Register and view details at shaunadevlin.net



Royal Canadian Legion Branch 232

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

Welcome back!
Hope everyone had a very
Happy Summer.

Thank you to everyone who
came out and celebrated
the Legion's 100th birthday. A
very good time was had by
all. Special thanks goes to
Skipper Dave for helping with
the BBQ and Bard for
bartending, Evelyn, Denise,
Gail, Shelly, Judy and Barb E,
for all your help.

LEGION SCHOLARSHIP

We are pleased to announce
this year's Legion Scholarship
was awarded to Lee and
Rolly Thorpe's granddaughter
Layla Walker.
Congratulations!

GENERAL MEETING

Friday, September 11
Doors Open at 5:30 pm
Meeting Starts at 7 pm
Summer dress still in effect.

BINGO

Friday, September 18
Doors Open at 5:30 pm
Game Starts at 7 pm

POTLUCK DINNER

Wednesday, September 30
Doors at 5 pm, Dinner at 6 pm
Bring your favorite
dish & utensils

**EVERY TUESDAY IS
GAMES NIGHT & APPIES**

Doors Open at 3:30 pm

WEDNESDAYS SCRABBLE

Doors Open at 1:30 pm

MEATDRAWS

Saturdays and Sundays
Doors open at 3:30 pm

...lest we forget.



Licensed Residential Home Builder

250-580-3428

Construction / Excavation / Aggregate sales and delivery

Check out our website at Texadacontracting.ca and

Like and follow us on Facebook



2026 TINSHS Road Rally a Huge Success!

The 2026 TINSHS Road Rally was a
tremendous success, raising more than
\$10,000 to support the Texada Island Non-
profit Seniors Housing Society!

The good news doesn't stop there. During
the Rally, First Credit Union/Vancity
announced a new foundation grant
specifically for non-profit organizations on
Texada Island. More details about this
exciting opportunity will be announced soon.

A huge thank you goes to everyone who
participated, volunteered, sponsored,
cheered us on, donated, and helped make
this year's Road Rally such a fun and
successful community event.

Congratulations to Our Winners!

- **1st Place:** First C U at the Finish Line
- **2nd Place:** K & Scavengers
- **3rd Place:** Coffin Shakers & Pirates of the Car I Be In — Tie
- **Best Team Name:** Pirates of the Car I Be In
- **Best Team Costume:** Coffin Shakers
- **Poker Hand:** Rally Gallies
- **Most Pledges:** Texada Hosers
- **Show & Shine:** Rhoda's Mustang and Dan's Nova — Tie
- **50/50 Winner:** Rhoda Stuart, who generously donated her prize winnings back to TINSHS!

The Road Rally once again showed what
makes Texada such a special place—the
incredible community spirit and willingness of
people to come together to support a great
cause.

A full list of volunteers, sponsors, and
participants will be published on our website
soon.

Visit texadaseniorshousing.ca or follow TINSHS
on Facebook for updates.



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to schedule a pickup

FROM AND FOR TEXADA ISLAND

MUSEUM MUSINGS

OUR OWN “ERAS TOUR” OF TEXADA HISTORY

It might be interesting to approach the history of Texada through a timeline - a chronology of significant “eras” (thanks, Taylor Swift!). Over the next few months I will attempt to cover major developments in the island’s past, but forgive me if I omit events that some readers might consider important.

PRE-EUROPEAN ERA

There is considerable archeological evidence that Shelter Point was once the site of a well-established First Nations village. The remains of stone fish traps, house excavations, middens (containing charred soil, clam shells, deer bones) and a variety of found artifacts indicate an occupation from approximately 3000 years ago. (Aquila Archeological study). So much for the story of First Nations’ fear of the island sinking into the salty brine!

ERA OF EXPLORERS

Captain Jose Narvaez (Spanish) was the first European to see Texada (1791). He “discovered” it on Saint Felix’s Day, so he named it Isla de Felis. Unfortunately his chart notations were not clear to later British cartographers, thus initiating the subsequent naming confusion - Favada? Favana? Tanada? Texada?

Captain George Vancouver (British) sailed past a year later but wasn’t interested in stopping by. Detailed mapping of the area was accomplished by fellow limey Captain GH Richards (1857-1861) who named both Mouat Bay and Gillies Bay, but nobody seems to know why he chose those names.

ERA OF EARLY SETTLERS

Some of the first settlers were whalers. Elijah Fader operated out of Blubber Bay until he

went broke when the humpbacks “mysteriously” disappeared from the Strait.

Another settler, Harry Trim, was a whaler and a prospector who discovered the huge iron ore deposit just north of Gillies Bay (see next Era).

ERA OF BIG TIME MINERAL DISCOVERIES

Trim’s 1871 samples of ore caused a sensation two years later when Sewell Moody assayed them at 80% iron! The site was pre-empted by a consortium, which included BC Premier Amor de Cosmos (“lover of the universe” - real name Bill Smith).

His shady “insider dealings” of the “Texada Scandal” were investigated by BC’s first Royal Commission headed by the “hanging judge” Matthew Begbie. (Late spoiler: A de C got away with it!).

In 1880, Puget Sound Iron Company bought the claims and shipped 500 tons of ore to their smelter in Irondale, Washington. The Prescott, Paxton and Lake claims were developed.

Other areas were also investigated for geological riches. The company’s agent, WH Pop Lee, erected the first limestone kiln near Blubber Bay (1887). Meanwhile Captain Sturt developed a marble quarry at Sturt (Marble) Bay, but the quality proved to be inferior.

Texada started to attract prospectors and settlers, some of whom also worked in the mines.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

Peter Lock
Texada Island Heritage Society



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 September 8 –
Pick up September 9

Call or text on October 13 –
Pick up October 14

(604) 483-1219

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

Non-perishable food donations may be put in the baskets at the Gillies Bay General store, the Texada Market and the First Credit Union in Van Anda.

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

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

Texada Food Bank Thanks You!

We send a sincere *Thank You* to Brandt Larson, his family and Wades Causes for the continued financial support.

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



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Gillies Bay Improvement District is seeking a
Part-time Administrative Assistant

The Gillies Bay Improvement District (GBID) is a local government entity responsible for providing essential community services to residents of Gillies Bay on Texada Island. GBID oversees water system operations, fire protection services, and community administration. We are seeking a detail-oriented, community-minded Administrative Assistant to support the Corporate Officer and ensure smooth day-to-day operations.

Position Overview

The Administrative Assistant provides clerical, record keeping, and organizational support to the Improvement District. This role is ideal for someone who enjoys working independently, is comfortable with public-facing responsibilities, and has strong administrative skills.

Key Responsibilities

- Provide administrative support to the Corporate Officer, including preparing agendas, minutes, and meeting packages.
- Maintain accurate records, filing systems, and official documents in accordance with regulatory requirements.
- Assist with basic financial tasks such as processing invoices, tracking expenses, and supporting annual budget preparation.
- Coordinate communications, notices, and updates to residents.
- Support operational needs related to water system administration and fire protection services.

- Manage correspondence, scheduling, and general office operations.

Qualifications

- A minimum of 3 years experience in administrative or clerical roles, preferably in a local government or non-profit environment.
- Strong organizational skills and attention to detail.
- Proficiency with Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Outlook) and general computer literacy.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Ability to work independently and maintain confidentiality.
- Familiarity with basic bookkeeping or financial administration is an asset.
- Knowledge of Improvement Districts or small local government operations is an asset but not required.

Hours & Compensation

- Permanent, Part-time, flexible schedule. (15 -20 hours / week)
- Compensation commensurate with experience. (\$28 to \$34 / hour depending on experience and qualifications)
- Training and orientation provided.

How to Apply

Please submit a resume and cover letter outlining your qualifications and interest in the role to:

Gillies Bay Improvement District

Ken Becotte, Corporate Officer

Email: admin@gillies-bay.ca

Mail: PO Box 102, Gillies Bay, BC V0N 1W0

Applications will be accepted until

September 18, 2026. Only shortlisted

candidates will be contacted.

PRPL Continued...

Caregiver Support Group

At the library. Wednesday, Sept. 9, 10 -12 pm. Confidential group for caregivers of individuals living with dementia.
Registration required.



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September at a Glance!

For more info prpl.ca

- KIDS**, szagwyn@prpl.ca
- MODS on Mondays**—Rotary Makerspace. Mondays, 3:15-4:15 pm when booked. *Starts September 14.* For neurodivergent kids aged 7+ & their families. *Registration required.*
- Preschool Storytime**—Children's Reading Room, Wednesdays & Thursdays, 10:30-11:00 am Library Storytime. *Drop-in.*
- Tinker Trunk**—Makerspace, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 pm. *Starts September 8.* Kids 8-12, choose-your-own-tech-adventure. *Drop-in.*
- TEENS**, edgar@prpl.ca
- Prime Time**—Community Room, Wednesdays, 3:00-4:30 pm. *Starts September 9.* Primary grades K+ connect & play. *Drop-in.*
- Drawn Together**—Community Room, Fridays, 3:30-4:30 pm. *Starts September 11.* Kids aged 7-12. *Drop-in.*
- Teen Takeover**—First Credit Community Room & Huckleberry Room. Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 pm, from Sept. 5. Ages 12+ play video or board games, and relax with DIY crafting. *Drop-in.*
- Fantasy Adventure Club**—Herring & Huckleberry Rooms. Wednesday, 3:30-5:00 pm, from September 16. Ages 12+ enjoy roleplaying games. *Drop-in.*
- Afterschool Chess and Games Club**—First Credit Community Room. Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 pm, from September 17. Ages 10+ play chess, card, and board games. *Drop-in.*
- Young Writers' Group**—foxm@prpl.ca Huckleberry Room. Friday, 3:30-4:30 pm, from September 18. Informal group for ages 10+. *Drop-in.*
- Minecraft Mornings**—Makerspace. Saturdays,

- 10-11am, from Sept. 19. Ages 10+ play Minecraft Edu. *Drop-in.*
- ADULTS**, mmerlino@prpl.ca
- FORGE - Cautiously Pessimistic**—Community Room. Friday, Sept. 11, 11-12 pm. Debbie McGee presents her memoir about her husband's death. *Drop-in*
- FORGE - Writing a Memoir Workshop**—Community Room. Sat., Sept.12, 11-12 pm. Debbie McGee discusses writing, editing, and publishing a memoir. *Registration required.*
- The Poetry of Mary Oliver**—Community Room. Saturday, September 12, 2:00 -3:00 pm. Roger Kimmerly and Morna Rockingham present the poetry and life of Mary Oliver. *Drop-in.*
- Namaqua a Journey**—Community Room. Saturday September 19, 2:00-3:00 pm. John Nienaber presents a historical novel set in South Africa's Namaqualand. *Drop-in.*
- Community Assembly: Tools of Democratic Engagement with VIU**—Community Room. Saturday September 26, 10:30 am-1:00 pm Join Dr. Micheal K. MacKenzie and Dr. Paula Waatainen to learn about democratic communication. *Registration required.* Contact edgar@prpl.ca.
- ᓴᓐᓂᓐ Elder Phillip George**—Community Room. Saturday, September 26, 2 -3 pm. Elder Phillip George will share memories and traditional drumming and songs. *Drop-in.*
- Write On**—Online. Fridays 2:00-3:00 pm. Starts September 18. Online writing group. Registration required. For more information contact edgar@prpl.ca.
- Poetry Circle**—Community Room. Last Thursday of the Month, 5:00-6:00 pm. Starting September 24. *Drop-in.* For more information contact edgar@prpl.ca.

Continued next page...



Gillies Bay Volunteer Fire Department Chief Position Posting

- The Gillies Bay Improvement District (GBID) is seeking a dedicated, community-minded leader to serve as Chief of the Gillies Bay Volunteer Fire Department (GBVFD). This is an important leadership opportunity for an experienced fire service member who is committed to public safety, volunteer team development, emergency preparedness, and service to the Gillies Bay and Texada Island community.
- The Gillies Bay Volunteer Fire Department provides fire protection and 1st Responder services to Gillies Bay and the surrounding fire protection area. The Department also works cooperatively with other emergency service partners on Texada Island and in the region, supporting a safe, prepared, and resilient island community.
- Role Summary**
Reporting to the GBID Board of Trustees, the Fire Chief is responsible for the overall leadership, administration, operational readiness, training, safety, and effective management of the GBVFD. The Fire Chief provides direction during emergency incidents, supports recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters, maintains required records, and ensures that departmental activities are carried out in accordance with applicable legislation, policies, standards, and best practices.
- Key Responsibilities**
- Provide leadership, supervision, and operational direction to volunteer firefighters.
 - Serve as Incident Commander or senior fire officer during emergency responses, as appropriate.
 - Promote a positive, respectful, inclusive, and safety-focused volunteer department culture.
 - Coordinate and support training, drills, competency development, and member readiness.
 - Oversee fire suppression readiness, emergency

- response procedures, fire prevention activities, and community safety education.
- Support volunteer firefighter recruitment, onboarding, retention, mentoring, and succession planning.
 - Maintain department records, including training, attendance, incident, equipment, inspection, and maintenance records.
 - Ensure apparatus, equipment, personal protective equipment, and facilities are inspected, maintained, and ready for response.
 - Prepare reports and recommendations for the Gillies Bay Improvement District Board of Trustees.
 - Assist with annual planning, budgeting, procurement recommendations, and policy development.
 - Liaise with regional emergency services, mutual aid partners, provincial agencies, and community organizations.
 - Support compliance with applicable occupational health and safety requirements, emergency service standards, and local government policies.
- Required Qualifications**
- Progressive experience in the fire service, preferably in a volunteer or composite fire department environment.
 - Demonstrated leadership experience, including supervision, mentoring, training, or incident command responsibilities.
 - Working knowledge of fire suppression operations, emergency scene management, fire prevention, firefighter safety, and volunteer department administration.
 - Strong communication, interpersonal, organizational, and problem-solving skills.
 - Ability to work respectfully with volunteers, elected or appointed officials, community members, emergency service partners, and the public.
 - Valid BC driver's licence; a Class 3 licence with air

Continued on Next Page...

Gillies Bay Volunteer Fire Department Chief
Position Posting...continued

- brake endorsement is preferred or may be required within an agreed timeframe.
- Ability to meet physical, availability, and response expectations associated with the role.
 - Residence in, or ability to maintain effective response availability within, the Gillies Bay fire protection area or an area acceptable to the Gillies Bay Improvement District.

Preferred Qualifications

- Fire Officer certification, Incident Command System training, or equivalent fire service leadership training.
- First Responder, emergency medical responder, or comparable emergency response certification.
- Experience developing or implementing operational guidelines, training plans, safety programs, or emergency response procedures.
- Experience working with local government, improvement district governance, budgets, grants, procurement, or public reporting.
- Knowledge of rural, island, interface, or remote community emergency response considerations.

Why Join Us?

This position offers the opportunity to lead a committed volunteer fire department serving a close-knit island community. The successful candidate will help strengthen emergency preparedness, mentor volunteers, support community fire safety, and contribute directly to the wellbeing of Gillies Bay and Texada Island.

Compensation and Terms

This is a volunteer leadership position with compensation, stipend, expense reimbursement, and/or other terms to be confirmed by the GBID. Appointment is subject to successful completion of required checks, references, and any conditions established by the GBID.

How to Apply

Qualified applicants are invited to submit a cover letter and résumé outlining their fire service experience, leadership background, qualifications, and interest in serving the Gillies Bay community.

Apply to:

Corporate Officer, Gillies Bay Improvement District
Email: admin@gillies-bay.ca

Application deadline: Open until filled.

Posting reference: Gillies Bay Volunteer Fire Department Chief



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NEWS
FROM
THE
LIBRARY

Please Note: The library will be closed on Monday, September 7th for the Labour Day holiday.

A BIG thank you to the community who came out to support the Annual Book Sale and those who made donations to the Book Sale. Also, applause goes to City Transfer who every year transport the book sale remainders to a Boys & Girls Club in the lower mainland.

"Announcing Your Place in the Family of Things" - Roger Kimmerly and Morna Rockingham will read and present the poetry and life of Mary Oliver at the PRPL on September 12, 2 – 3 pm.

This month I am highlighting information on **Animal Husbandry**. Animal Husbandry is defined by several sources as the science of breeding and the care and management of farm animals, such as: poultry (chickens, ducks & geese), livestock (pigs, cattle, sheep or goats) and bees. The benefits of animal husbandry are food, soil health, sustainable agriculture, income and the well-being of animals.

Poultry: *Storey's Guide to Raising Poultry* by Glenn Drowns, c2012. **636.5 DRO.**

Livestock: *Raising Goats Naturally* by Deborah Niemann, c 2013. **636.3 NIE.**

Soil: *Chicken Tractor: the permaculture guide to healthy hens and healthy soil* by

Andy Lee, c1998. **636.5 LEE**

Bees: *The Bee Book* by Fergus Chadwick, c2016. **595.79 CHA**

There are many more resources that I haven't mentioned. Browse the shelves in the **636** and **595** call number range.

Pam Kenny

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

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

Library Open Hours:

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

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

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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.

Thank you! TAG is grateful to have received a grant from qathet Regional District in the amount of \$3,100 and from Slow Coast bicycle camping group for their \$1,000 contribution. We are very excited to receive these funds, which will go toward implementation of TAG's Full Pantry Initiative this Fall. We also thank everyone who has contributed to our fundraising by buying coffee and tea at TAG's Farmer's Market booth, and for your generous offerings of bottle and can returns.

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.

If you have questions about TAG you can usually find Tom at the Texada Farmer's Market coffee-tea booth, where proceeds of all sales go to support TAG. The Market is held on Sundays from noon to 1:30 next to the Gillies Bay ball field. See you there!



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Thank you to everyone in our community for making it a great summer!

As students head back to school, local drivers are reminded to slow down in the school zone and stay alert.

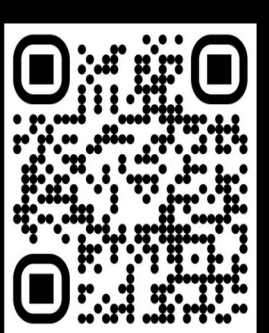
Please watch for children crossing near the bus and remember that passing a stopped school bus with its red lights flashing is both illegal and extremely dangerous.

Let's work together to keep our roads safe this school year!

Texada RCMP



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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 by 4:30 pm, Thursday, October 1, 2026.



**qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT**

MEETING NOTICE

Members of the public are advised that the Texada Airport Advisory Committee will be holding a meeting on September 29, 2026 at 9:45 AM.

The meeting will take place at the Gillies Bay Community Hall. The agenda will be available at least two days prior to the meeting on the event calendar at qathet.ca/events/.

If you have any questions, please contact: administration@qathet.ca or call 604-485-2260.

TEXADA ISLAND INN



YOUR ISLAND HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM INFORMATION CENTRE

604-486-7711

Hello Texada, What A Fantastic Summer We Are Having, With Lots Of Events To Go To. Many New & Wonderful Items From Our Local Artists, Shop Local Buy Beautiful.

We Will Be CLOSED ON SEPTEMBER 7th Happy Labor Day.

Come Join Us For **RAISE THE ROOMS JAM** September 20th Sunday, 3pm To 7pm Cold Drinks, Hot Food, 50/50 Raffle, Free Snacks, Dancing, Buy A Tile For The Wall.

MONDAY Free Pool & 3-Ball Tourney. **TUESDAY** 15% Off All Seniors Meals.
WEDNESDAY Shake It Up With TY Making Fresh Margaritas & Mojitos.
THURSDAY Fun Darts at 7 pm—or anytime. **FRIDAY** Karaoke 7pm
SATURDAY New York Strip Steak Lunch & Steak Dinner 5pm
SUNDAY 25% Off All Draft Beer, Bar Side Only.

• Full Lotto Ctr. • Gift Certificates • Bagged Ice • Island Info	• Local Art • T- Shirts, Vests & Hoodies • Ice Cream • ATM	<i>Thank you,</i> Texada, for all your love, support & help! <i>Cymry, Evan, & Kaitlyn</i>	Restaurant Open 7 Days A Week 11—7 pm	Bar Hours Open 7 Days A Week 3 pm-Closing
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Gillies Bay Volunteer Fire Department

As we ramp up our training and practice schedule for September the Gillies Bay Fire Department is looking for approximately six new members. If you are over 19 years of age, live within the Gillies Bay Fire Protection area, and are looking for a positive, challenging and rewarding way to participate and give back to your community, we invite you to contact us and consider becoming part of our team.

We practice once a week on Mondays at 6:30 pm and provide FREE training in NFPA 1001- Standard for Fire Fighting, Red Cross Emergency Medical Assistant – First Responder, Wildland Fire Fighting, Live Fire Training, Driver Training and Air Brakes Endorsement, Emergency Scene Traffic Control, Incident Command System and much more.

We have a modest incentive system that rewards members for attendance at practices, training sessions, callouts and other Fire Department activities. We also provide WorkSafe coverage and additional accidental death and disability insurance, both on and off duty.

Our first practice for the fall season will be on Monday September 14th and in order to quickly and efficiently bring everyone up to speed at the same time, we would like to onboard as many as possible of our new group of recruits prior to that date.

If you are interested in getting more information on joining our dedicated team of volunteers and learning how you can make a positive difference in the lives of people in your community, please contact

me or one of our officers. I can be reached at chief@gilliesbayvfd.ca or by phone or text at 604-389-8884.

David Beech
Fire Chief, Gillies Bay VFD.

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14

23

Texada Island Fly-In 2026



I believe I read somewhere that the first Fly-In on Texada was held back in 1990. Another one followed in 1991, and then there were no such events for a long time.

The “fly-In” is a term in the lexicon generated by aviation aficionados to describe a gathering of pilots and friends, flying “in” to meet and talk, see and be seen with their airplanes and with other people who are interested in flight and all things aviation. Usually, a distant airfield was designated and hosted by a local aero club.

Now, we know that the Annual Fly-In at Texada’s airport is not the biggest. It may not have the largest crowds. But I know, after being part of the organization of the “TAFI” since 2007, it is the best loved Fly-In on this part of this mud ball by far!

This year, TAFI was organized and directed by Tyler Danzcak. His first time at wielding the whip, TAFI brought in 48 visiting planes, and had the concession keep the hundreds of guests well fed through breakfast and lunch.

Tyler also organized the RCAF demonstration team’s spectacular display. He also invented a children’s activity, a model aircraft carrier landing game. The kids loved it!

TAFI 2026 was a great success. Thanks to Tyler and his team of concession workers, traffic and aircraft marshal volunteers, and Gillies Bay Volunteer Firefighters.

O. Dobrostanski

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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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Texada Garden Club

SHARING & GROWING ON THE ROCK

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 2-4 PM

GILLIES BAY SENIORS' CENTER

We are looking forward to a great season of gathering starting in October with an informal discussion of how everyone's growing season went, and what we are all looking forward to. We're also excited for November's meeting this year - a virtual presentation by Linda Gilkeson.

Newcomers are welcome to drop in - whether you are a beginner or experienced gardener. Questions? Virginia @ 250-650-4324





COASTAL FIREWOOD

*** NOW OFFERING ***

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

*** Texada seniors (65+) receive 10% off Firewood**

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

Coastalfirewood.ca

Texada Market

- In-store Fresh Cut Meat
- Fresh Produce Weekly
- Fresh Made In-Store Deli
- Your Liquor Agency Hub
- Household Items

604-486-7418

5105 Copper Queen St in Van Anda

www.texadamarket.ca

Follow us on Facebook. Check out our website for specials.



OPEN

Sunday
Noon to 5 p.m.

Monday-Saturday
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

THE RETREAT



RYCROFT ART GALLERY

Visit the gallery for its fourth season this summer!

September hours

Friday to Sunday,

1:00 to 4:30 pm

or visit by appointment call

604 483-1418



Van Anda

Improvement District

Safe Water for Everybody

Van Anda Improvement District



Van Anda Volunteer Fire Department

Pump Hours Milestone

For the first time on record, our system averaged 13 pump hours per day through July. This is a major operational achievement and reflects both strong system performance and continued conservation efforts across the community. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible — it's a milestone worth celebrating.

Leak & Usage Notices

Leak and high-usage notices are being issued as more meter data comes online. Early responses have already reduced unnecessary demand and prevented several potential service issues. Your cooperation continues to make a real difference.

Meter Project Update

The physical installation portion of the Meter Project is now very close to completion. Final onboarding and activation work continues, with individual customer access expected once Neptune 360 is fully online. We appreciate everyone's patience as we move into the final stages.

Fire Vigilance

Thank you to all residents for maintaining fire vigilance during ongoing high-risk conditions. Your awareness and quick reporting help protect the entire community.

Fire Trailer Outfitting

The fire trailer continues to be prepared for rapid response and is currently being outfitted with shelving, hooks, and brackets. Once complete, it will be stocked with a variety of firefighting

equipment to support organized and efficient deployment during emergencies. This upgrade will significantly improve readiness.

Volunteer Fire Department Recruitment

The Van Anda Volunteer Fire Department is seeking new members. If you're interested in serving your community and gaining emergency response skills, please reach out to Fire Chief Mark Robert for details.

Contact Info

604-486-7035 – contact@vananda-id.ca – vananda-id.ca

WATER EMERGENCY: 1-672-882-9901

Fire Chief Mark Robert – 604-414-9662 – firechief@vananda.ca

FIRE EMERGENCY: 9-1-1





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jonesandcompany48@gmail.com

Hunting Season Safety & Reporting Reminder

With hunting season officially underway, the Texada Community Policing Committee reminds all residents and visitors to keep our island safe, respectful, and protected.

If you witness illegal hunting activity, poaching, or environmental dumping/pollution, please report it immediately through the provincial RAPP (Report All Poachers and Polluters) program. You can lodge a report 24/7 by calling the toll-free hotline at 1-877-952-7277 (RAPP), or by submitting an online form at <https://forms.gov.bc.ca/environment/rapp/>.

Please note that the RAPP line is strictly for reporting environmental and wildlife infractions. If you see a violation in progress that puts you or anyone else in immediate physical danger, do not attempt to intervene—call emergency services immediately. Let's look out for one another and keep Texada safe this season!

Texada Island Community Policing Committee

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**Texada Island
Community Society**

Supporting Texada Island Since 1930

Hello Texada Island!

On Monday, September 14th, 2026, at 10:30 am in the Texada Legion, we will have our first meeting of the season. This is when we plan and organize the next great event for the following year!

If you would like to be involved, or would like to join TICS, come on out. New members are always welcome and appreciated. It's a great way to meet the community.

What a wonderful summer the Island had, with many diverse events, such as:

- Texada Sandcastle Weekend
- CRA/Service Canada Walk-in Event
- Texada Fly-in

Definitely looking forward to the Fall and the many upcoming events that directly, and indirectly, help this wonderful community.



**qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT**

DIRECTOR'S REPORT, Area D

Candidates typically have a reason for running for office, a driving issue which they want to address.

For me in 2014, it was about improving communication. Since then, I've worked hard to set the communications bar high: regular community discussion gatherings, Express Lines columns, town hall meetings re specific issues, like Lot 6 and Northeast Bay, renewing our OCP with strong community support, and promptly responding to anyone who contacted me.

During my twelve years as Texada's director, I've delivered on my pledge to let people know what's going on before it happens and to seek Texadans input before decisions are made.

So, in the spirit of good communication, here's some advice for our new director:

- always do your best
- stand for something; set your agenda and stick to it
- accept that you can't please all the people all the time
- never take off your Texada-tainted lenses
- be curious, ask questions
- forge connections with Board colleagues for Texada-friendly decisions
- communicate, communicate, communicate treat everyone with respect
- read everything "between the lines"
- be true to yourself
- understand the difference between qRD policy (what the Board does) and qRD operations (what staff do)
- don't curse the weekends you spend

reading agendas or the drive home in the dark and the fog after chairing a committee meeting full of intense debate. You fought for the opportunity to do this.

And what an incredible opportunity it's been to be Texada's voice to the outside world.

There were many standout moments: advocating for Texada, chairing committees including Committee of the Whole where issues were varied and often contentious and representing the qRD at qathet Tourism, to name a few. And it was especially meaningful to help people solve big and little problems here on the island.

Some big successes came with changes in qRD policy, such as making electoral areas the highest priority for Community Works funding (not regional initiatives) and recognizing that residents of improvement districts are also qRD citizens (not outside agencies). We gained an indigenous-style gathering structure at Shelter Point and kept rules and regulations at bay.

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

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On Our Shores...

John Ford here, I'm a semi-retired whale biologist living in Nanaimo. Before retirement, I headed up the Cetacean Research Program at DFO's Pacific Biological Station.

I wanted to thank you and your Texadan friends for all your efforts to secure this skeleton for retrieval. I learned of it via your emails to Jackie Hinderling, of Marine Education and Research Society, BC, and subsequently from Tyra Bain and Jim and Mary Borrowman, with the Whale Interpretive Centre (WIC) in Telegraph Cove (I'm a friend and on their board of directors).

We thought it could be an excellent specimen for future display at the rebuilt WIC, so I went to the site with my son Michael on July 21 to examine it.

It was a mature (likely old) Grey Whale, probably about 40 feet when alive. The bones were in excellent condition and you and your friends had clearly done a great job of collecting them and moving them higher on the beach.

I approached my son's friend Mat Janeway, who is a partner in Coastline Marine Services (<https://coastlinemarineservices.ca/>) which has a boat that I thought would be good for



the retrieval. With support from the WIC, Mat put a team together and met on the beach last Friday and, once loaded, transported the bones to Union Bay, where my wife Bev and I met them with a rented trailer.

On Sunday, our daughter Katie and I delivered the bones to Mike deRoos and Michi Main, who operate Cetacea Contracting on Salt Spring Island. They have re-articulated past skeletons for the WIC and many other museums and science centres globally (cetacea.ca)

Given the degree of decomposition, I had thought perhaps the whale had come ashore last fall. But Jackie forwarded Candi's email from Aug 3, which explained that the whale must have come up on the beach after February 1st. This makes it most likely that it was during the spring northward

On Our Shores...

migration (peaks mid February to mid March) that it died and drifted ashore.

Grey Whales normally migrate along the outer coast, but sometimes a few end up in the Strait of Georgia.

It decomposed at an impressive rate, likely because the whale was emaciated (very little oil in the bones) and scavenging Turkey Vultures helped to expedite the process (there were a couple feeding on the remains on July 21).

There were numerous mortalities of Grey Whales along the outer coast of the mainland US and BC during this past spring's migration due to undernourished whales not having the energetic reserves to make it all the way back to the Bering Sea from their wintering grounds in Baja California. This has been a big problem for the population, which has dropped from about 24,000 to around 12,000 over the past 6-7 years.

Hopefully this declining trend will reverse in the coming years.

The WIC hopes to raise sufficient funds to have Cetacea re-articulate the skeleton for the WIC over the next year or so. We'll keep you posted.

Kind regards,
John



To help with the articulation the Texada Grey Whale; donations can be made several ways:

1. Auto deposit e Transfer to: society@killerwhalecentre.org (a tax receipt will be issues)
2. Via our website: www.killerwhalecentre.org
3. Canada Helps - Johnstone Strait Killer Whale Interpretive Centre Society