



Highlands News

A Message from Mayor Jane Mendum

Council members recently attended an informative Treaty Knowledge workshop. An explanation of the treaty process can be found at

<http://www.gov.bc.ca/arr/treaty/faq.html>.

The CRD commenced its five year review of the Regional Growth Strategy in 2008, and in a recent staff report to the Planning Committee, outlined items to be addressed. This report is available at on the district website (highlands.ca). Additionally, residents may want to read the State of the Region report, also available on the website. Council will host an opportunity for Highlanders to engage with CRD staff on this topic at a public meeting in the near future.

We encourage residents to regularly visit the district website. The home page is updated often, and includes announcements of interest and importance to the Highlands community. Watch for the launch of an expanded website next month; the district will welcome feedback as residents explore the improved design and enhanced content.

Council wishes all Highlanders a Happy Spring!

BIKE RACES

Council has approved eight cycling events, held by the Schwalbe Cycling Club, for the Millstream Road/Caleb Pike loop. **For event times please check the district's website.**



Volunteers of the Month

Council wishes to recognize the many Highlanders who put their names forward to serve on the various committees and task forces. Your willingness to dedicate your time is truly valued. Your contributions help to both inform our decisions and enrich our community.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Community Calendar—something for everyone
- Council and Land Application updates
- Annual Broom Bash and Annual Roadside Clean up!
- 2009 Strategic Plan Approved
- Contact Information

TRAFFIC CONCERNS

Council members have received some concerns from residents in both the east and west Highlands regarding local traffic exceeding speed limits in neighborhoods.

Under the umbrella of the Westshore Community Policing Department, both speed reader signs and the Speedwatch program are available to assist in educating drivers regarding the speed at which they travel. Volunteers are always welcome. For more information on these programs, contact Councillor Sigurd Johannesen, council's representative on the Community Policing Advisory Committee, (see contacts on back page).

HORSE AND TRAILS CLUB

Under the umbrella of the Highlands Parks and Recreation Association, the Horse and Trails Club has been actively working to maintain some of Highlands trails. Volunteers to join this enthusiastic group are welcome! The club organizes time together to enjoy the trails, too. For more information, contact Marian Taylor rojo@islandnet.com 250-478-7756 or Janet Williams highjan@shaw.ca 250-479-7497. The cost of \$10/yr is for membership in both the club and the association.

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION two – 2 Year Terms

The District of Highlands requires two (2) volunteers to serve on the Advisory Planning Commission for a two year term. APC advises Council on matters respecting land use, community planning or proposed bylaws and permits. The APC meets as required.

COMMUNITY CENTRE TASK FORCE

The District of Highlands requires two (2) volunteers to serve on the Community Centre Task Force. The district is specifically interested in having representation from persons living in the Caleb Pike/Millstream Road area.

Please contact the district office for more details on either committee and on how to apply.

The District of Highlands
1980 Millstream Road,
Victoria, BC V9B 6H1
Phone: 474-1773/ Fax: 474-3677
E-mail: tneurauter@highlands.ca

Council News

DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT DVP-01-09 AND COVENANTS

At its regular meeting on March 16th, Council has issued a development variance permit decreasing the building setback from 3 metres to 1.7 metres in order to allow a lot line to be created between existing buildings on the Brotherston property at 5247 Munn Road.

In December Council rezoned the property from one lot to three. Two of the proposed lots have existing residences and the third, containing the Gregory house and lean-to barn, is covenanted to restrict residential use.

A second covenant, which restricts modification, demolition or destruction of the existing farm house and barn for 5 years, was also approved by Council. The owners are also required to maintain the structures' integrity and prevent deterioration.

Council has placed the creation of a heritage policy on its strategic plan, and fully expects to have such a policy in place before the covenant expires.

RZ-01-08, 889 FINLAYSON ARM ROAD

Regarding a rezoning application for this nearly 30-acre property, Council had previously voiced concerns of hilltop protection, and the amenities being offered. On March 2nd, Council passed on further comments to the applicant regarding the proposed density, lack of consideration of park land dedication as commented on by the Langford Planning Department, and lack of protection against further subdivision.

RZ-03-08, 676 TAYLOR WAY

Council denied an application to rezone this property from one residential lot to three. Council had previously received a recommendation from the APC to deny the application. Council will be reviewing policy for large lot subdivisions (see Strategic Plan), which could provide applicants with guidelines for rezoning applications.

COMMUNITY-BASED

Council awaits committee recommendations regarding volunteer recognition.

A Sustainability Task Force has been established and will identify objectives.

The Community Task Force continues to seek a site and will hold a community hall design charette.

WEST SHORE PARKS AND RECREATION SOCIETY 2009 BUDGET

Council has not approved the 2009 budget pending a meeting of the owners for clarification on requests for capital funding contained in the 5-year plan. The Society has asked for over \$6 million to fund expansion projects, and has asked owners to discuss a plan to raise the funds.

GRANTS-IN-AID REQUESTS:

The following requests were approved by Council:

Greater Victoria Film Commission -	\$200
Highland Heritage Parks Society -	\$2000
Intermunicipal Advisory Committee on Disability Issues -	\$200
Need Crisis & Information Line -	\$540
West Shore Arts Council -	\$1000
Wescom Medi-Lend -	\$500
Pacific Centre Family Services Association -	\$1000

Requests for funds from:

- Community Policing,
 - Royal Canadian Legion, and
 - The 848th Squadron of the Air Cadets
- have been referred to Council's budget discussions, which will resume at a *Committee-of-the-Whole* meeting *Tuesday, April 14th*.



Please consider passing this newsletter on to any tenants or other residents who are without a Highlands mailbox. Thank You!

2009 Council Meeting Schedule

April - 6th and 20th
May—4th and 19th
June—1st and 15th
July—13th
August—17th
September—8th and 28th
October—5th and 19th
November—2nd and 16th
December—7th and 21st



"Jack Bell Ride Share for BC"
Check out the website at:
www.ride-share.com

Council and Community News

2009 Strategic Plan Approved

Council has approved its 2009 Strategic Plan, earlier discussed at a Committee of the whole meeting February 21st. Items on the list of priorities include:

South Highlands Economic Development Discussions with property owners regarding land use and servicing issues

Water

Groundwater Monitoring Program

Roads

Annual road structure and surface assessments

Transportation

Participation in regional opportunities to enhance local transportation

Trails

An enhanced master plan is expected to be completed in the summer

Emergency Services

Council will support recruitment of H.E.L.P. volunteers. Review of issues relating to fire halls, communication with the fire department, and fire department staffing are underway.

Administration/Governance

Council will continue to participate in the treaty process to the fullest extent possible, and develop and enhance relations with local First Nations governments.

Council will continue to support remediation of Millstream Meadows to the highest degree practicable

A report about Wildfire Interface Regulations is under preparation.

Draft revisions to the Subdivision Servicing Bylaw are underway and will come to Council.

Council will review soil deposit and removal regulations.

Council will create a heritage property policy, and consider policies for ethics, secondary housing, and large lots.



HDCA ANNUAL ROADSIDE CLEANUP
Mission: Cleanup of litter and garbage items from main roadside and municipal parks within Highlands
When: **Saturday, May 2, 9am to 1pm ("POT LUCK" breakfast, 9-9:30am)**
Where: Caleb Pike House, 1589 Millstream Road
Information: contact Marcie McLean— 250-474-4725
Organized by Highland District Community Association

COFFEE HOUSE

Please note that for May only, the Coffee House will be held on the first Saturday, (May 2nd) for a special event to celebrate the arts and talents of young people in Highlands and their friends.



Inviting all youth, (toddlers to age 18) in Highlands and their friends—come and share your talents!

- sing a song, play a musical instrument, perform a dance, talk about your **art work (painting, statue, pottery, furniture or dress making,...)**, share a joke, recite a poem, or other talents

Please call Zhinoos Armstrong at 727-9561 to let us know what kinds of talents you will be sharing.



Date: Saturday May 2nd, 2009
Place: Caleb Pike House, 1589 Millstream Rd.
Time: Starts at 7:00 pm (doors will open at 6:30 pm) (please note the time)
Charges: Free, everyone welcome

WATCH FOR THE POSTERS AT THE COMMUNITY MAILBOX

Highlands Annual Broom Bash!

Mission: to cut, pull, and clear broom away from Highlands roadways and Municipal Parks

When: Saturday, April 18

Time/Place: 9:30 am to 3:00 pm
Pike House, 1589 Millstream Road

Info: Marcie @ 250-474-4725

If you cannot arrive at 9:30, please come later—look for us between west Caleb Pike Road to the Gowlland Park entrance

Bring Tools such as loppers, pullers, brush blade

Pick up trucks need for transport of cut broom to Highwest Recycling (**Chew's**) at: **1943 Millstream Road between 11:00—3:00 pm**

Also, on April 18 *Highlands residents* may take broom/gorse from their *own property, or area* to Highwest for disposal free of charge. Please ensure load is secured down.

Sponsored by: Highlands District Community Association, Highlands Stewardship Foundation, Highwest Recycling and District of Highlands



'Beautiful Rocks', a fascinating book about the history of Highlands, is available at the municipal office for \$29.95, or phone Daphne Allen, 250-478-7338

RCMP INCIDENTS February 16 to March 15, 2009

February

17th - Suspicious Pers/Veh/Occur - Woodridge Pl
 17th - Mischief \$5000 or Under - Lorimer Rd
 18th - Suspicious Pers/Veh/Occur - Raven Heights
 19th - Property Lost - Mount Work
 19th - Roadside Prohibition - Millstream Rd
 20th - Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Munns Rd/Stag Rd
 21st - Criminal Harassment - Stewart Mountain Rd
 21st - Suspicious Pers/Veh/Occur - Munns Rd
 21st - Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Millstream Rd/Lost Lake Rd
 22nd - Collision-Damage Over \$1000 - Millstream Lake Rd/Munns
 22nd - False Alarms - Millstream Rd
 25th - Mental Health Act - Millstream Rd
 25th - Collision-Damage Under \$1000 - Munns Rd/Rolla Pl
 28th - Bylaw-Litter - Ross Durrance Rd
 28th - Theft of Auto Over \$5000 - Mount Work
 28th - Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Millstream Rd/Caleb Pike Rd

March

02nd - False Alarm - Stewart Mountain Rd
 02nd - Collision-Damage Under \$1000 - Emma Dixon Rd
 03rd - Collision-Damage Over \$1000 - Munns Rd
 03rd - Property Found - Industrial Way
 05th - False Alarm - White Pine Terrace
 08th - Breach/Bail Violation - Finlayson Arm Rd
 08th - False Alarm - Millstream Rd
 08th - Bylaw-Litter - Rolla Pl
 10th - False Alarm - Industrial Way
 11th - False Alarm - Industrial Way
 11th - Utter Threats Against Person - Munns Rd
 12th - Theft-Other Under \$5000 - Stewart Mountain Rd
 14th - Suspicious Pers/Veh/Occur - Millstream Rd



HIGHLANDS GARDEN GROUP

Come out and grow with us. We meet on the second Tuesday of the month, at 7pm. in the school house at Caleb Pike homestead. New members welcome. For info please call: Terri Smith— 250-474-9905

Highlands Youth Program

School house basement,
Ages 6 and up welcome



April Schedule of Events:

April 10: Swimming—pick-up at Old School House
@ 5:30 return 8:30 pm

April 3, 17, 24 : 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, join the fun!

For more information, please phone Amy at
250 478-8384 EXT 2261 or

Contacts:

Mayor Jane Mendum— jmendum@highlands.ca
250-478-9449, 250-893-9440

Councillor Allen Dobb— allendobb@telus.net
250-391-3998/ Website: allendobb.ca

Councillor Diane Gill— randgill@telus.net
250-391-8928

Councillor Sigurd Johannesen— Sigurd.johannesen@shaw.ca
250-514-1880

Councillor Marcie McLean— marciemclean@shaw.ca
250-474-4725

Councillor Karel Roessingh— karel@roessong.com
250-727-9808

Councillor Ken Williams— kgwmaya@shaw.ca
250-479-7497

Fire Chief Barry Ford— b.v.ford@shaw.ca
250-479-5741

Emergency Coordinator Val Fletcher— val.fletcher@shaw.ca/ 250-479-1725

CRD Bylaw Enforcement—250-474-3351

Animal Control (24 hrs) - 250-478-0624

CRD Parks—250-474-2264

Wildlife Violations—1-800-663-WILD (9453)

Victoria Highway Maintenance 250-474-2688 / M -F

If you would like an electronic
copy of the Highlands News please visit the district
website's homepage highlands.ca

APRIL COMMUNITY CALENDAR

FRIDAYS 6:30-8:30pm, Youth Program*, School House

APRIL 3 & 17 CRD Recycling pickup

APRIL 6 Regular Council Meeting**, School House, 7pm

APRIL 11 Highlands Coffee House*, Pike House, 7:30pm

APRIL 12 HDCA Easter Egg Hunt*, Pike House, 11 am

APRIL 14 Committee of the Whole**, School House 7pm

APRIL 14 Highlands Garden Club*, Pike House, 7pm

APRIL 15 HDCA Annual General Meeting, Pike House, 7:30pm

APRIL 18 HDCA Annual Broom Bash*, Pike House, 9:30am

APRIL 20 Regular Council Meeting**, School House, 7pm

APRIL 22 Community Infrastructure and Services Meeting,
School House, 7:30pm

APRIL 25 Francis King Park Tea Party info @ 250-478-3344

APRIL 28 HHPS Annual General Meeting, Pike House, 7:30pm

*details elsewhere in the Newsletter

**please visit the district website, highlands.ca for detailed
agenda information in advance of meetings