



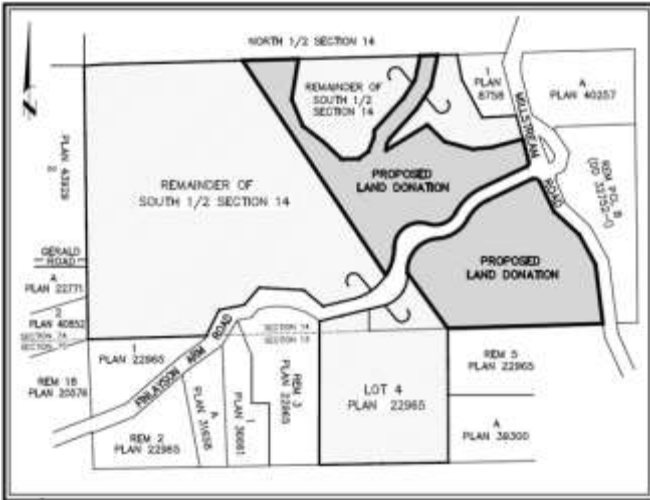
# Highlands News



At the beginning of each month a concise guide to events and important dates in Highlands will be posted on [www.highlands.ca](http://www.highlands.ca). Visit the website to help plan your month!

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- COMMUNITY CALENDAR
- HIGHLANDS FOOD GROUP
- ROAD WORKS 2011



**UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARING INFORMATION** Application RZ-01-11 (applicant Fred York) seeks to increase the density of the lands shown cross-hatched (shown in the map on left) if the lands noted as, "Proposed Land Donation," (shown shaded in map on left) are donated to the District of Highlands for a community centre/hall location. The proposal would increase the density to a total of 11 single family dwellings (there are currently two homes over this area). An Official Community Plan amendment and a zoning bylaw amendment are required to accomplish the proposal. Highlands Council gave the OCP amendment bylaw (Bylaw No. 330) and the zoning amendment bylaw (Bylaw No. 331) first and second readings at their June 6, 2011 Council Meeting. As required by legislation, the District will hold a public hearing on both bylaws on July 18, 2011 at 7 p.m. at the School House, 1589 Millstream Road. The regularly scheduled Council Meeting will follow immediately after.

You are encouraged to provide your feedback on the proposal to Council at the public hearing and/or through a written submission that can be emailed to [LBeckett@highlands.ca](mailto:LBeckett@highlands.ca), faxed to 250-474-3677, or hand-delivered to the District office at 1980 Millstream Road by 4 p.m. on July 18th. All submissions form part of the public record. If you need more information, feel free to contact Laura Beckett, Planner, at the District office 250-474-1773 or visit the District's website: [www.highlands.ca](http://www.highlands.ca). The official Public Hearing Notice can be found on the website.

*Note: Documents related to this and other rezoning applications can be found on the District website (official versions are available for viewing at the District office):*

**FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS** The Fire Chief advises that the fire hazard rating has increased to high, and a full burning ban is now in place throughout the district. This currently includes all outdoor burning – incinerators, chimneas, campfires, etc. as well as indoor burning involving chimneys.

No permits will be issued for burning until at least October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

Fire department officials advise that they are actively seeking volunteer fire fighters who reside in the east Highlands, (east of Mt. Work Park located on Munn Road). Anyone interested is invited to contact the Fire Chief (contact information is on page 4). Please forward this request to any new residents or anyone who may not receive this newsletter.

**MAYOR'S MESSAGE** Council hopes that residents take advantage of the great website that staff have created: [highlands.ca](http://highlands.ca). For instance, visiting the link in the article above will provide residents with a number of documents related to the upcoming public hearing. Up to date fire hazard ratings and information, current projects and topics of local interest along with links leading to a vast array of services are posted for your convenience. Council wishes every Highlands resident a safe, happy, enjoyable summer.

Mayor Jane Mendum

**THANK YOU AND BEST WISHES!** Long-time custodian and Highlands resident **Richard Weyler has taken a job with Thrifty's Foods**. Richard has regularly cleaned and cared for the municipal office since early days. We thank him for his many years of dedication and service, and wish him all the very best at his new job!

# Community and Council News



## HIGHLANDS FOOD GROUP - LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION AND SECURITY: NEIGHBOURS HELPING NEIGHBOURS

This group has had a few monthly meetings to discuss common interests regarding growing food in the Highlands. There has been discussion on experiences

Highlanders have had with question, answer and discussion sessions on a wide range of topics related to local food production. Discussion topics include discovering who grows and sells food in our community. So far, we have had a seed swap, movie with a discussion session, and garden tours (Thanks Ingo!).

For more information, contact Warren Lee at [wglee@telus.net](mailto:wglee@telus.net). You can also find food sustainability information on the Highlands Sustainability Group's Facebook page. For further information on this initiative and more, please check out:

<http://www.highlands.bc.ca/sustainability/>

**CLARIFICATION: WHAT EXACTLY IS A ZERO % INCREASE?** Last month's mayor's message noted that a 0% increase in municipal taxes had once again been approved for 2011. The mayor subsequently received a phone call from a resident inquiring why his municipal taxes had increased. For most homeowners, the municipal portion of the property tax bill will either go up or down each year, even with a 0% change in municipal requisition. Whether or not your property tax changes depends on two things: whether your property assessment, determined by B.C. Assessment, rises or falls compared to others in the Highlands, and which class your property falls into. Council sets the tax rates for each class, but cannot set a rate for each property. For the average assessment in each class, Council has set a 0% increase. It is hoped that this explanation provides some clarification around why a 0% increase can result in changes to annual requisition totals even without any alteration to property improvements.

**PROGRESS ON THE INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (ICSP)** At the June 27 Committee of the Whole meeting, Council was presented with a first draft of "Sustainable Highlands," the District's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (ICSP).

Acknowledging all of the time and effort that the Sustainability Strategy Advisory Committee (SSAC) and staff have put into this project, Council felt that the draft needs work before community consultation begins. Council recommended that staff seek comments from the SSAC and Council members and prepare an inventory of those comments along with a report containing options to move the ICSP forward.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS | THE HIGHLAND HEALTHY LIV-FLING  
SATURDAY, September 10<sup>th</sup> 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM  
Music, Games, Crafts, Entertainment and Food  
THE FOCUS THIS YEAR IS ON HEALTHY LIVING.  
Volunteer Meeting: July 26, 7:00pm Pike House

**REMINDER: BULLFROG REPORTING** Have you seen or heard a bullfrog? This invasive species is making its presence known. Not sure what they sound like? Want to distinguish between bullfrogs and the protected (blue listed) red legged frog? Visit [highlands.ca](http://highlands.ca) for links to recordings and photos of the American bullfrog. Check your pond or wetland this month through to September. Bullfrogs may be present wherever there is year-round water.

If you see or hear a bullfrog, please report the details to Pattie at 250-478-3319 or email [pattie@pacificcoast.net](mailto:pattie@pacificcoast.net). This information will help the District to track migration and to plan for control. Thank you to all those who have reported so far this year.



## LOCAL PARK SUMMER EVENTS

July 23 | 1-2.30pm *Cougar Capers (Guided Walk) Francis King - Investigate the life of a cougar*

July 24 | 1-3pm *Hike the Centennial Trail (Guided Walk) Francis King - Guided hike*

August 6 | 1-3pm *Fire: Friend or Foe? (Guided Walk) Francis King - Discuss with staff the pros and cons of fire*

August 20 | 1-3pm *Tree-mendous Trees (Guided Walk) Francis King - Join staff and discover local tree species*

August 24 | 10-12pm *Hike the lakes at Thetis (Guided Walk) Thetis Lake Regional Park - Adults discover both lakes*

August 26 | 11-2pm *Forest Feast - Francis King - Drop in for a celebration of wild plants and their many uses*

For a complete listing of Nature Outings and Events call 250.478.3344 or visit: [crd.bc.ca/parks](http://crd.bc.ca/parks).

## Sustainable Highlands

Integrated Community Sustainability Plan for the District of Highlands

Prepared by:

CENTRE for SUSTAINABILITY WHISTLER

If you would like an electronic copy of the Highlands News visit the District website's homepage: [highlands.ca](http://highlands.ca). Please consider passing this newsletter on to any tenants or other residents who are without a Highlands mailbox. Thank you!



STAY INFORMED: visit the District website: [highlands.ca](http://highlands.ca)

# Council & District News

**CHANGE IN LOCAL PARK MANAGEMENT** At the June 20 regular meeting, Council received a letter of resignation from the Chair of the Highlands Park and Recreation Association stating that regrettably, the Association was unable to continue to fulfill the Management Agreement pertaining to specific municipal parks (Twinflower, the Riding Ring and Eagle's Lake). The District has assumed management, and Council approved three agreements relating to seasonal and/or regular maintenance at the sites. Staff has indicated that current requirements within the parks can be accommodated within the current year's budget. It is expected that additional management policies will come before Council as required.



## UPDATE: ENFORCEMENT OF PARKING REGULATIONS AT EAGLE'S LAKE

Following the implementation of a seasonal parking management plan for Eagle's Lake Park, Council considered further recommendations from staff at its June 6 regular meeting. As per municipal bylaw, enforcement options for vehicles parked on Eagle's Lake Road in contravention to posted signs include either towing or ticketing. Council endorsed staff's recommendation to implement ticketing, which carries a \$50 fine, for parking violations on Eagle's Lake Road.

**2011 CAPITAL ROAD WORKS** At a Committee of the Whole meeting held June 27, Council considered recommendation from the District's Road Consultant for the 2011 capital work plan. The following items will be forwarded to the July 18 regular Council meeting for approval:

- Repairs on the first 1.2 kilometres of Millstream Road (\$150,000)
- Further repairs on Millstream Road to Emma Dixon (\$39,000)
- Repairs and chip seal to Blue Valley Road (\$36,000)

**Work valuing \$275,000 is planned for this year's capital road projects;** this includes the items above along with a crack sealing program (\$20,000) and the Munn/Millstream Lake culvert replacement (\$30,000). To view the staff report, please visit:

[highlands.ca/agendas/cotw/2011/documents/Roadworks.pdf](http://highlands.ca/agendas/cotw/2011/documents/Roadworks.pdf).

**AMBULANCE SERVICE LEVELS** At the regular meeting held June 6, Council considered its response to changes to the number of ambulances stationed in Langford that serve the West Shore area, including Highlands. The District or its Emergency Services Officials received no notification or consultation. Historically, two ambulances and a back up have been stationed in the area since 1974; as of June 1, 2011, that number was reduced by one. The effect is that an ambulance may have to travel a greater distance when answering a call in Highlands, and that would likely result in a longer response time. Council has strong concerns about the lack of consultation and the potential for delay in response time, and unanimously endorsed a motion to write a letter to both the B.C. Ambulance Service and the Minister of Health to express those concerns. Council looks forward to receiving a reply.

**CRD ARTS FUNDING** At the June 20 regular meeting, Council considered a request from the CRD Arts Committee to provide input on the District's preferred future level of participation in the program. The Arts Committee's mandate includes dispersing grant funds to qualifying art programs and projects throughout the region. The question posed to Council pertained to 'Level 1' participation (100%) or 'Level 2' (something lesser). Following exhaustive deliberation, including acknowledgment of both the additional cost to Highlanders (travel) to attend art events in the core and the unlikelihood of receiving art grant monies within District, Council submitted a funding formula that would result in Highlands participating at 50% of full participation. Highlands has contributed voluntarily to the CRD Arts through the years; 50% currently represents a \$10,000 annual requisition. It is anticipated that an amending CRD bylaw may be considered by all participating municipalities in the near future.

## RGS 5 Year Review

Growing towards sustainability



## UPDATE: REGIONAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY (REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY 5 YEAR REVIEW)

As previously reported, the Capital Regional District's Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) is currently undergoing its five year review. The RGS is proposed to become part of an integrated sustainability plan (the Regional Sustainability Strategy – RSS). Residents are invited to provide input on the regional plan which looks forward 25 years. Nine policy briefs, each with its own set of policy options, have been grouped under three themes: Natural Systems, Social Resilience and Built Environment.

Three related online resources that are available to assist the planning process include See-It Monitoring Indicators [crd.visiblestrategies.com](http://crd.visiblestrategies.com), the MetroQuest modelling tool [crd.metroquest.com](http://crd.metroquest.com), and Living Sustainably [www.sustainableu.ca](http://www.sustainableu.ca).

The Sustainability Portal is online until the end of 2011: < [sustainability.crd.bc.ca/](http://sustainability.crd.bc.ca/)>

As our 2010/2011 season ends, Highlands Folk Music wants to thank everyone who came out to perform or just listen and support live music and community in the Highlands.

We will be taking a break for the summer, returning in the fall. As the season ends, we welcome long-time host Zhinoos back to Highlands Folk Music! She will resume organization, bookings and will act as the main contact.

Contact information for Zhinoos: Email: [zhinoos9@gmail.com](mailto:zhinoos9@gmail.com) Phone number: 778-678-2409

## RCMP INCIDENTS REPORT May 16 to June 15, 2011

### MAY

- 16 - 911-False/Abandoned Calls - Duggan
- 19 - False Alarms - Millstream
- 20 - Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Millstream  
False Alarms - Highlands Park  
Drive MV Over 80 MG (CCC) - Blacktail /Millstream
- 24 - Bylaw-Noise - Munn  
False Alarms - Stewart Mountain
- 27 - Collision-Damage Over \$1000 - Rolla
- 28 - Unspecified Assistance - Skyview  
Unspecified Assistance - Millstream/Stewart Mnt

### JUNE

- 3 - False Alarms - Skyview  
Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Munn /Woodridge  
Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Finlayson Arm
- 4 - False Alarms - Stewart Mountain  
False Alarms - Millstream
- 5 - Theft-Other Under \$5000 - Millstream
- 6 - Breach/Bail Violation - Cheryl
- 7 - 911-False/Abandoned Calls - Millstream Lake  
Unspecified Assistance - Bukin East
- 9 - Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Munn /Millstream Lake
- 11 - Unspecified Assistance - Southwood  
Unspecified Assistance - Millstream Lake /Munn
- 12 - Unspecified Assistance - Rolla
- 13 - Breach of Peace - Millstream
- 14 - Collision-Damage Over \$1000 - Millstream Lake  
Unspecified Assistance - Rivers  
Traffic-Other Moving Prov - Rolla /Munn
- 15 - Unspecified Assistance - Southwood

#### 2011 Council Meeting Schedule

July: 18 | August: 22 |  
September: 6 | 19  
October: 3 | 17  
November: 7 | 21  
December: 5 | 19

## Contacts:

Mayor Jane Mendum—[jmendum@highlands.ca](mailto:jmendum@highlands.ca) /250-478-9449, 250-893-9440  
Councillor Allen Dobb—[allendobb@telus.net](mailto:allendobb@telus.net) /250-391-3998/  
Website: [allendobb.ca](http://allendobb.ca)  
Councillor Diane Gill—[didoll@live.ca](mailto:didoll@live.ca) / 250-391-8928  
Councillor Sigurd Johannesen—[Sigurd.johannesen@shaw.ca](mailto:Sigurd.johannesen@shaw.ca) /250-514-1880  
Councillor Marcie McLean—[marciemclean@shaw.ca](mailto:marciemclean@shaw.ca) / 250-474-4725  
Councillor Karel Roessingh—[karel@roessong.com](mailto:karel@roessong.com) / 250-727-9808  
Councillor Ken Williams—[kgwmaya@shaw.ca](mailto:kgwmaya@shaw.ca) / 250-479-7497  
Fire Chief Guy Brisebois—[Guy.Brisebois@forces.gc.ca](mailto:Guy.Brisebois@forces.gc.ca) / 250-920-6970  
Deputy Fire Chief Peter Schuttinga—[hvfd.dc@gmail.com](mailto:hvfd.dc@gmail.com) / 250-514-8526  
Emergency Coordinator Val Fletcher—[vfletcher@highlands.ca](mailto:vfletcher@highlands.ca) / 250-479-1725  
District of Highlands Office—250-474-1773  
CRD Bylaw Enforcement—250-474-3351  
CRD Animal Control (24 hrs) - 250-478-0624  
CRD Parks—250-474-2264  
Wildlife Violations—1-800-663-WILD (9453)

### JULY COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JULY 8 & 22 - CRD Recycling Blue Box pickup  
JULY 18 - Public Hearing, School House, 7pm  
JULY 18 - Council Meeting, School House, 7pm  
JULY 26 - Spring Fling Meeting - Pike House, 7pm  
JULY 31 - Highlands Market, Pike House, 10am | 1pm

*PLEASE visit the District website, [highlands.ca](http://highlands.ca) for detailed agenda information in advance of meetings*

### SUMMER PROGRAM FOR 2011

THURSDAYS AT TWINFLOWER PARK  
WESTSHORE PARKS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS



When: July 7 - August 25  
Location: 1564 Millstream Road (beside West Fire Hall) |  
Cost: Free!

DAYCARE IN THE PARK | Ages 3 - 5  
Time: 10:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

WESTSHORE ROVING PLAYPARK | Ages 6 - 12

HIGHLANDS MARKET Sunday, July 31st and Sunday August 28th  
(10am – 1pm, Caleb Pike House, 1589 Millstream Road)

*Buyers and sellers welcome, rain or shine!*

Info: Leslie, 250-474-3453

Next Market: July 31

HIGHLANDS HISTORY Pioneer boys spent much of their free time in the bush honing their hunting skills as wild game was an important part of **their families' diet. With such practice they developed an accurate aim.**

This article appeared in the Daily Colonist, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 1882:

**“Large eagle shot by a boy. On Saturday last, Willie, son of Mr. J.H. Scafe, of Long Lake, a boy of only 11 years, shot from the top of one of the highest trees in the neighborhood a large eagle which measured 7 feet across the wings. The weapon used was a Remington rifle. He put the ball through the centre of the bird. Don't tell us that our Island boys will not be able to defend their country in case of need.”** (Current legislation states that: Direct killing and harassment of Eagles is illegal under provincial and territorial statutes<sup>2</sup>)

William (Willie) Scafe was the son of John H. Scafe, one of the first Trustees of the Highland School District.



### VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

This month we recognize the members of the Highlands Park and Recreation Association, past and present, for their many contributions to the community. From 1990 - 2011, the Association has managed Twinflower Park and its Riding Ring, Jump Park, Tot Lot and Ball Field along with Eagle's Lake Park through annual agreements with the District since 1993. We wish to thank all those who recognized a need for local recreation opportunities and volunteered their time and skills to developing and maintaining these municipal sites for all to enjoy!



*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.