

Insights & analysis for community-minded readers in a knowledge-based economy, on the west side of Vancouver Island since 2008!

West Shore Voice News

Additional breaking news & PDF of this week's print issue at: www.westshorevoicenews.com and on Facebook: [WestShoreVoiceNews](https://www.facebook.com/WestShoreVoiceNews)

Friday, March 16, 2018

Release Date March 17, 2018

1-day traffic interruption Major Langford intersection gets signal-light upgrade

West Shore Voice News

TRAFFIC ADVISORY



Langford's busy Millstream Overpass this week on a bright almost-springtime day.

● For one day next week -- Wednesday March 21 -- the City of Langford is asking motorists to avoid use of the Millstream Overpass (including Trans Canada/ TCH Exit 14) during some improvements for traffic signal installation on the overpass and on Hwy 1.

All signals and streetlights in that area will be without power on that day in that commercial area of Langford, says the city's engineering department.

Motorists travelling southbound on the Trans Canada (TCH/Hwy1) can use the Exit 16 Leigh Road interchange. Motorists travelling northbound can use Exit 15 McCallum Road to access the Millstream Corridor.

The work cannot be done at night due to the power supply being offline during the installation from 7 am to about 9 pm. The contractor Raylec Power has indicated they will manage the project so that the street lighting portion does not remain off when dusk occurs later in the day. Sunset will be at 7:28 pm PDT on March 21.

Traffic control personnel will be on the overpass working within an approved Traffic Management Plan. Three lane closure trucks and six personnel are anticipated throughout the work zone, or more, to ensure safe passage for pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. Emergency vehicles will be given priority.

March 21 is during spring break for schools in the area, with a lighter-than-usual traffic load expected.

The overall Millstream Overpass project started in February and is on schedule, aiming to complete by April 30.

by Mary P Brooke
West Shore Voice News

Sooke politics gets warmed up at Mayor's open house

Public Engagement



District of Sooke Mayor Maja Tait addressed local community March 15.

● Some of the same long-time Sookies were there for the Mayor's open house on Thursday evening at Sooke municipal hall. But future directions were being set in motion in this municipal election year.

Sooke Mayor Maja Tait rolled out an extensive list of her involvement with committees, task forces and commissions that cover the gamut from transportation and health to environment and cannabis regulation. Most of that is at regional and provincial levels through CRD and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) of which she is presently the 2nd VP.

In her wake, Councillor Brenda Parkinson told the audience of about 50 people about her arts and beautification engagement and Councillor Kevin Pearson tried in

continued on page 2 ... /

West Shore Voice News

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Stuff that matters in your community

WEST SHORE VOICE

Digital:

Start up your subscription with a simple email "please subscribe me" to:

news@westshorevoicenews.com

Link: \$27.95/yr

Premium PDF: \$28.50/18wks

Colour Print (includes PDF): \$39.50/12wks

Colour print edition on newsstands: \$2.25

● Shoppers Drug Mart Sooke ● Pharmasave Millstream Langford

WEST SHORE VOICE

Week #373 of the Voice

This is the WEB COURTESY edition
Subscribe to get the unwatermarked premium version

Royal Bay Expansion Issue

Digital

Subscriptions:

Link: \$27.95/yr

PDF by email:

\$28.50/18wks

Colour Print

Subscriptions:

\$39.50/12wks

Reach west shore audiences

& beyond with creative

online marketing in

West Shore Voice News:

Call 250.217.5821 for info & package discounts.



WestShoreVoiceNews

Breaking news, ad rates, events, traffic & weather:

www.westshorevoicenews.com

Youth question: what is news, and who decides? [Editorial]	2	WSV ISSN
Langford Mayor Stew Young recognized for contribution to rugby ...	3	2368-9374
Peninsula Streams gets \$7,500 boost from Esquimalt Anglers ...	3	Vol.3 No.20
Premier Horgan sees STEM in action at youth robotics event ...	4	SVN ISSN
RCMP Musical Ride coming to Sooke August 2018	4	1925-2722
		Vol.8 No.9

News digest weekly on Fridays (print & online) by Brookeline Publishing House Inc

Views on successful living: business & economy, health & wellness, youth, education, arts, politics, sustainability, Millennials & social trends.

SD62's Royal Bay Secondary in Colwood gets 600-seat expansion

by Mary P Brooke
West Shore Voice News



Royal Bay Secondary: getting 600 more seats by Sept 2020 to keep up with population demand.

● Royal Bay Secondary school in Colwood with a student population of 1,085 is beyond the building's original capacity of 800 students. Bursting at the seams presently at 135% capacity, the pressure is on as the west shore continues to rapidly attract families to the relative affordability of housing in the region.

So it was a welcome announcement Friday March 16 in the school gym by BC Minister of Education Rob Fleming that \$23.2 million has been issued to Sooke School District 62 (SD62) for expansion of the school by 600 seats, to ultimately accommodate 1,400 students. Construction will begin this September, with the additional student spaces expected to be ready by Fall 2020.

With an upbeat audience of about 120 people -- including a full gym class of Royal Bay students plus SD62 trustees and senior staff, Langford councillors and senior staff, BC Ministry of Education staff, and media -- Minister Fleming said that SD62 is the fastest growing school district in BC, and that every student should have a proper learning environment.

"It's an amazing community that is growing an incredible pace. It's a great area for young families in Greater Victoria, but with growth is facing some unique challenges," said Fleming. "As a government we are trying to ensure that our investments are able to keep up with the kinds of change that we're seeing in dynamic areas like this one."

Fleming reiterated the BC NDP government philosophy that "education is a critical investment for our province" that contributes to future prosperity and economic diversity of BC. Fleming said that the educational experience in a positive school environment helps students prepare for an ever-changing world, giving them the tools to succeed in building "happy good quality lives, contributing to their community, and be able to live in a beautiful community like this". He called the \$23.2 million a long overdue investment. "A positive learning environment is exactly what students deserve."

The additional classroom spaces will eliminate the need for what is now a count of 10 portable classrooms (the number of which could very likely increase before Fall 2020). SD62 Superintendent Jim Cambridge says the portables are well-equipped with new desks, chair, projectors and WiFi, but that being out in a portable lends to a disconnect from the main flow of the school action. Royal Bay has a bright open lobby, active social Commons area, vibrant and spacious learning centre, food services area and lounge areas in the hallways near the lockers.

"In Sooke School District 62 we make sure we're ahead of the curve, ahead of the growth," said SD62 Chair Ravi Parmar during the formal announcement. The previous government built schools to current capacity. The current government is working to population projections. Parmar explained that SD62 will work with the same architect that originally designed the school for its opening in Fall 2015.

"This school board knows how to do construction on time and on budget, and on an aggressive timetable," said Minister Fleming. In addition to the government's funding, SD62 is contributing \$2 million from their capital fund. There will be 21 new classrooms, a second smaller gym, and a third storey added to the building height. A City of Colwood requirement is an additional 120 parking stalls.

Introductions were made at the morning announcement by Mitzi Dean, MLA (Esquimalt-Metchosin) in whose riding Royal Bay Secondary is essentially a hub



Lacing up for some soccer practice in the gym at Royal Bay Secondary, March 16: Mitzi Dean, MLA (Esquimalt-Metchosin) and BC Minister of Education Rob Fleming.

continued on page 2 ... /

Editorial

JOURNALISM & PUBLISHING

WEST SHORE VOICE NEWS

WEST SHORE VOICE

What is news, and who decides?

Mary P Brooke
Editor & Publisher
WEST SHORE VOICE NEWS

● This week it was a privilege to address high school students at Royal Bay Secondary about today's journalism and the challenges of publishing in the Internet age. In three one-hour sessions, youth in Grades 9 to 12 listened hard and asked an excellent range of questions. The query that brought it all together was "how does an editor decide what gets published?" Great question!

In many ways, the news itself guides the process. The editor is the guide or shepherd of that process. For example, front-page news sets itself up for prominent coverage. Most of the time it's about government announcements, civic activity like elections, or sudden events that impact a whole community or a key sector of community function. Prominent persons themselves generate news – one small move or comment by a prime minister, premier or mayor can kick off a full story.

Then there is all the rest. The bubbling, churning mass of information that spins instantaneously through the digital and wireless channels of today's communications technology was at first (in the Internet's infancy) a free-for-all. In time that made room for irrelevant search results, and eventually fake news. Reputable journalism is finally finding room to come up for air.

It is the responsibility of editors and publishers to know their community, and their job is to curate, organize and deliver news within a timeline and format that is of use to busy people who for the most part want to make positive contributions to society. Things that impact, modify or enlighten a community about itself can be news. Editors shape final news choices based on reader interest, contribution of an action or issue to the larger social whole, and sometimes just how much room is on the page or in the schedule. If information principally serves the interest of the person, business or organization that is providing it, well that's an ad. ■

... continued from pg 1

Expansion at Royal Bay Secondary

RB

around which the new oceanview Royal Bay community has grown. Accompanying Fleming and Dean at the podium and backed up by a group of teen soccer academy players, were Colwood Mayor Carol Hamilton, SD62 Chair Ravi Parmar, Royal Bay Secondary Principal Windy Beadall, and student rep Maddy Morrison.

Fleming added that about 95% of the needed hiring has been done to restore class ratio since the Supreme Court settlement in 2016. School districts got \$50 million to hire more teachers. Teachers have been recruited in the past year, including from other provinces.

There are still gaps for specialist teachers, said Fleming. There are shortages for French Immersion teachers, which Fleming said is being addressed, including recruiting French-speaking teachers from Belgium and France. The demand for French in the classrooms has increased 30% in the last 10 years, he said. SD62 says they still need four more French specialist teachers for this fall.



Applause and conversation at Royal Bay: Langford Councillor Denise Blackwell (left) and SD62 Trustee Wendy Hobbs.



The student audience was accompanied by community leaders at the Royal Bay funding announcement.

^^ There for the funding announcement: Langford CAO Darren Kiedyk (left) and Royal Roads University Director of Business Development Dale Gann who serves on the Langford Economic Development Committee.

<< Front row in the Royal Bay bleachers: Langford Councillor Lanny Seaton and SD62 Trustee Dianna Seaton. **WSV**



Announcement of \$23.2 million to build a 600-seat expansion at Royal Bay Secondary, March 16. Accompanying the school's soccer academy players, front row (from left): student leader Maddy Morrison, Colwood Mayor Carol Hamilton, MLA Mitzi Dean (Esquimalt-Metchosin), Education Minister Rob Fleming, Royal Bay Principal Windy Beadall; back row: First Nations leader Vic Peter, and SD62 Chair Ravi Parmar. **WSV**

Sutton Advantage Property Management

office tel: 250-881-8866
mobile/text: 250-216-4684
email: holmesg@sutton.com

George Holmes
property management specialist

We manage:
Single Family Homes
Strata Complexes
Commercial Properties
Apartment Buildings

Serving Sooke & the West Shore

District of Sooke open house gets election year warmed up

... continued from pg 1

a few minutes to indicate the impact of the water supply and distribution decisions that he is part of as Sooke's rep to the Juan de Fuca Water Distribution Commission. Tait just ahead of that tossed the salmon-protection issue back to Pearson, something she had gleaned a bit of TV media coverage for last year but which Pearson had initiated and moved forward.

Three councillors weren't there. Tait mentioned Councillor Ebony Logins and her engagement with youth in the community, and commended Councillor Bev Berger for years on the SEAPARC recreation facility board. Long-time Councillor Rick Kasper was not at the 2-hour gathering and not mentioned. Two-term Councillor Kerrie Reay attended, with no formal presentation; about two years ago she said she would not be running again in 2018 mainly over frustration with disrespectful social media discourse.

Sooke's rustic but remote tourism-based interface with the broader west shore region remains faced with challenges to provide local jobs and a full range of services. While the spin is that Sooke is fast-growing, that is driven mainly by relative housing affordability but without local jobs just adds to transportation challenges. Tait mentioned some small enhancements to service levels of the #61 BC Transit bus. As the urbanized Langford grows by leaps and bounds, tourism-related commerce in Sooke may benefit to some degree by spillover.

Improvements to Hwy 14 (Sooke Road) announced by Premier John Horgan in January will generally help improve the smooth flow of commuter traffic on that essential one-way in/out corridor; construction of bus pullouts and other adjustments is grinding along. Line-painting will be done twice a year, to help retain visibility in poor weather conditions, said Tait.

There will be two nights of 2018 budget review meetings by Sooke Council March 21 & 22, and a Parks & Trails public workshop on Friday morning March 23. Work of the dissolved

West Shore Voice News

The Sooke Voice News

Published by Brookline Publishing House Inc., Langford, BC, Canada
National Library Registration:
WVS ISSN 2368-9374 | SVN ISSN 1925-2722
Mailing: 2969 Alouette Dr, Victoria, BC V9B 0M6 **Tel & Text: 250-217-5821**
Email: news@westshorevoicenews.com
advertising@westshorevoicenews.com
www.westshorevoicenews.com
Facebook: [WestShoreVoiceNews](https://www.facebook.com/WestShoreVoiceNews) & [SookeVoiceNews](https://www.facebook.com/SookeVoiceNews)
Copy deadline: 5 pm Mon
Ad bookings by: 5 pm Wed
Ad Tech: 300 dpi, RGB, jpg/PDF

Publisher: Brookline Publishing House Inc.
Editor, Writer, Layout, Ad Sales, Online Content: all writing by Mary P. Brooke, B.Sc., Cert PR unless otherwise stated.
Publishing Support: Jennifer Brooke. **Reporter:** Sophia Romanchuk. **Community contributors this week:** Judith Cullington, Derek Stevens. **Distribution:** PDF/web, print, Twitter, Facebook. **IT Network:** Ivandafish Computing. **Printing:** Brookline Publishing House Inc. **Courtesy copies:** coffee shops; business reception areas, libraries, rec centres, community. **Online PDF & breaking news (website & Facebook):** ~ 64,000 page exposures/wk (social media & subscribers).

● **ADVERTISING RATES** posted at www.westshorevoicenews.com

● **Digital subscriptions by email**

Link version **\$27.95**+GST 52 wks (or \$9.95 for 18 wks) or Unwatermarked Premium PDF: **\$28.50**+GST 18 wks

● **Print subscriptions**

Weekly by 1st class postal mail, plus PDF by email: **\$35.50**+GST for 18 issues in grayscale, or **\$39.50**+GST for 12 issues colour.



● **Newsstand**

Colour print edition **\$2.25** at Pharmasave Millstream (Langford) & Shoppers (Sooke)

● **Community** Free pickup copies in coffee shops, libraries, rec centres.

Courtesy edition (PDF), archives & breaking news: www.westshorevoicenews.com

Letters published in *West Shore Voice News* do not necessarily represent the opinion of the publisher, editor, staff, or affiliates. The publisher reserves the right to decline any articles, letters, photos, ads or other contributions.

parks committee will wrap up.

Sooke now sees Director of Financial and Corporate Services Brent Blackhall serving as Acting CAO. Former CAO Teresa Sullivan's departure was announced at the Feb 26 council meeting without explanation.

Tait says the District will ride out the rest of this Council's term without filling the CAO position. Sullivan's salary was about \$140,000, with about three months off last year for personal leave. A lot of internal admin cleanup was done during Sullivan's tenure (Dec 2015-Feb 2018) but overall her time in Sooke seemed frictional at various levels, from the perceived manner of her hiring, to a walk-out by staff from council chambers one evening (that she led), and a hostile incident by some members of the public outside Sullivan's home (details were never disclosed). **WSV**

Monk Office

More than just office supplies. We are Office Outfitters™

Think Monk...BUSINESS | RETAIL | INTERIORS | TECHNOLOGY

sales@monk.ca | monk.ca



Langford Mayor Stewart Young with rugby legend Al Charron, received an award from Rugby Canada for fostering the sport, March 8 in Vancouver.

Rugby Canada Chairman Tim Powers acknowledged support by the City of Langford since the 2012 opening of the Rugby Canada Centre of Excellence and office in Langford, followed in 2014 by providing an opportunity to build a high-performance training centre across the street on Glen Lake Road; the Al Charron Rugby Canada National Training Centre officially opened February 27, 2018. Powers recognized five people with awards for pulling together the training centre, starting with City of Langford Mayor Stewart Young who was instrumental in securing the land and funding opportunities that allowed Rugby Canada to break ground and kick off a campaign to help fund the new building.

The award ceremony was held on March 8 as part of getting the excitement rolling for the HSBC Canada Men's Sevens Vancouver Tournament at BC Stadium, March 10-11.

Langford hopes to attract bigger sporting events to Westhills Stadium once seating is expanded. **WSV**

Rugby Canada recognizes Langford Mayor for contribution to the sport

West Shore Voice News

● **Rugby Canada's Chairman Awards** each year recognize members of the rugby community who have gone above and beyond to support the organization.

Rugby Canada Chairman Tim Powers acknowledged support by the City of Langford since the 2012 opening of the Rugby Canada Centre of Excellence and office in Langford, followed in 2014 by providing an opportunity to build a high-performance training centre across the street on Glen Lake Road; the Al Charron Rugby Canada National Training Centre officially opened February 27, 2018. Powers recognized five people with awards for pulling together the training centre, starting with City of Langford Mayor Stewart Young who was instrumental in securing the land and funding opportunities that allowed Rugby Canada to break ground and kick off a campaign to help fund the new building.



The HSBC Canada Men's Sevens Vancouver Tournament attracted over 77,000 fans to BC Place, March 10-11.

SD62 Fall 2018 funding & calendar

West Shore Voice News

● **The student enrolment increase** in SD62 schools for Fall 2018 is already at 347, it was reported at the March 13 SD62 board meeting. That's considered to be a conservative estimate says SD62 Secretary-Treasurer Harold Cull, given that population growth in Langford, Colwood and Sooke continues to be robust. At this point it already means hiring an additional 17 teachers in SD62 for September.

School district revenues include the BC government's per-pupil funding (up to \$7,423 in 2018-2019 from about \$7,300), as well as international program tuition fees, and rentals/leases for use of various sport, workspace and meeting facilities.

SD62 expenditures of course include teaching salaries (classroom teachers and educational assistants) and CUPE 459 support staff pay, as well as facility operations, bussing (with an additional route this year causing higher gas and insurance costs), electricity (up by 3% starting April 1, 2018), and the new Medical Services Tax that replaces the outgoing Medical Services Plan fees (which are at 50% of previous levels for 2018 then eliminated starting Jan 2019).

SD62 Superintendent Jim Cambridge told the SD62 board that the BC Government has committed to covering the total cost of the CUPE collective agreement. That way the school board is not left with having to find savings in other budget areas that would otherwise likely include classrooms and maintenance.

Government funding for playgrounds was announced in BC Budget 2018 last month. SD62 Chair Ravi Parmar said each school district can submit three options for playground placements, for access to the "secondary funds" that are "outside the main education funding formula".

Cull said that SD62 might try electronic town halls (e.g. using Twitter) for better input from busy families. SD62 is developing a communications strategy to engage better with all stakeholders by direct email, social media, website and ads.

This month the board approved some more new courses for 2018-2019: Robotics 11/12, English Inquiry 12, and Electronic Music 10.

The Education Ministry asked SD62 to maintain a total of seven non-instructional days in 2018-2019 calendar to help teachers continue with adjusting to ongoing implementation of the new BC curriculum. In February 2019 there will be two 4-day school weeks, after the shift of BC Family Day to the third Monday. **WSV**

TELUS PureFibre™

Internet reimagined.

Internet 250/250 has arrived.

© 2018 TELUS. 10_00069

Help salmon climb to new habitat!

Peninsula Streams

Your tax-deductible contribution will fund a new fish ladder on Millstream Creek, giving salmon and trout a 'fin-up' to 8 km of new habitat in Langford and the Highlands.

For details see peninsulastreams.ca

Alistair MacGregor, MP expands Langford constituency office hours

West Shore Voice News

● **An increase in the number of Langford residents** seeking assistance with federal programs has prompted a change in hours at Alistair MacGregor, MP's constituency office in Langford.

Effective Tuesday March 20, Alistair MacGregor's Langford community office will be open Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 10 am to 3 pm. The office at 3202B Happy Valley Rd (corner of Sooke Road) will also accept appointments for outside of those drop-in hours.

MacGregor's team can help constituents with inquiries relating to federal programs and services, such as: • Immigration and citizenship applications • Visitor visas and Canadian passports • Employment Insurance, income taxes, other federal taxes & benefits • Canada Pension Plan and Old Age Security • Veterans Affairs • Federal Funding .

"I am here to ensure that my constituents of Cowichan-Malahat-

Alistair MacGregor

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT COWICHAN-MALAHAT-LANGFORD

Web: www.alistairmacgregor.ca

New Office Hours:

Langford Office: 3202B Happy Valley Rd

Tuesday: 10:00am-3:00pm

Wednesday: 10:00am-3:00pm

Langford have a strong voice in Parliament and I encourage constituents to contact my office with any federal concerns," stated MacGregor. "When I am not in Ottawa, I am always happy to meet with residents of Langford and discuss how we can build a better Canada," he said this week.

MacGregor's office can be reached by phone at 1-886-609-9998 or email at alistair.macgregor@parl.gc.ca **WSV**

Peninsula Streams gets \$7,500 boost from Esquimalt Anglers

West Shore Voice News

● **Construction of the new Millstream Fishway** to help with salmon preservation is slated to start in July.

The fundraising goal of the Peninsula Streams Society is \$205,000 to match the Dept of Fisheries and Oceans RFCPP funds for 2018-19. They are currently one-third of the way there. Some funding is confirmed, some has been requested, and some still needs to be found.

Total project cost is about \$450,000. Some of that has already been raised and spent in 2017-18 on design work.

"Bottom line, we are within sight of the goal to begin construction in the coming 2018-2019 fiscal year," says Peninsula Streams Society president Ian Bruce.

On March 14 a cheque for \$7,500 was presented to Peninsula Streams by the Esquimalt Anglers Association whose volunteers also donate "a lot of hours" at Goldstream Hatchery.

"People understand that salmon enhancement is truly a regional issue. The Millstream Creek is not in Esquimalt but they recognize that projects of this kind support salmon fishery throughout the south Island.

"Stepping up", explains



Judith Cullington

Peninsula Streams Society president Ian Bruce (left) received a \$7,500 donation from Esquimalt Anglers Association president Bob Culm. Contributors of amounts large and small receive tax receipts. Anyone interested in sponsoring one of the 15 'fish steps' can email PeninsulaStreams@gmail.com More info on the Millstream Fishway project: peninsulastreams.ca/millstream-fishway-project

Ian Bruce is a deliberate pun. The Peninsula Streams Society is working with the Goldstream Volunteer Salmonid Enhancement Society and others to build the fishway (a series of concrete steps) that will enable coho salmon and cut-throat trout to get further up the Millstream Creek. Currently, fish passage is blocked at Atkins Road by a large perched culvert that is too high up for the fish to jump into. The fishway will allow the fish to continue upstream, gaining access to an additional 8 km of habitat.

In total, Peninsula Streams Society is seeking 15 'step sponsors'—one per step—who will each contribute \$7,500 towards the project costs, as well as smaller donations from groups and individuals. Esquimalt Anglers are the fifth group to contribute. Other step donors include Trotac Marine Ltd and Ralmax.

Municipalities including the City of Langford, as well as Ecoasis at Bear Mountain, and the Pacific Salmon Foundation have also contributed to the project. **WSV**

Now you see it, and then you won't



In a few weeks we'll bring you the 'after' photo... new mural coming soon.

PILGRIM COFFEE HOUSE
105-1910 Sooke Rd in Colwood
Serving Drumroaster Coffee

Open daily
778-265-5577

PilgrimCoffeeHouse

WHAT'S GOING ON

Event postings: PRIORITY TO ADVERTISERS

TRAFFIC INFO LANGFORD ON THE MOVE

Wednesday, March 21. 7 am to 9 pm. Avoid use of Millstream Overpass Exit 14 TCH/Hwy1 during overpass improvement project signal and hydro electric power relocations. Southbound on TCH use Exit 16 Leigh Rd, northbound use Exit 15 McCallum Rd to access the Millstream corridor.

Current, to Apr 30. Construction of improvements to the Millstream Overpass at Veterans Memorial Parkway. Some traffic closures/delays (except Fridays ahead of long weekends, and Mondays of long weekends).

Current, to mid-June/July. Jacklin Rd closed (Jenkins to Terlane) to facilitate nearby construction efficiencies. Detour through the Belmont Market construction site on the new Division Ave.

Current, to summer 2018. Leigh Road at Langford Parkway Railway Crossing. Completion of Leigh Road Railway Crossing to Langford Parkway.

Current, until mid-summer. Traffic interruptions for sewer installation along Bray Ave, Carlow Rd, Linda Lane (west of Jacklin Rd & Goldstream Ave).

For other short-term traffic advisories visit www.langford.ca

SD62 School Spring Break west shore & Sooke. Sat March 17 through Easter Monday Apr 2.

St Patrick's Day. Sat Mar 17.



Victoria Comicon. Sat Mar 17 & Sun Mar 18. Victoria Conference Centre. www.capitalcitycomiccon.ca

Avoid use of Millstream Overpass Exit 14 in Langford during one-day lighting upgrade. **Wed Mar 21.** 7 am to 9 pm. www.langford.ca

Valdy in concert. Fri Mar 23. Holy Trinity Church, 1962 Murray Rd (venue update), Sooke. Tix \$20 at Shoppers Sooke or \$25 at door. www.sookefolkmusicociety.com

Craft sale JdF Arts & Crafts Guild. **Sat Mar 24.** 500 Admirals Rd, 10-4.

Earth Hour. Sat Mar 24. Electricity usage reduction for one hour. 8:30-9:30 pm. www.earthhour.org

Healing City Soils. Free contaminants testing (View Royal, Colwood, Langford), apply up to Mar 27. www.compost.bc.ca

Easter Long Weekend: Fri Mar 30 (Good Friday) thru Mon Apr 2.

Bear Mountain Bike Festival. Mar 30-Apr 1. victoriabikerace.com

Easter Eggstravaganza Sat Mar 31. 10:30 am to 12 noon at SEAPARC in Sooke. Crafts, bouncy house, Easter egg hunt 10:30 am (age 1-4), 11:15 am (age 5-7). Entry by donation to Sooke Food Bank. www.seaparc.ca

17th Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Sat Mar 31 on grassy area behind JdF library, 1767 Island Hwy. 10am. Kids up to age 13.

SD62 schools (Langford, Colwood, Sooke) re-open **Tues Apr 3** after break. www.sd62.bc.ca

West Shore Parks & Recreation spring-summer registration starts 6 am **Tues Apr 5.** www.westshorecreation.ca

Highlands Music Coffee House. Sat Apr 14. Caleb Pike Heritage Park, 1980 Millstream Rd. 7 to 9 pm.

Communities Street Clean-Up (Sooke). Sat Apr 14. www.transitionsooke.org

WEST SHORE VOICE NEWS
2018 - Annual Readership Survey
Online to Wednesday March 21 at:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y6ZG36B>

Working for our community

Mitzi Dean

MLA, Esquimalt-Metchosin

250-952-5885

#104-1497 Admirals Road

Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca

MitziDean.ca



West Shore Parks & Rec board meeting, **Thurs April 19.** JdF Library. 7pm.

Victoria Home & Garden Show. Apr 20-22. JdF Rec, 1767 Island Hwy.

West Shore Arts Council silent auction fundraiser. **Sat Apr 21.** 7 pm. Royal Colwood Golf & Country Club. www.westshorearts.org

Earth Day. Sun Apr 22. End Plastic Pollution is the 2018 theme. www.earthday.org

Viva La WestShore 2018. Fri Apr 27. 7 to 11 pm. Olympic View Golf Club. www.westshore.bc.ca

SD62 School Bus registration 2018-2019. End of April. Date tba. www.sd62.bc.ca

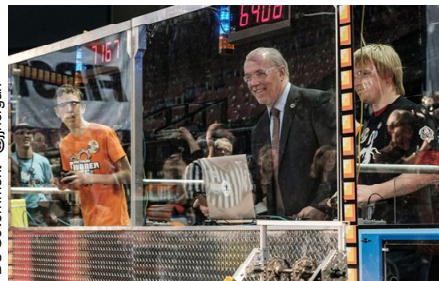
HSBC Women's Sevens Rugby Tournament. May 12-13. Westhills Stadium, Langford. www.worldrugby.org

Sooke Rotary annual fundraiser. Dinner at Prestige Hotel with silent auction. **Sat May 12.** Tx \$60 at Little Vienna Bakery or email roger temple48@gmail.com

Premier Horgan sees STEM in action at youth robotics event

by Sophia Romanchuk

West Shore Voice News



● **Twenty teams** of high school students from across North America gathered in Victoria March 14-16 for the first robotics event of its kind in BC, putting handmade robots to the test.

Organized by FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), the event at the Save-On Foods Memorial Centre in Victoria provided a learning and showcase opportunity. The goal: to inspire young innovative minds to continue in the field of science, particularly in technology.

FIRST is a non-profit organization focusing on providing opportunities and resources for students to explore STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). BC introduced technology themes, such as coding, into the school curriculum in 2015. STEM is still being developed into various delivery models in schools across the province.

In January, BC invested \$4.4 million into post-secondary institutions to help expand the STEM sector as well as investing in supporting the new curriculum and providing access to skills in high schools and post-graduate studies.

As technology booms, the workforce is expected to move into STEM quickly. Events like FIRST help teens develop the skills necessary to succeed in present and future technologies.

At FIRST, robot battles combined science with teamwork and sport. Students had designed and built 55 kg robots in just six weeks, using their engineering, coding, and leadership skills. The robot would need to accomplish tasks like running through an obstacle course and balancing certain objects.

Premier John Horgan attended the competition March 15. He spoke with some of the students about their experiences, and engaged with the large robots too! In social media Horgan said it was "inspiring to see all the robots designed, built and programmed by high school students from around BC and North America." **WSV**

SERIOUS COFFEE
VIEW ROYAL 778.430.5282

Monday-Friday | 5:30 am to 7 pm
Saturdays | 6 am to 6 pm
Sundays | 6:30 am to 6 pm

Spring weather, longer days!
Stop by for coffee, tea and snacks, before heading out on errands, to the office, or the great outdoors.

OPEN DAILY | 1703 Island Hwy

SD62 bus routes pre-announced for 2018-2019

West Shore Voice News

● **School Bus Routes for SD62** students are now posted for 2018-2019. In previous years, the registration process did not pre-identify the routes, so this is a new level of service to parents and families in their decision-making for Fall 2018.

Parents can find a suitable route/stop and make a note of it for when registration opens in late April: <http://www.sd62.bc.ca/about-sd62/transportation/school-bus-routes/>

Detailed registration instructions will be issued mid-April, SD62 announced just ahead of spring break. SD62 bussing questions can be emailed to bussing@sd62.bc.ca **WSV**

Looking for Property Management?



We invite you to experience Property Management Excellence that is designed with your needs in mind.

GREENAWAY Realty
SALES AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

778-352-4771

sales@greenawayrealty.com

rentals@greenawayrealty.com

Office: 2044 Otter Point Road, Sooke

www.greenawayrealty.com

Governor General in Victoria March 20-21

West Shore Voice News



Governor General Julie Payette

● **Governor General Julie Payette** will be in Victoria March 20 to 21 for the first leg of her first official visit to BC. She will be welcomed by BC Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon.

An official welcoming ceremony will be held Tuesday March 20 at 2 pm at the Parliament Buildings. That evening, Guichon will co-host a reception with BC Premier John Horgan, in honour of the Governor General.

In the morning on Wednesday March 21, the Governor General will board the Canadian patrol frigate HMCS Regina to meet with and extend her support to members of the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN). She will receive an overview of operations and witness demonstrations. Later, Payette will board the submarine HMCS Chicoutimi, which is returning from a deployment in the Asia Pacific region. HMCS Regina and HMCS Chicoutimi belong to the Pacific fleet of the RCN and are based out of Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt (CFB Esquimalt).

In the afternoon on March 21, at a Presentation of Honours at Government House, the Governor General will recognize excellence, courage and exceptional dedication to service by presenting honours to almost 45 remarkable Canadians.

During her visit in Victoria, the Governor General will also meet with provincial officials,

Co-Hosting the GG



Lt Governor Judith Guichon



BC Premier John Horgan

including the Premier, as well as with community members from around the province, and with members of the Royal Canadian Navy.

On March 22 Payette will be in Vancouver to tour Canada's TRIUMF particle accelerator centre.

The Governor General presents honours on behalf of all Canadians in communities across Canada to help share inspiring stories, celebrate tremendous contributions to Canadian society, and connect with Canadians. From community volunteers to scientists, actors to members of the military, scholars to everyday citizens, Canadians earn applause and gratitude.

For more information about honours or to nominate someone who inspires you (no deadline), visit: www.gg.ca/honours **WSV**

RCMP Musical Ride in Sooke this summer

West Shore Voice News

WSV ARCHIVE PHOTO: Musical Ride at Saanich Fairgrounds Aug 2013



Mary P Brooke ~ West Shore Voice News

● **The RCMP Musical Ride** show is coming to Sooke in 2018. A matinee Sat Aug 18 will be capped off with a sunset ceremony on Sun Aug 19. It will be held on the new artificial turf at the Fred Milne ball field. Spearheaded by the Sooke Lions Club.

WSV

Ask a Doctor of Optometry

on Facebook

Dr. Joslin*, Dr. Morin* & Associates: Doctors of Optometry



Providing comprehensive eye health and optical services in Sooke and the west shore for over 20 years.

www.sookeoptometrists.ca

#5-6726 West Coast Rd in Sooke

Phone: 250-642-4311

OPEN MON-Sat (open late on Thurs)

www.langfordoptometrists.com

#105-814 Goldstream Ave in Langford

Phone: 250-474-4567

*denotes optometric corporation