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youth, education, arts, politics, sustainability, Millennials & social trends.

Friday, June 22, 2018

RELEASE DATE June 23, 2018

Cannabis legalization set for October 17, 2018

West Shore
Voice News

Prime Minister
Justin Trudeau in
Ottawa, June 20,
announcing cannabis
legalization date.



Global - screenshot

West Shore
Voice News

BC Public Safety
Minister Mike
Farnworth
responding to
the federal
announcement.



CTV - screenshot

● **"Parliament has now passed Bill C-45, which will legalize and regulate access to cannabis.** We will soon have a new system in place, one that keeps cannabis out of the hands of our kids and keeps profits away from organized crime," said Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in Ottawa on June 20, as the House of Commons dispersed for the summer. "The new recreational cannabis regime will officially come into force on October 17 of this year," Trudeau announced to media.

A target date of July 1, 2018 had initially been set by the federal Liberal government to see the full legalization of recreational cannabis. However over the past year or two it became apparent how complex that goal is, including a need for a suitable pricing structure, distribution regulation, and policing for THC-impaired drivers. In that context, Trudeau said:

"We heard from provinces and territories who told us they needed more time to transition to this new framework. Our government will work in full partnership with them to ensure the smooth and orderly implementation of this new law across Canada."

BC Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Mike Farnworth said BC is now focused on developing regulations and supporting policies for implementation of BC's "regulatory regime". Provincial public awareness and education campaigns will be rolled out regarding legalization and regulations. Farnworth insists that October 17 is just the beginning, that monitoring of the implementation and making any necessary adjustments will be done "to meet provincial goals" including where local and indigenous governments over specific interests and concerns.

Farnworth said on Wednesday: "We still don't know the technology, or the final rules and regulations. No existing cannabis retail outlet will be grandfathered; they would have to apply like everybody else and there's no guarantee they would get a licence."

Trudeau said that legalization is to "better protect kids and communities and remove the profits from the pockets of organized crime -- \$6 billion by some estimates". But dealing with amnesty for people presently with criminal records for minor possession will not be considered or undertaken by the federal government until after the new laws go into effect. This contrasts highly with the legalization process that took place in some US states, where the push for amnesty was front and center, to help people whose minor record for simple possession prevented their access to employment and housing.

Buy BC relaunched to boost local agriculture & consumer interest

West Shore
Voice News



Lana
Popham,
BC
Agriculture
Minister



BC Govt

● **Buy BC programming** is being relaunched to boost BC's agriculture industry and fuel public interest in shopping for made-in-BC products.

Buy BC marketing had been cancelled in the early 2000s, but will again make it easier for British Columbians to explore new and different products from around the province, said BC Agriculture Minister Lana Popham at a farmer's market in Victoria, June 23.

Buy BC will introduce BC-produced food and drink in BC and globally, said Popham.

Cost-shared funding is available to agriculture and seafood producers, processors and co-operatives, as well as relevant industry associations, plus local agricultural fairs and markets.

Logo-licencing agreements will be available for BC agriculture and seafood companies that do not require cost-shared funding, but who use the Buy BC logo on products.

Local food is sold at over 145 community farmers' markets across the province, says the BC Association of Farmers' Markets.

The Buy BC Partnership Program will provide \$2 million per year, over the next three years, to help eligible applicants with marketing using the Buy BC logo on their products or promotional materials. The program will be administered and delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC, with the support of the Ministry of Agriculture. <https://buybc.gov.bc.ca>

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section at
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Langford spearheads call for municipalities to be exempt from BC Speculation Tax



by Mary P Brooke
West Shore Voice News



Mary P Brooke ~ West Shore Voice News

At their June 18 council meeting, Langford Mayor Stew Young and his Council approved a motion that will go to the Union of BC Municipalities in September for province-wide support from other municipalities, asking that the BC government allow municipalities to apply for exemption from the BC Speculation Tax.

● **Langford is leading the way** for municipalities in BC to seek exemption from the BC Speculation Tax.

At their June 18 council meeting, mayor and council considered that the tax "imposes an unfair tax burden on British Columbians and other Canadians who wish to purchase or own a second home in British Columbia". The tax could devalue people's homes by 20% to 30% without creating any new affordable housing supply.

As one of the fastest growing municipalities in Canada, Langford has made housing affordability a priority by reducing bureaucratic barriers at the municipal level. That's been achieved through innovative zoning regulations and a fast-tracked permitting system.

Saying implementation of the BC Speculation Tax would work against the city's efforts and ultimately affect housing affordability by passing on cost increases to tenants and home buyers, council supported three actions aimed at assisting housing affordability. The City of Langford will:

- call upon the BC Government to allow municipalities to opt out of this new housing speculation tax;
- call upon the BC Government to put any funds received from a speculation tax on housing towards an affordable housing fund; and
- put the resolution forward for consideration at the 2018 UBCM convention.

"The speculation tax is not

having the desired effect that the government wanted," says Mayor Stew Young. "Investment is now leaving Langford. Fellow Canadians from places like Toronto, Alberta and Saskatchewan who enjoyed coming to Bear Mountain and other areas of Langford are not coming or have listed their resort or second family home and are not coming back."

World class events that were coming to Langford (e.g. PGA) are being cancelled. Some housing projects in Westhills and Bear Mountain – the two largest job creators in Langford – are now stopped as housing investment becomes uncertain.

"When house values dropped in the last recession by 25% in 2008 a lot of Langford residents lost their jobs. I hope the government doesn't forget the damage done to the economy and the pain that workers endured through those tough years. I don't ever want to see that happen again to hardworking families of Langford," said Mayor Young this week.

Additional mainstream housing supply is seen as the answer to affordability, which can be achieved by reducing red tape at municipal and provincial levels.

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Editorial

WSV EDITORIALS ADDRESS TOPICS OF BROAD SOCIAL INTEREST

WEST SHORE VOICE

The summer barbecue circuit is for you, and your vote



Mary P Brooke, B.Sc., Cert PR
Editor & Publisher

● **Barbecues and garden parties are about burgers and sunscreen.** But for your local politicians the get-togethers in back yards and at community events are also a big part of ramping up for things like referendums and elections. So you might also want to bring along your opinions and questions together with your potluck salad or cutlery set.

The upcoming referendum is of course about how you want to vote in future BC provincial elections... first-past-the-post (present system, where the winner by even one vote takes home the prize) or a form of proportional representation (you'll get three options). As announced late Friday afternoon, June 22, the referendum ballot questions have been amended by cabinet and government, based on recommendations from the chief electoral officer.

It's going to take a bit of public education by the provincial government to do a fair job of getting a valid sense of what people really want. The official questions for the referendum are:

>> Which system should British Columbia use for provincial elections? (Vote for only one): • The current first-past-the-post voting system • A proportional representation voting system.

>> If British Columbia adopts a proportional representation voting system, which of the following voting systems do you prefer? Rank in order of preference. You may choose to support one, two or all three of the systems: • Dual Member Proportional (DMP) • Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) • Rural-Urban Proportional (RUP).

Now on the elections topic (circle October on your calendar for 2018, 2019, and 2021). Depending on your barbecue circuit, you could find yourself chatting about one or all three elections that are on the radar. There's this fall's fast-upcoming October 20 municipal and school trustee election. And the federal election comes up already in October 2019 (sunny ways seems so long ago, thanks to a failed attempt at electoral reform, purchasing an oil pipeline, an off-key trip to India, and putting up with Trump whose trade policies now put

BC NEWS

DAILY BC NEWS in the BC section within www.westshorevoicenews.com

Liquor industry efficiencies

● **Improved efficiencies and outcomes in business interaction** between the BC government and the liquor industry were addressed in a report to government released June 20. The Ministry of Attorney General announced June 22 that government will analyze and consider the potential health, public safety, social, financial and labour impacts of the 24 recommendations found in the report, including any issues of compliance with BC's trade obligations.

The Business Technical Advisory Panel's report was developed by Liquor policy advisor Mark Hicken. Among other issues, government says the review identified a wholesale monopoly in liquor sales in BC.

As the BC Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) gets ready to add wholesale and retail marijuana sales to its network of liquor warehouses and stores, the BC government is being urged to deal with a conflict of interest in the system. The LDB sets wholesale prices and supplies products for private liquor stores as well as government stores it operates in competition with the private stores.

The panel of industry reps met with stakeholders, read written submissions and deliberated over findings, to provide recommendations to reflect industry consensus. Health agencies and labour representatives provided input. Further engagement with these experts will be required at the analysis stage.

Panel members were from the BC Wine Institute, BC Craft Brewers Guild, Canada's National Brewers, Craft Distillers Guild of BC, Restaurants Canada, BC Restaurant and Foodservices Association, Alliance of Beverage Licensees and Rural Agency Store Advisory Society. **WSV**

Property ownership to be listed in public registry

● **"BC has developed a reputation** as an attractive place to anonymously invest and hide wealth. Real estate investors can hide behind numbered companies, offshore and domestic trusts, and corporations," said Minister of Finance Carole James on June 20.

"Ending this type of hidden ownership in real estate will help us fight tax evasion, tax fraud and money laundering. Our goal is to return fairness to the housing market." There will be a publicly accessible registry of who owns real estate in BC. Public input open to August 19: www.fin.gov.bc.ca/pld/fcsp/consultLOTA.htm **WSV**

Wildfire training event June 28 in Sooke

● **A live wildfire training exercise** in the Sooke area on Thursday June 28 (4:30 to 9:30 pm) will see District of Sooke staff – including the Fire Department, Planning, Development Services, Community Safety, Wastewater, and the Emergency Program – participating in the District's annual exercise and training session. Also involved: Sooke's Emergency Support Services (ESS), Fire Incident Support Team (FIST), Emergency Radio Group, RCMP, BC Ambulance Service, CRD

Child care spaces

● **Eligible unlicensed child care providers** -- currently limited to providing care to a maximum of two children unrelated to them, or a sibling group -- can now apply for financial assistance to become licensed family or in-home multi-age (IHMA) child care providers. Becoming licensed allows child care providers to care for seven or eight children, depending on their licence. To help providers switch over, the Province is investing \$750,000 in the program per year, over the next three years. www2.gov.bc.ca/childcare/startupgrants **WSV**

Parks, and mutual aid partners Otter Point Fire and Metchosin Fire.

The focus is around the Erinan Estates development west of Sooke, including structural protection, resident communications, and evacuations. An ESS Reception Centre will be set up in the gym at EMCS school at 6218 Sooke Rd. All members of the public are welcome to visit the Reception Centre to observe and learn between 7:30 pm and 9:00 pm.

"As another dry summer approaches, it is critical that we bring emergency response stakeholders together to practice our skills and ensure a coordinated approach to disaster response," says Sooke Fire Chief Kenn Mount. "This exercise will cover all aspects of an emergency situation, from detection of the threat to wrap-up and debrief." Live training exercises help communities validate plans, develop staff competencies and test established procedures. **WSV**

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Canada's overall economy at risk). And of course the next BC provincial election -- while not until October 2021, does beg discussion over issues of budget directions (including the speculation tax as part of the housing strategy) although education and social programs have fared well.

Or you might just want to enjoy the burgers, salads and beer. From dealing with last summer's wildfires, getting through the 'longest winter', handling the fast-tracked move to cannabis legalization, and grappling with the ongoing housing crisis, a laidback summer without pondering all this complexity might just be the happier way to spend the long dog days of summer in Canada's short hot outdoor season.

But the politicians will be listening for whatever political insights they can glean from the chatter as you pass the mustard. ■

BC boost for RESPs

● **Parents may wish to sign up** for a grant that contributes to tax-free savings within a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP). The BC Training and Education Savings Grant (BCTESG) is \$1,200 for each child born in 2006 or later. The deadline for those born in 2007 to 2009 is August 14, 2018, or the day before the child's ninth birthday, whichever is later.

Almost 80% of job openings in BC over the next decade will require some form of post-secondary education.

The grant may be used for full or part-time studies at vocational schools, apprenticeships, trades training, college or university. The BCTESG is seen as one way to help ease transition from high school.

Even without any other funds to presently contribute to an RESP, this grant can get that process started at a financial institution. **WSV**

West Shore Voice News

Trump bends to global condemnation

West Shore Voice News | Commentary

● **In the face of worldwide condemnation**, US President Donald Trump signed an executive order on June 20 to reverse his policy of separating refugee families (children from their parents) in detention.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called the actions by the US president to detain refugees -- particularly children in prison-like conditions and away from parents -- as simply "wrong".

Trump continues pandering to his middle-America voter base with various protectionist stances, both socio-political and economic, now escalating to a trade war with all major western trading nations as well as China.

By rattling nations and regions on political and economic levels, Trump now has a destabilized and disrupted playing field open to his strategic advantage. Does anyone still question that Trump doesn't know what he's doing? **WSV**

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Low turnout for Colwood OCP public hearing

by Mary P Brooke ~ West Shore Voice News



Four of Colwood's six councillors showed up with Mayor Carol Hamilton, to hear public input at the official OCP Public Hearing, June 18. (From left): Councillor Lilja Chong, Councillor Jason Nault, Mayor Carol Hamilton, Councillor Terry Trace, and Councillor Cynthia Day. Not there Monday evening were Councillors Rob Martin and Gordie Logan.

It was a light crowd on Monday night, June 18 -- maybe 40 people in the audience at most, engulfed by the spaciousness and rows of empty seats in the Colwood Pentecostal Church hall. And most had nothing to contribute. Three or four speakers took up about 15 minutes at the podium. No Q&A with council. The public hearing about Colwood's Official Community Plan (OCP) Bylaw 1700 was done by 7:20 pm.

All the public engagement, deep deskwork by planners, assessment and wrangling by Council, and intense counterpoint from the development community had all been done in various phases over the past year and half. Having the officially-required public hearing (the next step under the Local Government Act after council has given third reading to a bylaw), sounds like something where a lot is discussed. At least that's what the public might think. But unless some glaring omission surfaces, or there is something completely off in left field, the public hearing is effectively a polite nod to the public before a major vote is taken by council. In a discussion afterward with Mayor Carol Hamilton and a few councillors it was clear that public input was taken very seriously at the front end of the OCP revision process (2016-2017). "But there are never substantive changes as a result of a public hearing (toward the end of the process). It's slanted toward government to get business done," said Councillor Cynthia Day.

Given the nearly empty church hall (at taxpayer's expense) how did the municipality misjudge the expected level of input at this late stage of the game? Public engagement from mid-2016 to late 2017 was extensive; anyone with general or even specific thoughts or contributions had already said their piece. And some key players of the development community -- despite their valiant efforts for the first half of 2018 to see changes made to aspects of Bylaw 1700 that they feel will push up housing prices too much in Colwood -- also did not come to the microphone Monday night with any attempt to still see changes made.

Nowadays few people expect any success with 'fighting city hall' (as the saying goes) on large projects that have a momentum all their own. Mayor Hamilton and her council seemed pretty determined to get this OCP bylaw passed ahead of breaking for summer and of course ahead of the fall election. Had they really wanted significant public input on the various drafts, they might have hoped to encourage more input at the various council meetings of recent months. The fact that some members of the general public showed up expecting an educational-style presentation about the near-ready OCP or at least to hear debate, shows a lack of explaining the process.

Some land use bylaws and supporting regulations still need to be dealt with at Council, but residents can likely expect the current OCP draft (dated May 28) to see final approval relatively soon. WSV

Ayre Manor to celebrate two milestones

West Shore Voice News



'Milestones at the Manor' is an afternoon tea at the Ayre Manor seniors residence to mark both 10 years at the new building, and also a half-century of the property and SECHS non-profit society that owns and operates the 74-living-unit Ayre Manor.

The event is coming up Sunday July 8, from 2 to 4 pm. RSVP required

(phone 250-642-1750, ext 101). Ayre Manor is located in the central town area of Sooke at 6744 Ayre Road.

As of 2017, Ayre Manor offers four levels of affordable and comfortable seniors housing in their 'Campus of Care' on the six-acre property, which allows residents to stay in familiar surroundings as care needs change.

SECHS chair is Sandy Pedneault, vice-chair is Ron Dumont, Secretary is Wynn LeComte. Directors: Tom Bligh, Val Durr, Shirley Lowe, Henry Strong, Ron Fedosenko, Jane Maude. WSV

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Strong opening sales at Belmont Residences



There was an excellent turnout last weekend, Saturday June 16, for the first day of purchasing at Belmont Residences. About 30 of the 80 units in the Phase 1 building of Belmont Residences condo suites were sold on that first sales weekend, June 16 and 17.

And back on May 5 there was a preview event, at which hundreds of people visited the Belmont Residences sales centre at 915 Division Avenue to see the displays, chat with staff, and walk through the 2-bedroom+flex show suite. From that day, the developer and sales team gained a few more ideas about final tweaks before units were fully on sale.

Buyers are interested in a cross-section of the various types of suites (1-bedroom, 2-bedroom, and 2-bedroom+flex), on all floor levels, and on both sides of the building (overlooking the commercial market or overlooking the Galloping Goose Trail).

"There's not usually an even distribution like that," said Scott Brown, president of the Vancouver-based Fifth Avenue Real Estate Marketing Limited, who is part of the Belmont Residences team.

Brown said that about 65% of people interested in Belmont Residences so far have been local area residents, and many of them downsizers. People have positive remarks about the quality of the development, he said during the sales event on the weekend.

Other buyer demographics include "younger Millennials" without children, looking for their first home, said Brown. He also sees a distinct thread of buyer who seek "an emotional connection to the island", even if they're from Vancouver and buying here as a future investment.

And going even deeper into the analysis, the Millennials seem to be originally from the west shore, who left and are now returning from other parts of Greater Victoria or beyond to settle down. The older buyers are coming from a wider range, from the Victoria core area right out to Sooke.

Sales are expected to continue steadily through the summer as more people seek housing in the Langford area for its relative affordability. Construction of the Belmont Residences with its 80 units in Phase 1 will start mid-July.

Other construction phases will include a 90-unit condo building, a 154-unit rental building, and possibly a few townhomes in the final phase.

One of the overall master plan goals of Belmont Residences is to create a new community that feels like it's always been there: "Seamlessly integrated, while equally innovative and with a charm all its own". WSV

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\$75 million in respite services to those who care for seniors at home

by Sophia Romanchuk
West Shore Voice News

● **A \$75 million investment** to help alleviate the stresses of family-and-friend caregivers to the elderly, was announced June 18 by the Ministry of Health. This is intended to help many seniors remain independent as long as possible.

The money will go towards improving and strengthening respite services by providing adult day programs, making overnight care at home more accessible, and extending hours of operations to provide evening and weekend services for seniors. Providing caregivers with a break when they need it will help keep more seniors living in their homes for longer, giving them the independence they want.

"Supporting seniors is crucial to supporting elders", said Minister Dix. People will "support their loved ones to unbelievable lengths to help them live at home," says Seniors Advocate Isobel Mackenzie. With this new program, they will have the support they need to do so.

A report published by the Office of the Seniors Advocate (OSA) in 2017 estimated that 31% of caregivers were themselves suffering distress related to the stress in their life from caregiving. "If you're struggling at home, with your loved one, and you know that once a month, for a full week, your loved one will be well cared for and you'll have a chance to recharge," says Mackenzie. She went on to say that this can make the difference between being able to help a senior live at home or sending them to a care home. This initiative was something the OSA had been working toward for 30 years. "Today, it looks like help is arriving," exclaimed Mackenzie.

Minister Dix commented that the stresses of caregivers are partially from actions taken by BC in the past, but that "we think that a different route is required", and the government is proud to undertake this initiative to help the seniors and their families in BC. "This marks a significant change in the way we talk to seniors."

Mackenzie praised Dix for his efforts and actions, commenting on his immense pride in his community, and that his constituents have an MLA that is active in addressing their needs and serving them well.

The \$75 million investment will be made over three years, with \$10 million invested the first year, \$30 million the next, then the remaining \$35 million. The cost of an adult day program is approximately \$120 per day. Over 5,000 families will be able to get two to three full days of adult care programs as a result of this initiative.

People interested in receiving caregiver respite or adult day services, or know of someone who might be in need of these services, can contact the home and community care office in their health authority, or have a health-care professional make a referral on their behalf. www.familycaregiversbc.ca **WSV**



Health Minister
Adrian Dix



Seniors Advocate
Isobel Mackenzie

Sooke Fine Arts gets Destination BC grant funding

Mary P Brooke, West Shore Voice

● **The Sooke Fine Arts Society** has received a Destination BC Tourism and Events

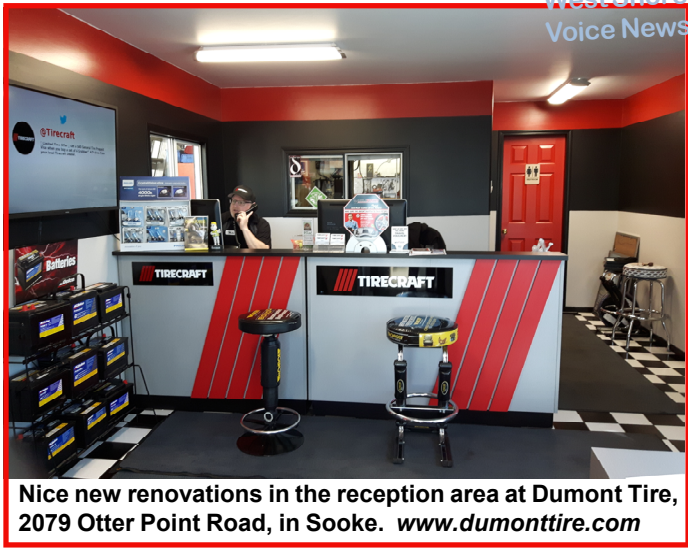
Program (TEP) grant providing a large funding influx for the purchase of additional advertising to promote their 32nd annual Sooke Fine Arts Show which runs July 27 to August 6. The expanded marketing reach now includes TV and radio, *The Vancouver Sun*, and large digital signage boards.

This is "to a level that would not otherwise be available to us as a non-profit organization," says Christa Brenan, Executive Director, Sooke Fine Arts Society. Brenan took part in a destination marketing event last month in Sooke among other local business leaders.

For the past several years, the highly acclaimed exhibit and sale has attracted over 8,000 visitors (local, regional and beyond). A higher number of patrons may find their way to Sooke this year, as a result of the broader marketing scope.

The TEP grant through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture is available to events of middle-to-large scale that can help shine light on attractions and the natural beauty of different areas in BC.

Premier John Horgan (MLA for the Sooke region) will be attending the Sooke Fine Arts Show again this year. **WSV**



Nice new renovations in the reception area at Dumont Tire, 2079 Otter Point Road, in Sooke. www.dumonttire.com

Highway 14 bus pullouts done! Public input to July 15

West Shore Voice News

West Shore & Sooke traffic updates:
www.westshorevoicenews.com

● **Done deal!** Three new sets of bus pullouts are now complete along Highway 14 (Sooke Rd), as part of several improvements to boost safety, reduce congestion and keep people moving along that commuter corridor. The pullouts, on both sides of Highway 14, are located at the West Shore Pkwy, Laidlaw Rd, and Harbourview Rd. The pullout areas allow for buses to move fully out of traffic, reducing congestion and the risk of collisions, while providing a safe area for transit users to enter and exit the buses. There are deceleration and acceleration lanes, new shelters, railings, and enhanced lighting at all six stops. The stops at Laidlaw and Harbourview also have new, illuminated crosswalks, allowing pedestrian traffic to safely cross Highway 14, in order to access or depart from the new bus stop locations.

The pullouts are the first step in the Province's \$10-million investment in immediate upgrades on Highway 14, as part of the multi-phased safety, transit and congestion improvement strategy announced roadside by Premier John Horgan in January 2018. More potential upgrades are under development in consultation with the community; an open house was held June 19 in Sooke with public input still being accepted to July 15 online at www.gov.bc.ca/highway14.

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure recently completed lighting upgrades at each intersection on Highway 14 between Highway 1 and the Sooke River Bridge. As well, new safety signs are now visible at Kangaroo, Gillespie and Parkland Roads including some LED directional arrows. **WSV**



Bus pullout area with shelter, lighting.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION WATCH 2018

by Mary P Brooke | West Shore Voice News

● **The municipal election is coming up fast.** The actual election date is Saturday October 20, 2018. Along with electing mayors and councillors to municipal councils for another four years, voters will also have a ballot in front of them to elect school board trustees for another four-year term.

In the west shore, public education is delivered to families and community through Sooke School District 62 (SD62).

Over the past few years, SD62 has fully embraced the role of facility development. Senior staff and elected trustees have been fully embroiled in the nuts and bolts of providing new schools from the ground up (notably Royal Bay Secondary and the new Belmont Secondary that opened in September 2015), as well as renovating and expanding other schools. Through many long hours of meetings and planning, the leadership of SD62 has also done their best to address the introduction of BC Curriculum changes, an increasing number of students for whom English is not their first language, and the nitty-gritty of managing an in-house school bus service.

With all the emphasis on facilities expansion for about five years and (with several more new schools coming up fast), catching up with teacher hiring in the last year, and getting deeper into the legalese of privacy and human rights, it's easy to see how the board -- despite the existence and participation of parent council reps at the board level -- may have lost a bit of traction with their primary clientele: the parents (and by extension, the broader community of employment and civic organization).



The capacity of the main SD62 administration building at 3143 Jacklin Road in Langford is overflowing. The curriculum division will be located in portables behind the building, starting this fall.

It's parents who send their children to school for an education. School boards are there to provide education as a service to families and community; teachers are the facilitators, principals and vice principals are the stewards, senior administrators are the managers; and the facilities themselves are the crucible.

Parents are not in the classroom all day long. Often their primary contact all day is gathering up their kids to arrive at school, sometimes in the flurry of a hurry, and dealing with the costs and schedules of before/after school care. Parents receive their children back at the end of every school day having been impacted by a myriad of social and curriculum exposures and experiences.

Schools are institutions to which we have delegated the shaping of our youth in a rapidly changing world. Parents in particular -- but everyone in the community -- would do well to brush up on education system issues ahead of the fall campaign. Not just curriculum but also the counselling services and career guidance provided in schools. Vulnerability to mental health issues is as prevalent in the SD62 community as anywhere else. Transfer rates from high schools in SD62 to post-secondary are lower for west shore youth than the provincial average.

Voting based on careful consideration of these and other education issues (like funding) is an important civic duty for us all.

In the west shore area there are two 'zones' in which to choose your next SD62 board of education. If you live in Sooke or Juan de Fuca your votes are for candidates in the Milne's Landing Zone (3 trustee seats). If you live in Langford, Colwood, Metchosin, or Highlands your votes will be cast in the Belmont Zone (4 trustee seats).

Over the summer is a good time to reflect on how the schools have performed for your family and community, so you can come prepared with questions and expectations to All Candidates Meetings this fall. **WSV**



Strong Communities

Education in the West Shore



News updates any time:
www.WestShoreVoiceNews.com

Jim Cambridge retiring after 37 years in education

by Mary P Brooke
West Shore Voice News

Intensely focused yet operationally fluid and interpersonally relaxed, Jim Cambridge at the helm of Sooke School District 62 (SD62) for the last eight years has been an exemplary model of administrative leadership in education. He handles the small stuff with care and attention, and for the long-game he has demonstrated a vision that becomes achieved step by step.

To say this senior administrator will be missed in the top job as Superintendent of SD62 is an understatement. Everyone who has worked with or interacted with Jim Cambridge will have been touched by his desire for excellence. His departure has been in the works for quite a while (he could have left sooner). Even the first interview for this article was done back in October 2017. He was toasted (roasted?) last month at his retirement party with staff, community, friends and family. He's been spearheading (quietly or otherwise) major policy initiatives with pitches and guidance to and with the BC Ministry of Education. And he's been gunning hard to finalize a lot of initiatives through some new committees and at the board table in recent months.

It's possible Cambridge has in the last four or five years become overly focused on the business of expanding the facility footprint of the school district. But it's hardly been a movable or flexible assignment given the rapid pace of growth in the west shore and Sooke areas. As housing affordability continues to draw families to the west shore, so has the student population increased.

Cambridge has been there, done that. He started teaching in SD62 at Sangster Elementary in the spring of 1981, then taught at John Muir Elementary in Sooke for 10 years. Then back to Sangster for a year in 1991, then five years in his first administrative position as the vice-principal at Saseenos Elementary. One year at the board office in 1998 as an acting district principal for curriculum, Cambridge then was vice principal and acting principal at Ruth King Elementary in Langford, followed by five years as the principal at Spencer Middle School. Starting in 2003 he's been at the administrative head office in Langford, first as the director of instruction, then two years later becoming an assistant superintendent. In September 2009 he landed in the superintendent's office.

"To spend an entire career in one school district is extremely rare," says Cambridge, age 62 this year and fit (he's a triathlon achiever in his spare time). A variety of jobs is not always possible with one employer. He attributes a great deal of his success to establishing a personal working relationship with each person, including the students. "Making a positive connection can make a person's day," he says. Having a great memory helps -- he even remembers the names of students' siblings. Former students who are now parents themselves will come up to say hi to Jim in shopping malls or in the community. "It's great when that happens."

Cambridge sees some of the biggest shifts in education in BC as being from standards and grades toward learning important skills (including social and interactive skills). The new curriculum and teaching methods recognize that each



Mary P Brooke ~ West Shore Voice News

student learns differently. While external factors and pressures have been ever-changing and significant -- including many years of cutbacks under the previous provincial government, then dealing with a teacher shortage last year even with funds available, and all the facilities expansion (notably opening two new highschools in September 2015) -- the internal network has been relatively stable, especially at the board table. "The board works well together," says Cambridge. "Our board likes to find an answer that everybody can live with. It's not a 4/3 board." He says the trustees are "passionate people, in there for a variety of reasons".

student learns differently.

Other than Ravi Parmar who is yet still serving his first term (currently as Chair), and Neil Poirier in his second term, the other five trustees have spent as many as 14 to 22 years on the SD62 board. This has provided knowledge-based stability for Cambridge and his senior staff to work with and rely upon. Perhaps because he knows the system all so well, Cambridge can see the potential cracks. Things do seem to have tightened up with regard to access and privacy over the last few years. Less is said at board meetings, more is done in committee. Complaints and concerns can be seen to be viewed through a protective lens of how the board or school district might be affected. The various stakeholder groups (e.g. principals and vice principals, teacher's union, support staff union, parent council rep) have become increasingly distinct and more formally communicated with over the years.

After his retirement party in May it really started to sink in. That evening at the Olympic View Golf Course had Cambridge experiencing a mixed bag of emotions... pleased with his record of achievement, probably glad to be switching gears after 37 years, soon finding his days in a completely different routine away from people he's spent countless hours working alongside, and perhaps now realizing what didn't get done in his life while he focussed on the needs of others. "It was a bit uncomfortable with all the attention on me, after focusing on everyone else for so long," he told *West Shore Voice News*.

A few more emotional ripples have reached the surface in recent weeks... quick departures at the end of meetings, and being noticeably impacted by the drug-overdose death of a local student in recent weeks. Jim's last day at the SD62 administration office is July 31, 2018. It's a date likely having been circled on his office calendar for a long while. But even if that's a low-key day after papers are cleared, memorabilia packed, and instructions organized for others to consider, a unique day it will be.

Being the superintendent is "one of the few times you can say you're the captain of the ship", Cambridge said last fall. Every parent who has entrusted their child(ren) to the school system each day for years or decades or had their work day impacted by a snow day, every teacher who's built a career in SD62 schools and done Pro-D Day training, every staff person who's enjoyed their working environment and seen their paycheque signed, every student who has studied and grown in SD62 schools, every employer who has hired an SD62 student or graduate, every education ministry rep and local or regional politician who has interacted with senior administration at SD62 ... all have felt the pulse of Jim Cambridge. It's quite a legacy.

Cambridge sees his lasting impact as having built good working relationships, upholding a good quality of education, and finding land for new schools. "For me, the students are the clients of the education system," says Cambridge. "I love teaching, it's a great job. I love the connection with the kids."

Jim Cambridge could be said to be one of those people who does 'whatever it takes', working with full commitment on something that he's proud of. It's as if accomplishments large and small, long-term or immediate, are his continued tapestry of masterpieces. **WSV**



Mary P Brooke ~ West Shore Voice News

SD62 Superintendent Jim Cambridge, pleased to have achieved board approval of the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan (May 2018).

FRIDAY, JULY 13

X AMBASSADORS
JULIETTE & THE LICKS
DEAR ROUGE • FELIX CARTAL
SKITTOUR • KYTAMI • THE ELWINS
YOUNGBLOOD • FORTUNE KILLERS

SATURDAY, JULY 14

SOCIAL DISTORTION
THE SHEEPDOGS
CORB LUND • JESSE ROPER
CHUCK RAGAN • AARON LEE TAJJAN
JADE JACKSON • THE VELVETAINS
DIRTY MOUNTAIN
LO WRIGHT & THE RATTLESNAKES

SUNDAY, JULY 15

BRIAN WILSON
BAHAMAS
ALLEN STONE • FRAZEEY FORD
BEDOUIN SOUNDCLASH
RISING APPALACHIA
CHICKEN • FOX GLOVE

Ticket purchases, reserved seating info, cabana reservations, passes for kids, parking details, and of course the amazing lineup of bands. All of that here:

www.rocktheshores.com

TICKETS

THREE-DAY PASS	FRIDAY PASS	SATURDAY PASS	SUNDAY PASS
GA \$169.00+*+S+C	GA \$59.50+*+S+C	GA \$69.50+*+S+C	GA \$79.50+*+S+C
VIP \$338.00+*+S+C	VIP \$119.00+*+S+C	VIP \$139.00+*+S+C	VIP \$159.00+*+S+C

2018 Congratulations to All SD62 Graduates...



SD62 Sooke School Board Trustees. (From left, back row): Margot Swinburnson, Wendy Hobbs, Denise Riley, Dianna Seaton. (From left, front row): Ravi Parmar (chair), Bob Phillips (vice-chair), Neil Poirier.



... from the Board of Education,
Sooke School District 62 www.sd62.bc.ca

WHAT'S GOING ON

Event postings: PRIORITY TO ADVERTISERS

Sooke Region Museum Annual Open House. Sun June 24. 12 to 3pm. Wild salmon BBQ lunch \$14pp. Opening of Sawmills exhibit. www.sookeregionmuseum.ca

Westshore Centre for Learning & Training Grade 12 Graduation Ceremony. Royal Colwood Golf Club. Tues June 26. 4 pm.

Sooke Fire Dept (with Otter Pt & Metchosin FD's). Thurs June 28. 4:30pm to 9:30pm. Wildland fire training & evacuation exercise near Erinan Estates. Public welcome to observe at ESS reception centre 7:30-9:30 pm at EMCS, 6218 Sooke Rd. <https://sooke.ca/june-28th-live-wildfire-training-exercise/>

Sooke Night Market. Thurs June 28. Thurs nights 5 to 8 pm til Sept. Sooke Region Museum grounds. www.sookeregionmuseum.ca

BC Small Business Task Force. Phase 1 public input online (June 1) to June 29. <http://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/consultation/small-business-task-force/>

Westshore Centre for Learning & Training (SD62) Summer Programs. Grade 8 to 12 courses. Upgrade for post-secondary, or complete your Grade 12 grad. Registration deadline for summer classes: Fri June 29. Inquiries: 250-291-9002 or email westshore@sd62.bc.ca | Info: www.westshorecentre.com

Happy Canada Day! Sun July 1. **SOOKE:** Sooke Flats, 11 am (12 noon official ceremony) to 10 pm fireworks. www.canadadaysooke.com | **WEST SHORE:** Fort Rodd Hill, 10 am to 4 pm. www.colwood.ca

Green Man Bikes - 1st Anniversary. Sun July 1. 10 am to 6 pm. Drop-in. 3202A Happy Valley Rd, Langford. www.greenmanbikes.com

Blood donor clinic. Mon July 2. Sooke Legion, 6726 Eustace Rd. 12:30 to 6:30 pm.

Municipal Property Tax Deadline. Tues July 3.



Juan de Fuca Emergency Program www.prepareyourself.ca

WorkLink 40th Anniversary celebration. Thurs July 5. 11 am to 3 pm. At the Sooke office location, Unit D - 6625 Sooke Rd. www.worklink.bc.ca

Sooke Lioness Garage Sale. Sat July 7 by the Sooke District Lioness, 1646 Winnifred Pl, Sooke. 9 am to 1pm. All proceeds to Lioness projects.

4th annual Eats and Beats. Sat July 7. 1 to 8 pm along the lagoon at Ocean Blvd. www.colwood.ca

Ayre Manor 10th Anniversary Afternoon Tea. Sun July 8. 2 to 4 pm. www.ayremanor.ca

Blood donor clinic. Mon July 9. 9 am to 3:45 pm. CFB Esquimalt, 1575 Lyall St. www.blood.ca

StoryWalk. Nature walk & outdoor storytelling. Wed July 11. 6 to 7:30 pm. Wednesdays to Aug 22. www.westshorecreation.ca

SEAPARC pool closed for maintenance June 11 to July 2. www.seaparc.ca

WorkLink 40th Anniversary celebration. Thurs July 12. 11 am to 4 pm. At the west shore office location, 202-3179 Jacklin Rd. Official presentation at 12:30 pm. Dunk tank! www.worklink.bc.ca

Rock the Shores. Outdoor weekend rock concert. Juan de Fuca Rec Centre lower fields, 1767 Island Hwy, Colwood. Fri Jul 13, Sat Jul 14, Sun Jul 15. Single-day tickets & weekend passes. www.rocktheshores.com

Public Input about Highway 14 improvements. Deadline Sun July 15. Feedback can be provided to the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure online at www.gov.bc.ca/highway14 or by emailing to highway14@gov.bc.ca

Blood donor clinic. Mon July 16. 9 am to 3:45 pm. Vancouver Island Technology Park, #2201 - 4464 Markham St. www.blood.ca

Art in the Park & Classic Car Show. Sun July 22. 10 am- 2:00 pm at Sooke River Campground on Phillips Rd, Sooke. www.sookecommunityarts.com

32nd Sooke Fine Arts Show. Purchaser's Preview July 26. Full show: July 27 to Aug 6 at SEAPARC Leisure Complex, 2168 Phillips Rd, Sooke. www.sookefinearts.com

Blood donor clinic. Mon July 30. Sooke Legion, 6726 Eustace Rd. 12:30 to 6:30 pm.

Sooke Music & Art Festival. Sat Aug 4. 2197 Otter Pt Rd. www.sookemusicfestival.com

14th Annual Vancouver Island Pagan Pride Day. Sat Aug 11 at Sooke Region Museum. 10-4. www.vipaganpride.org

Blood donor clinic. Mon Aug 13. 12 to 6:45 pm. Church of the Advent, 510 Mount View Ave, Colwood. www.blood.ca

Community survey: West shore post-secondary options to help students stay local after high school. See: www.sd62.bc.ca



Fire Hazard Rating in Sooke: EXTREME

Upbeat Sooke Night Market on Thursday nights

West Shore Voice News

The Sooke Night Market is off to a good start in its fourth Thursday night summer season at the Sooke Region Museum. More vendors (31) and more food trucks (7) this year fill up the grounds in front of the museum at 2070 Phillips Road in the 5 to 8 pm time slot.

This year there are more produce farmers in the mix, along with the usual booths selling arts and crafts, foods, clothing and more. The museum staff prepare a chowder for sale.

>> To get the story of your summer pop-up booth or business in front of our readers, contact West Shore Voice News for some great promo packages. 250-217-5821. advertising@westshorevoicenews.com

Three local Sooke craft breweries are serving: Bad Dog Brewing, Sooke Brewing, and Sooke Oceanside Brewery.

There is a wait list for single-night booth bookings at \$30 per night. The market runs weekly through summer to September 6. See www.sookeregionmuseum.ca

WSV



New to Sooke? New mom? Bride to be? 250-642-2268



Chelsea Kirkpatrick - West Shore Voice News

June 7 to September 6, 2018

Sooke NIGHT MARKET

Thursdays 5 - 8

Sooke Region Museum Grounds
Corner of Sooke Rd & Phillips Rd

www.sookeregionmuseum.ca



3202-A Happy Valley Rd (corner of Sooke Rd) in Langford



Readers come to these pages for insightful election coverage.

Municipal 2018 election campaign ad bookings for PRINT & ONLINE in West Shore Voice News.



Rates & dates posted under Advertising at www.westshorevoicenews.com
Inquiries: advertising@westshorevoicenews.com or tel/text: 250-217-5821

Eats & Beats: July 7

The 4th Annual Eats & Beats at the Beach is coming Saturday July 7. Celebrate Colwood's breathtaking oceanfront beaches 1 to 8 pm with live bands, dozens of great local food trucks, and free fun stuff happening on sand, sea and sky. About mid-way along the lagoon on Ocean Boulevard. www.colwood.ca WSV

Capital Regional District CRD

Employment Opportunities

SEAPARC Leisure Complex

SEAPARC Leisure Complex is looking for up to 8 role models in the community to be lifeguards and swimming instructors to assist in the delivery of our public aquatic programs. Qualified applicants will have a current National Lifeguard Service Award and/or current Water Safety Instructor Award, in addition to CPR-C current within a year. Qualified applicants will also possess excellent communication (verbal and written), interpersonal and customer service skills.

To further explore our exciting employment opportunities, please visit our web site at www.crd.bc.ca/careers. The CRD thanks all applicants for their interest and advises that only those candidates under active consideration will be contacted. For the complete job description and qualifications, please visit www.seaparc.ca.

CiB returns to Sooke

West Shore Voice News

The District of Sooke is once again participating in Communities in Bloom (CiB). This year they're the only Vancouver Island community in the recognition and award program. CiB is a framework by which to enhance livability through people, plants and pride growing together. Sooke has achieved 5 blooms (top level) in the past few years.

Evaluators will be in town in July. They are usually taken on a day-long tour to key Sooke sites and recognized at several receptions over breakfast or lunch. Local businesses and organizations that contribute to Sooke's beautification are given recognition.

WSV



www.westshorevoicenews.com

Weather Links for West Shore areas are handy on the WEST SHORE VOICE WEATHER page at

Grad Family Gift Coupon \$20.18 off your next vehicle service!

2079 Otter Point Rd in Sooke
Open Mon-Sat
250.642.6665



DUMONT TIRECRAFT Auto Center

One per customer, valid to Sept 8, 2018

Congratulations to all the SD62 Graduates of 2018!

~ West Shore Voice News ~
News of the west shore region



TRAFFIC INFO

LANGFORD ON THE MOVE



Tues May 22 to Wed Aug 1. Intermittent single-lane alternating traffic on Hannington Rd in Bear Mountain, 7 am to 5 pm. For BC Hydro installations & road construction.

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

Current to summer 2018. Leigh Rd at Langford Pkwy Railway Crossing. Completion of Leigh Rd Railway Crossing over to Langford Pkwy (near the sports fields).

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