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# West Shore Voice News

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West Shore Voice News

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## Rent-to-own expected to catch on fast in Langford

Mary P Brooke ~ West Shore Voice News



### Crossing at Belmont apartments in Langford will provide rent-to-own opportunities for renters to get into condo ownership.

It has taken a long while for housing crisis realities of this decade and the Greater Victoria region to be addressed. But leadership is coming fast now in Langford, with the initiative to help support renters into finding their way to home ownership.

The pilot project is Crossing at Belmont, a collection of apartment buildings along Reunion Avenue that runs alongside the developing Belmont Market at Jacklin and Jenkins in west Langford. That's where renters will be able to effectively see a percentage of their monthly rent payments help them buy a home at the Belmont Residences condominiums in the same new subdivision.

Not only would that mean a move 'across the street' physically but also across the financial divide into home ownership.

The Crossing is billed as 'urban rental living' in the heart of west Langford amidst shopping, services, transit and recreation being all within easy reach. A public open house to view newly-staged 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom show suites will be held on Saturday April 13. See: <https://crossingatbelmont.com>

The program is proposed to start from Fall 2019 (estimated start date of the first apartment for rent) for an eligibility period of 36 months. During that 3-year period any original tenant of the Crossings can have 25% of their rent recognized as loyalty points. Those points will accrue until the tenant acquires financing and successfully closes on a condo unit at Belmont Residences East (buildings expected to be ready by Fall 2022).

The first set of Belmont Residences condo units are coming onstream in early 2020. Many of those have already been pre-purchased, a phase of marketing that started in spring 2018.

For Crossing tenants aiming to get into home ownership, at the time of closing the developer Belmont Crossing Developments LP (Ledcor) will provide each member that qualifies with a credit on the closing statement of adjustments equal to \$1 for every point earned by the member, up to a maximum of 5% (estimated as being \$16,000 to \$20,000) of the net purchase price of the unit.

As a developer incentive, Ledcor requested at the April 1 City of Langford Council meeting that \$5,000 per unit from the City of Langford be rebated back to the developer (from developer cost charges initially levied by the municipality) for every successful rent-to-own (RTO) transaction. On Monday night, Langford Council handily approved that idea.

The City's rebate would partially fund the loyalty points being contributed to the maximum 5% discount of the purchase price. The rebate would be allocated from the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund which is comprised of contributions from developers.

"I am excited that the City is able to support the creation of a Rent-to-Own Affordable Home Ownership program in Langford," said Langford Mayor Stew Young. "This initiative is the first of its kind on Vancouver Island and will help hard-working residents use a portion of their rent towards the purchase of their own home at a future date," he said this week. The municipality deems the provision of affordable housing as a municipal service. "This will complement the work that the provincial government is doing to tackle the affordable housing crisis," Mayor Young said.

The BC Government's 30-point 10-year Housing for BC plan is rolling out a number of housing initiatives and supports (including affordable housing partnerships, co-ops and modular housing with services), though rent-to-own is not yet one of them. The rental component in that original Housing for BC plan (released 2018) includes a 'Security for Renters' section that offers: expanding and increasing benefits to seniors living independently; expanding and increasing the Rental Assistance Program to help working parents; strengthening protections for renters and manufactured home owners; and extending the life, quality and affordability of existing affordable housing.

If the Crossing rent-to-own program is successful, Young says Langford staff will work with the business community to come up with a rent-to-own

## Hollywood spends time in Langford

by Mary P Brooke ~ West Shore Voice News



### Film crew in full production mode worked on a couple of scenes in Langford council chambers April 4 for a Hallmark summer movie.

The film industry descended upon Langford city hall on Thursday for the making of a Hallmark TV movie. The plot has to do with an island, a small town, land development and a sailboat, with Langford as part of the backdrop for one of those sugary romance movies that make their way to the W Network.

Coordinated by Front Street Pictures out of Vancouver, filming took place day and evening within Langford Council chambers on the third floor of city hall. The appearance of the room was morphed only slightly from what Langford residents, developers and visitors to council chambers would see on a regular day of municipal business. Good promotion for the City of Langford, to be sure.

Some of the lead actors you will recognize when this film makes its way to your TV screen this summer – they appear in Hallmark's standard fare of romantic feel-good movies. But behind the camera – on the set, as well as outside the room and outside the building with equipment – were at least 100 people all jammed in, doing their bit: camera work, sound and lighting, positioning actors for shots, touching up actors' makeup, handling props and equipment, refreshments.

Top personnel such as the director and executive producer came in from Hollywood, but most of the production crew and background actors are locals. They are called in for various shoots from around south Vancouver Island, sometimes on short notice.

This particular film sees production being done on location in Brentwood Bay, Langford and possibly Cadboro Bay. Other films done in the region make their way into locales such as Metchosin, Colwood, Sooke and Victoria.

Filming continued on April 5 in and around Langford City Hall. One of the on-location jobs for production crews is to direct traffic around outdoor shoots and help people within the building make their way around the equipment and cables.

Langford Mayor Stew Young works hard to get film production into his city. He worked on this project for a while. "It's good to have them shooting in Langford. Residents will have some fun seeing some familiar areas of town," he said.

Film production is a strong industry in BC. Creative BC helps support the motion picture industry as does the Vancouver Island South Film & Media Commission. **WSV**

program for Langford residents to get into affordable housing units.

"We understand that it's becoming more difficult for buyers, especially Millennials, in this market, to be able to save enough money towards owning a home," says Marcela Corzo, director of development, Belmont Residences. "We are delighted to be able to help put the movement of home ownership within the reach of more people," she said this week.

The BC Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing says that "in the midst of a longstanding housing crisis they are working on a number of innovative ideas with partners, including those in the development community".

"The Province is pursuing innovative housing partnerships through the Housing Hub that we created at BC Housing as part of our 10-year housing plan launched in 2018. The rent-to-own model is one of many being looked at by the Housing Hub team," said a Ministry rep this week. "The Housing Hub is working on a number of exciting opportunities for both affordable home ownership and affordable rental housing for people in communities throughout the province."

The Ministry of Finance has completed the legislative component to encourage more rentals via property tax exemptions as part of Budget 2018. The exemption is effective back to February 21, 2018. The Province is not aware of any exemptions being granted to date. A municipality will determine if a property meets the requirements of a municipal revitalization exemption for purpose-built rental housing, and if so an exemption for school tax will be granted.

The Strategic Plan within Budget 2019 has a progress report on the 30-point plan including the benefit increase for seniors living independently, limit rent increases to the rate of inflation, closing the fixed-term lease loophole and eliminating the geographic rent increase clause, strengthened protections for manufactured home park tenants, and more robust protection for people threatened by potential renovations and demolitions. **WSV**

Earlier version of this article posted at: <https://westshorevoiceneews.com/rent-to-own-apartments-instantly-popular-in-langford/>



**EDITORIAL**

WSV EDITORIALS ADDRESS TIMLEY TOPICS OF BROAD SOCIAL INTEREST

**Details and boundaries in a media-driven age**

West Shore Voice News



by **Mary P Brooke**  
Editor & Publisher

● **When international media** dove into the details of the mass shooting in New Zealand a few weeks ago, it was yet another tragedy explored for the world to engage with. While there are sadly many awful events such as mass shootings, plane crashes and murders, after the New Zealand incident it was the first time one could hear rumblings from the general public saying they don't need or can't cope with copious sad or horrific details. Enough. Find a balance.

The public certainly has the right to know, especially if they are impacted as a community. However, over time in this era where all information is instantly available through satellite and wireless technology, it will be the continual job of professional news journalists and publishers to find the right balance of need-to-know vs what-to-know. It's okay to hold back some of the details if their release would not in any way serve to enlighten. This week some of the Humboldt Broncos crash victim parents said that after a year in the media glare – exploring injuries, emotional impacts, and community changes – that privacy would now be appreciated. ■

Editorial

**Regional & National News**

West Shore Voice News

**Gasoline prices up due to market forces, says Premier Horgan**

● **On Thursday** in a tele-conference with media and again on Friday after his presentation at the BC Council of Forest Industries annual convention in Vancouver, Premier John Horgan said that a gasoline price increase of 12 cents this week includes an increase of about one cent for the BC Carbon tax (due to a rise in that tax on polluters from \$35/tonne of carbon dioxide emissions to \$40/tonne). Most low-income British Columbians get a quarterly rebate from the government, to offset the impact on consumers.

The rest of the increase in prices at the retail pump has to do with the market trying to assess the variables of supply and demand, with the profit factor built into that, Horgan said. He notes the oil barrel price has been steady.

Horgan notes the lack of increased oil refinery capacity in Canada. Even if and when the Trans Mountain Pipeline capacity increases, that system carries diluted bitumen destined for refineries in other countries.

Gasoline prices are often seen to increase ahead of long weekends and the summer travel season. "My main concern is why gas prices went up 12 cents overnight, and that it's happening earlier and earlier over the years," the Premier said, pointing at the industry profit motive. Gasoline retailers could be seen to be piggybacking on the timing of government increases as a form of camouflage, or it might be a hedged bet by fuel suppliers that demand will decrease because of more taxes and so a price hike would balance that.

**PM invites youth to summit, deadline April 14**

West Shore Voice News

● **A Canada Youth Summit** will be held in Ottawa May 2 and 3, 2019. This first such event will assemble 300 youth (ages 18 to 24) to discuss issues such as environmental protection and climate change, good jobs and service opportunities, and building more inclusive communities. Previous youth leaders have been invited, but participation has also been opened to all youth by posting a video on social media #InspiredToServe about what service means to you and how it benefits your community. Deadline April 14. Travel expenses covered for winners. <https://www.canada.ca/en/youth/services/canada-youth-summit.html> **WSV**



[www.pacificfc.ca](http://www.pacificfc.ca)

**Getting ahead of fire**

● **This week**, Premier Horgan announced a \$60 million contribution to indigenous and local communities to support their preparation for interface fires – notably to remove fuel (dry fallen timber and brush) from the forest floor ahead of fire season. **WSV**

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**Bonus payments to municipalities in July**

West Shore Voice News

● **The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)** this week provided an update to their membership about the double gas tax transfer as announced March 19 in federal Budget 2019.

The one-time doubling of Gas Tax transfer nationally is \$2.2 billion. Within that is a one-time payment of \$278.6 million for British Columbia to support local government infrastructure and capacity building priorities.

Local governments in BC will see a bonus payment of Community Works funds (~\$109 million) that will effectively double the 2018 allocation, explained UBCM.

Portions of this one-time transfer will also be allocated to the Greater Vancouver Regional Fund (~\$138 million) and the Strategic Priorities Fund (~\$ 30.7 million) as per the federal Gas Tax program delivery model.

Although a transfer schedule has not been confirmed by the federal government, UBCM says the first payment will likely align with the next scheduled Community Works Fund payment in July 2019.

The 2019-23 Gas Tax Community Works Fund allocation has been released. The bonus payment (based on 2011 census data) and regular 2019/20 payment (based on 2016 census data) for local municipalities includes:

In the fastest growth areas of the west shore region: Sooke will get \$560,390 on top of \$602,377; Colwood gets a \$766,208 bonus on top of \$764,772; Langford will receive \$1,346,590 & \$1,542,778; Highlands \$148,799 & \$148,782;

**NextRide app being expanded into Greater Victoria**

West Shore Voice News

● **BC Transit** is launching their NextRide service on their buses in the Greater Victoria area this summer. The Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) technology will provide transit riders with real-time data on the location of their bus and its predicted arrival time at a stop. NextRide operates off of a responsive website, enabling passengers to plan their trips from an internet-connected mobile device or desktop. More info and user tutorial at <https://www.bctransit.com/victoria/nextride>

NextRide development was initiated over two years ago, with a launch in Nanaimo in April 2018, says Neil Corbett, Program Director for Smart Technology, BC Transit. Then there was a rollout in Comox Valley, Squamish, Whistler, Kamloops and Kelowna. Every bus has a SIM card and router for connecting back to central services to see where buses are. Right-sizing decisions are made by looking at how full buses are on certain routes, what the common delays are, and whether buses are ahead of time or behind schedule. That sort of data enables route management including the number of buses on a route and frequency of service.

Further advancements for Victoria-area buses are coming including CCTV cameras and tap-to-pay with mobile device or credit card. **WSV**

**West Shore Voice News**

The Sooke Voice News

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WSV



City of Langford  
[www.cityoflangford.ca](http://www.cityoflangford.ca)

**LANGFORD ON THE MOVE**

**TRAFFIC INFO**

■ **Spring 2019.** Langford Pkwy adjacent to City Centre Park & Westhills Stadium (access to Langford Lanes & City Centre Park is open). Road construction and associated work continues in April. Signalized intersection at Leigh Road & Langford Parkway opens April 7.

■ **Continuing in April 2019.** Various roadway adjustments continue around in and around the Belmont Market/Residences construction zone [Jacklin Road, Kelly Road, Jenkins Ave].

More traffic advisories:  
[www.langford.ca](http://www.langford.ca)

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## WEST SHORE | ISLAND

News updates any time:  
[www.WestShoreVoiceNews.com](http://www.WestShoreVoiceNews.com)

### Curling rink protest

Mary P Brooke  
West Shore Voice News

Langford Mayor and Council listened to various detailed and impassioned presentations from local curling enthusiasts, at their April 1 regular council meeting.

This comes in the wake of the sudden announcement – one day after a provincial curling competition held March 17 at the Westshore Parks & Recreation (WSPR) curling rink: a year-round dry-floor in the curling arena would be better for a range of recreational options as well as revenues.



The curling rink has been subsidized at \$11.24 per user, compared to \$4.26 for the main Juan de Fuca ice rink (hockey/ skateing) and \$2.07 per user for the pool.

While WSPR is owned by five municipalities (Langford, Colwood, View Royal, Highlands, Metchosin)

Langford pays half the overall annual subsidy, which for 2019 will be over \$2.5 million.

Why no public input? “The case for community benefit from broadening the use of these spaces is simply too strong,” it was stated in a release. However, the curling group was offered an opportunity to meet with the WSPR board on April 4 to discuss options such as curlers paying significantly higher user-fees. **WSV** [westshorevoiceneews.com/curlers-pitch-langford-to-keep-rink-open-at-west-shore-parks-rec/](http://westshorevoiceneews.com/curlers-pitch-langford-to-keep-rink-open-at-west-shore-parks-rec/)

### Beckett walk/run event on April 13

Three years ago on April 5, 2016, Langford and all of Greater Victoria woke to the tragic news of a fatal car crash that took the life of Cst Sarah Beckett in the wee hours of that Tuesday morning.

Memorials and tributes were held over the weeks, months and years to follow.

This year on April 5, the West Shore RCMP issued a simple photo of the memorial plaque.



Local fundraisers and events have evolved over the past few years to remember and honour the late Cst Beckett.

The next fundraiser is a family event on Saturday April 13, in support of the Sarah Beckett Memorial Scholarship as sponsored by the Capital Regional District (CRD) Traffic Safety Commission.

The 5 km walk/run fundraiser will start/finish at Belmont Secondary School, 3041 Langford Lake Rd in Westhills. Happening from 8 am to 1 pm.

Register up to April 12 at [www.sarahbeckettmemorialrun.com](http://www.sarahbeckettmemorialrun.com). Twitter: #RunforBeckett **WSV**

### Organ donation pitch a year after Broncos crash

One year after the Humboldt Broncos bus crash in Saskatchewan there are various forms of memorial and recognition. Locally next week, BC Transplant representatives and Service BC staff will be joined by organ-donation recipients to recognize Green Shirt Day and honour the legacy of Humboldt Broncos defenceman Logan Boulet.

There were 16 fatalities and 13 injured persons in that crash in which a transport truck collided with the bus that carried the Humboldt Broncos Jr A hockey team including coaches, physio, statistician, play-by-play announcer and driver.

The event in Victoria is intended to encourage British Columbians to register their decisions on organ donation. The small gathering will be held on Monday April 8 at the Service BC office at Gateway Village in Saanich. **WSV**

### May 6 federal by-election in Nanaimo back to back with fall general election

Nanaimo-area voters are heading to the polls for the third time in seven months. A federal by-election in Nanaimo-Ladysmith on May 6 comes on the heels of the provincial by-election of January 30, and before that the municipal election in October 2018.

The May 6 by-election comes only about five months ahead of the federal general election on October 21, giving a new MP only a blip of time before turning attentions to the fall race.

Nanaimo-Ladysmith candidates are Bob Chamberlin (NDP), Jennifer Clarke (People's Party of Canada), Michelle Corfield (Liberal), John Hirst (Conservative), and Paul Manly (Green). **WSV**

### Sooke councillor shares her health concerns

This week Sooke Councillor Brenda Parkinson publicly shared her health concerns with various members of the Sooke community. In a bulk email to supporters in her arts and political communities, she openly discussed her challenges with a potentially serious health condition. Parkinson is serving her third term on Sooke Council; she won her present seat in October 2018 with the highest number of councillor votes. She is active within the Sooke Legion community. She has served as a marriage commissioner for several years. **WSV**

### WorkLink refresh

WorkLink recently secured a new 5-year contract that commenced April 1, with the option for a 4-year renewal.

This sees a significant internal reorganization of staffing and service delivery models, explains executive director Peter Doukakis. With expanded hours as well, at both the west shore and Sooke offices.

WorkLink assists both employment seekers and employment providers in a range of proven and creative ways. **WSV**

### Jon Brooks concert: mind-twist set to a beat

by Mary P Brooke  
West Shore Voice News

Setting words to music is not the easiest thing in the world. Especially when the goal is to get the audience squirming in their minds while tapping their toes.

This is not folk music that drifts you off into dreamy memories or future fantasy. The thesis-style lyrics of Jon Brooks combined with his trademark comfortable folk-rock sound is a combination he has crafted now for 10 years to make people think about uncomfortable things but to feel good about it. Based out of Ontario, Brooks makes his way around the country playing to audiences small and moderately larger. In the last week of spring break he played to four audiences on south Vancouver Island, hitting Brentwood Bay, Port Alberni, Metchosin, and Nanaimo.



Jon Brooks (right) in concert on March 30, 2019 in Metchosin, accompanied by Neil Cruikshank.

It was on Saturday night March 30 that he landed in Metchosin, at St Mary's Church on a warm springtime evening. About 35 people attended, all ages – 7 to 70. The young female church pastor was there. And one person in a wheelchair.

Much of the audience was from the Sooke area, as well as recent converts to the Brooks sound. “Word of mouth is the best way for people to find me,” said Jon Brooks at the intermission. “My people are a certain type and they find me eventually,” Brooks told *West Shore Voice News*.

This was the third Jon Brooks concert organized by Dave Gallant (formerly of Sooke Folk Music Society). Dave and Marilyn Gallant organized this concert under the new name of Metchosin Society for Music & Creativity.

Brooks, 50, is known for his hard-hitting lyrics about tough socioeconomic times. He is a four-time Canadian Folk Music Awards nominee for English Songwriter of the Year (2007, 2009, 2012, 2015). His latest album ‘No One Travels Alone’ released in September 2018 reveals more of his theological interests than previous albums.

Brooks quipped to the audience that he is “known for being unknown”. At least 10 of his tunes are downloadable on Spotify and he has a collection of CD albums under his belt, but his live sound is richer. That makes sense in the context of this lament from the singer-songwriter: “We are now more digital than atomic.”

While his lyrics cover some tough stuff including guns and violence, war, poverty, loss of privacy in the digital age, and environmental destruction of the planet, the music of his own guitar (and that night also accompanied by long-time buddy in song, Neil Cruikshank) is soothing, like a background tapestry. It's an intoxicating combo, crafted toward achieving his goal to enlighten toward action.

There's kind of a country flavour to it all, but with more of a twang in his voice than in the music. It's a trademark sound as he continues to build his following. Brooks weaves music from the air into sounds for the ear.

Dialogue between songs is half the point of attending the live concert. Little missives Brooks delivers on stage: “There is hope for the world, the Millennials will save us all.” He explains that in the context of how young people responded to the #MeToo movement and recent shootings in the US. “They did something different this time, they hit the streets (instead of just offering ‘hopes and prayers’).”

And he'll run on a bit about common pop phrases like “it is what it is”. The response to that, from Brooks is “it never is what it is... that's dullard nonsense, sounding vaguely Buddhist”. That elicited a chuckle from the Anglican pastor in the room.

Brooks has played to some larger US audiences. But thanked the volunteers for this type of small town concert: “You make my life possible. And that's not just stage talk,” he said, thanking several volunteers in the audience by name. At concert's end, the chant for an encore was sincere, and two more songs were delivered.

This sort of concert evening is for the intellectual listener who appreciates the warm blanket of tone that fills the room from the mix of guitar tone and digital beat. Making tough jarring verbal content feel safe – something you want to absorb – is no small feat.

“It's my job to make people wonder, and to share emotional data,” Brooks said after the concert. Indeed. “If it's not love, you can't take it when we go, wherever we go,” is the lyric he sang to open the two-hour concert. He closed with: “We'll all be ashes tomorrow, that is to say, there's only love.”

But he's not afraid to get political, bravely saying about the recently embattled prime minister in troubled times: “I like Justin Trudeau. He's a likeable young guy with his heart in the right place. I like how he visits First Nations, coming down in a helicopter. He seems to understand the complexities of moving this country forward and shouldn't be so harshly judged. Like the pipeline – it was there and couldn't just be stopped. Canada is post-identity, a place where people are welcome. Canada is a young country. We are beyond nationalism,” said Brooks.

“I'm disappointed in the quantity of lying in society. It's somewhere beneath mortifying. This is what the post-truth age is doing to us, disconnecting us,” Brooks declared. **WSV** <https://westshorevoiceneews.com/jon-brooks-concert-in-metchosin-a-local-treat/>

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April

**City of Colwood Regular Council Meeting.** Mon Apr 8. 7 pm. [www.colwood.ca](http://www.colwood.ca)

**District of Sooke Regular Council Meeting.** Mon Apr 8. 7 pm. [www.sooke.ca](http://www.sooke.ca)

**Sooke Community Round Table** by Sooke Region Volunteer Centre. **Tues Apr 9.** 6 to 8 pm, Sooke Community Hall

**SD62 Adolescent Health Survey** results workshop. **Wed Apr 10.** Dunsmuir School. 4 to 5:30 pm.

**12th Annual Farm & Film Gala.** **Wed Apr 10.** Sooke Region Food CHI & Awareness Film Night. EMCS Theatre. Vendors 6:30-7:45, film to 9pm. By donation.

**Run for Beckett.** **Sat Apr 13.** 5 km walk/run at Belmont Secondary. 8 am to 1 pm. Register by Apr 12. #RunforBeckett

**Crossing at Belmont** apartments open house, Langford. **Sat Apr 13.** <https://crossingatbelmont.com/>

**Backyard Rainwater Management.** **Sat Apr 13.** 1 pm. Compost Education Centre. [www.compost.bc.ca](http://www.compost.bc.ca)

**Time Travel to Port Renfrew.** Photo exhibit & history of Port Renfrew region in 1800's. **Sat Apr 13.** History of Baird and Smith families. 12 to 4 pm. Sooke Region Museum, 2070 Phillips Rd. [www.sookecommunityarts.com](http://www.sookecommunityarts.com)

**Mount Wells Spring Time** guided hike. **Sun Apr 14.** Langford. 10am-1pm. Steep trail. Register by April 10. Age 18+. [www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events](http://www.crd.bc.ca/parks-events)

**Youth Summit in Ottawa** (includes travel). Deadline **Sun Apr 14** to submit video (see pg 2). #InspiredToServe

**PUBLIC INPUT: Active Transportation** online to **Mon Apr 15** at 4pm. Online at: <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/activetransportation/>

**DeMamiel Creek Golf Course** in Sooke. Season opens **Wed Apr 17.** [www.seaparc.ca](http://www.seaparc.ca)

**South Island Prosperity Index Update.** Business Leaders Lunch. **Thurs Apr 18.** 11:30 am to 1 pm. Victoria Marriott Inner Harbour, 728 Humboldt St., Victoria. [www.victoriachamber.ca](http://www.victoriachamber.ca)

**Easter Egg Hunt.** Ed Macgregor Park, West Coast Rd. Sooke. **Sat Apr 20.** 10 am to noon. Face-painting, giveaways and snacks. All ages.

**Easter Egg Hunt in Meadow Park.** **Sat Apr 20.** 2 to 4 pm. By Royal Bay & City of Colwood. Family fun event. [www.colwood.ca](http://www.colwood.ca)

**Easter Long Weekend.** **Apr 19** (Good Friday/ stat holiday) **thru Apr 22** (Easter Monday).

<https://westshorevoicenews.com/events/>

Spring Safety Tip

@jdfemerg

Time to clean out the vent behind your dryer.

#firehazard

Juan de Fuca Emergency Program [www.prepareyourself.ca](http://www.prepareyourself.ca)

**Earth Day.** **Mon Apr 22.** [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org)

**Blood Donor Clinic.** **Mon Apr 22.** Church of the Advent, 510 Mount View Ave, Colwood. [www.blood.ca](http://www.blood.ca)

**District of Sooke Regular Council Meeting.** **Tues Apr 23.** 7 pm. [www.sooke.ca](http://www.sooke.ca)

**SD62 Board Meeting - budget.** **Tues Apr 23.** Board office. 7 pm. [www.sd62.bc.ca](http://www.sd62.bc.ca)

**Super Channel Boxing Championships.** **Apr 23 – 27** at Bear Mountain Resort. Hosted by Boxing BC with Boxing Canada, Super Channel, City of Langford. [www.boxing.bc.ca](http://www.boxing.bc.ca)

**West Shore Community Garage Sale.** **Sat Apr 27.** 1761 Island Hwy. 10-2. Swimming & weight room 1:30-4pm. [www.westshorerecreation.ca](http://www.westshorerecreation.ca)

**Sooke region clean up.** **Sat Apr 27 & Sun Apr 28** by ZeroWaste Sooke. Gloves, reflective vests & garbage bags provided. Contact [wendyocannon@me.com](mailto:wendyocannon@me.com) or 250-361-6965.

**Pacific FC Inaugural game.** **Sun Apr 28** at Westhills Stadium. 4pm. Pacific FC vs Halifax. Tickets online: [www.pacificfc.ca](http://www.pacificfc.ca)

May

**Viva La Westshore.** **Fri May 3.** At Olympic View Golf Club. Westshore Chamber fundraiser for Children's Health Foundation of Vanc Island. [www.westshore.bc.ca](http://www.westshore.bc.ca)

**Sooke Community Choir #ModernLove** Spring concert **Fri May 3 & Sat May 4** at 7:30 pm. **Sun May 5** at 2 pm at Sooke Community Hall, 2037 Shields Rd. [www.sookecommunitychoir.com](http://www.sookecommunitychoir.com)

**Rotary Sooke Annual Fundraising Auction/Dinner.** **Sat May 4,** Prestige hotel. Tickets at Shoppers & Little Vienna Bakery. Info 250-642-1789.

**Nanaimo-Ladysmith** federal by-election. **Mon May 6.** [www.elections.ca](http://www.elections.ca)

**Victoria Chamber AGM.** **Tues May 7.** Speakers on Amalgamation: Victoria Mayor Lisa Helps & Saanich Mayor Fred Haynes. 11:30 am. Hotel Grand Pacific. [www.victoriachamber.ca](http://www.victoriachamber.ca)

**Annual Westshore Colwood Campus Plant Sale.** 2139 Sooke Rd. **Sat May 11.** Pre-orders: Debbie at [dlodewijk@sd62.bc.ca](mailto:dlodewijk@sd62.bc.ca)

**13th Annual Duck Day at the Flats.** **Sat May 11.** Tix \$5 ea or \$20 for 5. Sooke Harbourside Lions.

**Women's Rugby 7s.** **Sat May 11 & Sun May 12.** Westhills Stadium, Langford. [www.rugby.ca](http://www.rugby.ca)

**Mother's Day.** **Sun May 12.**

**SPEAC AGM.** **Wed May 15.** [www.sd62.bc.ca](http://www.sd62.bc.ca)

**Vancouver Island Sustainable Technology Expo.** **Thurs May 16.** JdF Rec Centre, 1767 Island Hwy, Colwood. [www.vistaexpo.ca](http://www.vistaexpo.ca)

TELUS Food Bank Support: April 1-15



The Sooke Food Bank is accepting donations in bins at Village Food Markets in Sooke. During **April 1 to 15**, for every item donated by the public, TELUS will donate \$5 to the Sooke Food Bank (to a maximum \$2,500). If you would like to donate but cannot make it to Village Food Markets contact TELUS rep Carson Papke at 250-812-2073 or email [carson.papke@telus.com](mailto:carson.papke@telus.com) to arrange a food item pick up.

ARTIFACTS | 9 to 5 | on til April 28 | Sooke Region Museum | [www.sookecommunityarts.com](http://www.sookecommunityarts.com)

Sheringham Point Lighthouse | Open daily | [www.sheringhamlighthouse.org](http://www.sheringhamlighthouse.org)

Lighthouse school program wins award

● An international award of excellence has been won by a Sooke-based charitable program. For the past three years, the Sheringham Point Lighthouse Preservation Society has partnered with the National Trust for Land and Culture (BC) Society and Change Canada Consultants Ltd (both based in Sooke/Victoria) to offer a program for local schools, called 'Exploring the Lighthouse'.

The school program (created by Ian Fawcett and Kathleen Arnason of NTLCBC), was given an "Award of Excellence" by the International National Trusts Organization (INTO) at its biennial conference in Bermuda on March 31. The awards program was open to National Trust organizations from around the world, including the National Trust in the United Kingdom (the world's largest conservation organization), the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the US, National Trusts in Australia, and others in Europe, East Asia, Africa and the Caribbean.

Students in Grades 4 and 5 at John Muir Elementary and Sooke Elementary have participated in the program for the past two years, and a third group from the two SD62 schools will be participating over the next few weeks.

"Our purpose with this program," Fawcett said, "is to help inspire children to be more connected to the world around them. We want to encourage them to explore and appreciate their own heritage, to strengthen the bonds with their own community, to learn more about its history, and how that history has helped shape their own lives." [www.sheringhamlighthouse.org](http://www.sheringhamlighthouse.org) WSV

Rock the Rink accepting youth band auditions

● The 2nd annual Rock the Rink competition of youth bands (under age 18) is coming up June 1. Auditions for 'battle of the bands' opened April 1. To submit a music file or YouTube link, contact Carly Bryson at Westshore Parks & Recreation at [cbryson@westshorerecreation.ca](mailto:cbryson@westshorerecreation.ca) or 250-474-2847.

The top 5 bands, judged by professionals in the music industry, will be selected to perform at the Rock the Rink event at the Juan de Fuca arena in Colwood on June 1 from 7 to 10:30 pm. The winning band will play a set at Laketown Shakedown at Laketown Ranch on the pre-Canada Day weekend (June 28 to 30) in Lake Cowichan.

Event partners are The Zone @ 91-3, Laketown Shakedown at Laketown Ranch, Tom Lee Music, Event Service Production and GMB Technical Corporation of Canada. West Shore Voice News is providing additional online marketing support.

The community is invited to attend and support local youth bands. Admission by donation with proceeds going to local youth initiatives. Tickets will be available online this month. WSV

Golf in Sooke opens April 17

● The 2019 season at DeMamiel Creek Par 3 Golf Course opens Wednesday, April 17.

Operated by SEAPARC Leisure Complex, the moderately challenging 9-hole course at 6518 Throup Road is fun for all skill levels and abilities.

Open daily, there is a special seniors rate of \$15 for 18 holes. The regular adult rate is \$15 for 9 holes. Youth get a round for \$10. [www.seaparc.ca](http://www.seaparc.ca)

More measles exposures

● One more case of measles infection on the South Island was confirmed by Island Health on April 4. In that case, exposure to others may have occurred at the following locations on Saturday March 30: **Beacon Community Services Thrift Store:** 7060 West Saanich Rd (same building as Victoria Costumes), 12 to 3 pm | **Fairway Market:** 7108 West Saanich Rd, 12 to 3 pm.

Now on April 6, Island Health has announced a rash of further exposures that occurred at two LifeLabs clinics, Hillside Mall, Camosun College (Lansdowne campus), on BC Transit buses #27 & #28, and other locations during March 27 to April 3. See this link for these recent details: <https://westshorevoicenews.com/more-measles-exposure-in-victoria-saanich-march-27-to-april-3/>

Anyone who was at those locations during the specified times and who is unimmunized or incompletely immunized – and it has been less than 6 days since this exposure -- may wish to call the Saanich Health Unit at 250-519-5100 to find out where to get vaccinated. Island Health says if you have been exposed to measles, to monitor for symptoms for 21 days after exposure. Symptoms include fever, runny nose, sore throat, cough, diarrhea and red eyes, followed a few days later by a rash that starts on the face and spreads to the chest.

Two previously reported cases of measles were in adults who acquired the infection while traveling abroad, specifically to Vietnam. Both sought care in the south island region – one at Royal Jubilee Hospital (with possible exposure to others March 6, 8 and 9) and the other at a private physician's office. WSV

**DeMamiel Creek Par 3 Golf Course**

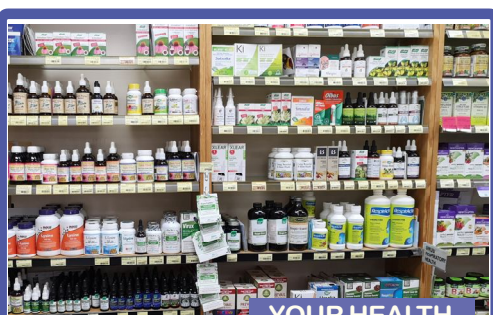
**Opening Day April 17th!**

Operated by SEAPARC Leisure Complex

Located at 6518 Throup Road, Sooke, BC

- 9 Hole Par 3 Course
- Fun for all skill levels & abilities
- Adult \$15/9 Holes, Youth \$10/9 Holes
- Mon-Fri, 60+ Rate \$15/18 Holes
- Open 7 days/week

Contact SEAPARC Leisure Complex at 250.642.8000 for information, [www.seaparc.ca](http://www.seaparc.ca)



YOUR HEALTH

**House of Nutrition**  
Colwood Corners  
#6 - 310 Goldstream Ave  
Open daily ● 250-478-3244  
[www.houseofnutritionbc.com](http://www.houseofnutritionbc.com)