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Friday July 19, 2019 WEEKEND | News to July 22, 2019

More buses for BC Transit: announced by Prime Minister & Premier
by Mary P Brooke
West Shore Voice News

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West Shore Voice News ~ Mary Brooke

"The right bus for the right route in the right community."
~ Premier John Horgan

"More buses mean less pressure on maintenance staff to get buses going every morning."
~ BC Transit CEO Erinn Pinkerton

"Getting everyone home just a little sooner."
~ Prime Minister Justin Trudeau

Arriving at the recently opened BC Transit paint and body shop in downtown Victoria on July 18 to announce 118 new buses for use across BC (from left): Premier John Horgan, BC Transit President & CEO Erinn Pinkerton, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

● Of the 118 new buses for BC Transit announced on Thursday July 18 in Victoria -- in an upbeat formal announcement by Premier John Horgan and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau along with BC Transit President and CEO Erinn Pinkerton -- 75 will be integrated into the Greater Victoria fleet and most of the others will be used in Kelowna. Ten will be fully electric.

But that doesn't mean 75 more vehicles actively on the road, as 78 of the older buses will be replaced with new buses. Ultimately, the actual increase in the number of buses in operation is 40, said BC Transit media rep Jonathon Dyck in the days to follow. That will bring the total number of active buses in BC to 1,240.

Compressed natural gas (CNG) will be used as a greener, less costly fuel in 21 of the buses. The CNG fuelling station is not set up yet at the Langford depot on Henry Eng Place in the Leigh Road industrial area near Westhills Stadium. A private company will create the compression station at some point, said Dyck. Buses that operate on CNG will refuel at the Langford station but could be deployed on any routes in the Greater Victoria area.

All new buses will be factory-delivered with computerization for the NextRide app that enables geo-location of the next bus in real time [www.bctransit.com/nextride]. The new fleet includes 19 double-deckers and 63 light duty buses.

Trudeau highlighted the increasing transit demands of the west shore and referred to the 'Colwood Crawl' (local moniker for the congested west shore commuter route) as part of recognizing the fast-growing west shore region.

Attending the July 18 announcement were about 30 VIPs including of the BC Transit Commission (including Colwood Mayor Rob Martin), chair of the Victoria Regional Transit Commission (Susan Brice), and BC Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Claire Trevena. Also attending were BC Transit workers and media.

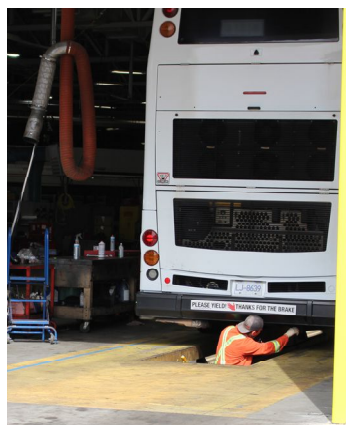
The 118 new buses come at a cost over \$79 million, with \$31 million being contributed by the federal government, \$31.5 million from the BC government, and over \$16 million from the municipalities of the Capital Regional District (CRD).

Pinkerton said that the funding "reduces the impact on local community partners" for helping to deliver reliable service to BC Transit customers. Funds not spent on retrofitting older buses allows for more funds to supply bus shelters, priority bus lanes, and connections. The fleet travels 59 million km a year, she said. "More buses mean less pressure on maintenance staff to get buses going every morning," said Pinkerton.

Langford Mayor Stew Young did not attend the BC Transit announcement in Victoria, but in response said that he remains a strong proponent of priority bus lanes that would run all the way from Victoria into the west shore.

This week's announcement of 118 buses is in addition to federal and provincial funding for 106 new buses back in November 2018. **WSV**

https://westshorevoicenews.com/west-shore-commute-highlighted-in-118-bus-announcement/



West Shore Voice News ~ Mary Brooke

Bus maintenance at the Langford depot (July 2019).

- Cancer scans now available on Vancouver Island, announced by Premier ... 2
- Alistair MacGregor, MP: gearing up for fall federal election in the west shore ... 2
- Royal Roads University garden access now free to the public 3
- Westin Bear Mountain has been sold; Ecoasis still owns golf, tennis & lands 4

Tourism blast by Northwest Deuce Days: Langford & Victoria Inner Harbour
by Mary P Brooke ~ West Shore Voice News

'Poker Run' procession of about 500 Deuce Coupes & other vintage cars through Langford on July 20 was part of the four-day Northwest Deuce Days celebration of vintage vehicles based in downtown Victoria. >>



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West Shore Voice News ~ Mary Brooke

● A tourism draw to Langford this summer, the Poker Run procession of vintage vehicles drew several thousand observers to see about 500 classic cars (hot rods and such) — particularly the 1932 Ford Deuce Coupe — made their way along several parts of Langford on Saturday July 20. The route included Atkins Road, Veterans Memorial Parkway, Sooke Road along to the West Shore Parkway, then onto Langford Parkway past the Westhills Stadium, and along Jacklin Road into the centre of town on Goldstream Avenue for a brief pit stop.

The next day, almost 1,400 collector vehicles were on display throughout the Inner Harbour. The sunny Sunday weather was perfect for an estimated

100,000 visitors (locals and tourists) who meandered along Wharf, Government and Belleville Streets around Ship's Point, The Empress Hotel BC Parliament buildings, and other downtown streets and landmarks. Security was unobtrusive. There were food trucks, street vendors, entertainers, and the event swag booth. All ages, all levels of interest in the cars themselves. Blasted music featured rock and roll from the 1950s and 1960s. It was a day just to be, to enjoy the moment.

It was a perfect example of the welcoming energy of Victoria which seems to be rejuvenating its tourism presence through the work of Destination Greater Victoria.

Northwest Deuce Days will apparently return again in three years (last time was 2016, and now they are targeting 2022). The event draws wealthy tourists with their vehicles, filling up hotels and spending their best in restaurants of the region; a gala dinner was held at the Victoria Conference Centre on the Saturday



MORE COVERAGE & PHOTOS
JULY 20 LANGFORD:
https://westshorevoicenews.com/big-crowd-for-northwest-deuce-days-in-langford-july-20/

West Shore Voice News ~ Mary Brooke

Langford Mayor Stew Young sporting an Alpine Group racing T-Shirt greeted the crowds on Goldstream Avenue at the roundabout on Saturday July 20 during the Northwest Deuce Days Poker Run.

night. For the walkabout spectators on Sunday it was a chance to marvel at or ponder the vehicles that are evidence of a hobby that celebrates times of olde and the wealth and leisure it takes to support that. **WSV**



MORE COVERAGE & PHOTOS:
JULY 21 DOWNTOWN VICTORIA:
https://westshorevoicenews.com/huge-turnout-for-northwest-deuce-days-2019-at-inner-harbour/

West Shore Voice News ~ Mary Brooke

Deuce Coupes and hot rods on Belleville Ave with BC Legislature in view.



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

Efficiency in municipal politics

● At Langford council people are used to seeing by-laws go through 1st and 2nd reading -- and 3rd for that matter -- without public input. At the legally-required Public Hearing for bylaw changes (legally a last-minute point of input), public input is like tapping a battleship with your pinky finger.

To the surprise of some in the audience at the July 22 District of Sooke council meeting, that smaller municipality is heading in the same direction. It's for reasons of efficiency, was the tune from Sooke Mayor Maja Tait and council -- with a codicil that if it doesn't seem to work they could always change it back to allowing public input on 1st and 2nd reading (as Councillors Al Beddows and Megan McMath eagerly chimed in to say). At least one member of the public twigged onto this... Ellen Lewers during public comment noted how this diminishes the public's ability to shape a bylaw (e.g. for zoning, OCP amendments, etc); over time the public voice is muted in council business.

Sooke's CAO provides ample data to indicate that Sooke residents had plenty of notice about this change between February and mid-June. Alas, most people are busy and may lack the time or skill to study municipal governance up close, or may pre-conclude that their efforts to alter the tide would not make any difference. ■

HEALTH NEWS West Shore Voice News

Cancer scans now available on Vancouver Island

HEALTH NEWS

Premier John Horgan announced the new PET/CT scanner suite at the BC Cancer centre in Victoria on Monday, July 22 along with BC Health Minister Adrian Dix. >>



● Improved cancer care is available to people living on Vancouver Island with a new state-of-the-art PET/CT scanner suite at the BC Cancer Centre in Victoria.

"Approximately half of British Columbians are expected to receive a cancer diagnosis in their lifetime. Timely, effective diagnostics are a critically important part of cancer care and treatment," said Premier John Horgan on July 22 during a media announcement at the Royal Jubilee Hospital in Victoria. The idea is for cancer patients on Vancouver Island to receive better, faster diagnostic services and care, closer to home.

Vancouver Island cancer patients previously needed to travel to the Lower Mainland to receive cancer-related PET/CT scans. Once fully operational, the new PET/CT scanner in Victoria will have the capacity for over 2,200 scans per year.

This is the third publicly funded PET/CT scanner in BC and the first outside of the Lower Mainland.

"Last year, more than 1,900 Island residents had to travel to Vancouver to receive their scans," said Health Minister Adrian Dix. "Opening this new PET/CT suite in Victoria means patients living in the region now have access to highly effective diagnostic imaging that will help improve the cancer services people count on."

The total project cost is \$6.5 million, with \$5.3 million provided by the BC Cancer Foundation and \$1.2 million provided by the Ministry of Health through the Provincial Health Services Authority. The BC Cancer Foundation raised funds for the new scanner with support from over 3,500 Vancouver Island donors, including \$2 million from Nanaimo resident Gordon Heys and \$1 million from long-standing supporter Thrifty Foods.

Heys, whose donation represents the largest private gift ever donated in support of BC Cancer in Victoria, was inspired by the dedicated staff and quality of care he received as a patient. In recognition of his generous gift, the new suite at BC Cancer - Victoria will be named the Gordon Heys Family PET/CT Suite.

"When you face cancer, you really don't expect to meet some of the most wonderful people imaginable! I couldn't have asked for better care than what I experienced at BC Cancer - Victoria," said Heys. "I was inspired by the staff, fellow patients and a former mentor, Trev Deeley, whose donations made a major impact on cancer research and care in our community. I hope that my donation will inspire others to give so we can carry on providing the best cancer care in the world right here on Vancouver Island."

Building on the second year of the Province's Surgical and Diagnostic Imaging Strategy to improve services and reduce waits, this new PET/CT suite will increase capacity for diagnostic imaging on Vancouver Island. Since launching the strategy in March 2018, the Province has exceeded its targets, completing 233,369 MRI exams in the first year (2018-19), a 23% increase from the previous year. In the Vancouver Island Health Authority, 10,850 more MRIs were delivered, an increase of 28.2%.

A PET/CT scanner delivers precise images of abnormal or cancerous cells to help physicians diagnose cancer at early stages or evaluate the effectiveness of treatments by determining if cancer tumours have shrunk, spread or returned.

Budget 2019-20 also allocated an additional \$105 million over three years to further support cancer care services across the province.

Tim Manning, chair, Provincial Health Services Authority, said: "PHSA is committed to providing British Columbians with the best in health care no matter where they are in the province. The opening of this new PET/CT scanner in Victoria will make a profound difference for cancer patients and their families on the island."

Dr. Kim Nguyen Chi, vice president and chief medical officer BC Cancer said that British Columbians continue to have some of the best cancer outcomes in the world. "At BC Cancer, a priority for us is to reduce the burden of cancer treatment. Being able to offer patients from Vancouver Island the ability to receive a critical component of their cancer care closer to home is an important step in that direction."

Sarah Roth, president and CEO, BC Cancer Foundation, said: "The commitment of BC Cancer Foundation donors to advance world class care is unparalleled and because of this, cancer patients on Vancouver Island now have the best diagnostic technology closer to home." **WSV**



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Langford-area MP gears up

by Mary P Brooke

● Alistair MacGregor, MP is spending the summer in his Cowichan-Malahat-Langford constituency. Anticipation of the fall federal election campaign is already brewing.

Back in 2015 when Alistair won in the riding that stretches from Duncan on the east side of the island, through Langford in the west shore, and includes parts of Juan de Fuca up to Port Renfrew, the campaign period was 78 days. Now, thanks to his input in the House of Commons and eventually the Liberal government's Bill C-76, the number of days in a federal campaign is capped at 50. The concern was that larger, better-funded parties would have an unfair advantage in a longer campaign, when the resources of smaller parties tend to wither.

In the last few years MacGregor has seen Langford "just keep growing" with new neighbourhoods and more families moving here. He worries about housing cost pressures in Langford. He supports expansion of road infrastructure to support the west shore commute.

West Shore Voice News

The Sooke Voice News

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"I love to door-knock," says MacGregor as the campaign gears up. "I get a clearer sense of issues in the city and listen to people's concerns." He expects reception at the door to be "a continuation of the impression they already have of me".

While the 2015 campaign was about a clean sweep ("a referendum on Harper"), MacGregor feels the 2019 election will be more a measure of "dissatisfaction with Trudeau" and likely produce a minority Liberal government.

Public life takes a toll on family life. He is enjoying some time with his wife and three young daughters on their Duncan-area farm before the campaign is in full swing. **WSV**

West Shore Greetings!

Connect with Alistair MacGregor, MP this summer!



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Alistair MacGregor

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
COWICHAN-MALAHAT-LANGFORD

Email: alistair.macgregor@parl.gc.ca

Phone: 1-866-609-9998



Eats & Beats puts Colwood on the summer list of things to do

West Shore Voice News | With notes from Evan Lindsay

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West Shore Voice News ~ Evan Lindsay

● **Eats and Beats** is an annual mid-July outdoor event held on Ocean Boulevard at Esquimalt Lagoon in Colwood. Attractions -- other than the ocean on one side and lagoon on the other -- include food festival, beach market, craft beverages, climbing wall, stand up paddling/kayaks, e-bikes and driftwood art activities are among the offerings for the free walkabout enjoyed by the public.

People arrive from around the Greater Victoria region. The weather was warm, dry and sunny, a perfect day for it.

The City of Colwood and the Royal Bay development had info booths.

Live music ran continuously 1 pm to 8 pm, including Tuesday's Roadkill (a group of Royal Bay Secondary students) and a wrap-up by Eagle Eyes (an Eagles tribute band).

Food: poutine and burgers, Kebab me crazy, Grilled to the Mac, Greek on the Street, Morning Bite Coffee and Breakfast Naked Dressing (gluten-free bowls and salads)

Colwood Mayor Rob Martin was pleased with the turnout. "This is huge...looking around we'd guess there's almost 2,000 people and it's only 1:45 pm. This is the 5th year of the event and more people from the community have begun to know about it. Last year we estimated about 8,000 people came out and by dinner tonight we're expecting even more than that. We're hoping we can get 10,000 people here tonight."

Colwood communications manager Sandra Russell is the Eats and Beats event coordinator. She says the organizing starts in January with a call-out for food vendors and the rest rolls from there. "Then right after the event we begin discussing what went right or wrong with the event and how it can be improved for next year," she told *West Shore Voice News*. **WSV**

West Shore Voice News

West Shore Voice News ~ Evan Lindsay



West Shore Voice News ~ Evan Lindsay



Web

^^ Colwood Mayor Rob Martin at Eats & Beats on July 20: keeping active despite the cast for his ankle injury.

WEST SHORE VOICE

Royal Roads garden now open without fee

West Shore Voice News

● **On Sunday July 21 outdoors at Hatley Park Gardens** at Royal Roads University (RRU), Royal Roads University President Philip Steenkamp announced that the gardens will be permanently open to the public free of charge. The private event was attended by donors. Colwood Mayor Rob Martin was also in attendance.

Until now, the well-appointed, meandering gardens with a mix of native plants to a range of roses, climbers and ramblers plus a Japanese garden with gazebo, the locale has attracted tens of thousands of paid visitors year-round in the tourist-friendly climate that South Vancouver Island offers.

The 10-acre heritage gardens sit between the century-old Hatley Castle and the biologically diverse Esquimalt Lagoon looking out to the Olympic Mountains.

Guided tours of the gardens and castle continue to be available by admission.

This was a private thank you garden party for donors -- one that is held each year by the president. It wasn't for solicitation of funds toward the gardens," says RRU Communications Officer Ali Blythe.

It costs about \$875,000 to maintain the gardens and the larger grounds each year. **WSV**



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McKenzie Interchange construction continues

● **On Monday morning July 15** a dump truck accidentally pulled down a set of suspended traffic signal lights at the mid-construction intersection of Hwy 1 & McKenzie, causing traffic delays in both directions until about 1 pm. Meanwhile, this weekend July 20 & 21, two spans of concrete (north span 27 m; south span 34 m), each consisting of 15 concrete beams and weighing 52 to 62 tonnes -- were installed as part of the Hwy 1 underpass at McKenzie Avenue [see @TransBC on Twitter]. **WSV**



Temporary traffic lights Hwy 1 & McKenzie as restored after July 15 impact.

West Shore Voice News



Royal Roads University President Philip Steenkamp addressed donors at a private party at Hatley Park Gardens on Sunday July 21 [RRU photo].

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Luxton Summer Night Market. Wed July 24. 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Marwood Rd, Langford.
Langford Mayor's Golf Tournament. Bear Mountain Resort. Thurs July 25. www.langford.ca
Sooke Summer Night Market. Thurs July 25. 5:30 to 8:30 pm. Sooke Region Museum, Phillips Rd, Sooke.
Sooke Fine Arts Show. July 26 to Aug 5. At SEAPARC, 2168 Phillips Rd, Sooke. (Purchaser's Preview on Thurs July 25, evening, tickets \$35). Doors open daily at 10 am. www.sookefinearts.com
Langford 9th Annual Show 'n Shine in Langford town centre. Sun Aug 18. 10 am to 2 pm. www.langford.ca
District of Sooke Regular Council meeting. Mon July 22. 7 pm. www.sooke.ca
Pacific Edge Chorus IV – Wine, Women, Wheels. Sun July 28. 1-4 pm. Enrico Winery, Mill Bay/Cobble Hill. BBQ \$17.
BC Day Long Weekend. Sat Aug 3 through Mon Aug 5.
Sooke Music & Art Festival. Sat Aug 3 (11am-9pm) & Sun Aug 4 (12 to 6 pm). John Phillips Memorial Park, 2197 Otter Point Rd, Sooke. www.sookemusicfestival.com

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https://westshorevoicenews.com/events/

16th Annual Chinook Salmon Derby. Sat Aug 3 & Sun Aug 4. Sooke Salmon Enhancement Society . Weigh-in station at Sooke Rd and Phillips Rd. www.sookesalmonenhancement.com
Grand Opening Westhills Stadium and Sarah Beckett Memorial Playground. Family entertainment, facility tours. Sat Aug 24. 11 am to 2:30 pm (ceremony 1 pm). www.langford.ca
Pacific FC vs Valour FC. Sat Aug 24. Soccer game. Kickoff 3 pm. Pacific FC tickets: www.pacificfc.ca

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LANGFORD ON THE MOVE

TRAFFIC INFO

Traffic delays (8:30 am to 4 pm) during blasting for Sooke Road Pump Station, fronting 4400 West Shore Parkway on Tues July 23 & Wed July 24.
 More traffic advisories: www.langford.ca

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News of the west shore and Greater Victoria.

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Meet the 2019 Sooke Fine Arts Show jurors

West Shore Voice News

Each year there are three new jurors who select the pieces that will be exhibited in the Sooke Fine Arts Show. These tastes, background, ideologies and personal artistic experience combined will produce the final outcome of the show in terms of tone, theme and colour.

Over 375 works of original island art have been selected for display in a professional-class 16,000 sq ft gallery at the SEAPARC Leisure Complex in Sooke.

Grant Arnold is the Audain Curator of BC Art at the Vancouver Art Gallery (VAG), with over three decades experience. Prior to joining the VAG in 1992, he was Senior Curator at the Art Gallery of Windsor and Extension Coordinator at the Mendel Art Gallery in Saskatoon. Grant has organized more than 60 exhibitions of historical, modern, and contemporary art, contributed to more than two-dozen essays and articles, and participated on several juries. He's taught in the Critical and Curatorial Studies program at UBC and has lectured on historical and contemporary art at conferences and institutions. [MA in Art History, UBC | Photography studies Banff Centre School of Fine Arts and University of Saskatchewan]

Pennylane Shen is an artist consultant, curator and educator living in Vancouver. She has lectured at various forums throughout Canada, the US and the UK. At Langara College and Thrive Art Studio, Pennylane creates and instructs courses on art marketing, conceptual photography, and visual culture. Her publications discuss the politics of representation, race and fine art. She has been a Canadian rep for the University of the Arts London (UK), preparing students for higher education in the arts. She serves on the Vancouver General Hospital Fine Art Collection board and the Vancouver Mural Festival. [Masters in Visual Culture Theory from New York University]

Richard Motchman is a Victoria-based artist and president of the Xchanges Gallery in Victoria; a vibrant hub of the Victoria art scene, the artist-run gallery facilitates engagement with a diverse community of local artists. Richard has guided the gallery through many new developments, and has curated and installed numerous exhibitions. Richard's own art practice, gleaned from immersion in European traditions, uses interactive, three-dimensional figure-paintings to encourage viewers to physically connect with his work. His paintings have been exhibited in solo exhibitions in BC and group exhibitions in Canada and the USA. His work can be found in private collections in Canada, the USA, and England. [BFA in Visual Arts - University of Victoria, 1982]



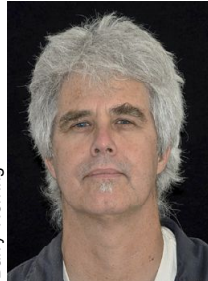
Sylvia Roberts

Grant Arnold



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Pennylane Shen



Barry Herring

Richard Motchman



WSV / MPB

WSV is proud to be a sponsor again this year for the Sooke Fine Arts Show.

BC Ferries pitches wildfire safety

BC Ferries is promoting a wildfire safety message to its passengers with special public service announcements on board ships that serve the northern and southern areas of Vancouver Island. Increasingly dry conditions throughout BC require extreme caution by travellers and residents with the handling and management of cigarette butts, barbecues, and other heat-reducing items. WSV

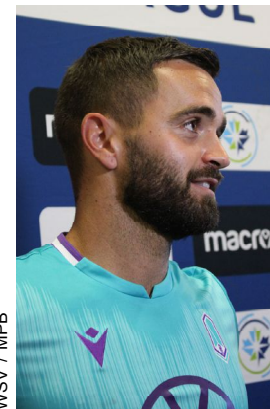
Pacific FC pulls off 3-1 in 'coastal clash' vs HFX Wanderers July 20 at Westhills Stadium



https://westshorevoicenews.com/pacific-fc-wins-3-1-vs-hfx-wanderers-fc-in-july-20-home-game/

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'Coastal Clash': Two Canadian Premier League (CPL) teams from Canada's coasts competed at Westhills Stadium on Saturday July 20. Our island's own Pacific FC won 3-1 over the HFX Wanderers. As the towns for both teams have a DND base, there was also a theme of Military Appreciation that day. Attendance 2,737. WSV



WSV / MPB

<< Pacific FC's Victor Blasco slammed in the first goal of the game. WSV

"Scoring a goal early is always good for the team." Victor Blasco



WSV / MPB

<< Pacific FC's Terran Campbell drove home two goals. WSV

"If you have confidence out there you can do anything," Terran Campbell

NEXT PACIFIC FC HOME GAME: Sat Aug 24 https://pacificfc.canpl.ca

Westin Bear Mountain Hotel has been sold

West Shore Voice News

The hotel at Bear Mountain Resort has changed hands. Under the direction of Dan Matthews, Ecoasis Resort and Golf LLP will retain ownership and responsibility of the resort's golf and tennis operations and all developable lands, while local entrepreneur and businessman Raoul Malak will assume ownership and responsibility for hotel operations related to accommodations and food and beverage services.

The working alliance between Ecoasis Resort and Golf LLP and Malak was announced today July 13 by Bear Mountain Resort.

Ecoasis says it spent the last five years working diligently to reposition Bear Mountain to become one of the finest residential communities in Canada. "We are now at a stage in our business and growth strategy whereby we are actively entering into relationships with like-minded companies and individuals that have the passion and expertise in specific disciplines that make up a multi-faceted resort like Bear Mountain," said Matthews in a news bulletin.

"Ecoasis is pleased for the opportunity to work together to support Mr. Malak's vision for the Westin Bear Mountain. Mr. Malak's experience in the hotel industry will provide the direction required to elevate overall customer service and experience. This is great news for our community and the region," said Matthews.

"My partner Tom Kusumoto and I take care in establishing business relationships such as this one with Mr. Malak," says Matthews. "His business accomplishments, passion for the hotel business and connection to the local community were all factors considered. It's with pleasure that we formally welcome Mr. Malak to the Bear Mountain Community."

Matthews said the Westin Bear Mountain Golf Resort & Spa will continue to build on its reputation as a world-class resort.

Bear Mountain Resort has built a profile of hosting a wide range of community events particularly sporting events with an eye to playing a key regional role in sports tourism. Considerable contribution to that progress has been made by the City of Langford. WSV