

West Shore Voice News

4 pages this issue

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The week's news to November 17

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- New BC Government office to open in Langford in November 2020 1
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- Subscribers & advertisers welcome!**
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Friday November 15, 2019

A new university coming to the west shore, says Langford Mayor

by Mary P Brooke

One-day pop-up university hosted by Royal Roads for SD62 high school students

West Shore Voice News ~SD62 coverage at the board level since 2014



SD62 Vice-Chair Dianna Seaton (above) along with Langford Mayor Stew Young addressed a gathering of students and leaders of education, community and business at the one-day pop-up university held by Royal Roads University for a group of SD62 high school students November 15, 2019 at the old fire hall in Langford. The focus for the day was a wildfire interface initiative that the Langford Fire Department is working on.

● A one-day 'pop up university' experience for 21 SD62 high school students will result in an important contribution to the City of Langford's proposal for a new university to be built to serve students in the west shore.

Organized by Royal Roads University (RRU) together with SD62, the City of Langford and Langford Fire Department, the November 15 event held at the old Langford fire hall on Happy Valley Road was an opportunity to showcase the power of education, business and community working together.

The project for the day was to explore new ideas about wildfire interface for contribution to the Langford Fire Department's work in updating their approach to urban-wilderness interface as the city grows and meets up with forested areas.

A new university in the west shore has the goal of increasing the number of SD62 graduates (from Belmont, Royal Bay and EMCS) who go on to post-secondary, said Langford Mayor Stew Young in his first official announcement about a university being in the works for the west shore.

The consensus of SD62, RRU and the west shore business community is that elimination of the time and expense of travelling beyond the west shore will help more high school graduates go on to university.

SD62 Vice Chair Dianna Seaton in her speech started by acknowledging the First Nations that SD62 works with: Coast Salish, Sc'ianew (Beecher Bay), T-Sou'ke and Pacheedaht.

Seaton acknowledged "the long history of previous work done as early as 2008 to establish a post-secondary facility in the west shore". She gave a shout out to RRU Past President Gerry Kelly (1996-2002) and former CEO & President of Kwantlen Polytechnic University Skip Triplett (1983-2008), as



EMCS: Dylan Baker, Marin Clarkston, Allana Garat, Aila Evans.



Belmont: Keagan Tait, Doreen Scow, Hali Marquis, Carson Montague.



Belmont: Navya Pottumutu. EMCS: Tia Helfich. Royal Bay: Eve Ruth, Carly Ward.

well as SD62 trustees and representatives from all west shore municipalities "who attended many meetings to explore the possibilities and options for a post secondary facility located in the west shore".

Seaton also thanked current RRU President Dr Philip Steenkamp and long-time Langford Mayor Stew Young for "determination and commitment to provide a business case and a rationale to government for the need and value of building a post secondary facility in the west shore".

The Sooke Board of Education "will always continue to support a valuable facility", said Seaton, adding that "in the near future our young people will be able to seek their education in familiar surroundings and employers in the west shore will have a local highly skilled work force".

RRU VP Academic and Provost Steve Grundy told the crowd on that rainy Friday morning that "there are people keeping an eye on this because we think this is a pretty exciting new direction, in terms of universities interfacing with both the community and businesses". Reps from the BC Ministry of Advanced Education were on hand "taking a look at what we're doing," said Grundy. He acknowledged the Langford Fire Department, City of Langford and Forest Technology Systems (FTS) for supporting the fire interface study initiative of the day.

"The collaboration between Royal Roads University, City of Langford and SD62 created a tremendous opportunity for some of our high school students to experience a day at the university level," says SD62 Superintendent Scott Stinson.

"The unique design thinking process allowed students to apply their experiences and new learning to a real-world challenge," Stinson said. **WSV**

More photos: <https://westshorevoiceneews.com/pop-up-university-experience-for-sd62-students-with-rru-langford-fire/>

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New BC Government office in Langford for 100 employees, opening Nov 2020

Announced by Premier John Horgan and Langford Mayor Stew Young by Mary P Brooke



Web-Posted Watermarked EDITION

^^ The full second floor of the 1311 Lakepoint Way location in Westhills will be ready with secure servers for 100 workers by November 2020.

● It was a lucky November 13th in Langford as the Premier of BC officially announced the first BC government office that will be located in the west shore. For this big

Premier John Horgan and Langford Mayor Stew Young revelled in the long-awaited moment to bring BC Government offices to the west shore at the official announcement on November 13. >>



shift in the work environment culture of the BC government and the economic culture of Langford, Horgan shared the announcement with Langford Mayor Stew Young who has long advocated for provincial government offices in the west shore.

The location will allow for more provincial government employees who live in the west shore to work locally instead of commuting into Victoria. This is considered a significant step toward reducing some of the traffic congestion between the west shore (Langford, Colwood, and Sooke) into downtown where the BC Legislature and all main government offices are located.

The event was emceed by Mitzi Dean, MLA (Esquimalt-Metchosin). About 80 people attended including Citizens' Services Deputy Minister Jill Kot and Executive Director of Citizens' Services Lorne DeLarge. and some councillors from Langford and Sooke.

Situated in a new building at 1311 Lakepoint Way (at the corner of Langford Parkway, across from the library and YM/YWCA), the second-floor office space will accommodate up to 100 BC government workers. That could be a shifting set of workers based on projects and initiatives requiring the input of different staff at different times. The fully set-up facility is expected to be ready with secure server technology and flexible workstation and meeting areas by November 2020. **WSV**

Full article: <https://westshorevoiceneews.com/new-bc-government-west-shore-office-announced-in-langford/>



Mitzi Dean, MLA (Esquimalt-Metchosin) emceed the BC Government Langford office announcement.

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MPB EDITORIALS



Mary P Brooke, B.Sc., Cert PR

The Don Cherry swan song

● **There's nothing subtle** about the long-time Hockey Night in Canada colour commentator Don Cherry. From his brash wardrobe to hard-edged comments, he made his way into the homes of hockey fans for almost 40 years as the co-host of *Coach's Corner* during the first intermission of NHL games on Saturday nights.

That era is no more. Cherry's comments ahead of Remembrance Day about "you people" (newcomers to Canada) not seeming to wear enough poppies to his satisfaction was too much for the changing face of Canadian sports audiences. Cherry was offered a mea culpa opportunity by Sportsnet, but he refused to budge. He was canned.

The poppy commentary was certainly off-colour and offensive to many. But it came on the heels of many years of some sectors of the Canadian audience merely putting up with his comments that were at times bigoted and misogynistic. It goes a long way back. For example, Swedish players in the NHL who were raising their families in Canada saw their children bullied at school over comments like deriding the Swedish players as "chicken Swedes". That was years ago, but Cherry's approach never changed. He obviously still had a particular set of viewers who liked the tone of intimidation, but the size of that crowd has no doubt diminished over the years.

Canadian culture and the job market has changed. Someone who keeps the same job for 40 years and doesn't change his ways should not be surprised to be moved out -- particularly if he is in the public eye. In fact, there was great loyalty to Cherry for keeping him in front of audiences so long. He's 85 years old.

Like pushing the reset button, this could be a very welcome advance for Hockey Night in Canada ratings. There were probably more than a few casual hockey watchers who thought over the years -- what, is he still on the air, are we in a time warp? -- who may now begin or return to televised hockey on Saturday nights.

Though if commentator Ron MacLean remains as flatline as he has all these years, that won't be much of a ratings booster. His weak apology on the following Saturday night about "principles vs friendship" only barely overlaid his satisfaction at finally getting the top job after sitting quietly alongside a ranting Cherry over the years.

This is an opportunity for sports-entertainment management to find a fresh new format for an evolved Canadian audience. ■

MPB EDITORIALS

Taylor Swift challenged in singing her own songs

● **It's big business** for singers who want to be stars. Apparently at the start of their careers many sell off rights to their songs as a way to prove their talent or be taken seriously, or eventually just to help finance their next career phase.

That was apparently what appeared to be the 'only' option for the highly talented Taylor Swift when she launched her career as a teenager in 2003 at the age of 14. Although now a creative and financial success (\$360 million net worth), Swift now finds herself being contractually prevented from singing some of her earlier songs, because she no longer owns them. She's not happy about that, but that's her particular business reality. Today some musicians make it big without selling off their best work, by using YouTube and other social media

platforms to get noticed. The Edmonton-based singer 'Ruth B' is a good example of that, and she skyrocketed to fame seemingly overnight.



Taylor Swift

Times have changed, and creative artists who can manage to hold onto ownership of their own material are to be lauded. Swift may still get to sing her own songs at the American Music Awards November 24 but she may have to pay rights to do so (or to also re-record them at a later date as claims she plans to do). ■

MPB EDITORIALS

What, you haven't been glued to the live impeachment hearings?

● **Whether or not** you think that US President Donald J Trump should be impeached, the US Congressional Impeachment Hearings are an important process in American politics. Back in the day of Watergate (1973) people were glued to their TV sets watching every word, as they did for other spectacular political sagas like the Anita Hill sexual harassment hearings (1991) and more recently the #MeToo movement-themed hearing against Judge Brett M. Kavanaugh before his appointment to the US Supreme Court (2018).



President Trump

Fast-forward to November 2019 and there's a 'not so much' approach to people following every moment of the impeachment hearings. And who seems to be complaining about it the most are the mainstream national media. It's the job of media to watch the details and report. People are counting on them to do that, not hear the media complain that busy people aren't interested in immersing themselves in the minutia of an exercise which to many seems sickly over-the-top with the rancor of 'it's only about politics'. People are tired of watching politicians duke it out for power. No doubt, it's important that alleged wrong-doings be looked into. But just think of all the political capital (including the good will of the US citizens) being sucked into a black hole, when that energy could be used by the Democrats in more creative on-the-ground ways for winning the 2020 election against Trump.

Times have changed. People don't have a thirst for cock fights the way they used to. The good news is that many more people are engaged in observing and contributing to the political process, and they want their goodwill and good intent to feel and be worthwhile. People are listening to the media reports -- getting the play-by-play if you will. This is also good news for the role of media finally starting to come full circle (as in being relied upon) against the torrent of flotsam and jetsam in social media (by anyone with a Facebook page or Instagram platform) that pretends to be doing the job of professional journalists. ■

MPB EDITORIALS

CBC Friends could lobby more wisely

● **The 'Friends of CBC'** sent out an urgent plea a few days ago, asking for donations to help buy a \$10,000 one-time ad in an Ottawa newspaper. The idea was to get the attention of federal politicians about newsroom job cuts coming up at the CBC. If there was any obvious point about the results of the October 21 federal election, it's that people are tired of political bickering. They want political efforts to serve the people. A much smaller sum of money could be used to post well-placed arguments in social media, so that people across Canada could 'pressure' their members of parliament. That would produce a larger more authentic voice with



powerful short-term and longer-term results in support of good quality journalism in Canada. ■

Working for our community

Mitzi Dean
MLA, Esquimalt-Metchosin

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Tech firms choose Victoria

● **Three innovative firms** have selected Greater Victoria in which to set up shop in Canada. The South Island Prosperity Partnership (SIPP) says they worked for many months with these firms "to help them assess the local market and get familiar with the business ecosystem," said SIPP Interim CEP Bruce Williams.

"These companies are at the forefront of their industries and our job is to reveal the value in choosing to locate here over larger regions like Seattle and Vancouver," said Williams.

These companies will provide high-paying, household-sustaining jobs (while also attracting jobs for graduates of the region's post-secondary institutions): **Proof** (smart workflow management in the digital government space); **Element Human** - an AI company working on machine learning of body language; and **Marka Developments** (supplier to pharmacies, med labs and nutraceutical product companies with equipment, capsules and other agents).

SIPP says it will continue working with the BC Trade Representatives and the Canadian Consulate Offices to build a collaborative, long-term approach that attracts new companies and high-paying jobs to the region.

Also recently, **NetMotion** (software company) opened a local office in Victoria. **WSV**

FEDERAL POLITICS:

43rd Parliament settling in

- **The NDP Caucus** will be sworn in on Tuesday November 19 in Ottawa.
- **Prime Minister Justin Trudeau** is scheduled to unveil his new cabinet on November 20, with therefore just under two weeks for the freshly organized cabinet ministers to become acquainted with their files before taking their seats in the House of Commons on December 5. Cabinet composition will require strategic attention to balancing all regional interests, particularly as no Liberal MPs were elected in the October 21 election in either Alberta or Saskatchewan. There's talk of re-elected BC MP Jonathan Wilkinson (Fisheries & Oceans Minister in the previous parliament) perhaps being given responsibility in Cabinet for the Saskatchewan/Alberta region, given his background of living and working in Saskatchewan.
- **Canada's 43 Parliament** will be convened by Liberal prime minister Justin Trudeau on Thursday December 5, 2019.
- **Starting December 5**, the Liberal minority-led 43 Parliament will begin with Members of Parliament (MPs) electing a new House of Commons Speaker. The election of a new speaker is done by secret ballot. The Speaker is an impartial overseer of parliamentary procedure and head of House administration.
- **Governor General Julie Payette** will preside over Trudeau's throne speech in the Senate, December 5. Trudeau's government's priorities will be unveiled in the throne speech, likely including priorities from the 40-day election campaign including climate change, affordability and pharmacare.
- **House of Commons composition:** In the general election on October 21 the Liberals achieved 157 seats, the Conservatives 121, Bloc Quebecois 32, NDP 24, and Greens won three seats. There is one independent MP.
- **Throne Speech:** Based on Trudeau's meetings with federal opposition leaders last week, the interests or priorities of the Conservatives, NDP, Greens and Bloc Quebecois are likely to be reflected in the throne speech. For the Greens, Elizabeth May is still the head of the Greens' three-member caucus in the House of Commons even though she has stepped down as Green Party leader.
- **Debate:** MPs will spend up to six days debating the throne speech.

Members of Parliament will sit until December 13; the Senate may sit until December 20.

● **Trudeau is also meeting with provincial premiers** ahead of the throne speech; some of that was done in recent weeks (with Premiers of PEI, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta). A full meeting with all premiers will be held in Toronto on Monday December 2, including BC Premier John Horgan who has confirmed he will be attending. **WSV**

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The Sooke Voice News

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Big turnout for official opening of Charter Telcom 'passive house' headquarters in Langford

WEST SHORE VOICE

by Mary P Brooke
West Shore Voice News

Web-Posted Watermarked EDITION



Official opening of the Charter Telcom Inc headquarters on Thursday November 14 in Langford. Speeches by Langford Mayor Stew Young (left of the poster) and Nathaniel Gosman, acting executive director of the Built Environment Unit, BC Ministry of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources both focussed on the business initiative of Charter to proactively build an environmentally-friendly, energy-efficient building despite the cost and complexity of the endeavour.

Tours of the facility to construction industry professionals will be a great way to showcase the initiative, said Mayor Young. **WSV**

[Full article about the official opening & more photos:](https://westshorevoiceneews.com/charter-telcom-opens-their-new-passive-house-office-building/)

[Background about the building:](https://westshorevoiceneews.com/new-energy-efficient-charter-building-nestles-into-langford-landscape/)

<https://westshorevoiceneews.com/new-energy-efficient-charter-building-nestles-into-langford-landscape/>

Charter Telcom President Kelly Michell at the grand opening November 14. >>



Sooke Region business: Riverside Cannabis recognized for New Business Excellence

West Shore Voice News

Riverside Cannabis received a New Business of the Year Excellence Award on Saturday evening, November 16, during the annual Sooke Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence awards event held at the Prestige Oceanfront Resort.

Riverside Cannabis was the first retail outlet for legal recreational cannabis products to be licenced in the Sooke area, opening on August 1, 2019. The family-owned business at 6309 Sooke Road is managed on a daily basis by Lori Rittaler and staff.

The family business experience is long-standing from running the Castle Liquor Store in Sooke for over 48 years. **WSV**



Family business team (from left): Lauren Peterec, Curtis Peterec, Lisa Taylor, Lori Rittaler and Elsie Rittaler.

Langford traffic updates

Thanks in part to heavy rainfall, some rocks fell down onto Highway 1 at West Shore Parkway on Sunday November 17. Road construction has been occurring in the area since mid-September as part of adding another northbound lane. In Sunday's incident which lasted about three hours (10 am to 1 pm), northbound traffic was blocked either fully or for 20-minute periods until the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure crews could fully clear the road.

Some paving on Langford Parkway west of Jacklin Road on Monday November 18 includes interrupted access to the commercial area (Fountain Tire, White Spot, Starbucks, Parkway Dental, etc.).

Jenkins Ave fronting 946 Jenkins Ave. Fri Nov 8 to Fri Dec 20. 7 am to 7 pm (or dusk whichever is sooner). Traffic delay for roadside construction.

Galloping Goose Trail at Belmont Market. Fri Dec 6. Road cleaning.

Christmas Lightup and Truck Parade. Sat Dec 7 along Veterans Memorial Parkway and Goldstream Ave. **WSV**

'Recycling 2.0': Expanding upon blue box success

CRD aims for municipal bylaw changes to boost commercial-industrial recycling success

WEST SHORE VOICE

by Mary P Brooke
West Shore Voice News

CRD Recycling Open House at the Juan de Fuca Seniors Centre on November 16 promoted the idea of 'reducing and reusing' before recycling. >>

Public input being accepted up to December 1 at www.crd.bc.ca/rethinkwaste



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The process of change starts with awareness and information. The CRD will be making the rounds to municipal councils in Greater Victoria to present their new strategy for inviting municipalities to enact bylaws that will strengthen the recycling requirements of industrial operations, construction projects and also multi-family housing units. Project lead is Russ Smith, Senior Manager, Environmental Resource Management, Parks & Environmental Services, CRD. An open house at the Juan de Fuca Seniors Centre on November 16 was also attended CRD's Tom Watkins, Manager, Policy & Planning, Environmental Resource Management.

After collecting public input, presentations will be made in the new year to all councils with a defined proposed strategy aimed at encouraging the creation of bylaws that would serve to reduce waste that goes into the landfill.

This comes long after the success of the curbside blue box program that has been operating for over 30 years. While improvements can still be made by many households for putting out recyclables in their blue boxes (if you're not sure what can be accepted in the blue box there's a handy search tool at <https://www.crd.bc.ca/service/waste-recycling/recycle/myrecyclopedia>), the challenge is to reduce overall volume of waste that ends up in the region's Hartland Landfill. The focus is on reducing the contribution of industrial and construction site waste into the landfill.

Thirty years ago, the amount of garbage contributed to the Hartland Landfill was 671 kg/person. Now the target is to reduce the current amount of waste going into the landfill (380 kg/person) down to 250 kg/person by 2030. Public input can be contributed up to December 1 at www.crd.bc.ca/rethinkwaste.

The CRD's Solid Waste Management Plan was last fully updated in 1995, with amendments made as needed. It's time for this current overhaul. There will be a two-year pilot program to reduce non-curbside materials with revenues for that achieved through tipping fees (i.e. no direct cost to municipalities in the CRD's annual levy).

At the present rate, the landfill would be full by 2045 but new initiatives have in mind the goal of extending the life of the landfill to 2100.

Despite current efforts to discourage the inclusion of kitchen scraps in household garbage and on-the-ground efforts like digging deeper into the hillside at the landfill to make more room, it's still important to reduce the contribution of waste to the site. Waste products are already used to some degree for the creation of by-products (for energy use or sale).

A presentation on all this was made by Smith to View Royal's Committee of the Whole on November 12. Mayor David Screech and council appreciated the details and insights of the presentation. Councillor Gery Lemon asked about where



View Royal Mayor David Screech (center) and councillors (from left): Ron Matson, John Rogers, Gery Lemon and Damian Kowalewich [November 12 CoW]

recycling is heading, given that some offshore destinations are no longer accepting material for recycling. Smith admitted to challenges with markets. Some items that can no longer be processed for recycling are being stockpiled for now.

Councillor Ron Matson asked if disposable items like paper cups from fast-food restaurants are a big part of what ends up in the landfill. Smith says they do see 'co-mingling of materials' and hopes they can get businesses on board to reduce that volume.

Councillor John Rogers said the discussion points in the presentation were impressive and that he's also heard new ideas about recycling efforts from fellow delegates at conferences like that of the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities. He asked how CRD tests the runoff at Hartland Landfill; leachate is retained in a holding pool then discharged to the sewer system, said Smith.

Councillor Damian Kowalewich noted that the CRD's first priority is to educate youth in the schools and wondered if collaboration had yet been established with school boards. **WSV**

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Global Entrepreneurship Week Nov 18 to 24.
Federal Cabinet swearing in. Wed Nov 20. Livestream from Ottawa. Time tba (probably morning).
Coast Collective Art Gallery. 12th Annual Gifts & Wishes. Wed Nov 20 to Dec 22. 103-318 Wale Rd, Colwood. www.coastcollective.ca
WestShore Chamber of Commerce Mixer/AGM. Wed Nov 20. WestShore Bicycles, 104-800 Kelly Rd. 5 pm.
SPEAC (District PAC). Wed Nov 20. Executive/Board Meeting. 7 pm. Royal Bay Secondary (& online). www.sd62.bc.ca
Sooke Fall Fair AGM. Wed Nov 20. 7pm. Sooke Community Hall. www.sookefallfair.ca
Pro-D Day (Province-Wide). Fri Nov 22. Non-instructional day in schools. www.sd62.bc.ca
Pro-D Day Activities Fri Nov 22. SEAPARC, Sooke. 11:30 am to 12:45 pm Skate. 1 to 2 pm Family & Friends Hockey. 2:15 to 3:45 pm Youth Hockey. 1 to 3 pm Swim. www.seaparc.ca
Pro-D Day Skate. Fri Nov 22. West Shore Parks & Rec. JDF Arena, 1767 Island Hwy. 1 to 2:30 pm. Regular admission. www.westshorererecreation.ca

Always be prepared for power outages, especially in winter during storms and icy weather.



Juan de Fuca Emergency Program www.prepareyourself.ca @jdfemerg

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Free Skate at West Shore Parks & Rec. Sat Nov 23. 2:45 to 3:45 pm. JdF Arena, 1767 Island Hwy, Colwood. www.westshorererecreation.ca
Biggest Little Market & Craft Fair. 9-4. Sat Nov 23. Entry by food bank donation. www.sookefallfair.ca
SD62 Public Board Meeting. Tues Nov 26. 7 pm. www.sd62.bc.ca
Moss Cottage Christmas. Build a snowman. Sun Dec 1. Free. 12 to 2 pm. www.sooke.regionmuseum.ca
Pacific FC Training Facility. Official opening. Sun Dec 1. Kettle Lake Drive, Langford. Complimentary facility use Dec 1 to 15. www.pacificfc.ca

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Langford Lightup. Sat Dec 7. Veterans Memorial Park. Market & refreshments 6 pm, Santa 6:30 pm, Lightup 7:30 pm. Truck convoy 8 pm. www.langford.ca
Awareness Film Night 2018 film "This Mountain Life". Wed Dec 11. 7-9 pm. EMCS, 6218 Sooke Rd. By donation. Bring non-perishable food item for EMCS "10,000 Tonight" Foodbank Drive.
Festival of Trees at SEAPARC Leisure Complex, Sooke. Dec 2 to Jan 2. www.seaparc.ca
Blood Donor Clinic. Journey Middle School, Sooke. Mon Dec 16. 12 to 6 pm. www.blood.ca

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Remembrance Day 2019 Langford, BC

Remembrance Day in Langford

West Shore Voice News
 Full article & more photos:
<https://westshorevoiceneews.com/large-crowd-at-remembrance-day-2019-in-langford/>

● About 2,000 people attended the west shore Remembrance Day ceremony and reception in Langford on November 11, 2019. Front row at the parade (center of photo) were Colwood Mayor Rob Martin (left) and Langford Mayor Stew Young. Premier John Horgan laid a wreath and also attended the reception afterward at the Langford Legion. Wreaths were also laid by several other dignitaries and representatives including the Highlands Mayor Ken Williams, Langford Fire Chief Chris Aubrey, and SD62 Chair Ravi Parmar. **WSV**

New McCormick Park




A long-awaited park in the McCormick Meadows development in the Happy Valley area of Langford was officially opened on Saturday November 16, 2019. **WSV**

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