

West Shore Voice

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Friday January 10, 2020

News to January 12, 2020

Eco Academy in the works

by Mary P Brooke

SD62 coverage at the board level since 2014

Semester-long program at EMCS

● Full registration of 26 students is expected to be easily achieved for a new Eco Academy program that is being developed for launch in September 2020 at Edward Milne Community School (EMCS) in Sooke.

Pending approval by the Sooke School District 62 (SD62) Board, the semester-long program will result in four credits toward graduation. Students in Grades 9 and 10 are the target age group. Rather than four distinct blocks of classes, all blocks will be blended together for an interdisciplinary approach to exploring scientific and social issues through ecology, entrepreneurship, community service, and experiential place-based learning. Learning will be rooted in curricular outcomes, with high standards for extending inquiry, collaboration, and self direction.

Course developers Patrick Gale (who teaches Foods and Nutrition/Science/Sustainability at EMCS) and EMCS Principal Laura Fulton presented the Eco Academy details to the SD62 Education Policy Committee meeting on Tuesday evening, January 7. Also attending was Academies Principal Wayne Kelly.

It will be up to EMCS to determine the successful applicants based on overall aptitude. The registration fee of \$500 -- largely for bus transportation to various outdoor learning locations, and also some guest workshop leaders -- will be supported as required; no financial barriers to learning. Registration opens February 3. **WSV**

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West Shore Voice News



Playing footies with war

ANALYSIS by Mary P Brooke

Mary P Brooke,
B.Sc., Cert PR

US President Donald Trump decided to have Iranian Qassem Soleimani assassinated, claiming that attacks on four embassies in the Middle East were in the Iranian leader's plans. In a relatively restrained response, Iran shot some missiles into US/Allied military bases in neighbouring Iraq earlier this week. That was apparently to be the end of it.

But Iran then put itself on high alert for war, and in that state of hyper-readiness mistakenly pulled the trigger to launch a fatal blow to a commercial airplane flying out of their international airport in Tehran. In the relative chaos of it all, Iran did not think or decide to ground civilian flights through their airspace. They also apparently did not 'read the signals right', in that the aircraft was heading away from the airport, not toward Iran's military base. As what Alberta Premier Jason Kenney has now called an "epic demonstration of human folly", the Ukrainian Flight 752 carrying 176 people (57 of them Canadian citizens and 138 in total heading to Canada through a connecting flight) was impacted by one or more missiles (ground-to-air missiles are apparently released as a set of two -- one, plus a backup). Within 15 seconds of impact the plane was hurtling to the ground; all passengers and crew dead on impact. All of this within two minutes of lift-off.

Responding to the discordant energy of the threat of war (real or perceived) can arguably be considered the force behind the confused actions of what some military observers have called a sloppy Iranian military. It's not a first world country; their autocratic sociopolitical system lacks higher standards of ethics, morality and excellence of performance that even its own people (notably the ones who have emigrated to Canada and other western countries) deride.

While seeing the circumstantial connection between Trump's military/political aggression toward Iran as initiating a domino effect, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has meanwhile had to speak cautiously of political dynamics as he consoles the Iranian-Canadian community and all of Canada over this

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Sussex family
 Prince Harry with baby Archie during the Sussex royal family visit to South Vancouver Island over the Christmas holiday season. WSV



Harry and Meghan at the 2017 Invictus Games in Toronto. Ruetters

E Vancouver Island in spotlight with Duke & Duchess of Sussex relocating here

by Mary P Brooke, West Shore Voice News

What began as the world giving a bit of space to Prince Harry and Meghan Markle -- the Duke and Duchess of Sussex -- for their multi-week winter vacation on Vancouver Island, has turned into a "we love the place, let's move there" adventure.

Heading back briefly to the UK with Prince Harry, the Duchess returned to North Saanich here on Vancouver Island within a matter of days. Remaining here the whole time was baby Archie, in the company of a family friend, and apparently also the family dogs. Harry is expected to follow in a few more days, after the 'sorting out' commanded by the Queen is done by Prince Charles (heir to the throne) and Prince William (Harry's older brother, second in line).

Last year the British tabloids were frequently reporting an apparent 'rift' between William and Harry. Now it seems to more clear as to the actuality of a differing view of how to live a modern royal life. Pretty much with certainty Prince William will one day be King of England, but presently being sixth in line to the throne Prince Harry is likely to be much on the fringe of the senior royal circle. He appears to be adapting to that reality by bolting for his freedom, with like-minded Markle at his side.

Harry and Meghan said this week in a statement on their Instagram account that they will continue to support Queen Elizabeth. But the monarch was never consulted. The outcome of an agreement is yet to be seen.

As for the aspect of Harry and Meghan achieving their stated goal of 'financial independence' that is also unclear, in that presently 95 percent of their income comes from Prince Charles' Duchy of Cornwall tax revenues from the 135,000-acre estate. Harry and Meghan could not likely be seen to be accepting revenue from their charities. They could develop a royal brand, perhaps associated with sports. Prince Harry founded the Invictus Games which is an international adaptive multi-sport event, in which wounded, injured or sick armed services personnel and their associated veterans take part in nine sports including wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, and indoor rowing. In 2016 the games were held in Orlando, then in Toronto in 2017, and Sydney in 2018. The 2020 games will be played in The Hague in The Netherlands in May.

With the Invictus Games possibly being held in Victoria in 2022 (Victoria is on the shortlist of locations, the other location being Dusseldorf, Germany), it would certainly add a buzz to the planning of those games to have Harry close by for the next two years. Twelve Olympic and Paralympic sports have national training centres in Greater Victoria, and the region has barrier-free competition venues that meet or exceed all sport-specific criteria. For the City of Langford fervently building its profile as a 'national sports capital', it's a natural fit.

This week in Canada there was public query about who would foot the bill for the 24/7 security that a royal couple requires. Apparently that would normally be Canadian taxpayers. When royals visit Canada the RCMP undertake the security assignment. If royals were to live in Canada permanently, it's not yet clear where the security funds would come from; a meeting being held January 13 by Prince Charles and Prince William with Harry at Sandringham will review that. Other chatter was that Harry could possibly become the Governor General and therein be a real royal representing the Queen in Canada. Costs for maintaining a Governor General are already in the budget.

It also means the entire South Vancouver Island region may lose a bit of its innocence. While the Sussex Royal family enjoyed relative peace and non-intrusion during their vacation to wrap up 2019, that would very likely change if they lived in Canada permanently (or even for half the year). Already this week there were international media on the island doing their bit to achieve a royal scoop. The BBC called CHEK-TV to make it official, but other local media intimated the Sussex presence over the holidays.

While Harry and Meghan appear to have the public sympathy for their Millennial-generation plight to achieve some work-life balance, the truth is they are of privilege. And particularly if Harry maintains some degree of formal senior royal duties, the royal trappings are all still there. Being born into royalty is to be locked in for life. If the Sussex Royals can create a new, more tolerable brand of that, they will be producing the sort of change that Harry's mother -- the late and much beloved Diana, Princess of Wales -- sought for her sons, for in her own way to soften the experience of monarchy for the well-being of its future members. ■

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Kenney rebukes Flight 752 disaster as an "epic demonstration of human folly"

A few hours of eulogies in Edmonton on Sunday January 12 for the victims of the missile-attacked Ukrainian flight 752 (on which 57 Canadian citizens and in total 176 people died) was punctuated by Alberta Premier Kenney's remarks that the misguided shooting of the commercial plane by Iranian military was an "epic demonstration of human folly". Prime Minister Justin Trudeau vowed: "We

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Screenshot
 Alberta Premier Jason Kenney at Iranian-Canadian vigil January 12

will not rest until there are answers, until there is justice and accountability." WSV

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West Shore *Voice* News The Sooke *Voice* News

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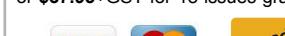
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SD62 Kindergarten Registration - French Immersion & Nature Kindergarten. Mon Jan 13 to Fri Jan 17. Note: General Kindergarten registration will be available Jan 27 to 31. All registration done online. www.sd62.bc.ca

City of Langford Planning, Zoning & Affordable Housing Committee. Mon Jan 13. 5:30 pm. www.langford.ca

City of Colwood Council Meeting. Mon Jan 13. 7 pm. www.colwood.ca

District of Sooke Council Meeting. Mon Jan 13. 7 pm. www.sooke.ca

City of Langford Transportation & Public Works Committee. Tues Jan 14. 5:30 pm. www.langford.ca

Town of View Royal Committee of the Whole. Tues Jan 14. 3:30 pm. www.viewroyal.ca

Highway 14 Improvements. Public input open to Wed Jan 15. www2.gov.bc.ca/highway14

Family Learning Tour with Greater Victoria Public Library at Juan de Fuca Rec. Sat Jan 25. 11 am to 1 pm. www.westshorecreation.ca

SD62 General Kindergarten Registration. Mon Jan 27 to 31. All registration online. www.sd62.bc.ca

SD62 Board Meeting. Tues Jan 28. 7 pm at the board office. www.sd62.bc.ca

Sooke Arts Council. Deadline Thurs Jan 30 for submissions to Art & Word, Vol 2. www.sookearts.com

Upcoming workweek: unseasonably cold and daily snow: January 12 to 17

Sun Jan 12	Mon Jan 13	Tue Jan 14	Wed Jan 15	Thu Jan 16	Fri Jan 17	Sat Jan 17
Mixed precipitation	Light snow	A few flurries	Snow	Snow	Snow-rain showers	Light rain
High °C	4°	-5°	-7°	-5°	-2°	2°
Feels Like	-1	-12	-13	-13	-6	-2

Weather Forecast for Langford shows daily precipitation and wind chill as cold as -13°C on Tuesday and Wednesday. Snow in some form Monday through Friday.

The Weather Network forecast for Victoria includes several days of snow... ranging from scattered flurries on Monday and Tuesday January 13 and 14, to light snow on Wednesday, snow on Thursday, and snow-rain on Friday. Back to rain by Saturday.

For Victoria, temperatures through the coming week are far below seasonal, at -5°C Monday, -7°C Tuesday, -4°C Wednesday, -1°C Thursday and not reaching above zero until Friday with a high of 2°C.

Pretty much the same for Langford where we will see snow as early as Sunday, with light snow and a few flurries for Monday/Tuesday with highs of -5°C and -7°C, snow for

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



Juan de Fuca Emergency Program www.prepareyourself.ca

Wednesday and Thursday with highs of -5°C and -2°C, and a snow-rain mix by Friday with a high of 2°C. Much the same profile in the forecast for Colwood and Sooke.

With the wind chill factor, all those temperatures will feel even colder – as low as -13°C mid-week. Bundle up with layers, wear mittens or gloves and a hat or hood, give yourself plenty of time to get where you're going, make sure your car has plenty of gas and your home is power-outage ready (including grocery supply and batteries for flashlights and electronics).

Shovel snow from the sidewalk in front of your home or business, and treat walking surfaces with salt.

WSV

High tide in Sooke



Sooke Harbour (above) with a 'King tide' January 10 at 12 noon, which occurred again this weekend January 11 & 12. Wave height reached up to 3.3 metres on each of those days. The District of Sooke issued a reminder for caution for anyone at the shoreline, that water levels could change rapidly and dislocate logs and debris. WSV

[https://westshorevoicenews.com/caution-about-wave-height-for-sooke-area-shoreline-this-weekend/](http://www.westshorevoicenews.com/caution-about-wave-height-for-sooke-area-shoreline-this-weekend/)

Date Jan. 2020	Time (PST)	Wave Height
10	3:20 AM	2.4
10	4:56 AM	2.3
10	11:50 AM	3.3
10	8:38 PM	0.4
11	3:52 AM	2.4
11	5:48 AM	2.3
11	12:34 PM	3.3
11	9:19 PM	0.3
12	4:27 AM	2.4
12	6:42 AM	2.3
12	1:21 PM	3.2
12	9:59 PM	0.4



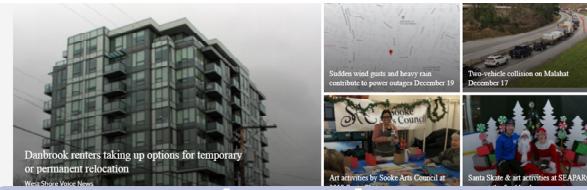
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Capital Regional District (CRD) provisional 2020 Financial Plan online for public feedback to Jan 31. [https://westshorevoicenews.com/crd-accepting-public-input-on-2020-financial-plan/](http://westshorevoicenews.com/crd-accepting-public-input-on-2020-financial-plan/)

BC Legislature. Throne Speech Tues Feb 11.

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Join us in 2020!

Pro-D Day in SD62. Fri Feb 14.
BC Family Day. Mon Feb 17. Statutory holiday.
BC Budget Day. Tues Feb 18.
Leap Year. There is Feb 29 in 2020!

Happy New Year!

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Pay attention at crosswalks

A Grade 12 Royal Bay Secondary student walking to school was impacted by a vehicle while in a crosswalk near the Wishart and Latoria Roads in Colwood on Monday January 6, just before 9 am.

The teen was taken to hospital with minor injuries; she was released the same day but is being assessed for concussion, says SD62 Superintendent Scott Stinson. "It's not as bad as it could have been," he said.

"My encouragement to students is to make sure they make eye contact with drivers when stepping into a crosswalk and attempting to step onto the road," says Stinson. Especially in this grey, rainy weather: "Be aware of your surroundings. Don't take for granted that everybody will stop – visibility is so poor." WSV

Public input opportunities JANUARY 2020

CRD Financial Plan for 2020

Public input to January 31.

(*Plenty of background information*)

Consolidated budget includes housing and hospital.

https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/financial-accountability/budget-in-brief

Colwood - Draft Strategic Plan 2019-2023

Public input to January 31. Various developments & initiatives

The 'Let's Talk Colwood' portal launched right after the new year with surveys and photo-submission opportunities. Topics include the Strategic Plan (*detailed survey to January 31*), information on Royal Bay & Royal Beach development applications, naming new trails in Royal Bay, adding visual interest at major intersections.

https://letstalkcolwood.ca/

Pacific FC: Season 2

Pacific FC is heading into its second season in 2020. #FORTHEISLE

In December, key performers Victor Blasco, 25, and Marcel de Jong, 33, signed again and are contracted for the full 2020 season.

2020 Season Ticket memberships went on sale before Christmas. From general admission on bleachers at the end fields for \$27.67 per month, to \$39.89 on the sideline or \$83.22 at the premium centre, there are a range of options. https://pacificfc.canpl.ca/ WSV



Roof at Colwood Corners brought down by rain

Heavy rainfall on Monday night January 6 led to roof collapse on a portion of the Colwood Corners mall on Sooke Road in Colwood on Tuesday morning.

Colwood Fire Rescue received a call at 2:30 am Tuesday morning, finding a 40-ft section of roof caved in from above two vacant units; they remained on scene until about 6 am. Neighbouring businesses First Choice Hair Cutters and Kathy's Mutt Cuts closed until conditions could be assessed.

London Drugs in the same mall has a recently replaced roof and was not affected. The building is owned by Onni Group which is constructing the new Colwood Corners commercial-residential project next door. WSV

West Shore Voice News / Chelsea Kirkpatrick

Web-Posted Watermarked EDITION

This was announced by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure on January 6. The trail will be closed between McKenzie Avenue and where Burnside Road meets the trail. Pedestrians and cyclists will be able to detour around the closure via McKenzie and Burnside, and cross McKenzie Avenue via the protected overhead path. Detours will be clearly marked with signs. When necessary, traffic controllers will be present to ensure the safety of travellers and workers. This closure is necessary to complete the installation of the sound wall along the trail. WSV