



A Chorus of Immortal Toxins – Pearsonites Perform in Prague



Pearson students from around the world are in Czechia this summer to perform during the prestigious Prague Quadrennial. Photo courtesy of Pearson College UWC

Andrew Walker and Brian Geary

A diverse group of students plus a Pearson College UWC faculty member represented the College last month at the prestigious Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space in Prague, the capital city of the Czech Republic (also known as Czechia). *Editor's note: this article was written before the event.*

“The Prague Quadrennial is the largest exhibition of international scenography in the world,” said Lucas Olscamp, artistic director and visual arts and theatre teacher at the international school in Metchosin.

“Every four years folks from all around the world, including schools, theatre companies, professionals, designers, directors, gather in Prague for ten days in June to showcase the world’s best and most experimental and forward-thinking ideas in theatre design.”

Working with Olscamp throughout the school year, six students, five graduating and one returning to Pearson this fall, make up the core of an on-campus collective known as CLAW, Collaborative Learning in Art and Wildness. CLAW is a youth-centered initiative launched this year at Pearson that evolved from Olscamp’s own Tooth N’ Fang Theatre Company, which has previously been involved with international art projects around the world.

CLAW group students, including dual national backgrounds, represent Canada, Ukraine, Cuba, Italy, South Africa, Australia, and the United Kingdom. Olscamp, a Pearson alumnus, also worked with his partner, creative partner, and campus resident James and co-director and collaborator Alejandro Moro on the outdoor performance entitled “A Chorus of Immortal Toxins.”

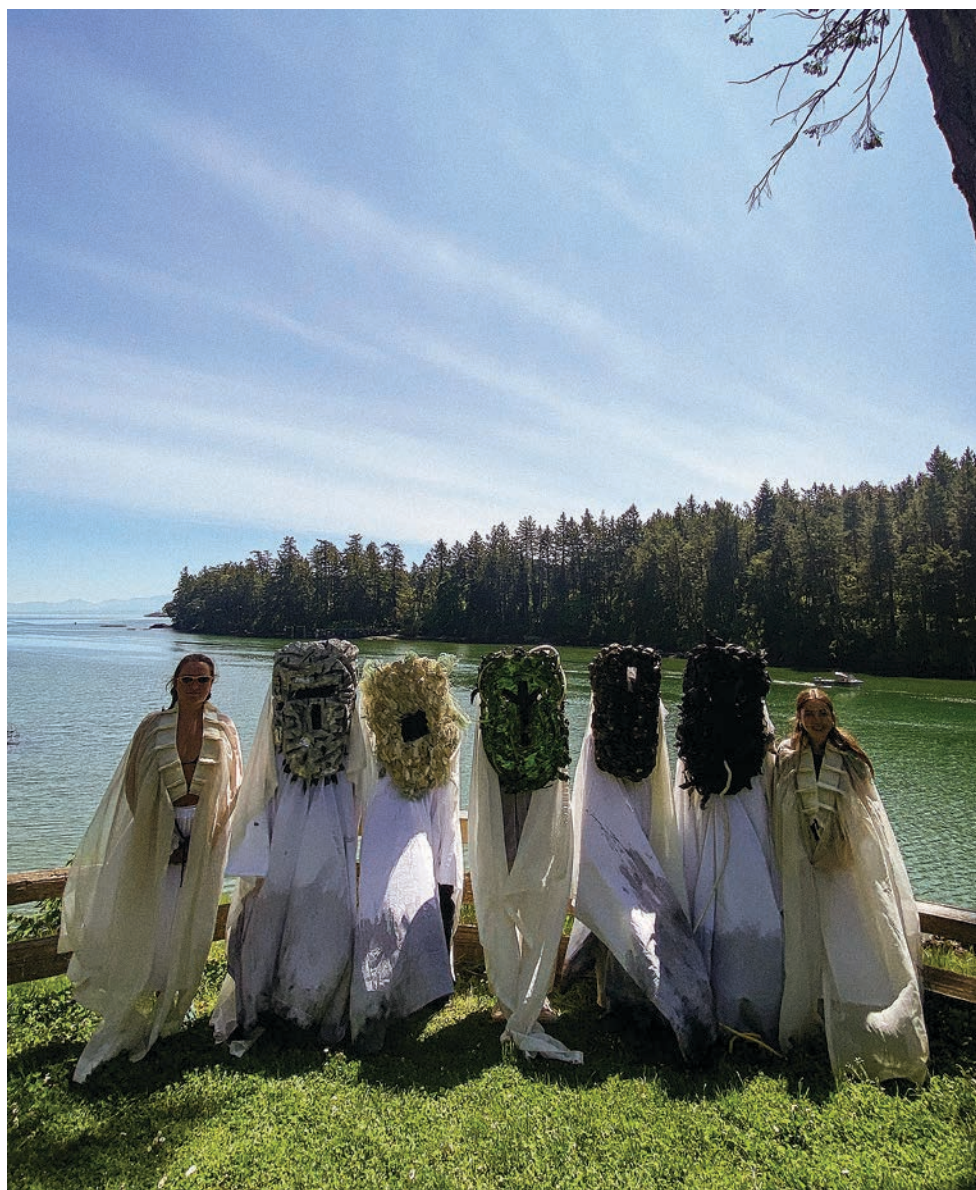
Olscamp added, “The piece is rooted in performance design, specifically mask and audio design, more than it is an acting or storytelling kind of experience. So, we’ve framed it as a satirical ritual,” that looks at a future environmentally degraded world in which toxic pollutants (lead, kerosene, formaldehyde, chromium, and asbestos) are worshipped.

“We hope that through the audience experiencing this performance and getting to understand the kind of satire, but also

environmental lens of it, they’ll have a kind of closer and deeper understanding of the relationship we have with pollutants in our world now.”

For students, Olscamp described the processes of conceptualizing, creating, and performing a novel and challenging piece as “a deeply, educational experience. It’s also about collaborating on a professional level ... in a venue for strangers, not school mates and friends.

“In a semi-post-COVID world, it’s important to bring together young people from across the world to a diverse, intentional, experimental space for art making and let them experience and be a part of that,” added Olscamp. “I hope that from this they’ll make connections that will inspire their future long past this moment.”



In full hand-made costumes, Pearson international students before travelling to Czechia. Photo courtesy of Pearson College UWC

Pearson College’s The Tooth N’ Fang Theatre Company has a gofundme page at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/claw-x-pq-2023>.

Pearson Students at Prague Quadrennial

Andrew Walker

I wanted to follow up with some post-performance photos taken by our theatre director Lucas Olscamp during the Prague Quadrennial festival. They performed “A Chorus of Immortal Toxins” four times on the evenings of June 9, 10, 12, and 13 to over 400 people.



Above and at right: Pearson students in Prague – Fin, Han, Masha, Zia, Mya Luna, and Mila. Lucas Olscamp photos

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ing. Please visit our website for
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www.metchosinmuse.ca

ABOUT THE MUSE

The *Metchosin Muse* is a local
non-profit, arts, interests and
activities publication, pro-
duced by the *Metchosin Muse*
Society. The opinions expressed
in articles are those of the
authors, not the paper. The
Muse endeavours to promote
respectful and open dialogue
in the community and aims to
interest a broad cross-section of
the residents of Metchosin and
Beecher Bay.

CURRENT CIRCULATION

2800

Letters to the Editor

The *Metchosin Muse* welcomes letters to the editor, of not more than 200 words. Your letter may be edited for style or length. Please email your letter to metchosinmuse@gmail.com (with electronic signature if possible). An address and telephone number are required but will not be published.

Drafty Plan?

I would like to express my
gratitude to Johnny Carline
for the critical but supportive
commentary on the Council's
draft Strategic Plan in the recent
Metchosin Muse. The lack of focus
on economic development within
the community is a serious omis-
sion, given that the need to adapt
and diversify economically is a
feature of many thriving rural ar-
eas. An economic focus within the
Plan could also provide the basis
for a possible financial contribu-
tion to funding some of the other
aspirations for the community.
Johnny is also right to point
out the inconsistencies in the
current draft plan. There seems

to be a lot of aspirations but the
concrete actions and, just as
importantly, the measures to
evaluate outcomes also need to be
developed. Plans too often express
aspirations with less consider-
ation of how we evaluate whether
the actions undertaken actually
achieve the set goals.
Like Johnny, I also wonder
if part of the problem with the
draft is that it has relied too much
on our representatives, with too
little input from others. Johnny
mentions community involve-
ment, but it is usually only a small
proportion of the community
who are active in such matters.
I also wonder about the level of
engagement with professional
staff who have expertise in the

areas identified as Metchosin's
pillars for sustainability. It seems
that many small municipalities
like Metchosin do not always have
the necessary professional ex-
pertise immediately to hand and
are over-reliant on mayors and
councillors who are very often
over-stretched.
Developing and implementing
strategic plans is not easy in any
context. It is a time-consuming
process and involves establishing
priorities. It is also unlikely to
get the support of all members of
the community. I hope the *Muse*
continues the process of creative
and critical engagement which
Johnny's commentary exemplifies.
*Richard Edwards, Emeritus
Professor, University of Stirling, UK*

Did You Get the Emergency Call?

Kathleen Sutherland

On June 24, the Metchosin Emergency Program held
a neighbourhood-wide test of the emergency alerting
systems. Did you get the call?
Many of us have registered with the Emergency
Program so we can get a warning about various
district-wide (or larger) emergency 'events' such as a
tsunami, wildfires, etc. It's free to register at <http://metchosinemergencyprogram.ca>. If you did not get a
call, there may be incorrect or outdated information,
so please re-register and let us know so we can re-test
to ensure we can reach you.

An alternate communication and alerting pro-
gram is through the Neighbourhood Emergency
Preparedness Program (also called PODs in
Metchosin). Alerts are sent through the PODs, usu-
ally via email, for things such as wildlife precautions,
break in/security information, extreme weather sup-
ports, FireSmart information, and so on.
Your family's first line of preparedness is done
by you. Your next line of preparedness is through
your POD. If you would like to be part of the NEPP/
POD communication system, please send an email
to neighbourhoodpod@gmail.com to connect with a
POD in your neighbourhood.

Visit our website!

www.metchosinmuse.ca

The *Muse* website provides a quick way to access Metchosin's
monthly newspaper, and it allows those with vision challenges to
magnify the PDF files to a comfortable reading size. The current
issue and issues from past years are there, along with contact infor-
mation and information for submissions, advertisers, and deadlines.

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We can mail the *Muse* to you each
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Please send your information and
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Council News

JULY AND AUGUST 2023



2023 Property Taxes

The Property Tax due date for 2023 is close of business day on Tuesday, July 4, 2023. Residents eligible
for a Home Owner Grant need to claim their grant with the Province before the July 4, 2023 property
tax deadline. Home Owner Grants can be claimed online at gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant. A 5% penalty
for any outstanding taxes including the amount of an unclaimed Home Owner Grant is levied on July 5,
2023; any outstanding property tax is subject to an additional 5% penalty after August 8, 2023.

Are you deferring your Property Taxes?

Reminder: you still need to claim your home owner grant every year to avoid penalties.

Beach Parking

It is critical that emergency vehicles such as ambulances and fire trucks have unimpeded access to
our beach areas so they can respond immediately if there is an accident, rescue, or fire. The yellow
'No Parking' lines on the road have been established with the purpose of ensuring emergency vehicles
can access the beach and local homes on busy use days.

If you are parked illegally, you may be ticketed or towed.

Parking is not permitted in a designated 'No Parking' area that is marked with either signage, a yellow
line or both.

Parking is not permitted over the white (fog) line, or within the regularly 'travelled surface' of a
roadway lane. Parking is not permitted within two metres of a public or private driveway – or within five
meters of a fire hydrant, all in accordance with the Traffic and Highways Regulation Bylaw, 1987, No. 57.

Public Works

Mowing of District roadsides has commenced. Thank you for lowering your speed and using caution
when travelling through any work zones.

Council Meetings

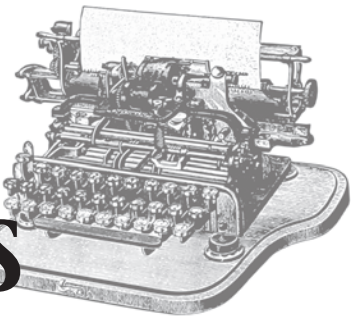
Council and Standing Committee meeting dates and times for July and August 2023. Meetings are
held in the Council Chambers at 7:00 pm unless otherwise stated. Meetings are subject to change.
For updated information please call the Municipal Hall at 250-474-3167 or refer to the website at
www.metchosin.ca.

Council Meeting	July 17
Community Planning Committee, Environment and Natural Areas Committee, Public Works and Protective Services Committee	July 17
Council Meeting	August 14
Community Planning Committee, Environment and Natural Areas Committee, Public Works and Protective Services Committee	August 14

Metchosin Municipal Hall

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Editor's Musings



Allen Jones

This last month has been a particularly sad one for some of us in Metchosin. This edition includes obituaries of two ladies who were well loved in our community. The *Muse* team was shocked by the sudden death of my fellow editor's wife of 53 years, Nadene Carline, and the equestrian world has lost the much-loved and celebrated Lisa Volk. We fondly remember their lives in this issue.

On a brighter note, the Metchosin Community Association had another successful Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale in May and funds raised were similar to last year's record. Festus is back again on July 1, 'Fords and Friends' takes place in July for you vintage car lovers, and a Metchosin Community Day is planned to be held in September. In Council, progress (sometimes glacial) is being made on a large number of issues. The

Climate Action Plan has been prepared and discussed. It proposes a Zero Carbon Metchosin by 2050, although appears to be uncertain how to achieve it and where the necessary data is coming from. Metchosin will become safer with new pedestrian crossings on Rocky Point Road near Hans Helgesen School and Kangaroo Road, and rebuilt access to Weir Beach from William Head Road, which should be usable by the end of the school holidays. We hope you are enjoying your summer and we would like to hear of your adventures outside of Metchosin. *Muse* travellers will be suitably recorded with their favourite reading material. P.S. In order to have letters and articles considered for the September issue, please note our deadline of August 15.

Metchosin Agriculture Advisory Select Committee Receives Funds from Council

Robin Tunnicliffe

Metchosin will soon join the ranks of the many BC communities with an Agriculture Area Plan. The Metchosin Agriculture Advisory Select Committee (AASC) has been preparing for this for over 10 years. We're ready to guide our local industry into a growth phase. We see these funds as seed money that we'll use for securing matching funding from other donors. It is our objective to net out this investment over time as we use this plan to bring money into the community.

What can agricultural planning do for a community? Recently I had the pleasure of touring Yakima County in Washington State on a tour of farms. I was inspired by their story. The farmers had come together with industry specialists, the university, and agri-entrepreneurs among others to optimize farming in their county. They had collectively decided that their soils and climate were ideally suited to tree fruits, especially apples and pears. The result was hundreds of acres of healthy and highly productive orchards, planted with traditional and improved varieties. There was support from government and the universities with breeding, trialing new techniques of pruning, and ongoing monitoring. The growers pooled their funds and bought a grading machine with a laser to see through the apples to determine quality, and a sorter to select for size. They also bought specialty cold storage facilities that could hold apples in a vacuum, so they stayed

crisp for 13 months. With this technology they could access all markets from the highest end national boutique grocery chains, to regional distribution, to processors, and animal feed. A cider industry developed around them with facilities for tourists. Juicing companies sprang up, a dried fruit industry and confection manufacturing found a niche. From this agricultural planning process many benefits emerged including, spin-offs all through the food chain and a viable future for farmers.

How will our planning process proceed? After our steering committee selects our planning leads, we'll start with community consultation. We'll have another forum like we did in 2021 to get the farmers and stakeholders together in a workshop setting so we can hear from all interested parties. The consultants will collect sorely needed data: what percentage of the land in Metchosin is currently farmed? How many acres are available for lease or for expansion of current enterprises? How many people are interested in farming and how can we integrate their skills, investments, and ambitions? What is the appetite for agri-tourism? What crops are best suited for our climate? So many questions to be answered. This will be a comprehensive and powerful process. We truly appreciate the support of Council as we move forward to embark on expanding agriculture in Metchosin. We will keep you informed on our process, and we will create occasions to bring us together with the aim of making the most out of Metchosin's farming potential. Just watch us grow!

Ryan Carter: Metchosin's New Parks & Trails Coordinator

Barb Sawatsky

In January, 2023 Ryan Carter saw an ad placed in the *Metchosin Muse* by the District of Metchosin inviting applicants to fill the vacant position of Volunteer Parks and Trails Coordinator. "Wishing to give back and hoping to encourage others to volunteer," he applied and was successful in his bid. Working hand in hand with the Parks and Trails Advisory Select Committee (PTASC), he is mentored by Mark Atherton and works in partnership with Neil West who heads the Metchosin Invasive Species Cooperative (MISC). Ryan moved with his family to a home in the Aquarius subdivision when he was 10 years old. He was home schooled, then attended the University of Victoria, earning a mechanical engineering degree, subsequently moving to Vancouver where his final co-op position was located and where he stayed for seven years. As his

hobbies include trail running, hiking, and backcountry skiing, it was no surprise that our trail network was a factor for him and his partner in their decision to move back to Metchosin. Appointed by Metchosin Council, Ryan reports to the Community Planning Committee and acts as a resource to PTASC. He is responsible for recruiting and coordinating volunteers, developing an annual project and budget to maintain community parks and trails, and developing new trails approved by Council. He must also draft an annual maintenance and construction budget and report on any ongoing and planned works as well as responding to park and trail maintenance issues as they arise. Ryan is finding the volunteer position "to be a fascinating and interesting process" and states that "Metchosin is unique, with its high emphasis on greenspaces" and as such, "volunteering is essential." PTASC usually meets



Ryan Carter, new Parks and Trails coordinator

on the third Tuesday of each month at the Municipal Hall Council Chamber; meetings are open to the public. If you come across problems such as downed trees blocking trails, please email trailscoordinator@metchosin.ca.

Metchosin Community Day Update

Calling non-profit groups and enterprising youth!

Jill Peterson

Plans are progressing for Metchosin Community Day on September 10, 2023. The displays and vendors this year will be focussed on Metchosin-based groups. We have contacted most Metchosin non-profit groups, to see if they wish to put up a display or to fundraise. If you haven't heard from us yet, please contact us. This is also a call-out for Metchosin young people interested in selling crafts or baking at Metchosin Community Day to contact us and reserve space for a booth. We have judges for most contests, but we are currently looking for a volunteer to coordinate and/or judge the photography contest. Get your entries ready for the baking, garden produce, and photography contests. For children there will be a pet show, hay rides, and the digger. There will be an afternoon of music, Metchosin Community awards will be presented, and the day will finish with the traditional lamb and salmon barbeque. For more information on any of the above, contact us at info@metchosinday.ca.



Vegetables from previous shows. Max van Manen photo

Sunny Day Farm Services

Medium-sized tractor available for hire with 6' rototiller, field mower, loader, fork lift attachments and manure spreader.

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An Award for Joseph

Chris Pratt

A member of a Metchosin family, Joseph Barss has been awarded a Governor General’s Medal for academic excellence on his graduation from Mount St. Vincent University in Halifax. He plans to continue his studies at Dalhousie University in the autumn for a further degree in statistics.

Earlier, as a member of Metchosin’s Heritage Advisory Committee, Joseph prepared maps and information concerning the original farm families in the District, and, last summer, he prepared maps for the Metchosin Foundation detailing contour lines and watercourses in the region.



Joseph Barss.
Prestige Photography

Come See the Show

Bruce Somers, Fords and Friends Chair

The early Ford V8 Club Region 109 is presenting our forty-first Fords and Friends Show and Shine in Metchosin on Sunday, July 16.

We expect about 180 pre-1985 cars and trucks to be on public display in the Metchosin school field off Happy Valley Road. This event is a community fundraiser and all proceeds from show car entries and sponsor support go to service organizations such as the Salvation Army, Victoria Women’s Transition House, the Mustard Seed Street Church and Food Bank, the Ukrainian Safe Haven, and secondary school auto shop programs in the three local school districts.

The Early Ford V8 Club of Victoria is only one chapter of hundreds of V8 Clubs across North America, Australia, New Zealand, England, and Europe. We are a group of car and truck enthusiasts who have a passion for the engineering, quality, style, and detail of early Ford motor products. Not all club members have a Ford, but we all share in the love of constructing, preserving, or modifying older vehicles.

Entrance to the public is from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm by cash donation to the West Shore Food Bank.

Respectfully, no dogs or bicycles in show area. Food service by the Lions will be on site.



Bruce Somers with his 1928 Ford Hotrod

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Mrs. Holtan Retires from Hans Helgesen

Joannie Challenger

When I first met Kelly Holtan she was a new young teacher, entering our staff room at Hans Helgesen School with her infant son in her arms. Many years later she is retiring from that same school, after 35 years of teaching in our district. We were colleagues for many of those years, and I am honoured to have taught with her. Her positive energy and love for learning has been infectious, and has made the school a better place.

Kelly didn’t start her teaching career at Hans Helgesen; she first taught at Ruth King Elementary School, with stints at Saseenos, Colwood, and Savory Elementary Schools as well. In her time as a teacher she taught kindergarten through Grade 3, and more recently in the library.

When asked what her favourite part of teaching was, her first answer was, “Well, it was never dull!” She added, “I loved the whole-school activities, like Beach Day and Fun Day, where we could

connect with the students on a less formal level. Another favourite part of teaching was connecting with colleagues; we have supported each other in many ways over the years, both educationally and emotionally.” Kelly loved teaching students various sports: she coached many teams during her career. “I will miss that part of teaching,” she said. “I wanted sports to be inclusive; we never had tryouts and every student who came out had a place on the team. They came out, tried their best, and learned. I loved watching students try new sports, find success, and learn to love the activity.”

Within teaching there are always challenges, of course. “It’s hard to fit everything into the day, and meeting the needs of a wide range of abilities can be hard,” she noted. “I liked challenging myself to present lessons in a creative, exciting way. I loved the ‘aha’ moment, when students grasped a new idea!” A highlight of Kelly’s career has been initiating the idea of using the courtyard as a



Kelly Holtan

learning space. She also promoted using the ravine at the front of the school as a learning forest.

To the community of Metchosin, Kelly would like to say: “I’ve loved Metchosin, and the connectedness of the community. Being here so long, I’ve seen children grow up and have their own families. I love the places there are to explore here, like Witty’s Beach and the parks. I’ve enjoyed my career here, and hopefully it showed in my teaching.” Now Kelly looks forward to having more time with her young grandson and other members of her family. Whatever she does and wherever she goes, Kelly is wished all the best of times in retirement by this former colleague. She has earned them!

Metchosin Museum Society AGM



New Board: Jon Barss, Avril Yoachim, Ed McLean, Dorothy Boisvert, Judith van Manen, and Bert Harrison; missing: Lynn Southgate. Barb Sawatsky photo

Jim MacPherson

On June 10, the Metchosin Museum Society held its 53rd Annual General Meeting at the Community House.

The guest speaker was John Adams, a director of the Chinese Canadian Museum Society of British Columbia and the Victoria Chinatown Museum Society. His latest book, *Chinese Victoria*:

A Long and Difficult Journey, provided the source of a most interesting description of the Chinese community in the Victoria area, including Metchosin.

The outgoing President, Jim MacPherson, described some of the successes of the Society and provided observations on future Board issues including planning, disability and children’s access, and book pricing at Old Barn Books, as well as resolution of gentlemen’s agreements.

The new Board of the Metchosin Museum Society comprises:

- President: Bert Harrison
- Vice-President: Judith van Manen
- Treasurer: Jon Barss
- Secretary: Lynn Southgate
- Director: Ed McLean
- Director: Avril Yoachim
- Director: Dorothy Boisvert

The positions of two directors were held open to be filled by the new Board at a later date.

The Muse Traveller

Jim and Joannie Challenger by the Peace Bridge in Derry.

Frank Clemens photo

Where will the *Muse* take you? Share your photos with us!

metchosinmuse@gmail.com



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Na'tsa'maht Family Dinner at Hans Helgesen



Esquimalt singers and dancers

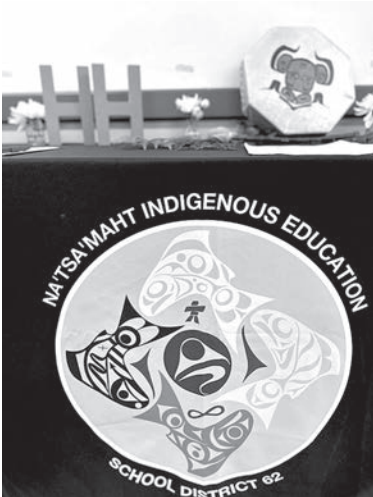
Sharon Schwartz and Jon Carr

On June 8, Hans Helgesen, Sc'ianew Nation and the District's Na'tsa'maht Indigenous Education Department came together to celebrate as one family at their first Na'tsa'maht Family Dinner. The evening began in the 'learning forest,' where two hundred guests gathered to witness a very powerful honour with the gifting of a name for our new shed and 'learning forest'. Sc'ianew Nation gifted the school Pakki Chipps' traditional name, Tlaachaht. Henry Chipps shared this special name in honour of his late wife who adored the outdoors, plants, and everything that the forest represents. Elder Shirley Alphonse performed a traditional water blessing for the space and invited others to partake. The ceremony touched people deeply and will leave lasting memories for those who attended.

Guests enjoyed students' Coast Salish artwork all around the school as they headed down to the gym to share a meal together. We are grateful to Sc'ianew Nation for donating salmon and to Rob and Nathan from T'Sou-ke Nation who prepared the incredible feast for all to enjoy. After sharing a meal together, everyone was enthralled watching the many performances. Grandma Charles' family sang to her and honored her for all that she has contributed to their lives and others. The students from Hans Helgesen sang the Coast Salish Anthem while drumming along. The evening entertainment concluded with the Esquimalt Singers and Dancers who performed several moving songs. All the guest were captivated by two of the youngest performers, who are students at Hans Helgesen.

We are grateful to all our guests for sharing this incredible

evening together. We are especially grateful to our Elders and Special Guests who contributed to this exceptional celebration. Hych'ka.



Welcome table with Na'tsa'maht logo

Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas A Presentation

Jessica Hum, Peter Ord, and Morgan Yates

Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas: A Presentation
St Mary of the Incarnation Church
4125 Metchosin Road
Wednesday, July 26, 7:00–9:00pm
Entry is free

As the world grapples with climate change mitigation and species bio-diversity loss, a new approach has emerged to help deal with these environmental challenges: Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas (IPCAs). IPCAs have gained prominence in Canada and around the world in places like USA, Australia, New Zealand, Costa Rica, and Brazil. They are Indigenous-managed or co-managed, elevate Indigenous rights and responsibilities, and represent a long-term commitment to conservation. IPCAs are not just about applying practical conservation practice through an Indigenous lens, they are also about reconciliation, Indigenous self-determination, and a fundamental shift to how all people can change their relationship to the natural world.

IPCAs were recognized in 2017 by the Government of Canada as a means of reaching Canada's Aichi Targets under the International Convention on Biological Diversity, and endorsed

by the 2018 Indigenous Circle of Experts in their publication, *We Rise Together – Achieving Pathway to Canada Target 1 through the creation of Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas in the spirit and practice of reconciliation*. This publication, and its resulting recommendations, have steadily been adopted across the country, with large IPCAs being declared in British Columbia on Tla-o-qui-aht territories, Thaidene Nëné in Denedeh, and on Tłı̨chǫ lands in the Northwest Territories. Hybrid governance models are being pursued by Indigenous Nations in partnership with government and non-governmental organizations, such as the Gwaii Haanas Land-Sea-People Management Plan and Kluskap Wilderness Area in Unama'ki, Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

There is a lot to learn about IPCAs and what it could mean for advancing environmental, social, economic, and cultural goals of our shared future with Indigenous communities. You are invited to learn more at a featured presentation on IPCAs by Jessica Hum, an Indigenous land-relationship planner with Talking Circle Consultants, to be held at St Mary of the Incarnation Church on July 26. This event is hosted by the Metchosin Learning Group and Habitat Acquisition Trust.

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OBITUARY

LISA VOLK
August 29, 1957–April 4, 2023

Remembering Lisa

With heavy hearts, we had to say goodbye to Lisa Volk (née Broderick) on April 4, 2023. Lisa touched many lives in the community as a teacher, mentor, horseman, mother, and friend.

Lisa was born in North Vancouver on August 29, 1957. She spent many summers on the ocean with her brother, Stewart; mother, Audrey; and father, Granby. As a young adult, she excelled as a gymnast. She was BC junior provincial champion in 1972/73, and senior provincial champion from 1974 to 1976. She traveled



Lisa as a champion gymnast

extensively during her career to many competitions: the Western Canadian and National Games, as a member of the 1973 BC team to California, the 1975 junior national team to the Hapoel Games in Israel, and the 1975 national team that traveled to Romania and Bulgaria. Lisa was a member of the pre-Olympic team in 1975, and competed for Cal State Fullerton from 1975 to her retirement from gymnastics in 1979.

After university, she fell in love with Vancouver Island. She started her teaching career in Sooke School District in 1985 at Saseenos Elementary School, later moving to David Cameron and finally Hans Helgesen. She adored the children and strove to make a positive learning atmosphere for everyone. Her love for animals shone through in her teaching, as she would incorporate caring for Guinea pigs, raising salmonids and hatching chickens into her curriculum. “I loved her energy,” commented her former teacher partner, Kelly Holtan. “Lisa cared so much about all of her students and was passionate about teaching.”

“Lisa brought a lot of fun and laughter to our school; she had a great sense of humour, and made everyone feel welcome,” noted another. “She was such a positive person!”

Along the way, Lisa met and married the love of her life, Fred Volk, in 1991. They had two daughters, Alexandra and Ehren.

It was no secret that Lisa’s passion was horses. She loved them, and always kept the animals’ best interests in mind. She was a dedicated partner to her horses. As time went by, her love for natural horsemanship continued, as well as for dressage. She bred a beautiful mare named Savvy, with whom she partnered in competitions and clinics. Lisa shared her passion with her daughters and supported them and many other wonderful kids through the Metchosin Pony Club.

Sadly, Lisa was diagnosed with stage four colorectal cancer in February, 2021. Despite the heart-wrenching



Lisa Volk

news and invasive surgeries needed, Lisa stood out with her positive attitude and energy. She continued not only to ride her horses, but also to take part in clinics and competitions. In July 2022, she had an accident in a local riding clinic, which ended in a broken femur. Despite this, Lisa stayed positive and made the best of her recovery. It goes to show what a strong, passionate person she was.

During the last few months of her life, Lisa cherished time spent with friends and family. Even with her mobility challenges, she was keen to try out new restaurants, browse craft markets, and attend family gatherings – even being spotted on the dance floor, with her crutch, at a family wedding! Lisa continued to fight courageously against the disease each day. She passed away in her home with her closest family by her side. While many are still mourning this tragic loss, Lisa’s legacy will continue to live on. The lives of so many community members were touched by her caring and positive energy and her passion for life will not be forgotten.

– Lisa’s family



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Hans Helgesen Piano Project



Hans Helgesen students dismantled two old pianos and creatively reassembled the pieces to form an artwork using alginate and plaster of Paris. It included the names of the students and 3D models of some of their hands.



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- Follow the CRD’s Stage 1 Watering Schedule.

- Use micro/drip irrigation systems for watering trees, shrubs, flowers, and veggie beds.
- Water your green lawns a maximum of one inch (2.5 cm) of water per week in the driest conditions.
- Practice the cycle and soak method, watering in short cycles with time in between to allow water to soak in and reduce water waste.

For more information: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/education/water-conservation/at-home/outdoor-water-use/water-wise-gardens>

Celebrating Westmont’s Long-standing Legacy: Insights from Two Dedicated Graduates



Ailsa and Cameron wave farewell to high school.
Evgenia Kolesnikova photo

Westmont Montessori School Graduates, Ailsa Hanton and Cameron Lang

Westmont School is where tradition meets excellence, and remarkable journeys unfold. Within the heart of our esteemed institution, two graduates have collectively dedicated an impressive 28 years to our beloved school.

In our conversation, we had the privilege of asking these remarkable individuals questions about their experiences at Westmont. Their insightful and heartfelt responses shed light on the profound impact our school has had on their lives. Join us as we delve into their stories, uncovering the invaluable wisdom they have gained along the way.

Tell us about your Montessori journey.
Ailsa (A): My Montessori journey started in 2008 in the Dogwood EP/K class. Throughout the years, as I grew up, Westmont started new programs so students would be able to stay until high school graduation, which was appreciated as I greatly enjoy the Montessori style of learning. Through Montessori, I was able to receive the support I needed as I developed at my own pace.
Cameron (C): I started in kindergarten and had the ability to grow up and experience each school program and am now happy to be graduating.
What is your biggest interest? How did it develop?
A: One of my biggest interests is writing: something that developed when I was in lower elementary. I loved writing in my journal and illustrating my entries and having the freedom to write stories about my interests, which, at the time, was mainly slugs.
C: I really enjoy games, both tabletop games and video games. I was able to connect my interests through my experience in the high school as I had an assignment allowing me to critique a video game’s writing as well as being able to create my own ttrpg (tabletop roleplaying game) system and one-shot campaign as my capstone project.
What are some other unique things about your school?
A: Some unique things about Westmont are the Montessori style of teaching, and the closeness to nature. A key part of

the program is spending time outside in the nearby forest and at the beach, which you won’t get somewhere else. Immersion weeks are also special to our school and make the middle and high school years more exciting.
C: The community connection!
What is your favourite part about Westmont High School?
A: My favourite part of the Westmont High School is the experiences it has given me. This spring, I went on a trip to Japan, which was incredible, and a few weeks later I was in the Northwest Territories. This is something I’ll never get to experience again, and I am grateful that I got the opportunity.
C: I feel like Westmont has really prepared me for life after secondary school, and has equipped me with a skillset that I will be able to use for the rest of my life.
What do you do on the weekend?
A: On the weekend, I spend my time playing video games, working on jigsaw puzzles, creating spreadsheets, and talking to my friends. Sometimes, I’ll go

downtown with my family, something I enjoy quite a lot.
C: I enjoy writing and running a Dungeons and Dragons campaign with a few of my friends, as well as playing video games.
What is your favourite part about being a Westmont Graduate?
A: My favourite thing about being a Westmont graduate is knowing I have everything I need to move onto the next stage of my life, which is very exciting. I am looking forward to finding out where life is going to take me.
What is next for you?
A: Next year, I will be taking a year off to focus on getting work experience. I am heavily considering following an accounting career, as it has been my favourite course this past school year and has quickly become something I have a passion for.
C: After the summer, where I work at Camp Thunderbird, I’m heading to Peterborough, Ontario to study forensic biology at Trent University.

Hans Helgesen Rainbow Project

Jen Kivari
My son started kindergarten at Hans Helgesen in 2000, and my daughter in 2003. Every school day at drop off or pick up I would look at the blank space over the front doors of our school and see a perfect space to create a rainbow and sun mosaic.



Students admire the finished artwork. Jennifer Kivari photo

outside the box, explore creative outlooks, and brainstorm projects which would be a fun and positive focus for students who eventually returned to school.
This project began with students precisely measuring the wall of the school and drawing a blueprint and forming a list of materials and supplies. A challenge was sent to all children and families to dig through their toy boxes and find toys and trinkets that matched the colors of the rainbow and represented education, country living, and childhood. These collections were sorted, and each student was invited to glue their pieces to the rainbow. The students learned mosaic tile applications, grouting, and sealing.
I would like to thank all the students, staff, and parents, as well as my family for their enthusiastic participation in this project. Words cannot express the gratitude and immense relief in having completed this 20-year vision and being able to walk under this rainbow into school every day.

Broom Bash a Great Success

Kathleen Sutherland
The Liberty/LaBonne/Barrow POD Broom Bash ‘contest’ held on June 12 was a great success. A number of people really took to the challenge. Four men in particular stood out. David came in first by having his pile up and ready to go almost as soon as the event was announced. Ken was next with a very neatly stacked and sorted pile. Gary was the sleeper, keeping his pile out of sight until the last minute. One participant even managed to introduce

a scavenger hunt element by losing his wallet and keys under a pile. He had been trying to help his neighbours by scooping up their piles to add to his own, but forgot to take his wallet and house keys out of the bucket he had used. At least he was able to fluff up his pile until he found said wallet and keys – competition makes us a bit rushed sometimes!
The judges were not only thrilled with all the participants, but felt it important to note that the top three winners were aged 70, 80 and 84. What a way to keep up the fitness as well, fellas!



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A Mighty Community Thank You

Brian Grant (MCA President) on behalf of the grateful MCA Board

Thank you to all of our friends that supported the 2023 Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale!! This is the Metchosin Community Association (MCA)’s primary fundraiser, but our primary goal was to make it a fun, social event for the community. This year’s event was very successful; raising funds as well as generating a lot of fun!

This would not have been possible without the kind support of so many Metchosinites. Hundreds of people in our community generously donated items to be sold and hundreds more attended the Garage Sale and they were generous with their cash donations and purchases. In addition, dozens of volunteers worked tirelessly to set up the tents, coordinate the donated items, work the garage sale event, and tried to save a little energy for the clean-up.

Finally, other community members and associations generously gave time, effort, donations, and discounts to the event, such as the Metchosin Community Hall, Metchosin Equestrian Society, Metchosin Fire Department, Metchosin Public Works, and Titanium Tents.

Thank you all again and see you next year!



Ready for the Silent Auction. Joan Johnston photo



Left: Bev, Chris, and Joannie on Jan’s bench
Below left: In the kids’ section are Judith, Dierdre, Claudia, Morgan, and Julius.
Below right: Werner, Andy, and Norm taking a breather
Barb Sawatsky photos



Waiting for the 9:00am start. Joan Johnston photo





Above: Something for everyone. Barb Sawatsky photo

Left: Jennifer and Norm ready to go; lineup of hopeful shoppers in the background. Joan Johnston photo

Below: Nico and dad, Charles, working the tools section. Barb Sawatsky photo



Above: Richard, Allen, and Brian at the ready. Joan Johnston photo



Johann on sausages and Doug on mowers. Barb Sawatsky photo

Planned Management of Invasive Black Knapweed in Metchosin

Morgan Davies and Jen McEwen –
CRD Regional Parks Staff

An invasive species that can put natural meadows and farmland at risk is once again being knocked back this year in Metchosin. Black knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) is what’s known as a tap-rooted perennial and can form dense monocultures which displace native vegetation. It can also be a serious pest in agricultural crops and can increase the risk of fire. This highly invasive plant species is thankfully restricted to a small number of sites in Metchosin and is regularly managed collaboratively by the District of Metchosin and CRD Regional Parks.

Black knapweed can be found at both Devonian and Witty’s Lagoon Regional Parks, and in the fields along Metchosin Road, but the largest populations are at Tower Point. There are populations in the park, but also on the road rights-of-way and ditches, and on some private properties near Tower Point and on Duke Road.

As has been the case for a number of years now, a variety of methods are being used to manage black knapweed at CRD Regional Parks in Metchosin in 2023. These methods include selective mowing, seed



Black knapweed. Ian Redding photo

head removal, and a targeted herbicide treatment. Between June and August a licenced applicator will apply the treatment under the direction of CRD staff. Treatment will occur in accordance with all provincial guidelines during a period of low winds and without forecasted rainfall to increase the effectiveness and to reduce potential negative environmental impacts.

This year a blue dye will also be used to help the applicator identify areas that have been treated. The dye is harmless, dissipates quickly with sun exposure and won’t affect clothing or pets. In CRD Regional Parks, chemical treatments are only employed after a determination that there is no effective alternative treatment and that the treatment has minimal environmental impact.

As was done in past years, the CRD will be conducting post-treatment effectiveness monitoring. Annual information on treatment effectiveness supports an adaptive management approach in which land managers continually assess and improve treatment methods to effectively manage black knapweed infestations. Minor impacts to park users from black knapweed management methods are possible, and people can check online at www.crd.bc.ca/about/alerts-notice for more detailed updates.

Metchosin residents can help by looking out for this harmful plant, by reporting it when seen, and controlling it on private property. Control of black knapweed on private property outside of regional parks is the responsibility of individual landowners.

For more information on black knapweed in regional parks, contact Conservation Biologist Jen McEwen at jmcewen@crd.bc.ca. If you need advice regarding control of this species on private property, contact Jenny Eastman, Regional Invasive Species Program Coordinator at jeastman@crd.bc.ca.

Good News for the Contorted-pod Evening-primrose at Witty’s!

Andy MacKinnon and Kem Luther

Coastal sand ecosystems are the sandy terrestrial portion of beaches, spits and dunes. These ecosystems are rare on BC’s predominantly rocky west coast. They’re considered to be an ‘at risk’ ecosystem type, especially locally (in the Georgia Basin). The Metchosin Biodiversity Project (metchosin-biodiversity.com) and CRD Parks have been restoring the coastal sand ecosystem at Witty’s Beach for more than five years now. For more on this project, see the October 2021 *Metchosin Muse* (p. 3).



Contorted-pod Evening-primrose (*Camissonia contorta*).
Photo by Cassidy Patton

The restoration to date has consisted primarily of removal of invasive introduced vegetation (mostly Scotch Broom) in the part of Witty’s Beach immediately northeast of the grassy area with the picnic tables. The site was subsequently fenced with split-rail fence, to exclude human (and pooch) travel.

Inside the fence is a population of one of BC’s most at-risk plant species, the Contorted-pod Evening-primrose (*Camissonia contorta*, CPEP). This tiny annual species requires ground largely free of other vegetation for the germination of its seeds, which happens between March and May. The Scotch Broom had prevented most of the CPEP seeds from germinating and growing, and so the local CPEP population remained small. Counts in past years reflected this: 70 plants in 2002; 253-275 in 2004; 50 in 2019; 70 in 2020; 99 in 2021; and 372 in 2022.

With the removal of the Scotch Broom and the fencing of the site in 2021, we were cautiously optimistic about an increase in the Witty’s CPEP population. This year, our annual count took place May 24-26. And our 2023 results ... 3274 plants, an increase of a full order of magnitude! What a spectacular response by this tiny (but charming!) species. As a bonus, two individuals of another at-risk plant species – Howell’s *Triteleia* (*Triteleia howellii*) – also showed up inside the fenced area.

The fence has really reduced trampling. Thanks to everyone for staying out, and allowing CPEP to begin its recovery. Much work remains to be done on this restoration project, including ongoing vegetation removal and monitoring but the results so far have been encouraging.



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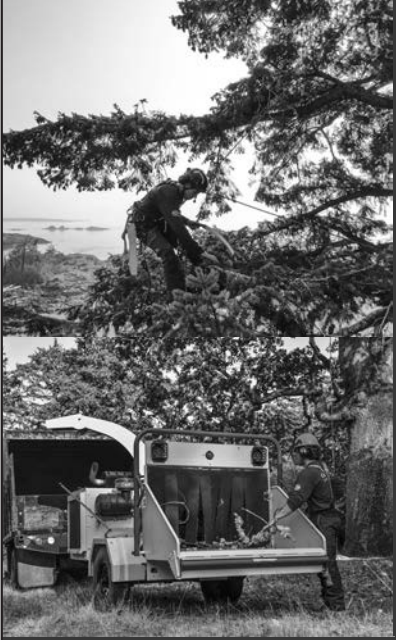
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Slime Moulds in Metchosin

Andy MacKinnon

The Metchosin Biodiversity Project (www.metchosinbiodiversity.com) is a small group of passionate naturalists with three goals: to increase our understanding of Metchosin’s species and ecosystems; to share natural history information with interested people in Metchosin and adjacent jurisdictions; and to use this information and awareness to protect and restore Metchosin’s species and ecosystems. One of our projects is to maintain a list of species known to occur in our community. To date we have recorded more than 3400 species that share Metchosin with us, perhaps the second highest total of any Canadian community.

Most of the creatures that call Metchosin home – including you, dear reader – are plants, animals, or fungi, but among over 3400 species there are ten species of slime moulds. Despite the

unfortunate inclusion of “mould” in their names, slime moulds are not fungi. Nor are they animals or plants. They’re protists, a group that includes, besides slime moulds, such creatures as amoebas, diatoms, and red and brown seaweeds. Slime moulds are beautiful and intelligent, and are important members of Metchosin’s forested ecosystems.

Slime moulds are certainly our most charismatic protists. I love slime moulds! There are three major groups of slime moulds, but the ten species recorded so far for Metchosin are all myxogastria (also known as myxomycetes and as acellular slime moulds). This is the largest group of slime moulds by far, with 900 species described worldwide, and many more awaiting description.

Myxogastria (“slime stomachs”) have a complex life. Their spores germinate to form either crawling myxamoebae (if it’s dry) or swimming myxoflagellates (if it’s

wet). If these creatures meet an appropriate mate, romance ensues, and they form a plasmodium, essentially a large single cell with many nuclei. The plasmodium blob can be very large indeed, up to one metre in diameter, moving on or in the soil, eating all sorts of small creatures (bacteria, yeasts, and so forth).

When conditions are right – probably some combination of weather and food availability – the plasmodium crawls somewhere high and dry to form a fruiting body. These fruiting bodies are what usually catch our eye. They come in all colours of the rainbow, and a dazzling array of shapes (see photos). The fruiting bodies produce spores, and the life cycle begins again.

When walking the trails of Metchosin, keep an eye out for these flamboyant and fabulous species. Though they prefer cooler weather and moist, shady environments, they can be found throughout the year.



Wolf’s-milk Slime (*Lycogala epidendrum*). Emma Dolman photo



Chocolate Tube Slime (*Stemonitis splendens*). Robin Banks photo



Scrambled-egg Slime (*Fuligo septica*). Aiva Noringseth photo



Comatricha sp., photo by Allec

Local Conservation Opportunity Described by Video

Morgan Yates

In the closing months of 2022, Metchosin Foundation board members and members of the Foundation’s land securement subcommittee began work on an ambitious goal: to respond to local residents’ concerns about habitat degradation in the Bilston Creek Watershed, by describing how and why lands within the heart of the watershed could and should be secured for future generations. Foundation Director Heloise Nicholl volunteered to lead an initiative to tell this story in video format. The public debut of the resulting video will coincide with the publishing date for the July issue of the *Muse*. This

article describes the multi-month journey from video concept to final product.

The project began with brainstorming by the subcommittee, then issuing an Expression of Interest resulting in the selection of Alex Harris from a talented group of videographers. After inking the videography contract, there was a flurry of work involving buzzwords like ‘mood board’ and a series of increasingly refined scripts.

The Metchosin Foundation was very fortunate in having a diverse trio of prominent local conservationists donate their time and story-telling expertise, providing interviews that brought impressive technicolour detail to

a black and white script. We’d like to convey our gratitude to Nitya Harris, Kem Luther, and Andy MacKinnon.

Videography was done in late winter and late spring, to ensure that the wet and dry season moods of the watershed could be captured via close-ups and drone footage. Woven into the core videography were some captivating trail cam clips of local Metchosin wildlife captured by Gary Schroyen and audio clips of local birdsong recorded by Ian Cruikshank.

The multi-month process of video development enabled its narrative to respond to 2023 headlines from the Intergovernmental Panel on

Climate Change and the UN Convention on Biodiversity, thereby linking complex and sometimes daunting global challenges to a concrete opportunity for local action.

As the video was refined, an adjunct benefit was the assistance it gave the Foundation in refining our own key messages for local landowners and supporters and the larger conservation agencies with whom we seek to partner. The multi-month process also helped to clarify areas of potential policy support from local government and affirm the different but complementary objectives of

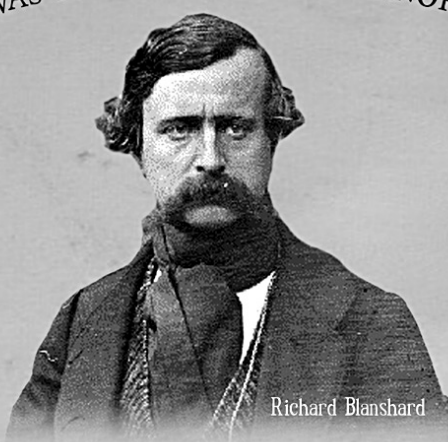
the Metchosin Foundation and the Bilston Watershed Habitat Protection Association (the latter being largely focused on protecting and preserving water quality and quantity).

Please visit the Foundation’s website (www.metchosinfoundation.ca) to check out the Bilston Conservation Corridor Project video. We hope that you’ll find the four-minute video engaging! Special thanks to Heloise Nicholl, for carving out time in a very busy schedule to manage this initiative, and to generous local donors who funded the video development.



View of the wetland. Bev Hall photo

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Creating in the rain ... Jun Toyama, a participant at a recent ArtPod workshop, checks out her cyanotype. Diana Smith photo

What Creativity Looks Like

Diana Smith

Two recent events at ArtPod showcased the breadth and depth of creativity here in Metchosin. At the in-person opening on June 3, about 40 people heard what inspired each artist and the various techniques they used to produce their artwork. This ranged from the use of a little black film cannister as a pinhole camera to expose film to the arc of the moon over an eight-hour period, to an artist who described using up to 500 layers to construct her digital images. Deirdre Chettleburgh, one of the attendees at the opening, mentioned how hearing artists talk about the complexity involved in making the work increased her appreciation of the art. The more than 40 artworks in the *Look Again* show are on display until Sunday, July 30, and feature photographs or artwork with photographic elements.

Another example of creative opportunity, happened during a recent workshop held on the one day of torrential rain in June. The workshop coincided with a Cyanotype workshop organized by ArtPod, and facilitated by Phyllis Schwartz, guest artist and juror for *Look Again*. “So what?” you may think, since the workshop was held indoors. The cyanotype process, however, relies on laying out artwork in sunlight to develop and produce what traditionally were ‘blueprints’. Nonetheless, covered by sheets of plexiglass, the participants’ work was laid outside to develop, and the rain pelting down only added to the creative results.

Local artists are now being challenged for our next juried show entitled *Pretty Ugly: Art Beyond Beauty*. Artists are invited to submit work which either redefines or questions conceptions of beauty or relies on something beyond aesthetics for its impact. If the current show is anything to go by, the results will be diverse, unexpected, and inspiring. The deadline for submissions is July 14.

A winner of one of the three Juror’s Choice Awards in *Look Again* is Margo Farr. Her sculpture documents and expresses her experience during a recent walk on Charlie’s Trail in Colwood. She joins recent member ceramist Derek Kasper, in extending the diversity of art offered at your local gallery. Derek’s large ceramic vessels are both sensuous and impactful. Many a visitor can be spied stroking the shoulders and body of a beautiful blue vase. This hands-on appreciation is not only allowed but encouraged.

The in-person opening of *Pretty Ugly* will be on Saturday, August 12, from 2:00–4:00pm. Attendees will have the opportunity to see and hear how artists responded to our latest challenge to offer art beyond beauty. Guest artist Caroline James will be present and will also be leading a free expression workshop on Sunday, August 13. The workshop will be an opportunity for participants to get beyond their inhibitions, dig deep into their soul, and make marks.

Details of all events are available on our website: metchosinartpod.ca

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- “Broke & Blue” – a flute, keyboard, and base trio
- Metchosin Ukulele Choir

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by DOUG GILBERT

The art of David Epp will be showing in August.
Details will be on the MACCA website

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METCHOSIN ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE
4495 Happy Valley Road – info@metchosinartcentre.ca
metchosinartcentre.ca

EVENTS at METCHOSIN



2 JUNE- 30 JULY

LOOK AGAIN:

A Photographic Art Show

- **Featuring works by guest artists and jurors Phyllis Schwartz and Ed Peck, as well as juried-in artists**



photo by Doug Gilbert


4 AUG- 1 OCT

PRETTY UGLY:

Art Beyond Beauty

- **14 July: last day of Call for Submissions**
- **12 August: Gala Opening- in person!!**
- **13 August: Workshop on Free Expression**


See metchosinartpod.ca for details



Metchosin
ArtPod

METCHOSIN ARTPOD
4495 HAPPY VALLEY RD, METCHOSIN B.C.
METCHOSINARTPOD.CA
#METCHOSINARTPOD

Hours: 11-4pm Fri-Sun



Metchosin Baha'i Community
• Friendship / Love / Service / Joy •


What does the Baha'i Faith say about prayer?

“Prayer need not be in words, but rather in thought and action.”

If you have a question call or text it to one of the numbers below.

For information on the Metchosin Baha'i Community please call or text:
Mona at (250) 514-1756 / Doug at (250) 858-2053 / Bahai.org

Be Bear and Cougar smart!



Metchosin’s New Mr. Fix-it



Betty Hildreth and Andy Greenslade at MACCA. Allen Jones photo

Repair Café
July 23, 10:00am to 2:00pm
Metchosin Arts and Cultural Centre
4495 Happy Valley Road

Following an invitation from Betty Hildreth, the liaison director for the Metchosin Arts and Cultural Centre Association (MACCA), I met Andy Greenslade, an electrical engineer by profession, in June. He has volunteered to coordinate and run the Repair Café from the old elementary school where MACCA is established. Prior to taking on this role, Andy, who moved

from the UK in 1975, has slowly worked and moved across the country and, now retired, lives in Metchosin.

Andy has a desire to help reduce landfill and a love of fixing mechanical objects. The Repair Café provides a community outlet for neighbours to socialise, help reduce waste going to our landfills, and provides Andy with some hands-on techie tinkering with other like-minded volunteers who enjoy fixing items. With this aim, he and the team will be available to Metchosin residents with repairable objects and the next Repair Café will be on

July 23 from 10:00am to 2:00pm, with the expectation of repeating the workshop every three months.

If you have anything that can be easily carried to MACCA’s building that needs fixing, or you wish to volunteer to help with the work, contact Andy via MACCA: info@metchosinartcentre.ca

Please note that this is a free service but ‘fixed’ articles are not warranted and ‘customers’ will be required to sign a waiver accepting responsibility for the work carried out. Any parts that may be required will be at the cost of the ‘customer’.

METCHOSIN COMMUNITY HOUSE HOUSE HAPPENINGS

ONGOING PROGRAMMING

Mondays

Vancouver Island Health Authority Adult Day Program – 9:00am–3:30pm. Contact Mobile program coordinator Ken Hillicke at 250-213-2440.

Knitting Café. The evening group meets 7:00–9:00pm on the first and third Mondays monthly. For more info on the evening group, call Heather at 250-478-6590. Knitters of all levels are welcome.

Tuesdays

Drop-In Painters Art Group. If you would like to join the group, please contact Arlene at 250-391-7905. Finished for the season, returning September 5.

Knitting Café. The afternoon group meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays monthly 1:00–3:00pm. For more information on the afternoon group, call Nance at 250-478-7708 after 11:00am.

Wednesdays

Vancouver Island Health Authority Adult Day Program. 9:00am–3:30pm (see Monday for details).

Thursdays

Weights and Measures. 8:30–10:00am weekly. Weights and Measures is a weight loss and healthy lifestyle support group for anyone in the community. Contact Nancy at 250-478-7487.

Creative Rug Hooking – Finished for the season returning September 7. Please contact Sheila, 250-595-6406.

Fridays

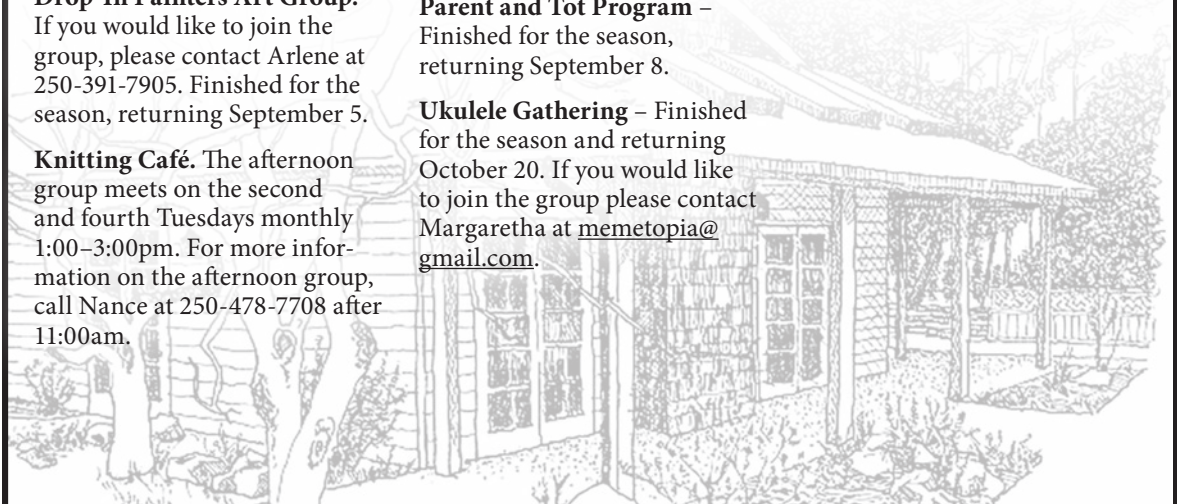
Parent and Tot Program – Finished for the season, returning September 8.

Ukulele Gathering – Finished for the season and returning October 20. If you would like to join the group please contact Margaretha at memetopia@gmail.com.

EVENTS

Film Night – Finished for the season, returning in October.

Art on the Walls – July–August: The late Doug Gilbert, in collaboration with the Metchosin Museum Society, compiled and organized a show of 18 historic photographs of Metchosin dating back to the early 1900s. They are hanging on the Community House walls. Viewing times are Monday–Friday, 9:00am–1:00pm. The Art on the Walls program offers the House as a venue for artists to show and display their works. For more information, please call 250-478-5155.



Metchosin Community House
4430 Happy Valley Road Info: 250-478-5155
mcahouse@telus.net | metchosincommunityhouse.com



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for our
community**

Hon. Mitzi Dean
MLA, Esquimalt-Metchosin

250-952-5885
#104 - 1497 Admirals Road
Mitzi.Dean.MLA@leg.bc.ca
MitziDean.ca





Metchosin Muse CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED – Former Metchosinite (I used to milk Joan Yates’ goat, “Knothole”) seeks 3 bedroom rental for herself, 2 children 13 & 14 (half time), one very good, quiet dog, one nice cat. Professional with excellent references. Open to arrangements where I can be of help to you, many skills to share.
Amy (250) 213-6114 harstadag@gmail.com

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Seniors’ Resource Centre METCHOSIN



Helen Fletcher welcomes patrons of the Café. Allen Jones photo

Laurie Sthamann, Office Manager

The Metchosin Seniors’ Association thanks everyone who came out to the ninth annual Parisian Café! We had well over 100 guests who caught up with neighbours over a cup of coffee and some delicious French pastries. The Parisian Café could not happen without the kind generosity of our sponsors and our volunteers:

- Daniel Vokey from Patisserie Daniel – a wonderful selection of pastries
- Sam Jones – from 2% Jazz for the great coffee
- Metchosin Arts & Cultural Centre Association
- Frank Mitchell
- Jane Johnston, Briar Hill Group/RE/MAX Camosun
- Peter Chettleburgh
- Salty’s By the Sea, Jennifer Burgis

- Tractor Time, Nick Moss
- Osprey Tree Service, Jared Witt
- Westshore Metchosin Yoga, Suzanne Tremblay
- Our two new sponsors: Mile Zero and Latoria Pharmacy

Summer Events

CRA & SERVICE CANADA INFO SESSION
Thursday, July 6 from 1:00–2:00pm at the Metchosin Community House

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and Service Canada are hosting a presentation to share information on:

- Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security, and Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Benefit and credit payments
- Tax credits, such as medical expenses and Disability Tax Credit

- Programs, services, and tools
- Ways to do your taxes and get free tax help
- How to be scam smart.

FRIDAY SOCIALS

July 28 and August 25 from 1:00–3:00pm at the Metchosin Community House.

Drop in for coffee and conversation on the last Friday of the month. Hosted by Baha’is of Metchosin and the SRC at the Metchosin Community House. Please call 250-478-5150 for a ride. Everyone welcome!

The Metchosin Seniors’ Resource Centre is open Tuesday through Friday from 12:00–4:00pm. Staff and volunteers are here to assist seniors and their families with support, resource information, and services.

NOTE: SRC IS CLOSED AUGUST 22–25.

Metchosin Seniors’ Resource Centre (SRC)

1407–4495 Happy Valley Road

250.478.5150 • info@metchosinseniors.ca • www.metchosinseniors.ca

Below: Festive activity at SRC’s Parisian Café. SRC photo



RCMP Call-Outs

MAY 5–JUNE 9, 2023

Brian Kerr, OPS Support, Media Relations Officer, West Shore RCMP | GRC de West Shore

May 5	Metchosin Road area – Complaint of possible sexual assault, still under investigation.		charged and vehicle impounded.	May 21	Neff Road – Male arrested on an outstanding warrant and later released.
May 6	Rocky Point Road – Domestic dispute, no assault, one person asked to leave the residence for the night. Kangaroo Road area – Noise complaint.	May 13	Sooke Road – Vehicle travelling on highway with child not restrained by seat belt, registered owner of vehicle given warning.	May 23	Sooke Road – Erratic driver, vehicle not located.
May 7	Sooke Road – Assistance provided to Coroner’s Service regarding a sudden death.	May 16	Rocky Point Road – Check welfare of occupants in a vehicle believed to be using drugs, vehicle not located.	May 24	Sooke Road – Single vehicle rollover, motor vehicle accident, no injuries, vehicle towed from scene. Pears Road – Theft of money which was later returned, no criminal charges.
May 8	Duke Road area – Complaint of threats and harassment, one person given a warning. Kangaroo Road – Complaint of two suspicious males in the area, patrols failed to locate the suspects. Kangaroo Road – Complaint of an assault, one person facing several charges, still under investigation. Glen Forest Way – Noise complaint, verbal warning given to suspect.	May 17	Neild Road – Single vehicle accident with driver leaving the scene, vehicle determined to be stolen from Duncan, still under investigation. Sooke Road – Erratic driver, vehicle stopped and driver charged under <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> and vehicle impounded.		Neff Road – Stolen vehicle recovered from private property, investigation continuing. Matheson Lake – Report of a suspicious male in the parking lot, patrols failed to locate him.
May 10	William Head Road – Complaint of person dumping garbage on private property.	May 18	Lindholm Road – Possible arson, small fire put out by Fire Department, one male arrested at the scene and incident is still under investigation. Sooke Road – Erratic driver westbound, vehicle not located.	May 25	Neff Road – Vehicle stopped for traffic infraction, driver charged for having open marihuana in the vehicle while driving. Glen Forest Way – Suspicious vehicle observed in the area, patrols failed to locate it.
May 11	Rocky Point Road – Enhanced traffic enforcement due to complaints of speeding vehicles. Sooke Road – Two vehicle accident, no injuries. Weir’s Beach – Complaint of a male photographing young children on beach, still under investigation. Lindholm Road – Enhanced traffic enforcement due to complaints of speeding vehicles.	May 19	Metchosin Road – Assist ambulance with person who overdosed on drugs, transported to hospital.	May 26	Pears Road – Noise complaint.
		May 20	Albert Head – Loud music. Patrol members attended and located a female in a vehicle, female given a 24 hour driving suspension as she was under the influence of alcohol. Winter Road – Single vehicle accident, no injuries. Rocky Point Road – Loud music, patrols made. Metchosin Road – Intoxicated female located during the night, given a ride to Langford where she was picked up by a family member.	May 27	William Head – Person in kayak stranded on shore due to high winds, rescued by the Coast Guard.
May 12	Sooke Road – Vehicle stopped for speeding violation, driver found to be impaired, driver			May 29	Metchosin Road – Disturbance at a residence, several people fighting, patrol members attended and spoke to several people. Metchosin Road – Vehicle doing donuts in the parking lot near Witty’s Beach, vehicle and driver not located.
				May 30	Metchosin Road – Deer hit by a vehicle. Rocky Point Road – Erratic driver in the school zone.

Important Dates & Events

July 1	Family Festivus	p. 12
July 15	Fire Dept. Bike Auction.	10:00am behind the Fire Hall
July 16	Fords and Friends Show and Shine.	p. 4
July 23	Repair Café.	p. 13
July 26	Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas: A Presentation.	p. 5
OTHER EVENTS:		
	Council Meetings	p. 2
	Metchosin Community House Events	p. 13
	Seniors’ Resource Centre Events	p. 14

	Metchosin Road area – Complaint of harassment, one person given verbal warning. Pears Road – Complaint of a suspicious person, not located.		Rocky Point Road area – Theft of a wallet from a residence, still under investigation. Rocky Point Road area – Report of missing person who was later located.
June 1	Rocky Point Road area – Assist Victoria PD in checking welfare of a person. Taylor Road – Abandoned vehicle, later seized and towed from roadway. Rocky Point Road area – Complaint of harassment, one person given verbal warning.	June 6	Sooke Road – Theft from vehicle, wallet stolen, no suspects. Sooke Road – Erratic driving complaint, vehicle not located, and warning given to registered owner of the vehicle. Neff Road – Suspicious person who was not located.
June 3	Albert Head – Complaint of noise, one person given verbal warning. Rocky Point Road area – Domestic dispute, still under investigation and criminal charges pending.	June 7	Witty’s Beach – Indecent exposure, male suspect was not located. Glen Forest Way – Missing person who was later located.
June 4	Sooke Road – Vehicle stopped and driver found to be prohibited from driving, vehicle towed and driver charged under the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> . William Head – Abandoned kayak found on the beach. Rocky Point Road – Suspicious vehicle, driver located and spoken to, no issues.	June 8	Happy Valley Road – Erratic driver passing on double solid line and excessive speed, vehicle not located, investigation continuing. Happy Valley Road – Suspicious male on road with a knife in his hand, extensive patrols failed to locate the male.
June 5	Glen Forest Way area – Complaint of possible extortion, still under investigation.	June 9	Lindholm Road – Single vehicle rollover accident, minor injuries, vehicle towed from scene and driver charged under the <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i> .

Metchosin Fire Department:
250-478-1307

Police (Non-Emergency):
250-474-2264

Military Police Non-Emergency
250-363-4032

District Office (office hours):
250-474-3167

ALL EMERGENCY CALLS
911

- Report a fire
- Report a crime
- Report an accident
- Save a life
- Imminent safety

ORGANIZATIONS
AIR CADETS
250-590-3690
www.848royalroadsaircadets.com
848air@cadets.gc.ca
Facebook 848aircadets

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF BC
250-382-2052
www.alzheimerbc.org

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF RURAL METCHOSIN (APRM)
metchosinaprm@gmail.com
FB Metchosin APRM
www.metchosinaprm.org

BADMINTON
Women's 250-478-9648

BILSTON WATERSHED HABITAT PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
250-478-2387
ikmcken@islandnet.com
www.bilstoncreek.org

CRD PARKS
250-478-3344
crdparks@crd.bc.ca
www.crd.bc.ca/parks

GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA (Metchosin and Colwood)
250-478-5484
tandwcampandcomish@shaw.ca

LA LECHE LEAGUE CANADA
250-727-4384

METCHOSIN 4-H CLUB
metchosin4h@gmail.com
www.metchosin4h.com

METCHOSIN ARTPOD
metchosinartpod@gmail.com
metchosinartpod.ca

METCHOSIN ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE ASSOCIATION (MACCA)
info@metchosinartcentre.ca
www.metchosinartcentre.ca

METCHOSIN BIODIVERSITY PROJECT
www.metchosinbiodiversity.com

METCHOSIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION/COMMUNITY HOUSE
250-478-5155
mcahouse@telus.net
www.metchosincommunityhouse.com

METCHOSIN COUNCIL
250-474-3167
mayorandcouncil@metchosin.ca
www.district.metchosin.bc.ca/meetings

METCHOSIN CRICKET CLUB
250-474-4601
www.victoriacricket.com
FB MetchosinCricketClub

METCHOSIN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
250-478-1307, ham operators call in on 146.550. POD members can call FRS (Family Radio Service) radios: Channel 1 with "0" privacy tone

METCHOSIN EQUESTRIAN SOCIETY
250-478-2374
metchosinequestrian@gmail.com
mesmetchosin.com

METCHOSIN FOUNDATION
contact@metchosinfoundation.ca
metchosinfoundation.ca

METCHOSIN HALL SOCIETY
250-478-6424
metchosinhall.com

METCHOSIN HIKING CLUB
250-478-4778

METCHOSIN INVASIVE SPECIES COOPERATIVE (MISC)
metchosininvasives@gmail.com

METCHOSIN MUSEUM SOCIETY
250-382-1989
metchosinmuseum.ca

METCHOSIN PONY CLUB
250-727-3595

METCHOSIN PRESCHOOL
250-478-9241
metchosinpreschool@gmail.com
www.metchosinpreschool.com

METCHOSIN PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION
metchosinfarmersmarket@gmail.com
FB Metchosin Farmers' Market

METCHOSIN SEARCH & RESCUE
metchosin.sar@gmail.com
www.metchosinsar.ca

METCHOSIN SENIORS' ASSOCIATION/ SENIORS' RESOURCE CENTRE 250-478-5150,
info@metchosinseniors.ca
www.metchosinseniors.ca

MT. MATHESON CONSERVATION SOCIETY
250-642-0238

NEIGHBOURHOOD EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM (POD Leaders)
Kathleen Sutherland 250-474-3966
neighbourhoodpod@gmail.com

PACIFIC CENTRE FAMILY SERVICES ASSOCIATION
345 Wale Road, Colwood
250-886-2481
www.pacificcentrefamilyservices.org

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION Branch 91, Station Rd, Langford Ladies Auxiliary
250-478-5484

SCOUTS CANADA
14th Juan de Fuca (Metchosin)
Email: 14thjdf@scouts.ca
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SEA CADETS
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TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly
Shelby Quissy
250-474-3812

WEST SHORE ARTS COUNCIL
250-478-2286
info@westshorearts.org
www.westshorearts.org

WESTSHORE COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND
250-474-3999
www.westshoreband.org

WEST SHORE PARKS AND RECREATION
250-478-8384
www.westshorerecreation.ca

WESTSHORE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB
U14.U16.manager@gmail.com
westshorerfc.com

FAITHS
BAHA'I FAITH
250-514-1757

GORDON UNITED CHURCH
250-478-6632
www.gordonunitedchurch.ca

HOLY TRINITY REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH
250-727-3722

OPEN GATE CHURCH
Anglican Network
250-590-6736
www.opengatechurch.ca

ST MARYS' METCHOSIN
Anglican Church of Canada
250-474-4119
stmarysmetchosin.ca

WESTSIDE BIBLE CHURCH
250-478-8066
www.westsidefamily.org

WESTSONG COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE SALVATION ARMY
250-474-5967
www.westsong.ca

This listing is a directory of local organizations. Please email changes to metchosinmuse@gmail.com. Individuals, groups and organizations are invited to submit details on upcoming events which may be included in an upcoming issue. Deadline for submission is the 15th of the month preceding the issue date.

Book Club Friends Remember Nadene

Members of the Metchosin Book Club

Our little community of readers is much diminished by the loss of our compassionate, thoughtful friend. Nadene was a gentle, kind person who brought such insight to our book club discussions. She was a joy to know.

Her warm smile and distinctive laugh so often lit up our meetings. We could always count on Nadene to bring humour and deep empathy to our discussions of the books we had read. Nadene's comments often demonstrated her curious and practical nature. Her reflections, especially on literary characters, were carefully considered. The last novel that Nadene chose for us to read was *The Sleeping Car Porter* by Suzette Mayr. Nadene told us about the many cross-Canada train trips she experienced with her grandmother, and we all looked at train travel quite differently after that.

As an educator, Nadene cherished the children she taught. We would turn to Nadene for her wisdom and pedagogical insights if a child was featured in a novel. Nadene was very skilled at assessing children's literature. She volunteered to pore over a vintage collection of early childhood books, providing feedback to the Schoolhouse Museum. After completing this task, Nadene wrote: "Why can we not appreciate our differences and sameness?" This was Nadene.

We will truly miss her. Her passing gives us pause for reflection and lends perspective to how precious life really is.

Right: Marie Pawluk, Lorraine Thorarinson Betts, Judith van Manen, Sheila Mitchell, Julie Warren, Dorothy Elias, Nadene Carline, and Sophie Zonnis in happier times. Linda Benn photo



OBITUARY

NADENE GAIL CARLINE
December 28, 1945–June 1, 2023



In happy retirement

Nadene had an irresistible personality, with an infectious laugh, sparkling smile, and ever-positive attitude, which brought joy to everyone she met. She was gentle, kind, and generous. She had a strong sense of right and wrong, but always applied it with a forbearance and understanding of the nature and circumstances of others. What others might see as flaws, she would enthusiastically embrace as individuality.

So, it was natural that she took to teaching. Children were her passion. She came to school early to ensure the class preparation was just right; she stayed late to be available to anyone who needed help; every summer was spent researching practical educational issues and completely revamping the teaching plans and materials she had used before. She was adored by students and parents alike.

In 1970, on a visit to her friend Noreen, in Waterloo, Ontario, she met Johnny Carline. Noreen's boyfriend, Tom, had asked Johnny to make up a foursome and try to "take Nadene off their hands" for the evening. Johnny did, but not just for the evening. It was love at first dance. They got engaged within a month, married within four months, and remained totally in love for the next 53 years.

In 1975 she had her first child, Jonathan, and stepped away from teaching to focus her attention on her new parental responsibilities. The qualities that had made her such a superb teacher also made her a superb mother. Medical complications indicated that having a second child could be dangerous but, when it was determined in 1979 that another child might be possible, her second child, Gareth, "her little angel", was born soon afterwards. She wanted her boys to grow up with an unbreakable bond to last beyond her and, indeed, the bond between them all would remain forever deep and strong.

She turned to volunteering, teaching language skills to

would-be citizens and life skills to the mentally disabled. Then, much against her will, she was persuaded to run for election for School Trustee in New Westminster. She would win three terms, all the while rejecting partisan politics and remaining resolutely independent. She was elected Chair of the Board and through her positive, non-confrontational style won unprecedented provincial funding to ensure the replacement of Spencer School would meet post Oakland-San Francisco earthquake standards.

But the classroom always beckoned. She quit politics, returned to teaching in Richmond, and spent the



On holiday with Johnny

happiest days of her career there. Provincial officials singled her out to be a model for teacher education. In 2009, after a career spanning over four decades, she retired, happy and fulfilled, having changed the lives of scores of children and aspiring teachers.

In 2011, she and Johnny moved to Metchosin where she pursued her passions for literature (joining the Metchosin Book Club), theatre, walking, watching the swans and buffleheads which always made her laugh, and following sports, especially tennis and soccer. She and Johnny spent her last morning at home enthusiastically cheering on their beloved Newcastle United winning a spot in the European Champions League.

Most of all, she simply enjoyed the company of the friends she made in her new community.

All this was ended, on June 1, when Nadene died after two cruel brain haemorrhages. Johnny, her boys (Jonathan and Gareth), her sister (Karen) and brother-in-law (Ramesh) were

at her bedside. Her daughters-in-law (Nicole and Lenorah) and granddaughters (Kate and Alexandria) maintained a remote, loving vigil.

Nadene leaves a hole in our lives that can never be filled, a hurt in our hearts that will take an eternity to heal. She also left us an example of dauntless courage to face the storms that occur in life and of an unalterably positive attitude, to think the best of people and to brighten every day.

Bereft we may be; but we are still the luckiest of people to have known, loved and been loved by this wonderful and special lady.

A celebration of Nadene's life was held at the Metchosin Community Hall, on Sunday, June 25.

To plant trees in memory, please visit the Sympathy Store (<https://sympathy.legacy.com/en-ca/funeral-flowers/product-details/?type=obituary&p=204685899&pn=nadene-carline&affiliateId=3129&v=01&sku=trec-tim&pm=240>).



With son, Gareth



With son, Jonathan