



# Metchosin Muse

[metchosinmuse@gmail.com](mailto:metchosinmuse@gmail.com) [www.metchosinmuse.ca](http://www.metchosinmuse.ca)

## Conservation Success, Again!



Aerial Overview. Photo credit: Will O'Connell

Morgan Yates

Thirteen months ago, the *Muse* published a feature article announcing the acquisition of a 32-acre property now referred to as the Bilston Headwaters Nature Reserve. This venture represented the Metchosin Foundation's first-ever facilitation of land acquisition for the purpose of conservation. We were extremely fortunate to work with BC Parks Foundation (BCPF), which was both the principal funder and an experienced transaction lead.

This first success and the relationship that grew from it has now catalyzed a second significant conservation outcome, in this case, in the heart of a natural wildlife corridor that extends from Race Rocks to Roche Cove, via Mary Hill.

Since 2018 and our efforts to support the SC'IA/NEW First Nation community in exploring the potential for a future Tribal Park (Indigenous Protected Area) at Mary Hill, the Metchosin Foundation has been keen to promote and

facilitate the larger goal of conserving habitat connectivity between Pedder Bay and the Sooke Basin. For the past two years or so, we've also been aware that colleagues at Rocky Point Bird Observatory (RPBO) have been seeking a long-term base of operations within Metchosin's corner of the Pacific Flyway. Late last summer, an opportunity arose to realize these intersecting conservation goals.

A 51-acre parcel of private land abutting Mary Hill and the Galloping Goose Trail came on the market as an estate sale, in late July. The property was fairly-priced and being marketed for subdivision development, so we knew that quick action would be needed if we were to make a competing purchase offer. Once again, the Metchosin Foundation reached out to BC PF, and once again they responded strategically and generously, making a successful purchase offer that closed some months later. Following title transfer, work began on a more detailed evaluation of the

property's ecological significance and initial outreach was made to RPBO regarding the site's potential to offer a new base of operations.

It turns out that the property is even more ecologically significant than a desk-top analysis and initial site visits would have suggested. Rosa Munzer, President of RPBO, observed that, "On this property, birds are everywhere." The property's position on the Pacific Flyway means that during spring and fall migrations, hundreds of thousands of birds—if not millions—pass overhead. Its diverse landscape of Garry oak meadows, ponds, Coastal Douglas-fir forests that include veteran old-growth trees, cedar and maple groves provides essential stopover habitat for species ranging from Golden-crowned Sparrows to the Northern Saw-whet Owl. Rosa also advised that "RPBO's ornithologists are excited by the healthy, abundant numbers of Rufous Hummingbirds we've recorded here. This species—which has lost half

its population since 1970—is in precipitous decline elsewhere on Southern Vancouver Island, but not here."

To protect the birds and other wildlife and to support stewardship of the property, public access will be through participation in Rocky Point Bird Observatory's public walks, talks, and volunteering opportunities throughout the year (available to book at [Discoverparks.ca](http://Discoverparks.ca)). A resident RPBO caretaker for the property moved into the property's existing 1980s home at the end of May.

Beyond supporting RPBO programs, the property will advance broader ecological research and wildlife monitoring efforts. The Metchosin Foundation has undertaken an initial survey of forest cover type, veteran tree locations and the most frequently used game trails. We have been inspired to see the degree to which the property supports a diverse population of large mammals. We now look forward to working with the Metchosin Biodiversity Project,

to facilitate spring and fall "bio blitz" programs that will shed more light on the fauna, flora and fungi that call this special property home.

Please join us in thanking BC Parks Foundation for establishing this important new natural area in Metchosin and in welcoming RPBO to their new home. Please also visit [metchosinfoundation.ca](http://metchosinfoundation.ca) to see more photos and videography of the site.



Calypso Orchids .  
Photo credit: Bev Hall



Black Bear. Photo credit: Gary Schroyen



Veteran Coastal Douglas-fir. Photo credit: Will O'Connell



Rufous Hummingbird.  
Photo credit: Jonathan Moran



# Metchosin Muse

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## CURRENT CIRCULATION

2900

## AD AND SUBMISSION DEADLINE AND HOW TO SEND COPY

All articles and advertisements are due by the 15th of the month. Please send copy as an email attachment in Microsoft Word, text or RTF to: [metchosinmuse@gmail.com](mailto:metchosinmuse@gmail.com). Do not send PDFs (ads excepted). Photos should be high resolution and be in jpg or tif format only. All submissions may be edited for length, style and suitability of content and language. Submissions are accepted on this understanding. Please visit our website for more information: [www.metchosinmuse.ca](http://www.metchosinmuse.ca)

## ABOUT THE MUSE

The *Metchosin Muse* is a local non-profit, arts, interests and activities publication, produced 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.



Metchosin Council at Perry Bay Farm. Photo credit: Allen Jones

# Council News

JUNE 2025



## 2025 Property Taxes

You are reminded that property taxes are due by Wednesday, July 2, 2025. Claim your Home Owner Grant with the Province online or by phone before the property tax due date to avoid penalty on that portion of taxes. Complete the application on line at [gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant](http://gov.bc.ca/homeownergrant) or by phone 1-888-355-2700.

If you defer your taxes, you still need to claim your Home Owner Grant (if eligible). Cheques can be post-dated to the July 2, 2025 due date. The Municipality does not accept credit cards. You can also pay through your financial institution.

There is a drop box for cheques at the Municipal Hall to the right of the front door.

A mandatory 5% penalty will be applied to any current taxes outstanding after the July 2 due date and an additional 5% penalty will apply after August 5.

Property tax notices were mailed out early in mid-May, due to the possibility of a Canada Post strike. If you have not received your property tax notice by mid-June, please contact the Municipal hall. 250-474-3167.

## Deferment of Taxes

Municipalities no longer accept deferment renewals or new applications. Eligible BC residents may apply online or renew their applications to BC's property tax deferment program. Find out more at [gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment](http://gov.bc.ca/propertytaxdeferment). For questions about property tax deferral, please call 1-888-355-2700.

## Open Burning - Closed

Metchosin Fire Department reminds residents that Open Burning closed on May 31.

## Council Meetings

The 2025 Schedules for Regular Council Meetings and Committee of the Whole meetings are posted on our website: [www.metchosin.ca](http://www.metchosin.ca)>Meetings>Meeting Schedule. See below meeting dates and times for June 2025. 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 check the website at [www.metchosin.ca](http://www.metchosin.ca).

Council Meeting.....	June 2
Committee of the Whole.....	June 9
Council Meeting.....	June 16
Parks & Trails Advisory Select Committee.....	June 17
Healthy Community Advisory Select Committee.....	4:30 pm, June 24
Environmental Advisory Select Committee.....	June 24

# Metchosin Municipal Hall

[www.metchosin.ca](http://www.metchosin.ca) • 250-474-3167 • [info@metchosin.ca](mailto:info@metchosin.ca)

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.

## Visit our website!

[www.metchosinmuse.ca](http://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 information and information for submissions, advertisers, and deadlines.

# Metchosin Muse Ad Rates

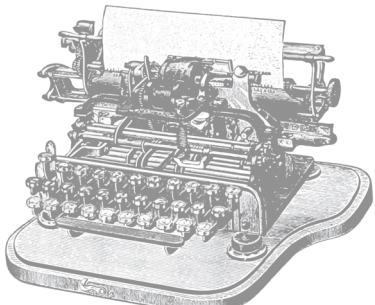
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# Editor's Musings



Allen Jones

Canada has a new Prime Minister and the World has a new Pope. The latter was more of a personal shock: finding that I am older than the Pope! One thing that the two leaders have in common is that they have inherited financial problems that need addressing sooner rather than later. Which brings me to remember all the articles that the late Jim MacPherson submitted to the *Muse*. Although the District of Metchosin has not run into debt, Jim was keen to minimise tax increases and cut ‘unnecessary’ expenses. His oversight will be sadly missed. Nonetheless, the total tax increase for the average residential property in Metchosin is nearly 6% over the previous year which is probably less than had been forecast.

Another new position is taken by our recently-elected MP, Stephanie McLean, who has been appointed as Secretary of State for Seniors. So, that is me covered for the near future!

While the World is stirred up by tariffs, life in Metchosin carries on with no big surprises and we look forward to another warm summer. The Mighty Metchosin Garage Sale enjoyed another successful run and the Farmers’ Market returned for another season.

Canada Post has threatened further industrial action, and we are still looking at changing the delivery method for the *Muse*. To this end, we have contacted Langford Men’s Shed, following up their offer of help in producing the *Muse* mailboxes that will be needed. The benefit of this is that the *Muse* should be able to avoid running up monthly losses.

Our thanks to all who have supported the *Muse* over the past three decades!

P.S. In order to have letters and articles considered for the July issue, please note our deadline of June 15.



## Your Every Day Farmers’ Market!

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# Brakes are Off at ArtPod

Diana Smith

As events go, ArtPod’s recent AGM was a minor affair. Except, ArtPod has a new President. It is true that this person, Memet Burnett, is a founding member so has been a driving force from the get-go in crafting what the artist-run gallery has become, but more from the raucous backseat. Now she is in the driver’s seat! As she said in her acceptance speech to outgoing President, Diana Smith (this writer), “you are the Whoa! to my Yahooo!”. It is so true! Do we want a popcorn maker for openings she has asked? “How about light bulbs and some painters tape instead?” the finance committee might reply.

Memet has often been the instigator of many of the more innovative ArtPod initiatives over the years such as ‘Café de Love’, the vintage-style cabaret of music and poetry and pastries, and the poetry workshops inspired by art in the gallery. Anything Memet has her hand in often includes dress-up and fun. Given clothing styles, she could just as accurately have described the transition of Presidents ‘from frumpy to fantastic’, but tactfully didn’t! Her own art reflects her many loves, of marine life, particularly whales, of ceramics, and of life in general.

Memet has been and continues to be the programming guru responsible, along with the collective, for themes of the bi-monthly shows. The current show, ‘Pattern: rEpEAT, rEpEAT, rEpEAT’, runs to July 20. Please do not expect wallpaper-like interpretations of the theme as art. Hopefully, when you visit the show, you will be surprised

and intrigued. The opening reception is on Saturday, May 31 from 2:00-4:00 pm with guest juror Pierrette Vezina. Everyone is welcome and, who knows, there may be popcorn!

Pierrette is offering a workshop to go along with the current show on Saturday, June 21, 12:30-4:30 pm. Called ‘Patterns of the Everyday’, participants will use all kinds of water-based materials such as acrylic and watercolour paint and markers to construct a concertina book.

A call-out for submissions to ArtPod’s next show, *Fleeting: Exalting the Ephemeral*, opens June 1. The theme is all that is transitory and temporary albeit that most of the artworks will likely be permanent. Artists are invited to make work that explores the nature of the fleeting, qualities that define experiences, moments, and states that are inherently temporary and ever-changing. As the curators for the show, Phyllis Schwartz and Edward Peck are encouraging “works that contemplate impermanence, where nothing remains fixed, where subtle shifts and delicate transformations can go unnoticed”. Daniel Laskarin, a locally-based artist, is the guest juror. He has a varied and fascinating art practice including making all kinds of intriguing sculptures, samples of which will likely be on display during the show.

Like Memet, another thinker-outside-the-box at ArtPod is local artist, Dyan Marie. The next event that is part of her year-long Oceans Project is a celebration of World Ocean Day on Saturday, June 8. It begins with a free Gyotaku

workshop, 11:00am-12.30pm, in Metchosin Arts and Cultural Centre Association’s (MACCA’s) Event Room. Gyotaku is an ancient Japanese art form which uses fish to make prints and generally honour the details and beauty of marine life. Dyan will also lead a Metchosin Ocean Art Walk from 1:00-2:00 pm. It starts from MACC and includes a discussion at Sea Bluff Farm called ‘Fish and Fishing in our Place and Time’. Although free, those interested in the workshop are asked to register at dyanmarie@merchosinartpod.ca.

Dyan, a resident of Spirit Bay, finds it ‘breathtakingly beautiful here’. She believes the act of walking slows us down, so we notice the amazingly rich environment around us. “When we notice it we are more likely to take care of it”, she says, so there is method behind her delight.

The culmination of her project will be ocean art-related events on Canada Day, July 1. There will be activities, exhibitions and a self-guided Ocean Art Walk from the MACC to Witty’s Beach. These are part of the Festivus celebrations planned by MACCA. (See details in separate *Muse* article in this issue.)

Details of all ArtPod events are at [metchosin-artpod.ca](http://metchosin-artpod.ca).



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# Westshore Garden Tour

Barb Sawatsky

The deck of the Kivari family home on Arden Road overlooks their unique rural property reflecting the talents of its owners: Jennifer, a mixed-media artist, and Kevin, a busy mechanic. It is both calming and energizing. They purchased their two acres with house and barn in 1989 then proceeded to transform it into an exceptional feast for the eyes that Jennifer refers to as “a collaborative art project with Mother Nature”. Kevin’s shop is in the barn and the hayloft was converted to an art studio in 2007. This is where Jennifer creates her eclectic art pieces. The family’s artistic imagination has spilled onto their property with found objects, pieces of machinery, an enormous, human-constructed nest with glowing eggs high in the trees, paths and seating areas, chickens, and planter beds, as well as an ancient flatbed truck which doubles as a sunny space to grow vegetables, to sit and watch outdoor movies or to hold her brother’s jazz/reggae band: 3B’s, with brother, Joel on bass, Tim on guitar, and Ozzie on drums. They will be playing during the garden tour.

The delightful Kivari property is only one of five private gardens slated for the Westshore Garden Tour hosted by Soroptimist International which takes place on Saturday, June 21. There are five gardens on this year’s tour: one in View Royal on Portage Inlet, two in Metchosin, one in Langford and one in the Highlands on Millstream Lake Road, a 25 minute drive from the Kivari Garden. The tour is self-guided so can be started at any of the participating venues or at the Garden Gathering at Emery Hall starting at 10:00 am. Emery Hall is located on Glencairn Lane off Sooke Road and Yeta Lane behind St. John’s the Baptist Heritage Church where there will be a craft market, music, and the opportunity to purchase boxed lunches for \$15 to enjoy either at the Hall or in one of the gardens along the way. Lunch options are gluten free, vegetarian, regular, or GF vegetarian and will include a sandwich, small salad, a square, and a bottle of water. To register and purchase tickets ahead of time at a cost of \$40 for one person or \$35 each for multiple tickets, go to the link on the Westshore Garden Tour Facebook page or e-transfer to the club email

address, victoriawestshore@soroptimist.net. All proceeds support Soroptimist programs for women and families whose motto is ‘Improving the lives of women and girls locally and throughout the world’. Joan Jackson has been a Soroptimist for decades and explained that the organization, which had its beginnings in Oakland, California, now has chapters world-wide, and has been helping others for 104 years. Locally, one of their programs is Anney’s Closet, a “free store” for women who are transitioning to a new living situation after aging out of foster care or fleeing violence or abuse. They have many other projects on the go: such as making lunches for elderly shut-ins through Better at Home. It is completely volunteer-run and is an organization well worth supporting. The 2025 Westshore Garden Tour is the second that the group has hosted. The first was in 2019 but COVID struck the following year which brought their garden fundraiser to a halt. Having attended the first, I am not about to miss the second because the first tour was a fun and memorable event.



Above: Jennifer Kivari (left) and Joan Jackson (right) resting by the fountain. Photo credit: Barb Sawatsky. Below: Location Plan.

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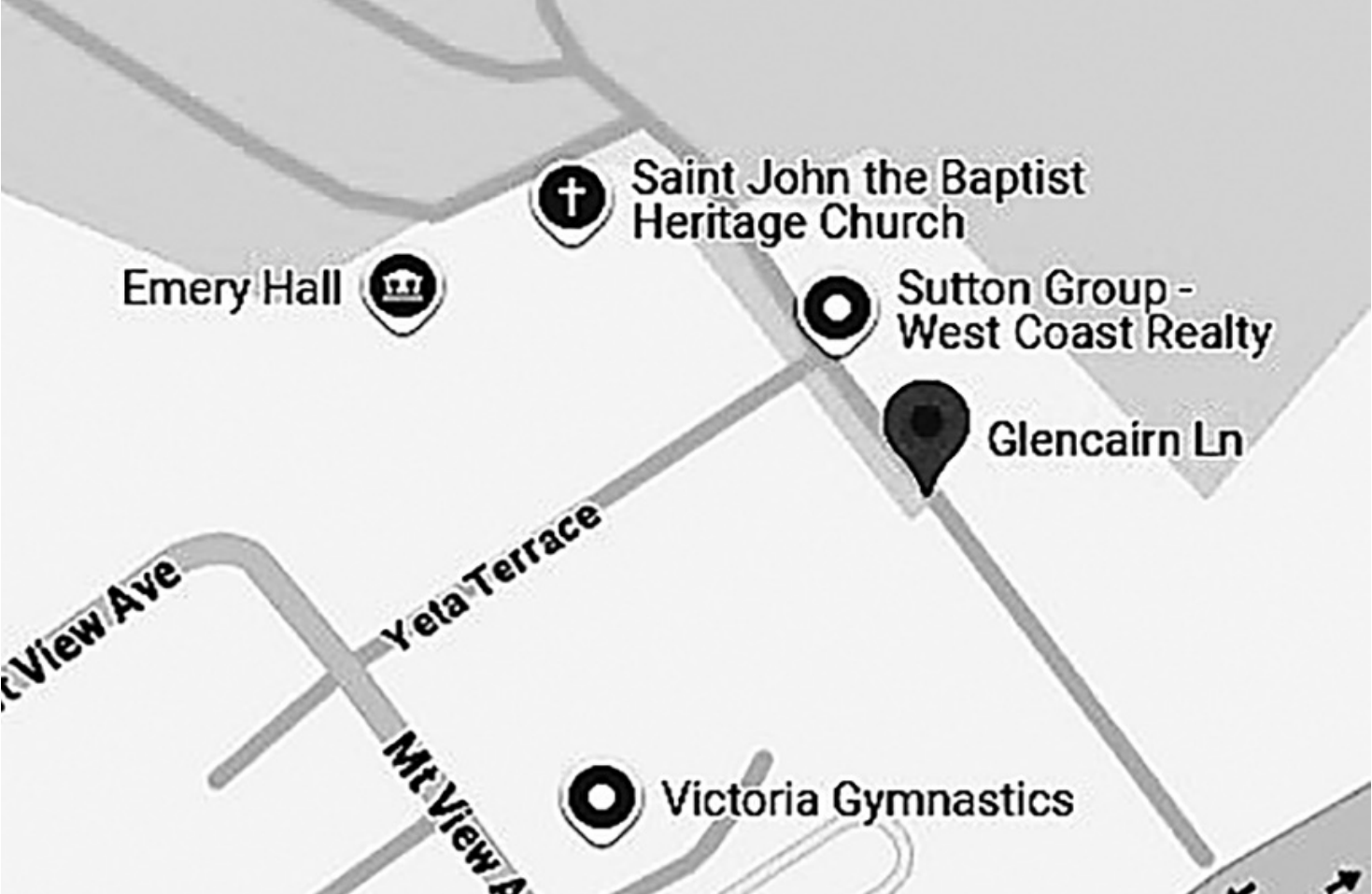
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Location plan





# Metchosin Day

September 7, 2025

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# Metchosin Community Day 2025

Jill Peterson

Good news! Plans are underway for Metchosin Community Day, to be held on Sunday September 7, 2025.

We will have garden produce, baking and photography contests, as well as all the usual Metchosin activities.

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.

So get growing, test out your recipes, and look for those amazing artistic photo opportunities! Rules and details are on our website: <https://metchosinday.ca>.

The displays and vendors will again be Metchosin-based organizations. We are starting to contact local non-profit groups, to see if they wish to put up a display or fundraise. This is also a call-out for Metchosin young people interested in selling crafts or baked items at Metchosin Community Day to contact us and reserve space for a booth.

For more information on any of the above, or to volunteer, contact us at: [info@metchosinday.ca](mailto:info@metchosinday.ca).

# Metchosin Pickleball Club Open House

Carol Voyt

Metchosin Pickleball Club (MPC) will be hosting free pickleball play for MPC members at the old school gymnasium, 4495 Happy Valley Road, on Saturday, June 21 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. All levels welcome. Players must be members of MPC

to have the public liability insurance coverage required by the District of Metchosin. Joining MPC is easy, affordable, and done in minutes online. Contact us at [metchosinpickleball@gmail.com](mailto:metchosinpickleball@gmail.com) for more information. We will also have samples of our new T-shirts available to try on and to order. Let's play pickleball!



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# Time Traveller – Back to My Chosen

Steve Lee

They say you can travel back in time if you take off faster than the speed of light then look back. Sounds plausible but you’d just be able to view the past, not actually live in it.

There is a better alternative and it doesn’t require travelling at the speed of light, in fact, if you exceed 60kms/hr as you pass through the time portal you may very well get a speeding ticket. That time portal is the Welcome to Metchosin sign as you leave the world of Colwood and Langford and get taken back in time to the remote village of Metchosin, where time passes as slowly as approvals for any development.

The first thing this time traveller notices is there are no houses other than a few hidden behind dense thicket, most with stacks of firewood to get them through the winter months. Surely they have central heating here?

As I drive on I see rolling pastures with sheep and lambs, and often deer grazing, how bucolic. Then I pass by a couple of golf courses but certainly not anything that’d host a PGA tournament for sure. Then a couple of churches, one surrounded by old headstones resembling some 18th century small English village churchyard.

As I make a right turn onto Happy Valley road I see a covered wagon, omg I haven’t gone that far back in time have I? No, it’s just a prop for the only eatery in town. I see they even have a little ice cream parlour in there? I wonder if they have soda fountains and a juke box! Now there on my right is a small corner store and further along a one-

room school house, freshly painted, it looks like perhaps it’s still in use. Evidently I’ve arrived downtown. I don’t know how they can call this a town when there’s not even a gas station or big grocery store to be found, I hear though there’s a weekly farmers’ market where the villagers purchase foodstuffs grown locally.

Now I’m passing an old fire hall with gleaming fire engines proudly put out on display. Behind that I see a towering short wave antenna (I suppose it is to communicate with the outside world), and a big siren to warn the villagers of any imminent danger, or to alert the volunteer firemen to come in from their fields to man the pumps.

I’m in a rush but now I’m stuck behind an old tractor pulling a manure spreader, better roll up the windows. The old farmer smiles and waves me past but I’m again slowed up by a couple of young kids riding their horses along the road. Are there no traffic police in this place? Time really has slowed down, I’m at a crawl now along Rocky Point Road trying to get back to the future. Finally I’m able to make a right turn onto the winding Kangaroo road. Happy Valley Road, Rocky Point Road, Kangaroo Road, I feel like I’m in the land of Winnie the Pooh!

Finally I’m at the return portal where Kangaroo road joins Sooke road. I wait impatiently for the frenzied traffic to allow me to pass through the portal and return back to the hurried future. Sitting there thinking it through, though I decide to turn around, I realize I’d much rather stay here.



Metchosin School House. Photo credit: Allen Jones

## COMMITTED to keeping METCHOSIN

### Rural and Resilient

*Councillor Steve Gray*  
*Conversations welcome.*

Reach me at  
**SGray@Metchosin.ca**  
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Stay Connected!

Have a story idea,  
photo, or event to  
share?

The Muse loves  
hearing from the  
community!



# Canada Day Festivus, July 1

Metchosin Arts & Cultural Centre Association

This is a grassroots version of Canada Day in true Metchosin style, enriching local culture through creativity and inclusion.

Festivus is hosted by Metchosin Arts & Cultural Centre Association (MACCA). It is held outside and inside the Arts Centre within the Old School site, 4495 Happy Valley Road.

Inside - studios will be open to the public. An intriguing exhibition called '4 Journeys' will be installed in the POV hallway galleries, featuring mixed media on vintage found objects such as tea-stained pages, burnt edges, and recycled materials.

Plans are being finalised for outside activities, including:

## Performances on stage.

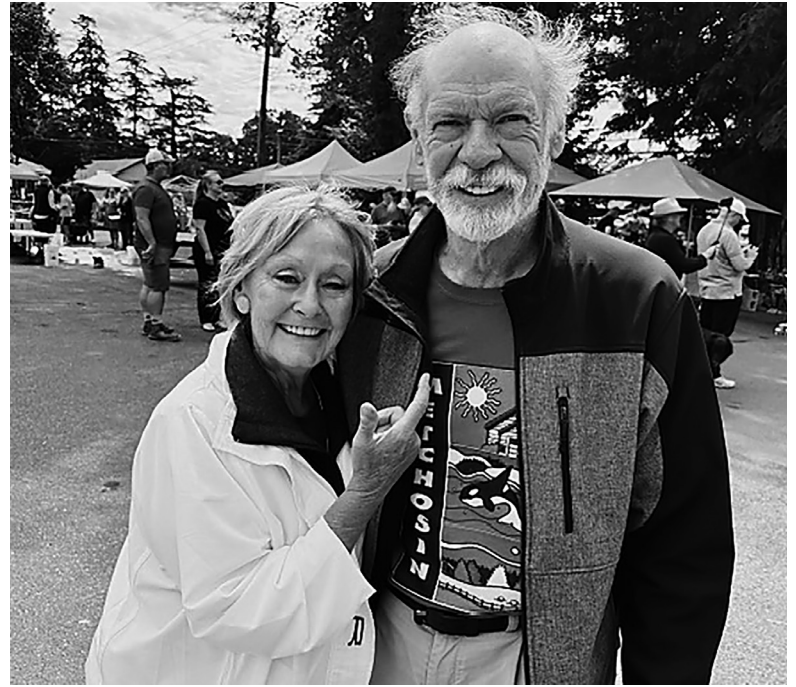
- Josh Mansfield of Shiloh Music Studio.
- Silvina Samuel and cello students from Bella Cello.
- Metchosin Ukulele choir.
- Fine Brew duo. (Fred Andrew & Bob Whittet).
- More in the works ....

## ParticipACTION:

- 'Falling Water', Public art participation project by Dyan Marie.
- Bouncy castle.
- Clay station.
- Create a personalized 'I Love Canada' flag.
- 'Hay Bale Alley' bowling.
- Airbrush King demo. (featuring Rat Fink).
- Haiku booth.
- Festivus pole.
- Old fashioned hot dog stand - popcorn, ice cream, juicy dogs. \*(fundraiser).
- Free Canada Day cake (served at 1:00 pm).

There will be chairs, benches, and hay bales available where visitors can relax and enjoy people watching and mingling.

4495 Happy Valley Rd.,  
10:00 am to 2:00 pm



Festivus 2024 photos. Credit Nicky Nadeau



# Where Water Leads Us: Metchosin Ocean Art Walk

Dyan Marie

On a bright spring Earth Day this past April 22, the first Metchosin Ocean Art Walk set out from the Metchosin Arts and Cultural Centre (MACC), making its way toward the sea. The walk, part of a three-part series continuing on World Ocean Day (June 8) and Canada Day (July 1), blends community-engaged art and ecological exploration. It was as much about attention to place as it was about distance: pausing to listen, share knowledge, and look closely along the way.

After viewing Flow: ‘The Ways of Water’, a large-scale painting created over the past year with wide community participation at MACC’s Point of View Gallery, one of the most memorable stops came at Sea Bluff Farm. There, farmer Sasha Kubicek welcomed the group with ecological insight and spirited storytelling. Surrounded by experimental organic plots and native hedgerows, Sasha described his work not only as healthy food production but as long-view environmental stewardship and a passionate commitment to restoring soil and native habitats.

He also introduced us to resilient solitary wild bees that thrive in these hedgerows. They are, remarkably, more effective at pollination than domestic honeybees. Unlike hive-dependent species, these native bees live alone and flourish in biodiverse, pesticide-free environments like those being restored at Sea Bluff. Many of the plants used in the hedgerows come from Satinflower Nursery, a local centre dedicated exclusively to native and ecologically meaningful species.

The farm is also helping restore Garry oak ecosystems, one of the most endangered habitats in British Columbia. We wandered through small pocket gardens of native plants,

reintroduced to the landscape. Some, like camas (Camassia quamash), once an important traditional food for Indigenous peoples, can take up to seven years from seed to first flowering.

Looking ahead to World Ocean Day on June 8, the next Ocean Art Walk begins at MACC from 11:00 am–12:30 pm with a Gyotaku printmaking demonstration, where participants are invited to create prints from fish, octopus, and seaweed. From there, the group will walk to Sea Bluff Farm for a roundtable discussion from 1:00–2:00 pm, titled ‘Fish and Fishing in Our Place and Time’. This one-hour symposium will bring together a range of perspectives on the ocean that surrounds us, and on local fish and fishing, as part of the World Ocean Day programming.

Framed by the theme ‘Fish and Fishing in Our Place and Time’, the conversation may explore environmental monitoring, cultural knowledge, sustainable practices, and species-specific stories related to Vancouver Island’s marine ecosystems. It may also consider the varied ways we think about fish: as food; as poetic silvery flashes through water; and as sentient beings, complex and connected within vast and shifting systems in a relationship of rhythm and reciprocity. Fish are indicators of ecological health, objects of industry and sustenance, and, for many, figures of story, ceremony, and survival. Some return home against the current. Others, like the rockfish, hover unseen in the deep.

Rockfish dwell among Vancouver Island’s rocky reefs and kelp forests, often remaining in the same crevice for decades. With over 35 strikingly beautiful species in local waters, some living more than 100 years, these fish give birth to live young and are rarely

seen except when brought up from the depths. Their sharp dorsal spines can deliver a painful, venomous sting, and their inflated swim bladders make them especially vulnerable during catch-and-release.

In addition to invited speakers, we recognize the deep knowledge held within the local community and warmly invite you to contribute to this open, diverse discussion about the ocean that surrounds us. This gathering is also intended as a community-building opportunity to meet, connect, and share our enthusiasm for place by exploring how local waters

shape our lives, livelihoods, cultures, and imaginations.

The final Ocean Art Walk takes place on Canada Day (July 1) as part of MACCA’s Festivus. The self-guided route can be enjoyed after on-site celebrations wind down and where you can discover art projects such as Memet Burnett’s ‘Haiku Path’ and a poetry workshop, Edward Pecks’ ‘Photo Walk Project’ and Art Brendon’s salmon sidewalk murals: a “fish run” of art making its way upstream. The full programme of Ocean Art Walk exhibitions, events, and maps will be available at MACC to help guide your experience.



Art Brendon at work on the ocean motifs. Photo credit: Lesley Preston.

# Free Range Singers Rise Again

Pattie Whitehouse

We have spent this spring raising our voices in harmony under the direction of Gabriel Ferraras, Pearson College’s dynamic young music director. The Free Range Singers are a diverse group. Some have no previous musical education. Some are experienced

performers, most are in between, but all of us love making joyful noise together.

Gabriel is encouraging and patient, and he makes learning fun. The music he brings us is eclectic, including traditional songs from a variety of countries, classical canons, a 1960s protest song and a silly wee song about

dwarves that includes a surprise. No getting bored in this choir!

A choir member who is new to Metchosin said, “I am so glad that I discovered the Free Range singers. I found that the atmosphere is very friendly, inclusive and fun.”

The spring session of the Free Range Singers finished at the end of

May, but we anticipate starting up again in September and we would love to have new members join us! Choir fees are very affordable, and inability to pay is not a barrier.

Contact Naseem at seabreeze@shaw.ca for more information.



Metchosin’s Farmers’ Market returned on May 11. Every Sunday, 11:00 am til 2:00 pm. Photo credit: Barb Sawatsky.





Gathering at Sea Bluff Farm. Photo credit: Edward Peck.



Viewing the artwork in MACC. Photo credit: Memet Burnett



Preparing to start the Art Ocean Walk. Photo credit: Edward Peck

# Moralea’s Meadow Open Day 2025

Merrilee Hoen

The second annual Open Day at Moralea’s Meadow on May 11 was a great success. Sometimes during the long hours of weeding and planting, the volunteers might feel that the job of restoring native plants to the Meadow is just too big and no one is noticing. The warm expressions of appreciation from the 182 people who toured the Meadow turned those feelings around. Many people had never noticed the Meadow was there and were excited to discover it for the first time. Our greeters sometimes had to be persuasive to entice some Farmers’ Market goers into the Meadow but, once there, most were intrigued by what they saw. For some people, just seeing the plants was enough. For others, hearing the stories about Moralea Milne, indigenous camas cultivation, the role of native pollinators, and restoration techniques deepened their experience. Potted Garry Oak seedlings were available by donation and camas flowers (from private property) were handed out. Many people accepted a Moralea’s Meadow bookmark with images of camas and contact information.

Oak meadows are not “natural” in the way forested areas may be. They are the result of human intervention to keep invasive grasses and shrubs from smothering the delicate meadow plants. It is only through dedicated effort that these special areas survive. The Moralea’s Meadow Volunteer

Group welcomes anyone who would like to join us. If you would like more information, please send an email to [info@moraleasmeadow.ca](mailto:info@moraleasmeadow.ca). The Meadow is located between the Metchosin District Office and

the Farmers’ Market and is open for viewing every day.  
Facebook: Moralea’s Meadow – Metchosin  
Website: [moraleasmeadow.ca](http://moraleasmeadow.ca).



Katy works the entrance desk. Photo credit: John Holland.



# Spring at Wild ARC – A Season of New Beginnings

Ashley Currie – Manager BC SPCA  
Wild Animal Rehabilitation Centre

Spring has arrived at BC SPCA Wild ARC, and with it comes a busy season of caring for wild animals in need. We currently have nearly 100 patients in care, including nestling and fledgling birds like Anna’s hummingbirds, Oregon juncos, and American robins. We’re also housing 24 energetic Mallard ducklings and recently admitted our first deer fawn of the year. Among our more unique patients is a Western Painted Turtle - a vulnerable native species in B.C.

To support the influx of animals, we’ve welcomed a team of new summer staff and volunteers and are actively training them to help care for our growing patient list.

To prepare for this busy season, we’re also stocking up on

much-needed supplies. If you’d like to help, please check out our ‘Donations in Kind Wish List’ on our website ([www.sPCA.bc.ca](http://www.sPCA.bc.ca)) for the items most needed right now.

A big way our local community can help is by providing fresh, wild greenery for our patients. We’re especially in need of edible wild greens for our rabbit patients, native shrub branches for our deer fawns, and fresh cedar boughs to line our animal enclosures to help them feel more at ease while in care.

If you can donate these items — or would like to invite us to respectfully harvest from your property — please get in touch.

Thank you, Metchosin, for continuing to support the wild animals who share our community!



Western Painted Turtle. Photo credit: Wild ARC

*Tell them you saw it in the Muse!*

## EVENTS at METCHOSIN ArtPod



30 May - 20 July 2025

### PATTERN: rEpEAt, rEpEAt, rEpEAt

- Guest juror: Pierrette Vezina
- SAT 31 May, 2-4pm: Opening Celebration
- SAT 21 June: Workshop from 12:30-4:30

SUN 8 June 2025, 11am-12:30pm

### WORLD OCEAN DAY

Print-Making WORKSHOP

- Gyotaku Print-making with artist Dyan Marie
- MACC Event Room
- by donation





- With artist Pierette Vezina, explore the patterns and rhythms of your day through art!
- \$70(incl. some supplies)
- All skill levels!

SAT 21 June, 12:30-4pm

### WORKSHOP: Patterns of the everyday

TUES 1 July, 10-3pm

### CANADA DAY FESTIVUS

together with MACC

- Dyan Marie Ocean Art Walk
- Ed Peck Photo Walk Project
- Memet Burnett Haiku Path and 2pm mini workshop at Seabluff Farm’s covered tables



- Guest juror: Daniel Laskarin
- 1 June- Open Call Opens
- 11 July: Open Call Closes
- Opening Celebration: SAT 26 July, 2-4pm
- Workshop TBA

25 July - 14 Sept 2025

### FLEETING: Exhausting the Ephemeral

See [metchosinartpod.ca](http://metchosinartpod.ca) for details



4495 HAPPY VALLEY RD, METCHOSIN B.C.

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# Learning about Native Plants

Metchosin Learning Group

Native plants provide numerous ecological, practical, and aesthetic benefits. They support local wildlife by providing food, shelter, and habitat. They require less maintenance and fewer resources such as water and fertilizers, they contribute to biodiversity, improve soil health, and generally contribute to the beautification of landscapes. They support native pollinators who evolved with them over millennia, and are often their primary food source.

If you would like to learn more, the Metchosin Learning Group is organizing a visit to Satinflower, a nursery that has, for the last twelve years, fostered the adoption of native

plants. This nursery has been championing the conservation and restoration of native habitats and empowers people to value and become familiar with the traditional plants of the South Island.

Now located in Metchosin, Satinflower has invited us to visit on June 28, from 10:00-11:30am at 4286 Metchosin Rd. They will welcome us with a talk about their history and the importance of native plants and will offer a tour through their farm beds and seed sales area.

They can accommodate groups of up to twenty people, so we are asking anyone interested in attending to let us know. Please email: [metchosinlearninggroup@gmail.com](mailto:metchosinlearninggroup@gmail.com).

# Hans Helgesen Goes Wild

Karen Sjerven, principal, Hans Helgesen:

May 22 was World Biodiversity Day. At Hans Helgesen, we welcomed families and community to visit us to tour our “Wild School Showcase”. This was an informal “open house” opportunity to view some projects that classes from Kindergarten to Grade 5 have undertaken about environmental stewardship.

The Wild Schools program is a free three-year initiative, supported through the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation. Hans Helgesen staff have had the good fortune to work with local scientist, Michelle Paleczny, to plan for all children to increase ecological literacy through Wild School’s philosophy of Wondering, Inquiring, Learning and Doing — being WILD with BC’s biodiversity!

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### METCHOSIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

# “HOUSE HAPPENINGS”

#### METCHOSIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION HOUSE HAPPENINGS

VIHA Adult Day Program	Monday, Wed, Thurs	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Evening Knitting Café	1st & 3rd Mondays	7:00 - 9:00 pm
Weights & Measures	Tuesdays	8:20 - 9:45 am
Drop-In Art Group	Tuesdays	9:45 am - 12:45 pm
Afternoon Knitting Café	2nd & 4th Tuesdays	1:00 - 3:00 pm
Conversational Spanish	Wednesdays	5:00 - 6:00 pm
Creative Rug Hooking	Fridays	12:00 - 3:00 pm
Parents & Tots Program	Friday Mornings	9:30 - 11:30 am
Friday Social	Last Friday of the Month	1:00 - 3:00 pm
Ukulele Gathering	3rd Friday of the Month	5:00 - 6:30 pm

#### POST GARAGE SALE CLEAN-UP - THE FIRST WEEK OF JUNE

We are looking for fresh volunteers to help with clean-up, donations to charities and recycling. Call the Metchosin Community House if you have some spare time to contribute.

#### METCHOSIN COMMUNITY AWARDS

Application deadline has been extended to June 15.

Two financial awards of \$1000 each will be presented to recipients demonstrating a strong connection to Metchosin through leadership, involvement and volunteerism.

#### METCHOSIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AGM

Save the date! The MCA Annual General Meeting has been set for June 22. Visit our website for details.

#### RENT THE METCHOSIN COMMUNITY HOUSE

The Metchosin Community House is available to rent for Community Group Meetings and Private Parties. Check our on-line calendar for availability.



## METCHOSIN COMMUNITY HOUSE

METCHOSIN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

4430 Happy Valley Road • 250-478-5155 • Tues.-Fri. • 10 am - 2 pm  
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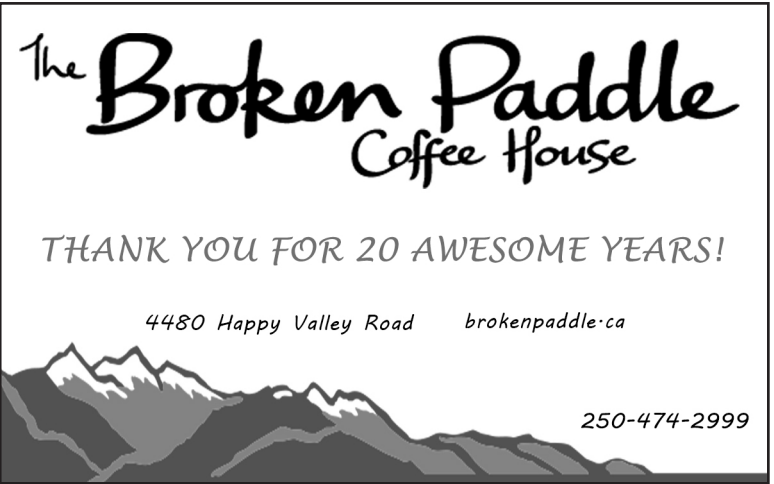


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# Annual Awards from the Nadene Carline 761 Foundation.

Johnny Carline

After my wife’s death in 2023, the Nadene Carline Foundation was established which provides for two annual awards. One goes to an elementary school child to provide supplementary educational experience which their parents cannot necessarily afford. The second goes to a student teacher to assist either with the cost of their qualification studies or with the cost of acquiring the resource materials which they will need in the classroom and which School Boards do not provide.

In 2023/2024, family and friends donated almost \$100,000 to this foundation. This accumulates interest which in turn provides for two annual awards of \$2,000 each.

In 2024, the student recipient, who must remain anonymous, used the awards to take summer courses in their particular areas of interest. The 2025 recipient has been identified and will receive the award in June or July. This grade five student will use the award to pursue his interest, primarily in construction but also art.

The 2024 student-teacher award winner was Sophie Groves. The criterion for choosing the winner of this award was to be a fledgling teacher who was most likely to follow Nadene’s special skills and approach to teaching. Sophie fits this criterion very well. The

winner of this award for 2025 will be chosen later this summer.

Reflecting Nadene’s own boundless commitment and generosity towards students and young teachers, we are working towards building the foundation to the point where we can make two awards for both students and student-teachers. If you knew Nadene and would like to honour her memory by contributing to her foundation, perhaps not for the first time, then please consider doing one of the following:

Make a cheque out to ‘Vancouver Foundation’, writing ‘Nadene Carline 761 Foundation’ on the memo line, bottom left of your cheque. Send the cheque to: Vancouver Foundation, Suite 200, 475 W. Georgia Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6B 4M9.

Alternatively, donate online by accessing Nadene’s donation page at <https://give.vancouverfoundation.ca/s/nadene-carline-761-foundation>.


Click on the box marked “Donate Now” and follow the instructions.

The Vancouver Foundation will automatically send a tax receipt for any donation of \$25 or more.

This will always be an especially emotional time of year for me and our sons, Jonathan and Gareth. Knowing that Nadene’s friends still wish to contribute to her legacy helps us remember that Nadene not only loved, but was loved in return.

IN MEMORIAM

NADENE CARLINE



On June 1, it will be exactly two years since a cruel aneurysm took the life of my beautiful wife, Nadene. For 53 years, we had shared a deep love that filled our lives.

She would expect us to carry on with life, caring for family, friends and community. Yet, her poetic and loving heart would understand me quoting Shelley.

*And the sunlight clasps the earth,  
And the moonbeams kiss the sea,  
What is all this sweet work worth  
If thou kiss not me?*

Johnny



Nadene (left), in her teaching days, encouraging one of her many student teachers.

*Just a reminder:  
There is no August issue of The Muse.*

# Gourmet Dinner served to the Happy Winners!

Deirdre Chettleburgh

Every year for the past nine years the Metchosin Seniors’ Association has sold raffle tickets for a six-course gourmet dinner for eight people. The 2024 winners hosted their dinner on April 12. Winners, Brad and Marilyn Grinham sent the following note to Helen Fletcher, MSA Board Member, Dinner Coordinator and Chef:

“My wife and I stopped at the Farmers’ Market in Metchosin last year. It was our first time there as we had recently moved to the island. After a few purchases, some friendly locals caught our eyes and ears. We bought a fundraiser raffle ticket in support of the Metchosin Seniors’ Association. Being seniors ourselves, we thought, why not? When a phone call from Helen Fletcher came through following the draw, it was

exciting to find out we had won the gourmet dinner for eight.

We really enjoyed the team that Helen brought together. The presentation made by individual members about the courses they prepared was done with genuine enthusiasm and great personality, which created even greater anticipation for the dinner.

The dinner did not disappoint from the appetizers to dessert. It was simply fantastic.

So, from our family and friends to yours, thank you so much, and thank you for the great work you do in the community.”

Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket last year. The sale of raffle tickets for the 2025 Gourmet Dinner will begin at the Parisian Cafe on June 7 and will continue at the Sunday Farmers’ Markets throughout the summer.



Winners of the Gourmet Dinner: Brad and Marilyn Grinham (head of table and left) enjoy a delicious dessert with their guests. Photo credit: Deirdre Chettleburgh.



## METCHOSIN ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE

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June 2025

### Experience Hands-On Cedar Basket Weaving

Join a workshop lead by Ditidaht Elder and educator,  
**Linda Rabindeau**

June 15 in the Huber Studio space

Email for details: [events@indigenenouscommunications.ca](mailto:events@indigenenouscommunications.ca)

“A creative gift idea for Fathers’ Day”

POV Hallway Galleries Feature:

### 4 Journeys

An exploration into a wide variety of mixed media.

This show is a real adventure in making art.

Bring dad to the Art Centre for a Fathers’ Day surprise!

### Lisa Surette-Markin

Lisa’s works capture fragments of our past often using old photographs or vintage canvases as a creative base.

### Mone Vogel

Mone creates urban landscapes of Southern Vancouver Island using oils, ceramic jewellery and/or antique items.

### Andrew Horridge

Andrew’s creative paintings often include recycled materials for frames, sculptures, or musical instruments in order to “make something from nothing”.

### Kirstie Loudon

Kirstie explores the sensory experience of nature through vibrant abstract expressionist landscapes.

Make “Festivus” your Canada Day destination.



Follow us on Facebook today @MetchosinArts

**METCHOSIN ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE**  
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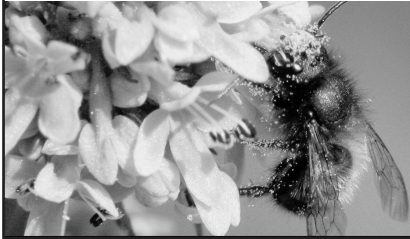
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If you desire with all your heart, friendship with every race on earth, your thought, spiritual and positive, will spread; it will become the desire of others, growing stronger and stronger, until it reaches the minds of all men.

**Baha'i Writings**

### Come gather as a community to pray for peace

Everyone is welcome to join us for a pancake breakfast followed by prayers, inspirational readings and messages of peace.

When/Where: 10am first Sunday of the month  
at the Metchosin Community House.



PEACE



PRAYERS



PANCAKES

For Info call Mona at (250) 514-1757 / Doug at (250) 858-2053  
Sponsored by the Metchosin Baha'i community.

*Visit the Muse website!*

Past issues and more! <http://www.metchosinmuse.ca>

# Metchosin Directory

**Metchosin Fire Department:**  
**250-478-1307**

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**250-474-2264**

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**250-363-4032**

**District Office (office hours):**  
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**ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF BC**  
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[www.district.metchosin.bc.ca/meetings](http://www.district.metchosin.bc.ca/meetings)

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**METCHOSIN INVASIVE SPECIES COOPERATIVE (MISC)**  
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**METCHOSIN MUSEUM SOCIETY**  
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[metchosinpreschool@gmail.com](mailto:metchosinpreschool@gmail.com)  
[www.metchosinpreschool.com](http://www.metchosinpreschool.com)

**METCHOSIN PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION**  
[metchosinfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:metchosinfarmersmarket@gmail.com)  
FB Metchosin Farmers' Market

**METCHOSIN SEARCH & RESCUE**  
[metchosin.sar@gmail.com](mailto:metchosin.sar@gmail.com)  
[www.metchosinsar.ca](http://www.metchosinsar.ca)

**METCHOSIN SENIORS' ASSOCIATION/ SENIORS' RESOURCE CENTRE**  
**250-478-5150**,  
[info@metchosinseniors.ca](mailto:info@metchosinseniors.ca)  
[www.metchosinseniors.ca](http://www.metchosinseniors.ca)

**MT. MATHESON CONSERVATION SOCIETY**  
250-642-0238

**NEIGHBOURHOOD EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM (POD Leaders)**  
Kathleen Sutherland 250-474-3966  
[neighbourhoodpod@gmail.com](mailto:neighbourhoodpod@gmail.com)

**PACIFIC CENTRE FAMILY SERVICES ASSOCIATION**  
345 Wale Road, Colwood  
250-886-2481  
[www.pacificcentrefamilyservices.org](http://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](mailto:14thjdf@scouts.ca)  
To register: go to [myscouts.ca](http://myscouts.ca) and choose '14th Juan de Fuca'

**SEA CADETS**  
250-478-7813

**WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**  
250-478-7688

**WEST SHORE ARTS COUNCIL**  
250-478-2286  
[info@westshorearts.org](mailto:info@westshorearts.org)  
[www.westshorearts.org](http://www.westshorearts.org)

**WESTSHORE COMMUNITY CONCERT BAND**  
250-474-3999  
[info@westshoreband.org](mailto:info@westshoreband.org)  
[www.westshoreband.org](http://www.westshoreband.org)

**WEST SHORE PARKS AND RECREATION**  
250-478-8384  
[wspr.ca](http://wspr.ca)

**WESTSHORE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB**  
U14.U16.manager@gmail.com  
[westshorerffc.com](http://westshorerffc.com)

**FAITHS**

**BAHA'I FAITH**  
250-514-1757

**GORDON UNITED CHURCH**  
250-478-6632  
[www.gordonunitedchurch.ca](http://www.gordonunitedchurch.ca)

**HOLY TRINITY REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
250-727-3722

**OPEN GATE CHURCH**  
Anglican Network  
250-590-6736  
[www.opengatechurch.ca](http://www.opengatechurch.ca)

**ST MARYS' METCHOSIN**  
Anglican Church of Canada  
250-474-4119  
[stmarysmetchosin.ca](http://stmarysmetchosin.ca)

**WESTSIDE BIBLE CHURCH**  
250-478-8066  
[www.westsidefamily.org](http://www.westsidefamily.org)

**WESTSONG COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE SALVATION ARMY**  
250-474-5967  
[saconnectionpoint.ca](http://saconnectionpoint.ca)

This listing is a directory of local organizations. Please email changes to the editor at [metchosinmuse@gmail.com](mailto: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, unless otherwise noted.



# Seniors’ Resource Centre

## M E T C H O S I N

Yvonne Cottrell, Office Manager

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**June 7, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

The Parisian Cafe will be held in the Courtyard of MACCA.

**SENIOR SOCIAL AND SHOPPING SHUTTLE BUS TO ROYAL BAY CENTRE**

**WEST SHORE GRIEF & LOSS PEER SUPPORT GROUP**  
**Monday, June 2, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.**

Metchosin Seniors’ Resource Centre, 4495 Happy Valley Road.  
Join Us for Coffee and Support. Contact: Marianne at 250-896-5179.

**KINESIOLOGY FOR SENIORS: ENHANCING MOBILITY AND WELL-BEING. -KAITLYN WARING WSPR**  
**Thursday, June 5, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.**

For seniors, incorporating kinesiology-based exercises can significantly improve strength, flexibility, balance, and coordination. Regular movement tailored to individual ability levels helps reduce the risk of falls, manage chronic conditions like arthritis or osteoporosis, and enhance overall quality of life.  
Contact SRC to register. 250-478-5150 info@metchosinseniors.ca

**PRESENTATION: ISLAND HEALTH: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING (MAID)**  
**Thursday, June 12, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.**

Legislative overview  
Island Health MAiD Program – Process for requesting MAiD  
End-of-Life care options and Advance Care Planning  
Q&A  
Presenter: Amanda Proznick MA, RN, Regional Manager, Island Health MAiD program.

Amanda has 40 years of experience in health care, including 36 years with Island Health in a variety of acute care and community settings. Within the MAiD program, she focuses on ensuring program quality and safety, while also supporting both the public and health care professionals in navigating MAiD services on Vancouver Island.  
Contact SRC to register. 250-478-5150 info@metchosinseniors.ca

**METCHOSIN CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP**  
**Monday, June 2, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.**

This free monthly support group brings together caregivers who share the experience of caring for family members or friends. Facilitated by Family Caregivers of BC. Register at cgsupport@familycaregiversbc.ca or phone 250-384-0408

**FRIDAY SOCIAL**  
**June 27, 1:00–3:00 p.m.**

Metchosin Community House, 4430 Happy Valley Rd.  
Drop in for coffee and conversation. Hosted by Baha’is of Metchosin.  
Please call the SRC 250-478-5150 for a ride. Everyone is welcome!

**Join our Better at Home Program!**  
Enjoy visits or phone calls from our volunteers, get a ride to a medical appointment or grocery shopping and more! This program helps to assist older adults to live independently in their homes and remain connected to their communities by providing simple, non-medical support services. Visit the centre or call us to find out more.  
The Seniors’ Resource Centre is open Tuesday through Friday 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Staff and volunteers are here to assist seniors and their families with support, resource information, and services.

Metchosin Seniors’ Resource Centre (SRC)  
1047–4495 Happy Valley Road  
250-478-5150 • info@metchosinseniors.ca • [www.metchosinseniors.ca](http://www.metchosinseniors.ca)

# Fire Department

# Call-Outs

Fire Chief Stephanie Dunlop

APRIL 2025

Apr 1	Lindholm Rd – Fire	Happy Valley Rd – MVI	Sooke Rd – MVI
Apr 2	Duke Rd – Medical	Duke Rd – Medical	Sooke Rd – MVI
	Lindholm Rd – Medical	Parry Cross Rd – Medical	Kangaroo Rd – MVI
	Pears Rd – Hydro Lines	Apr 9 Metchosin Rd – MVI	Metchosin Rd – Public Assist
Apr 3	Happy Valley Rd – Public Assist	Apr 10 Pearson College Dr – Alarm Bells	Kangaroo Rd – Medical
Apr 4	East Sooke Rd – Medical	Pears Rd – Medical	Albert Head Rd – Beach Fire
	Albert Head Rd – Beach Fire	Pears Rd – Medical	Weirs Beach – Beach Fire
Apr 5	Pears Rd – Medical	East Sooke Rd – MVI	Apr 25 Kangaroo Rd – Medical
	Albert Head Rd – Beach Fire	Happy Valley Rd – Alarm Bells	Albert Head Rd – Beach Fire
	Sooke Rd – Smoke Sighting	Gemini Dr – Medical	Weirs Beach – Beach Fire
	Weirs Beach – Beach Fire	Apr 14 William Head Rd – Medical	Apr 25 William Head Rd – Medical
	Albert Head Rd – Beach Fire	Apr 16 Neff Rd – Medical	Apr 26 Metchosin Rd – Medical
Apr 6	Glen Forest Way – Medical	Leeffield Rd – Medical	Metchosin Rd – MVI
	Sooke Rd – MVI	Apr 16 Lindholm Rd – Medical	Rocky Point Rd – Fire
	Sooke Rd – Medical	Apr 17 Happy Valley Rd – MVI	Pearson College Dr – Fire
	Stillmeadow Rd – Medical	Apr 19 Sooke Rd – MVI	Apr 27 Duke Rd – Medical
	Sooke Rd – MVI	Stirrup Pl - Medical	William Head Rd – Fire
	Sooke – Mutual Aid	Sooke – Mutual Aid	Apr 28 Metchosin Rd – Medical
Apr 7	Stillmeadow Rd – Medical	Apr 20 Matheson Lake Park Rd – Medical	Apr 29 East Sooke Rd – Medical
	Pedder Bay Dr – Medical	Apr 21 Wedgewood Pl – Medical	Apr 30 William Head Rd – MVI
Apr 8	Metchosin Rd – Medical	Apr 22 Happy Valley Rd – MVI	
	Sutiacum Rd – Medical	Albert Head Rd – Beach Fire	MVI: motor vehicle incident
	Happy Valley Rd – Alarm Bells	Kasani Pl – Hydro Lines	
		Apr 24 Sooke Rd – MVI	



## Important Dates & Events

June 7	Parisian Café . . . . .	p.14
June 8	World Ocean Day Walk . . . . .	p.8
June 15	Fathers’ Day . . . . .	
June 21	Westshore Garden Tour . . . . .	p.4
June 21	Pickleball Open House . . . . .	p. 5
June 22	MCA AGM . . . . .	p.11
July 1	Festivus . . . . .	p.7
July 2	Property taxes due . . . . .	p.2

Other events:

Council Meetings . . . . .	p.2
House Happenings. . . . .	p.11
Art Pod events . . . . .	p.10
SRC events . . . . .	p.14

*Did you know?*  
*Past issues to 2013 of*  
*The Muse are*  
*available online.*

## Recipe of the Month - Sticky Toffee Pudding

6 oz. chopped pitted dried dates  
1 cup water  
¼ cup butter  
2/3 cup brown sugar  
1 tsp vanilla extract  
2 eggs  
2 tbsp. molasses  
1 tbsp. golden syrup  
1 cup + 2 tbsp. all-purpose flour  
1 tsp. baking powder  
½ tsp. baking soda

Toffee sauce:  
½ cup whipping cream  
¼ cup butter  
¼ cup brown sugar  
1 tbsp. molasses  
2 tbsp. golden syrup  
2 tsp vanilla extract

1. Simmer dates and water in small pan for two minutes.
2. Cream together brown sugar, butter, and vanilla.
3. Add eggs, molasses, and golden syrup. Beat well.
4. Slowly add sifted flour and baking powder mix.
5. Blend date mix and add baking soda.
6. Mix ingredients together and fill 12 greased and floured muffin tins.
7. Bake for 20 mins. at 350 deg.F.
8. Gently boil ingredients for sauce for two minutes.
9. Serve sauce warm with toffee puddings.

# RCMP Call-Outs

APRIL 2025

Cpl Nancy Saggar, West Shore RCMP | GRC de West Shore

West Shore RCMP Traffic Unit conducts proactive patrols. In Metchosin for the month of April, the Traffic Unit issued: 4 Speed warnings; 6 Speeding violation tickets; 1 Excessive speed ticket and vehicle towed 3700 block Sooke Rd; 3 No Insurance violation tickets; 3 Other violation tickets given for various motor vehicle infractions; 1 Box 1&2 Notice issued for vehicle inspection.

The above does not include the traffic enforcement efforts carried out by frontline officers, it only reflects the Traffic Unit.

There were 69 calls for service in Metchosin for April 2025. A brief summary of the calls for service are reported below, however, due to privacy concerns, limited information is provided and not all 69 files are reflected below.

Calls for Service:

- Apr 1 **Traffic Unit Proactive school zone patrol** - Hans Helgesen School.
- Apr 2 **Check well-being** - Metchosin.  
Traffic complaint - Truck driving erratically near Veitch Creek Bridge and Sooke Rd, Sooke RCMP located the vehicle once in their area.
- Apr 3 **Cause Disturbance** - loud argument between people, near Kangaroo Rd.
- Apr 4 **Suspicious Vehicle parked near Galloping Goose/Rocky Point Rd** - Determined to be stolen and towed by police.  
**Traffic complaint** - 4100 block Sooke Rd, vehicle speeding and swerving, patrols conducted, vehicle not located.
- Apr 5 **Check well-being** - Metchosin

- Apr 6 **Impaired Driver** - 4400 block Sooke Rd, single vehicle roll over, driver impaired issued 90 day Immediate Roadside Prohibition, vehicle impounded for 30 days.
- Apr 6 **Road Hazard, signage falling** - Kangaroo Rd/ Sooke Rd, EMCOM notified.
- Apr 7 **Road Hazard** - 4000 block Sooke Rd - Couch left on the road causing traffic to go around it, police attended, couch had been moved.
- Apr 7 Check well-being – Metchosin
- Apr 8 **Traffic complaint on Sooke Rd near Impala Rd** - motor bike driven erratically, patrols conducted and two motorbikes were stopped and drivers spoken to.
- Apr 10 **False Alarm** - Residence on Happy Valley Rd, officers attended and determined false.
- Apr 10 **911 call accidental** - Metchosin.
- Apr 10 **Two-vehicle collision** - Sooke Rd/ Rocky Point Rd, one driver given ticket for speed relative to conditions.
- Apr 11 **Utter threats against person** - Metchosin.
- Apr 11 **Mischief to vehicle** – truck damaged while parked in the lot at Rocky Point Rd and Galloping Goose Trail.
- Apr 12 **Report of loud bangs heard near the 900 block of Arden Rd** - extensive patrols conducted and source not located.
- Apr 14 **Speed in school zone**, ticket issued for vehicle going over speed limit in school zone at Hans Helgesen Elementary.
- Apr 14 **Traffic Complaint** - report of vehicle speeding in school zone at Hans Helgesen School.

- Apr14 **Mischief to vehicle** - Haystock Rd, rock thrown through windshield, no suspects identified.
- Apr 15 **Suspicious occurrence** - near 500 block Taylor Rd- male driving a grey Mercedes Sprinter van twice approached an adult female walking on the road and asked her if she wanted to get in his vehicle. She declined and the male drove away. Police were unable to identify the male driver. No similar reports received.
- Apr16 **Traffic Complaint** - speeding vehicle near Metchosin Rd / Happy Valley Rd. Driver located and given warning.
- Apr16 **Traffic Complaint** - 3700 block Sooke Rd, report of erratic driver. Patrols conducted driver not located.
- Apr 17 **Traffic Complaint** - Truck swerving on the road. Stopped by police, driver was sober and warned about driving behaviour.
- Apr 19 **Lost Property** – two separate reports of lost property.
- Apr 22 **Assault causing bodily harm**- Metchosin - parties known to each other, suspect arrested.
- Apr 24 **Single-vehicle collision** - vehicle driven into hydro pole on Sooke Rd. Box 1 notice and order issued for inspection of vehicle as they advised their vehicle malfunctioned, driver issued “fail to display N’ violation ticket.

- Apr 24 **Three-vehicle collision 4100 block of Sooke Rd.** One vehicle rear-ended a vehicle in front of them and then crossed over into oncoming traffic and collided head on with another vehicle. Sooke Rd shut down for approx. two hours while emergency crews attended the scene.
- Apr 25 **Lost property report** - Metchosin
- Apr 26 **Cause disturbance** - males heard yelling at Albert Head Lagoon. Police attended, spoke to males, no violence or intoxication, males left the area.
- Apr 26 **Noise Complaint** - parking lot Albert Head Lagoon, patrols conducted, determined to be beach goers, all sober and left without further issue.
- Apr 27 **Suspicious person** - male walking on William Head Rd possibly intoxicated. Patrols conducted, not located.
- Apr 27 **Property dispute, Sooke Rd** - disagreement between landlord and tenant, deemed to be under Landlord Tenancy Act.
- Apr 28 **Theft under \$5000**- personal belonging stolen while using public transit.
- Apr 29 **Traffic Complaint** - erratic driver near Sooke Rd and Kangaroo Rd. Vehicle not located.
- Apr 29 **Traffic Complaint** - speeding vehicle 4100 block Sooke Rd. Patrols conducted, vehicle not located.
- Apr 29 **Fraud under \$5000**- Metchosin resident defrauded.
- Apr 30 **Cause Disturbance** - parties known to each other, residence near Metchosin Rd.



# A Tribute to Jim: A Voice of Rural Metchosin

Shari Rourke

In a small community like ours, it is often the persistent efforts of a few that shape the direction we take. Jim MacPherson, who died in May following a short illness, was one of those few.

As Chair of the Healthy Communities Advisory Select Committee, I had the privilege of working alongside Jim. I came to know him through the clarity of his convictions, the strength of his words, and the depth of his commitment to our community.

Through email correspondence, thoughtful conversations, and the occasional coffee, I grew to appreciate Jim’s enduring passion for all things Metchosin. Whether discussing community projects, local politics, or simply exchanging ideas, his principles and values always shone through.

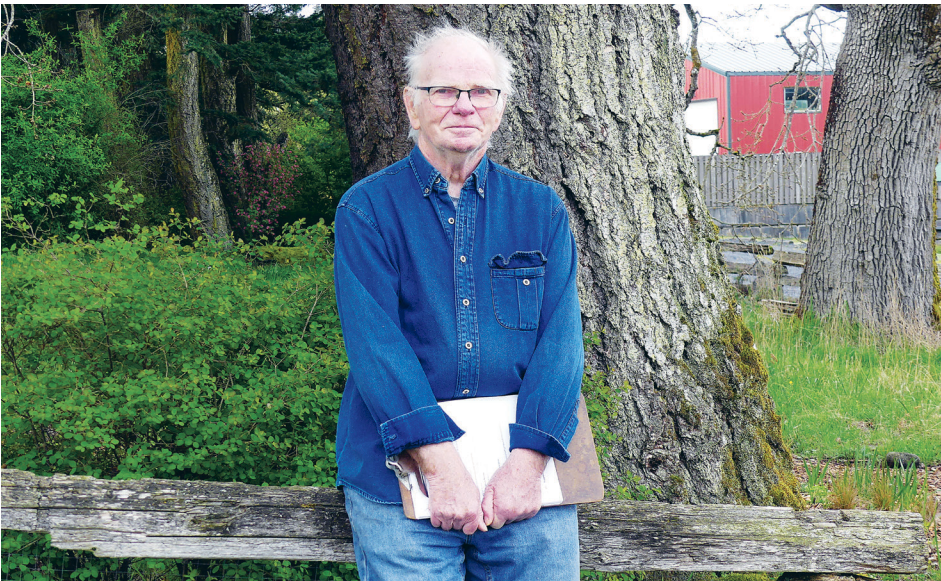
Jim’s dedication to this community spanned decades and touched nearly every corner of Metchosin. His roles included:

- Founding President of the Metchosin Agricultural Advisory Committee, which he helped establish at the request of John Ranns and Jo Mitchell.
- Past President and Vice President of the Metchosin Museum Society.
- Director, past Treasurer and long-time representative of the Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin.

- Former member of the Metchosin Environmental Advisory Select Committee (MEASC), where he served for years with insight and dedication.
- Former representative for Metchosin on the Peninsula & Area Agricultural Commission.
- Former member of the CRD Regional Parks Strategic Plan Citizens’ Advisory Panel.
- Past Treasurer of the former Metchosin Garden Club.
- Long-time volunteer with Wild ARC.
- Board member of the Metchosin Community House.
- Member of the Metchosin Muse team.
- And, of course, a valued member of the Healthy Communities Advisory Select Committee, where his voice remained razor sharp and deeply principled.

Through his many articles in the Muse, Jim spoke with candour and care. He was never afraid to challenge; always striving to contribute. He reminded us that communities are not built by policies alone, but by people with the courage to ask tough questions and stand firmly for what they believe is right.

A passionate advocate for accessibility, Jim long saw what others sometimes missed. He reminded us that a truly inclusive community is one where everyone, regardless of ability, can fully participate and belong. His advocacy continues to influence not



Jim MacPherson having a well-earned rest. Photo credit: Barb Sawatsky

just Metchosin, but the broader region as well.

Jim’s strong environmental ethic was rooted in his background in Natural Resource Management, which informed his decades-long advocacy for sustainable practices and protection of our natural surroundings. He was also a devoted supporter of animal rights. For many years, he and his wife, Kathleen, opened their hearts and home to a series of senior rescue dogs with medical issues, offering comfort, care, and a second chance to animals often overlooked.

Jim and Kathleen made Metchosin their home, and together helped shape the heart of this place through steadfast involvement, quiet leadership, and

deep community care. Jim’s legacy lives on in the values he championed and the community he helped to shape.

With deep respect for the strength, determination, and dignity Jim showed throughout his years of service and especially in the face of his recent health challenges, I want to take this moment, on behalf of our committee and our community, to say “thank you”.

Thank you, Jim, for believing in Metchosin and for offering your time, your voice, and your heart so generously. We are better because of you. We will carry forward your vision of a more inclusive, engaged, and accountable community.

## Muse Traveller



Muse Travellers: Joannie and Jim Challenger with Barrett Fullerton (centre). Nairn Falls, Pemberton



Looking forward to the next garage sale. Photo credit Barb Sawatsky.

## Birds of Metchosin – Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)

Katie Pirquet

Turkey Vultures work on thermals to stay aloft, using their keen sense of smell to locate rotting food from miles away. Although they have been known to finish off dying animals, carrion is their mainstay.

With a wingspan over 1.5 meters, it is blackish, long-tailed, with a small, bare, red head; juveniles have black heads.

Most of our local Vultures arrive by March and migrate south in the fall. They will congregate in mature trees for the night, and spend their days in open spaces, waiting for the right conditions. One morning they head out across the Strait of Juan

de Fuca, to winter in California and Arizona. However, a few have been seen over-wintering in Metchosin.

Turkey Vultures are closely related to storks. They are gregarious and can rear one to three youngsters a year, from March to August, in small caves, beneath rock ledges, in hollow trees, tree stumps, or animal burrows and abandoned buildings. They tend to prefer dry, open terrain along roadsides, or at the edges of forest, where foraging is good.

These large, impressive birds do us great service by cleaning up dead and rotting corpses, and their flying acumen fascinates those who take the time to observe..



Turkey Vulture (Cathartes Aura). Photo credit: Barb Sawatsky.