

## Mayor Alice Finall's Address



At the end of a Council term, it is useful to look back at governance, not only for that single term but also in a broader context to understand the evolving effects of Council policies and actions taken. I have recently had occasion to review the five Official Community plans of North Saanich, beginning in 1977. It is rewarding to see the consistency of the vision this community has valued and supported over the past thirty-five years.

This is a community that has existed on this peninsula since before the beginning of the last century. The lasting realization of many aspects that combine to continue this vision has survived and thrived through many councils, even the few which concentrated on less historical policies.

We still maintain and value our coastal and marine areas. We still farm productively a large percentage of our land and increasingly strive to preserve that industry. We continue to maintain and increase our parkland and green spaces.

As a municipality we have also benefited immensely from the readiness of many of our residents to volunteer to serve the community on boards and commissions. This provides us with a reservoir of talent and local participation.

I am proud of the efforts made by this Council over the past three years in continuing and enhancing the visions that make this municipality unique and vibrant. I am very optimistic for the future that with carefully managed and balanced planning we can have necessary growth while retaining the special and liveable qualities that make North Saanich the paradise that it is.

Finally, I am grateful for the opportunity given me by the residents of this community to pursue those visions as your Mayor.

**IMPORTANT**

## North Saanich Residents: Get Connected. Stay Informed.

### Community survey on communication priorities

The District of North Saanich is exploring options to improve the way we connect with our residents and keep them informed with timely news updates. But we also recognize that community members are busy and are often inundated with information, so it is important to be selective and effective in our communication.

North Saanich residents are invited to share input on how we can improve communication in our community.

Please visit [www.northsaanich.ca](http://www.northsaanich.ca) and complete a short Communication Strategy survey to tell us your priorities.

Survey Highlights:

- What information is most important to you?
- How you would like to receive information updates?
- When and how you would like to be consulted?

Please note that the survey deadline is **October 16, 2011.**

For more information on the Communications Strategy project, please contact Curt Kingsley at 250-656-0781.

## Dates to Watch For

### Neighbourhood Meeting

Deep Cove / Pat Bay  
Tuesday, October 11, 7:00 p.m.  
St. John's United Church

### National All Buffleheads Day

Saturday, October 15, 11:00 a.m.  
Lillian Hoffar Park  
15063 McDonald Park Road

### Great BC ShakeOut

Thursday, October 20, 10:20 a.m.

### Mary Winspear 10th Anniversary

Saturday, October 22, 6:30 p.m.

### Halloween Bonfire

Bonfire & Hot Dogs 6:30 p.m.  
Fireworks 7:45 p.m.  
Wain Road Fire Hall

### North Saanich Farm Market

Until October 29, 2011  
**Saturday, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**  
St. John's United Church

### Council and Committee of the Whole

October 3 - Council  
October 17 - Council  
October 24 - COW  
November 7 - Council  
November 14 - COW  
November 21 - Council  
November 28 - COW  
December 5 - Council  
December 12 - COW  
December 19 - Council

**Don't forget to visit "News and Events" on the District website for up-to-date notices.**

## Sandown Racetrack Land Proposal

On September 12, 2011, Council gave 1st and 2nd readings to the OCP and Zoning bylaw amendments required to approve the Sandown Racetrack Land proposal previously reported on in this newsletter. By giving these readings, the proposal and bylaws can now be considered by the Capital Regional District, Ministry of Transportation and the Agricultural Advisory Commission. These agencies have to give their approval to aspects of the proposal. In addition, the bylaws can now be forwarded to a number of other bodies as part of our consultation.

A second Town Hall community meeting was held on September

20 to review the proposal and the business case for the District acquiring the 83 acres. The business case concludes that the municipality would receive an asset worth approximately \$6,000,000.00. Municipal costs could be in the order of \$500,000.00. It is also estimated that tax revenue from the property would increase from \$22,000 to approximately \$370,000 per year – an increase of about \$350,000.00.

There is a page on the municipal website for anyone who wants to review the staff reports, preliminary environmental report, traffic impact assessment and bylaws.

## Medical Marijuana

Recently there has been significant concern expressed by some residents to Council regarding homes being used for growing “Medical Marijuana”. There are a great many safety and privacy issues created by the Federal Government’s current programs. While this is an exclusively federal jurisdiction (i.e., we cannot adopt bylaws to regulate this matter), we can advise that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities will be addressing the matter. They have a resolution for discussion that recommends:

“that the federal government be requested to take immediate steps to institute improvements to the Marijuana Medical Access Program that will respect the privacy of individuals and

require the distribution of medical marijuana through licensed commercial producers to reduce the risk of exploitation by criminal elements and ensure the safety of our communities”

Your Council delegates to UBCM will be fully supporting this recommendation.

We can also advise that Health Canada has announced that they will be phasing out the current licenses allowing medical marijuana to be produced in homes.

## Don't Forget to Vote!

### Avoid the crowds on general voting day by voting in one of the Advance Polls!!

The next general local election for the offices of Mayor, Councillors, and School Board Trustees will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2011.

#### Advance Voting:

Wednesday, November 9, 2011 at the Municipal Hall (1620 Mills Road) between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

#### Advance Voting:

Wednesday, November 16, 2011 at the Municipal Hall (1620 Mills Road) between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

#### General Election:

Saturday, November 19, 2011 at the Municipal Hall (1620 Mills Road) between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Election information can be found on the District website at [www.northsaanich.ca](http://www.northsaanich.ca) “2011 General Local Election” link.

## North Saanich New GIS

The District of North Saanich is pleased to provide a new Geographic Information System (GIS) to the general public. This mapping application provides multiple layers of geographic information including property boundaries, roads, addresses, trails, beach accesses and contours. Zoning and ALR boundaries, neighbourhood areas and aerial photography are also available.

The recent upgrade of this GIS has improved the functionality of the site by adding more information about each geographic layer and providing links to the District’s

heritage and parks web pages. The layout and overall speed of the site have also been improved and instructional videos have been created to help users understand how to use the site.

The District’s IT/GIS Department will continue to enhance this mapping application in the future and users are encouraged to provide their comments and suggestions.

This new GIS is accessible by selecting the “North Saanich GIS” link on the home page of the District’s website [www.northsaanich.ca](http://www.northsaanich.ca).



## Burning Season Opens November 3, 2011



Effective Thursday November 3, 2011, the burning season will be open for incinerators and open fires. Burning shall take place only on the first and third consecutive Thursday, Friday, and Saturday during November to May from sunrise to sunset.

There is a complete ban in effect in the Dean Park area west of East Saanich Road with the exception of manufactured outdoor fireplaces used for cooking and social activities. Burning of household and yard waste in these appliances is prohibited.

All fires, including incinerators and manufactured outdoor

fireplaces, require a permit each burning season and are subject to an annual inspection. A permit is required every second year for all outdoor fireplaces, incinerators, and fires smaller than 3' x 3' x 3'. An annual permit is required for all fires larger than 3' x 3' x 3'.

Please burn your fires hot and do not burn wet or green materials or leaves to avoid producing noxious smoke that can be harmful and disturb your neighbours.

Please consider alternatives to burning such as composting, recycling, chipping or drop off at the Municipal Pit site.

For your inspection and permit or any questions please call the Fire Department at 250-656-1931 or visit our website: [www.northsaanichfire.ca](http://www.northsaanichfire.ca)

## Cost Recovery Bylaw 1239 Adopted

The District of North Saanich has adopted a new cost recovery bylaw to enable the District to recover costs borne by the District when responding to properties that have illegally manufactured or grown controlled substances. Costs incurred by police, fire and building inspection services will now be recovered from the owners of properties involved in growing or manufacturing controlled substances like marijuana or amphetamines.

Mayor Alice Finall states that "if police, fire or building inspection services are required to respond to properties with these activities, the bylaw will enable the costs to be passed on to the property owner rather than the general tax payer. As a collateral benefit, the bylaw may be an incentive for landlords to ensure that their rental properties are not being used for growing or manufacturing controlled substances."

## Zoning Bylaw Update

On September 19, Council adopted the new updated Zoning Bylaw completing over three years of work. The new zoning bylaw is significantly improved in terms of its readability and organization. Council has encouraged the improvements to ensure general consistency with the 2007 Official Community Plan.

The new Bylaw 1255 is available for review at the municipal hall and on the municipal website under the "Municipal Hall/Bylaws" link.

## Halloween Bonfire and Fireworks

Please join the North Saanich Fire Department at the Wain Road Fire Hall for our annual bonfire and fireworks on Monday, October 31. Bonfire, hot dogs, and drinks starting at 6:30 p.m., fireworks start at 7:45 p.m.

## Pilot Projects



The Secondary Suite pilot project and the Cy Hampson Park off-leash pilot will be reviewed by Council in October. Results

of each review

will be posted on the District website.



## Wastewater Management Invoice

Do you have a wastewater system on your property? Do you have a \$25.00 charge on your invoice for a "Stamped Certificate of Maintenance (CRD Requirement)"?

The District of North Saanich would like to remind residents who have a wastewater treatment system on their property, that they are not required to pay the \$25.00 "Stamped Certificate of Maintenance (CRD Requirement)" fee.

On March 9, 2009 Council voted against the adoption of the CRD Management of Onsite Sewage Systems Service, removing the District of North Saanich from participating in the program.

## Friends of Dominion Brook Park Tenth Anniversary!



District

Stalwart volunteers have worked continuously since 2001 (7000 hours) on the rehabilitation and restoration of the Park. It is a work in progress requiring dedication, not only from the Wednesday Work Parties, but others in planning for future, long term projects, such as the Rhodo Ravine Restoration Project.

Dominion Brook is a unique 11 acre park on the Saanich Peninsula created in 1912 by the Canadian Department of Agriculture as a demonstration and ornamental garden for public use. Sited on an east facing slope, with extensive variation in terrain creating a number of micro-climates which allow a diverse collection of specimens to flourish - many of which have a distinguished history.

Meticulously maintained over the years, the Park was a popular place for family and community events, and played an important role in the social fabric of the Peninsula. When federal funding ceased in the early 1980s, the Park began to disappear under noxious growth. Fortunately, a citizen's initiative group became involved, and the Friends of Dominion Brook Park was formed under a stewardship agreement with the Federal Government and the District of North Saanich.

Further details on the park's tenth anniversary can be found in the August 2011 newsletter. Visit the Dominion Brook Park website at [www.dominionbrookpark.ca](http://www.dominionbrookpark.ca) and select the "Newsletter" link.



## Tenth Anniversary of the Mary Winspear Centre



Come join your friends and neighbours to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Mary Winspear Centre, Saturday, 22 October 2011. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. There will be dancing to the Swiftsure Band and other entertainment as well as a silent auction among the evening's events. Hors d'oeuvres, desserts and refreshments will be served. Tickets for the anniversary celebration will be available at the Box Office or by calling the Centre at 250-656-0275.

Visit the Mary Winspear website at [www.marywinspear.ca](http://www.marywinspear.ca) for further details on this event.

## Shake Out

The Great British Columbia ShakeOut

The District of North Saanich is participating in the ShakeOut again this year. Be part of the largest Canadian earthquake drill on October

20, 2011 at 10:20 a.m. Full details at [www.shakeoutbc.ca](http://www.shakeoutbc.ca)

## Wain Road Fire Hall Expansion

The District of North Saanich is in the process of upgrading the facilities at the Wain Road Fire Hall. An Expression of Interest has been distributed and interested bidders have been invited to contact the Fire Department.

A request for proposal will be distributed at the end of September and a contractor is expected to be selected early November.

## Municipal Hall Edible Landscape

North Saanich has made regular donations to the Sidney Lions Club Food Bank of fresh surplus produce from our edible landscaping at the front of the municipal hall. The Administrator of the Food Bank expressed appreciation, extending gratitude to Council and staff, and stated that as a result of the Peninsula News Review article informing the

public of North Saanich Council's initiative to grow and donate produce to the Food Bank, they have seen an increase in quality of other produce donated locally.



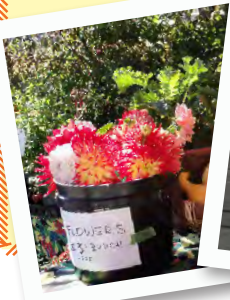
## Flavour Trail - THANK YOU

The District would like to thank Councillor Anny Scoones for her time and efforts in organizing the fifth annual North Saanich Flavor Trail.

As well, without the following people the Flavour Trail would not have been as successful as it was:

1. Brenda Beckwith for leading two lovely and informative nature walks.
2. Councillor Peter Chandler and Bill McIntyre for assisting with the very educational Scoter Trail beach stroll.
3. MAC Farrant for her "dirty" Saturday night pre-film reading of DIRT.
4. Our North Saanich Firefighters for cooking up great corn and hot dogs!
5. Farrell Boyce and the band, *Water in the Crawl Space*, for their super hoe-down music.
6. Frank Gower for his amazing dance instruction!
7. Brian Robinson, Cliff Halliday and his energetic staff for their work on signage.
8. John MacDonald and St. John's United Church for a great film venue and meeting place.
9. The Food for the Future Society for their wonderful market, entertainment, and commitment to local food security.
10. All the venues, volunteers and participants for making our annual Flavour Trail another great farming and cultural success!

A huge thank you to all of you!



## The Celebration of National All Buffleheads Day in Lillian Hoffar Park on Saturday, October 15

In conjunction with Sidney, our neighbouring municipality, and with the enthusiastic support of our local MP, Elizabeth May, we are planning a celebration of National All Buffleheads Day in Lillian Hoffar Park, at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, October 15, 2011.

at the Shoal Harbour Migratory Bird Sanctuary. The Sanctuary, designated by an act of the federal parliament in 1931, spans areas of both North Saanich and Sidney. The bufflehead is often called the "Punctual Bufflehead" because it arrives at the Sanctuary at the same time each year. Since this is the 80th anniversary of the Sanctuary it is a perfect occasion to celebrate this annual return. Further information regarding National All Buffleheads Day can be found under "News and Events" at [www.northsaanich.ca](http://www.northsaanich.ca). All residents are welcome to attend.



The bufflehead is a small beautiful duck which winters

# STAYING INVOLVED

## To the North Saanich Community



As my last Council term draws to a close, I want to thank all of you for your help and encouragement during the six years I have served this community. It has been a distinct privilege to participate as a North Saanich Council member and I am grateful for such a wonderful opportunity. These last three years serving with Mayor Alice Finall have been particularly rewarding. I

don't have to tell you that North Saanich is an amazing community full of amazing people, a unique community in which we twice made our home, the last time for 18 years, so North Saanich will always remain close to us through our friendships here.

My thanks also goes to Council colleagues, municipal staff and community organizations for their support. I have especially appreciated the confidence of my community in giving me the chance to make a positive difference to the future of North Saanich and local government. I wish each and every one of you all the best for a bright future and I leave hoping that one significant project, Sandown, will be completed as an agricultural and community-building vision and legacy for the benefit of all residents and their families, in perpetuity.

With My Sincerest Appreciation,  
Councillor Cairine Green  
Fall 2011

## Thank you from Councillor Ruby Commandeur



I want to express my deep gratitude for the opportunity to have served North Saanich residents and the community as a member of North Saanich Council. I have found it both rewarding and meaningful to serve as a member of Council and to carry out the duties of public office.

As this term ends, I am not seeking a second term because of compelling family reasons, which require more of my time and focus.

During the past three years, the collaborative work with residents, businesses and council members has been rewarding. Additionally, I have been honoured to get to know and work with the professional and dedicated staff at the municipal hall.

I would like to thank Mayor Alice Finall for her vision, and courageous leadership, tackling tough issues such as staffing, finance, capping taxes and overall budget management. As a first term Council member, I appreciated Mayor Finall's mentorship and support.

I am not only grateful to live in such a beautiful place, but appreciate the trust and opportunity given to me by a wonderful community.

I encourage you all to get involved in the upcoming Municipal election. Get informed, research the candidates, support candidates that reflect your community values that keep North Saanich the amazing place that it is. Your voice has been heard and matters!

## Municipal Hall

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Main switchboard                                      | 250-656-0781 |
| Financial Services:                                   | 250-655-5450 |
| IT/GIS Services                                       | 250-655-5499 |
| Engineering Services                                  | 250-655-5460 |
| Building Inspections, Bylaw Enforcement and Licensing | 250-655-5470 |
| Public Works  | 250-655-5480 |
| After Hours Public Works                              | 250-920-9235 |
| Fire Department                                       | 250-656-1931 |
| After Hours Non-emergency Fire                        | 250-475-6111 |
| <b>Emergency</b>                                      | <b>9 1 1</b> |
| Non-emergency RCMP (i.e. traffic issues)              | 250-656-3931 |

## Mayor and Council

|                            |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Mayor Alice Finall         | 250-656-6668 |
| Councillor Dunstan Browne  | 250-655-4811 |
| Councillor Peter Chandler  | 250-656-7226 |
| Councillor Ruby Commandeur | 250-655-3368 |
| Councillor Cairine Green   | 778-433-8585 |
| Councillor Craig Mearns    | 250-656-1173 |
| Councillor Anny Scoones    | 778-440-4124 |

