



# NORTH SAANICH NEWS

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January 2006

## NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK – FEBRUARY 20<sup>th</sup> TO 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006

The North Saanich Heritage Advisory Commission will be participating, once again, in National Heritage Week. This year National Heritage Week will take place from February 20<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be a display at the Mary Winspear Centre, and a presentation at St. John's Church, 10990 West Saanich Road, at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. The presentation will be entitled "Conversations from Our Past: Stories of North Saanich" and will be based on accounts of early settlers telling the history of our community in their own words. Readings will be done by members of the Heritage Advisory Commission and others. Those who come to this event, which is reminiscent of amateur shows from the past, will have the opportunity to meet descendants of North Saanich's early families. Refreshments will be served, and members of the public are cordially invited to attend.

The Heritage Advisory Commission continues its work on an inventory of North Saanich Heritage sites which is an on-going process. As well, another in the series of heritage-related articles was published in the Peninsula News Review in November of 2005; this one dealt with the Harrison House on East Saanich Road. In the near future, bronze plaques recognizing heritage significance will be unveiled at Nymph Point, which has been a designated heritage site since 1982. Future activities also include a workshop scheduled for Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, entitled "Let's Get Organized", led by Sue Morhun. This workshop will assist the Heritage Advisory Commission to develop and administer heritage programs.

## 2006 NEIGHBOURHOOD MEETINGS

The District of North Saanich Council has once again scheduled a series of neighbourhood meetings in various areas throughout North Saanich for 2006. The meetings will take place on the dates listed below commencing at 7:00 p.m. at various locations throughout the community. Please note when your neighbourhood meeting is taking place and be sure to attend. These open forum meetings are for you, the residents of North Saanich, to meet your Mayor and Councillors to discuss any matter of your choosing.

<i>Neighbourhood</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Where</i>
Curteis Point/Lands End	April 18 <sup>th</sup>	Sidney-North Saanich Yacht Club
Dean Park/Southeast Quadrant	May 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Saanich Peninsula Presbyterian Church
Ardmore & Pauquachin First Nation	September 5 <sup>th</sup>	Ardmore Golf Course
Deep Cove & Tseycum First Nation	October 10 <sup>th</sup>	St. John's United Church

## NORTH SAANICH MAP ON-LINE

The District now provides internet users with "North Saanich Map", a new application to access geographic information via the District's website ([www.northsaanich.ca](http://www.northsaanich.ca)). The District's existing Geographic Information System (GIS) has been in use by internal staff members for approximately two years. North Saanich Map is an extension of the internal GIS and provides the public with the following geographic information:

- property boundaries
- addresses and legal descriptions
- roads, parks, trails, and beach accesses
- water courses
- ALR boundaries
- contours
- aerial photos

Zoning boundaries and other new features will be added to North Saanich Map in 2006. In order to assist with future enhancements to the District's GIS, North Saanich residents are encouraged to provide their comments and suggestions on this new system. Comments can be provided using the link within North Saanich Map.

## KEEP THOSE DRAINS FLOWING

We are all reminded at this time of the year that periods of heavy rainfall are to be expected from time to time. Many culverts, catchbasins and drains that don't see active service most of the year can suddenly become crucial links in the local drainage system. Residents are encouraged to do their part to keep nearby drain inlets clear of debris and vegetation.

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## NOMINATIONS WELCOME FOR VOLUNTEER AWARDS

It's a new year and a wonderful time to recognize those people who give selflessly to the Saanich Peninsula community - our volunteers. The 2006 *Hearts of the Community Awards*, co-sponsored by Beacon Community Services and the Peninsula News Review, is seeking nominations of individuals for the following volunteering categories:

**Service to Seniors** - For service that helps to improve the quality of life for seniors living on the Saanich Peninsula

**Service to Children & Families** - For service to children and youth, or their families

**Service to the Business Community** - For helping to create a stronger, more vibrant and diverse business community

**Overall Service to the Community** - For outstanding volunteer effort in a variety of activities in the Saanich Peninsula community

**Outstanding Youth Volunteer (ages 14-19)** - For youth who provide volunteer service in their school or in their community

**Lifetime Service Award** - For exemplary volunteer service over a lifetime

Local residents, as well as those residing outside the area, who have done volunteer work on the Saanich Peninsula are eligible for nomination. If nominating a volunteer organization/group, please identify one individual to represent the group. A special panel will select category winners to be honoured, along with all nominees, at a daytime ceremony to be held on February 16<sup>th</sup> at the Mary Winspear Centre. Nomination forms are available at various locations including North Saanich Municipal Hall, Peninsula News Review, Beacon Community Services (Third St. and Beacon Plaza), BCS Thrift Stores, Panorama Recreation Centre, Central Saanich Senior Citizens' Centre, Shoal Centre, North Saanich/Sidney and Central Saanich libraries, and the Saanich Peninsula Health Unit. **Deadline for submissions is February 6<sup>th</sup>.** Thank you for helping us recognize our community's outstanding volunteers!



## RESPECT WINTER ROAD CONDITIONS

Please remember that weather conditions can make driving treacherous during the winter months. It is the responsibility of the driver of any motor vehicle to ensure they are operating their vehicle in a safe manner regardless of the road conditions. Slippery conditions can develop during periods of heavy rain or when temperatures drop below freezing. The District monitors weather and road conditions frequently and can react quickly to situations during regular working hours. In the event that road conditions deteriorate after normal working hours, District staff will respond as required. The public is encouraged to call 920- 9235 after normal working hours and leave a detailed message with a return phone number so that staff can acknowledge your concerns and take appropriate action in a timely fashion.

## DEEP COVE / PAT BAY / MCDONALD PARK RD. / SEWER PROJECT

Construction work is now underway on the first two contracts for the sewer project. These contracts are for the collection system for the Deep Cove and Pat Bay areas and for the trunk main which will transmit the sewage from these areas to the treatment plant. The system is expected to be ready for individual property connections by the end of August 2006. Design work for the McDonald Park Road area section of the project will be done this winter with construction this summer and ready for connections by December 2006. A series of detailed newsletters for the project are being distributed to residents in and adjacent to the project and are also available on the District's website.

## ROUNABOUT – WILLINGDON & EAST SAANICH ROADS

The District has recently completed construction of a new modern traffic roundabout at the intersection of Willingdon Road and East Saanich Road to replace the old angled intersection which had been the scene of numerous serious accidents. This work was partially funded with a major contribution from ICBC under its Crash Protection Program and with funding also from the Victoria Airport Authority and the Ministry of Transportation.

Motorists and cyclists using this roundabout should be aware of the basic principles of roundabout usage:

- vehicles entering the roundabout YIELD to vehicles in the roundabout;
- once in the roundabout, keep moving;
- as you approach your exit, activate your RIGHT TURN SIGNAL to indicate your intention to motorists waiting to enter;
- cyclists may either move into the center of the vehicle lane and proceed through the roundabout as if they were a motor vehicle, or if not comfortable with that option they may use the pedestrian/cycle path and crosswalks.

The District's website has links to further information related to roundabouts and their usage.



## OUTDOOR BURNING REGULATIONS

North Saanich outdoor burning regulations were amended in April of 2005. These amendments include a complete burning ban in the Dean Park area which includes all properties west of E. Saanich Rd. between Forest Park Dr., Cresswell Dr. to the north and the North Saanich boundary to the south.

***IN ADDITION, BURNING IN THE REMAINDER OF THE DISTRICT IS RESTRICTED TO THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS ONLY.***

To assist property owners with the disposal of burnable materials, the District has opened the Municipal Pit off Littlewood Road, behind the Legion on Mills Road, every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month from 9:30 am until 4:00 pm for North Saanich residents only to drop off burnable materials, including grass and garden clippings. The fee is \$5.00 per pick up load or trailer and \$3.00 per car load. Driver's licences will be checked to verify residency. This matter will be reviewed to assess its effectiveness and it is anticipated that a report will be presented to Council in May of 2006. If you have any comments regarding the current burning regulations or the municipal pit operations, please send your comments in writing to the District's Director of Emergency Services at gwilton@northsaanich.ca or by mail to the attention of Gary Wilton.

For additional information on the current outdoor burning regulations please contact the North Saanich Firehall at 656-1931 or visit the fire department website at www.northsaanichfire.ca.

## PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS

Assessment and taxation information on properties in North Saanich is now available to the general public on-line. In addition, property owners are able to check their account information using the access code found on the top right hand corner of the Property Tax Notice.

### ***Pre-Authorized Payment Plan***

After your current property taxes have been paid, you may be interested in the District's Pre-Authorized Payment Plan. This program allows property owners to set up automatic monthly payments towards the next years' current taxes. The first payment will be August 15<sup>th</sup> and the last payment will be May 15<sup>th</sup>. There are no withdrawals for the months of June and July. All prepayments are locked in until the next tax due date and earn interest at a rate of 3% below the prime lending rate of the District's financial institution on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December in the immediate preceding year from the date of payment to the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June of the same year. The District will also accept partial payments throughout the year on your tax account. Monthly interest is paid on these payments at a rate of 3% below the prime lending rate of our financial institution. Currently the rate is 2% per annum. Please consult the District's website at www.northsaanich.ca or contact the District office at (250) 656-0781 if you have any questions regarding the payment of property taxes.

## APPLICATIONS WELCOME FOR DISTRICT COMMISSIONS

There are still a few vacancies remaining on District advisory committees and commissions. If you are interested in serving on the District's Environmental Advisory Commission, the Parks Commission, the Cultural Committee, or the Board of Variance please contact Sandy Bowden, Director of Corporate Services, at (250) 655-5453 or e-mail sbowden@northsaanich.ca for more information on how to apply for these volunteer positions.

## CONTACT NUMBERS

### Telephone Numbers:

- ⇒ Administration & Finance..... 656-0781
- ⇒ Engineering..... 655-5460
- ⇒ Zoning, Permits & Licensing..... 655-5470
- ⇒ Public Works ..... 655-5480
- ⇒ Fire Department ..... 656-1931

**Hours of Operation:** 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. week days

**After Hours:** 920-9235 (4:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. and weekends and holidays)

**Emergency Fire, Police and Ambulance: 9 • 1 • 1**

**After Hours Fire Non-Emergency:** 475-6111

**E-mail:** admin@northsaanich.ca

**Web Page:** www.northsaanich.ca

## FAX NUMBERS



Please note the following FAX numbers for Municipal Departments:

**General**..... 656-3155

**Building, Licensing, Engineering**

**& Public Works**..... 656-0782

**Fire Department**..... 656-0906

## WHO TO CONTACT AT THE MUNICIPAL HALL

**Bruce Williams – Chief Administrative Officer** (implementation of Council policies and programs) [bwilliams@northsaanich.ca](mailto:bwilliams@northsaanich.ca)

**Sandy Bowden – Director of Corporate Services** (Council meetings/procedures, human resources matters, and local government elections) [sbowden@northsaanich.ca](mailto:sbowden@northsaanich.ca)

**Ralph Gillis – Director of Financial Services** (the District's budget and taxation) [rgillis@northsaanich.ca](mailto:rgillis@northsaanich.ca)

**John Carnell – IT/GIS Manager** (electronic mapping and information technology) [jcarnell@northsaanich.ca](mailto:jcarnell@northsaanich.ca)

**Tracy Olsen – Director of Development and Community Services** (planning, zoning, building, bylaw enforcement, and licensing) [tolsen@northsaanich.ca](mailto:tolsen@northsaanich.ca)

**Tim Tanton – Director of Infrastructure Services** (sewage treatment, drainage, subdivision development, roads, and public works) [ttanton@northsaanich.ca](mailto:ttanton@northsaanich.ca)

**Brian Robinson – Works Superintendent** (district parks and trails, repairs and maintenance of drainage systems, roads and utilities) [brobinson@northsaanich.ca](mailto:brobinson@northsaanich.ca)

**Gary Wilton – Director of Emergency Services** (burning regulations, the North Saanich Volunteer Fire Department and emergency planning) [gwilton@northsaanich.ca](mailto:gwilton@northsaanich.ca)

**Jack Parry – Manager, Major Projects** (the Deep Cove/Pat Bay sewer project and other assigned projects) [jparry@northsaanich.ca](mailto:jparry@northsaanich.ca)

## MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

*Council meets every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month - Committee of the Whole meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday. There are no meetings on statutory holidays. All meetings take place in the Municipal Hall Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. Check with the Corporate Services Dept. for the dates of summer meetings. All agendas and minutes are posted on the District's website.*

Mayor Ted Daly .....	656-8700
Councillor Peter Chandler.....	656-7226
Councillor Sheila Fea .....	656-2719
Councillor Cairine Green.....	656-3205
Councillor Anny Scoones.....	656-9740
Councillor Bob Shaw .....	655-9610
Councillor Bob Williamson.....	655-1270

## ADVISORY COMMISSIONS

### Advisory Planning Commission

*...meets at 7:30 p.m. every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Municipal Hall*

Members	Ted Izard Don MacKinnon Richard Nordlund Michael Shoemaker Kit Spence Michael Stanlake Carolyn Stout
Council Liaison	Councillor Bob Shaw

### Environmental Advisory Commission

*...meets at 7:30 p.m. every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Municipal Hall*

Members	Richard Bailey Ron Barnhart Doug Bernard Al Burgoyne Ian Norie Graeme Richardson Brian Sibley Elizabeth Stanlake Jock von Kaldenberg
Council Liaison	Councillor Cairine Green

### Parks Commission

*...meets at 4:30 p.m. every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at the Municipal Hall*

Members	Farrell Boyce John Braithwaite Joan Coldwell John Enright Tom Gore Floyd Mailhot Joyce Nordlund Janet Silman
Council Liaison	Councillor Anny Scoones

### Heritage Advisory Commission

*...meets at 10:00 a.m. every 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month at the Municipal Hall*

Members	Peter Arends (Tech. Advisor) Ann Aylard Susan Banas Diana Chown Helene Malvet Patricia McAvity Freda Thorne
Council Liaison	Councillor Anny Scoones

