

Sandy Hook  
 Community Association  
 RR#3 Sandy Hook Site C-1, Sechart, BC, V0N 3A0



First Notice  
 of the

April, 1999  
 Vol. #3, Issue 2



*Annual General Meeting*  
 of the  
*Sandy Hook Community Association*

**When: Wednesday, June 9, 1999**  
**Where: Greencourt Hall**  
**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

#### Calling for Nominations to the Board

We need to recruit a Nominating Committee. President Gray Waddell (885-5606) and Nominating Committee Chair Julie Towle (885-0771) will serve from the Board. In addition we're looking for three volunteers to round out the committee, so please let Julie know if you are willing to help. We're always on the lookout for new board members who want to make a positive contribution to Sandy Hook. This year we want to fill up to nine (9) board member slots.

Here is the reminder from our Bylaws [Part V, Section 26, (1)]:

"The directors shall cause to be prepared, at least 30 days prior to the annual general meeting, a slate of nominees for the positions of all directors whose terms are expiring and shall include the slate in the annual general meeting announcement."

So, if you know of someone who would be an asset to the Association, please give Julie Towle, or Gray Waddell, a call. Or, if you, yourself, would like to serve, please give one of them a call; they really want to hear from you before they have prepared their slate.

You can also submit a nomination following this procedure from our Bylaws, Part V, Section 26, (2):

"Any five (5) members in good standing may, by written petition signed by all of them, place an additional name (or names) of a full-time Sandy Hook resident in nomination. The petition must be submitted to the secretary not fewer than five (5) days prior to the annual meeting and must certify that the proposed nominee has agreed to serve if elected."

#### The Director's Job

Each director is expected to contribute at least 4 hours per month to the work of the Association. In addition to a regular board meeting, directors accept a variety of responsibilities, from working on our parks' projects, to helping organize social events, to monitoring Sechart Council's activities. These are not onerous duties; you'll meet some great people and have a lot of fun, as well. So, please volunteer to help a great neighbourhood - Sandy Hook.

## Reminder re Agenda Items for the AGM

If any member wishes to submit an item of new business for discussion at the AGM, that request must be submitted in writing to President Gray Waddell (Sandy Hook Site C-52) by May 10 before the AGM so that, if included in the Agenda by approval of the Board, the entire membership can be notified in the publication of the second and final notice of meeting. Otherwise, the AGM will appropriately be a meeting for members to hear reports on the activities of the association during the last fiscal year, 1998. As usual, there will be an opportunity for open discussion by all those present, following adjournment of the formal business meeting.



### April 1 -A **SPECIAL** Evening with our Neighbours

Thursday evening, April 1, some 25 Sandy Hook residents gathered in the Library's Community Room to talk about our future. President Gray opened the discussion with a brief look at the highlights of the SHCA since its beginnings in 1966 up to the present.

He then clarified again the matter of the District of Sechelt's requirements that community associations provide at least \$2 million of liability insurance for every sponsored event. It was because of the exorbitant insurance premium required of us that we cancelled the picnic last year. Now, Gray stated, the District has worked out a compromise and, while we will still have to carry liability insurance for all our events, it will likely be a nominal fee under an umbrella policy carried by the District.

Next, we heard from our guest speaker, Mayor Milne.

#### Comments — Mayor Bruce Milne

Mayor Milne outlined the three traditional kinds of civic institutions which have evolved in the 20th century: the chambers of commerce, with their focus on business; the "community halls" of the prairies, primarily serving a social need; and the ratepayers or community associations. A few years ago, he observed, there were only three active community associations while now, as Sechelt grows, there are eight community associations. Their staying power is due to their broad objectives of both serving a social focus and monitoring government actions which will affect them. The eight community associations, facetiously calling themselves the G-8, now meet together monthly to share concerns in common.

Mayor Milne noted that he values community associations so much that when he was elected, he strengthened the relationship between Council and the associations by arranging for bi-monthly meetings between the G-8 and Council, and by establishing a direct liaison between the associations and Council. (Each councillor and the mayor attend a community association's meetings for a rotating 6-month period.)

Because community associations are "community builders," a concept the Mayor wishes to nurture, Council has been receptive to making small grants for special projects which bring neighbours together.

Mayor Milne emphasized, however, that it is fundamentally unfair to expect community associations to take on political issues; the community associations' role in such cases should be to direct the complainants to the proper people at the SCR or the DOS. "Pass the tough things on to Council," he advised, "neighbour should not be pitted against neighbour."



then there were

### Lots of Questions and Suggestions

During the enthusiastic discussion that followed we have flagged the following items for consideration:

1. clearing the alders in the parklet at the corner of Skookumchuk and Deerhorne, leaving the evergreens and perhaps providing some benches.
2. a stop sign at the corner of Coracle and Sandy Hook Road (more local input needed)
3. a community list of resources for younger women with children, e.g. car pools, crafts, other interest groups
4. emergency preparedness -- should we be prepared at the local level for Y2K? (Sandy Hook's EP chair Sue Cayer agreed enthusiastically; she said we need to update our survey of 3 years ago, establish one leader per street like the Block Watch model, and of course, we need volunteers to help in this process)
5. parks and recreation -- SH Public Works chair Gino Cayer reported that the survey he led last fall produced about 75 ideas for improving our parks and recreation facilities, and that he needs a committee to focus on the priorities that could be implemented and then check out the short-list with the community.
6. roads -- the lip left behind after repairs to Sandy Hook Road last year needs fixing. (Must have been in the works, as promised, because it was fixed the first working day after our meeting.)
7. speeding in Sandy Hook -- the Kids' Playground at Deerhorne and Skookumchuk needs signs warning of children playing. (we will contact the District of Sechelt)
8. gravel lot bisected by Deerhorne at intersection with Sandy Hook Road-- could it be recovered for community use and perhaps, eventually, a community hall (Mayor Milne said he would investigate with Crown Lands re turning over that lot to the DOS)
9. "No dogs" sign at the beach? (Mayor Milne explained that the DOS has no bylaw prohibiting dogs on the beach, but we could install a "leash required" sign.)
10. Seasonal residents as Board members? (further discussion would be useful.)
11. Sandy Hook Trail water pipes in bad condition (issue referred then and there to Mayor Milne, also chair of the SCRCD)

Many thanks to all of you who participated with such positive ideas.



### As the President Sees It

Now that our faithful secretary/treasurer, Bula Hess, has so competently summarized the highlights of our April 1 get-together, I will exercise the privilege of my office to express some of my own thoughts.

Almost 200 copies of the notice of our meeting were delivered to every occupied household in Sandy Hook and

mailed to some off-coast members. A sign was erected at the top of Sandy Hook Road on the Sunday prior to the meeting as a reminder, and there was a notice on the bulletin board. I don't know what more we could have done.

We called the meeting because we wanted to get a feel for what people thought their representatives should be doing/not doing/trying to do — to improve life in our community. To my knowledge, this was the first such meeting open to all residents in many years. Although the AGM has always offered the opportunity, it is not always the best occasion to seek such feedback. Some communities hold similar meetings on a regular basis.

So, out of all the folks who might have been aware of the meeting, 25 were interested enough and able to attend (do we count the one from Turwanek? Maybe we're becoming famous?)

For that turnout, I thank all of you. At least half of you are fairly new to the Hook — a status I experienced about five years ago, so I appreciate where you're coming from. Eight signed up as volunteers for a variety of tasks and 15 took out memberships of which nine were new. The great majority of comments were positive and reflected a desire to improve conditions for everyone.

Overall, I feel that the meeting was a success. I thought the Mayor's comments were very appropriate, especially for newcomers.

Thank you. I look forward to the AGM.

*Gray Widdell*

**FLASH** — We have just learned that an Emergency Preparedness training session for neighbourhood "block captains" will be held Saturday, May 1, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Training, materials, and lunch will be provided at NO charge. Call Sue Cayer at 885-4185 for details.

### Other Good News

#### Grant from Knights of Columbus

Our deep appreciation to the Knights of Columbus for a grant of \$200 to fix up or furnish one or more of our Sandy Hook parks. And thanks to Gino Cayer for pursuing this opportunity. The Knights tell us that our submission was unanimously approved by their membership and invite us to apply again toward the end of this year if we still have a need. We are very grateful for such support.



#### A tip of the hat to the "Good Guys"

The old adage says that there are those who curse the darkness and those who light a candle. In Sandy Hook, there are those who complained about the pot holes at the mail box and those who got the gravel and spent several wet, cold, rainy mornings filling in the pot holes. Thanks again to that regular crew of helpers!

## 1999 MEMBERSHIP Sandy Hook Community Association

Fee — \$10.00 per person

Due in January

Name \_\_\_\_\_

*Surname*

*First names - husband and wife where applicable*

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (s) \_\_\_\_\_

SANDY HOOK STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_