



Issue No. 1
January, 2003

Sandy Hook News NEXT

Sandy Hook Community Association 5916 Skookumchuk Road, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A4
Email: sandybooker@sechelt.net Web Site: www.sechelt.net

Your Board Members		
President	Bob D'Arcy	885-5766
Vice President	Pat Moore	885-7865
Past President	Gray Waddell	885-5606
Secretary	Joanne Rykers	740-8868
Treasurer	Harold Fletcher	885-4433
Planning	Din Ruttlyncck	885-5069
Parks	Michael Davidson	885-3797
Director-At Large	Tom Nash	740-0601
Director-At Large	David Cripps	740-5758

Your President's Report — Bob D'Arcy

Happy New Year Everyone!

Over the holidays is usually a quiet time for the community but there are things starting to happen and a newsletter seemed appropriate to keep you posted. We want to extend a special note of appreciation to those who put on the Carol Ships this year. They were great to see on the Inlet on December 21st. Next year we hope there is a note in the local paper so that everyone will know the date and time. No one should miss the sight.

Our new newsletter distribution person, Claudette Williams, has been busy

contacting those members who do not live in Sechelt. For many she has arranged that they will no longer be mailed the newsletter but instead will receive an email each time telling them when and where they can view it on our web site, sechelt.net. This saves a lot of work and expense plus it means the news gets out in a more timely manner. Please note that your 2003 dues are now due and we would appreciate everyone mailing in their \$10 per person soon. We will print our little form for this in the next issue but we thought you needed a rest from bill look-a-likes at this time of year.

Short Term Rental New Developments

On December 18th Sechelt council moved the deadline for submissions and letters on the subject to sometime in February. We strongly encourage every resident to write to council on this important matter.

To date your Association has not made a direct submission but has backed the unanimous letter sent by the G8 collective of all community associations. That letter strongly pushed for simple enforcement of the current zoning bylaws. We are now considering a separate submission to emphasize the SHCA position. We would welcome any input or thoughts you may have to assist in this.

Council also requested that staff do a telephone survey and a mail out survey on the matter notwithstanding that tax dollars were spent on a full public process just 3 years ago. The phone survey is underway with no public notice or any distribution of information that would help obtain informed responses. The questions are very poorly phrased so expect distorted results. No mention of the current illegal status or the 'moteling' matter. We have not seen the mail out survey yet.

In addition, council is proposing some sort of workshop with someone from the legal firm representing

Whistler to provide background on their work to enforce zoning bylaws. That, by the way, has been tested all the way to the provincial Supreme Court.

For those who still are concerned exactly what rentals are at issue, the G8 has set out a simple, non-legal description: "In Sechelt any homeowner can rent out 1 or 2 rooms or suites if the house or cottage is occupied by the owner and the rental period is one month or longer. Of course, the homeowner may also operate a B&B by meeting the licensing requirements.

In our friendly communities, while it is not spelled out, an owner occasionally renting out their home to friends or family is not cause for concern. When the house is used by the owner and family as their full-time home or part-time residence and they do not advertise or distinguish the house in any way (or have anyone else do it for them) rarely is rental an issue.

Problems with the community and complaints to the Bylaw Officer result if the primary use of the house and property is commercial and promoted that way." To read even more about this issue and view many of the pertinent documents go on the internet to a private site, www.sechelt.biz. **Please Write your letter to council.**

Is Your Membership Up to Date?

2003 is NOW Due

NEXT