



# Sandy Hook Community Association

5916 Skookumchuk Road, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A4

E mail: sandyhook@sechelt.net Web Site www.sechelt.net

Number-4 October, 2006

## YOUR OFFICERS

### President

Peter Harvey—885-4833

### Vice President

Sue Jackel—885-2348

### Secretary/Treasurer

Bob D'Arcy—885-5766

### Past President

Joan Pedlar—885-7680

### Public Works Director

Bruce Woodburn—885-9402

### At Large

Gray Waddell—885-5606

Mike Sutcliffe—740-8133

# Meet & Greet AGAIN

Yes, back by popular demand, we are holding another of our super fun and friendly gatherings for all Sandy Hook Community Association Members.

## With wine and cheese and snacks and goodies

Open and FREE to all members over 18 (liquor thing you know)

Memberships available at the door\* See Note

WHERE? - The Arts Centre (Trail and Medusa)

WHEN? - Friday, December 15th

TIME? - 5 PM to 7 PM

Be sure and mark your calendar



The fourth of our "Meet and Greets" where everyone has a great time meeting their fellow Sandyhookers. The more the merrier so drag your neighbour along with you. P.S. Your President will be giving a BRIEF report on SHCA (No such thing as a free lunch—grin)

### \* Note

SHCA Memberships are: \$10 Per person and are good for the calendar year BUT any bought by FIRST TIME members at this "affair" will be good for all of 2007 too. Prior members will be treated as "renewing"

## Some Recent Board Activities

Remember the minutes of our board meetings are always posted on the website (www.sechelt.net) for you to review Here are some highlights just

from August onward:

- Sub-division plans have been ordered so we can identify and protect our beach accesses
- To calm traffic and enhance safety at Klahanie, a new stop sign set-up is going in
- The lines on Sandy Hook Road have been moved to provide a continuous path on the "downside" to enhance walking safety and make it less dangerous for cars to exit the driveways (there were accidents but fortunately no one was hurt).
- A new initiative to enhance Sandy Hook Park is underway.—more in the next issue, we hope.
- Our "Bear" report went forward to the authorities.
- Thanks to President Harvey and volunteer Michael Davidson, a new "park bench" is now in place by the mailboxes on Skookumchuk Road by the Deerhorn Park entrance.

- Board members have been attending many, many meetings to keep aware of developments in the District including
  - All Council meetings
  - All Planning meetings
  - All SCAF meetings
  - All public hearings
  - Special meeting with CAL on noise issues
- A wish list for the 2007 District budget has been filed including our dreams for many enhancements and fixes
- Deerhorn Park has been cleaned up again
- Lots of news on Hidden Grove (more later)
- Trails maintained in the Sechelt Heritage Forest
- Made a presentation for the Visioning Process to help guide the future of Sechelt and Sandy Hook.
- Participated in SCAF Silver Back committee (see later)
- Loads of other stuff!

President Harvey traveling in Europe last month:

"I went to a museum that had all the heads and arms from the statues in all the other museums."

JOIN or Renew your membership online at [www.sechelt.net](http://www.sechelt.net)

## SilverBack Development

This huge project was too big for one community association or group to respond to, yet it would affect all of Sechelt, not just the east side of the inlet. Recognizing this, the Sechelt Community Associations Forum (SCAF) created a Silverback committee with reps from East Porpoise Bay, Sandy Hook, Tuwanek and the Village, to act as watchdog and express public concerns. The chair was SHCA VP Sue Jackel.

Starting last July, the committee met several times, exchanged many emails, read everything the developer and planning department produced, bugged the planners and Council for more information and more chances for public input, and generally did their best to get a true picture of what the developer was proposing. It wasn't a pretty picture--rather scary, in fact.

The Silverback bylaw received first reading in late September and was sent to public hearing Oct. 19 at the Legion. About 70 people attended; all but two were critical of the proposal.

Your SCAF committee put together a substantial presentation, entitled "15 reasons to say thanks, but no thanks to Silverback." The reasons ranged from Silverback's overpowering size, to its status as a condo hotel, to lack of essential studies (hydrology, fiscal and community impact). The document is posted on the SCAF website ([www.sechelt.net](http://www.sechelt.net)) Silverback Materials page).

Fifteen reasons took 15 minutes, and there is a 5-minute time-limit on presentations at a public hearing. Anticipating this, our experienced crew signed up three readers in succession--Serge Plandin of East Porpoise Bay, our own Bula Hess, and Lorraine Gallant of EPB. Sue Jackel was the main author, and Bula her trusted advisor. And Bob D. got to say a few choice things too, so all in all, Sandy Hook was vocal and noticed at the hearing.

When Silverback will go forward to second reading is anyone's guess. We'll try to keep you posted. In the meantime, anyone with continuing interest in this issue should contact Sue at 885-2348, or [suejackel@dccnet.com](mailto:suejackel@dccnet.com).

## Hidden Grove

It has been a few months of up and down for your Sandy Hook Hidden Grove committee. As we go to press we are up again.

The last word from the province regarding a crown grant to the District for the Hidden Grove lands deferred a decision to await the formation of the Sechelt Community Forest. The suggestion was that this new Sechelt venture could best protect the Grove and declare it a recreational or tourist asset from the forest. Finally the Community Forest was granted by the province and incorporated and it took quite awhile to get going so your Hidden Grove committee could talk to them. After some back and forth we have not yet received the desired go ahead to begin serious work in the Grove but we have received a letter guaranteeing a complete moratorium on any logging for the entire probationary period of the Community Forest—5 years. So we have that time to get the rest of the bits in place.

Latest bits to report:

- Application in for substantial corporate funding is in process.
- School District is looking at student tours
- Bike trails have been given a preliminary survey and we have had talks with Cap College for a trail building laboratory on north portion
- We have a commitment for a mini-grader and operator at cost to start on the wheelchair access trails.

We just need that green light to get everything going. See more on line at [www.hiddengrove.info](http://www.hiddengrove.info).

## West Sechelt Community Association Formed

Thanks largely to the tireless efforts of Ken Matheson, formerly of the West Porpoise Bay Association (he moved) and with some support from the Sechelt Community Association Forum, a new revitalized community association has been born in West Sechelt.

At a recent SCAF meeting a certificate of membership in SCAF was presented to Ken with much applause.

Already the WSCA has over 90 members and has been called upon to have a full

public consultation meeting with the proponents of a new seniors home. The meeting will be held (6 – 7:30) in conjunction with the first AGM of the new association (7:30—9:00) on November 2 at Sechelt elementary. The public is welcome.

**(Editors Note:** This is the second association to come to life again in Sechelt in the past year with encouragement and with input from SCAF. The new Sechelt Village Residents Association had its first AGM on October 26, 2005.)

## New nice walk

### — new connection to Tillicum

For those of you who enjoy the beach area at the north end of Porpoise Drive, a new delight awaits you. Thanks to the District and particularly District Acting-Gardener Perry Smith, there are new stairs leading north to a bridge over Davis Brook joining onto steps on the Tillicum Bay side. Does this make Tillicum Bay officially part of Sandy Hook or just half of it like the [maps show?](#)

## ICAL Special Phone Number

If you think you are hearing the operations at the CAL gravel pit then they would like to hear from you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In cooperation with SCAF, Cal is working to reduce the noise problems and your calls at 3 AM can help in identifying issues. If they get no calls then they may assume all is well so it is up to you if you are bothered. The number is 604-740-2509

## Visioning

Recently ads were in the paper for the new Visioning Process for Sechelt. Your community association made a presentation on this at the Seaside Centre on October 20th. We related a vision for Sandy Hook including: Hidden Grove; a second access road; forestry along Sechelt Inlet Road; a small retail node; better beach accesses; tree cutting and burning by-laws; bus service; volunteerism; low density development; a community hall.

A report will be drawn up for final public input in March and your association will be active.

JOIN or Renew your membership online at [www.sechelt.net](http://www.sechelt.net)

Consider joining the board—it's fun, so just call one of the current members.