



Sandy Hook Community Association

5916 Skookumchuk Road, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A4

Email: sandyhook@sechelt.net Web Site: www.sechelt.net

Number-1 February 2008

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

Mike Sutcliffe—740-8133

At Large

Gray Waddell—885-5606

Rupert Clark—885-5701

Hi Everyone—With a new year comes a belated *Happy New Year* to everyone in Sandy Hook and another annual drive for your memberships. See the form below and please respond soonest. We need your memberships to carry on.

In the spring we will be having our AGM again and a **BIG** item will be setting the new Board of Directors. We really need some new blood on the board to express what they want for Sandy Hook and to share the load. It is not a heavy load—about 10 evening meetings a year in one of the homes with some goodies too.

More representation from the "lower" Sandy Hook area and the younger set would be especially helpful. As the AGM date gets closer please think about participating. You are welcome to attend a board meeting to see how it all works—just call and let us know you are coming.

Lots going on as you will see by this newsletter. Always feel free to call or email a board member for more detail or to comment. Also, after board approval the minutes of all board meetings are posted on the website and they often include more detail. Lastly, we welcome suggestions for the newsletter.

The News

More development...

Development applications for the east side of Sechelt Inlet continue to pile up at the District's planning department. These get sent as referrals to community associations. Sue Jackel and Gray Waddell attend most Council and planning committee meetings.

If you're interested in what's going on, you have several options:

- a) read the Coast Reporter/The Local for news stories of development applications,

- b) attend advertised public information meetings and public hearings,

- c) join Gray and Sue at the regular meetings of the District Council planning committee (2nd Tuesdays, 1 - 3 pm),

- d) ask the District for minutes of Advisory Planning Commission meetings, and/or attend as a member of the public,

- e) check the minutes of Sandy Hook board meetings on the website (www.sechelt.net),

- f) come to one of our monthly SHCA board meetings (please contact the secretary, Bob D'Arcy, 885-5766 ahead of time for date, location).

As a brief update:

Silverback: there have been no official communications, but rumour has it that negotiations are still underway between the developer and the District, with the crucial issue being contributions to a sewage treatment plant. Stay tuned.

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Membership Renewal

We need your renewal (or NEW membership) to carry on all the jobs your association have undertaken. Last year we had 126 paid up members and with your help we can exceed that easily. With more members we get more attention when we need things done for the parks, roads or whatever. **Oh, yes! You can join on line too using your credit card.** www.sechelt.net

Sandy Hook Community Association—Annual Membership (Jan-Dec) \$10.00 per person

Name(s) _____

Sandy Hook Address _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____ Postal: _____

Phone (_____) _____ Email (CLEARLY—used for receipt) _____

Newsletters are delivered to SH homes BUT for part timers—check: By Email By Mail

Enclose dues cheque and drop in the special mail box at the Tot Park (Deerhorn/Skookumchuk) OR Mail to: Sandy Hook Community Association 5916 Skookumchuk, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A4 OR pay online www.sechelt.net

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Target Marine: a number of residents in Tillicum Bay and Tuwanek are responding vigorously to an application by the owners of a fish hatchery to change the OCP to permit processing of fish raised on site. We are keeping an active file, and giving support to concerned residents.

Jackson Point/Barbieri: a proposal was received in January for a large marina/resort/recreation-residential development at Jackson Point on the edge of Tuwanek. The application envisions 433 residential units, plus marina, restaurant, pub, some stores.

- The property is currently industrial (log sort) so a change to residential should be desirable and would preclude some other industrial use starting up that could impact more.
- Note: If all the projects proposed for this side of the inlet go ahead then there would be upwards of 2300 new homes for over 5000 people—effectively doubling the population of all of Sechelt.
- The marina would provide a much needed pump out station
- Water would be supplied from Grey Creek but the entire project may not advance until the SCRCD has their long term plan in place for water and is ready to build a new plant for this creek
- Will likely have quarterly ownerships for another change to the social ambiance of our area as the number of part time owners swells.

Your association board responded in detail and the minutes are on the website. Tuwanek Ratepayers will also have a response soon.

Visioning: Gray Waddell and Sue Jackel, along with Lynne Forrest and Kathy Turner from Tillicum, attended a one-day District-sponsored workshop to discuss how to implement

the Visioning Plan. Results are inconclusive—it's still not clear how last year's visioning exercise is going to affect the pace and nature of development in Sechelt.

Sandy Hook/Tuwanek Neighbourhood Plan (for the Official Community Plan): There is no neighbourhood plan for our area of Sechelt, and so we lack the precision and protection against massive changes that other neighbourhoods have (or hope they have) through their area-specific planning documents. Your SHCA board is opening discussions with our neighbours in East Porpoise Bay, Tuwanek and Tillicum to explore this issue.

Clearly, planning and development are major concerns for residents of Sandy Hook and all areas on the east side of the inlet. If you're interested in learning more, or becoming involved, contact Gray Waddell (885-5606) or Sue Jackel (885-2348).

Sandy Hook Park—your board made a presentation to the Parks committee of the District to get the gate changed at the park. There has been ongoing unhappiness with the intimidating appearance of the current barrier which discourages full use of this wonderful public park. The presentation seemed well received so cross your fingers.

Deerhorn Road Repaving—Sorry, it seems that the big hill down to lower Sandy Hook is much more urgent as serious holes are appearing. This seems to be the result of the road being made over old stumps and logs by the original developer. As the wood rots a void is left for the road to fall into. 2008 is the tentatively suggested date for this work.

Hidden Grove—your special committee recently received a formal letter from the Chair of the Community Forest Advisory Board that confirmed their support for our long term plans

for this gem in the woods. This does not mean, however, that Sechelt Community Project Inc., your District owned community forest corporation, similarly agrees but it is a step in the right direction. We already hold a letter of support from the Sechelt Indian Band.

Your committee is now looking at a plan to begin expansion of the hiking trails into the northern part of the forest. We can always use volunteers to help when the time comes.

Sechelt Heritage Forest—it has been a busy winter for the hardy band of volunteers who try to keep up with Mother Nature by clearing fallen trees from the trails. Thanks to all who help.

More or less formal changes at the end of Bob Road guarantee in perpetuity an access path there to the forest. Your board recently voted to construct a visibility low impact fence between the new path and the residence next door to help with privacy issues and to keep dogs from wandering off course.

Capital Works—we had a list for the District and so far have not received any confirmations as the final budgets have not been struck. A few of the items:

- The re-paving of Sandy Hook hill
- Opening up the next beach access on Coracle.
- Improved walk up from the boat launch drive
- Swim float for the beach off north Porpoise.

Sechelt Inlet Road—a hardy gang of volunteers recently walked the road from Sandy Hook to the Provincial Park on another of the great roadside cleanups. Amazing just how much fast food junk and other debris is carelessly thrown along the ditches. Shame on those who toss stuff and a BIG thanks to those who helped in the cleanup.

"The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age."

REMEMBER—get your 2008 membership to us AND consider joining the Board.