



SANDY HOOK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Greetings to all Sandy Hook Neighbours,

After an unusually long and cold winter I am sure you join me in welcoming the sunshine and warm weather of spring returning to our Coast. The deer are foraging and eating our plants that have survived the cold winter, the bears have woken up and are again frequenting our gardens, also looking for food, and the Orcas have recently been seen in the Inlet. How privileged we are to live in such a beautiful and bountiful part of the world.

Summer also brings more frequent travel for many of us and that often means using

the BC Ferries. Ferry service is an ongoing issue and challenge for Coasters and visitors to the area. Now we have the chance to engage in the dialogue and let our opinions be known. Do have a look at the BC Ferries web page (<https://www.bcferrries.com/about/ontime-sc/>) and get involved. Take the survey being offered and let your voice be heard so we can influence and maximize the services that are essential to Coastal living.

Our AGM for the Sandy Hook Community Association is also around the corner and we hope you'll join us on the 12th of June at the Sunshine Coast Art Centre for this meeting. We would like to hear from you concerning activities and

issues facing our community – including the possibility of creating our own community centre. Come prepared to discuss and offer your opinions on community issues. The Community Association is your representative body so we need your input in order to understand what kind of community you want to develop, and to be able to speak on your behalf.

We are lucky this year to have a very special guest speaker for our AGM – someone who many of you may already know - **Candace Campo**, Shíshálh Community member and Owner/Operator of Talaysay Tours and Aboriginal Eco Tours.

Candace, whose ancestral name is xets'emits'a , is a proud member of the Shíshálh community. She started Talaysay Tours with her spouse Larry in 2002 and Aboriginal Eco Tours in 2014. Candace, an anthropologist and educator, offers unique and authentic cultural experiences to locals and visitors alike. She teaches outdoor education, history and culture as a head cultural interpretive guide, storyteller, artist, and educator-facilitator. She will join us to speak about “Shíshálh History and Culture in association with the Sechelt Inlet”.

Be safe, and have a wonderful summer. I look forward to meeting everyone at our

annual Yard Sale and Summer Picnic - or simply at the beach enjoying a swim and neighbourly chat.



Susan

Shellfish & Clamming

After a much delayed spring, summer weather appears to have finally arrived! With warmer weather brings tourists and visitors to our beaches. We are very lucky to live on a beautiful protected part of the ocean and have the inlet on our doorstep with its lovely array of sea life. One just has to pop down to any of our beaches and you'll find an assortment of mussels, clams, oysters etc... head a little further into the water and you'll see sea urchins, crabs and sea cucumbers. Many folks like to harvest these for consumption, however it's worth noting that the Sechelt Inlet, Area 16 on the Fisheries and Oceans Canada website, is closed to bivalve mullusks e.g. clams, oysters, mussels, and scallops. It is a permanent closure due to marine biotoxin contamination. Fisheries has this area closed permanently due to the proximity of: industrial and municipal sewage treatment plants outfall discharges;

marinas, ferry wharfs and floating living accommodation facilities; and finfish net pens. More information on Fisheries and Oceans Pacific Sanitary Closures for Area 16 can be found here: <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/contamination/sani/a-s-16-eng.html>

However, our Area 16 (Sechelt Inlet) is open to crab fishing and you can find out more information on daily limits, species, allowable size to keep and how to obtain a fishing licence at the following website:

<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/rec/tidal-maree/a-s16-eng.html>

I have also heard of individuals catching sea cucumbers and sea urchins, Area 16 is open for harvesting of these invertebrates provided you have a fishing licence and keep to the daily limits. More information can be found at <http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/rec/tidal-maree/a-s16-eng.html>

Should you see individuals taking bivalves from our waters or any other untoward behaviours, you can always report this to the Observe, Record, and Report Line at **1-800-465-4336** or **604-607-4186**.

Sandy Hook Community Association AGM

12 June, 2017 - 6:30pm

**Sunshine Coast Art Centre
5714 Medusa Street, Sechelt**

Guest Speaker

Candace Campo

Anthropologist, educator, cultural interpretive guide,
storyteller and artist from the Shíshálh Community

Sandy Hook Community Yard Sale

Saturday, July 8th, 2017

9am – 2pm

Take part in this community-wide yard sale on Saturday, July 8th!

Please RSVP to info@sandyhookca.com by Friday, June 30th, to let us know if your household will be participating in the yard sale. Be sure to send us your house address in the RSVP as we will create an online and print map to let people know which houses are participating.

Participating households should have their yard sales set up and ready to go before 9am.

To promote this event, we will place an ad in the local papers and via online networks to advertise this event. Balloons and wayfinding signs will be provided to help drivers find each yard sale.

Kid activities like lemonade stands are encouraged!

We hope many households can take part and look forward to this event.

Wildlife Prevention Tips

It's that time of the year again when bears and other wildlife are out and about. Here are some tips to help prevent human-wildlife conflict:

Garbage:

Make sure garbage is placed at the curb only on collection day, Tuesday by 8am, and never overnight. If you will be away, ask a neighbour or nearby friend if they can take out your garbage for you or take to the Sechelt Landfill.

Before collection day, keep garbage indoors or in a secure location like a garage.

Compost:

Properly care for backyard composters by turning it and layering it appropriately to reduce odours. Use finished compost, leaves, grass or wood chips to cover up fruit or other food waste in your composter. The SCRCD has a Backyard Composting Guide for tips and troubleshooting.

If you take food scraps for drop-off at Salish Soils, be sure not to leave the bucket in your car! Bears have broken into cars to get at compost buckets and food in the past!

**Recyclables:**

Rinse containers well. Store smellier empty containers (e.g. cans of tuna) inside your house until curbside pick-up of recyclables every other Monday.

Fruit trees:

Make sure to harvest fruit immediately. Remove all windfall fruit or contact the Sunshine Coast Fruit Tree Project for help with harvesting.

Pet food, Birdfeeders and Gardens

Are all attractants for wildlife. Keep your pet food securely stored indoors. Bring your bird-feeders in for the summer or have them in a location with no access for bears.

Barbeques

Everyone loves the smell of a good barbeque, bears included! To keep your

barbeques safe, make sure that they are properly cleaned, covered and don't leave utensils out overnight.

For more information and safety tips for bears, cougars and other wildlife, visit

www.wildsafefbc.com

Contact the SHCA Board

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