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Issue #9 Volume #9

April 11, 2025

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Photo — Kathy O'Reilly

### Growing New Gardeners

Painting seed growing containers was one of the activities on the agenda at the Seedy Sunday event held in Port McNeill April 6. The annual event hosted by the North Island Farmers & Artisans Market is an opportunity to swap seeds and learn about horticulture.

## Under the Gunn

By Kathy O'Reilly

As the federal election date draws closer, things seem up in the air.

Calls have been growing for Conservative Party candidate Aaron Gunn to resign.

Elected and formerly elected individuals and chiefs have signed their name to a letter calling for Gunn's withdrawal is growing.

At issue are Gunn's statements denying the impacts of residential schools and the generational trauma and genocide experienced by First Nations peoples in Canada and his own riding.

One of the those who attached their name to the letter is Port Hardy Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt.

"With everything happening around the world - especially the troubling events in the United States - I felt compelled to use my voice by signing this letter," Corbett-Labatt said.

Continued on Page 2



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# Calls for, and against, Conservative candidate to step down

Continued from Page 1

"I believe that all people are equal, regardless of gender, race, religion, mental health, appearance, wealth, or age. To me, this letter is a stand against both overt and subtle forms of racism," she

added.

"As Desmond Tutu once said, 'If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor. If an elephant has its foot on the tail of a mouse, and you say that you

are neutral, the mouse will not appreciate your neutrality,'" Corbett-Labatt said.

"Chief Bobby Joseph's words continue to echo in my mind: 'We Are One'. I truly hope that whichever Member of Parliament is

elected shares that belief."

Comments, made in 2014, have emerged where Gunn expresses radical far-right views about Indigenous communities, residential school survivors, and the LGBTQ+ community. Most recently, statements surfaced showing his support for President Vladimir Putin of Russia during the 2014 invasion of Ukraine.

Criticism has also come from other North Island-Powell River candidates. "Gunn's statements, including his admiration for Russian leader Putin - whom Gunn has called "incredibly intelligent" - echo Donald Trump and the US far-right movement. North Island-Powell River cannot afford to be infected with the same chaos and instability we're seeing south of the border," says Liberal Party candidate Jennifer Lash.

"Giving airtime to Aaron Gunn's ongoing racism - whether in the media, in conversations, or among Indigenous people and allies across the country - is not how we want to spend our time and energy. Racism doesn't deserve that

space," said NDP candidate Tenille Johnston in a written statement. "The actions of this Conservative candidate do not represent or reflect the people of North Island-Powell River. Residential Schools happened. Indian Hospitals happened. Genocide happened in Canada," Johnston said.

So far, Conservative Party leader Pierre Poilievre is standing behind his embattled candidate.

On April 5, Poilievre said Gunn "has not denied the impact of residential schools" and instead wants to condemn the government-sponsored system that removed more than 150,000 Indigenous children from their families, with the last institution closing in 1996.

On April 3, Gunn posted on X that he has "always been firm in recognizing the truly horrific events that transpired in residential schools, and any attempt to suggest otherwise is simply false."

"The people are the ones who get to decide who they elect as their next Member of Parliament. They will have the opportunity to vote for me on April 28," said

Gunn via email.

Gunn also included a letter of support signed by elected officials including North Island MLA Anna Kindy.

"As elected representatives from across the North Island-Powell River riding, we feel compelled to speak out in strong support of Aaron Gunn, whose character and record have been profoundly misrepresented in a troubling smear campaign," says the letter.

"Specifically, the false accusations of residential school denialism have been particularly egregious. Aaron has repeatedly recognized the truly horrific experience of many First Nations who attended the schools and has always condemned these institutions where abuse occurred," the letter continued.

"Aaron's only contention, that residential schools did not meet the threshold of 'genocide' and that Canada is not a 'genocidal state' is hardly unreasonable and certainly not disqualifying from representing our incredible region," the letter, which has since been deleted, said.



## REGIONAL DISTRICT OF MOUNT WADDINGTON

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the *Local Government Act*, that a public hearing will be held in the Board Room of the Regional District of Mount Waddington office, 2044 McNeill Road, Port McNeill, BC on **Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.** for the purpose of hearing representations regarding the "Regional District of Mount Waddington Zoning Bylaw No.21, Amendment Bylaw No. 1047, 2024," (hereafter "Direct Control Zone Amendment Bylaw No. 1047, 2024")

- The Direct Control Zoning bylaw No. 1047 creates a new zoning category that will be subject to the approval of the RDMW Board. This zoning category specifies the conditions that can be added to a development and its application will be determined by the Manager of Planning & Development Services (Manager);



Legal Description for the subject property  
 LOT 1, BLOCK 3, PLAN VIP319, DISTRICT  
 LOT 3 RUPERT LAND DISTRICT which is to  
 be zoned for Private Moorage through the  
 creation of the Direct Control Amendment  
 Bylaw No. 1047, 2024.

TAKE NOTICE that the proposed Amendment Bylaw No. 1047, 2024, staff report, and any other relevant information can be obtained at the Regional District of Mount Waddington office, 2044 McNeill Road, Port McNeill, B.C., between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except statutory holidays, or by mail, email using the contact information below. The Bylaws and related documents may also be viewed on the RDMW website at [www.rdmw.bc.ca](http://www.rdmw.bc.ca).

Anyone who believes that proposed Bylaws may affect their interests shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard in person or via Zoom online, by a representative, or by written submission at the public hearing at the above-noted time. If you are unable to attend the public hearing in person or electronically, written comments may be mailed, emailed or hand-delivered to the RDMW by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 25, 2025. Legally, the RDMW cannot consider any representations made after the close of the public hearing.

Please note pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Local Government Act*, all submissions (verbal and written) with respect to proposed "Amendment Bylaw No. 1047, 2024" heard/read at this public hearing will form part of the public record and must include the name and address of the individual making the submission.

**To join the public hearing by Zoom**

When you join the public hearing via Zoom, you will be placed in a "Waiting Room" until the Host (RDMW) grants you access. We ask that you identify yourself in text using the "chat" feature - first name and last name - for our records. Please leave your microphone muted until Question Period. Thank you.

Inquiries and written submissions regarding "Amendment Bylaw No. 1047, 2024" should be directed to:

Emmanuel Okorji, Development Technician  
 Regional District of Mount Waddington  
 PO Box 729, 2044 McNeill Road, Port McNeill, B.C. V0N 2R0  
 Telephone: 250-956-3301 Email: [eokorji@rdmw.bc.ca](mailto:eokorji@rdmw.bc.ca)

## Candidate forums planned for Alert Bay, Port Hardy

North Island residents will have an opportunity to hear from federal candidates in two locations.

The 'Namgis First Nation and Village of Alert Bay will be co-hosting an All-Candidates Meeting on Sunday, April 13 at the council hall with lunch at noon followed by the meeting at 1 p.m.

There are six candidates running in the North

Island-Powell River riding: Aaron Gunn, Conservative Party of Canada; Tanille Johnston, New Democratic Party; Jennifer Lash, Liberal Party of Canada; Paul Macknight, People's Party of Canada; Glen Staples, Independent; and Jessica Wegg, Green Party of Canada. Johnston, Lash and Wegg have confirmed their attendance at the Alert Bay event.

The Vancouver Island North Teachers' Association (VINTA) is hosting an All-Candidates' Meeting on Wednesday, April 23 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Fort Rupert Elementary School gym.

So far, confirmations have been received from Johnston, Lash, and Wegg.

The Port McNeill Chamber of Commerce was actively trying to host a similar event, but as of press time had not been able to have candidates commit to a date and time.

The election takes place Monday, April 28.

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# Community Forest to add Kwakiutl, Quatsino First Nations

By Kathy O'Reilly

The North Island Community Forest Limited Partnership (NICFLP) is close to adding two new members to its fold.

Established in March of 2011, the NICFLP is currently owned equally by the municipalities of Port Alice, Port McNeill, and Port Hardy.

At an open house April 3 at the Seven Hills Golf and Country Club, NICFLP Chairperson Ione Brown revealed the Kwakiutl and Quatsino First Nations have been offered full equity shareholder positions with ownership and all dividends to be equally split between the five partners in future.

Run by a mostly volunteer board of directors and a part-time manager, the NICFLP involves harvesting timber in a total forest area of about 2,390 hectares, within the territories of the Kwakiutl and Quatsino First Nations, that are divided into three blocks. "One is in the Marble River area, one in Quatse River, and the third on the eastern side of Alice Lake area," explained Brown.

The NICFLP has an annual allowable cut of 10,000 cubic metres a year of coniferous timber and 400 square metres per year of deciduous timber, said Brown, "which is equivalent to about 250 truckloads or about one per cent of what some of the other companies are harvesting on the North Is-

land, so we're pretty tiny."

The timber harvested has been sold on the open market to the highest bidder.

Proposed harvesting for this year will take place in the Marble River area. NICFLP is working with Quatsino First Nation to develop a plan for managing second growth and riparian areas within Quatsino's Special Management Area. To date, the harvests have been approximately 55 per cent second growth and 45 per cent old growth in the two cut control periods. NICFLP is moving to 100 per cent second growth.

Community Forests have been around for about 25 years and are locally owned forest tenures that have local control, provide benefits to local communities, and try to provide local employment, including a value-added factor.

There are 61 Community Forests in British Columbia and the North Island Community Forest Partnership is the sixth smallest.

"The reason community forests were allocated to begin with is to give some local communities the opportunity to manage forest tenure and it is great because it means that there is regional management and support, it provides local opportunities for people, whether it is bidding on the wood, or working in the forest, or owning a contracting

company that does engineering, or development or road building," Brown said.

"I think, personally, it is the best tenure in the province, that is my opinion, I think it is all of our opinion," she said.

Long term goals of the NICFLP are to develop and create value-added wood products, manufacturing and other opportunities for business.

"We're not there, yet. We're so small, it is hard to have that big of an impact in an area where most of the controlled resource belongs to the big companies," said Brown.

"I think we're all hopeful that we will get there someday and be able to set up some of these local wood manufacturing plants and value-added opportunities for people. We will get there, it's just going to take a bit of time."

The NICFLP is also interested in what people would like to see in terms of recreation.

"We're looking at a couple of possible opportunities in the Alice Lake and Marble River area. We're always happy to have input from people, too, to see what we can do," she said.

"We have a mandate for a small amount of funds to be spent on recreation ourselves." Right now, NICFLP is in year five of its current five-year cut control period.

Over the years, the NICFLP has generated \$6.6 million in revenue that has gone to the

three communities - representing 80 per cent of all revenue, said Manager Megan Bose.

The other 20 per cent covers expenses to keep NICFLP running.

"We've continued our ongoing forestry education programs. The two high schools have a Forestry Academy for Grades 10, 11, and 12 students," Bose said.

"Every year they come out onto our tenure, often with some of our volunteers or our staff, to learn about forestry plans, operations, etc.," she explained.

NICFLP is proposing three cutblocks for harvest this year.

"We'll be selling these three blocks by open market bid, hopefully in the next month or two."



Photo — Kathy O'Reilly

North Island Community Forest Limited Partnership Chairperson Ione Campbell gave an update at an open house April 3.

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**Town of Port McNeill**  
2025 - 2029, Five Year Financial Plan

As per Section 166 of the *Community Charter Act*, an opportunity will be provided for public consultation on the proposed Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw for the Town of Port McNeill.

This will take place at a Regular meeting of Council on April 22, 2025 starting at 7:00 pm, at the Town Office, 1775 Furney Place, Port McNeill B.C.

For further information please contact the Town Office at [reception@portmcneill.ca](mailto:reception@portmcneill.ca).

Brenda Johnson, CPA  
CAO, CFO

# editorial



Photo — Robin Quirk, Robin's Eye Photography

Common Loons are powerful, agile divers that catch small fish in fast underwater chases.



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— Our beautiful First Nation's eagle (kwikw) courtesy Nakwaxda'xw artist Davis Henderson  
 Cover eagle photo James O'Reilly  
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# Partnership brings eco-tourism business to Hope Island

Tlatlasikwala First Nation is leading a public-private partnership with Coastal Rainforest Safaris to establish an eco-tourism startup on Hope Island, off the north coast of Vancouver Island.

The initiative is moving forward through a new investment with Island Coastal Economic Trust.

The cultural and nature-based tourism startup includes construction of a permanent eco-camp on Hope Island that will offer multi-day boat and land-based wilderness adventures with an Indigenous Cultural focus. Tlatlasikwala's fully-equipped new camp will serve as a foundation for future tourism expansion, aligning with the Nation's strategic priorities to drive economic development and increase their presence across their traditional territory.

Through the partnership with Coastal Rainforest Safaris, Tlatlasikwala benefits from 25 years of wilderness tourism expertise of owners Mike Willie and Andrew Jones and builds on a strong existing business relationship with the company. The collaboration between Tlatlasikwala and Coastal Rainforest Safaris focuses on sustainable tourism practices and mutual respect. The initiative has gained further tourism expertise and financial planning through a

project management agreement with 4Ever Strategies, a 4VI Social Enterprise Group professional services company.

The eco-camp will facilitate Indigenous knowledge sharing and skills training for younger generations through an annual two-week youth camp for Tlatlasikwala First Nation members at the start of each tourism season. In the shoulder seasons, the camp will also be used for community programming, cultural activities, and skill development initiatives.

The project will empower Tlatlasikwala First Nation members with stable employment and training opportunities at an important location in their ancestral territories. The initiative is also expected to increase visitation across North Vancouver communities, including Port McNeill and Port Hardy.

Island Coastal Economic Trust is investing with Tlatlasikwala First Nation to establish the Hope Island Eco-Tourism Start-up and Indigenous Tourism Partnership through the Capital and Innovation Program. The Trust will contribute \$200,000 towards a total investment of \$950,000. The Trust is investing in this new project with focus on Culture and Nature-Based Tourism impact.

"Our territory deserves a strong and sustainable economy that will support our people and future generations. This was the vision of my late father, who believed in creating opportunities that would bring our people back home. Getting into Indigenous tourism allows us to build the economies we need to achieve that—through capacity building, training, and employment," said Tlatlasikwala First Nation Chief Tiffany Wallace.

"Partnering with Coastal Rainforest Safaris is a meaningful step in demonstrating that partnerships, when done right, can support reconciliation and economic growth. By working together, we can create opportunities that respect our traditions, uplift our communities, and ensure that our people are empowered in their own lands," Wallace said.

"This unique partnership model will result in a new Indigenous owned tourism business offering world-class cultural and wilderness experiences on Northern Vancouver Island. Global demand for Indigenous tourism experiences is at an all-time high and we are delighted to play a role in advancing Tlatlasikwala First Nation's tourism ambitions," said 4EVER Strategies Inc. President Calum Matthews.

"We are grateful for this first opportunity to partner with



Photos — Submitted

**A permanent eco-camp will be built on Hope Island, improving infrastructure and replacing a temporary campsite to strengthen tourism business and employment opportunities for Tlatlasikwala First Nation.**

the Tlatlasikwala First Nation as they start-up a culture and nature-based tourism business on Hope Island. This project

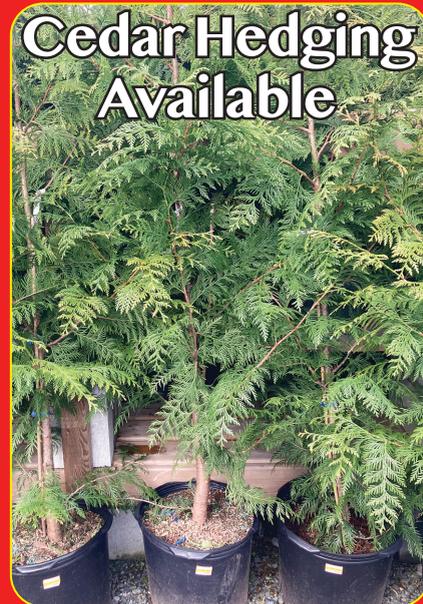
is centred on a public-private partnership between Tlatlasikwala and Coastal Wildlife Safaris and strengthened by their

shared commitment to sustainable Indigenous-led tourism," said Brodie Guy, CEO, Island Coastal Economic Trust.



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# lifestyles & leisure

## Career represents 42 years of unwavering commitment to serving others

By Gord Patterson

On July 27, 1977, I embarked on a career that would span over four decades, beginning my journey as a part-time BC Amulance Service attendant in the Sooke Fire Department. Fresh-faced and eager, I was ready to embrace the challenges and rewards that awaited me in the realm of patient care and emergency services. Little did I know this would be the start of an extraordinary chapter in my life filled with dedication, growth, and an unwavering commitment to serving others.

From those early days in Sooke, where I learned the ropes of the trade, then Victoria, to my final days as a part-time ambulance employee in Port Hardy on Dec. 31, 2019, my career with BCAS was nothing short of remarkable.

I had the privilege of working alongside incredible colleagues, witnessing the evolution of emergency services,

and most importantly, earning the trust and respect of countless patients.

As a BCAS attendant, I was given the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on the lives of those in need. The role required not only technical skills and knowledge but also empathy, compassion, and the ability to remain calm under pressure.

Each call I responded to presented unique challenges, and every interaction with a patient reinforced the importance of trust and care in our profession.

Throughout my career, the BCAS became more than just an employer; it became a second family.

The camaraderie among the staff was unparalleled, and the shared commitment to excellence (yes GW I listened) created an environment where learning and development were constantly encouraged. Together, we faced emergencies, celebrated successes,

and supported one another through the toughest of times.

One of the most rewarding aspects of my career was the continuous evolution and advancements within the BCAS, and I was graciously afforded Advanced Life Support Paramedical Air-evac training. Over the years, I witnessed significant changes in technology, training methodologies, and patient care protocols.

These advancements, employing delegated transport advising Physician authority, not only improved our efficiency and effectiveness but also enhanced the overall patient experience. The dedication of BCAS to staying at the forefront of emergency services was truly inspiring and reinforced my pride in being part of such a prestigious organization.

As I reflect on my journey, I am filled with gratitude for the countless patients whose lives I had the honour of



Photo — Submitted

**Gord Patterson spent over 42 years with the BC Ambulance Service included Advanced Life Support Paramedical Air-evac training.**

touching. Earning a patient's trust was a privilege that I cherished every single day. From the moment I donned my uniform for the first time

to my last day of service, my passion for patient care remained unwavering. The sense of fulfillment that came from knowing I made a difference, no matter how small, was immeasurable.

Retiring on Dec. 31, 2019, marked the end of an era for me, but it also symbolized a new beginning. While I no longer respond to calls or navigate the fast-paced world of emergency services, the values and lessons I learned throughout my tenure with BCAS continue to shape my life.

The dedication, resilience, and compassion that were etched into my being during those 42 years and five months are attributes that I carry with me, guiding me in all my endeavours.

Looking back, my career with BCAS was not just a job; it was a career of growth, learning, and unwavering commitment to serving humanity.

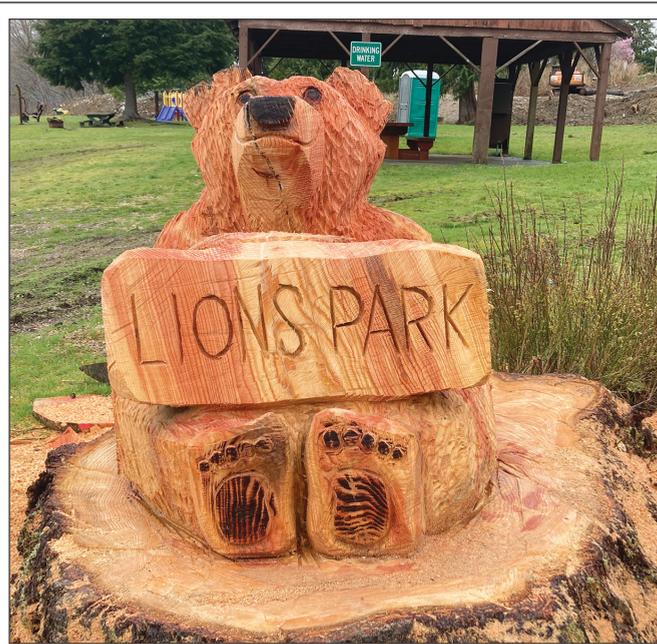
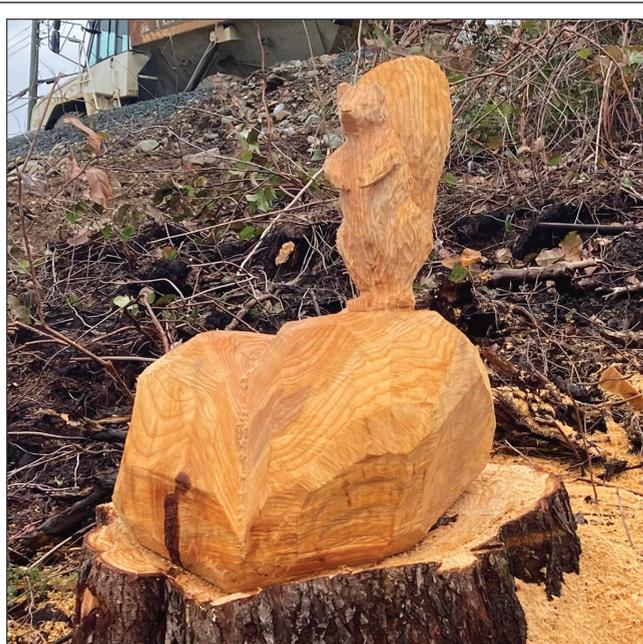
It was a privilege to be part of

a team that upheld the highest standards of patient care and emergency services. When I bid farewell to my role, I did with immense pride and gratitude for the remarkable experiences, friendships, and memories that will forever remain etched in my heart.

To summarize, my career with BCAS is a testament to the fellowship of emergency service personnel, dispatchers, call takers, transport advisors, and many behind the scenes. But perhaps more importantly it is a testament to the importance of trust, and the profound impact of compassionate care to those in need! I loved patient care and the BCAS as much on my last day as on my first day.

As I look forward to new adventures and opportunities, I carry with me the invaluable lessons learned and the cherished memories of a career that was truly extraordinary.

*Safe travels,  
Gord*



Photos — Kathy O'Reilly

**Wooden Woodland Creatures**

Jay Perrin used his carving skills to turn two stumps into works of wooden art in Port Alice's Lions Park.

# Passion Project approvals

By Kathy O'Reilly

Three new projects have taken root in Port McNeill. At a recent meeting, council approved three Passion Project applications along with a grant-in-aid application.

Armando Rosas came to the town for a previous Passion Project of indoor volleyball. Through the policy, the Town purchased a volleyball net, new volleyballs, and donated space at the Old School a few nights a week, said Chief Administrative Officer Brenda Johnson.

"Armando has around 40 participants of all ages each night and it has been steadily growing. He came to Council for a new Passion Project to host a beach volleyball clinic at Centennial Park this summer," said Johnson.

The funds will be used to purchase a beach volleyball net and balls.

Ken Burkholder and a group of men from the Port McNeill Men's Shed project presented to Council a request for space at the Old School for their group and \$1,000 to furnish the room with shelving and workspaces. Men's Sheds provide an opportunity for the "shoulder to shoulder" type of socialization known to be most effective for improving and promoting men's mental health and wellness. Additionally, Men's Sheds have a long history of community engagement and support.

Belen Becker also requested Passion Project funding to bring a session of Acroyoga to Port McNeill to introduce a new recreational activity and provide community connection. This is approved pending adequate insurance.

Pita Rosback and Aaron Gabrysh requested a \$5,000 grant-in-aid for the town's Christmas Light up program that will kick off Nov. 22. "Aaron mentioned there are only 41 more Mondays until Christmas, so we should start planning," said Johnson.

"These volunteers worked last year to do a great job of lighting up the downtown. Aaron is hoping to add to this and work with community partners to make downtown festive through the Christmas season."

The funds will be used to add onto the light tunnel and other Christmas events.

"We did it all personally last year and have decided to partner with Sandbox Society to hopefully access some funding," said Gabrysh in his written request to council.

Previous Passion Projects have included funding space rental and insurance for drop in soccer, rental at the Chilton Regional Arena in the off season for a pop-up skate park, along with gear for newcomers to use, funds towards lights for last year's downtown Christmas Light Up, and line painting the tennis court for Pickleball.



Photo — Kathy O'Reilly

## End2End Funds

Airport Inn Manager Bernie Gobeil presented a personal \$1,000 donation to End2End Cancer Relay social media sponsor Lisa Harrison, left, and steering committee member Sandra Boyd. The relay will see a team of riders pedal from Victoria to Port Hardy and back non-stop in support of the Island Kids Cancer Association that helps families on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands navigate a diagnosis of childhood cancer.

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For too long, we've been represented by an absent Member of Parliament and an NDP party that sold out workers to support Justin Trudeau. Clearly, it's time for a change.

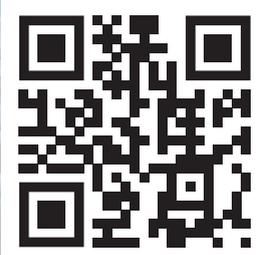
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I've spent my entire career fighting for taxpayers and fighting for Canada.

Now I'm ready to go to Ottawa to fight for Port Hardy and fight for you.

 — Aaron Gunn



Learn more at:

**AaronGunn.ca**

AUTHORIZED BY THE OFFICIAL AGENT OF AARON GUNN

Election date is April 28



Conservative

## North Island **Reflections**



A Common Merganser female paddles along. Photo by Robin Quirk, Robin's Eye Photography. If you have a photo you would like to share with our readers please email [publisher@northislandeagle.com](mailto:publisher@northislandeagle.com).

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## *New Food Literacy Program Coordinator*

Jeanne James-Hory is the new Food Literacy Program Coordinator.

The position is a three-month contract within the Community Adult Literacy Program, and separate from the United Way Food Hub which was transferred to the Kwakiutl Health Centre in 2024.

"With a background in community engagement, arts, and education, Jeanne brings a creative and resourceful approach to her work," said Charity Gillett, Executive Director at Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society.

"As the Food Literacy Program Coordinator, she will share practical knowledge and help communities increase literacy skills through food security programming and resources."

Jeanne is passionate about supporting food access and literacy across the North Island.

"I'm looking forward to leading hands-on cooking demonstrations, collaborating with local growers and organizations, and working with the local communities to make healthy eating accessible, fun, and a reality for everyone," said Jeanne.



*Photo — Submitted*

**Jeanne James-Hory is the new Food Literacy Program Coordinator for the Mount Waddington Family Literacy Society.**

Jeanne has also led the Coal Harbour United Way School's Out program for children for the past three years, which included a focus on healthy eating, food preparation skills and wild food foraging.

When she's not working on food security initia-

tives, Jeanne is an artist and small business owner who believes in the power of creativity and connection to foster resilience and well-being in communities.

Contact Jeanne at: [food.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org](mailto:food.literacy@mwfamilyliteracy.org)

## *Pilot project for seaweed*

**By Kathy O'Reilly**

The development of a seaweed industry is moving along.

"We've initiated discussions with the Quatsino First Nations and also with GNN (Gwa'sala-Nakwaxda'xw Nations) via KEDC (k'awat'si Economic Development Corporation) with the intent of putting together an agreement that will allow us to proceed to create a business plan for a pilot operation for cultivation of seaweed," said Economic Development Consultant Pat English at the March 18 Regional District of Mount Waddington board of directors meeting.

"The advantage of doing two of the agreements is to allow us to investigate conditions and requirements for a seaweed operation out

on the west coast of the island and also one on the interior area," English said.

"I'm hopeful that we will have final drafts in place by the end of this month, at which time we can proceed with issuing a request for proposal for two consultants to implement a business plan."

The report the RDMW received at the end of last year about the potential for seaweed cultivation in the area was encouraging. LGL Limited was engaged to create a Seaweed Industry Development Plan for the RDMW, supported by Canadian Kelp Research, BCL Biotechnologies Ltd., and Lighthouse Environmental Consulting.

That report was presented to the board of directors last October.

# Hardy Hustle returns for third installment

By Kathy O'Reilly

The 3rd annual Hardy Hustle is back on Sunday, June 1 at 10 a.m.

The pre-race warm up starts at 9:50 a.m.

"This year, we're keeping the route similar but making some refinements to help it flow a bit more naturally - showcasing the best of our beautiful town and waterfront," said Community Outreach Coordinator Sara Klatt. The 10-kilometre route will start in the same direction as the 21-kilometre route, following Douglas Street, but will turn right and run along Granville. "To create a smoother race-day experience, we decided against splitting the 10-kilometre and half marathon start times, allowing more participants to finish together. The racecourse will officially close at 2 p.m., meaning any half marathoners finishing after the four-hour mark won't be counted as official finishers," Klatt said.

Last year, there were 102 participants registered.

"This year we're hoping to at least match that number or ideally exceed it! We are excited to welcome both returning and new runners to the event."

Half marathon runners will receive a high-quality sublimated tech tee featuring a breathtaking photo of downtown Port Hardy at sunset, captured by Brian Texmo of North Island Wild Photography. Ten-kilo-

metre runners will receive a duffle bag (with the option to upgrade at an additional charge or purchase a tech tee). Custom tech tees and duffle bags need to be ordered early to ensure they arrive in time for the Hustle. To be guaranteed swag, runners must register before April 18.

"We'll order some extras that will be available on a first-come, first-served basis - so don't wait, get your registration in early," she said.

The final day to register for the Hustle will be May 23. Runners can register: online at <https://app.univerusrec.com/porthardyrecreationpub/index.asp> or in person at Port Hardy Recreation: Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. or by phoning 250.949.6686 ext. 201. Last year was a great success.

"The vibe on race day was electric - full of energy, positivity, and community spirit. Nearly every participant commented on how much they enjoyed the course, the atmosphere, and the welcoming energy of our staff as well as the other runners," Klatt said.

Participants last year ranged from 10 to 78 years old and came from all over Vancouver Island, with many travelling from Campbell River, Courtenay, Parksville, and Port Alberni.

"We even had two participants that joined us all the way from Kelowna and Montreal."



Photo — Kathy O'Reilly

The 3rd annual Hardy Hustle is back on Sunday, June 1 at 10 a.m.



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## Requests for Proposals



### Village of Port Alice Request for Proposals 2025 Link River Campsite Caretaker

The Village of Port Alice is seeking proposals for caretakers at the Link River Campsite. The contract will run from May 12, 2025, to September 15, 2025, with the possibility of extension either before or after.

Please submit a letter with relevant experience and your proposed monthly rate as well as a daily rate if the contract is extended.

The caretakers are required to provide their own liability insurance which will be paid for by the Village. The Village will also pay the caretakers 15% of the campsite revenue in addition to the monthly/ daily rate.

A copy of the proposed agreement can be viewed on our website at [www.portalice.ca](http://www.portalice.ca)

Please forward proposals **by 4:00 pm April 25, 2025**

with the words "2025 Link River Caretaker Proposal" marked clearly on the envelope or email subject to:

Ryan Nicholson, Economic Development Officer

By Mail: Box 130, Port Alice, BC V0N 2N0

Deliver by hand: 1061 Marine Drive

Email: [rnicholson@portalice.ca](mailto:rnicholson@portalice.ca), 1061 Marine Drive Port Alice BC.

The Village of Port Alice reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to accept any proposals it considers advantageous. The lowest or any proposal may not necessarily be accepted.

## Requests for Quotes



### Village of Port Alice Request for Quotes #2025-01 Lions Park Pavilion Building

The Village of Port Alice is accepting quotes for the construction of a new pavilion in Lions Park, Port Alice BC.

The pavilion is to be a freestanding, timber framed design approximately 30' x 50' with a concrete floor and metal roof. There are existing water and power services that will need to be relocated in the new building.

Interested parties are invited to submit quotes to:

Ryan Nicholson, Economic Development Officer

Village of Port Alice

1061 Marine Drive

P.O. Box 130

Port Alice, BC V0N 2N0

Email: [rnicholson@portalice.ca](mailto:rnicholson@portalice.ca), Fax 250-284-3416

**Deadline: Monday, April 30, 2025 at 4:00 pm**

THE VILLAGE OF PORT ALICE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL QUOTES AND TO ACCEPT ANY QUOTE IT CONSIDERS ADVANTAGEOUS.

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## Services

### BUILDING DESIGN

[energeticenterprises.ca](http://energeticenterprises.ca)

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## Art

Large oil painting, 3 feet by 4 feet, abstract. Could be Mexican. \$250 Firm.

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If you are reading this, so are your potential customers! Contact us for details.

## Bicycles

2 bikes one pink and one blue, for five- to seven-year-olds, minor rust. Seats and tires in good condition. \$50 each.

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Mountain Bike: Rocky Mountain Fusion, like new, medium size frame, 26" wheels, hydraulic disc brakes, 29" rigid front forks, SPD pedals, Maxxis Highroller tires, new running gear & brake pads. \$800 or best offer.

250-973-6718

## Firewood

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250-209-7575

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250-949-0337

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250-949-0118

## Miscellaneous

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250-230-5290

Parkit 360 degree, battery powered trailer mover. Capacity of 10,000lbs. \$500. New \$1,800 in USA.

250-230-5290

RV air conditioner, excellent condition, never used. \$500.

250-956-3601

Green Helly Hansen size large rain gear, double lined, coat has hood, pants have bib. Near new. \$200. (paid over \$600.)

250-949-0118

Downsizing? Your household classified ad here FREE.

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## Miscellaneous

Simoniz gas pressure washer, 3,000 psi, \$250.

250-209-5021

400ci small block motor, disassembled for inspection. \$500 obo.

250-230-0745

## Services

Red Seal Journeyman electrician looking for small jobs, 25 years' experience, fully insured, licensed and bonded. Jesse.

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403-620-0033

## Tools

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250-209-5021

## Wanted

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