

South of Town Events

May, 2020

From the Area C Director....

Well, here we are in month two of physical distancing and things are trending in the right direction, at least in BC. From what I've seen, most people are making real efforts to do what it takes to keep themselves and the community safe. Hopefully these efforts will eventually result in a lifting of restrictions, but until the medical professionals say it's the right time to do it, I encourage everyone to be diligent and remind themselves that we're lucky to live here.

While everyone at the RD is still busy, people have taken on different roles and projects are being prioritized accordingly. Many committee meetings have been cancelled or postponed, which means I have less to report this month. What I am going to do is let you know that the RD is receiving compliments for its level of preparedness and the steps that it has already taken to maintain a safe workplace and to educate the public on safe practices. The WCB recently conducted an inspection of the RD concerning the response to the Covid-19 outbreak and the reviewer was slightly embarrassed to submit the final report because the RD was so far ahead of the curve that it seemed silly to even be questioning their procedures. It's always good to hear when we can be held up as a positive example to others.

The positive WCB report is evidence that the RD's philosophy of planning for issues that could happen and not just dealing with problems as they arise is paying off. There are many examples of the RD's forward thinking; for instance, the RD, backed by a significant grant from the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM), performed wildfire mitigation on thirty-four hectares in the Penticton Trails area and has made an application to expand the initiative further. The FireSmart program, also backed by the UBCM, has not only assessed dozens of properties and educated homeowners on how they can reduce the risk of wildfires damaging or destroying their homes, they have also helped qualified homeowners access grants that can be put towards property clean-up plans. Just recently the Board received a report from the Regional Emergency Preparedness Service on the progress of the Regional Evacuation Planning Accomplishments, and plans were approved to have a drainage study of Texada Island completed this year (Areas A, B and C have already had reports completed on them). This study will allow the RD and the Ministry of Transportation to better plan for increased rainfall and potential flooding due to climate change. In addition to this, the National Disaster Mitigation Program provided grant money so that the RD could undertake coastal flood mapping in order to identify at-risk areas in our community and develop plans in the event of a flood. These are just a few of the many ways that the RD is working to keep us all safe.

Keep healthy, safe and positive!

Clay Brander, qathet Regional District

Lang Bay Hall:

Unfortunately, Lang Bay Hall will remain closed until further notice but our membership continues to be community-minded and involved.

The Community Club has installed an outdoor library at the front door of the hall for everyone to use & enjoy. Please take necessary precautions when handling the books in order to keep everyone safe.

The members of Lang Bay Hall would like to thank the Art Lloyd family for donating a garden bench for everyone to come, sit and enjoy the Hall gardens. Enjoy the bench, but not all at the same time! Take turns in order to maintain safe distances.

Lang Bay Friends, the community drop-in group, is staying connected through emails, videos, quizzes and photos and many group participants have offered to help anyone in the community who needs assistance. For more information please contact Laural 604-487-1895.

Joanne Luscombe, the club's vice president, goes to town a couple times a week and will shop for those who can't. Contact Joanne at 778-522-9642.

Kelly Creek Community School Association:

The school and the community house, along with the playground and hockey court, are closed until further notice. We look forward to the time when we can get back to our normal schedule and hope that everyone finds new ways to stay active and engaged until that happens. Stay healthy folks.

Kelly Creek Community Church:

Pastor: Mike Martinig Office: 604-414-4827 Email: kellyck@telus.net
Sunday service: 10:00 AM online at the Kelly Creek Community Church Facebook
page (<https://www.facebook.com/KellyCreekChurch/>)

Online Connections:

Yoga with Keely! Free of charge, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 PM
All levels are welcome to join – Zoom links and other information sent
out weekly. Contact Keely@rootdownyoga.com.

If you have online services you would like to offer please email SouthEvents@shaw.ca