

South of Town Events

February, 2023

From the Area C Director....

It was a relatively quiet month for the qathet Regional District (qRD) Board but the staff is always hard at work. On top dealing with the regular business at hand there are a number of things that occur when a new Board is elected. This month we had a consultant come in and work with the Board and staff to review our Code of Conduct. Codes of Conduct are getting a lot more attention these days and it is now mandated in the Community Charter that they be reviewed within six months of an election. The qRD had one already but it needed some fine-tuning. After a lengthy, lively, and really quite pleasant and entertaining session we came up with a robust Code of Conduct that will serve us well. The best time to review a Code of Conduct is when one isn't needed so the timing was perfect.

As most of you are aware, the qRD is experiencing a housing shortage which is proving to be a big challenge for individuals, families and employers as well. Finding affordable housing is a particular challenge but the lack of housing in general makes it difficult for employers to lure potential employees to town. Municipalities have more tools to work with (zoning, permitting, smaller lot sizes, etc.) than Electoral Areas do but that doesn't mean that our hands are completely tied. This month the Board passed a motion to request a report from staff that will contain potential avenues down which we could go to mitigate the current housing shortage in the rural areas of the qRD. Staff has been asked to investigate legislation regarding affordable housing and Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) regulations regarding rural properties. Because sewer lines don't extend to the rural areas and the majority of the homes are on wells, VCH is the body who determines safe lot sizes and residency allowances.

This month the Board members were happy to receive a progress report on the new Resource Recovery Centre and a brief history of the site on which it's being developed. This project is one of the largest that the qRD has ever taken on and it's turning into a real success story. A contaminated site has been cleaned up and is being replaced by a facility that will not only help us to reduce our waste and the greenhouse gases we create by transporting our waste but it will provide education, employment, support for non-profits, and a source for used building materials. Read about it at www.qathet.ca/current_project/resource-recovery-centre/.

One more item I want to mention is that this month a member of the public was distraught over the fact that the policies regarding the cemetery mausoleum didn't allow him to leave flowers in memory of his family members who had passed. The Board listened to his concerns, and has requested a report from staff to figure out if a solution to the problem can be found. I have a good feeling one will be. It's a great example of the public coming to the Board with a concern, and being heard.

Clay Brander, qathet Regional District

Lang Bay Hall:

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm: Yoga with Danielle - \$10.00 drop in fee. Call or text Danielle at 604-223-9493 for more information.

Tuesdays, 10:30 am-noon: Lang Bay Friends – Join members of the community for informal discussions, projects and pot luck lunches. Everyone is welcome to attend. Contact Laural at lghascats@gmail.com for more info.

Wednesdays, Feb. 15 – March 15, 4:00-5:00 pm: Mindful Moves Yoga & More – Registered sessions, \$60 each, pro-rated fee available. Improve sleep, release tension & calm your mind. Contact Robin at 604-483-6759 or robin.inison@gmail.com to register.

Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:00-7:00 pm: Country Dance Lessons - \$5.00 per person. Contact Ian at 604-208-9343 for more information.

Thursdays, 10:00-11:30 am: ORCA Bus – exciting play-based early learning program appropriate for children 0-5, parent/caregiver attendance required.

Thursdays, 6:45 pm (play starts at 7:00): Lang Bay Crib Club – All players welcome, \$2 p/p. For more information contact Rob at 604-578-8465.

Saturday, Feb. 18th, 1:00 pm: Euchre - \$5.00 per couple. Prizes and refreshments available, everyone welcome. Games held every 3rd Saturday afternoon of the month until further notice. Contact Carol at 604-487-1259 for more info.

Kelly Creek Community School Association:

The Kelly Creek gym and Community House are open for public use. Most weekday late afternoons/evenings are available for pickleball, volleyball, meetings or other events; birthday party rentals on weekends. Please give us a call at 604-487-9925 and we'll get you sorted.

Kelly Creek Community Church:

In-person Sunday services at 10:00 am (2380 Zilinsky Road) or join us on Facebook or YouTube. Contact 604-208-0446 or office.kellyck@gmail.com for more information.

Malaspina Volunteer Fire Department:

Chief Keiver would like to remind everyone to check to make sure their smoke detectors are working.