Village Update

February 17, 2023

UPDATES FROM THE MAYOR



Dear Residents

There is currently harmful misinformation in the Village that must addressed. I am taking this opportunity to set the record straight. First, no one has been fired from the Village. Please let me explain:

Former CAO

Months Before the Election… Members of the previous Council engaged the services of a legal firm to conduct a review the multiple employment contracts of the past CAO. The previous Mayor and Council at that time decided not to take any action but to defer it until after the election.

Newly Elected Council… As the new Mayor and with support of the new Council we invited the legal firm to present their findings. At that time, myself as Mayor and the Council unanimously decided to move in a different direction in the management oversight of the Community. I stress this was a **unanimous decision of Council**. In accordance with employment law and the terms of the employment contract of the then CAO, he was informed that his services were no longer required and his employment contract was terminated **"without cause"**.

Staffing

When the Council unanimously agreed to hire the interim CAO, he was hired under the same terms and conditions as his predecesor. In his contract he alone was responsible to hire staff that he needs. Accordingly, he hired an interim CFO to ensure the statory requirements of the Village were maintained. He hired Mr. Ron Miller for this position. Mr. Miller was hired under the old terms of reference and job description of the past CFO. This includes the provision that when the CAO is absent, or the position is vacant he assumes the role of the CAO with full delagation of authority this includes the ability to hire staff.

With staff leaving the CFO/Acting CAO has engaged the services of Ms. Karen Jeffery. Ms. Jeffery has over one and one half years expereince working in the Village office, is completely familiar with all aspects of the job requirements and has agreed to this position as an interim measure until permanent staffing actions can be intiated.

Financial Controls

Our CFO has implemented new Financial Controls. While cheques have been reported to contain two signatures, many Village transactions are electronic and did not require the "Financial Controls" of two "electronic signatures". As of February 9th, banking controls are now in place. **Single signing authority has been eliminated.**

In addition, we have requested the bank provide investment alternatives for our significant bank balance of ~$5M. This balance was underperforming as an investment and $7000 to $8000 per month was being lost.

As mayor, I also re-established the Finance Standing Advisory Committee which had not been active in the previous Council. I called the Finance Committee together on an urgent basis when it became clear that the Village was far behind in the Budget process and that financial controls required immediate critical attention.

Democratic By-Election

As Mayor, I first reached out to Municipal Affairs on December 7 th, 2022 for feedback on organizing a by-election and providing assistance to our Village.

During our February 16th Special Council Meeting a motion to post by-election information was "defeated", which resulted in us failing to meet our statutory requirements to hold a By-Election. Today, with the approval of council, I have once again reached out to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs requesting assistance on a By-Election to ensure our most fundamental right of democracy is maintained.

In summary

Lions Bay has a history of passionate, spirited, and vigorous debate. I ask that you focus
on issues that matter to you and seek information which Council will provide when available. Please be respectful, kind and value your neighbours' opinions as
you would hope they will value yours.

Thank you,
Ken Berry, Mayor
Village of Lions Bay

UPDATES FROM THE MUNICIPALITY



COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:
February 21, 2023 at 6:00pm*
***Closed session will begin at 6:00pm followed by the public meeting at 7:00pm**

View the Council and Committee Schedule, Agendas, & Minutes HERE!

Video conferencing is available for public participation via Zoom. Instructions on how to attend and publicly participate in a meeting can be found **here**.

Public Viewing Etiquette:

- *Public participation is still available on Zoom, during the Public Participation section of the agenda. Attendees will have two minutes to speak on any matter at the beginning of the meeting*
- *Silent viewing only, until you are called upon to speak (if desired).*
- *Please do not interrupt Council discussion.*
- *Limit background distractions by muting your microphone and keeping video turned off until such time as it's your turn to speak (if applicable).*
- *If interruptions are repeated, the participant will be removed from the meeting*

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONS BAY



WHAT: Organic Bird Friendly coffee, tea, treats, conversation and Bird Friendly gardening info for gardeners (and not-such-gardeners who prefer a more natural landscape!)
DATE: Sunday, February 26th
TIME: 9.30am
COST: Free, but cash donations welcome
WHERE: Council Chamber

BIRD FRIENDLY CITY LIONS BAY, BC CERTIFIED BY NATURE CANADA

REGISTER HERE to help with planning

or email your name and number of attendees to lionsbaybirdfriendly@gmail.com

Join us for conversation, coffee, goodies and tap into some great Bird Friendly gardening info to get you geared up for Spring! Connect with friends and neighbours

and grab a coffee at 9.30, then at 10 am the **Vancouver Avian Research Centre** (VARC) will talk to us about how to be a Bird Friendly gardener.

They'll cover design, layout, water features and feeders, nesting habitat and boxes, plants (especially native plants for our area), maintenance and why Bird Friendly gardening is so important. Bring your questions!

*The flower in the header above is the Columbine (Aquilegia), Lions Bay's official flower (courtesy Val Morton). This event was made possible thanks to a Neighbourhood Small Grant from the **West Vancouver Foundation**.*

From the Lions Bay Bird Friendly Initiative
www.lionsbaybirdfriendly.ca

ArtSpark! introduces: Hip Hop with Jazz

Meet Jazz McLaughlin. A young, focused Lions Bay resident who has trained, danced, and taught in Las Vegas and New York, as well as here in Vancouver. She wants to share their world stage experience with the kids of Lions Bay, and we couldn't be more thrilled to offer the following series of hip hop dance classes this spring at Broughton Hall.

ArtSpark
Igniting & supporting creativity in our young aspiring artists

All classes will run for 10 consecutive Tuesdays beginning Tuesday, March 28 (immediately following March Break) and ending on Tuesday, May 30.

Each class will be $150 for 10 sessions, and will run as long as we have at least 5 kids registered in that division by Tuesday, March 7. A second (or third, fourth…) tot in the same family is welcome to join for half price.

1:30-2:15 p.m. Parents and Tots – Get your groove on with your little ones aged 0-5. Whether you're cuddling your baby or dancing side by side with your toddler, Jazz will lead you in a fun introduction to rhythm and dance with a hip hop flair.

3:15-4:15 p.m. Primary Grades – Intro to Hip Hop for kids from grades K-3

4:30-5:30 p.m. Older Grades – Intro to Hip Hop for grades 4 and up

Classes are available to all family members of Lions Bay Arts. If you're not already members, join us! It's $35 for a LIFETIME family membership, open to all members of our community, whether you live in the village or not.

For more details, or to secure your spot, email **robinspano@gmail.com**

COMMUNITY UPDATES

MARY COMBER MILES INDIGENOUS PLANT GARDEN

Mary Comber Miles, a well-loved and



respected long-time resident of Lions Bay, passed away last week. She and her husband Victor lived in Lions Bay for more than 50 years, raising their three children Andrea, Raeff and Cynthia in the village. Mary is a well-known botanical artist. Her work has been exhibited at shows in Britain, the United States and throughout Canada, and appears in many important collections of botanical art. Mary was recognized for her many contributions to village life by being named the Lions Bay Citizen of the Year in 2012, and by carrying the Olympic torch in Lions Bay for the 2010 Olympics.

Mary was a founding member of the Lions Bay Native Plant Garden and she spent many hours working to create and maintain this wonderful village asset. One of her main goals in creating the garden was to help to protect and maintain biodiversity within the village. She was also interested in educating children about the importance of native biodiversity, and, to this end, she hosted numerous school visits to the garden, as well as visits from various Sparks, Brownies and Girl Guides groups. In honour of her contributions to the garden it was renamed last year to the Mary Comber Miles Indigenous Plant Garden - a fitting tribute.

In the words of Mary's daughter Cynthia, "We are beyond grateful for the fantastic life she had. Lucky her and lucky us." We could add, lucky Lions Bay to have had such an amazing resident for so many years. Mary's presence will be greatly missed in the village, but her spirit lives on in the garden!

LIONS BAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPDATE

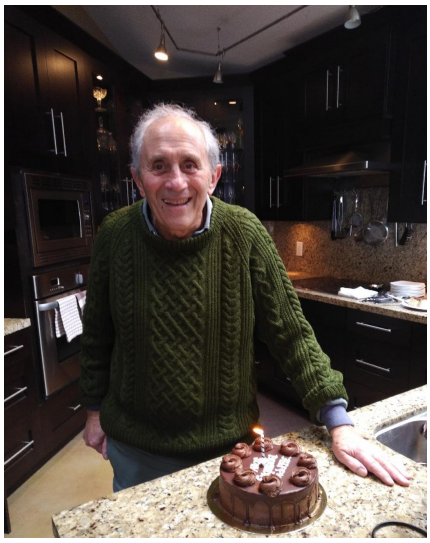
Hello Lions Bay,

I hope everyone is well. When I took office a long time ago, I was the Council liaison with the Lions Bay Historical Society. At their last meeting I placed my name forward for membership and it was accepted.

Unfortunately, as I came on board Christine Silzer stepped down and it was her last meeting. She was a long serving member of the Society. She and her husband Larry continue to be a beacon of Brunswick. They are the parents of three children who reside in Lions Bay, Kelowna, and South Surrey. I know a bit about this, so when I say that grand parenting has taken its toll it means something as they have six grand children and two grand dogs and are in constant motion when they are either are on watch or visiting. The Society members, and I am sure all of us wish them a happy time with their family.

The Historical Society at its roots is about recognizing and honouring our past, but it is also about the now, our future, and things that matter to all of us. If you have a passion for Lions Bay, we are always looking for new members.

At our last meeting we agreed the Beach Park was the location that should see our home grown and transplant Olympians, along with the Átl'ka7tsem / Howe Sound Biosphere recognized. Very preliminary discussion with the Chair of the Arts Council (their Public Art section would be involved) as well as the Biosphere's Director were encouraging. The Society members' thoughts will be fleshed out in due course before we go to Council for their consideration. We would see this progressing as a study group along the lines that brought the Cairn and Sir Noman Kirby Memorial Garden into fruition.



Last Sunday was a special birthday for one of our most recognized Villagers, John Dudley. The 50-year resident and well-known Trailblazer legend was toasted after the Monday morning hiking group returned to the Village. Camaraderie and well wishes abounded during the celebration attended by 20 hikers. One of John's and his wife Rose's favourite hikes is in Garibaldi Park, to the Elfin Lakes. In September 2021 they were taking this hike with Andrew and Ingrid Wray, joined by then new Village residents Trish and Tim Baker. Tim took a picture of John in his Lions Bay 50th Anniversary tee shirt at one of the summits. Unknown to most, Trish is a skilled artist. At the event she presented John with her freehand painting of the picture. Everyone knows the expression "A picture is like a thousand words." The painting captures the man perfectly.



If you know of interesting events, special dates, or people, please contact me.

Warm regards and keep well,

Ron McLaughlin

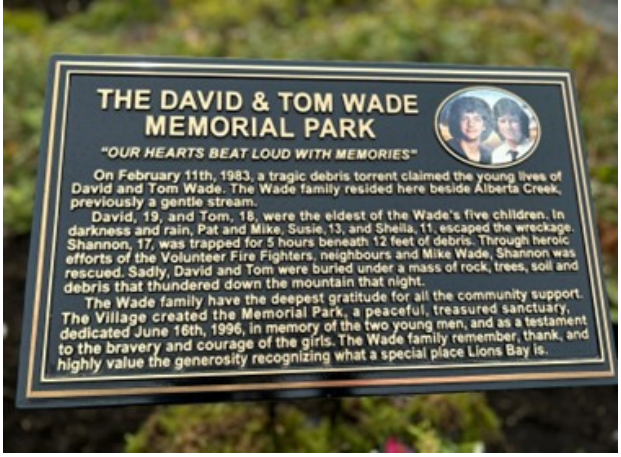
ronmclaughlin@telus.net
604 921 7138

LIONS BAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
"LOOKING BACK"

February 11th, 2023

The 40th Anniversary of Lions Bay's Tragic Loss

by Brenda Broughton



The David & Tom Wade Memorial Park Commemorative Plaque





The sun shone upon this day … Patricia Wade, pictured above, is the mother of David and Tom Wade who tragically lost their lives 40 Years ago following a massive debris torrent in Lions Bay, that cut a wide channel into Alberta Creek , where there was previously a tiny trickle. The debris torrent sent boulders the size of cars careening down the mountain side into Howe Sound, displacing several homes and most tragically burying David, 19 and Tom, 18 in the slide. Their sister, Shannon was rescued after many hours. She had quickly gone under her bed which thankfully saved her life. David and Tom Wade were wonderful young men always with a helping hand.

Michael Wade, their father, served on Council at the time. His career was with IBM. Michael Wade passed away 7 ½ years ago, following a lifetime of love and commitment to Patricia and their family.

Contributions made at Michael Wade's passing and earlier at the birth of their eldest grandson, Wade, held in account at the Lions Bay Village Office, funded The David and Tom Wade Commemorative Plaque and stand.

When presiding as mayor, the land for the park was obtained from the Province of BC, who were about to sell it to the Public. The land was obtained by the Village of Lions Bay for $1, with the commitment to create The David and Tom Wade Memorial Park in perpetuity. The land is where the boys passed away, buried beneath the debris, at the site of the always welcoming and loving, Wade home on Isleview Place, Lions Bay.

Our amazing community members also fundraised all the funds as well as, lent their

volunteer skills, to create The David and Tom Wade Memorial Park in honour of the boys, Dedicated, June 16th, 1996. The David and Tom Wade Commemorative Plaque was Dedicated, August 15th, 2021.

Patricia, along with her three daughters share their gratitude to Lions Bay. The Wades continue to be an amazing family ~ always gracious, kind and loving.

Thank you to Rob Kemp who in 1996 lent his talent working with Patricia Wade, to create and design The David and Tom Wade Memorial Park, and to Harold Gienger for carving the sign honouring The David and Tom Memorial Park.

Thank you to each community member that lent a hand in creating The David and Tom Wade Memorial Park in 1996, Lions Bay's 25th Anniversary, and in 2021, Lions Bay's 50th Anniversary.

Michael and I were honoured to work with Patricia Wade, her daughters, Shannon, Susie and Sheila, the Historical Society, Rob Simons who, as a skilled designer and dedicated volunteer, designed the base for the Commemorative Plaque, and John Pappas who created a phenomenal documentary video spanning these 40 years. The link to the video is below. Please review the link below to learn more.

The Darkest Night

The Link opens in YouTube … it is silent for the first several seconds and then begins. John Pappas has created an amazing documentary.. It is a very moving, compelling piece of Lions Bay History, that has drawn our community together ~ whether new or longer term residents.

The Lions Bay debris torrent and the tragic loss of David and Tom Wade was approached with bravery, courage, love, kindness, support and, I believe, that it indentured Lions Bay residents' volunteer spirit as supported by these values.

Rob Simons, as a volunteer, has put his architectural footprint on Lions Bay, designing the Lori Beck BBQ Patio, the Kelvin Grove Bus Shelter, the Mary Miles Nature Garden and now The David and Tom Memorial Park Commemorative Plaque stand, with the 'simple elegance', Patricia had invited.

Thank you to Public Works for creating David and Tom Wade Memorial Park *accessibility* in 2021 and for tidying The David and Tom Wade Memorial Park each year at this time, and to Michael Broughton for tidying the Commemorative Plaque area. Thank you to Deirdre McNeill for her contribution to the White Rose Garden.

Thank you to Lions Bay Fire Rescue for the Commemorative Bench and its refurbishment in 2021.

While this date is normally marked by the quiet attendance of Patricia Wade, this year several residents attended bringing their deep and dear love, to mark this 40th Anniversary, including John Dudley who had worked to find the boys along with Lions Bay Fire Rescue and Public Works Crew members.

Trudi Luethy, had been contacted by CBC's Jon Azpiri, about the 40 th Anniversary of this tragedy. CBC sent journalist, Sohrab Sandhu, to film the story, which was aired on CBC.

We wish to thank Sohrab Sandhu, the CBC journalist, for his gentle, caring way. The Chair of our Historical Society, Tony Cox, was also present.

Village of Lions Bay | lionsbay.ca

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