Village Update

March 24, 2023

UPDATES FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor's Message

In my election campaign last fall, I expressed that today's economic volatility must be managed differently: strategically, fiscally, operationally, proactively, and all within a culture of transparency, accountability and inclusivity. I did not say it would be easy.

For some, change has been hard, and for others, it's been a battle to maintain the way things have always been, when the entire world is no longer the same as it was only four years ago. With no end of change in sight, it would appear there's no going back to the 'good old days'. We must create a new future, one that requires an openness to reviewing processes and procedures that will best serve our community; and one that will require a cultural shift that will allow for respectful and vigorous debate, disagreement and conciliation, and an acceptance to managing things differently, together.

We have been reviewing and breaking down the old ways of operating that were no longer serving our Village. Since no Council has all the answers, we've identified new approaches to exploring significant issues by tapping into the bounty of expertise and talent in our Village. These highly qualified and outstanding volunteers will help us manage the next, and necessary, chapter of our growth by offering their innovative ideas and recommendations.

To date, and under the goal of transparency, we have engaged in the following initiatives that, for the record, have received legal opinion to proceed.

STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS
Excerpts from the Community Charter:

141 (1) The mayor must establish standing committees for matters the mayor considers would be better dealt with by committee and must appoint persons to those committees.
(2) At least half of the members of a standing committee must be council members.
(3) Subject to subsection (2), persons who are not council members may be appointed to a standing committee.
Duties and Authority

54. Committees operate exclusively in an advisory capacity by making recommendations to Council. Committees do not have the authority to direct staff nor to authorize expenditures or enter into contracts or agreements on behalf of the Village. **(Link to Legal Opinion)**

FINANCE COMMITTEE: REVIEW OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET

The Mandate

To monitor the financial management of the Village and to provide timely advice and recommendations to Council on any matter affecting the financial integrity of the Village. (**Link to Legal Opinion**)

BUILDING INSPECTIONS

While the Village's Building Bylaw (Bylaw 234) contemplates that inspections will be conducted by the Village's building inspector, in circumstances where the Village doesn't have a building inspector available to conduct inspections it's a reasonable interpretation of the bylaw to allow an "exempt building professional" (architect or professional engineer) to perform the inspections at the cost of the permit holder. (**Link to Legal Opinion**)

THE AUTHORITY OF THE ACTING CAO/CFO

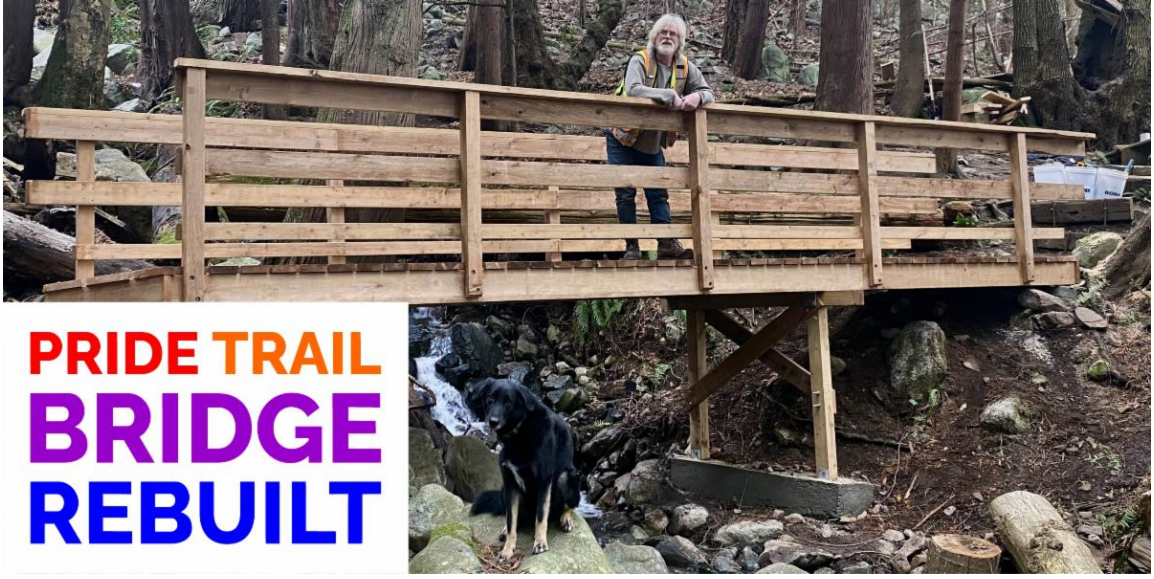
The financial administration duties prescribed in s.147 and s.149 of the Community Charter include the authority to hire and to ensure that accurate records and full accounts of the financial affairs of the municipality are prepared, maintained and kept safe, and this would include ensuring that sufficient staff are on hand to assist with those duties.

The acting CAO/CFO, Mr. Miller, is reviewing staffing options. In addition, at the request of Council, I have called a Special Closed Council Meeting for this evening March 24th at 6pm to discuss Human Resources matters and receive an update from Mr. Miller.

Lastly, we look forward to the coming by-election in May and to working respectfully together with a full complement of Councillors at the table this spring. Wishing you all the best for the season.

Sincerely,
Ken Berry, Mayor
Village of Lions Bay

UPDATES FROM THE MUNICIPALITY



The Pride Trail, a popular walking trail, has been closed since February 2, 2023, due to a fallen tree that damaged the footbridge over Rundle Creek. The tree had crushed the onramp and caused the main supports to split, making the bridge unusable and dangerous for the public.

As soon as the staff received the report of the damaged bridge, they immediately started dismantling the bridge and removing the debris. However, the snowfall in February impeded the construction of a new bridge, making it difficult for the staff to work efficiently. Despite the challenges, the staff worked hard to ensure that the bridge would be repaired as soon as possible. Staff started construction on March 13th and we're happy to announce that the new bridge is in place and the Pride Trail is open to the public again.



The Curly Stewart Memorial Trust Fund was established to honour the life and public service of the first Mayor of the Village of Lions Bay, Allan M. "Curly" Stewart, who served from 1972 to 1981. A $1000 award is given annually from the trust fund, to the applicant who best exemplifies the criteria described in the official terms of reference for the award.

There are many ways you can apply! Submit a video or send in a written application along with the completed form.

Please note: Applications for the Curly Stewart Award must be submitted separately from others, such as the Lions Bay Scholarship Foundation.

Application FORM Available HERE



In particular, it is an offence under Section 35 of the **Wildlife Act**, to disturb or destroy an active bird nest—this applies to Municipal and private trees. In accordance with the Village of Lions Bay **Trees, Views, and Landscapes Bylaw No. 393, 2007**, the cutting of trees on Municipal Property during active bird nesting season which is between March 26 and August 16 each year is prohibited, unless subject to section 3.4.8 of the bylaw

If your backyard is home to a bird family, causing them stress by destroying their habitat during the me they are intensely concentrating on the hard work of brooding, feeding, and tending to young can have dire consequences. Just because you don't see a nest in a particular tree, it doesn't mean there isn't one! Birds are very good at camouflaging their nests - different species build their nests at different heights, and those highest up among the branches may be extra hard to spot. Tiny hummingbird nests are the hardest to find. Some bird species will build their nests on or quite low to the ground, something the careful gardener should also be mindful of when doing yard work…

After this weekend, you're going to have to wait until August 16th to do tree work on municipal land unless you get Council dispensation to undertake a nesting survey with a registered biologist at your cost to establish there are no bird nests in the vicinity of the trees you wish to cut.



Reminder: Boat Space Rental Permits are due, $125 per calendar year if paid by March 31st and $150 if paid after March 31st (after May 31st, boat will be seized and removed)



Village of Lions Bay Career Opportunities

Please see link for details



Due to a worker safety concern the work has been postponed until further notice. Once Ledcor is able to reschedule, the Village Office will let residence know. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.



The Village Office has been receiving complaints of excessive dog poop on the Village's trails.

Public Works maintains dog bag dispensers at key locations around the Village to make it easy to clean up after your pet (**Click here for a map**).

Please, pick up after your dog! Each. And. Every. Time. It. Poops.

PS: After you bag it, don't forget to trash it in the nearest public garbage can or your own.



Our Bears are Awake!

Just a heads-up that the Bear Smart team has received the first report this season of a large bear in the Village. Many thanks to the resident who let us know. As a reminder, these sightings are NOT shared and are only used to keep track of bear activity. This makes all the difference in keeping bears and residents safe and enabling us to assist where necessary.

Please make sure your food waste, garbage and other attractants are secured and out of reach of not only bears but also other wildlife. The **time slots for waste collection** are still in force and now form part of the *Garbage and Recycling Collection Bylaw* which means they are now enforceable.



COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:
April 4, 2023 at 6:00pm*
***Closed session will begin at 6:00pm followed by the public meeting at 7:00pm**

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - March 24, 2023 at 6:00pm

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:
Lions Bay Beach Park Committee - March 29, 2023 at 6:00pm

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*

Program Available To Lions Bay

A free program available for Lions Bay community

The North Shore Neighbourhood House offers the Young Parent Program to different communities including Lions Bay. The program supports individuals 13 to 24 years of age who are pregnant or currently parenting with the goal of promoting parental competency and strengthening family life, leading to healthy child and family development.

The North Shore Neighbourhood House wants everyone in the community to be aware of this service where the Family Support Worker provides One to One support (parenting and pregnancy challenges), referrals to services and agencies to cover parent's needs, regular support groups, weekly food bank hampers and much more.

Any parent interested can contact the North Shore Neighbourhood House Young parent program calling 604-258-8539 or by email at **nfsw@nsnh.bc.ca**

Click HERE for Details

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LIONS BAY

LIONS BAY CONCERT

Cayla Brooke



SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2023

BROUGHTON HALL, 3:00 - 5:00 PM

$25 ADVANCE
$30 DOOR

MICHAEL CREBER, PIANO
BUFF ALLEN, DRUMS
LAURENCE MOLLERUP, BASS

Celebrate Spring! Join Lions Bay resident Cayla Brooke. An award-winning Jazz/Rock vocal powerhouse and star of the hit show Eva Cassidy How Can I Keep from Singing, with her trio -

- Grammy Nominated Michael Creber (Piano),
- Juno Award-Winning Buff Allen (Drums)
- and the exquisite Laurence Mollerup (Bass).

An intimate afternoon of stellar music and stories in your neighbourhood.

Tickets - https://www.caylabrooke.com/performances



2023 JUNO-Winners (and Fulbright Scholar) **Florian Hoefner Trio**, featuring **Andrew Downing** on bass and **Nick Fraser** on drums, are coming to Lions Bay to perform a repertoire of originals from their 2023 JUNO-Winning "Best Jazz Album-Group" album "**DesertBloom**" and 2021 JUNO -Nominated "**FirstSpring**" at the Village Hall. Born and raised in Germany, trained in New York City on a Fulbright Scholarship and now based in Newfoundland Canada, jazz pianist and composer Florian Hoefner draws from a myriad of influences that culminate in his unique Award-Winning brand of modern jazz.

Having just recently played the National Arts Center, it is an absolute dream to host them here in Lions Bay for an intimate concert gathering, in Lions Bay at the Village Hall on **Saturday, April 15, 2023 (2:00pm - 5:00pm)**

This will be an incredible intimate afternoon, and a chance to mingle and meet jazz greats!

INDOOR INTIMATE CONCERT in Lions Bay @Lions Bay Village Hall. Seats are very limited. We hope YOU can come. POTLUCK IS BACK so bring your favourite drink and appetizer to share. See you there!

PLEASE NOTE :: This is a 19+, POTLUCK food + (non-alcoholic) drink, INDOOR seated concert event.

Tickets



THYRA MCKILLIGAN
REALTOR AND RESIDENT - 25 YEARS ON THE NORTH SHORE

CCS HEATING COOLING
Combined Comfort Systems



Photo of Black-capped Chickadee taken in Lions Bay by Bird Team member Danielle Wills.

WHAT: Organic Bird Friendly coffee, tea, treats, conversation and a session on how to use the Merlin app to identify birds by sound or visually. We'll also touch on how to count them and submit your sightings.
DATE: Sunday, March 26th
TIME: 9.30am
COST: Free, but cash donations welcome
WHERE: Meet at LB Beach

REGISTER HERE to help us with our planning
or email your name and number of attendees to lionsbaybirdfriendly@gmail.com
Tiffany Brunke, an outdoor educator from Squamish Environmental Society, will walk us through the Merlin app, how to identify birds by sound and visually, how to submit your sightings and how to count the birds you're observing.

Please **download the Merlin and eBird apps** plus regional packs beforehand (both are free). If you're struggling to download, please email us at **lionsbaybirdfriendly@gmail.com** in advance and one of the team will arrange to help you before the event. We'll be walking along Lions Bay avenue during the session (there are many birds in the vegetation as well as the trees on this stretch) so please dress accordingly. If you have **binoculars**, please bring them along! There will be binoculars to borrow as well.

The session is suitable for adults and older kids. Please leave furry four-legged family members at home.

*We'd like to thank **Wild Birds Unlimited North Van** for donating the delicious coffee. 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

Village of Lions Bay | lionsbay.ca

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