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JULY 2010

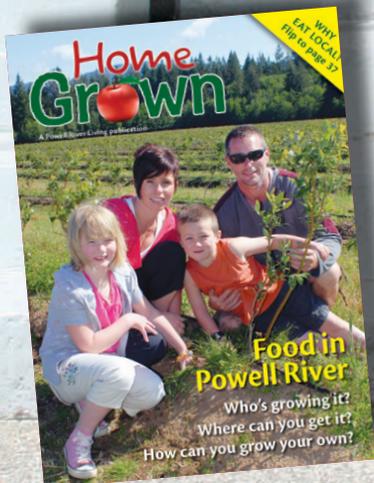
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ON THE COVER

Grade 7 Henderson Elementary School students Lydia Stremming and Christina Browett ham it up in front of Dwight Hall in anticipation of the 100th anniversary of the Townsite. Don't miss the Centennial celebrations July 30-August 2.

Photo by Sean Percy

Powell River Living CONTRIBUTORS

ANGIE DAVEY is an award-winning writer with the Powell River Writer's Conference, a former copy editor with *The Peak* and a fan of the Patricia Theatre.



JANET MAY Janet May finds BC history satisfying because it is so close you can still smell it. Janet thanks Ann Nelson for sharing her insight and enthusiasm for Powell River's past. Ann makes those "men in hats" come alive.



SUSAN CLARK Susan thinks her love of history and architecture stems from growing up in a 300-year-old house in England. Circumstances keep her in Calgary for much of the time but she considers Powell River the best place to write..



With the historian it is an article of faith that knowledge of the past is a key to understanding the present.

Kenneth Stamp (1912-2009)
Professor of history

HEIDI SULLIVAN is an artist, storyteller and lady angler. She has won many fishing derbies and operates The Sea Spider fishing charter with her husband, Captain Larry.



JESSICA COLASANTO is grateful that she and her husband are able to raise their three young children in a community so rich in the arts, sports, and outdoor adventures.



GERRY GRAY was an editor and longtime columnist for *The Powell River News*. He moved to Powell River in 1963 and worked in the lab of the Powell River mill for 30 years.



ROSEMARY ENTWISLE is a retired health psychologist. She is a member of the Powell River Writers' Conference and her articles have been published in health magazines. Rosemary is interested in the history of Powell River.



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We welcome feedback from our readers. Email your comments to isabelle@prliving.ca, or mail to Powell River Living, **7053E Glacier Street**, Powell River, BC V8A 5J7
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Powell River Living IN THIS ISSUE

Celebrate summer with us

Ah summer. School's out, the kids are enjoying holidays and most (hopefully all) will be able to take time off this summer and enjoy the beauty of Powell River.

The July issue of Powell River Living is our biggest undertaking ever and in my mind, it's a keeper!

With the Townsite's 100th centennial celebration taking place at the end of the month we decided to focus on the history of the Townsite. You'll find many wonderful stories written by members of Powell River's Writers Conference. There are stories about the beginning of Townsite, Dr. Andrew Henderson and the Townsite's National Heritage Designation.

Because we focused so heavily on the Townsite we didn't have room to run some of our regular columns. Time to Plant columnist Jonathan Val Wiltenburg, owner of Eden Horticulture Services, wrote a timely piece on what to do in the garden in July but we were unable to fit it in so we posted it on our website. Be sure to visit prliving.ca for Jonathan's July gardening tips and tricks.

Family Matters will be back next month as will George Campbell's Pardon my Pen. If I may say so, George's latest column is one of his best so keep your eyes shined for August.

Inside you will find a special insert called Home Grown that celebrates local food and those who produce it. This project was made possible because of help provided by the Powell River Regional Economic Development Society and the Powell River Regional District. We hope you enjoy Home Grown and learn something about the importance of local food.

Every two years the International Choral Festival Kathaunmixw visits Powell River. We entertain musicians from many different countries and learn a bit about their lives and cus-

toms. Be sure to read Jessica Colasanto's story about how it all began on pages 24 and 25.

There's a story about Cale Hernandez, a young man who watched his dream of competing in the BC Summer Games disappear right before his eyes. Turn to page 27 and learn what Cale did when he thought he'd lost only to discover that another opportunity exists. Cale's tale of persistence and dedication is truly inspiring and we wish Cale lots of luck!

Whether this is your first time visiting Powell River or you've lived here for some time, we hope you enjoy reading about our community and the people of Powell River. Welcome, and thank you for reading. **RL**



Isabelle Southcott, Publisher • isabelle@prliving.ca

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KUDOS Powell River

Sister kudos

Kudos to 10-year-old Marissa Narduzzi and her six-year-old sister Brianna, who with a little help from their 16-year-old cousin Kelsey Gusola, sold lemonade, cupcakes, cookies and original drawings by Marissa and raised \$60. After a discussion with their mom, Marissa and Brianna, decided to donate \$30 dollars to the ECU, as their grandfather is a resident there, and \$30 to the Oncology department, because their grandmother is taking cancer treatments. You are truly examples that all of us should strive to emulate. **RL**

School District 47 appointments

Congratulations to Grief Point Elementary Principal **Jacque Scholtz** and Brooks Secondary Vice-Principal **Steve Formosa** on their retirement. Further congratulations to the following educators on their new appointments.

Jamie Burt, most recently Principal of Henderson Elementary School, has been named as the new Principal of Grief Point Elementary School by School District 47's Board of Education.

Jasmin Marshman, is returning from an extended maternity leave, to take over as Vice-Principal of Grief Point Elementary School. Marshman was Vice-Principal of Grief Point in 2004/2005 before she transferred to James Thomson School as Vice-Principal for 2005/2006.

Scott Fisher, most recently Vice-Principal at Grief Point, has been named as Principal of Henderson Elementary School.

Shannon Behan, most recently Vice-Principal at Oceanview Middle School, has been named as Vice-Principal of Brooks Secondary School. **RL**

Coming up!

All about apples

Skookum Gleaners (formerly the Fruit Tree Project) presents Harry Burton, apple expert and orchardist, visiting Powell River to make a presentation on the evening of Tuesday July 13 and a workshop on Wednesday July 14, all about apples, local food systems, and preserving heritage varieties. This is a rare opportunity to learn all about organic tree care, pruning, and orcharding techniques from one of our regional experts. For more information, contact gleaners@skookumfood.ca.

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The Powell River Townsite

In the beginning

By Gerry Gray

“What a dismal aspect” Captain George Vancouver wrote in his diary as he looked toward the shoreline from his ship, *HMS Discovery*, anchored west of Harwood Island. His commission was to chart the west coast of Canada for the British Government and he wrote in his diary, in 1791 that the coast was “chiefly composed of rugged rocks and thinly wooded with dwarf pine trees. He also noted “a small creek at the north end of the bay but never mentioned the huge lake a short mile up “the creek.”

Nearly a century later Dr. Israel Powell, surveying the coast as a surgeon aboard *HMS Rocket*, was more circumspect in his observations about our coast. He saw a sheltered port, a huge water supply and a tremendous forest of quality trees. In his report to the government he envisioned the area becoming a natural industrial site, and he was right. The lake and river were named after him by the Rocket Captain, Lt. Commander Vere Orlebar, R.N.

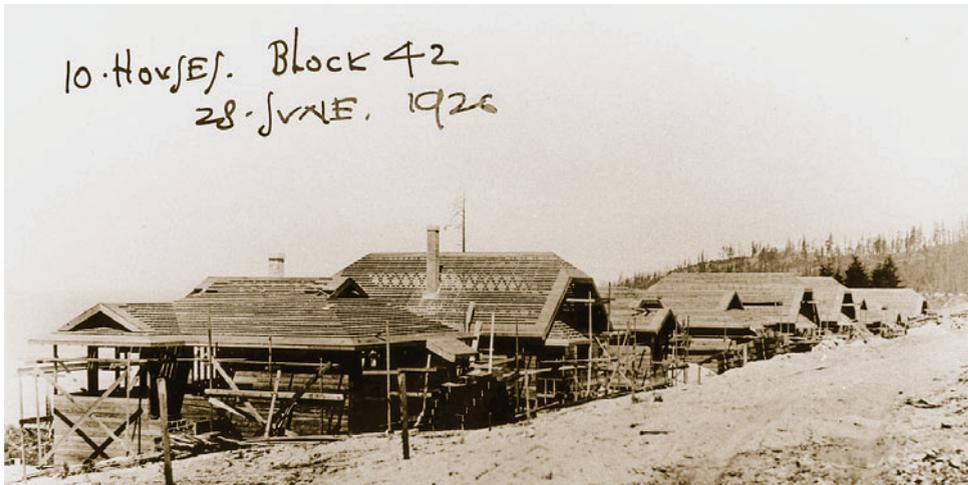
By this time logging had already opened the doors to industry in the Stillwater/Lang Bay area. In 1908-1909 Brooks Scanlon logging operations in the Stillwater area, became interested in utilizing Powell Lake for power.

The decision was made and finances put in place and in 1910 the company announced a two-machine newsprint plant was to be built in Powell River.

This announcement signalled the start of the Townsite.

The winter of 1910 saw hundreds of construction men on the site, building a dam so electricity could be ready for the construction of a newsprint mill to go on stream within two years. By the fall of that year machinery had been brought up from Vancouver to install two paper machines. By 1912 newsprint was rolling onto the dock and Powell River was on its way to becoming the largest newsprint mill in the world.

Along with industrial progress there was the need to provide suitable housing for the hundreds of construction men employed by the Company. Directors realized that a Townsite would have to be carefully planned to last for decades. The area was therefore laid out with mathematical precision. Starting a new Townsite, remote from civic or municipal centers, was a lot different than establishing a campsite. The planners were dedicated to putting in place a modern industrial site with comfort-



Photos courtesy of the Townsite Heritage Society

able homes for its ever increasing employees needed to keep up with the expanding mill.

Early in 1911 the first two houses were built, one for Dr. Andrew Henderson and a second home for Ernest Rowledge. A total of 21 homes were built that year. Soon houses lined Aspen Avenue and early in 1912 the resident managers’ house was constructed. Today, if one looks down Marine Avenue from the corner of Ash they will see the nucleus of the present Townsite.

Even with houses going up like mushrooms still more effort was called for when the mill went on stream with two paper machines in 1912. Demand for newsprint was so high a four

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machine plant was brought forward. At the end of this year 53 new houses filled up Cedar, Poplar and Laburnum streets. Maple and Sycamore came next. In 1923 five and six machines were on stream. Number 7 went on stream in 1930...two years after Black Friday, the day the Stock Market collapsed creating world-wide depression. During the Depression, the Company ran a four-day schedule ensuring that its workers would stay in town and get enough work to live on.

Most of the mill workers preferred to live in the Townsite because of its' proximity to their job, the spectacular view of Malaspina Strait and reasonable rent. The largest house was the residence of the mill manager, John Keayes. Then the Guest House was built. The block system laid out by the Company planners ensured the Townsite was proceeding in an orderly manner, the results of which can

be seen to this day.

The Company, not really in the Townsite Business, made occupancy of the houses as accommodating as possible. Rentals for the first houses went for \$8.75 a month for a four-room and \$9.50 for a five-room. In 1915 rentals were based on \$4 per room plus extras, which brought the lowest rentals to \$19.25. The "extras" included steam heat, electricity supplied by the mill, maintenance, yard work, and even light bulb replacement. Not a bad deal for less than 20 bucks a month! In the winter some tenants would heat their homes by turning the electric stove on high and leave the oven door open. Ingenious when someone else was picking up the tab.

Soon a theatre (The Patricia), a company store, a church and all the other accoutrements of a well-populated village appeared.

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Photo courtesy of the Powell River Historical Museum

Today one can stand on the roof of the old steam plant and see how the town was laid out with every need within walking distance. When the Townsite was planned cars were still a novelty enjoyed by city folk. Most of the houses built during the early 1900s are still occupied as is most of the business section, a credit to the local lumber and the builders who constructed them. Lumber was produced by a sawmill built on the site where the old Townsite firehall stood.

Following the large plant expansion in 1925, house construction increased and within two years 114 buildings were erected to bring the total to 500. The Company maintained building for the next 10 years and when the Municipality was formed in 1955 the rent roll for the Townsite was 500 and the population of Powell River was over 10,000.

But the Townsite business was getting expensive for the Company. The cost of taxes, labour, maintenance and the increasing in the population was skyrocketing. Following the installation

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of Number 7 machine in 1930, the Company gradually sold the Townsite to tenants who wanted to buy and after 10 years the few houses unsold were held for workers constructing Number 8 Paper Machine. Building was continued for the next 10 years and when the Municipality was formed in 1955 the Company leased Dwight Hall, the lawn bowling green, Timberlane Park and other sundry lands within the Townsite.

It's hard to believe, today, when this coast was first charted by Captain George Vancouver in 1791 he described it so poorly in his diary. It was lucky Dr. Powell had a more discerning eye for industry than the good Captain. 

Information for this history was derived from Harry Taylor's Powell River's First 50 Years published by the Powell River News and Al Algard. Thank you to Peter Sansburn, Coordinator of the Townsite Heritage Society for his assistance.



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Garden City in the wilderness

Dr Henderson and the social experiment

By Janet May

It was a bold experiment: a new type of community on the remote west coast. A century ago, Powell River was little more than a cluster of tents surrounded by bush, where men were building a dam and an ambitious pulp mill. Dr. Andrew Henderson was offered the post of company doctor for the newly formed Powell River Company. He was 57 years old, an established physician with a wife, two children, and an unsated sense of adventure. He chose to leave the comforts of Scanlon, Minnesota and be part of the experiment. In fact most of Scanlon chose to move to Powell River. The Scanlon mill was closing and the owners were committed to starting another in Canada.

The company's founders, Dr. Dwight Brooks, Anson Brooks, and Michael J. Scanlon, had experience in forestry and milling in Minnesota, the Carolinas, and Oregon. They knew the boom and bust industry, and had seen mill towns diminish as both raw resources and the workers were exploited. They wanted to create something different in Powell River. Evidence suggests that they were influenced by the modern social thinking of the nineteenth century, in particular the "Garden City" concept. In an ideal "Garden City" workers were treated with dignity, lived in clean well designed houses, and were offered amenities such as sports and the arts. Brooks and Scanlon sought the best quality of worker for their new community. Early interviews included questions like "What sport or instruments do you play?" and "What sort of family do you want to have?"



DR HENDERSON



ROUGHING IT: Dr Henderson's early hospital in a tent 1910.

Some of the first buildings were the community gymnasium and the tent theatre.

Henderson agreed to join the resourceful founders of the Powell River Company on three conditions: 1. that the company build a proper house with hot and cold water for his wife, Edith, 2. that they build a hospital as soon as possible, and 3. that a dollar-a-month from every wage packet would go towards a medical plan. Thus he initiated the first health care plan in BC.

In the beginning he worked out of a converted bunkhouse and a tent. In this facility he dispensed pharmaceuticals, treated industrial accidents, and performed surgery. A typhoid epi-



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NICER PLACE: Dr Henderson's house, c 1929

demic hit Powell River in the summer of 1912, and patients too numerous for the 11 beds, were quarantined in other houses. Dr. Henderson and his staff treated 37 cases of typhoid and lost only two patients to the disease. St. Luke's Hospital was opened the following year. In 1918 the town was struck by the Spanish flu pandemic in which nine people died. As Medical Health Officer, Dr. Henderson instigated the wearing of masks sprayed with Lysol for all people in the streets. He and Dr. Marlatt worked diligently to keep the disease under control.

As well as bringing medicine to the young town, Henderson played a key

part in building the social fabric of Powell River. The year he moved to town he helped to establish a school. In order to meet the student quota, the school committee had to rig their numbers by enrolling both an infant and Henderson's daughter, who had already graduated from college. Very soon there were enough legitimate students to fill the seats, and in 1913 the first Henderson School was built. Henderson himself was a member of the Powell River School Board from its inception until his death in 1939. Henderson started a scout troop in Powell River to introduce youth to the outdoors. He was also in-

volved in creating the original nine-hole golf course above the paper mill. Photos reveal the man enjoying family life and activities around Powell River, especially the spectacular fishing in the local lakes.

Henderson's medical career had followed the North American frontier. Born in Sorel, Quebec (1853) and educated at McGill University, he zigzagged across the international border as opportunities arose. He built the first framed house in Calgary, and brought his bride there in 1884. As a young doctor he travelled the continent, bringing mobile medicine to the men building the railways for the Canadian Pacific, and the Minneapolis, St Paul, and Manitoba Railway Companies. He was surgeon for North West Mounted Police in Calgary and accompanied them during the North-West Rebellion. He and Edith had settled in Minnesota while their children grew up, but when Henderson was drawn to the wilderness again, Edith was a good enough sport to pack up and leave civilization. It was their last move, and Powell River suited them well.

The first of his conditions for coming to town was met in 1910, when Edith's house was completed just above the growing mill. It is still standing there today, a reminder of the successful experiment that was Powell River, and of the energetic people who made it happen. **PR**



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Resurrecting Henderson House

Museum and interpretive centre to be unveiled

By Janet May

Ann Nelson is a sleuth. She prowls around the old building and pores over photographs, piecing together a floor plan. She tracks down sources of moulding and panel doors. She and her team are determined to be as true to the original Henderson House as possible, one hundred years after it was built.

Ann is a member of the Townsite Heritage Society of Powell River. This group is planning to celebrate our community's centenary in grand style: a sports day, a picnic, a parade, a fashion show, a dance. But the highlight of the weekend will be the unveiling of Henderson House, site of the new Dr. Andrew J. Henderson Interpretive Centre and Living Museum.

Henderson House was the first house built in Powell River. The Powell River Company promised it to entice Edith and Dr. Andrew Henderson to settle here. Building started in 1910. The house was designed with bell-cast roof, exposed rafters and pillar details on its large front veranda. It is a fine example of American Craftsman architecture, a movement that honours local materials and workmanship. The Powell River Company continued to build rows of houses for their employees in this style, graded according to trade. Henderson House represents an upper-middle class home of the early twentieth century, and that theme will be followed in the Living Museum.

With the centenary festivities set for the August holiday weekend, renovating Henderson House is going apace. This includes re-roofing with locally sawn, hand-dipped cedar shingles, and replacement of metal-framed windows with double-hung sash windows in the original configuration. Anticipating future landscaping, the team has been studying what Edith Henderson had blooming in her "lushly planted garden." Permeable paving will be used throughout and a cistern will collect rainwater for irrigation.

The House is becoming a "green building" using the technologies of the past, like storm windows in the winter and deep overhanging eaves for shade in the summer; as well as those of the present, like photo voltaic solar cells, a heat-exchange compressor, and modern insulation.

No blueprints exist and there are no interior photographs, so mapping the original floor-plan is detective work. The planners referred to photos of the outside showing the original fenestration, and on recorded memories from people who visited the house in its early years, before laying out restored lath and plaster walls.

The new museum will inhabit two-thirds of the building, including dining and living rooms, a re-located kitchen with pantry, and a replica staircase and landing. A heritage-style suite will occupy the other third of the house, contributing both revenue and security for the museum. Period furniture has been donated by Barbara Lambert and Dr. Henderson's descendents, the McMillan family. The Hendersons' sleigh bed will occupy their bedroom upstairs, and a desk that belonged to Dr. Dwight Brooks will be displayed in Henderson's office.

Tucked behind what was St. Luke's hospital and shrouded in blue tarp, Henderson House was neglected for decades. It was due to be demolished in 2001, when the Townsite Heritage Society stepped in and eventually purchased it from Catalyst Paper Ltd. The tenacious society continues to dream up new ways to illuminate Powell River's history, and Henderson House offers fertile ground for their imaginations.

The Dr. Andrew J. Henderson Interpretive Centre and Living Museum will be a symbol of our efforts past and of our future at the Powell River Townsite Centennial Celebration. Centennial events will be held all over Townsite, July 30 through August 1. For more details visit www.powellriver-townsite.com, call Ann Nelson at 604 483-9345, or the Townsite office at 604 485-3901. **RL**



The Rodmay Heritage Hotel
is joining the party for the
Townsite's 100th Birthday
July 30-August 1



Art Show, photo display, interpretive panels open house & tours
beer garden, lounge events, floats in the parade

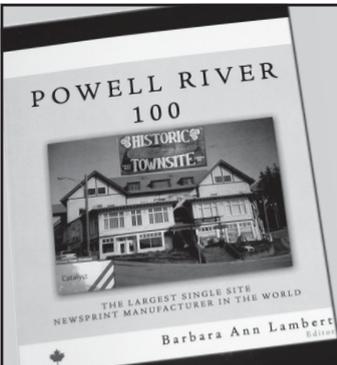
Come celebrate with us at these events:

FRI, JULY 30
1-4 PM **Open House.** Explore "The Fabulous Rodmay" and let your imagination go in the nostalgic atmosphere. View the Grand staircase, Inglenook Fireplace, Executive suite and other hidden corners of our 99-year-old building—open only for this weekend!
5 PM **Barbecue & Acoustic jam,** McKinney's Pub. Enjoy a burger and a pint while listening to some of P.R.'s best jammers.
7-9 PM **Art Show "Celebrating Townsite" Opening.** Local artists' works displayed in the Arts & Crafts style Rainbow Room and Fireside Lobby. Snacks and refreshments. Cash bar.
Historic Photo Display showing the hotel and its people through the years.

SAT, JULY 31
4-10 PM **Social gathering.** Reminiscing in the Rainbow Room. Bring photos and share your stories over a cup of tea or glass of wine. Complimentary snacks and great period music. Can you say foxtrot?
5 PM **Barbecue and Open Stage** McKinney's Pub. Enjoy the historic ambience and some of the best music of the last 100 years.
Art Show "Celebrating Townsite" continues.

SUN, AUG 1
1-4 PM **Open House.** Continues. Didn't see it all? Last chance to view some hidden corners. While here be sure to see the **Art Show "Celebrating Townsite"** and **Historic Photo Display.**

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Powell River Townsite Centennial

July 30 – August 2

FRIDAY, JULY 30

DWIGHT HALL

Welcome Reception & Registration

7:00 pm – 10:30 pm

- Registration: Golf Fun Day & Lawn Bowling Fun Day
- Tickets for Papermakers Centennial Ball & for Fashion Show
- Entertainment: local performers
- Drinks & Snacks, no host
- Guided Bus Tour, leaves Dwight Hall 8 pm

SATURDAY, JULY 31

Centennial Parade

Starts @ “Old Hospital” site, 11 am

HENDERSON PARK EVENTS

Centennial Games Day & Picnic

12:30 pm – 4 pm

Opening Ceremony

- Elder Elsie Paul, Tla’Amin; the Hon. Pat Carney, Canadian Senate (Rtd); John Weston, MP; Nicholas Simons, MLA; Colin Palmer, Chair, PRRD; Mayor Stewart Alsgard.
- PEP Band, Clansman Pipe Band, Spirit Singers, Nun Khum Dancers
- Book Launch: House Histories & Heritage; Pioneer & Elder recognition

Events

Pet Parade, Decorated Bike Contest, Costume Judging, Pie Eating Contest, Pie Throwing Contest

Games

Sack Race, Egg & Spoon Race, Three-legged Race, Wheelbarrow Race, Balloon Toss, Tug o’ War and more.

Tribal Journey Canoe

Food booths



ALL DAY

Guided Bus Tours

departing from Old Courthouse throughout day

“POWELL STORES” at old library (lower level Dwight Hall)

Museum industrial development exhibits; 100 Years of Scouting display; FCU display; Genealogy Society; Centennial memorabilia & books, calendars, magazines and art on sale.

Self-Guided Tours with docents at these Buildings: St John Ambulance; Regional District Office; Bank of Montreal Manager’s Suite; Patricia Theatre; Postmaster’s House; old Provincial Building; Henderson House

Townsite Themed Art Exhibit

Rodmay Hotel

Vintage Car Show

Parked along Ash and Marine Ave

Papermakers Centennial Ball

Dwight Hall, 5:30 pm – 1 am
Zoot Suit Riot, with Dave Florence and Roberta Pearson. Dinner & Bar by Laughing Oyster. \$45 per person

SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

Unveiling Ceremonies

10 – 11 am

- Cenotaph: Restored Reflecting Pool & Fountain
- Founders’ Plaques & new sign
- Henderson House



ALL DAY

Guided Bus Tours

From 11 am, from the Courthouse

Self-Guided Tours of heritage buildings with docents at each location
Open House by PR Fine Arts & Timberlane Quilters’ all day at Timberlane

Powell Stores OPEN

Rodmay Art Show OPEN

Golf Fun Day

Myrtle Point Golf Course
Drop-in, 2 pm – 4 pm

Lawn Bowling Fun Day

Lawn Bowling club, Drop-in

Hahnheim Men’s Choir

from Germany in Concert 12:30 pm
Willingdon Beach Bandstand

Heritage Fashion Show & Tea

Dwight Hall, 1 – 4:30 pm

MICHIGAN LANDING

(Willingdon Beach)

Community BBQ

5 – 8 pm

- Entertainment on Bandstand
 - Campfire sing-a-long; games, races; clown and more
- Sponsored by Rotary Club*

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

Street Hockey Tournament

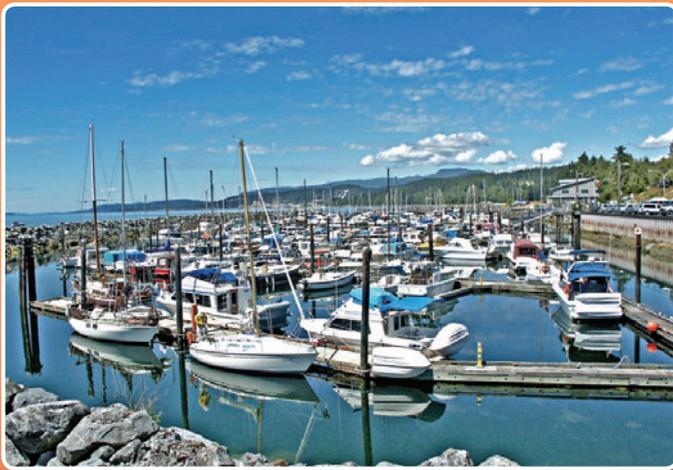
First Credit Union parking lot, 10 am
Sponsored by First Credit Union



Photos courtesy Powell River Historical Museum

Tickets & Reservations: Townsite Heritage Office • 604 483-3901 • thetownsite@shaw.ca
Pick up your Official Event Schedule & Map at Townsite Businesses • www.PowellRiverTownsite.com

EXPLORE Powell River



Gabriel Desilets
Les Bakan
John Craven

Background sunset, Wilma Doey

Ray Hogan
Jerome Desilets
Belinda Fogarty

These photographs are just a sampling of the entries in the *Coast in Focus* photo contest, which just goes to prove that Powell River not only has some of the best scenery in the world, but also some fantastic photographers!

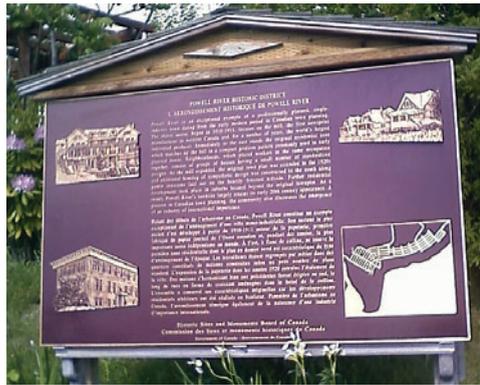
The Historic Townsite

A National Historic District

By Rosemary Entwisle

Unique in Western Canada, a historic gem nestles on the coastal slopes of Powell River, BC. It is the Powell River Townsite, proud bearer of a Federal Designation as a National Historic District of Canada.

Pioneered in isolated wilderness by the Powell River Company as a professionally planned single industry town, building began in 1910. Construction followed the grid iron pattern typical of early planned towns. Architecture incorporated principles of a Garden City, a Victorian concept aiming to alleviate harshness in industrial towns. Building designs followed prin-



ciples of the Arts and Crafts Movement which emphasized simplicity, environmental compatibility and neighbourliness

to foster community.

From inception in 1910 to substantial completion in 1930, the town developed as a homogenous example of Edwardian and Craftsman architecture, with many fine houses. Today, about four hundred buildings still stand with many residents working to restore them to retain period atmosphere.

In a sign posted close to the Patricia Theatre, Townsite is honoured not only as a pioneer in early Canadian town planning but also as an example of emerging early Canadian industry that has continued to this day. **RL**



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The Patricia Theatre

History beyond the screen

By Angie Dawey

Today, just down the street in Powell River, the romance of the silver screen is now showing at the Patricia Theatre.

Established in 1913, the Patricia is the longest running movie theatre business in Canada and the oldest cinema and vaudeville building in Western Canada. It is located in the Townsite, the original settlement of the pulp and paper Powell River Company.

Initially a temporary structure, the Patricia relocated up a block to its current site in 1928. From the sidewalk, the nurtured gardens complement the Arts & Crafts Spanish Revival style utilized by architect Henry Holdsby Simmonds. Upon entering the classic-style foyer, patrons are enveloped in movie magic and often tempted by home-baked treats at the concession.

In the main theatre, atmospheric murals of peacocks in West Coast landscapes have been re-created using archival photos after the original Girvan Studios artworks were painted over in the 1960s. The Patricia has near-perfect acoustics, and the vintage seats, largely salvaged from the Or-



LONGEST RUNNING THEATRE: A full house of Orpheum Theatre seats adds glamour and comfort to go with the restored murals.

Photo by Darren Robinson

pheum Theatre in Vancouver, are perfectly matched to the slope of the theatre's floor. Backstage, the dressing rooms from

the vaudeville days are still there, as is the ghost who doesn't approve of men in areas once reserved for actresses.



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Shuttle available from the ferry to the Festival—see ad in this issue.

For more Festival details visit: www.filbergfestival.com



Daily Admission Charged • Tickets available in Powell River at Rocky Mountain Pizza • See our website for more ticket outlets
Filberg Heritage Lodge & Park — 61 Filberg Road, Comox • NO PETS • Park & Ride Bus • Bike lock-up • Park closed before & after event

Mother and son Ann and Brian Nelson are the fourth set of owners to operate the Patricia and they have converted the former doctors' and lawyers' offices upstairs to living quarters for Ann.

Gone may be the custom-built Robert Morton pipe organ, but in its place is a Baldwin Cinema II, which organist Jim Dickson sometimes plays before the show.

A community-wide contest named the theatre after Princess Patricia of Connaught, Queen Victoria's granddaughter. The theatre's murals are a tribute to Her Royal Highness, with a nod to John Ebersson, the architect of countless picture palaces in the United States as well as France, Venezuela, Mexico and Australia, and whose trademark was the peacock.

The Patricia's peacocks stare imperiously down at audiences until the house lights dim for the feature presentation. Up close, it's clear each brushstroke has been made with exacting care and from afar, the murals speak of an elegant time when a night out to see a picture show was a special event.

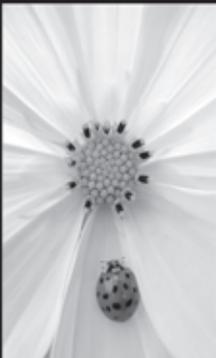
Where once screen legends John Barrymore and Dolores Costello stopped by, first-run movies, live music, burlesque shows and weddings continue to add to a building history, 364 days a year. **RL**

Coming up!

Texada Fly-in

The Texada Annual Fly-In held July 25 at the Texada airport begins at 9 am with a barbecue at noon. There will be contests, fun events for children, Fraser Blues Formation Flying Demonstration, aviation displays and airport camping.

The Fly-In draws hundreds of people, not only from Powell River and Texada, but from all over the province and the USA. For more information on the fly-in visit www.texada.org or call 604 486-0334.



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- July 24 • **Desolation Sound** • DAY TRIP
- July 30 • **Filberg Festival** • Comox, DAY TRIP
- Aug 3-4 • **KOOZA, Cirque du Soleil** • Vancouver
- Aug 14-15 • **Sandcastles, Butterflies & a Fair** • Parksville & Combs
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✓ vote yes on July 17*

The British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is investing in better services to help residents of the Powell River Regional District care for its homeless, abused, neglected and injured animals. The non-profit organization, which is funded almost entirely through public donations, currently operates with volunteers and a network of foster homes. This model is not sustainable to deal with the hundreds of animals in need rescued on behalf of the community each year.

The BC SPCA has recently purchased a suitably zoned property east of the airport on upper Duncan Street to build the district's first-ever SPCA shelter and has committed to 100 per cent of the construction costs of the shelter (estimated at \$400,000) and more than half of its annual operating costs.



We urgently need your support! On July 17 please vote YES on a referendum being presented by the Powell River Regional District for an annual \$75,000 contribution toward operating costs for the shelter. The contribution will be shared by residents of the City of Powell River and electoral areas A, B, C & D (an estimated \$5 per year for the average residential property - *the price of a single latte!*)

With your help, the BC SPCA can continue to provide emergency rescue, sheltering and adoptions for hundreds of animals each year, as well as spay/neuter support to reduce pet overpopulation and services to address community issues such as dangerous dogs, feral cat colonies and other animal welfare concerns.

For more information, contact Craig Daniell, CEO, BC SPCA
604-681-7271 • cdaniell@spca.bc.ca



* Advance voting on July 7. Voters who will be away on July 17 can also obtain a mail ballot. Visit www.powellriverrd.bc.ca

A message from the
BCSPCA
SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS



Architecture and buildings

Townsite a treasure trove for fans of the period

By Susan Clark

As an amateur historian I enjoy walking around the Powell River Townsite. As I walk, I entertain myself by trying to figure out the ideas behind the buildings.

I get the impression that the design of the town was intended to be a visual representation of the modern and successful business on which it was founded. The Arts and Crafts Movement, which in 1910 was just beginning its prominence in North America, was ideal for this purpose. As the town grew, the latest trends continued to be adopted.

An early example of this thinking is the hospital. Completed in 1913 it copied the design of the commercial buildings in the Exchange District of Winnipeg, then one of the fastest growing cities in the whole of North America. Winnipeg had imported architects from Chicago, the commercial hub of the United States and home of the first American skyscrapers. I suspect that Brooks Scanlon wanted to imply the same power, excitement and prosperity for Powell River.

Ten years later the town was still on the leading edge of design. Starting in 1923 "middle management" houses were erected along Marine Avenue. What stands out for me are the distinctive roof lines of these homes. The upper portion of the front gables have been "clipped" off and replaced by a small hipped roof.

This roof line was a revival of a medieval European style that became popular in Arts and Crafts houses in the 1920s.

As Marine intersects with Ash the commercial buildings take over. A favourite of mine is the Federal building. It is in the Streamline Moderne style, a late branch of Art Deco, which came out of the new scientific principles of design in the 1930s. Cars, trains and aircraft of the era all had aerodynamic lines that are reflected in the flat roof, horizontal lines and brick work. The austerity of the Depression is signified by its lack of ornate decoration.

In comparing the Arbutus apartments with the sleek lines of the Federal building one might think the progressive design ethic was abandoned. In fact, it follows a usage then current in other company towns. Picturesque architecture was an amalgamation of styles from the past, often Victorian, with which many of the European immigrants would be familiar. While certainly comforting for homesick newcomers, social historians have speculated that the intention was to evoke an old world social order, where loyalty to the lord of the manor, or in this case the company, was predominant.

In this company town all roads lead to the paper mill. The business that founded the town is still in operation and the town still functions in its original purpose. This fact is what



DISTINCTIVE ROOF: A classic example of the clipped gables common in the Townsite.

makes the Townsite significant, above and beyond the social and architectural history. Earlier forms of company towns in Europe have been given World Heritage designation, yet exist only as museums, or have lost their industrial component. I can't help feeling we deserve a wider recognition.

I have only been able to mention a few buildings, but I hope I have inspired you to take a walk through the Townsite. If you would like to learn more, the Townsite Heritage Society leads guided walks that are both interesting and entertaining. **PR**

Coming up!

Aerospace camp

The Texada Aero Space Camp will be held July 21 to 24 for youth between the ages of 10 and 18 years. There will be two levels of training, with an introductory stage and an advanced stage for last year's participants (and high school students). For more information call Doby Dobrostanski at 604 486-0334.

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Lund cruise attracts locals, too

Splashing the surface, the eagle hooked its massive talons into the morsel and then, its powerful wings stroking to get it airborne again, it rose into the blue sky and wheeled away.

Aboard the *Swan Spirit*, cameras clicked and passengers shook their heads in disbelief at what had happened just a few metres away. But for captain Rod Mason, it was just another day at the office.

The *Swan Spirit* leaves Lund harbour more than 60 times over the summer, taking tourists on trips into Desolation Sound. But more and more often, among those tourists you'll find a few locals.

"I've always wanted to visit Desolation Sound. People I know in town would say how beautiful it is up there, and I would see the pictures, but I'd never been," said one long-time Powell Riverite. "This was the perfect way to see it. I'm so glad I came."

Tours on the *Swan Spirit* are ideal for reunions, weddings, birthdays, summer staff parties or corporate retreats.

Recently a tour company offered mystery tours that ended with a trip to Desolation Sound on the *Swan Spirit*.

The famous food on board usually includes a sea food buffet, chicken, salads, and fresh baked bread, with complimentary refreshments and a cash bar.

Between bites, passengers listen and watch as Captain Mason points out the pictograph in Thulin passage, or wildlife such as deer, bear, porpoises, dolphins, seals, sea lions or orcas.

"There are lots of photo ops," says Nicole Robertson, the sales and marketing manager for the Lund

Hotel and *Swan Spirit*. "Be sure to bring your camera!"

The vessel has scheduled runs throughout the summer, with Saturday evening dinner cruises especially popular. For larger groups, arrangements are very flexible, she says.

"We have a variety of packages and prices, with seniors and volume discounts. The menu can be varied and rates can be adjusted. We really can customize your cruise."

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Rodmay Heritage Hotel: 1911-2010 Powell River's oldest hotel

Exactly 100 years ago this summer construction began on the historic Rodmay Heritage Hotel.

It opened in the spring of 1911.

The Rodmay was built by Andrew McKinney. It was the Townsite's first hotel and in those days it was called the Powell River Hotel.

The original hotel consisted of 31 rooms but it was added on to in the 1920s and 1930s.

The hotel was purchased by Rod and May MacIntyre in 1917 and renamed The Rodmay. It was taken over by their son Batt in 1928, a year before Rod's death. Batt managed and expanded the hotel business until he sold it to Al Mantoani and a group of investors in 1957. The hotel continued to operate over the years but was vacant for several years prior to 2005 when Joan Campbell and investors took it over in 2005.

The new owners have been renovating and remodeling the hotel since taking it over in 2005. Today, the hotel offers a full service facility with rooms, suites, meeting areas and businesses including the Heritage Liquor Store, McKinney's Pub, and Accurate Location Surveys.

Art shows, poetry readings, social functions and workshops have been held at the hotel.

The Rodmay Heritage Hotel retains its heritage ambiance and architecture including a grand lobby and double staircase. **RL**

Henderson School

Henderson School was the first official school in the Powell River District. It opened in 1913 at the place that is now a playground in the Townsite. As the town grew, so did the school and eventually other schools were built. The present Henderson Elementary School opened in 1957. The building was expanded in 1964 and part of the covered area was changed to classrooms in 1988.

The school was named after Dr. Andrew Henderson (1852-1935), the town's resident surgeon. Henderson set up the first hospital in a tent and played a prominent role in setting up an education system. He remained an active secretary of the School Board as well as an important community member until his death in 1935 at the age of 83.

Henderson School's unique school sign is composed of a distributor roll (the mast) and an old mill grindstone. It contains time capsules put together by the pupils and sealed in 1984. **RL**



PR Harbour Guesthouse

Across from Westview Ferry Terminal

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Townsite

Facts and stats

By Heidi Sullivan

The Townsite is celebrating its centennial this year. Here some facts about the Townsite that you may or may not know.

- Powell River had the first Chartered Credit Union in BC. It opened in 1939 with total deposits of \$48.30, made by local mill workers.
- Powell River had the first radio/telephone in BC in 1930 and the first dial phones in BC in 1921.
- Powell River had the first medical plan. The Employee Sick Benefit Society, was introduced by Dr. Andrew Henderson in 1910, with a deduction of one dollar from each man's pay envelope.
- Powell River's pulp mill is still the oldest operating mill in Canada. Building of the mill began in 1908 and the first roll of paper was produced in 1912.
- At that time, one in every 25 newspapers used paper from this mill.
- Built in 1928, the Patricia Theatre is the oldest continuously operating movie theatre in Canada.
- The highway through Powell River (Highway 101) and the Townsite, is the longest highway, stretching 9,312 miles (15,020kms) from Lund, through the United States, ending at Chile's south coast.
- St. Luke's Hospital was built in 1913 for Dr. Henderson, the first practicing physician in Powell River.
- Willingdon Beach, originally named Michigan Landing, was renamed for Governor General Lord Willingdon in 1927, after squatters were removed by the Powell River Company. Willingdon Beach then became a family park. **RL**

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Focus on Willingdon Beach trail

International filmmaker explores nature

Claudia Medina-Culos has spent a lot of hours on the Willingdon Beach trail lately. Most times she's carrying a camera and has someone with her, someone she's been interviewing for a multimedia art exhibit set to air this month.

The exhibit, Nature Inside and Out, is scheduled to take place July 2, 3 and 4 at Venue 76 Gallery, 6776 Cranberry Street with the opening reception at Kat's Meow Café (next door) on July 2 from 6-9 pm.

Medina-Culos is an international filmmaker. She grew up in Powell River but now lives in Barcelona where she is completing a masters in Visual Culture and working on a couple of films.

A couple of months ago Medina-Culos returned to Powell River to spend time with her family, Sara Medina and Tony Culos, and catch up on editing a film she's been working on. "The Willingdon Beach ideas was already percolating before I came home," she told Powell River Living Magazine.

Nature Inside and Out explores people's relationship with the natural world. "The Willingdon Beach trail serves as a microcosm for this exploration as it can be seen as the ecological heart of the community," she explains.

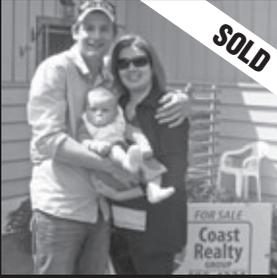
Twenty-five people have been interviewed on the trail. You'll hear their comments and see their images at the exhibit. "Some people I knew, some have been here a long time, others, a short time. We sit on the same bench and we have this conversation. We talk about what nature means to them, when they feel connected and when they feel disconnected to nature. It's always an enlightening discussion."

Medina-Culos wanted to create this art exhibit using Willingdon Beach trail because of the role the trail plays in the community. "It connects the old and the new town, its accessible and everyone knows about it. There's been drama around the trail, and battles to protect it. There's the First Nations element with middens and culturally modified trees."



Medina-Culos has worked with many respected Canadian filmmakers and has received awards from the Canada Council of the Arts for short dramatic films she has written, produced and directed.

Don't miss the opening on July 2 from 6-9 pm or drop by on July 3 or 4 from 11 am to 5 pm at 6762 Cranberry Street. For more info call 604 414-4263 or email claudiamedina@enmedia.ca. 



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The Legend of Kathaumixw

July 6-10 – Don't miss it!

By Jessica Colasanto

It has been suggested that legend is simply the survival of rumour. Some events, though completely possible, seem implausible when retold. String a few of those together, and a legend is born.

One of the magical things about the International Choral Kathaumixw is that there are hundreds of those amazing stories—and they're all true. Perhaps some have been embellished over the years, but as you step into the arena and experience the power of the festival, you begin to believe that anything—and everything—is possible.

The concept of Kathaumixw began quietly in 1982, when two men who had recently taken the Powell River Boys Choir to an Eisteddfod in Llangollen, Wales stood on a hiking trail overlooking the Malaspina and Georgia Straits, wondering aloud why there couldn't be a festival of a similar calibre in North America. Don James, music director of the Powell River Academy of Music, was convinced not only that there could, but that it should be right here in Powell River; Dal Matterson, a mill executive, agreed on the

spot to become its chairman. They honed a mission statement (Matterson still has it handwritten somewhere) and swore to stick to it. Thus was born the legend of Kathaumixw.

Inspired by the unique name of Llangollen's Eisteddfod (it's a Welsh word given to a festival of literature, music and performance, which literally means "to be sitting together") and wanting to underscore a strong sense of place, James insisted they use a Coast Salish word to name the festival; Kathaumixw, meaning "a gathering together of different peoples," became the perfect choice. This was providential, because what good is an international festival that doesn't have an international reputation? It just so happened that the director of the Tapiloa Choir in Finland, considered one of the best children's choirs in the world, was intrigued by the name and agreed to come as the headliner. The little international festival was quickly becoming an important international festival.

"Getting into an international festival

was something else," James reflects with a deep laugh. At that time, the only reliable way to communicate with the overseas choirs was by using the Telex in the mill office (think of an electronic typewriter sending a fax.)

Dick Hibberd, a member of the Kathaumixw planning committee from the beginning, had made his own connections while teaching abroad; he invited the Nyonza Singers and Dancers from Uganda to perform in the very first festival. The choir arrived in London on July 1st, 1984, where they were planning to obtain their visas to enter Canada. However, being Canada Day, the Canadian Embassy was closed. Somehow the folks at the Academy of Music managed to convince a Member of Parliament to get someone to open it, and miraculously the visas were granted. This slight delay meant that the group was late to arrive in Vancouver, however, missing the connecting flight to Powell River.

Somehow the folks at the Academy of Music managed to convince the Pow-



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ell River Flying Club to head down to the South Terminal with a small fleet of planes, and miraculously the choir made it here, in twos and threes, minutes before the opening concert. "They immediately fell asleep in their seats," laughs James, "but we woke them up at intermission!" The Nyonza Singers and Dancers proceeded to change into traditional costume—with the women bare-breasted, of course—and emerged on stage brandishing spears, which were thrust into the stage floor (they stuck!) for the group's finale.

"Imagine," James says with a satisfied grin. "Right here in Powell River."

Another magical thing about the International Choral Kathaumixw is that the legend is happening right now. In the beginning, Don James thought Kathaumixw might last two, maybe three festivals. But

it continued to grow, to the point where the committee had to pull out the original mission statement and decide not to go any bigger than the current size in order to keep the high standards they've set for quality. In the beginning, five people, including James and Matterson, put up \$5,000 each to launch the festival, vowing not to go over budget. And although it has grown in size and scope (an additional festival, the Symphony Orchestra Academy of the Pacific, is now in its seventh season) Kathaumixw has never gone in the red. In fact, the current festival budget is approaching \$1 million, and the Powell River Regional Economic Development Society estimated a few years ago that the event pumped over \$1.2 million into Powell River's local economy.

Attend any part of the 14th International Choral Kathaumixw and you may find your-

self in the midst of an amazing, implausible story. At the very least, you'll enjoy a spectacular performance, and you may even leave believing that anything—and everything—is possible. [PR](#)

Coming up!

Sandcastle Weekend

Coming up July 10-11 is Sandcastle Weekend Join the parade...learn a song and dance at lip sync...grab some friends for the bed race, learn to skimboard or form a team and build a sandcastle. The parade gets things going at 10 am on Saturday; events and fun take place until 4 pm Sunday.

www.texada.org/sandcastle.html for a full schedule.

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Cats and dogs

Residents vote on animal shelter service

For more than 30 years SPCA volunteers have cared for abused, abandoned and mistreated animals in the Powell River Region. They've taken animals into their own homes and hearts because there is no animal shelter.

But volunteers can't continue to foster the number of animals that need care in their own home. A shelter is needed to provide temporary housing for abused or stray dogs and cats, said Audrey Hill, SPCA spokeswoman.

Hill is one of 35 active SPCA volunteers. For the past 16 years she's answered the phone "24/7, 365 days a year" on behalf of the animals.

She responded to the RCMP when they needed to know who would accept responsibility for an injured dog's surgery after a car accident because the dog's owner was unconscious and could not be held responsible. She answered the RCMP's calls when they wanted to know what to do with hundreds of chickens, ducks and turkeys after their owner died. "They have no place to take animals in



the Regional District," said Hill. "If a dog is found running on the road in the Regional District it's not fair that it is left out to die." In 2009, SPCA volunteers dealt with

320 dogs and cats plus a number of other animals. One third of those animals came from the Regional District and two-thirds came from the City, she said.

"The SPCA has been fund raising for many years to collect funds to build an animal shelter," said Hill. "It is getting increasingly difficult to find people to foster animals in their own homes."

The SPCA will pay 100 % of the building construction costs for a new animal shelter, which is estimated at \$400,000.

The City of Powell River has agreed to pay its portion of the operating costs of the new animal shelter service.

The Regional District will hold a vote on July 17 to determine if the majority of its voters are in favour of increasing taxes \$2 per \$100,000 of resident property value to pay for this new service.

For more information please visit the Regional District's website at powellriverrd.bc.ca and click on under What's New. You can also visit www.spc.bc.ca/powellriver or call Audrey Hill at 604 483-3506. **RL**

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Shattered dreams

How one young man never gave up

Fifteen-year-old Cale Hernandez had his heart set on competing in the BC Summer Games this year but when he broke his ankle he thought his dream would never come true.

The Summer Games are held every two years. Track and field athletes have to be either 14 or 15 years old.

"Cale is 15 years and this year is his only chance," says mom Silvana. "Next time he will be too old."

Cale had an excellent year in 2009. He led in overall points and won the award for run, jump & throw for male athlete age 14 in the Vancouver Island Athletics Association Island series. He was ready for the 2010 season.

After competing in his first track meet in 2010 in Sydney (April 17 & 18) his results looked promising for being accepted to the Vancouver Island Zone 6 Summer Games Team in many events.

The following weekend Cale had a soccer tournament with the local under 16 team on Salt Spring Island. In the final minutes of the last game Cale was tackled and broke his ankle.

"We caught the next ferry to the Vancouver Island where he had surgery. They inserted two pins to keep the bone together while it healed," said Silvana.

Cale was told he would be in a cast for



at least six weeks. He would be unable to compete in the Summer Games Trials in Nanaimo four weeks later.

"I was really disappointed," said Cale. "I'd been looking forward to it and training for it."

"We all thought that this was the end of his dream of competing in the 2010 Summer Games," said Silvana.

Cale's parents learned there was a possibility of getting a "medical dispensation" for the Trials and if his previous results were good enough Cale could still qualify for the Games in some events.

"We applied for the dispensation and sent all required enrolment forms and fees for the games," said Silvana.

The week after the Nanaimo Trials it was announced that Cale qualified with his times for the Javelin, 200m and 300m. But there was a catch... Cale needed a doctor's note by July 2 verifying that his ankle had healed enough to compete.

"Cale got his cast removed after five weeks and was told the bones had healed perfectly. That gives him seven weeks to rebuild the muscles and mobility before the BC Summer Games in Langley from July 22 to 25," said Silvana.

He has a lot of support from Lorne Morrow at Avid Fitness, the physiotherapist at the hospital and massage therapy at Malaspina Massage. Coaches Ron Hollingsworth and his father Alan Hernandez are helping Cale realize his dream.

Cale is confident that he'll be able to compete in javelin but he's not sure he'll be able to do the sprint events.

At the Duncan event June 12 he finished second in javelin and third in shot put and discus, achieving personal bests in all three events.

Cale has a long road ahead to be competitive in his running events but he is focused and determined to do his best at the Summer Games. **RL**

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Powell River Living BUSINESS Connections

By Kim Miller

Jason Vranjkovic is excited to be part of the Powell River community with his new business. **Jason's Electrical Service Ltd.** is fully licensed, bonded, and insured, a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. As an electrical contractor, Jason is equipped to provide a full range of quality electrical services and installations. A website is being developed at www.jesbc.ca but in the meantime you can call Jason at 604 483-1281.

The Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) transferred the license for a **community radio** station to the Powell River Community Radio Society from the Powell River Model Community Project for Persons with Disabilities last month. The Powell River Community Radio Society was formed as a non-profit in 2009 to hold the license and operate the station. It will provide alternative programming, especially in the areas of local interest, culture and disability service. Society memberships are now available for \$10. For more info call Paul McIsaac at 604 414-7072.

Tree Frog Bistro is relocating to the Powell River side of the pond. Owner Marika Varro will open the former Texada restaurant on Marine Avenue later this summer in the former Silkes Organic Market location beside Taws Cycle & Sports. The phone number will be 604 485-0010. Watch for her grand opening!

Tom Shortt and Gerald Phillips opened a new jewellery creation and repair business called **Rumple and Stiltskin**. The shop at 4712A Marine Avenue specializes in handcrafted jewellery and repairs and creating a line of custom jewelry. They also do silver casting and same-day cleaning and polishing. Call 604 483-3538 or 604 223-1787 or email rumpleandstiltskin@gmail.com.

Richard Montagna recently relocated his commercial photography business from West Vancouver to Powell River. **Montagna Photography** offers a variety of services including corporate, industrial, advertising, product, artwork, event and portrait photography. Call Richard at 604 414-0744 or visit www.montagna-photography.com.

Jason Dunkley is a professional engineer with more than a decade of renewable energy experience in design and construction. He has a passion for reducing energy consumption and minimizing environmental impact and has opened a new green energy consulting business called **Stage 3 Renewables**. He specializes in system development and installation using solar thermal and geothermal technology. Both can significantly reduce operating costs, energy consumption, carbon emissions and overall environmental footprint. For more information visit www.stage3renewables.com or call 604 414-8905.

James Mogan is pleased to announce that **Harbour View Computers** is alive and well operating as a mobile computer service company. It is no longer located on Marine Avenue but James can still be reached at 604 485-5675.

Finn Bay Bed & Breakfast is the only homestay B & B in Lund and their focus is on the visual arts. Owner Rianne Matz is a painter and is working with other painters to host art workshops for the month of July. She has 14 local artists involved. Rianne encourages guests to look around or shows them how to get to local trails, restaurants and generally helps navigate the area. Call 604 483-9605 or check out www.finnbaybedandbreakfast.com.

As owner of **Powell River Home Inspections Ltd**, Steve Burke is a Certified Home Inspector, W.E.T.T. certified tradesman. Steve is now offering a new service, a five-year maintenance inspection for home owners. With yearly inspections potential health hazards or major repairs can be caught early and fixed before they develop into a nightmare. Call Steve at 604 483-1456 or check www.homeinspectionspr.com

McDonalds Restaurant owner Bill Chao is excited to be doing some needed updates to the Powell River restaurant. The drive through is now open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The restaurant inside continues with its regular hours. Watch for other upgrades coming over the summer.

The Powell River Chamber of Commerce is thrilled that **Quinn Lambert**, a Grade 12 student at Brooks Secondary School who is continuing on with business administration education and cosmetology, is the winner of the \$500 Arnold Carlson Memorial Business Scholarship.

Do you have any changes within your business you want Powell River to know about? New managers, new owners or are you moving locations? Starting a new business? Call the Chamber office at 604 485-4051 and I will get your info into the next issue of *Powell River Living*. **RL**

The weather was great for our Fathers' Day Weekend **2nd Annual Carnival for Kids**

On behalf of the **Kiwanis Club of Powell River**

we would like to thank its co-sponsors

Save On Foods/Richard Bullen, Soap Box Derby crew of Andy McLeod & Kim, and The City of Powell River.

Huge thanks also go to our crew, volunteers and our unsung heroes. Without you we couldn't have done it. There are too many to mention; give yourself a pat on the back – you know who you are.

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*We apologize
if we have missed anyone.*

Proceeds go to PACs of Kelly Creek Community School, Henderson Elementary and James Thomson Elementary.



Powell River Living COMMUNITY Calendar JULY 2010

July 2: Symphony Orchestra Academy of the Pacific Percussion Concert, 12:30 pm at the Evergreen Theatre, Recreation Complex. For more information call PR Academy of Music 604 485-9633 or email: info@powellriveracademy.org

July 2: Symphony Orchestra of the Pacific, 7:30 at the Evergreen Theatre.

July 6 - 29: Lund Summer Arts program. From painting to sculpting and stained glass to concrete lawn ornaments. Call Rianne at 604 483-9605 or email riannematz@yahoo.ca for a complete course list.

July 8: Transition Town Powell River hosts a pair of home movies. "Life After Growth - Economics for Everyone" and "The Story of Stuff". Both movies focus on the effects of our consumer economy and the problems caused by economic growth. 7pm, Westview. Limited space. Call 604 485-5409 to RSVP and get the address.

July 9: Family Place Fun in the Sun Bug Bonanza, 10:30 am to 12 pm at Willingdon Beach. Weather permitting. Bring hat and sunscreen.

July 10: Jazz Vespers at St David and St Paul Anglican Church, 4:30 pm. Everyone Welcome. Call 604 483-4230 for more information.

July 11: Art exhibit by Mischa Brooks-Thoma at the Curry Hut, 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Call 604 483-5283 for more info.

July 16: Family Place Fun in the Sun Firefighter, 10:30 am to 12 pm at Willingdon Beach. Weather permitting. Bring hat and sunscreen. Dress to match theme.

July 17: Regional District Residents be sure to vote for the proposed SPCA animal shelter service. For more information contact Audrey at 604 483-3506.

July 21 to 25: Texada AeroSpace Camp, 9 am - 4 pm. Open to 10 to 18 year olds. Call Doby Dobrostanski, 604 486-0334 or email dgart@telus.net for more information.

July 23: Family Place Fun in the Sun Barnyard Bash, 10:30 am to 12 pm at Willingdon Beach. Weather permitting. Bring hat and sunscreen. Dress to match theme.

July 25: Texada Annual Fly-In at Gillies Bay Airport, 8:30 am to 6 pm. Starts with pancake breakfast; continues throughout the day with over 50 aircraft participating. Aviation displays, vendors, games, live music, aerobatics; finishes with a barbecue. Call Bob Timms at 604 486-0274 for more info.

July 30: The Willy Blizzards are coming to the Manzanita. 'Music to warm yer bones by' with seatings at 6:30 and 8 pm. Tickets at Ecosentials, Centsibles & Rodmay Liquor Store.

July 30: Family Place Fun in the Sun Jungle Adventure, 10:30 am to 12 pm at Willingdon Beach. Weather permitting. Bring hat and sunscreen. Dress to match theme.

July 30 & 31: 2nd Lloyd and Adam Memorial Ball Hockey Tournament at Waterfront Park in Sliammon. For registration and info contact Taylor at 604 414-0051 or 604 443-5266 or taylor_st.amand@hotmail.com

Alcoholics Anonymous: 8:30-9:30 pm. Fridays at the United Church basement, Saturdays at PR Hospital Boardroom, Sundays at the Alano Club. For more info call 604 414-0944, 604 485-5346, 604 483-9736. Texada Island: 604 486-0117.

Sundays: Faith Lutheran Church Services & Sunday school, 10 am. For more info call 604 485-2000.

Monday: Cinch card games at RC Legion #164, 7 pm, Newcomers welcome. For more info visit www.cinchgame.net, or call 604 485-5504.

Tuesdays: Soup Kitchen at Seventh Day Adventist Church (4880 Manson Ave), noon-1:30 pm

Second & Fourth Monday: Faith Lutheran Food Cupboard open 1-3 pm

Second Tuesday: Living with Cancer Support Group, 1:30-3:30 pm at Breakwater Books, Alberni St. All cancer patients, survivors and loved ones welcome. For more info call 888 229-8288.

Second Wednesday: Powell River SPCA meets at VI University at 7 pm.

Third Saturday: Senior's Center in Cranberry holds their afternoon of cards, games and scrabble at 1 pm. Please register in advance by calling 604 485-9562 or 604 485-2153.

Wednesdays: Family Place. Garden group 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Wednesdays: The Open Space parent led family programs, 12:30 to 2:30 pm. Parent child drop in 12:30-4:30 pm.

Wednesdays: Salvation Army Soup & Sandwich 11:30 am-1 pm, by donation. Everyone Welcome.

Wednesdays & Thursday: Soup Kitchen at Seventh Day Adventist Church (4880 Manson Ave), noon-1:30 pm.

Thursdays: Family Place, parent/child drop-in, 12:30-4:30 pm. Parent/Child Mother Goose Program (0-1 year).

Fridays: St David & St Paul Anglican Community Lunch, noon-1 pm.

Fridays: Family Place, parent child drop in, 12:30-4:30 pm (3-5 years)

Fairs and festivals

If you're visiting Powell River this summer, welcome! We hope you enjoy your stay and while you're here, have time to take in some of our wonderful fairs, festivals and events.

If you're a local, chances are you already know about many of our summer events but here are some details on what's happening.

Warning: Once you read this list you may want to change your vacation plans and stay at home this year!

July 6 - 9: International Choral Kathaumixw at the Evergreen Theatre in the Recreation Complex. International concerts, choral and vocal solo competitions, common song singing, conductors' round tables, concert tours, social events, workshops and seminars. For ticket information call PR Academy of Music, 604 485-9633 or visit www.kathaumixw.org

July 10 & 11: Texada Island Sand Castle Weekend, Texada Island, 10:30 am to 8:30 pm. A weekend of fun for the whole family. Includes races, games, contests and a parade. The weekend will finish up with a pig roast.

July 23: The 47th Annual **Sea Fair** at Willingdon Beach. Sea Fair is a fun filled family event. Midway, entertainment, parade, contests and so much more. Festival times: Friday: 5 pm to 11 pm, Saturday: noon to 11 pm (or end of fireworks), Sunday: breakfast to 5 pm. For more information contact Donna Rekve at 604 483-4220 or email: dkrekve@telus.net

July 25: Cranberry Dayz at Lindsay Park. Pancake breakfast, kid's games, bike decorating, music, talent show, silent auction and more. For more info call Pam at 604 414-0826.

July 30 to August 1: Townsite turns 100. The BC Day Long Weekend provides the time frame for present & past residents to gather and celebrate 100 years of the Powell River Townsite. Events include dinner and dance at Dwight Hall, Sports Day and Picnic, Parade, Golf Tournament, Lawn Bowling Tournament. See Page 14 for schedule. For more info call the Townsite Heritage Society at 604-483-3901 or visit www.powellrivertownsite.com.

Tug-Guhm

GALLERY & STUDIO

1436 101 Hwy, in the Historic Lund Hotel
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Tug-guhm... "sun" in coastal Salish, is also the name of Debra Bevaart's studio gallery. A showcase for more than 40 local artists with Debra's stone sculptures brought to life on-site, strong coastal imagery is the theme of this gallery

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Powell River Living FACES of EDUCATION

Eco-Immersion

Combining French immersion, nature based learning with engaging teaching methods

An exciting new French immersion program will begin at James Thomson Elementary School in September.

French Éco-Immersion, for children entering kindergarten and grade one, will combine French immersion and nature based learning with engaging teaching methods.

Wendy Nouwens, President of Canadian Parents for French – Powell River chapter has been working with the School District and other parents to make this program a reality. She’s excited about how the program has shaped up and the fact that her children will be able to participate in a French immersion program.

“Éco-Immersion is a unique nature-based French immersion program that strives to draw out a child’s natural curiosity for learning by providing engaging teaching methods that nurture awareness of and respect for self, others and the environment,” explained Nouwens. These diverse opportunities will support the development of bilingual, well-rounded, and successful children who are connected to their families, community and our natural world.

Éco-Immersion is a made in Powell River program that is the first of its kind in Canada. Claudine Veran, a teacher originally from France, who has been teaching Grade One

French Immersion in Oregon for the past 10 years, has been hired to pioneer the program.

“School District 47 are leaders in creating innovative dual credit programs and they embraced this idea,” said Nouwens.

Past attempts to bring French immersion to Powell River were unsuccessful because numbers weren’t high enough.

While working on this program, a group of parents interested in creating a nature based elementary program in Lund, partnered with Nouwens and her group. “We had a common vision and passion for our children’s education and we were also interested in the nature-based aspect and engaging teaching methods.”

The board agreed to run a three-year pilot project that will continue to be a permanent program if the number of students is adequate.

Nouwens went on to explain how this program will differ from other French immersion programs.

Along with French immersion, Éco-Immersion offers hands-on fun nature based learning opportunities. In Powell River, Éco-Immersion’s nature-based learning component is based on the perspective that “our community is our classroom,” said Nouwens.

For example, math skills may be devel-

oped through plant surveys around Valentine Mountain and cultural learning may be taught through exposure to traditional First Nation Sliammon dance and art. A student in this program may collaborate with local farmers to create an organic garden plot.

Engaging teaching methods and popular and effective strategies for hands-on, student involved learning (such as Waldorf, Reggio Emilia and Montessori) will be integrated into the

curriculum.

French immersion is an educational program for children and their families whose first language is not French. “They do not have to have any French in their background,” she said noting that Ecolé Côte du Soleil has specific enrollment criteria and is geared towards children with French speaking parents.

“Anyone who has a child entering kindergarten or grade one can register for this program,” said Nouwens. “Éco-immersion is for parents who want an extraordinary program for their child.”

Early French immersion is generally regarded as one of the most effective ways for a child to become bilingual, as children are more receptive to language-learning at an early age.

Research shows that students who learn another language develop useful academic and cognitive skills which they transfer to learning English and other languages and subjects. The ability to communicate in another language provides students with a distinct advantage in a number of careers.

On a personal level, Nouwens is excited that her daughter Jaya, 4, and son Kai, 2 will be able to take advantage of French Éco-Immersion. “I just think this is an exceptional educational program. Even though we live close to Grief Point School, for me it is worth a bus ride to send my children to James Thomson to take advantage of this. In the end they will become bilingual and have more career opportunities.”

There are already enough students registered to launch the program but there is still room for more, said Nouwens. Classes will be full-day in length and the program will be held in the heritage building at James Thomson.

This is a free, publicly-funded program offered by School District 47. Free busing will be provided by the school district and carpooling may be available through parent groups.

You can register your child for this program at the School Board office, 4351 Ontario Avenue. For more information call the School Board at 604 485-6271 or visit www.eco-immersion.ca. 



IMMERSION BEGINS: Parents Wendy Nouwens and Leta Burechailo and their children Reeve Morwood, 5, and Jaya Nouwens, 4, are excited that SD47 will launch an Éco-Immersion program this fall.

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2	Sep 12	At Sea	—	—
3	Sep 13	Ketchikan, Alaska	06:30 am	02:00 pm
4	Sep 14	Juneau, Alaska	08:00 am	09:00 pm
5	Sep 15	Skagway, Alaska	07:00 am	08:30 pm
6	Sep 16	Glacier Bay Cruising, Alaska	06:00 am	03:00 pm
7	Sep 17	College Fjord Cruising, Alaska	05:30 pm	08:30 pm
8	Sep 18	Whittier, Alaska	12:30 pm	05:00 pm
9/10	Sep 19 - 20	At Sea	—	—
11	Sep 21	Cross International Dateline	12:00 noon	1:00 pm
12/13	Sep 23 - 25	At Sea	—	—
14	Sep 26	Sapporo, Japan	08:00 am	06:00 pm
15	Sep 27	At Sea	—	—
16	Sep 28	Vladivostok, Russia	05:30 am	07:00 pm
17	Sep 29	At Sea	—	—
18	Sep 30	Busan, South Korea	08:00 am	05:00 pm
19	Oct 01	At Sea	—	—
20	Oct 02	Qingdao, China	04:00 am	05:00 pm
21	Oct 03	Dalian, China	09:00 am	06:00 pm
22	Oct 04	Xingang - Beijing (Afternoon tour)	07:00 am	—
23	Oct 05	Beijing (Full-day tour)	—	—
24	Oct 06	Beijing - Vancouver	Please call for details	—

Beijing extension available

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