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Someday those predicting the end of the world will be right, but it's not good to plan on it.

In the meantime, know your financial options. Paying off debt may not always be the best option, says wealth manager.

BY COLIN WHITE, PORTFOLIO MANAGER,  
WHITE LEBLANC WEALTH PLANNERS/  
HOLLISWEALTH

Recent times have shown us that the best laid plans of mice and men, are just about equal. Everyone has been affected to one degree or another by the global pandemic in the midst of which we find ourselves. Many people have canceled travel plans, been cut off from loved ones, had careers affected and/or just generally suffered from a raised anxiety level. I have not met the person who is having the 2020 they planned for.

In these difficult times many people are still facing very tough decisions, some of them very big. Those who planned a retirement in the next few years may be considering retiring sooner, or later. Some people are facing a career change at a time when they did not see it coming. Others are in retirement and are looking at RRSP's and wondering what is the right thing to do with investments they were counting on in retirement. You probably are not spending money right now the way you planned, and you are wondering if you will ever get back to the way you were.

These are all messy questions. There are no clear answers, the environment is completely uncertain, and you cannot pause your life until things sort themselves out. You have a proper conundrum.

It is important at times like these to put thoughtful reflection into your plans. It is a great time to review career plans, retirement plans, travel plans or just how you spend your money. The pandemic has given everyone a judgment-free environment in which to make changes to your life. If anyone has opinions about your decision, COVID-19 is the reason. You be you.

During times of uncertainty, flexibility can be invaluable. Committing to a long-term mortgage, buying a long term GIC, using cash to pay down debt, or

locking into a long-term investment that does not have liquidity, are all decisions that should be made only with an abundance of caution.

The other thing you should do is educate yourself as to your range of options. If you are dealing with a pension there can be many options to consider, sometimes the options available only happen at certain times, and if you are retiring early there can be even more options to consider. For some there is an option to take a lump sum payment instead of a monthly income for life, it is called commuted value. It opens up some great planning opportunities but should only be considered in the context of a full financial plan.

If you owe money you should make sure you owe it in the best way possible. Low interest rates are a curse for investors, but a pleasant advantage for borrowers. Paying down debt without considering all the alternative uses for your capital can take money out of your pocket. Taking the time to consider how long to take paying down debt, considering the other uses of your capital, is an important part of any Financial Plan.

What to do with investments is a tough one as well. A good starting point is to keep your short-term money invested short term, and your long term money

invested long term. During times of extreme uncertainty is when we most often see the two biggest sins of investing, Fear and Greed. While I suspect that someday those predicting the end of the world will be right, it is not good to plan on it.

Now is a great time to reach out for professional help. Financial Advisors, Accountants and Lawyers all have their role to play when making big financial decisions about your future. Warren Buffett, Elon Musk, your brother's friend John, and that guy on late night TV are less-valuable sources of information.

*This information has been prepared by White LeBlanc Wealth Planners who is a Portfolio Manager for HollisWealth\* and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of HollisWealth. The information contained in this newsletter comes from sources we believe reliable, but we cannot guarantee its accuracy or reliability. The opinions expressed are based on an analysis and interpretation dating from the date of publication and are subject to change without notice. Furthermore, they do not constitute an offer or solicitation to buy or sell any of the securities mentioned. The information contained herein may not apply to all types of investors. The Portfolio Manager can open accounts only in the provinces in which they are registered.*

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~ Advertising feature

# Having a Plan in Uncertain Times



## Sometimes you have to rock the boat to get where you want to be.

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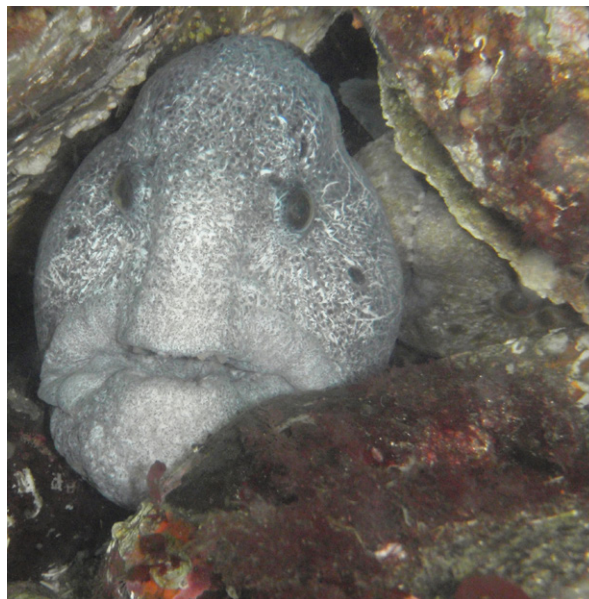
## Do you see two?

When I took this photograph on a ledge about 50 feet below the surface, near Rebecca Rocks, I thought I was taking a photo of one wolf-eel (*Anarrhichthys ocellatus*). Only when I reviewed the pictures later did I realize my strobe had lit further into the crevice than my modelling light, and revealed the darker-coloured female, hiding sideways behind her mate. Can you see her teeth and eye?

Wolf-eels usually mate for life and inhabit the same cave. Their powerful jaws crush food such as crabs, clams and even spiny sea urchins.

Many of the spots favoured by local scuba divers are home to wolf-eel dens. **PRL**

– Sean Percy



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### FAMILY RESEMBLANCE?

Tla'amin Nation's Family Tree Project coordinator Randolph Timothy outside Governance House. Learn more about the project on Page 7.

Photo by Alex Sutcliffe



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## CONTRIBUTORS



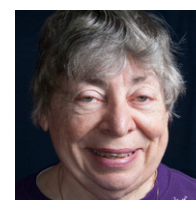
**DREW BLANEY** was born and raised in Tla'amin to parents Darin and Gail Blaney. Drew has always been active in his culture since he was a young baby, and has grown with it his entire life. Recently, Drew was hired to be Tla'amin's Culture & Heritage Manager, a job he had worked towards his entire life. Emote!

**DON BUTTON** is a retired journalist who moved to Powell River in July 2018 with his partner Sarah Bacon. Don enjoys curling and umpiring – he umpires at events across BC and beyond.



**DUSTIN FAIR** is 18 years old, born and raised in Powell River. He loves sports and hiking, and attends UVIC where he is studying engineering. In this issue, Dustin takes us on a tour of the Sunshine Coast trail with some fellow teens.

**MORIAH INKSTER** was born and raised in Powell River. After moving to Northern BC in her teens she lived in Central America and the South Pacific. She studied International Relations and Environmental Geography at UBC and McGill University before moving back to Powell River to raise her daughter.



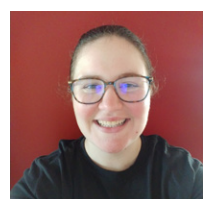
**BARBARA ANN LAMBERT** is a retired teacher who taught for the Powell River School District for 30 years. Her passion is local history. She has published seven books and is working on her eighth. Barbara Ann married local farmer Stuart Lambert and lived in Paradise Valley before moving to her current home on the waterfront.

**LARRY LAW** was born in South Burnaby. He's married with two sons and two grandchildren. He retired in 2001 from the BC Ambulance Service. He'd never heard of Powell River until he was visiting a friend in Egmont. He came here, loved it and moved here in 2005.



**HEATHER MAXIMEA** acts as Secretary for the Powell River Genealogy Group. She moved to Powell River on retirement in 2015, after a worldwide career as a museum building consultant. She keeps more than busy making new friends through genealogy, gardening and singing.

**MORGAN PÉPIN** is a fourth-year Journalism and Human Rights student at Carleton University in Ottawa, and is staying in Powell River with her parents while classes continue online. When she's not working in the meat department at Mitchell Brothers, she enjoys hiking, fishing, and camping.



**RANDOLPH TIMOTHY JR.** is a Community Wellness Associate at Tla'amin Nation, and he coordinates the Tla'amin Family Tree project. He has lived and worked as far away as Manitoba, but always come back to Powell River where his family is.



## IN THIS ISSUE

# Pandemic project: make meaning by tracing your family's origins

I'd already laid out the cover and main feature of the August issue, about finding your family, when my mom sent me a blog post from "Vancouver As It Was: A Photo-Historical Journey." There on my computer were archive photos of my great-great aunt Bertha (right), great-great-grandmother Malvina, and the store they owned just off Hastings Street more than a century ago: Malvina Goudron's Market Hardware.



I was stunned. There was my face, my mom's face, my grandfather's face, staring back at me from history. The web page has stayed open on my computer since then. The faces. I drink them in continually.

Many of us West Coasters come from fractured families – our stories and trees broken through migration,

war, trauma, residential schools, internment, orphanages and foster care, addictions, violence, or just plain cultural forgetting: the widespread devaluing of generational origin stories.

For me, any links I find to my family's past are beyond meaningful. They help me make sense of myself and my other living family members. They help me more richly understand my place in the world, and the flow of time.

Clearly, I'm not alone. In this issue, the Powell River Genealogy Group inspires with their members' 40-year commitment to tracing family histories (Page 6). Tla'amin Nation's Family Tree project, led by Randolph Timothy, is collecting photos, info and connections (Page 7). Larry Law found his roots going back a thousand years – a noble family that includes forbidden love, revolutionaries, and new-found British relatives (Page 9).

Writer Barbara Lambert's excellent historical work has given thousands of locals new glimpses into their own families and places. This month, for the Lang Bay Hall 100th anniversary, she takes us on an intimate jour-

ney into the little wood building's storied past (Page 18).

PRL is thrilled to welcome Drew Blaney to the magazine, with his first monthly column (Page 25). Drew, Tla'amin Nation's culture and heritage manager, will share stories and images from the Nation's history, and from today.

In response to PRL's July call for local stories about racism, Moriah Inkster wrote a sensitive and very thoughtful article about her young daughter's experience of being Black and bi-racial, confronting her peers' comments about her ethnicity and her family (Page 11).

Moriah calls for humility, learning, and awareness as antidotes to racism. Considering each others' families and histories with as much wonder and sacredness as we do our own seems like the right place to start. [PRL](http://PRL)



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# A different kind

Finding your family's roots has never been easier, thanks to digital records, DNA testing, and now, oodles of indoor time, due to COVID-19. Here to inspire you are a 40-year-old Powell River genealogy group, a new Tla'amin Family Tree project, plus one local's search all the way back to 1040 AD.



**IT ALL STARTS WITH A QUESTION:** Powell River Genealogy Group's library is open to all members with the help of librarian Claudia Cote. Above, local Larry Law found the first Prince of Wales in his family tree (see Page 9).



## A most meaningful hobby

BY HEATHER MAXIMEA

**W**hen your Powell River Genealogy Group (PRGG) friend texts you "Happy Hunting," they are likely not talking about moose! "In genealogy, it's the thrill of the chase," says MaryAnn Hebert, whose mother one day remarked to her, "Your Uncle Bernie was acquitted, you know." What!? Who could resist a family mystery like that?

It's this and similar family stories, and the yearning to make real family connections, that have spurred on long-standing PRGG members Moyra Palm and Pamela Voss, Ray Sketchley and Christene Hoffert, and many new members, to become skilled amateurs in genealogy and family history. Genealogy is one of the fastest-growing hobbies world wide, with availability of on-line resources, home technology like scanners, and DNA testing revolutionizing how we can research right from our home desktops. Genealogical travel has also expanded, with specialized trips to the Family History



**"Curiosity, enthusiasm, and memory – these are the driving forces behind family genealogists, who often become the designated family historians, keen to pass their findings on to the next generation."**

*- Heather Maximea*

Library in Salt Lake City, or even genealogical cruises, becoming popular. When you see Powell Riverites at the airport, they may possibly be off to Salt Lake City, Scotland or Australia, on the quest!

Founded in 1980, PRGG has for 40 years brought together many with a shared enthusiasm for tracking down family stories, lost family members, birth parents, and our veterans and pioneers who deserve to be remembered. "We started out seeking to pool our research resources, and to learn through workshops, but

*Continues on Page 8*





**FINDING THOSE LOVELY, LOVED FACES:** Left, Randolph Timothy Jr.'s grandparents, Sophie Wilson and Ernie Gallegos, in love. Below, soccer player Ernie accepts an award. Bottom, Randolph's family, recently at Governance House. On behalf of Tla'amin Nation, Randolph is collecting images like these for the Family Tree Project (see below.)



## A Tla'amin Family Tree

# So future generations can see the faces of their jeh jehs

BY RANDOLPH TIMOTHY JR.

**G**reetings fellow community members. I am the son of Randy and Margaret Timothy (nee Gallegos) also known as Hoss and Mugsy. My paternal grandparents are Alex Timothy of Tla'amin, Mary Timothy (nee Saul of Barriere, BC). My maternal grandparents are Ernest Gallegos of Tla'amin and Sophie Gallegos (nee Wilson) of Church House, BC.

I have been recently tasked to update the Family Tree which was initiated by the Sliammon Treaty Society, I am very grateful to be given this opportunity to reconnect with my jeh jehs and learn of our family ties and lineage. I have always been interested in our language and family ties, as I have already had the opportunity to work with the language program, and now have the chance to learn about the families of Tla'amin.


With this new program for the family tree, we can add photos so that future generations can see what their relative looked like or put a face to a name in stories.

Currently I have been looking over the family tree and the information needing to be updated is from at

least 2000 and on, so for now I will be doing a call out to all families to submit information regarding a birth, death or even a transfer into the community and a picture for a family tree profile (i.e. birth certificate, death certificate, picture of the individual, or favorite picture of a loved one who has passed on, for their profile.)

As of now the nation's Governance House is on a gentle opening, meaning limited entry and access, so with that in place, I can come to your house to pick up pictures and documentation to add to the family tree, or you can leave them with Donna Tom at the front desk in an envelope; please ensure you leave your name and number on the envelope so I can return your information as quickly as possible.

To ensure protection of your documentation, I do have a locking cabinet to ensure security measures are taken while I have this information.

I look forward to seeing all of you in the upcoming months to ensure the information gathered is added, so future generations can look back when reflecting to learn about their jeh jehs. “čēčhaθēč” 

### FIND YOUR INDIGENOUS FAMILY

Should you have any comments or would like to submit documentation for the Tla'amin Family Tree project, please do not hesitate to contact me at 604-483-6946 ext. 108 or email [randolph.timothy@tn-bc.ca](mailto:randolph.timothy@tn-bc.ca).

Several Canadian institutions are making new resources available to research their indigenous families:

**Library and Archives Canada:** [bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/aboriginal-heritage/Pages/genealogy.aspx](http://bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/aboriginal-heritage/Pages/genealogy.aspx)

**UBC's X̱wi7x̱wa Library:** An accessible indigenous library on campus, but available largely online: [xwi7xwa.library.ubc.ca](http://xwi7xwa.library.ubc.ca)

**Churches:** As part of reconciliation work, The United Church of Canada's online repository of photos from the residential schools and day schools the denomination ran: [thechildrenremembered.ca](http://thechildrenremembered.ca). The Anglican Church of Canada's archive of residential schools, including St. Michael's at Alert Bay: [anglican.ca/tr/histories/](http://anglican.ca/tr/histories/). (Note: both church archives invite indigenous people to search other records too, including birth, death and marriage records.)





# TAWS

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*Continued from Page 6*

it has gone much further over the years," says Moyra. Members compile vital statistics information, record missing grave markers in the local cemeteries, and maintain our own genealogical library at the Cranberry Seniors Center. But most of all we provide a space to share our journey, with like-minded, experienced and helpful fellow genealogists. One of the most enjoyable parts of our monthly meeting is when we share round the table the latest in our personal research. The excitement when we have a breakthrough to report! And the bringing to bear of numerous devious minds on our genealogical bottlenecks and roadblocks!

In addition to a monthly general meeting, PRGG has a DNA Special Interest Group which also meets monthly to share DNA research tips and challenges. With more people having hope that DNA may solve family and personal mysteries such as adoption, members such as Marny Nassichuk have become expert at mentoring others on that path. The website, newsletter, and mail outs also offer information and advice and we have contact with other genealogical groups throughout North America with whom we share newsletters. According to PRGG Librarian Claudia Cote, the library contains 744 books, a map collection, genealogical magazines and journals, and a house computer with many forms, cheat sheets and self-help articles. Also on the computer is a local newspaper's vital statistics database from 1927 to 2020, with over 88,000 entries, and a Powell River Cemeteries Data Base from 1922 to 1990. All to help you find that elusive local ancestor.

Curiosity, enthusiasm, and memory – these are the driving forces behind family genealogists, who often



**DEEP ROOTS IN POWELL RIVER:** Moyra Palm checks on her Great Grandmother Sarah Jane Palmer's headstone at the Cemetery in Cranberry. Above, a pre-COVID meeting of the Powell River Genealogy Group, supportive history enthusiasts in search of their roots.

become the designated family historians, keen to pass their findings on to the next generation. We are especially thrilled when a member brings a grandchild along to a PRGG meeting, or tells us that they have passed the genealogy bug on to a new friend or acquaintance.

And the mystery of Uncle Bernie?

Well, you may just have to ask MaryAnn! [PR](#)

### RESEARCH YOUR FAMILY

The Powell River Genealogy Group normally meets monthly, but due to the pandemic, large group meetings have been cancelled. Responding to our members, we are beginning to sponsor small group meetings according to member's interests, in outdoor settings.

Once colder weather sets in we will reevaluate meeting options including Zoom. We still welcome new members and can mentor people just getting started on their genealogical or DNA quest.

For more information call Alice McNair 604-414-5733, or check the PRGG website: [powellrivergenealogy.com](http://powellrivergenealogy.com)

#### Monthly Meeting and Library Access:

**When:** the last Sunday of each month, September through June, doors open at 6:30; meeting and social 7 to 9 pm; includes a presentation or genealogy activity.

**Where:** Cranberry Seniors Centre.

#### DNA Interest Group:

**When:** the first Tuesday of each month, September through June, 1 to 3 pm.

**Where:** Family History Library, LDS Church basement, Courtenay Street.

**MEMBERSHIP COST:** \$25 yearly dues, \$2 each meeting for meeting costs

## Free genealogical websites and more at the Library

Here's our quick and easy Genealogy subject page: [prpl.ca/research/information-by-subject/genealogy/](http://prpl.ca/research/information-by-subject/genealogy/)

Now that we've got access to public computers folks can set up their Ancestry.com research.

And, Points to the Past and BC Historical Newspapers can be accessed anywhere.

Come on in, get your account established and then enjoy the source from home.

The thing is, it has to be the Library edition of Ancestry – not just the regular Ancestry.com access through the web. Here's the Library edition link: [ancestrylibrary.proquest.com/aleweb/ale/do/login](http://ancestrylibrary.proquest.com/aleweb/ale/do/login)

- Natalie Porter

Points to the Past





# "Who are we?"

A Powell River dad spends 29 years finding out.

BY LARRY LAW

I don't recall exactly when one of my sons asked, "Who are we and where are we from?" About 1991 I got my first computer and the internet, and decided I would see what I could find out about my family history. I started with my mother's parents, as my father never spoke about his family. I contacted aunts, uncles, and cousins to find out if they knew anything about the family.

These easy conversations soon grew into a project spanning two continents and more than 1,000 years, and involving fires, motorcycles, new-found relatives, airplanes, and, of course, many compelling answers to my son's question.

I learned that my mother's father came from Spencer, Wisconsin in the USA and settled in New Westminster, BC. So, I started searching the internet and discovered that the chairman of the 1874-1974 Centennial Observance of Spencer, Wisconsin commissioned four women to research the pioneers of the town. That resulted in a book that I have a copy of and my grandparents are mentioned. My grandfather was born in Old Swinford, England and through contacting churches and county records offices I got some information, but the church where

most of the family records were, burnt to the ground and all records there were destroyed, so that limited the research on my grandfather.

My grandmother came from Rib Lake, Wisconsin, about 50 miles north of Spencer. Her family history can be traced back to approximately 1600, to a small village in Germany. Researching my grandmother led me to a cousin in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and that resulted in a motorcycle trip with my oldest son to Milwaukee to meet this cousin whom I had never met or even knew about.

Three weeks on a bike trip with your son is an awesome experience. I received a great deal of documents from my cousin. With these documents, researching names led me to other relatives. Accessing old newspaper archives, church and government offices to get copies of birth certificates, death notices, and so forth, provides a great deal of information. When you have the name of a town you just go online and dig in, send emails or letters to whomever you think might have info.

Then came the time to find out about my father's family.

My father was a Second World War vet so the best things to start with were his



**HAPPY HUNTING:** A three-week genealogical motorcycle trip to Milwaukee with his son netted Larry Law a treasure trove of North American records, and led him for the first time to his famous family in England.



**IN AN EARLIER TIME, TO THE MANOR BORN:** Larry Law visited his late relatives at St Cuthberts Church in Holme Lacy, England. Here are Sir John and Sibell Scudamore, at what turns out to be one of Larry's two ancestral manors.

## Castle-builder • Knight • Revolutionary • Mayor Who's hiding in Larry Law's family tree?

In 1042, England's King Edward the Confessor brought Ralph Scudamore, a skilled stone mason, from Normandy, to build castles.

Through genealogical research, Powell River's Larry Law learned he is the stonemason's direct descendant, and part of a dramatic, powerful British family.

When William the Conqueror became King of England in 1066, he introduced a new kind of feudal system. William confiscated the land in England from the Saxon lords and allocated it to members of his own family and the Norman lords and stonemasons who had helped him conquer the country. Ralph Scudamore's work involved building defensive castles along the Welsh border.

Thus, the Scudamore family became wealthy and owned large tracts of land given to them by King William; the family's home was at Kentchurch Court in Herefordshire.

The Scudamores maintained their status, becoming deeply involved in politics and the church and having close contact with the Royal Family as advisors. This carried on through the generations. The effigies and statues of the Scudamore family in the churches

are a result of that. Many were knighted by the Kings and Queens.

Three hundred years later, another of Larry's relatives, Prince of Wales Owain Glyndwr, fought a war of independence against England.

King Henry III put Edmund Mortimer in charge of his army. (Mortimer was the legal heir to the throne). After being captured, Mortimer switched sides and fought with Owain against the English.

Mortimer married one of Owain's daughters, Catrin. Catrin was captured in 1409 at Harlech and taken to the Tower of London with her children and her mother, Glyndwr's wife, during Owain's fight for the freedom of Wales. St. Swithin's garden in London is the site of the burial of Catrin Glyndwr.

Another of Owain's daughters, Alys, had secretly married Sir John Scudamore, the King's appointed Sheriff of Herefordshire. A descendant of Ralph Scudamore.

The name 'Law' comes into the picture in about 1860, when one of Northampton Mayor Edmund Francis Law's sons, Edmund Law, married Elizabeth Tanner, a daughter of Martha Scudamore.



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**“In England, they knew my grandfather went to Canada – and that was all they knew. Now I had the info they were looking for and they had the info I needed.”**

*- Larry Law*

service records. Most are available online as well as First World War service records. Now I have his birthplace, and the names of his mother and father. I found my grandfather's full name and his parents, which led me back to England. I discovered that the County Records office in Northampton had records and I contacted them and got certified copies of what they had.

These records opened a few doors and I got names to research. I discovered that my great-grandfather was the Mayor of Northampton in 1861. So I sent emails to the Guildhall (city hall) to find out more about my grandfather which resulted in my wife and I going to England to visit the present Mayor. We were treated with many surprises as they found it amazing that I would come from Canada to see this place where my grandfather had been mayor.

Now I had more names and contacts. There was one name that stuck out and while looking for old photographs this name popped up and it had an email address under it. I sent an email, not knowing if the address was even still valid, but was not expecting too much from it.

Well, surprise, it was only a matter of hours and I got a response from a second cousin living in London. Apparently, she had been searching for me as she




**HIS GREAT-GRANDPA'S CHAIR:** In 1861, Edmund Francis Law (left) was the mayor of the British Industrial Revolution centre, Northampton. When he travelled there to see it first-hand, Larry Law (above) was treated to tea with the current mayor (“they actually had fancy setting and silverware set out for when we had tea and crumpets. I was treated like royalty, never imagined anything like it”) and a photo in the historic seat.

knew I was researching the family, but did not have the correct email for me and thought I was not interested. Another email cleared up any misunderstanding and then the doors flew wide open. In England they knew my grandfather went to Canada – and that was all they knew. Now I had the info they were looking for and they had the info I needed.

Many emails and copies of documents later, I knew I had to go back to England. My wife declined to go with me as she said this was my journey. Off I went to meet another relative whom I had never met or even knew of. During a three-week tour of southern England and Wales, I saw historic landmarks, very old churches with marble effigies of family members, stories etched in marble inset into the walls of ancient churches, castles that were sites of major battles between the Welsh

and the English, and the Tower of London where some family members were imprisoned till they died.

The trip was an unbelievable experience, to be able to see and touch things that the history books were saying about the family. Because so much information is in the history books, it was now very easy to go back to William The Conqueror and to the person from Normandy he used to build better stone castles that he could defend.

So I got to answer my son's question and it has been an incredible journey to discover such a rich history of my dad's family. 

## Testing is recommended for anyone with any COVID-19 Symptoms

Other than symptoms related to a chronic condition, with the exception of worsening of chronic respiratory symptoms

### SYMPTOMS INCLUDE:

**Cough • Fever • Difficulty breathing • Sneezing • Runny nose • Sore throat • Fatigue • Chills**

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- If you do not have a primary care provider and would like one
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  - call (604) 485-5501 for a virtual appointment at the **walk-in clinic**.
  - The nurse practitioner at the Tla'amin Health Centre is accepting all **First Nations people** in the region (call (604) 483-3009).
  - **Texada residents**, please call (604) 486-1525.
- Alternatively, call 8-1-1- or use the online symptom checker at BCCDC <https://bc.thrive.health/>.
- If your symptoms are more serious, go to the Emergency Room directly. Call ahead (604) 485-3211 and go to the ambulance bay for your assessment.



*A message from Powell River physicians*

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# “Don’t touch my hair.”

## Local children’s bold comments reveal their curiosity and fear about their Black peer

BY MORIAH INKSTER

I’m a white woman who grew up in Powell River until I was 12 and then moved back here three years ago with my biological daughter, who has mixed ancestry of white Northern European and Black Afro-Caribbean.

When we lived in Vancouver (where she was born), her colour was never referred to by friends or strangers. It was still a topic of discussion in our household.

She did occasionally express her feelings of not belonging in her preschool, being the only person with African features amidst mostly white European and light-skinned Asian children. She sometimes questioned if she was being singled out because she was one of just a handful of Black kids in her school. She often said she wished she wasn’t the only person who looked like her in her class.

Thankfully, we had a neighbour who had a Black daughter the same age as her and an Indian family of

### YOUR STORIES

In last month’s issue, PRL asked the question “Is there Racism in Powell River?” and sought community input.

Summer 2020 continues to be a historic moment, marked by the police killing of George Floyd and continuing protests in the US and globally, the police killing of Chantel Moore of the Tla-o-qui-aht First Nation, and anti-Asian racist acts triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Individuals, families, businesses, agencies, and governments are reckoning with the long-time, wide-spread racism that contributed to these events and many others.

#### Would you like to weigh in?

If you would like to contribute a story for next month’s issue, send it to [pieta@prliving.ca](mailto:pieta@prliving.ca) by August 20.

### Is there racism in Powell River?

If you have a story to share, please share your thoughts by emailing [pieta@prliving.ca](mailto:pieta@prliving.ca) by July 25. In August’s PRL, we’ll share your stories.

*Last Word*

The author, who has lived in Powell River for over 20 years, is a white woman who grew up in Powell River until she was 12 and then moved back here three years ago with her biological daughter, who has mixed ancestry of white Northern European and Black Afro-Caribbean. She is currently a resident of Powell River and is a member of the Powell River Living community.

colour moved up the street and their eldest joined my daughter’s class.

It wasn’t until we moved here that she began to experience ignorant questions and comments from kids (approx aged 5-12) whom she’d never met.

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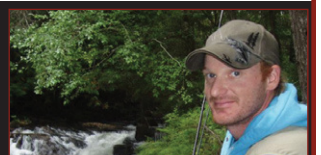
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**"If we want to create a more egalitarian world for our children, we have to put the effort in to decolonize and educate ourselves and be proactive in raising conscious kids."**



*The questions ranged from curious:*

Why is your hair so curly and your skin so tanned/brown?  
How did you get that colour of skin?  
Why are you that colour?

*To rude:*

Why do you look like that?  
You don't look like your mom  
Are you adopted?  
Are you Black?

*To downright awful:*

I'm scared of you because you are Black

I understand that these children didn't realize what they were saying wasn't kind. Most of them were just curious. They probably haven't had the benefit of exposure to a multicoloured community or mixed-race families, and I explained this to my daughter.

Regardless, these comments understandably made my daughter feel like an "other" and objectified. It happened often enough that she expressed not wanting to go out in public. I questioned whether moving back here was the right choice. I wanted her to feel at home — like she belonged.

In a town like Powell River that is overwhelmingly white, the demographics don't provide the opportunity for children here to grow up experiencing much diversity first-hand. So it is even more important that we parents and educators in this town, make a priority of teaching diversity appreciation and inclusion at every opportunity.

This may seem excessive or unnecessary to those of us who believe children are innocent and tolerant and only those who are taught intolerance become hateful. I am not disputing innocence in children. However, innocent children can still be ignorant and ignorance without correction often leads to stereotyping, prejudice and "othering" — the conscious or unconscious assumption that a certain identified group poses a threat to the favoured group.

I believe it is our duty as parents and educators to encourage curiosity and observation but it has to be within a framework of compassion and kindness. We must also examine ourselves and our own implicit bias. We may be making unconscious judgments or racial micro-aggressions in ignorance. We are not born racist but we are born into a racist society. If we want to create a more egalitarian world for our children, we have to put the effort in to decolonize and educate ourselves and be proactive in raising conscious kids. It starts with things as simple as reading them books with different coloured children or teaching them that there's no such thing as a "skin coloured" crayon (referring to the beige/peach crayon). We should progress to instilling in them a sense of responsibility to stand against racism and promote equality. If your children are white or white passing, as they grow up, teach them about their own privilege and their duty to take part in dismantling the systems that oppress Black, Indigenous and people of colour.

Above all else, we must lead by example. It's imperative to show our kids that we are learning too, being humble enough to admit and correct our mistakes and working to become more aware and inclusive.

Thankfully, my daughter has fielded fewer comments about her appearance lately, but they still happen — the most recent was just last month. Each time, it brings up all the previous comments and questions and her associated feelings all over again. When this happens, we discuss what to say back if it happens again. She wants to say their words back to them ... so they understand how absurd and rude the questions sound to her.

I would like to say to kids who don't know her: don't ask her questions about her looks, ask her questions about what she likes. And one more thing she would add — don't touch her hair! **RRL**





**HOUSE PARTY:** On this impromptu, socially-distanced stage is The Seniors: Colleen Cox on guitar, George Huber on fiddle and Russell Storry on guitar. The trio usually plays gigs at Evergreen, the Farmer's Market and elsewhere, but COVID-19 restrictions are keeping them close to home – to the delight of their neighbours.

*Photo by Isabelle Southcott*

# Porch bandstand keeps toes tapping through COVID-19

BY ISABELLE SOUTHCOTT | [isabelle@prliving.ca](mailto:isabelle@prliving.ca)

It's 2 pm on a Wednesday afternoon and a group of friends are tuning up on a porch in the Blue Mountain Mobile Home Park at the top of Duncan Street.

"We're not really a band," singer-guitarist Colleen Cox explains. "We just love to make music together."

Colleen, 80, and her 89-year-old husband George Huber and friend Russell Storry sing and play for anyone who wants to listen. And many do. They sit in lawn chairs beneath the porch and across the street, tapping their toes and humming along to familiar tunes.

For the last 17 years, Colleen and George have shared their music with anyone who wants to listen. Three years ago, Russell joined them and their "band" grew.

George has been playing all his life but Colleen started much later although you'd never know it.

"I learned to play the guitar when George and I started going together 20 years ago," said Colleen. "He said: 'If you are going to go around with me, you're going to have to learn how to play an instrument!'"

Before our world changed, The Seniors played for the folks who live at the Evergreen Extended Care Unit, Kiwanis Village, A&W events, Métis potlucks, the Farmers' Market, and other special events including those at the Community Resource Centre.

They put a sign up outside their home on the day they will perform as it is weather permitting.

If you play it, they will come, and the people did just that, they came to listen and enjoy.

"Everyone has been following social protocols and the number of attendees has grown," said one long-time fan.

Russell, a former city councillor, is a fiddle player. "I love to play," says Russell. So much so, that "The Seniors," isn't the only "band," he plays in.

Because a performer has to perform, they began playing on the porch when their usual activities were cur-



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Cause everybody reach  
someone to love  
And everybody's reaching out  
Everybody's reaching out for someone  
Everybody's knocking at some door  
And long before I ever found you  
You're the one that I was reaching for

- Lyrics by Dickie Lee,  
sung by The Seniors and many others



**BLUE MOUNTAIN FAN CLUB:** Each week, The Seniors play country music and more from their porch in the Blue Mountain seniors' community. More than just music, the concerts bring people together safely. *Photo by Isabelle Southcott*

tailed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. They launch into "Old Friends," with George playing his guitar and singing deeply.


George wasn't about to let a pandemic stop him from making music. Sometime in March, he and Colleen started playing pretty much on a weekly basis from the porch of their home. April rolled around and their friend Russell Storey and his fiddle joined the duo. "This is the fourteenth week we've done this," said Colleen in early July. "It's nice that even under these circumstances we are doing something positive."

Next the trio perform "Everybody's reaching out

for somebody," and I find myself humming while the sun warms my face. I love how kind the people of Powell River are, how they share their gifts with others for no other reason than to see someone smile or bring a stranger a bit of joy.

Russell breaks into a quick fiddle tune with St. Anne's Reel as a tribute to my Maritime heritage before Colleen takes centre stage with "It's Only the Wind."

The mood changes as Colleen trades her guitar for a mandolin and they play some country tunes.

"We have had up to 30 people at one time," says Colleen. "It makes us feel good to be able to play for others." 

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**AT LEAST IT’S NOT RAINING:** Equity means bus riders should enjoy the same comfort as car drivers do. Here, Don Button argues that shade-free, shelter-free bus stops cause suffering to already-marginalized groups. From left to right, bus stops at Willingdon Beach, Wildwood, Cranberry, Mavis (Myrtle Rocks), and Townsite. *Photos by Don Button*

# Shade, shelter and a place to sit down

BY DON BUTTON

You don’t have to look any further than the nearest bus stop to measure inequality in our society. There is a defining divide among us between those who have to take the bus to get around and those who have the luxury of choice.

We hear a lot about privilege these days. Well, one measure of privilege is the option of driving your car to work or shop when the weather is unfavourable. Many people in our community—including workers, seniors, students, and those who live in poverty—do not have that option.

“Maybe you haven’t thought about it this way, but shade is an equity issue,” LA Mayor Eric Garcetti said announcing 750 of the city’s most exposed bus stops would be getting shade trees. “Think about an elderly

Angeleno who relies on public transit to get around her neighborhood. Imagine her standing in the blistering sun in the middle of July waiting for the bus, with hot, dark asphalt. She deserves to be every bit as comfortable as her counterpart in another ZIP code in town.”

Buses and bus stops are instrumental infrastructure for anyone hoping to raise their income by going to college or working an entry-level job.

Clean, safe, comfortable bus stops should be a basic human right.


It is hard to quantify the ‘greater good.’ There is research linking bus stop comfort to ridership, but little empirical measure of what happens when we neglect them. We still know more about pets in parked cars on a hot day than we do about humans sitting in glass bus shelters, or as I like to call them, people terrariums.

**“The symptoms of [bus stop] neglect are in plain view – faded plastic lawn chairs leaning against signposts, nothing but grass and mud to stand on, no shade that isn’t there by accident, bus stops at the very edge of (and sometimes on) the roadway... Something’s not right. We can do better.”**

- Don Button


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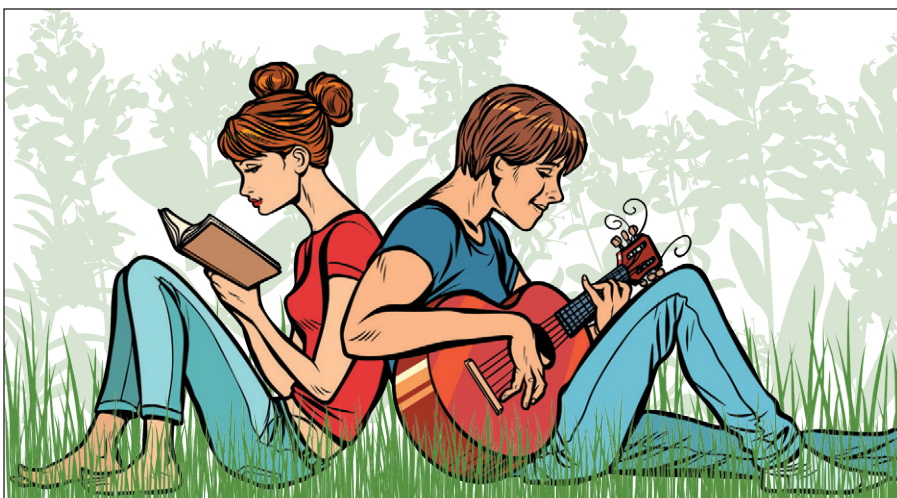
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As in so many things about the way we live, COVID-19 is shining a scientific spotlight on the public health hazards of systemic inequality. The lack of potable water in First Nations reserves is morally offensive, but as long as it remains contained and is no threat to society at large, it goes untended.

COVID-19, conversely, is breaking containment. In California, which atypically is a state that *did* react in Canada-style, Covid is close to out of control in low-income Latino communities and is being spread by essential workers who can't do their jobs from home and can't afford to call in sick.

This winter I began an activist journey to make a case for planting shade trees at as many bus stops in Powell River and qathet Regional District as we can. We will be thankful for them in another 10 years of global warming, and Justin

Trudeau wants to plant a billion trees so he can pay for them.

I wrote a long (unsolicited) report and took it to city hall and the qathet board, and eventually, when the more pressing business of adapting to Covid eases, I hope they'll take up the cause.

The report ([bit.ly/3jwCKHJ](http://bit.ly/3jwCKHJ)) does not suggest we have American-style transit ghettos in our region. Rather, the whole region is a transit ghetto.

There's no sugar coating it: At best, one in 10 of our bus stops meets the minimum standards for safety, security and comfort set by BC Transit. The symptoms of neglect are in plain view – faded plastic lawn chairs leaning against signposts, nothing but grass and mud to stand on, no shade that isn't there by accident, bus stops at the very edge of (and sometimes on) the roadway. Something's not right. We can do better. [PR](#)



**WHERE THE COOL KIDS WAIT:** Abigail Welp-Ellis enjoys the free mini library installed in the bus stop outside of St. David and St. Paul Anglican Church in Townsite. The rain-proof and sun-shaded stop features a comfy bench, a beautiful view, a community bulletin board, and sometimes, free fresh vegetables from the garden. *Photo by David Woolley*

## And now for the Tesla of bus stops...

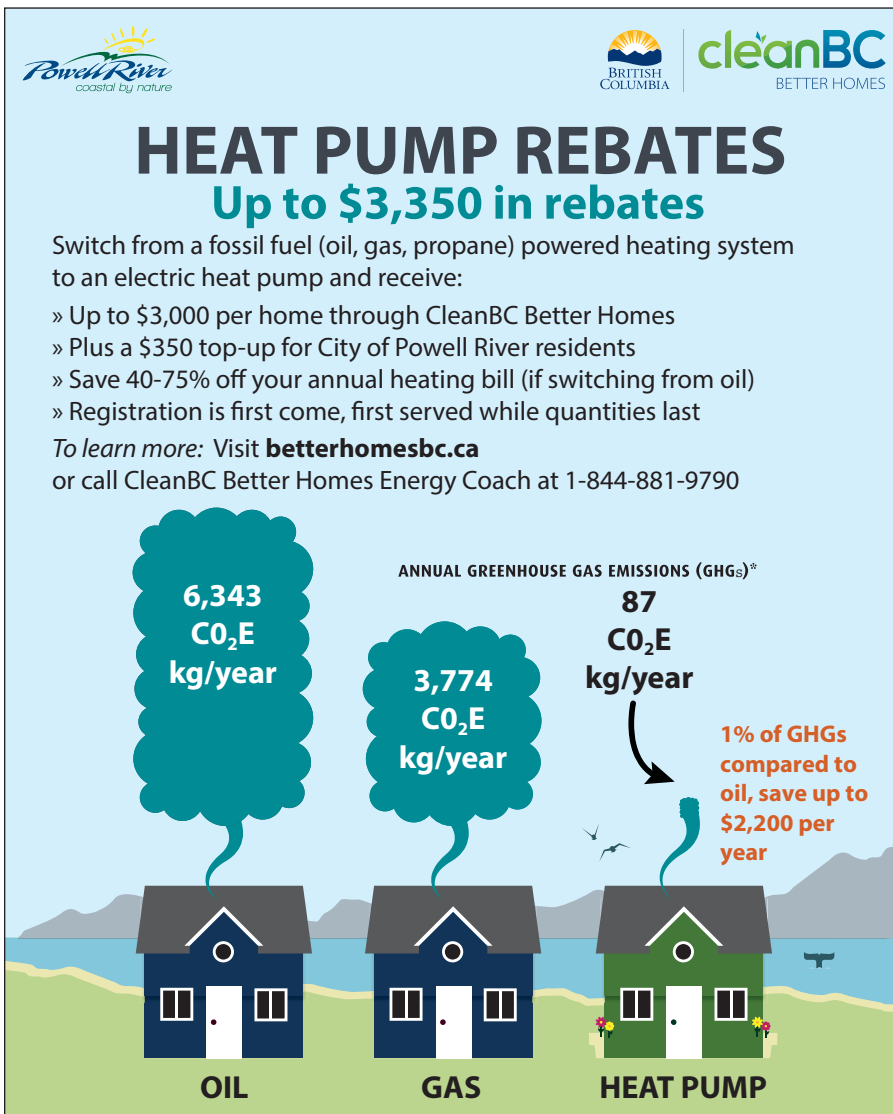
BY ERIN INNES

This Townsite bus stop was built in 2014. I was teaching a Permaculture Design Course at Sycamore Gardens when a student noticed an elderly person with a cane sitting on the sidewalk curb waiting, because there was not even a bench at the bus stop.

We saw an opportunity to make some-

thing beautiful that would also engage the public with the rest of the Sycamore Commons site. I led a couple of hands-on cob construction workshops to build the stop.

This fall it will be needing a new coat of plaster so folks can keep their eyes on our Sycamore Commons Facebook page if they want to help out with plastering.





# What will school look like this year?

It's a question that's on the minds of many parents, teachers, and students as they begin to plan ahead for fall. It's also a question that Jay Yule, School District 47 Superintendent, has spent a lot of time working on with others in recent months.

"We have been preparing for multiple scenarios using the Ministry of Education's five-stage Education Plan. Based on the latest updates from Dr. Henry and the Ministry of Education we are currently planning for all schools to reopen full-time for students in a Stage 2 scenario."

Stage 1 is the regular, five-day in-school schedule with no restrictions; Stage 2 is full-time in-class instruction with specific guidelines being met; Stage 5 is zero in-class instruction; the other two phases are a combination of in-class instruction and remote learning with specific learning group and/or density targets.

"We are organizing students into cohorts at every school to reduce the number of people students and staff come into contact with and are ready to shift to any other stage if things change," said Jay Yule.

When School District 47 surveyed parents at the end of this school year about remote learning and in-class instruction, the vast majority of parents who responded and had sent their students back to school for in-class instruction said they felt safe having them there. When asked if parents would feel comfortable sending their kids physically back to school in September, 66 percent of all respondents said they felt comfortable (provided it is safe to do so) said Allison Burt, SD47's Coordinator of Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting.

About 30 per cent of students returned to school in June. Numbers of returnees were higher at the elementary school level and lower for high school students but



**"We are so thankful to our parent community who were busy juggling so many stresses and responsibilities and also supporting their child's education. It was a huge ask and it shows how important those relationships are between parents, school, and community."**

*- Allison Burt, School District 47's Coordinator of Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting*

local figures were in line with what transpired across the province.

"There was some fear and anxiety about returning to school, but once students and staff actually came back and families realized public health guidelines were in place, they felt better and safer." Procedures such as staggered schedules, physical distancing and limiting physical contact for younger children, frequent hand-washing, and extra cleaning of high contact areas helped build trust.

Educators were impressed with how resilient students have been and how quickly many students adapted to Zoom conferences and using websites to do their work. When they returned to school in June, many adapted quickly to the new protocols including the new ways to

line up and walk in the hallway, and how to play in the gym.

"A lot of this reflects on the safety measures being taught at home," said Allison. How well many parents and educators worked together during recent months was also apparent. "It's been very rewarding to receive this feedback," said Allison. Many parents said they've enjoyed increased family time and creating the learning environment for their children, as well as the flexibility in how to approach activities, and which activities they can choose from. Many of the survey respondents commented on the effort teachers put in to personalize lessons.

"Personalization happens in the classroom, too, but it happened more because we were trying to meet the needs of both students and their families in whatever situation they found themselves in during this pandemic," noted Allison.

"Moving forward we want to spend more time using strategies and technology to build more engagement," she said.

"A lot of parents and students commented on how they loved Zoom to connect with their teachers and classmates. We'll continue to use that and other collaborative digital tools like collaborative docs and break-out rooms to work together." The willingness of teachers and students to learn new technology together has made the transition possible.

"We are excited to continue to explore and use technology to improve teaching and learning in whatever stage we find ourselves in the school year. Educators are eager to learn more about using technology to build connection and community and improve learning. Tools that can be useful remotely and face to face."



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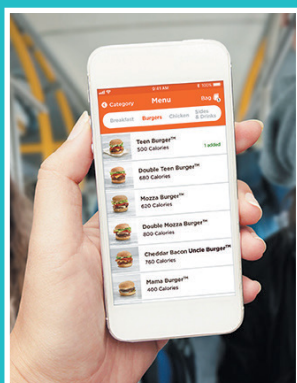




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BY BARBARA ANN LAMBERT

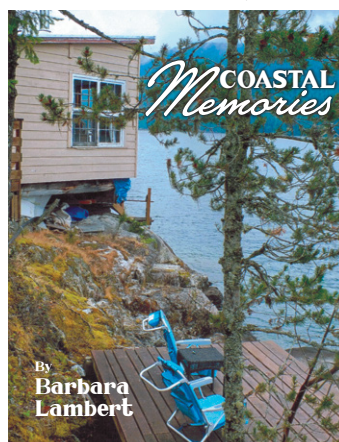
One hundred years ago there was great excitement in the Lang Bay area with the opening of a new school and community hall on the hill, near the present-day Lang Bay store.

The school/hall was built entirely by volunteer labour from a fast-growing community of homesteaders and loggers in the central Lang Bay area.

The new school was named Lang Bay School after the bay. Originally, the bay was called Wolfsohn Bay, after German consul Johann Wolfsohn in Vancouver, but was renamed in 1917 after bay settlers petitioned the B.C. government for a post office, and in a patriotic gesture, renamed the area after the three Lang brothers: Tom, Henry and Fred, who were fighting overseas in the Canadian Expeditionary Force. The name of Lang Bay was proposed by Pat Maitland (later Attorney General of B.C.), who had a summer cottage on the beach and there

### READ ALL ABOUT IT

Local historian Barbara Ann Lambert's soon to be released book, **Coast Memories: 1900 to 1950**, contains a section about the Lang Bay Community Hall's 100th birthday. Barbara's book is expected to be out this fall and will be available at the Powell River Historical Museum and Paperworks Gift Gallery.



In the book...

The Union Steamship blasts its whistle in nearby Stillwater, soon she sails into sight and ties up at the Lang Bay wharf.

First to step on deck, and pick up the all-important mail, is Lang Bay post mistress, five-foot, silver-haired Granny Young wearing her freshly-ironed cotton dress, and sporting a Union Steamship cap, given to her by one of the crew.

Join the surging crowds to meet and greet the many west coast characters disembarking from the boat. They have fascinating tales to tell of Powell River, Powell Lake, Stillwater and Lang Bay.

Meet Cassiar Jack (Jack Dice) of Powell Lake and read of his many adventures told by his son Bob Dice; talented Powell River women with successful businesses in photography, dress shops and tea rooms; homesteader Jack Mullen at Palm Beach who shot his neighbour's pigs when they destroyed his garden; celebrate with south of towners the centenary of Lang Bay Hall; and read many other stories in "Coast Memories" including the terrifying day, during the Great War, when the Powell River Co. mill was held at gunpoint!



**LOVE SHACK:** Lang Bay Hall is the only surviving community hall south of town. It's been a school, a dance hall and more. It's still a functioning hall – though it's been closed during COVID-19.

*Photo courtesy of the Lang Bay Hall Society*

was general agreement amongst the settlers regarding the name change. (Ed. note: The Tla'amin name for the area around Lang Creek is *Metokomen*. Learn more at [powellriver.ca/pages/photo-history-of-powell-river](http://powellriver.ca/pages/photo-history-of-powell-river).)

The new school, the Lang Bay school, had a different name and was in a different location to the Wolfsohn Bay school. By contrast, it was double the size and could accommodate up to 30 students, and was large enough to alternate as a community hall, serving the social needs of the growing Lang Bay community by holding suppers, dances, whist drives and meetings.

Like all one room schools in the 1920s, the Lang Bay school had no electricity and subsequently it was designed with exceptionally large windows, to maximize natural daylight for students to see their assignments. Stumps were scattered around the schoolyard. Near the school were two outhouses, one for the boys, and the other for the girls.

Dances were held every second Saturday night, alternating with Stillwater hall. It was traditional at Lang Bay hall to have a whist drive before the dance. According to Maggie Barrett it was "only right to let people who didn't like to dance play cards for an hour."

Joyce Morris (Pauling) noted in 2020 that "As a teenager in the early '50s, living in the Townsite, I travelled by car with friends to the Lang Bay Hall dances on Saturday nights. I jitterbugged the night away! We left at midnight before supper was served. It was fun."

Anyone who played an instrument became part





# A century of students, loggers & *the jitterbug*

## PARTY POSTPONED

A big birthday bash to celebrate the Lang Bay Hall has been postponed to 2021 due to the pandemic, but still the grand old hall deserves to be celebrated for reaching this momentous milestone.

of the orchestra; Fred Lang played the guitar and Nat McNair played the fiddle. By invitation, for special occasions, Chuck Irwin (banjo) and Ken Pauling (tenor horn/saxophone) played at the hall in the '40s and '50s.

The grand total of \$6,000 in government funds was approved in 1927 to open up a dirt road between Lang Bay and Powell River.

James Stanley was the foreman of the road building project and was the first to ride on it June 27, 1927. The opening of the road brought young men and their sweethearts from the Powell River Townsite to the dances. It was an adventure for the members of the Powell River Automobile Club to drive the challenging drive of pot-holes, mud holes and fallen trees to the Lang Bay hall.

They always travelled as a group due to frequent breakdowns when an extra hand was needed.

Golden Stanley, who lived in Horseshoe Valley on

the Stanley homestead, attended Wolfsohn Bay school in 1919, the last year before it permanently closed. Golden boarded with Mrs. Jacques, the school-teacher, as it was a ten-mile hike each way along the railroad track to the school. According to Golden Stanley most of the action in the area took place at the dance hall built by the loggers.

Golden Stanley: "The dance hall would have been where Patrick Road is now at Wolfsohn Creek. The loggers used to have some wild parties! Half of them would be drunk. We'd dance all night – that is, my parents would – I'd sit behind the orchestra and listen to the music. At daybreak my family headed back up to Horseshoe Valley."

The last dance finished at midnight and was immediately followed by a sumptuous late-night meal of ham sandwiches, cakes and coffee prepared by the 'You Never Can Tell Ladies Club'.

Never knowing what the club was doing the next week, the ladies called their club the "You Never Can Tell" club.

In the January 9, 1941 edition of the Powell River Town Crier, the following advertisement appeared:

"Lang Bay used the school and their hall after the amalgamation of the three districts. In 1937 the resi-

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**“As a teenager in the early ‘50s, living in the Townsite, I travelled by car with friends to the Lang Bay Hall dances on Saturday nights. I jitterbugged the night away! We left at midnight.”**

*- Joyce Morris*

dents of Lang Bay formed a club and purchased the old school from the school board to be used as their local centre.”

The Lang Bay Community Hall, the new Lang Bay post office and store became connected to the electrical grid in the late 1950s. From the 1920s to the 1950s various structural changes were made: the main entrance to the building (facing the road) was relocated to the side with the addition of a cloakroom, the large windows were replaced with smaller ones, water was pumped to the hall, a kitchen and indoor toilets were installed. Gone were the outhouses.

The Lang Bay Community Hall is the only hall in the area that has survived a century. It has remained a functioning hall for the community with a dedicated group of members maintaining it over the years. The hall continues to serve its original function – to be the social hub of the south of town community for meetings, dinners, games and dances. As memorable today as the Christmas concerts were in the 1930s, is a Christmas dinner put on by the hall committee for all the seniors in the Lang Bay area.

Charlie Fletcher recalls the box socials held at



### SCHOOL BY DAY, DANCE HALL BY NIGHT:

From 1920 until 1937, Lang Bay Hall served as the neighbourhood school. The building, which celebrates 100 years this August, was built by volunteering loggers and homesteaders.

the hall. They were big affairs whose purpose was to raise funds for the operation of the hall. All the ladies made a big effort to prepare a basket with home baking, these were auctioned off from a dollar to maybe five dollars! When a gentleman won a basket, he looked inside to find the name of the lady who prepared it and she became his supper and dance partner for the evening. For a young man wanting to sit next to his sweetheart, a special bow tied to the handle alerted him to

choose a specific basket.

Alcohol was not allowed in the hall; however, bottles were stashed outside, near a stump, in the schoolyard. Chuck Irwin, who played at the hall, recalled a Mrs. Kennedy, of the ladies’ You Never Can Tell Club, as an effective “bouncer” who ejected any inebriated logger with a forceful command of “OUT!”

Amazingly, the new Lang Bay school and community hall survived the 1922 fire which brought total devastation to the Lang Bay area.

“A terrible fire went through the Lang Bay area in 1922,” recalls Charlie Fletcher.

“It spread fast due to the high wind. We went down to the beach for safety. My mother and Mrs. Flynn stayed for hours on the beach with the water up to their waist, holding the draft horses. Many families in the area lost everything in the 1922 fire. Roasted chickens were found in the chicken coops!”

In 1937 the Lang Bay school closed. All the students were transferred to the Stillwater United school, a large “modern” school built by the Powell River Company in Stillwater that had electric lights, piped-in water and flush toilets during the Great Depression.

With road improvements and a school bus, it made common sense to amalgamate the three one-room schools in the area: Annie Bay, Lang Bay and Kelly Creek. The era of the one-room school on B.C.’s west coast was gradually coming to an end.

Lang Bay residents could see the educational advantages for their children to receive a “modern education”; however, realizing that the site and building of the Lang Bay school was an important asset to the social life of the community, they paid a nominal sum to the school board to gain ownership of the building for the one purpose only, of being a community hall. [PRL](#)

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# COMMUNITY RESPONSE FUND

## Over \$90,000 already awarded to local not-for-profits in the community:

The first round of recipients included The Canadian Council of the Blind, Inclusion Powell River Society, PR Brain Injury Society, PR Open Air Farmer's Market, PR Miklat Recovery House Society, The Source Club Society & PR Community Services Association.

## This round's recipients:

- Powell River Community Radio Society (\$1,000) – to support local community programming throughout COVID-19.
- Malaspina Art Society (\$4,000) – to purchase art supply care packages for children and seniors who have been particularly affected by COVID-19.
- Bike Lund, Lund Community Society (\$5,000) – to provide free refurbished bicycles to low-income individuals living in qathet Regional District to meet their transportation needs during COVID-19.
- Lift Community Services (\$12,000) – to purchase basic hygiene, first aid, personal care, and food supplies for vulnerable members of the community.
- Powell River Model Community Project (\$10,000) – To support the K-Lumet Pilot Project to train and employ people with high barriers to employment in manufacturing a fire starter made from recycled materials.

**Next funding intake deadlines are Friday, August 14<sup>th</sup> & Friday September 4<sup>th</sup>**



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Visit [prcommunityfoundation.com/community-response-fund](https://prcommunityfoundation.com/community-response-fund)  
for more information or to apply or donate.





## Masked heroes sew for charity

**T**wo Powell River residents have used their skills to help local charities.

In May, Loretta Cameron noticed there was an increasing demand for face masks. “I saw an opportunity with the growing demand for comfortable, quality, face masks and wanted to help fill the need,” she said. “I did some research on various styles and fabrics and made a few prototypes that I gave to family and friends and

asked for feedback. Once I found a design that was comfortable and not too bulky, I made a few masks and advertised on social media to see if anyone was interested and immediately, orders started to come in.”

Loretta and her niece Hailey Mayenburg, a graduating student, put their skills to work and began making masks. And not just a few, but a lot.

Their volunteer efforts have already brought in more than \$2,500 in donations which they have put towards local charities including Victim Support Safety Fund, Dry Grad and the Powell River and District Food Bank.

All masks are made of 100 percent cotton with a layer of non-woven interfacing sewn in, which acts as a filter. When asked about price, Loretta replied.

“It is by donation only and 100 percent of the proceeds will be distributed to Powell River charities which have been impacted by COVID and are not able to conduct their normal fund-raising activities.”

They have made more than 500 masks to date. Loretta says she will continue to sew and donate as long as there is a need.

Masks are available at Willow Rose Boutique, The Medical Clinic or by contacting Loretta Cameron on Facebook. [PR](#)



**PROTECT OTHERS:** Hailey Mayenburg and her aunt Loretta Cameron in the room where they've sewn more than 500 masks which they sell by donation, supporting all local charities.

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## THEY MADE THE MOVE

# Invasion of the horticulturists

**Y**ou've got to wonder if there's something in the soil. Two sisters, both with a background in horticulture, move to Powell River in less than two years. The oldest sister's daughter, who is also involved in horticulture, also moved here. What's lured them to this fertile community at the top of the Sunshine Coast?

After her sister moved to Powell River in 2018 and her daughter followed in 2019, Liz Quigley and her 87-year-old young-at-heart mom Mary Bacon decided it was time to pack up and join the rest of the family.

The duo became the sixth and seventh members of their family to make the move here. There has since been another birth so the grand total is now at eight. Now Mary, her two daughters, Liz and Sarah Bacon, Sarah's spouse, Don, Mary's granddaughter Nicole Quigley and husband Peter and great-grandsons Harrison and baby Henry, all call Powell River home.

### Why did you choose to move to Powell River?

**Liz** • My sister Sarah had just moved to Powell River from Mission with her partner Don, and my daughter Nicole and her young family had moved up too. We came to visit and fell in love with Powell River!

### When? Where from?

**Liz** • I moved from Syracuse, New York, and my Mom May from Mission, BC.

### What surprised you once you moved here?

**Liz** • For me the biggest thing I noticed was how friendly everyone was! Mary was surprised by all the live music that was available to be enjoyed.

### What made you decide to move to Powell River?

**Liz** • We moved to Powell River so Mary would not be alone in Mission, and I moved to be closer to both my girls. My oldest daughter Nicole moved here in January 2019 with her husband Peter and their son Harrison. They have a beautiful home on Marine in Townsite.

### Where is your favourite place in Powell River?

**Liz** • Mary's favorite place is the Westview lookout. My favorite spots are Willingdon Beach and Okeover Inlet where I purchased an oceanfront lot with Sarah and Don. I also love the Farmers' Market.



**BLOOMING HERE:** Since 2018, eight members of Mary Bacon's family have moved (or been born) here. They include (from left) Sarah Bacon, Liz Quigley, here with mom Mary Bacon, as well as Nicole Quigley and husband Peter Kollar, with son Harrison and baby Henry, and Sarah's partner Don Button (not shown.)

### How did you first hear about Powell River?

**Liz** • From my sister Sarah and Don, who were the first ones to Make the Move! When we first came to visit them we had a feast of spot prawns fresh off the dock (I have never had such a feast) and we went to the fantastic Farmers Market and sat down and listened to live folk music in the sunshine!

### What would make Powell River a nicer community?

**Liz** • I think continued revitalization of the Main Street district is a great opportunity to increase tourism and encourage small business.

### What aspect of your previous community do you think would benefit Powell River?

**Liz** • Mary would like to see lifetime learning for seniors; she misses the day trips she went on in Mission.

### What challenges did you face in trying to make a life for yourself here?

**Liz** • For me, the challenge was to find work, and also build friendships. I found work with Beach Garden Resort on the front desk and also had a wonderful opportunity working at the Overdose Prevention Site until it closed due to COVID. I now have the best work life ever as I am a full time member of the Springtime Garden

Center team. I told Dave that working for him, especially during a pandemic, was like winning the lottery.

### If you were mayor what would you do?

**Liz** • I would create a sidewalk and bike lane along the front of Marine and also extend the sea walk all the way from Willingdon Beach to Grief Point. Mary would want to see more businesses come so all the retail space was filled.

### What are Powell River's best assets?

**Liz** • We agree that the two best things are its beautiful, natural setting and the wonderful friendly citizens.

### What is your greatest extravagance?

**Liz** • Mary's is Lindt chocolates and Baileys Irish Cream. My extravagance is our Okeover Oasis!

### Which superpower would you most like to have?

**Liz** • Mary's super-power would be to unseat the current president of the United States! Mine would be to find a cure for Covid 19 and also to be able to bring my daughter Caroline to live in Powell River with her husband Andrew and their son Liam. **RL**

*If you know someone we should feature in I Made the Move, please email [isabelle@prliving.ca](mailto:isabelle@prliving.ca) with your idea.*



# WHERE YOU BANK

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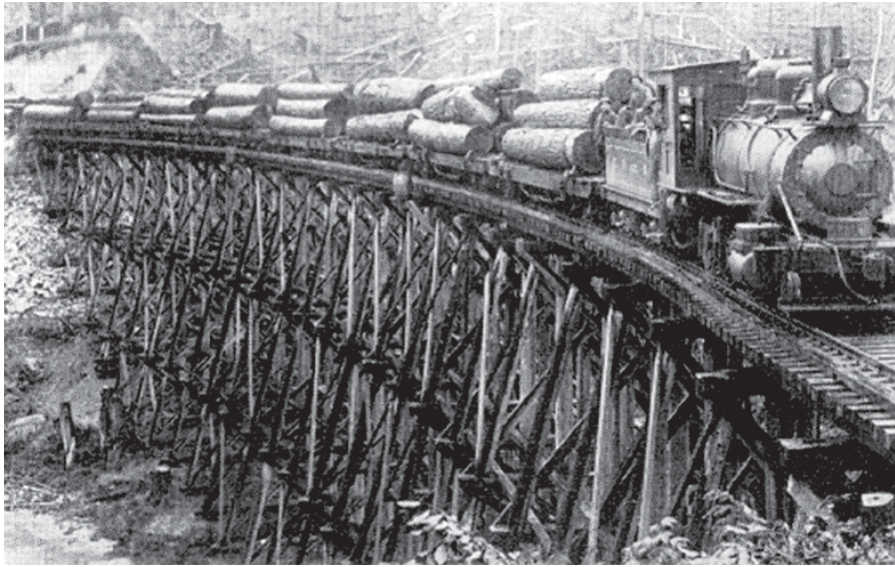
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## BLAST FROM THE PAST

# Magnificent Stillwater logs in London's Kew Gardens, Vancouver Court House

BY JOËLLE SÉVIGNY

"I was king of Eagle River, king of dancing Lois River, Of its falls and tumbling rapids, of its lakes and pools and reaches. Whimsical and full of fancies, like a woman, Lois River, Moody, playful, sullen, sparkling..."

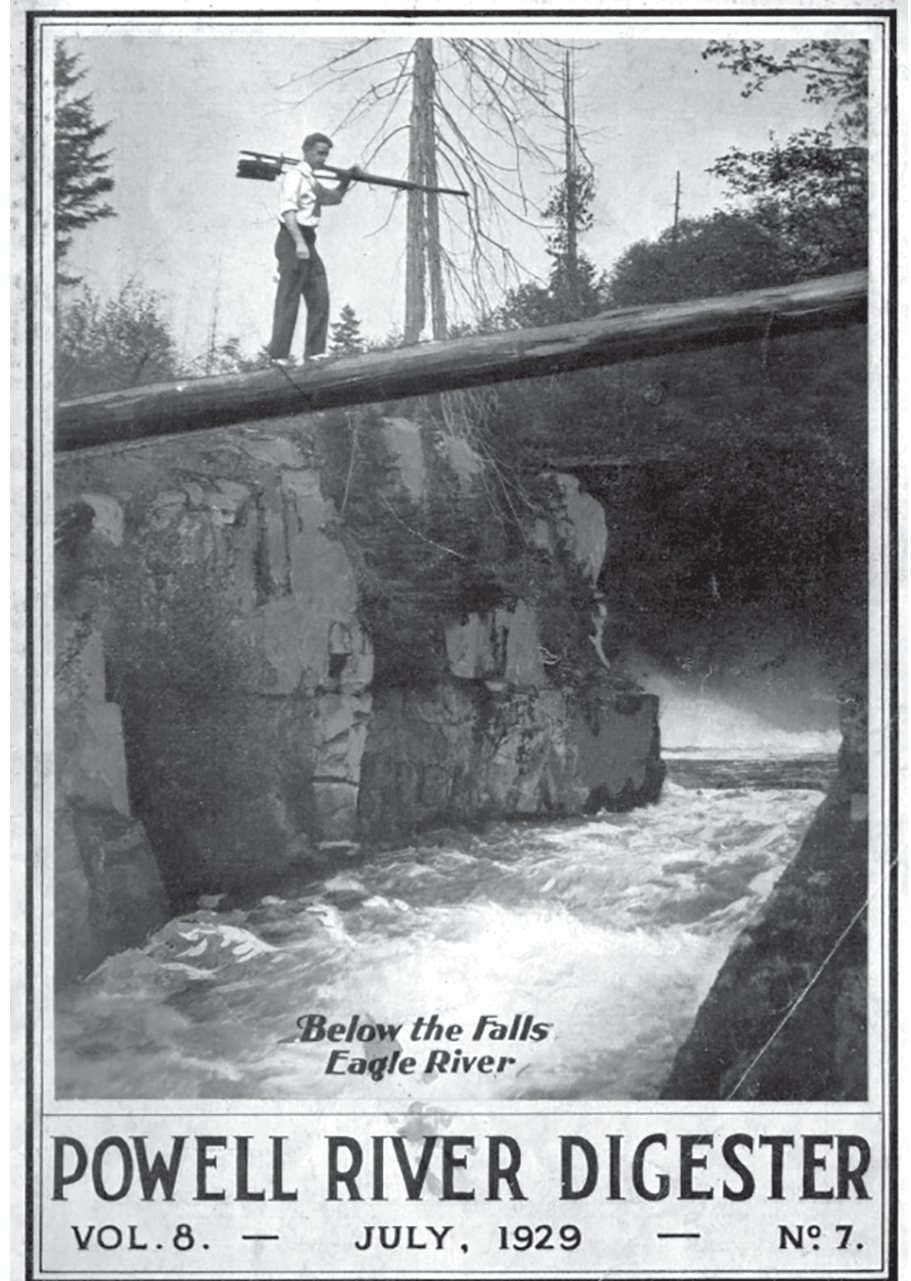
These harmonious words written from the eyes of a rainbow trout, are the beginning of a poem by O. J. Stevenson in the September 1930 Digester, dedicated to the beautiful Eagle River, located south of town.

This area was being logged as early as the 1890s by Farquhar McRae who focused on the lumber close to the shorelines of Stillwater. It was also developed

early on as a logging camp in the Brooks, Scanlon & O'Brien logging operations, as early as 1908.

Stillwater was previously named Scow Bay, because of the scows (a flat-bottomed boat) that brought in supplies for the B.C. Mill, Timber and Trading Company from 1890 to 1899. After 1908, the area was referred to as Stillwater, named after the town of Stillwater in Minnesota, which was the hometown of Brooks and Scanlon.

It is said that some of the finest lumber in British-Columbia came from the Stillwater operations and the Lois Lake area. The Kew Gardens, which are the Royal Botanic Gardens in England, at one point hosted a 214-foot-tall Douglas



**"WHIMSICAL AND FULL OF FANCIES":** Since at least the 1890s, the area around Stillwater has been both logged and celebrated for its bounty and beauty. Top left, men atop the 1918 flagpole sent to the British Royal Family. Above left, the Copenhagen Canyon Bridge in 1908. Above, the Digester promotes Eagle River – still a sweet swimming spot.

fir flagpole, "The Stillwater Giant," cut in 1918. Other flagpoles from Stillwater were sent to be erected at the University of British Columbia and the Vancouver Court House (these were eventually replaced or moved).

A hotel was also built in 1910 at Stillwater; the Gordon Pasha Hotel contained a store, a pool hall, a restaurant and a post office.

The hotel especially became alive on Saturday nights with loggers enjoying

music, dancing and card playing!

Some may recall that the Gordon Pasha Lakes, from which the hotel drew its name, consisted of three lakes which became Khartoum and Lois when Lois Lake was dammed in 1930 by the Powell River Company. [PR](#)

*Blast from the Past is a monthly historical column written by the Townsite Heritage Society's coordinator Joëlle Sévigny. The THS tells the history of Townsite from 1907 onward.*



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# Flood is coming!

Tie your canoe to Beartooth Mountain

BY DREW BLANEY

The Tla'amin people have a long history on the lands and waters that surround the Powell River area. In the words of our ancestors, our people have always been here, since time immemorial.

Throughout the thousands of years of occupation in this area, the ancestors of the Tla'amin people have been witness to many great, and also catastrophic events. Today, I would like to share one of these stories as it was passed down from generation to generation.

## The Flood Story

*As told by Drew Blaney, a story he had learned from his grandfather Bob Blaney who learned it from the late Johnny Bob.*

The people were told there was going to be a big flood. Some of the people did not believe this to be the truth and brushed it off.

One man who was gifted and could see the future was certain about this and started to prepare for this to happen. He

told his wife and daughters to make rope out of cedar, but it needed to be long and strong. As they did this, the man and his sons went up the mountains to decide where they would anchor their canoes.

He travelled in his canoe way up to Goat Lake where there are many tall mountains. He decided he was going to tie his canoes to Beartooth Mountain.

Not long after the man did this, it happened.


The waters started to rise, and rise and soon enough only the tops of the highest mountains were not covered. The man and his family were safe, but the rest of the people were begging him to tie their canoes up to the rope they had prepared.

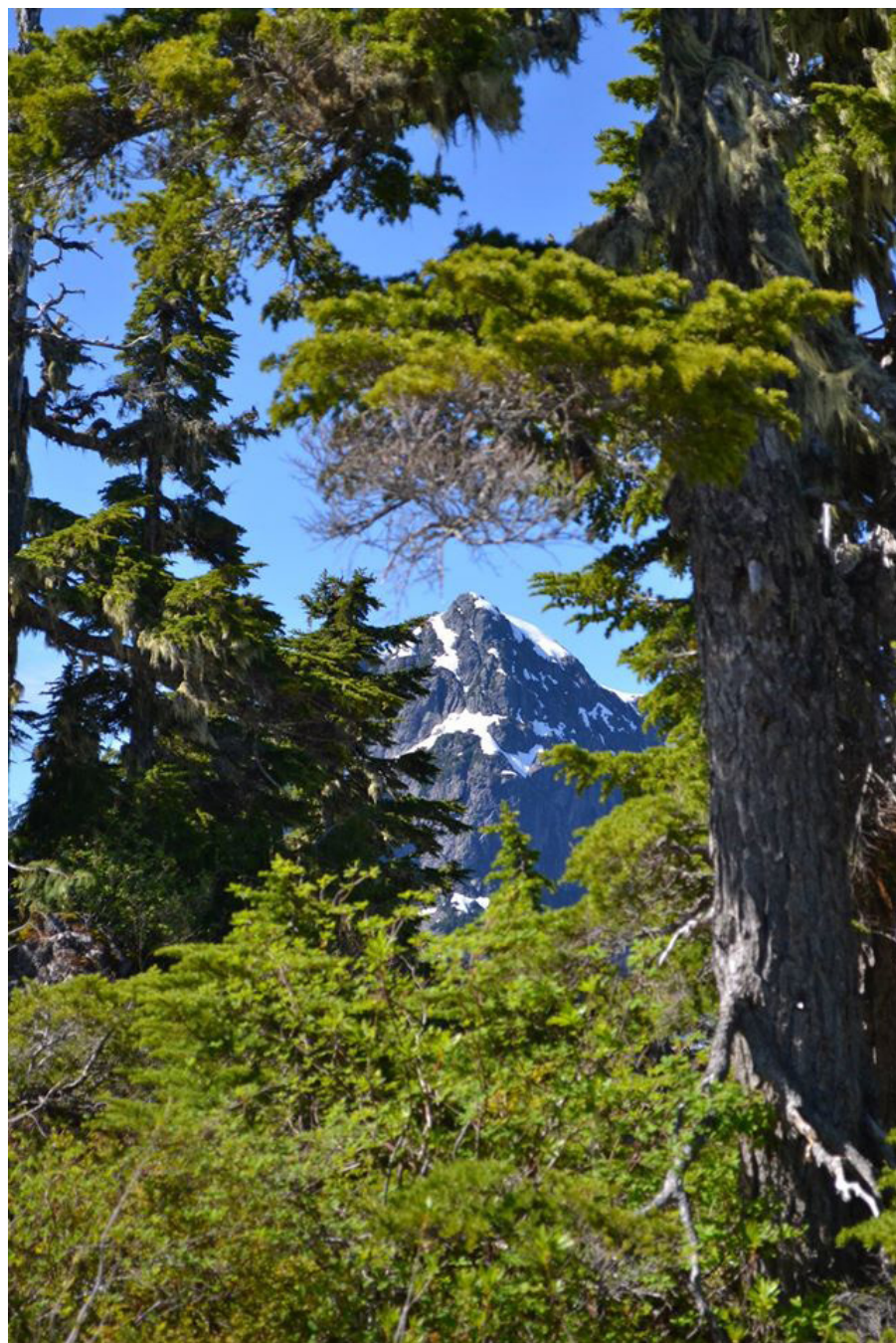
The man only allowed people that offered gifts in exchange for them tying up their canoes to his rope.

The rest of the people tried paddling their canoes through the rising waters, but the waters were so strong it swept them away. As the waters receded, these people were swept far down south and are said to have landed close to Seattle.

The man and his family who tied their canoes to the mountain remained and are survivors of this great flood. These are some of the ancestors of the Tla'amin people.

To this day, you can still find the rope that our ancestors had made on the highest parts of Beartooth Mountain, and salt water on the bottom of Powell Lake.

Parts of our language are also still spoken down South to this day. 



**HIGHER GROUND:** At over 2,000 metres at the summit, Beartooth Mountain would certainly be a solid escape from a flood. A cedar rope, part of the story told to Drew Blaney (left), can still be found there. Check out this short 2013 film of the climb by Yeti Adventure Films: [youtu.be/NxJ\\_YXZRbBo](https://youtu.be/NxJ_YXZRbBo).  
*video still courtesy of Yeti Adventure Films*



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# Making the Most of our Assets



**W**e all have assets – things that we own, like a house, a car, a boat, a bike, clothing, a cell phone, etc. If we want these assets to work well, we must operate them correctly and maintain them regularly. However, managing our assets and ensuring that we can continue to receive the service we desire from our assets means going beyond just proper operations and maintenance.

Asset management requires that we have a good knowledge of what we own, where it is located, how old it is, what condition it is in, how critical it is to us, how much longer we think it will last, and how much it is worth.

We also need to ask ourselves whether our assets are even meeting our needs and the needs of our family. Do we own the right assets? Do we need to invest in something completely different? We must do

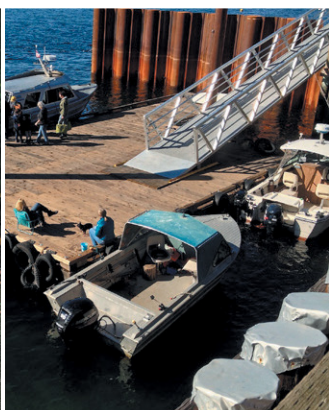
financial planning so that we have the money we need to repair and replace our assets when they no longer are able to provide the services we desire or when the cost to maintain them outweighs their value to us. Are we putting enough money into savings each month or will we need to borrow funds? For some of us, we need to factor into our financial plans, our desire to upgrade to the "latest and greatest" in technology or our aspiration to reduce our environmental footprint by replacing an asset with a "greener" version which may come at a potentially lower or higher cost affecting our monthly savings contribution.

We must be sure that we are following all of the legislative requirements related to each asset we own and we must be aware of the risks that are associated with the potential failure of our assets. We should be considering how climate change factors might

potentially impact the assets that we own. Many of us have children and grandchildren and we want to ensure that we are managing our assets so that we can pass them on to these future generations in good condition and without any burden of debt. For some of us, we are even looking beyond our immediate family. We are making decisions about what we own based on its potential environmental and social impacts.

qathet Regional District manages a wide variety of assets on behalf of our citizens. To do this, we are asking all of the same questions and working to balance all of the same factors.

For more information about what asset management is, why we do it, and further details on qathet Regional District's asset management program, check out our website at [www.qathet.ca/services/sustainable-service-delivery/](http://www.qathet.ca/services/sustainable-service-delivery/)



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Working  
Together



# Delivery, web and collaboration

**T**ownsite Fruit & Veg is a community-focused, plant-based, grocery store located in Townsite Public Market. It opened in December of 2018. The owner and operator is Martin Williams.

## What concerned you most as the pandemic began?

**Martin** • Four things immediately stood out, given how little we actually knew. How could we keep staff and customers safe? Would the supply lines continue to operate? What would be the concerns our customers would have in sourcing their food? How would this affect the community spirit the Townsite Public Market was building?

## What opportunities did you see?

**Martin** • We had talked when we opened about offering a delivery service. Now was the time to do it, starting with a simple well-valued Veggiebox.

## What have you been doing that you haven't done before the pandemic?

**Martin** • We have done three things: put the entire store online, enhanced our product offerings, and brought in products from many local businesses, most of whom lost their business front through Covid closings.

Our first step once putting the web store together was to extend it to be a store front for the businesses in the Townsite Public Market building, listing their products (Coastal Thrive) or providing links to their stores (Just Soul Food, Seaside Aenfae, Knitter Nest, Turadh Fine Art, Found Stone, and Eunoia). So quickly we were a portal to the market community.

Given our seven-day-a-week operation we became a pick-up location for any merchant in the Market. We were fortunate to be open. It was important for us to help those who were not able to be.

## Does this help?

**Martin** • We have had much positive feedback for the new delivery and pick-up options. The support and patience from our customers as we stumbled through the quick learning curve of the new business model is something we are incredibly grateful for.

## Which pandemic-response government programs have been helpful?

**Martin** • The most effective program has been the steady and patient hand of Dr Henry, reassuring people and maintaining a level of calm and kindness not seen in many other jurisdictions. Obviously the individual CERB payments enabled people to continue to eat well and make healthy food choices

## Have you received any help, support or inspiration?

**Martin** • Our customers are amazing. They are inspiration themselves. People took the social distancing seriously. The offers to volunteer to make deliveries and the soups and stews dropped off to keep me nourished were certainly appreciated.

## How has the pandemic impacted your customers?

**Martin** • Hard to speak for others. I do think we have all gained a greater appreciation for food, where it comes from and the joys of having the time to prepare and enjoy meals.

## How has it impacted your staff?

**Martin** • Evelyn has mostly worked from home, maintaining and updating the web store as it expanded. Michael, Daisy and Blanca worked additional hours.

## How has it impacted you and your family?

**Martin** • My immediate family is in Vancouver and beyond. Locally, my family is Bo and Bea, my two cats. They are less than impressed with the long working hours and are exceptionally needy of affection when I do get home.

## If you could go back to January, what advice would you give yourself?

**Martin** • Keep doing what you are doing. Focus on building a community focused business and allow the customers to direct what changes need to happen. Focus on the customer experience.

## What changes do you think you'll retain into the future?

**Martin** • We will maintain the online store and delivery service. There are many customers who have expressed



**PACKED FOR PICK-UP OR DELIVERY:** Townsite Fruit & Veg owner Martin Williams has made COVID-safe contactless grocery shopping easy and affordable.

how much they would like this to carry on. Be involved more with community initiatives, such as Lift Community Services Good Food Box program.

## What's surprised you most?

**Martin** • How adaptable everyone was to all the changes and unknown. None of us has been through anything like this. We all did very well. That Powell River is very community-oriented was obviously a shining factor.

## What are you looking forward to most about getting back to normal?

**Martin** • Hugs. Oh I miss hugs! **PL**

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**“If a DNA test finds that you [a European settler] do indeed have an Indigenous ancestor, or you were told as a child there’s an Indigenous person in your family tree, honour that ancestor by at least finding out their name, and their parents’ names.”**

## Language Matters

# Know more before you speak about Indigenous lives

*This article is a project of qathet Community Justice’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee. [qCJ@liftcommunityservices.org](mailto:qCJ@liftcommunityservices.org)*

**D**r. Marie Curie once said, “Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less.”

Now is certainly a time to be listening to scientists, and by understanding more, perhaps we’ll be more mindful of the words we choose. Our language is a reflection of our culture, and shapes our personal identity.

One topic subject to lots of misunderstanding is tax exemptions for Indigenous people in Canada—so much so, it sometimes triggers hate speech. Before announcing out loud you find this law unfair, consider its intention: it has nothing to do with giving anyone special

privilege or providing economic benefit. Rather, it is a legal safeguard under Section 87 of the *Indian Act* to protect the property of reserve land so that it can’t be lost due to forfeitures or tax sales.

In other words, the exemption makes sure that no individual could find themselves in a situation where their on-reserve property could be claimed by a non-Indigenous entity. Considering reserve land today is a mere 0.2 percent of the Canada’s total land area, this is an important safeguard that the courts have been dutifully upholding since 1763.

And not all Indigenous persons are exempt from paying tax. Far from it! The tax rules are very specific: they apply only to status Indians living and working on a reserve.

In all of Canada, that’s around 300,000 people—less than one percent of our total population. Inuit, Métis, non-status Indians, and status Indians not living and working on a reserve are not eligible for the exemption.

This even goes for gas—which contrary to some popular rumours, is not free. Present a status card when purchas-

ing gas on a reserve, and it’s tax exempt; otherwise, taxes apply.

Understanding these rules (or at least, knowing that they are complex, substantive, and regulated) can alleviate negative reactions to them. Any discussions taking issue with Indigenous tax exemptions should be directed at Parliament, not our First Nations neighbours.

Another topic that European Settlers bring up without due understanding is a connection to First Nations ancestry.

If a DNA test finds that you do indeed have an Indigenous ancestor, or you were told as a child there’s an Indigenous person in your family tree, honour that ancestor by at least finding out their name, and their parents’ names. If that’s too hard, and you haven’t been passed down any stories, traditions, or recipes, please consider refraining from making that claim.

Again, think of your intention: are you implying you have a shared understanding of oppression First Nations people have endured?

If you haven’t shared in the culture and beliefs, or haven’t been on the receiving end of negative stereotypes, your claim of connection may end up sounding racist and make Indigenous peoples feel “othered.”


Instead, do the work to find the details. A conversation around what you’ve discovered, including why your family didn’t pass along that information, would be much more constructive. In fact, it could be the first step in re-building that connection.

Inevitably, we’re going to say something inappropriate or offensive. When we do, an apology is great, and a promise to gain more understanding is even better.

Our words matter.

Now is an excellent time to reflect upon those things we’ve said so often in our lives without having full understanding: what impact do our words have on our friends, our neighbours, and our community?

Often our harmful language is unconscious, a result of years of colonization which we may no longer even recognize.

Identifying and rectifying it is a challenge, but as Dr. Curie also said, “I was taught that the way of progress was neither swift nor easy.” 





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# Harvest is an art

One of the factors of growing a vegetable garden that is rarely touched upon is harvesting. Harvesting can be just as demanding as growing. There are optimal times and techniques particular to every fruit and veg. Cleaning, cooling, and storing will determine the quality and longevity of your produce before it hits your plate, or whether it becomes compost.

Just think about garlic. The fussing usually starts sometime in May as the bulbs are swelling and the flowers begin to rear their heads (known as garlic scapes). The scapes must be picked. This will make the bulbs swell even more. Then sometime in later July, when the



**FRUITFUL WORK:** Alex Devlin and Declan Paul, both 7, sell their harvest roadside in July.



## A growing concern

BY JONATHAN VAN WILTENBURG | jonathan\_vw@yahoo.com

stalk and leaves begins to wither, you pull the garlic. Once pulled the garlic needs to be cured in a warm location with good air circulation for at least a week. When good and dry it should be cleaned with a brush, trimmed of its roots, and then stored in a dry, cool location where it can be used up for the next eight months or so.

Or take cilantro. Optimally it is harvested in the early morning, pulled from the ground roots and all (not cut). It is then rinsed in cold water (submerged in a bucket, not blasted with a hose) to remove the soil from the roots and the heat from the leaves. Then it should be refrigerated in a mason jar half filled with water with a plastic bag over it. It will last for over a week.

Tomatoes should be picked at peak ripeness, left at room temperature, not refrigerated, and used as soon as possible.

That is three crops, all with different harvest needs! Every crop is different. Some need cold temperatures, others need room temp. Some need a rinse, others need to stay dry.

Out in the garden bed you have something very alive, but once cut or pulled it starts the down spiral to decay.

It is our job to keep our fruits and veg in a pseudo-alive state as long as possible until you get around to eating it. This should al-

ways be at top of mind when harvesting. Nobody wants to grow all this nice produce and then have it go flaccid.

### Super Basic Rules for Harvesting:

*Pick in the Morning.* Plants are living until the moment you cut them. This means they are metabolizing as we cut/harvest. In the morning plants are just gearing up for their day so are less metabolically active. They have usually had all night to fill their tissues which will make them turgid and optimal for harvest.

*Get the field heat out.* By immediately lowering the temperature of the produce, you will slow down the decay. This is very important for lettuce and greens. They will last for over a week if you submerge in cold water after cutting, thoroughly dry, and then store in a closed container in the fridge.

It's hard to list all the do's and don'ts in this little column so if in doubt, take the time to do a quick web search on best harvesting and post harvest practices for your crop.

There is a lot of great information out there on how and when to harvest and how to store your fruit and veg to maintain the highest quality.

Just a warning, you will probably want a bigger refrigerator.

Happy gardening!

	Submerge in cold water	Store in fridge
Lettuce/Greens	✓	✓
Tomato	✗	✗
Potato	✗	✗
Beans	✓	✓
Broccoli	✓	✓
Kale	✓	✓
Carrots	✓	✓
Beets	✓	✓
Garlic	✗	✗
Squash	✗	✗
Onion	✗	✗

## Top Priorities in the Garden for August

1. **Late summer watering.** Five or even 10 minutes of hand watering won't cut it in summer heat. Be sure to stick your finger in the soil and see how far the water has penetrated. It surprises me every time how much water is needed to penetrate deep into the root zone. You may need to make wells around the plants to ensure water moves downward rather than just runs across the surface.
2. If you planted potatoes feel free to sneak a few **new potatoes** for a meal. It doesn't get any better than fresh small potatoes.
3. Be aware of the fruit on your trees. **Check for ripeness and pick** as soon as possible to alleviate bear and human confrontations. If you are overrun with fruit, find someone in the neighbourhood that would jump at the opportunity to share your harvest.
4. Give some attention to your **compost pile**. Flipping it is always a good idea. If it is dry and crumbly and not breaking down quickly you may need to add some water. If it smells and is sopping wet you may need to cover it with a tarp and let it dry out. Remember, your compost pile is a living system that needs adequate amounts of water, air, carbon, and nitrogen for rapid and efficient breakdown.
5. Winter garden alert! You should plant out your **beets, carrots, and chard**. It is too late to plant seeds for vegetables such as cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, or Brussels sprouts. Take a trip to the local nursery and purchase starts that were planted long ago and will mature in time.
6. If you haven't already done so, **pull out your garlic** and cure the bulbs for storage. Also watch your onions and shallots and as they begin to die back you can pull and cure them, too.
7. Make a **fall chore list**. Autumn is a great time for moving and planting trees and shrubs as rain is plentiful and roots will have all winter to get established.
8. To keep those summer annuals beautiful, **dead-head and prune** them regularly. This should include your hanging baskets and pots, too. Give them a feeding once a month.
9. Sow your **colourful biennial ornamentals** for next year – things like poppies, foxgloves, English daisies, wallflowers, and forget-me-not's.
10. Don't forget to **take a few photos** of your garden this year for your records. It is always nice to look over the garden in subsequent seasons and years. The photos are also an excellent aid when you go to edit in the fall or spring.
11. **Put your order** in to a reputable bulb supplier, the sooner the better. Fall bulb planting is just around the corner.

## Plant now for winter!

One of the best parts about living in Powell River is enjoying the great outdoors, especially when our mild coastal climate allows for fresh-from-the-garden flavour all year round! To learn more about winter gardening or to stock up on your seeding essentials, visit Mother Nature today.



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# In Mexican tourist towns like hers, the economy has collapsed. You can help, says local entrepreneur

BY MORGAN PÉPIN

Caitlin Padgett, who grew up in Powell River, has been living in coastal Oaxaca, Mexico for nine years. She owns and operates [redefiningsobriety.com](http://redefiningsobriety.com) – an online business that helps women change their relationship to alcohol. Now, she also runs a food bank – as a volunteer.

The foodbank was founded in early April in direct response to the global pandemic. As borders began to close and ex-patriots called home, foreign-owned businesses in her town, Puerto Escondido, started to close. For a city relying heavily on tourism for employment, the sudden exodus of employers and big money-spenders was a blow to the local economy. A situation communities around the world have faced in recent months.

"I saw my friends go from one day being employed, to the next day being told they didn't have a job anymore," says Caitlin. She explains how the majority of people in Puerto are part of the informal economy – that means no job security, no official contracts, and no financial aid.

Unsure of how the pandemic will affect her community in the long run, Caitlin posted on Facebook that she wanted to do something and asked if anyone else wanted to help. Through a series of com-

## SUPPORT MEXICAN FAMILIES HIT HARD BY FALLING TOURISM

Powell River's Caitlin Padgett is on the ground in Puerto Escondido, and is working with locals to bring food and sanitary packages to those who need it most.

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[fundrazr.com/foodbanklapunta](http://fundrazr.com/foodbanklapunta)

ment threads and conversations, the idea to start a foodbank emerged.

Caitlin partnered with *Sembrando Buenas Semillas* (or SBS, literal translation: sowing good seeds), a local organization. For the past four years SBS has focused on outreach and providing food or emotional support to people who are elderly, sick, or dying in the community. Caitlin felt this was a perfect organization to establish the foodbank with because of their history and experience in community outreach.

The "Sowing Good Seeds" Foodbank puts together and delivers the food and hygiene packages, while SBS focuses on outreach and putting them in contact with the families that need it most. Many of the families the foodbank delivers to have three generations of people depen-



**RICE, BEANS, EGGS:** Caitlin Padgett (above right) has started a food bank in Puerto Escondido for families in the tourist town where she lives – often visited by Canadians during non-pandemic times. She's working with an established local agency, *Sembrando Buenas Semillas*, to deliver the food and sanitary packages to those hard hit by the COVID-19 pandemic.



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We don't know what's going on a lot of the time but what we can do is care for other human beings and really take care of each other. I feel like now more than ever that's what we're being asked to do."

- Caitlin Padgett



**BACK TO BASICS:** Food and sanitary packages created by the organization former Powell Riverite Caitlin Padgett is helping contain basics such as rice, eggs, sugar, salt, soap and toilet paper. Families affected directly by COVID-19 get vitamins and fresh vegetables as well. Each package is designed to last a family one week.

dant on one or two salaries, and live paycheque to paycheque.

Basics included in the food packages are rice, black beans, lentils, rolled oats, pasta, canned vegetables, tuna, sardines, cooking oil, milk, a kilo of salt and sugar, kids' animal crackers, chiles, canned beans, coffee, and eggs.

The sanitary packages include toilet paper, bleach, soap, laundry detergent, and shampoo.

And special packages for families affected directly by COVID-19 offer fresh fruits and veggies, meat, cheese, vitamin C, zinc, propolis, eucalyptus, ginger, garlic, oregano, and two each of the food and sanitary packages.

"When those salaries are gone there are so many people in the family who have no support financially," says Caitlin. She was concerned about how isolation would not only affect people's ability to work and earn an income, but also their mental health.

"Imagine being in lockdown for three or four months, not having an income, and then getting sick, or having a family member get sick," says Caitlin.


As the infection rate continues to rise

in Mexico, the foodbank has shifted its focus to families with a member who is currently sick with COVID-19 or who have lost someone to the virus.

Although the past few months have been challenging and uncertain in many ways, Caitlin says she is grateful for the foodbank. It has given her something to focus on and a way to make a positive difference in her community.

"Something that this is teaching us, and something I love and appreciate about Powell River and I've seen here as well, is the importance of community," says Caitlin.

"The importance of acting locally, seeing what you have and how you can share some of that. Really prioritizing other's humanity and remembering that we're all humans. We don't know what's going on a lot of the time but what we can do is care for other human beings and really take care of each other. I feel like now more than ever that's what we're being asked to do."

Caitlin encourages everyone to take care of yourself and your community, "whether you're in Powell River or Puerto Escondido, Mexico." 



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We welcome feedback from our readers. Letters may be edited for length. Email [isabelle@prliving.ca](mailto:isabelle@prliving.ca), or mail letters to **PR Living, 7053E Glacier St, Powell River, BC V8A 5J7.**

## White supremacy? Nope. History is best told by many voices – and we are hearing them all

*Dear Powell River Living,*

I have to confess to having been both dumbfounded and a bit offended by Ms. [Leni] Goggins' letter to the editor in the July edition of *Powell River Living*, describing her response to the monthly 'snapshot' of times past in the Townsite that was published in the June edition.

To characterize a factual account of an innocuous part of daily life in Townsite's, admittedly, short history as 'white-washing' and evidence of white supremacist revisionist history is, I feel, very narrow and short sighted. A personal attack on the Townsite Heritage coordinator, Ms. Sevigny, who has had the misfortune to encounter yet another brand of our own home grown bigotry and francophobia here in Powell River and still maintain her professionalism and passion for participating in the preservation of our built heritage, was uncalled for as well.

At the risk of becoming pedantic, I must point out that history is not a single event, a single viewpoint, a single place or a single culture: it is a tapestry, if you will, that is almost three dimensional in its layers and intersecting strands. Also, the academic definition of 'history' frequently describes the cumulative process of assembling historical facts and events as being pre-history i.e. before recorded or history i.e. recorded. The more information that is gained through ongoing research, discovery and analysis, the greater becomes this aggregate body of information and the depth of understanding.

Townsite Heritage Society has a single narrative voice in this huge process and it is focused on the stewardship and interpretation of the original industrial-based company town, built at the mouth of Tiskwat ( the Big River) and commencing in about 1908 when the founders of the Mill started acquiring pre-existing industrial water leases and water-dependant companies that had sprung

into being after the first DL 450 sale of over 2,700 acres to Mr. Robert Rithet in 1878.

The Society has never presumed to pre-empt the narratives of our gracious neighbours and 'hosts,' the Tla'amin people... and it would be presumptuous for anyone for whom that narrative is not their own to speak for and interpret what their cumulative cultural, political, social, economic and spiritual history means to them.

In the same way, others of us in the larger Heritage Preservation Community in this area do not presume to speak for each other, but to support each other in ensuring that there is equal room for their narratives to be shared and to become part of the collective understanding of our community.

The PR Historical Museum has, in fact, provided direct participation by Tla'amin cultural keepers in their programs, and Tla'amin has created its own cultural voice to spread its narrative as well. The Texada Historical Museum focuses on the industrial history of the mines and of the Island and its post-indigenous settlements and has its own clear narrative voice.

Just as we would not look to an ethnomusicologist to provide the definitive political history, for instance, of an area or of a group of peoples, we do not look to the stewards of one specific body of historical data or built heritage for the definitive history of the peoples whose presence and activities predated that time period by many thousands of years. To do so would deprive those people of their own narrative and disrespect their authentic experiences, then present them viewed through the filter of another's lens, and deprive the rest of the community of the authenticity of those unfiltered narratives.

So, no apologies for providing reportage of what did actually happen alongside a whole big bunch of other and perhaps larger events, rather than providing editorial comments on whether or not it was valuable, appropriate or even interesting: it happened, telling the story preserves the understanding of the community's past and its character, and it's as much a part of who and what Powell River is as any other layer or strand of history.

There's not a community on this continent that does not share the responsibility for some horrific policies of cultural and racial extermination: the opportunity for

## MAILBAG

us now, as a community, I feel, is to acknowledge the past; do everything in our power to ensure that we build and maintain respectful relationships wherever different cultures intersect; to provide the unfiltered, unexpurgated 'space' for authentic narratives to be shared and recorded; to resist the impulse to deny the past by succumbing to revisionist editing and suppression of our local histories; and to learn to be as tolerant and inclusive and respectful as we are able.

Thank you for your time...

*Ann Nelson, President, Townsite Heritage Society*

## PRL delivers the heart of the community during distanced times

*Dear Powell River Living*

I often think of writing to say how much I appreciate every single issue of *Powell River Living*. However, time passes and I have not acted until today. You have such a variety of creative ideas for articles and I can honestly say that I read almost all sections.

I would not know what to plant if not for the gardening section, or who is new to Powell River or, best of all, dates to remember. During such a difficult time when meeting folks in person is not possible, it is good to read about our community from you.

*Tanis Helliwell PRL*

## Glyphosate spraying is an act of colonialism

*Dear Powell River Living,*

I was just reading your article on glyphosate spraying in BC. This is an interesting time for that discussion because of its relevance to colonization.

Spraying insecticides and herbicides, especially the broadcast aerial spraying common in the interior is an extreme example of colonial behavior. It is done with complete disregard for the health and livelihood of the myriad other species that regard the forest as home.

At the most obvious level, the killing of deciduous native plants (alder and willow) is the deliberate destruction of the food supply for deer elk and moose. Beyond that, we have no tally of the downside effects to small mammals, birds, and reptiles. *Continues on Page 34*

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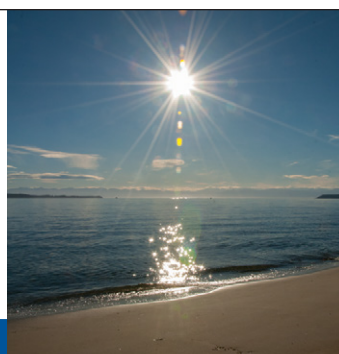


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## Oops

We made a mistake! Last month, we inadvertently reported that third place in *Powell River Living's* BEST Dentist category went to Dr. Ken Needham when in fact, it went to Dr. Gary Needham. Congratulations Gary! We are so sorry about the mistake.

Ken Needham is Gary's dad and has never been a dentist. Ken, who is now retired worked for the City of Powell River (back then it was the Corporation of the District of Powell River or 'the municipality' for short) and for many years he was the municipal treasurer there and an all-around great guy. Congratulations once again Gary!

We also awarded second place Best Massage to Claire MacDonald. That should be Claire MacPherson, of course. Sorry, Claire.

## Phone scam targets residents

Last month police received several reports of residents getting calls about their social insurance number being compromised.

If the victim of the call follows through with the prompts they will be connected with a person who claims to be a police officer, advises their SIN has been compromised and requesting their name and SIN. Police cannot stress enough that these are all scams. Law enforcement does not ask for SIN numbers in the normal course of their duties and certainly not over the phone.

If you are suspicious, hang up and call the detachment.

If you have provided any information to the caller advise the Credit Reporting Agencies such as TransUnion and Equifax as well as your bank.

To keep on top of all the current scams visit the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at [antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca](http://antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca).

## Library reopens

The Powell River Public Library welcomed patrons back to the library last month.

The library's staff and the board have developed a safe procedure and invite library goers to browse the shelves for material to check out from 10am to 6pm Monday to Friday.

The number of people will be limited and quick, safe visits are encouraged.

While it is not required, it is recommended that patrons wear a face covering or mask at the library. Hands must be disinfected upon arrival, and patrons are asked to be respectful of physical distancing.

Bring your library cards, use the self-serve checkout station, and stock up.

Library material can now be enjoyed for four weeks and there are no late fines.

Visit [prpl.ca/explore/welcome-back/](http://prpl.ca/explore/welcome-back/) for a full listing of digital programs and resources like virtual writing groups, storytime, eBooks and eAudio for download.

## Unlicensed ATVs/Motorcycles

ATVs and dirt bikes have been seen operating on the public highways and roads and often in a reckless manner, says local police.

Police are reminding residents that this is illegal and can result in large fines and seizure of the off-road vehicle. It can also end in tragedy should they collide with a car or a truck.

As many of these operators appear to be school aged, the detachment is asking parents to help prevent this by having conversations with these riders.

Anyone with information on this, or any other crime is asked to contact the Powell River RCMP at 604-485-6255 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or go online at [bccrimestoppers.com](http://bccrimestoppers.com). Callers will remain anonymous.

## Manage your fruit trees

Like garbage, fruit trees can attract wildlife if not properly managed.

Once a bear gets a reward from a fruit tree, they will return to the tree again and again says WildSafeBC. Fruit might seem like a natural food source for these bears, but fruit in our backyards leads to habituation of wildlife—something that is dangerous and cannot be undone.

If you pick fruit and allow it to ripen indoors or pick fruit daily as it ripens, you can manage your fruit. Clean up windfall and prune trees to control growth and make your fruit easier to harvest.

If you are not harvesting the crop, remember organics should be composted and not put out with the regular garbage.

Electric fencing is another way to protect fruit trees from wildlife. For more info visit [wildsafebc.com](http://wildsafebc.com).

To report wildlife conflicts to the Conservation Officer Service, call 1-877-952-7277 or online at [wildsafebc.com/warp](http://wildsafebc.com/warp).


## Cemeteries bloom

The qathet Regional District planted flowering trees at its Powell River Regional (Cranberry) and Texada Island cemeteries thanks to a \$4,000 grant from BC Hydro.

The trees accented the entrance to the Green Burial section at the cemetery in Cranberry and can be seen from the road at Woodland Cemetery on Texada Island.

This is the second time the Regional District was successful in the BC Hydro Grant. The first grant in 2019 was also used to plant trees at the two cemeteries.

Texada Island Area D Director Sandy McCormick expressed her appreciation for the cemetery beautification enhancements, stating,

"The trees are a great combination of leaf size, shape, colours, and textures. Seeing the first batch of trees bloom last spring was delightful." 

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## Bigfoot and big van

**Sasquatch Trails** is a new business, but also a family legacy. Randy Mitchell first began his canoe and kayak business from his home in 1990, then many years down the road his daughter Christie took over. In 2019, Christie's brother **Chad Mitchell** began planning his own transportation business to coincide with Christie's rentals business, creating reliable services for the Powell Forest Canoe Route. In cooperation with Christie's side, Chad can schedule to and from shuttles with all your gear and crew to our beautiful backcountry. Chad has a 10-passenger van and an eight-canoe/kayak trailer. "We will meet you at the scheduled time and date of your choice to pack all your gear into our roomy commercial vehicle and get you on your way," says Chad. Visit [sasquatchtrailsbc.com](http://sasquatchtrailsbc.com), email [sasquatchtrailsbc@gmail.com](mailto:sasquatchtrailsbc@gmail.com) or call 604-223-6428.

## Up your bike skills

**Lindsey Gosnell** wants people to have more fun on their bikes. So she has launched **Ransom Bike Company**, a cycling instruction and tour company. Lindsey says she helps people build confidence and hone their skills. She can also help you plan your ideal mountain bike holiday. She's hosting mountain bike training sessions this month, with more to come. "There's so much enthusiasm for biking here and I want to help riders safely take their skills to the next level," said Lindsey. For six years, Lindsey worked as a backcountry Park ranger. She also has a leather working company called **Rad & Tagg Leatherworks**. Find Lindsey on Facebook or Instagram, call her at 604-213-1503, or email her at [linds.gos@gmail.com](mailto:linds.gos@gmail.com)

## Mold (and virus) be gone

**All Clear Mold & Pathogen Solutions** is a new mold and pathogen elimination business. **Tatiana Kostiak** has the only license in BC for the two-step dry-fog technology. The treatment kills everything from mold to bacteria and viruses, including coronavirus. The mold eradication service is guaranteed for a year but if the cause of the moisture issues are resolved, the process is permanent, she says. The first step kills, the second step protects. It requires no demolition, but gets behind walls to fully eliminate mold in the entire home. The process simply requires people and pets to be out of the home for about 6-8 hours during the treatment, but it is non-toxic. To learn more, visit [allclearsolutions.ca](http://allclearsolutions.ca) or call Tatiana at 604-966-8625. Tatiana is also the organizer of the Powell River Home + Garden Show, which has been re-scheduled for April 30 and May 1, 2021.

## Lower coast ride hail looking north

**Coastal Rides** is a new ride-hailing service with Passenger Transportation Board approval to operate in Powell River. Rides must be requested and paid for through a smartphone app. The app connects ride requests with the nearest available driver. The system is also able to pool multiple ride requests together so they can be served by the same driver at the same time. The pooling feature allows significant savings in vehicle kilometers travelled and increases availability with a limited number of drivers. "The unique coastal geography of the Sunshine Coast is what makes our backyard so special, but because of this, public transportation can be limited," said owner **Ryan Stayley**. "The service has the potential to increase transit usage by offering a first/last mile connection to the limited transit service corridors on the Coast." Shared rides will be available when COVID-19 safety protocols allow multiple passengers to travel in the same vehicle. In addition to the lower



## BUSINESS AFFAIRS

WITH  
**SEAN PERCY**  
[sean@prliving.ca](mailto:sean@prliving.ca)

Sunshine Coast, Coastal Rides is working to begin service in Powell River, the Comox Valley, and Prince George, but more drivers are needed to make the system work. Ride-hailing drivers are independent contractors who use their own vehicle and choose their own hours. Drivers need a class 1, 2, or 4 license, a vehicle 10 years old or newer, and must pass criminal and driving background checks. Drivers wanting to join the Coastal Rides team can email [drive@coastalrides.ca](mailto:drive@coastalrides.ca), check out [coastalrides.ca](http://coastalrides.ca) or call Ryan at 604-330-7433.

## PR Taxi ride hail

**Powell River Taxi** has also received approval from the Passenger Transportation Board to operate a ride hailing service in Powell River. The company is the only taxi service in the area, and provides service 365 days a year with six vehicles: five Toyota Prius taxis and one wheelchair accessible vehicle. PR Taxi also holds the BC Translink contracts for both the regional paratransit system (3 rural bus routes) and the local HandyDart, a service for passengers with disabilities who cannot use conventional public transit without assistance. By adding a fleet of independent drives (known in the industry as a TNS fleet) PR Taxi hopes to enhance rider options and improve coverage across the qathet region. Company president **Robert Maithus** said he also hopes to broaden capacity during peak periods with an expansion that is complementary to and integrated with as opposed to competitive with the existing taxi services. He said he has an obligation to his existing employees to protect their livelihoods and ensure this expansion doesn't impact them. The company plans to use a customized version of an app called Taxi Mobility, which, from the customer side, looks similar to other ride-hailing apps used by Uber and Lyft. No date for the start of ride-hailing has been set.

## Be Home

The former Finn Bay Bed & Breakfast's new owner has spent the past year working on the property and is now ready to welcome guests. **Be Home B&B Guest Rooms** near Lund is owned by **Bobbie Jo Harris**. The cozy cabin retreat lies nestled into an acre of peaceful forest with gardens. Bobbie Joe says the venue is ideal for hosting B&B guest stays, but she has also created the space for hosting personalized retreats for women; creative workshops for visioning, writing or designing; and as micro facility for small meetings and groups. She will host the 'Creatively Designed Life' series of workshops again in Fall 2020/Winter 2021. Visit [bandbehome.ca](http://bandbehome.ca), call 604-223-7808 or email Bobbie Joe at [bharris@bandbehome.ca](mailto:bharris@bandbehome.ca).


## New look for old Zoo

The **Westview Hotel**, and the former nightclub that was the building's main attraction, is in the midst of a major transformation. **John Walls**, the chef/owner behind **House of Walls** and **The Modern Peasant**, is taking over the hotel/bar, along with partner Jessica Lefort. Renovations are underway to the bar that will "make it a safe, positive place" says John. "It was always the Westview on Marine, but it should have been

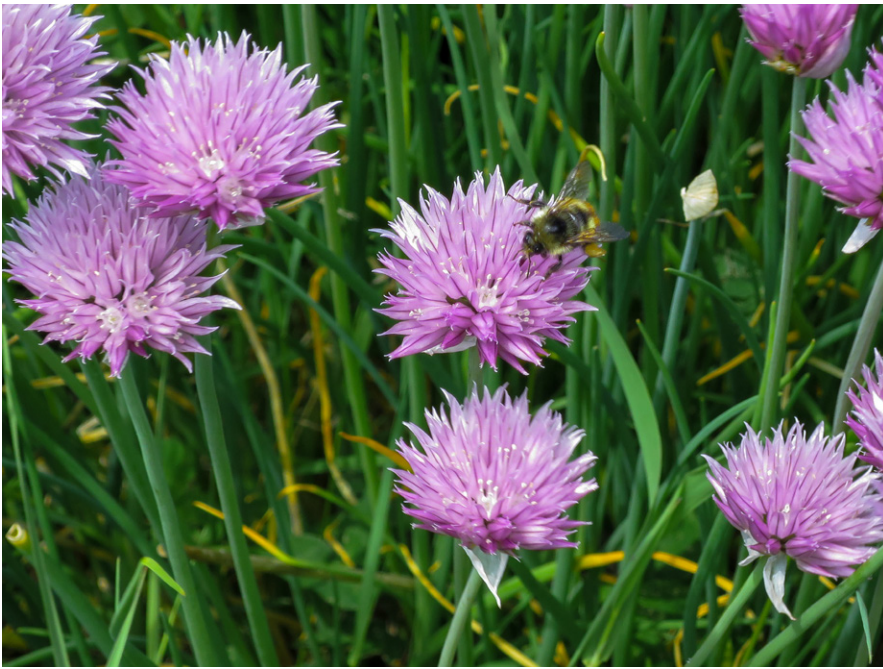
the Best View on Marine," he told *Powell River Living*, pointing to the large windows and refreshed patio overlooking the Westview Harbour and the ocean. Thanks to grants from the city and Community Futures, the building's façade is being redone, and inside the bathrooms have been gutted, the ceiling redone, and the entire space redecorated to a west coast theme. The stage is being removed and a dance floor installed. The foosball area is gone, replaced by a lounge area, and the bistro established along the windows. While John isn't ready to reveal the establishment's new name, he said it will offer a tapas bistro service from 3pm until 10pm, then become a nightclub until 2am. "It's going to broaden the demographic of what this place can be," said John. He hopes to open the new bistro/nightclub by mid-September. The Modern Peasant will remain, shifting from a restaurant to a European deli-market. The hotel rooms downstairs are slated for remodeling, while the upstairs area is being completely redesigned into a living space for John's family and office space.



## Rats!

Whether you love rats, or your pets love to eat them, **Jenna Miller** may be your new bestie. The Texada Island woman has started a business called **Lady Slipper Rattery and Exotics**. She sells live and frozen rats and mice as predator feed. She also has a separate line of rats bred as pets. Jenna says she holds her pet-bound rats every day, so that they have good temperaments and enjoy attention and affection. Jenna breeds for specific traits including curiosity and tenderness, as well as long life span. Calling them her "pride and joy," she will only sell rats in pairs or if the owners have cage mates for them, as lonely rats suffer depression and mental problems. You can reach Jenna at [jennasmiller2101@gmail.com](mailto:jennasmiller2101@gmail.com) or 604-578-8176. 





**FIND YOUR BUZZ:** 10-year-old **Arwen Anderson** snapped a bee on chives for the Library's June backyard-themed photo contest. **Karen (Gordon) Tupper** captured this classic cousins reading moment of five-year-olds Ophelia Agius and Mila Nebocat for the Library's spring reading-themed photo contest.

# 5 August

ways to enjoy the beginning of harvest season even if you're failing at pandemic gardening

- 1. U-pick Blueberries**  
Plump, sweet, blueberries are a joy to gather (no crouching or prickles) at Powell River's booming u-pick farms. My humble not-pie suggestion: enjoy with lemon curd over Pavlova.
- 2. DIY Blackberry Fest**  
The week-long events are cancelled, but the brambles are not. Pick them yourself, or watch for kids selling them by the bucket on Facebook. Get jamming.
- 3. Farmer's Markets**  
The Open Air Market continues on Saturdays and Sundays, with bigger, bolder produce each week through August. Watch for tomatoes, flowers, garlic, greens, and much more.
- 4. Drool-worthy cook books at the Library**  
Since March, browsing the shelves has been off-limits. But they're back (see Page 16)! Do find inspiration. Don't *actually* drool SVP.
- 5. Kringle or ninja a friend**  
What to do with all that jam, wine and baking? Make someone else's day. Drop a basket of goodies on a neighbour's porch as we head into our sixth month of COVID-19 measures. –PW



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**SLICK CRIB:** An ant revels in a foxglove.

*Photo by Neil Woloschuk*

# Big August Dates

## Through August 8

### Finding a Place: Paintings, Textiles & Natural Colour

Open daily, Tidal Art Centre, Lund. Work by Annie Robinson & Joshua deGroot

## Through August online

### Intertidal Impressions: Exploring the space between land & sea through various media and Art Under Lockdown

The Malaspina Art Society's Summer Group shows. Experience them at [artpowellriver.com](http://artpowellriver.com).

## Fridays, ongoing

### Write Together

Weekly on Fridays from 4 to 5 pm. Get your creative juices flowing with this weekly informal and fun online writing group. To register or for more information email Megan Cole at [cole@prpl.ca](mailto:cole@prpl.ca)

## Weekends through August

### Powell River Farmers Market

Saturdays 10:30 to 12:30, Sundays 12:30 to 2:30. Paradise Exhibition Park. See ad on Page 44.

## Monday, August 3

### BC Day stat

## August 4

### Start using your green bins

If you're part of the City of Powell River's organics pick-up pilot project. See ad on Page 29.

## August 10 to 21

### Art camps at The Art Centre Public Gallery

August 10-14 Phoenix & Dragons and August 17-21 Ogres & Pixies. See Facebook or [powellriverartscouncil.ca](http://powellriverartscouncil.ca).

## August 15 & 29

### Kiwanis Club Book Sales by Reservation/Appointment

Book a half hour time slot. Sale at 4943 Kiwanis Ave. Phone to book your spot: 604-483-1440

## August 17, 18, 19 and 25

### Ransom Bike Co. classes

Learn to mountain bike, intermediate trail riding, jumps, drops and pops, and trail riding for women. Call 604-213-1503 for more, or find Ransom Bike Co on Facebook, Instagram or Eventbrite.

## Tuesday, August 18

### Gardening Q&A with Powell River master gardeners

3 to 4 pm, online. Do you have a garden problem or concern you can't solve? Ask a Powell River master gardener during this Gardening Q&A. To register or for more information email Megan Cole at [cole@prpl.ca](mailto:cole@prpl.ca)

## Wednesday, August 19

### Summer Words: Discussions with local authors featuring Nola Poirier and Pat Buckna

3 to 4 pm, online. This series highlights the writing of Powell River writers. Hear authors read their work and answer your questions. To register or for more information email Megan Cole at [cole@prpl.ca](mailto:cole@prpl.ca)

## August 20

### Deadline for PRL's Explore Powell River / Get The Picture contest

See Page 41 for more

## Thursdays through September

### Getting Creative:

#### Explore Creative Nonfiction

3 to 4 pm, online  
This four-week class and discussion introduces writers to creative nonfiction through examples from published authors. Taught by writer Megan Cole. To register or for more information email Megan Cole at [cole@prpl.ca](mailto:cole@prpl.ca)

## September 2

### PR Women in Business AGM

5 pm in Elaine Steiger's garden. Also available by Zoom. For more information, contact [info@prwomeninbusiness.com](mailto:info@prwomeninbusiness.com).

## September 4

### Crucible Gallery opening show

7 to 9 pm. Photography and sculpture by David Molyneaux and Robert Mackle. Please wear masks and distance yourselves. See next page.

## September 7

### Labour Day stat

## September 8

### Back to School

See ad on Page 17.

## September 8 to 11

### Academy of Music Registration

Classes begin September 14. See ad on Page 13.

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[covid-19.bccdc.ca](https://covid-19.bccdc.ca)



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**ON WITH THE SHOW:** On September 4, Crucible Gallery officially opens at Townsite Market, joining Turadh Fine Art Gallery, Eunoia Fibre Studio and Gallery, Sycamore Gardens, The Patricia Theatre, and several other creative spaces nearby, for an evolving arts scene centred around Ash Avenue.

## Art for challenging times

A new art gallery and studio will be opening September 4 in the atrium of the Townsite Mall at 5831 Ash street, directly opposite Townsite Brewery.

Artists and co-curators David Molyneux and Robert Mackle are delighted to join the exciting cultural scene in Powell Rivers' Townsite with an exhibit of new photographic works and copper sculptures inspired by the crucible theme.

David has been active in the photographic fine arts since the early 1970's. He attended Ryerson University College and the Ontario College of Art in Toronto before moving to Powell River in 1991. He has exhibited his work extensively throughout BC since that time.

Robert has created and exhibited a variety of photographic and sculptural works in Toronto, France and Powell River since the early 1980's. His current work involves sculptures of copper, wood and stone with a focus on the crucible as a vessel that holds and purifies. With his duties as artistic director of the Sunshine Music Festival on hold for 2020, Robert is stoked to put his creative energy into this new project.

Crucible by definition is a severe test or trial or an extremely challenging experience in which essential values and crucial actions are taken. This figurative sense of the crucible is based on the literal meaning of the word: a heat-resistant vessel used to melt metals.

We are living in crucible times. Our

**"We are living in crucible times. Our individual and collective behaviour and values are being tested, realigned and distilled.... Crucible Gallery will explore this shift to a new paradigm."**

individual and collective behaviour and values are being tested, realigned and distilled. It is our intention that the exhibitions and events taking place at Crucible Gallery will explore this shift to a new paradigm, said David

"We will be calling for artist submissions and plan a diverse series of weekly performances and discussions including music, spoken word, dance and thought provoking issues alongside intriguing new artwork."

"In these pandemic times we ask those visiting our gallery to wash their hands, practice physical distancing and come in 'maskarade.'" An opening reception will be held on Friday, September 4 from 7-9 pm. Stay safe and be considerate of others.

Learn more at [cruciblegallery.ca](http://cruciblegallery.ca) 

# ZEST

Health

Fitness

Wellness



The 2020 edition of ZEST, our annual health and wellness feature magazine and listing directory of wellness services, will be published Oct 1. Deadline for advertising & listings is Sept 8.

**Watch for ZEST with the October issue of Powell River Living and keep the health and wellness directory handy all year.**

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Up to seven lines about what services or products you offer clients or customers that will make them healthier and happier. You can choose what to say in this space, or we can help write it for you, but make sure that it encapsulates what's most important about your services.

## Do you provide health services in Powell River?

Contact Sean Percy before September 8 to get your free listing in Powell River Living's ZEST magazine.

**[sean@prliving.ca](mailto:sean@prliving.ca) or 604-485-0003**





# Three teens hike 178 km in 10 days

BY DUSTIN FAIR

**R**ugged mountains, countless lakes, old growth forests, and more – all in 178 kilometres. We have always wanted to hike the Sunshine Coast Trail but never had the time. COVID-19 stopped the world and gave us the perfect opportunity to go on our adventure.

Cedar Butler, her brother Kohen, and I woke up at 6am on June 4 and drove out to Sarah Point. The trail was quite flowy and forgiving for the first few kilometers, but we were drenched in sweat as we scaled Manzanita.


We were given our first taste at how difficult the trail was going to be when we woke up sore the next day after hiking 22 km. It was never the hiking that was difficult; it was waking up early in the morning still sore and dreading having to do it again.

However, once we were going again, reaching each

hut and seeing some awesome views made the experience extra rewarding and gave us the motivation to keep trucking along.

Some of our favourite sections were Appleton Creek, with many waterfalls, and the top of Tin Hat, where you feel like you're on top of the world. The old growth section near March Lake featured some massive trees that almost smothered the sky.

There were a couple sections of the trail that were long and tedious, such as Inland Lake to Confederation Lake, because it felt like we just kept going straight up. Those difficult sections made finishing all 178 kilometres over 10 days feel like even more of an accomplishment, even though it made us a whole lot more sore.

To anyone who is thinking about going on any sort of adventure, just go out and do it, it's totally worth it! 



**SOLO TRIO:** Despite the rain, at the end of their hike at Saltery Bay, Kohen Butler, Dustin Fair and Cedar Butler were all smiles, having conquered the Sunshine Coast Trail.



Rob Villani



Stacey Fletcher



Katya Buck

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## 1. A local tale

People travel for days for a glimpse of this lovely lady. Although she's in plain sight for some, only a select few with the skills and equipment will ever lay eyes on her. Who am I?

## 2. Hallowed ground

If walls could talk, this grand dame would set tongues a wagging. Back in the day, she was used to teach children their ABC's and 123's while adults danced the night away inside her walls. What's the name of the building celebrating its 100th birthday? Who built it?

## 3. Green machines

Certified as a gold sustainable tourism RV park and a short walk to restaurants and a coffee shop, it is the only RV park in this part of the qathet Regional District. What's the name of the park and where is it? Take a pic of yourself here or at the nearby "spinning paddle."

## 4. Havin' some fun

The first name of the two owners of this popular business starts with the same letter. They have also won a BEST of Powell River award for five years in a row for something for which they are well-known and well-located. The business name is their location. Take your photo here or with the nearby whales.

## 5. Screamers, too

Across the highway from this business lies the trail-head to a popular hiking trail. This business carries everything from slushies to lottery tickets to gas to unique gifts. What business is this?

## 6. Staycation here

If you've just moved to Powell River or are visiting, you'll definitely want to check out this operation. With everything from maps to t-shirts, they'll greet you with big smiles (beneath their masks) and point you to the hand sanitizer. What's the name of the friendly, helpful ex-journalist who runs the hub on Joyce Avenue? Take your photo with the nearby bear.

## 7. We're in paradise

There's nothing better than fresh, local home-grown food. If you visit this place on a Saturday or Sunday morning you'll find local meat, produce and more. Where do residents and visitors go on the weekend to get home-grown veggies, fruit, meat and jams? For a bonus point, what's the name of the person who manages this place?

## 9. Pulling it off

The owner/curator of this business is also its primary artist. She's famous for carving seal heads and other mammals. What's the business name (spelling counts!)



## 8. Bee attractive

They say the wearer of this locally made garment will automatically look 50 to 90 per cent more handsome once they put it on. What's this business famous for and where are they located?

## 10. Store brand

Although still considered the new kid on the block when it comes to many stores under one roof, the building that houses the Townsite Market it isn't new by any means. Indeed, it has been called BC's first indoor mall. What year was it built and what was the building originally called, and used for?

## 11. Not so safe

Powell River's – and Canada's – oldest, continuously running movie theatre, established in 1913 has a colourful and interesting past. The night of March 14, 1932, still comes up when you explore the Patricia Theatre's history. On that night, notorious criminals Bagley and Fawcett, entered the theatre and did what?

## 12. Wrecked

For years after the last theatre in Vancouver had sold its organ, the velvety strains of local live organ music filled the Patricia before and in between shows. At one time the organist managed the Patricia Theatre. He continued to play at the theatre well into the 1990s – to the delight of many. This musician had a sad past that is linked to the MV *Gulfstream* and the Dinner Rock disaster. What is the name of the organist and what happened at Dinner Rock in 1947?

## 13. Call the Doctor

Named after a prominent Powell River citizen, this is the go-to place for information about the Townsite. What's the name of Powell River's living museum and what did the person it was named after do?

Look for the answers in the September issue of *Powell River Living* magazine!



CONTEST

# Selfies n' History

Explore beautiful Powell River's history and check out some of our best local businesses, too!

To enter this contest, email us the answers to these questions, along with two photos (one each from at least two of these trivia sites.) Remember to include your name and contact info.

By August 20, send your pics and answers to [contest@prliving.ca](mailto:contest@prliving.ca) or enter online at [prliving.ca](http://prliving.ca) by clicking on "Explore PR contest."

You could **WIN**:

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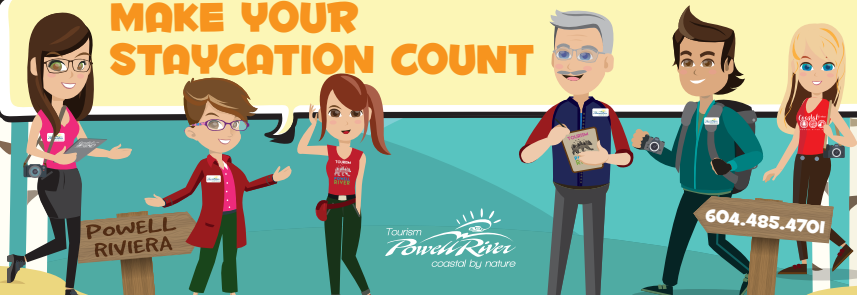
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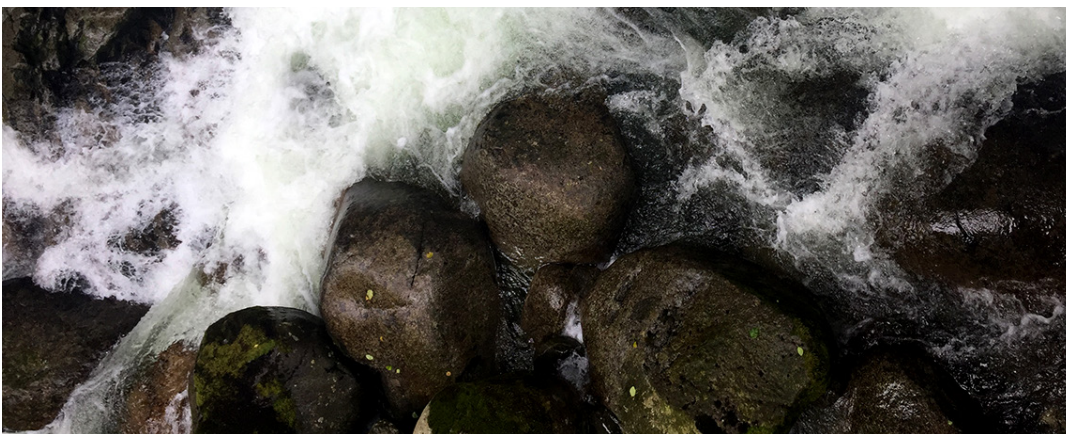


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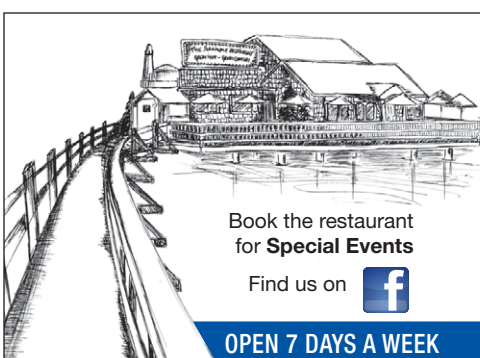
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**THE ELDRED VALLEY ROCKS:** Despite having lived here since 1993, I made my first visit to the Eldred Valley just last month. I was overcome with the beauty of the waterfalls, lakes and scenic views of soaring mountains we saw on the way. I was also taken by the vibrant red clusters of elderberries and the purple foxglove that punctuated the green foliage dotting the dirt road leading to the Eldred. There were a few campers scattered about but far fewer than usual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We saw the memorial climber's camp, developed and named after Colin Arthur Dionne, a legendary Powell River climber honoured for the work he did to develop local climbing routes and protect the campground land from industry. It was designated a recreation site in 2012 – the year after Colin died in a helicopter crash. The imposing granite walls I'd heard so much about didn't disappoint and although we searched for signs of climbers, we didn't see any that day. With huge faces between 450 and 900 metres tall, the Eldred Valley is a popular spot for rock climbing and bouldering. We hiked past an abandoned truck covered with moss on our way to the Eldred River and watched in awe as the water raced over rocks and ledges to falls below.

*Photos by Isabelle Southcott*



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## Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

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# The medicine of beauty

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**T**here is a quiet medicine way available to us all. It brings ease to our nervous systems, engages all of our senses, and feels like honey to our soul.

When it becomes a way of being, we begin to notice how it ripples outward to others and creates a harmony in the ethers even when our tending may go largely unnoticed. It is the medicine that is found in Beauty.

Often in our society we are rewarded for speed, efficiency, and utilitarianism; the straightest path, the shortest email, the easiest design to clean. Those are desirable attributes, but what often falls to the wayside is nourishment for the soul.

If we choose to live life as a ceremony, we invite beauty to become a ritual brought to all that we touch, speak, write, and experience – right down to the smallest, most mundane acts.

I remember attending a festival with a 'Sacred Item Swap' tent with a friend of mine. No one was there caretaking the items while we picked up each delicious fabric, tried on pendants, and lingered over artworks. My friend turned to me and said, "You are so lovingly honouring each thing when you put it back!" and it was true. It seemed natural to treat each item with care.

Mindfully folding, consciously arranging and replacing rather



**NOT WITH SPEED, WITH HONOURING:** Creating art, tending a tiny and clean home, dressing ourselves, serving food: all opportunities for beauty.

than dropping into a heap or letting things tip over. Another friend of mine often gave her off-grid home over to guests. Tidying in preparation was held with the intention of being a gift, another friend calls housecleaning "temple time".

It is a simple yet potent way of regarding what is around us while tending to ourselves and others.

People who create impermanent works of art know this.

Eloquent writers know this.

Musicians know this.

There is a palpable feeling of ease when one experiences beauty. It might be how the towels are folded or how the table is set. It shows in which flowers we plant where, or the feel of the clothes we choose to wrap ourselves in.

Plating meals even for children who might not notice the artistry.

These challenging days are ripe for our cultivation of beauty. I invite you to this medicine way.

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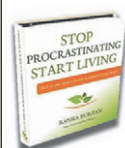
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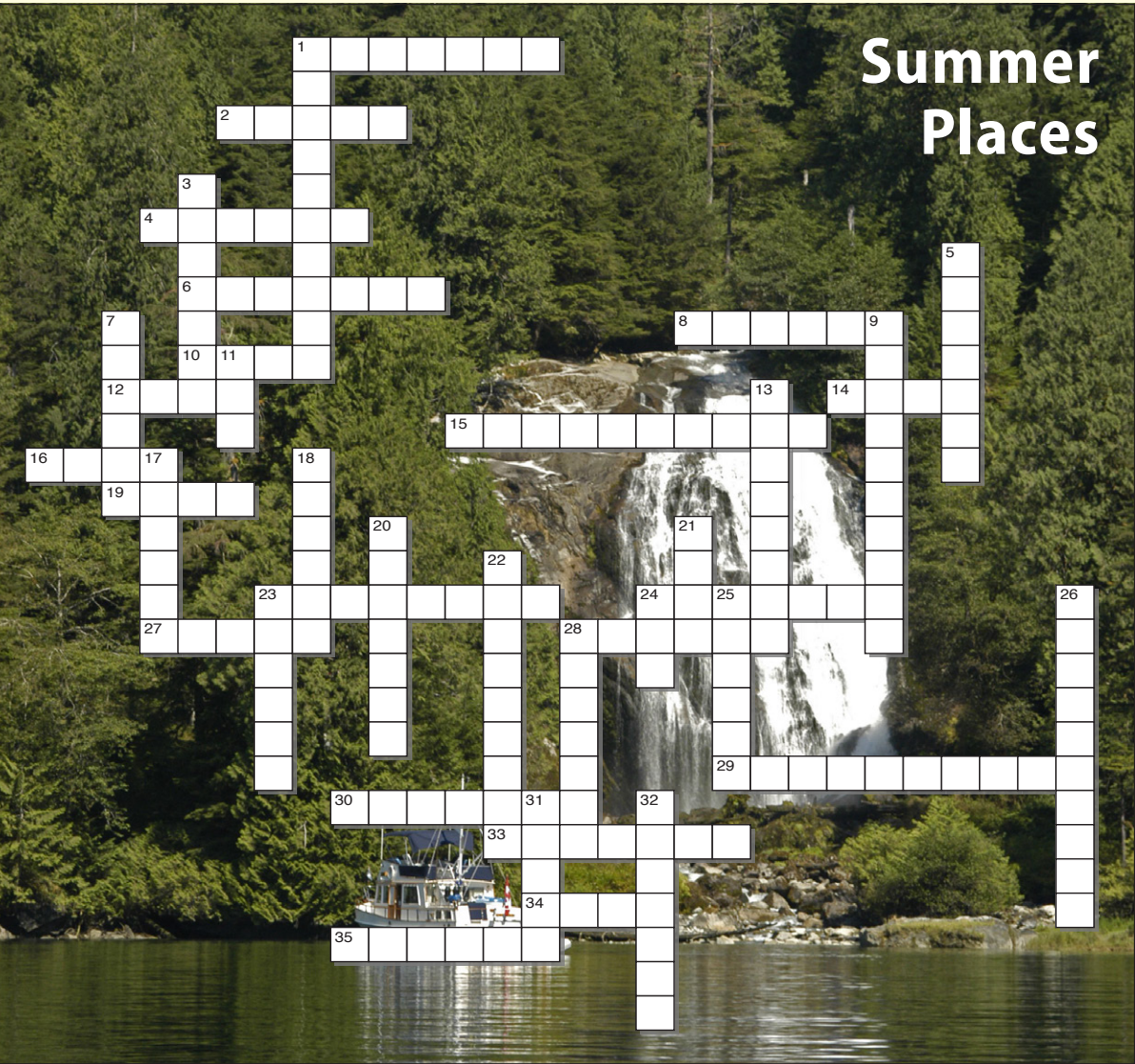


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# Summer Places



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Across

- 1) Donkersley's Bay
- 2) Let go when you use this
- 4) Warmest island beaches
- 6) Inlet for oysters
- 8) Private campground near Saltery
- 10) Don't walk into a bar, go fishing at this lake
- 12) Go to Hammill, young man
- 14) \_\_\_ & Skate Park
- 15) Louisa's talkative fall (pictured here)
- 16) No coconuts, just park and beach
- 19) Beginning of the road
- 23) Good vista and cabin bay
- 24) No roofs or chickenpox at this beach
- 27) Cranberry beach, but not on that lake
- 28) Not Willingdon Beach, not third
- 29) Anguished misery, boaters paradise
- 30) Point to tent on Texada
- 33) Place to camp, crazy, or for baling
- 34) Canoe starter lake
- 35) Rocks, tidal islands, and golf

Down

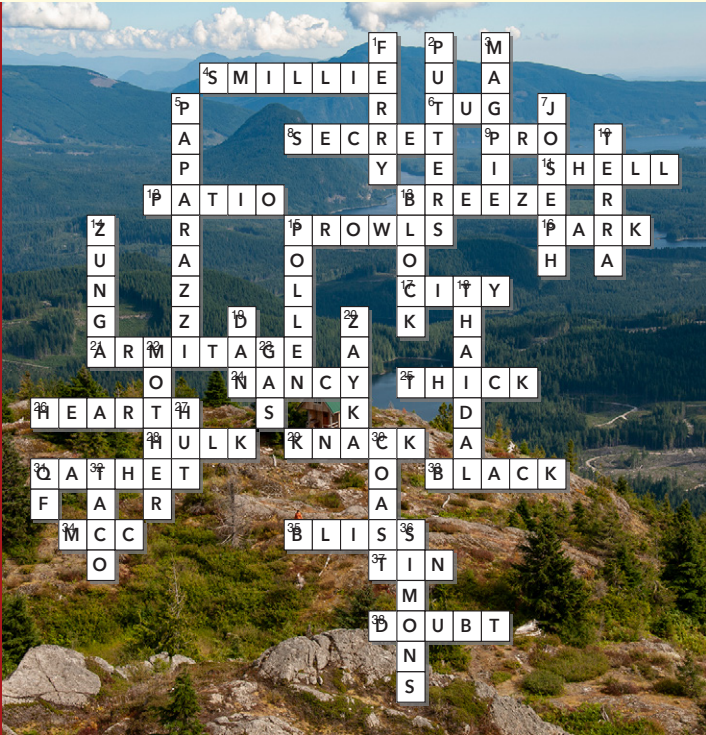
- 1) Rocky beach, but good for supper
- 3) Beach near Brew Bay
- 5) Works a little, golfs a little
- 7) THE lake
- 9) Qwoqwnes, climbing bluffs
- 11) Gone to the cabin, abbr
- 13) Lund islands run you ragged
- 17) History's resting place
- 18) Best view, and brew, around
- 20) Uninhabited isle
- 21) Kiddie Point, type of salmon
- 22) Mountain, creek and massive canoe tie-up
- 23) Producer you meet at market
- 24) Hiker's route, abbr
- 25) Outlandish loons here
- 26) City beach
- 28) Bay for mermaid
- 31) Sharp-eyed locals never call this river Lois
- 32) Beach just north of Wildwood



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# Until we meet again

I said farewell to my best friend the other day.

He was old, almost 13, not ancient in dog years, but he'd had health problems. A leaky heart valve and then a blood clot in his lungs. I've spent a lot of time crying, but I know it was the kindest thing to do.

I loved my little Hunter Pumpkin. He helped me raise two boys, he helped me through a messy divorce, and he helped me run *Powell River Living* magazine. I've had a lot of dogs in my life, but he was one of the good ones, one of the great ones. He was my canine soul mate.

Hunter could read me. He knew when I was sad, he knew when I was happy and he knew when we should just cuddle. He was always excited to see me and he could communicate better than most people.

I still remember the day we picked Hunter out. I wanted a girl puppy, my son Matthew, then 9, wanted a boy and since it was his dog, I acquiesced. Hunter looked like a guinea pig; his eyes were still closed when we first saw him, but Matthew knew his dog the moment he laid eyes on him. "That's the one," he said firmly. "That's my dog."

It was love at first sight. We visited Hunter once more before he joined our tribe. I thought he was Matthew's dog – the boy needed a dog to help him get through some difficult times – but in reality, Hunter was my dog too.

Recently divorced, I was floundering. I kept busy during the week running my new magazine and caring for two young boys, but when they left to spend time with their father, the house was like a tomb. Before Hunter, I spent my Friday evenings alternating between bouts of crying, missing my kids and watching old movies. Hunter changed things; he gave my weekends a purpose. He needed to be fed, walked, and loved. I stopped feeling sorry for myself and began to envision a future. Hunter gave me a reason to drag my sorry ass out of bed on a Saturday morning and go for a run. He needed me and I needed him.

When *Powell River Living* outgrew the basement of our rental home, Hunter insisted on accompanying me to our new office every day. He was, after all, the office dog and the office dog could not stay home alone, especially on days when the scary dishwasher ran. Hunter was used to being my constant companion and I could never say no to those soulful brown eyes. Hunter wasn't perfect but he was perfect for us. He was a first class beggar and he knew how to melt Grandma's heart. One look, one nudge with his little wet nose and she caved. He loved his food so much that I could set the clock by him. Fifteen minutes before dinner time, Hunter would begin to grizzle – a deep, throaty, insistent noise impossible to ignore that made me stop what I was doing and feed him.

Bedtime was at 9pm every, single night. If we weren't ready, he'd give us a dirty look and slink upstairs with-



**"He rescued me and both boys and he was a constant source of love and companionship.... I've had other dogs but there will never be another Hunter."**

## *Last Word*

BY ISABELLE SOUTHCOTT | [isabelle@prliving.ca](mailto:isabelle@prliving.ca)

out us. There he'd be, all snug in his little bed, waiting for his nighttime treat.

I think his mission in life was to bring us joy and happiness and that he did. I probably have more pictures of Hunter than I have of either of my boys. "We know Hunter is your favourite child," my youngest Alex said jokingly more than once. He was half right. I loved Hunter just as much as I love either of my children.

One time my friend Carma was looking after Hunter for a weekend when he went missing. She panicked. All sorts of terrible thoughts ran through her head. "I think I would find it easier to tell you that I'd lost one of your children than Hunter," she confessed later.

A dog can smell 10,000 to 100,000 times better than people can and Hunter had one great sniffer. His favourite has always been tennis balls so you can imagine how pleased he was when I bought a house two blocks away from the tennis courts on Maple Avenue. The courts have a hedge, now known as 'Hunter's Hedge,' across the street, and much to Hunter's delight that hedge acts like a magnet for wayward tennis balls. We walked by that hedge seven mornings a week and 50 per cent of the time, Hunter would dive between the branches and come out with a bright yellow tennis ball. In the winter when people didn't play tennis much and wayward balls didn't end up in the hedge, Hunter moped. When I told my partner Dwain about this, he gathered up a few tennis balls and secretly began hiding them in the hedge so Hunter would have something to look forward to.

Three days before he died, Hunter and I visited Grandma. I had planned to take our young dog Jigs that

day but Hunter followed me to the door and insisted that he be the one to accompany me.

I knew that Grandma and Hunter were both on borrowed time. Hunter with a leaky heart valve and Grandma, at 90, with a tumour in her esophagus. I knew we didn't have a lot of visits left but I didn't know how few. I think Hunter knew and that's why he insisted that he should go. It was a good day. Hunter was happy, and so was Grandma. He begged for treats and she gave them to him. And when it was time to leave, we said farewell. "Never goodbye Hunter, we say farewell, until we meet again." And he agreed with those deep, ever knowing, brown eyes of his. "Farewell Grandma," he seemed to say before we headed for the ferry.

That day, my west coast Nova Scotia duck tolling retriever had his last roll in the sand on the beach at Little River where the ferry docks.

Do dogs know when the end is near? I don't know but I do know that Hunter wanted to say goodbye to those he loved before he left this world. To Grandma, to Alex, to the cat Boots, to Jigs, to me, to Dwain. And to Matthew if he could. We all said our farewells to our little Hunter Pumpkin, the best dog ever.

We were lucky, thanks to the wonderful veterinary team at Westview Vets, that we had a bonus month after Hunter was diagnosed with a leaky heart valve. That time was a blessing as it gave me time to prepare but still, I wasn't ready. I guess we never are because with love comes grief.

"They say you die twice," Matthew said sharing a comforting quote with me when I told him that Hunter had left us. "Once when you stop breathing and a second time when somebody says your name for the last time."

Hunter may be gone but he is not forgotten. Part of him is imprinted on Jigs, the duck toller pup we got last fall. I smile when I watch her dive into Hunter's hedge and come out with a bright yellow tennis ball. "Hunter taught you well," I say, giving her a scratch.

All those years ago, I thought Hunter was for Matthew, but it turns out Hunter was for all of us. He rescued me and both the boys, and he was a constant source of love and companionship for everyone in our family. He was my friend, my confidante, and my exercise buddy. I've had other dogs but there will never be another Hunter.

Rest in peace my friend. [PRL](https://www.purina.com)





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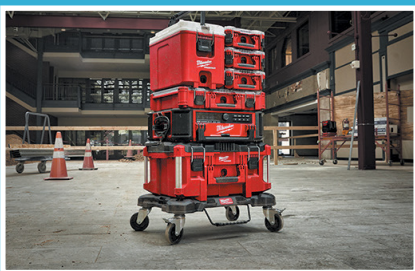
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