
Valley News

BLINKINSOP VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

BVCA AGM

7:00PM

Thursday March 29

**Lochside Elementary
School 1145 Royal
Oak Drive**

Guest Speakers:

Lana Popham, MLA

**Dean Murdock, Saanich
Councillor**

**Jennifer Dyson, Vice
Chair, and**

**Roger Cheetham,
Regional Planner,
Agricultural Land
Commission**

Propane Cannon Use

The Farm Industry Review Board hearing scheduled to review the past use of propane cannons in the Blenkinsop Valley has been cancelled as the complaints were withdrawn.

All-candidates meeting

The BVCA collaborated with The Cordova Bay Association for Community Affairs to host a well attended all-candidates meeting prior to the last municipal elections. Garden Works generously donated one of the door prizes.

Subdivision

The BVCA has met with the owners of a property on Mt Doug X Rd who are applying to remove about five acres from the ALR for a residential subdivision. The land is within the Urban Containment Boundary. The BVCA did not support the removal of this land from the ALR.

Join The BVCA !

Mail to:

Blenkinsop Valley Community Association

PO Box 30063, 3989 Quadra St.

Victoria BC, V8X 5E1

Surname:

First Name:

Phone:

Address:

Postal Code: E-mail:

Amount enclosed (\$10.00/person/yr):

Skills or desire to contribute?

Annual General Meeting

The BVCA AGM will be held at 7PM on Thursday March 29, 2012 in the library of Lochside Elementary School, 1145 Royal Oak Drive. **This is a different location than we have had in the past.**

There will be a talk entitled “Understanding the regulations and privileges which pertain to the ALR and the Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act”. We will have three individual talks followed by a panel of all the speakers to answer questions. Our speakers will include a joint representation by Jennifer Dyson, Vice Chair and Roger Cheetham, Regional Planner from the Agriculture Land Commission, Lana Popham (our MLA), and Dean Murdock (Saanich Councillor).

Lana Popham is the Agriculture Critic for the NDP and is a farmer herself. Dean Murdock has been a strong supporter of pocket markets and food security.

You do not need to be a BVCA member to attend.

New Mt. Doug Park Access

The BVCA has had two meetings with the Saanich Parks department regarding plans for a new park access just North of Lohbrunner Rd.

Construction of the access is expected this spring or summer. Plans include construction of nine parking spots, an information kiosk, a bicycle lockup and a garbage receptacle. The parking lot will have a gate which will be closed each night and opened each morning. There will be no lights. A pedestrian crosswalk may be installed across Blenkinsop Rd. Neighbours will be informed before construction begins.

BVCA Directors 2011

David Chambers Duncan Chiu

John Emes Alex Hoole

Executive

Secretary: Dawn Loucks

Treasurer: Earl Hannan

Vice-President: John Lawler

President: Barry Loucks

BLENKINSOP VALLEY

***COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION***

PO Box 30063, 3989 Quadra St.,

Victoria BC, V8X 5E1

250-477-8539

bvcanews.com

Outerbridge Park

Outerbridge Park had an open-house last spring. Mrs. Outerbridge attended. Glendale Gardens volunteers are maintaining the park.

Blenkinsop Road Litter

The BVCA communicated with Saanich regarding litter on Blenkinsop Rd. The municipality depends on residents to report when items are dumped on the side of the road. The municipality prefers to have its own crews pick up these items rather than having community groups organize cleanup crews. Signage discouraging dumping may be considered. Call 250-475-5595 to report dumped items.

Pearce Crescent Park and Play Area

The BVCA has been requested to support a proposal to create a park and play area on a vacant lot on Pearce Crescent. It is expected that about 70 children will use the park. At the moment, children on Pearce Crescent need to travel by car or undertake a lengthy walk to reach a playground. Initial response by Saanich officials has been encouraging. It is expected that a play area utilizing natural objects such as logs and boulders can be created for about \$10,000. The BVCA has offered administrative assistance and a \$1000 donation, provided that the project proceeds.

Seven Oaks Garden

Seven Oaks plans to expand its garden to triple its present size. It will be used to teach patients gardening skills. Volunteers, including a volunteer horticultural therapist, will be assisting.

Regional Waste Management

The BVCA wrote a letter to the CRD directors to express concern that the region may not be following the best policy in view of the several scientific opinions which are opposed to the new proposal for regional sewage management.

Correspondence was received back from the CRD chair (Geoff Young) and the chair of the CRD Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (Denise Blackwell). They point out that the new system will be able to remove some contamination such as viruses, pharmaceuticals, endocrine disrupters and heavy metals which are not removed by the present system. They also pointed out that senior governments have issued orders for the CRD to treat its sewage and have agreed to contribute to the cost.

Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary

On Saturday and Sunday April 21 and 22, 2012 9:00 am to 3:00 pm there will be a native plant sale (5000 plants, 140 species) at the Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary (3873 Swan Lake Road). Admission is free and Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer gardening questions. A complete plant list is available at <http://www.swanlake.bc.ca/plant-list.php>

Alterations

The BVCA was asked to meet with two businesses which have made plans for potential improvements. One business was The Root Cellar and the other was Don Mann Excavating. The BVCA reviewed their plans and was grateful for the opportunity to provide input.