
Valley News

BLINKINSOP VALLEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

BVCA AGM

7:00 PM

Tuesday March 26, 2013

Cordova Bay Elementary

Gymnasium

5238 Cordova Bay Rd.

All welcome to hear the guest speakers discuss the future of the Blenkinsop Valley:

Public Artist

Illarion Gallant

Saanich Mayor

Frank Leonard

Prolonged Blasting

The BVCA hosted a meeting with residents of a Blenkinsop Valley neighbourhood who had been complaining of disruption to the neighborhood from prolonged blasting and rock removal associated with construction of a house. Residents were concerned about damage from the blasting, tree removal, public land access and drainage. Blasting had been ongoing for more than a year and construction is not expected to be completed for another year and a half. The meeting helped facilitate an understanding between the residents and the developer. The BVCA also wrote council suggesting that there be a procedure to consult with neighbors when a project in a neighborhood is likely to be disruptive.

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?

Fill Dumping

Saanich council has recently made interim changes to the fill bylaw with a full new bylaw expected in about six months. The interim changes consist of fill volume and dumping time limits.

Propane Cannons

Saanich council has passed a resolution to instruct municipal staff to prepare a report to be presented to the Planning, Transportation and Economic Development Committee with options for consideration regarding the use of propane cannons.

Hartland Landfill

Earl Hannan provided the BVCA directors with a report on a recent tour of the Hartland landfill which was organized by the Saanich Community Association Network (SCAN). There was discussion about recycling practices, including kitchen scraps. Previous active sites and the current active site were toured. When one area is filled, it is covered by a thick waterproof covering over which topsoil is deposited and trees planted. Hartland serves approximately 340,000 people. Methane is presently captured and is used to produce electricity, some of which is sold to BC Hydro. A stewardship program is administered through Hartland and it accepts some items for recycling without charge. This includes such items as batteries, paint and appliances. Rainwater is deflected off the landfill by plastic tarps. The water that does get through is sent to collecting ponds. The site comprises 48 hectares and *it is expected to be totally filled by approximately 2040.*

BVCA Directors 2012

John Lawler

Duncan Chiu

Sharon Stewart

Charlotte Koettl

Matt Belanger

Executive

Secretary: Dawn Loucks

Treasurer: Earl Hannan

President: Barry Loucks

BLENKINSOP VALLEY

***COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION***

PO Box 30063, 3989 Quadra St.,

Victoria BC, V8X 5E1

250-477-8539

bvcanews.com

Annual General Meeting

The BVCA AGM will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday March 26, 2013 in the gymnasium at Cordova Bay Elementary School (5238 Cordova Bay Rd). Mayor Frank Leonard and Blenkinsop Valley resident and public artist, Illarion Gallant, will give their respective views on the future of the Blenkinsop Valley. The mayor has agreed to accept questions afterwards on any municipal issue. Illarion Gallant has created several public art works in Victoria and across Canada including the tall metal flower sculpture “Bouquet of Memories” at Victoria International Airport and the “Commerce Canoe” at Bastion Square. Everyone is welcome to hear the speakers, The BVCA members business meeting will be held afterwards.

Emergency Preparedness

At a BVCA directors’ meeting in April, Ed and Suzie Polinsky described their visit to the 2010 earthquake damaged regions of Christ Church, New Zealand. Eleven hundred and nine buildings required demolition in the downtown area. Three hundred and ninety-five heritage buildings required demolition. The 150 year old cathedral will likely need to be taken down. Sixteen thousand homes were lost. Some houses were split and others were hanging over cliffs. Wooden homes and steel buildings fared the best. About 50% of the buildings in the downtown area suffered some damage.

The population of Christ Church is similar to Victoria with 375,000 residents. There were 184 confirmed deaths and since the earthquake 27,000 people have moved out of Christ Church.

Pearce Crescent Play Area

Plans for the Pearce Crescent Play area are progressing with construction expected to start this spring. This project was initiated by the residents of Pearce Crescent, and they have raised over \$10,000. Saanich gave permission for the play area to be on an unused road allowance, and is providing planning expertise. The Saanich Rotary Club has made a generous donation. The BVCA will also make a donation .

2012 Paralympics

Stacy Louttit, a Blenkinsop Valley resident, and John McRobert participated in sailing at the London Paralympics. They won a bronze medal in 2008 in Beijing and had a 4th place finish in London.

All Candidates meeting

The BVCA has been asked to collaborate in organizing an all-candidates meeting for the May provincial election. Details have not yet been finalized.

Growing Young Farmers

The Growing Young Farmers Society teaches the benefits of growing local health-friendly organic food to Grade 3 students at Lochside Elementary School (as well as several age groups at other schools). The garden at the school gives the students an opportunity for hands-on experience. Dave Friend, founding chair of the society, says one reason for this is to make the students aware of “food insecurity.” Dave said that on the Island there is only a three-day supply of food at any one time. He instructs up to 255 children each week. His society trains grower educators and these people instruct student groups in health friendly organic food.