

THE NEW BAMFIELDER

What do protestors in Ottawa and citizens in the Ukraine have in common?

They both want **FREEDOM!**

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www.bamfielder.ca

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Our Voice. The Bamfield Advisory Planning Commission advises the Regional District on matters as rezoning, variance applications, subdivisions, and Crown lease referrals. *Important Stuff!* Locally, members are elected at Community Affairs meetings, but recently, some have been appointed by our Regional Director, **Bob Beckett**. Presently, **Max Salamon, Jane Morrison, Rae Hopkins, J.P. Haste, John Mass (Chair), Kevin McAughtrie, Brian McKay, Glen Ballman,** and **Sally Mole** are members.



Meetings are open to the public. And once the minutes and recommendations have been received by our Regional Director, **Bob Beckett**, and the ACRD planning board, they will be available to the public. When the present chair was asked, how long have you been Chair, John replied, "I cannot remember how long I have

been on the APC or as Chair. I estimate at least 20 years. Perhaps the most factual answer is, too long." (We do not think so, John). And when John was asked about the effectiveness of APC in protecting the interest of the community, he replied, "Our advice is most often followed or leads to changes / compromises. ...it would be a sad day if the APC was abolished. We are a unique community and we often require solutions that do not check all of the boxes. Bamfielders, our new zoning by-law is nearing completion and everyone should review it and submit any final ideas and concerns. **Especially regarding moorage.**" *L. Druehl*. Photo of John Mass by M. Phillips

Bamfield's doldrums. Over a 19 year reign, **Jack Purdy** controlled some 11 Bamfield properties, including most businesses. There was the promise of \$60M for development, but progress was not realized. During this period, the APC faced numerous requests for zoning variance, most which dealt with creating many small lots from one large one. This would not be in Bamfield's interest and our APC had our back. Fortunately, the Huu-ay-aht purchased the Purdy properties in 2016 and we have been on an uphill charge ever since. *L. Druehl*, photo **Jack Purdy** addressing 80+ Bamfielders 9 March, 2012 (see TNB issue 11 for full report).



February Affairs, shared by 48 folks, was rich. **Teri Fong** ACRD Chief Financial Officer, previewed the Bamfield 2022-2026 Financial Plan (see bamfielder.ca for full presentation), some highlights: Bamfield's population increased from 243 in 2016 to 256 in 2021 (makes one dizzy) and Anacla from 82 to 104 in the same period. Property taxes may be expected to increase by 11% over last year (\$921 to \$1057 for a \$424K assessed property—if there is such a thing in Bamfield!). Some coming big items: west side fire house \$400K in 2024, Bamfield planning \$100K in 2023. **Daniel Sailland**, the new CAO of ACRD was introduced. **Sean Rogers**, BMSC, noted field trips and a full summer program are on. The U. Vic students involved in the tragic bus crash will return for a field trip on 29 April. **Chris Donison** declared Music by the Sea open, with concerts from 23-30 July. Yippie! **Robin Schmitt**: field trips to oyster rearing and salmon hatchery are planned (No kelp?). Fall enrollment estimated at 30 students. **Christine Gruman** asked that letters of support of BCSA programs be sent to SD 70. **Keith Wyton**, Harbour Authority, noted the Fisherman's Marina is fully booked (this does not bode well for visitors). **Sheryl Mass**, Bamfield Parks: **Rhiannon Richards** will continue in 2022. **Jake Wenstob** and **Lake Butler** will replace old float. Park rates will increase 5%. **Heather Peterson**, Health Clinic, noted COVID has come to Bamfield, but not as bad as gossip would have it. COVID shots will be given 30 March. The Port Alberni Mental Health team may be communicated with through the clinic. **Marnie McAughtrie**, C. of C. said they are considering a 2% hotel tax to support local marketing; a 51% of hosting units need to sign on. **Bob Schmitt** (Emergency Planning): three new volunteers in training, monthly meetings with ACRD. **Phil Lavoie** (BVFD): check fire regulations before outside burning. HFN Chief **Robert Dennis** reported 25 new housing units are now complete. A play field and community centre are planned. Moving ahead on reuniting fostered children with their families. **Jan Teversham**, West Park: \$33K acquired and \$50K pending for park projects. **Jamie Willock** (Active Transport project) has received a Bamfield Grant-in-aid of \$6500 for planning trails and docks. Community survey of need will be released. *L. Druehl*, abstracted from J. Teversham's unofficial minutes.



Our Liquid Waste Facility's "First flush" ribbon cutting will be around the third week of April. Stay tuned! There is considerable curiosity as to who may hook up and how much hook up will cost. *L. Druehl*

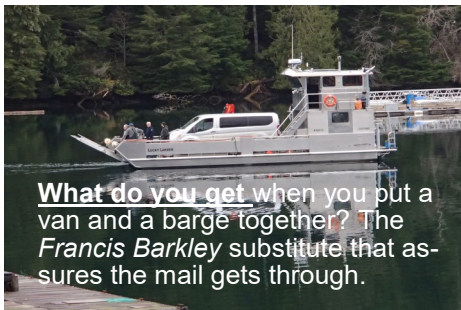
Letters and comments are welcome. Submissions will be edited for clarity and taste, and should be brief. Classifieds should not exceed 15 words (no commercial ads). All submissions must have the author's name and telephone number. Submit to ldruehl@island.net. *The New Bamfielder* is a free but we encourage readers to contribute to Bamfield Community School Assoc. youth programs. Louis Druehl



Sue Evans, departs. Sue sailed into Bamfield with her partner and two children, **Jamie** and **Ash**. She sold Bamfield properties for a few years. Needing moorage, she discovered McBay Lodge and stayed for over 20 years. She was a great cook and host appreciated by all. Sue was part of the Lodge family. She left the lodge 23 September 2021 and passed on the 22nd of December 2021. WE MISS YOU SUE and know that you will forever be in peace. **Cheryl McKay**, McKay Bay (see bamfielder.ca for Cheryl's full account). Photo: Cheryl McKay (L.) Sue Evans and Melanie McKay

Thank you, Amy! A COVID luncheon was held in Port Desire, celebrating **Amy McConnell's** 8 years as our Fisheries Dock Manager. As thanks, Amy received a silver Spirit Bean created by **Norman Seaweed** and an signed card from the Harbour Authority directors. When asked about her dock experiences, she said, "The dock job was a nice way to meet more locals, and many of the visitors to our town." *R. Hopkins, photo by M. Phillips*

Kelp pickers beware. U. Vic scientists detected a rogue wave in November 2020 data from offshore BC sensors. This wave was 17.6 m high (think 4-story high building). This was about 3X the surrounding wave heights and they classified it as a once in 1300 year wave. Locally, on 30 June 2014, **Eddie Johnson's Ka-Ka-Win** was flipped by such a wave in front of the Beale lighthouse. Eddie, who was trapped underwater, and crew were saved when the light keeper heard their whistle (see TNB issue 40 for full report). *L. Druehl*



What do you get when you put a van and a barge together? The **Francis Barkley** substitute that assures the mail gets through.



Gated Park Canada & HFN Camp Site stymie seniors' Pachena Beach access.



Out of the ashes of neglect. The building which became the Bamfield Inn was built in the early 1900s as a Customs building and Canada Post, plus accommodation for the Customs Officer and family. **Robert McVie Sr.** was the last full-time customs officer. The **Green Brothers** converted it into an inn. It served as the first **Bamfield Marine Station** student dormitory in 1972 when marine classes were held in the **BC Packers** store, next to the Coast Guard. Later owners operated it as a proper inn. At one point **Bob Hope** was a guest. **Jack Purdy** bought it, started renovations, then abandoned it. A group of friends purchased it in 2018, to the great joy of the community. Shareholder **Bruce Pow** has begun the restoration, estimated to take 4 years. Huge evidence of this can now be seen – the new roof and siding. No longer are tourists arriving on the Lady Rose greeted by a dilapidated old building, their first impression of Bamfield. The community of approx. 300 people greet this development with respect and jubilation. For more information, there's a letter from shareholder **Dr Branko Palcic** from Vancouver, on www.bamfielder.ca. *Heather Washburn.* Photo by Marc Phillips.



Ryan Toso in his Mobius

Look out Amazon! Ryan Toso, with his wife **Cassidy** a baker and son, **Rowan** have settled into Port Alberni from Tofino. He left tow-trucking, "I've almost made it to Bamfield... several times." His love of books and his exposure to his mum's **Coho Bookstore** in Campbell River led him to creating **Mobius Books**, 5016 Argyle Steet. Asked, about the Moebus name, "I've always liked the infinity symbol and one of my favourite series in my teens was **Robert Jordan's Wheel of Time** which features one on the cover." Drop in and browse—great children's section in addition to contemporary books, including **Suzanne Simard's Finding The Mother Tree, Discovering the wisdom of the forest** (a daring holding in the Heart of Logging!). Ryan will order books for you: mobiusbookstore.ca and **250-736-1008**. Thank you Ryan, it is nice having a book store this side of Parksville. Let's help Ryan fend off the onslaught of the Big Box. *L. Druehl*

Fight food inflation! Gardeners! There are still a few garden beds available to use. Email (rhopkins@island.net) or phone me at 250 728 3297 for details. *Rae Hopkins*

News Flash: *Bamfielder.ca* had over 6000 visits in January