

THE NEW BAMFIELDER

The Bamfield communal meals bring east and west Bamfielders and Anaclo folks together and add to the uniqueness of our West Coast living. Celebrate your friends and neighbours at our Huu-ay-aht potlucks and School luncheons.

1 April 2023

www.bamfielder.ca

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BAMFIELD'S HIWAY

Photo, C. Bates

A record 52 Zoomers 'participated' in a Moorage Forum, followed by an Affairs Meeting.

Moorage Forum: Four public units and private docks were considered: **West Dock** (Transport Canada) needs to be divested or removed. This dock serves the ferry, Coast Guard, and west siders. ACRD, The Lady Rose, and Bamfield Inn

could form a consortium to preserve the dock. **HFN Dock**, for support of HFN Fisheries has limited capacity to expand. However, there is a potential for 100 slips to be developed at Ostroms. **The Fisheries Dock** (Bamfield Harbour Authority, Small Craft Harbour/DFO) is intended to support commercial fishers. However Bamfield is considered a non-core harbour, Thus expansion funds are not available or limited if local monies are involved. Divesture is possible with HFN, Not-for Profits and lastly, private. **Grappler dock** (Bamfield Parks/ACRD) for park users and the general public is supported by park funds. **Private docks** are under review in the Bamfield Official Plan. Future regulations could dictate extent of private moorage/property. **Affairs Meeting:** A brief meeting focused on the Regional Director's Report and Bamfield Park's grant-in-aid. Regional Director **Bob Beckett**, "Working with the ACRD staff we have reduced the proposed [property tax] rate increase [22%] to 17.83%." Bob continued announcing \$700,000 for 2023 projects: Development of the Bamfield Official Community Plan, the creation of a Bamfield Liquid Waste Water Plan, the Bamfield Water System Upgrade, and the Eileen Scott Centennial Park Playground Program. Sheryl Mass gave second reading of the Bamfield Parks' grant-in-aid for repair of the west side, boardwalk out-house. Meeting adjourned after 2 hours and 58 minutes. *Extracted Jan Teversham's minutes.* The complete notes & attached maps & details are available in the **Bamfielder.ca**.

Eds Note. Organizing, providing background, gathering government participants by Jamie Willock & Crew is a remarkable feat...perhaps one justifying a mayorship. The forum provided us an understanding of moorage issues, that divesting could take intergenerational time to resolve. And the Zoom format? Whac-A-Mole comes to mind.

March Disappointments. 1. Province delays a citizens poll and subsequent legislation in 2019 to change to daylight savings time, no alternating with standard time for the fourth year (wanting to sync with the US western states). How long will we wait? 2. No Bamfield celebration of St. Paddy's Day, like no January dinner celebration of Robbie Burns birthday. Where is the Community Hall when we need you?



The Lady of the light, Minnie Pater-son's 7 December 1906 heroic run from Cape Beale to Bamfield saved the crew of the *Coloma*, shattered on the Cape Beale reef. The telegraph line from the light-house to Bamfield was down and only Minnie was available to fetch help. The tide was in and she had to slog through waist high water to reach the 6 km. trail to Bamfield. After 4 hours she reached the **McKay** residence and was rowed over to the Cable Station that contacted the *Quadra*, anchored near by. The *Quadra* rescued the 10 doomed crew and captain that were dangling from the broken rigging, subjected to surf. Minnie returned home immediately, that night, as she was nursing her youngest son (on her lap in photo). This episode broke her 'constitution' and she died 5 years later of TB. *Extracted from various sources Photos Alberni Valley Museum*



More Larger-than-life Bamfielders coming in future issues. Nominate your favourite (with some background information).

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



Not just a lunch, the School Association-sponsored Community March Luncheon provided an opportunity to visit with friends, enjoy the exuberance of school kids, and have a great meal. Charlene Wolfe (photo) served salmon quiche, roast potatoes, tossed salad and fresh peas in the pod to 24 paying guests and 36 students and teachers. Regularly, Charlene serves about 30 lunches daily for the school kids, emphasizing a balanced meal. Part of the menu is subsidized by **Stella Wenstob's** hens. Charlene, who has resided in Bamfield for over 3 years loves the people and the closeness to nature our village allows. Thank you, Charlene. *L. Druehl*

BAMFIELD WEATHER/WARNING

Dry, Dryer, Drying. The last more-than-average monthly rainfall was 2022's May's cold and rainy season. Rainfall for 2022 was about 75 inches; normal precipitation is 106". So, unlike "lucky California", we seem to still be in a dry period. The weather so far for 2023 can be described as coolish and dryer than normal. Last year's cool spring lasted a long time as well. Our 2023 March rain total is 127mm (5"); average March rain is 266mm (10.44"). January rain total was about 228mm (9"); average being 350mm (13.76"). And February's rain total was about 228mm with the average being about 291mm. We've had at least 5 months of dryer-than-average precipitation. Before that, my weather recorder was broken. *Jerry Baird-on-the-Beach*

ED's Note. These drought conditions endanger salmon runs (check creek levels when driving out) and produce tinder-dry local forests. Does Bamfield have a Wildfire Plan?



Other Weather Events. Left, March coming in like a lamb (east-side community garden). Right March leaving like a lion (March 31, Bamfield Road, 38 km). Photos by *R. Hopkins*



West Park developments progressing nicely. Now, for the Eileen Scott Centennial Park gazebo. Excelsior!

BMSC, Excelsior! Robin Dyke approaches his profession, Strategic Planner, with the same philosophy he employs in his poetry (*64 Spurs* and other tomes) and photography: understanding the process that advances one to the final objective. He gave this example: A factory wanted to increase production so they improved lighting for the workers and production was increased. Then someone had the bright idea of restoring the original lighting and production continued to rise. Morale. Production increased when the workers were paid attention to. Robyn is employing his insight in assisting our marine station in laying out achievable future objectives. UBC studies in commerce, wedded to human behaviour, combined with life experiences (He consulted on the US deregulation of Electric Utilities Distribution implementation) have provided him a rich basis for his consulting. "I'm a process guy...What's next?" he asks. And Bamfield? "I think its magical and spiritual, the wilderness so close." *L. Druehl*



Yummy & Congenial! The Huu-ay-aht Community March potluck, featured the usual turkey dinner, numerous side dishes, including **Rae Hopkins'** curiously popular broccoli salad, and **Stella Peters'** Huckleberry angel food cake. Chief **Robert Dennis** shared herring roe, locally harvested on cedar boughs. Seems the Oscars, curling & couch zooming did not distract from this fun gathering. *L. Druehl*, photo *R. Hopkins*



Adieu, sweet village, twice. By my ninth year of life, our family's average home occupancy was 16 months. I spent the third grade in Bamfield, where we lived for 4 months short of average. Twelve months is laughably short in the all-knowingness of adulthood, but twelve months was an eighth of my life. Bamfield set "normal" for me - water from the sky is rain when your 'weather proof' jacket weighs an extra five pounds, and the game, "stump or bear" is a respectable way to pass time. Leaving Bamfield the first time was easy, I labeled no boxes and followed my dog, who followed my parents, with no further questions. Leaving Bamfield a second time is less coherent, I follow my big black dog who (sometimes) follows me. To part a community that welcomes you back, *many* questions asked, is a beautiful gift. *Joya Carson-Austin*

