



A DRY BAMFIELD = WILDFIRE, TAKE CARE!

THE NEW BAMFIELDER

In support of Anacla & Bamfield youth activities, with your donations!

1 June 2023

www.bamfielder.ca

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Community Affairs AGM, May (30 zoomers) saw 4 directors stepping down and then standing for another term. **Jaslyn Harbel**, whose name had been advanced "gracefully withdrew" avoiding an election and possible change in the status quo. **Jamie Willock** reviewed highlights of the Affair's Year: Initiating focus on our moorage problems and following up with a survey of public opinion (106 responses, results to follow). Affairs formed a local Bamfield Affordable Housing Working Group. The Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre has offered land. Affairs grants-in-aid: west Bamfield toilet upgrade (\$3,500), Wild Safe bear signage (\$1,232) and Wild Safety bear attraction reduction (\$5000).

Affairs General Meeting Bob Beckett (Bamfield's ACRD Director) noted 1. his suggestion ACRD recognize housing issues by seeking support to retain an advisor to explore initiatives to advance regional housing programs. 2. Acknowledged **Clay Steell's** ACRD presentation re. EV-chargers for Bamfield. Bob moved that ACRD explore grant opportunities for Bamfield and elsewhere. 3. Bob informed the ACRD staff that based on the Affairs Bamfield Moorage Survey, he would not support proposed bylaw changes. ACRD staff noted Affair's request that moorage bylaws be removed from our Zoning Bylaws. **Sean Rogers** (Director Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre) noted that the SD 70's survey of opinion re its strategic planning is closed but we may input at in-fo@sd70.bc.ca. Sean has had his appointment extended for 5 years as fulltime Director. **Sheryl Mass** (Bamfield Parks) is seeking 12-15 folks in early July, for 3 days to construct new playground. The approach to the west side toilet has been repaired, courtesy of Community Forest and Affairs funds and the \$16.91 over-spendt by Bamfield Parks. **Tom Jensen** (Harbour Authority): Perennial **Rae Hopkins** is stepping down as secretary/treasurer. Discussions on increasing daytime use and longterm use are underway. **Robin Schmitt** (School) Students will attend a Port Alberni festival to perform a HUU-ay-aht song. (**Your contributions to this paper will help pay for this trip!**) **Stefan Ochman** (Road Safety): signage and a memorial for the deceased students at km 36 are being considered. **Phil Lavoie** (Fire Dept.): could provide backup within community for wildfire, 1 pumper truck on east side and 2 on west side. **Ben West** will light up cougar pass. *Abstracted Jan Teversham's Affairs minutes*

Novel Bamfield Politics. Tom Jensen successfully advertised for a replacement for **Rae Hopkins** (director/ secretary/treasurer, Bamfield Harbour Authority.) Kelp foresters invade HFN/Bamfield Community Forest (**Tom Campbell**, Vice Chair (West Coast Kelp), **Amy McConnell**, treasurer (Canadian Kelp Resources), **Clay Steell**, secretary (Kelp Rescue). If there was an office of Mayor in our unincorporated Bamfield,, that position would be occupied by **James Willock**. *L. Druehl*



In honour of Cliff Haylock, we will be having a Celebration of his Life on Sunday July 2 at 1:00pm until 4:00pm at the Rix Center at the BMSC. Family, friends and colleagues are welcome. Those who would like to share their favorite Cliff moment will be welcome to. Refreshments will be served. *The Family, photo M. Phillips*

Community Forest AGM (10 zoomers +11 in person) resulted in only **Alex Niese** being replaced by **Avril Hann**. It was announced that **Charlie Clappis** has stepped down as Chair after 11 years on board. Forest gave grants of wood to West Park, Thanks were received from Eileen Scott Park and Community Hall for wood (\$2,995), and cash for Eileen Scott Park (\$11,450) and Bamfield Active Transportation Network (\$6550). Forest spent \$25K, matched by Island Coastal Economic Trust on the East-West Connector Trail. Abst. C. Steell's notes.



ACRD FireSmart funding available for: Carrying out residential and critical infrastructure assessments, • Offer homeowner rebates of \$1,000 for completing recommended FireSmart work • Provide training and exercises for emergency agencies • Undertake critical infrastructure mitigation projects • Offer curbside pick-up of yard waste. For more information, please contact: Heather Thomson, ACRD Communications Coordinator 250-206-5162 or hthomson@acrd.bc.ca

Build it and they will come. An inaugural (official?) picnic/ gathering/dance brought to play the new pavilion (and the need for toilet facilities). About 100 folks enjoyed this event, hosted by the Bamfield Chamber of Commerce. **And they came!** Congratulations!



Youthful kelp pickers harvest their crop of sugar kelp, planted in February, from their Grappler farm. **Steven Smith** (HFN) provided transport, **Amy McConnell** (CKR) instructed on planting and harvesting. Kelp Farming is the inaugural activity of the Bamfield Aquaculture Club for youths, supported by the school and school association. Note> The kelp farm is near to an ancient (400-500 yrs) clam garden. *L. Druehl*

Submissions are welcome. They may be edited for clarity and taste, and should be brief. All submissions must have the author's name. Submit to ldruehl@island.net. *The New Bamfielder* is free but we encourage readers to contribute to Bamfield Community School Assoc. youth programs. *Louis Druehl*



The McInerneys impacted Bamfield. John was the 1st & 3rd director. He initiated the award-winning Public Ed. Program and several major constructions. Bev nursed locally and at outposts up the coast. Both were active in the community and were responsible for prolonging our church's life. On one occasion, while they slept, a bear entered the unlatched door, helped itself to particular cake decorations, clawed some leather cushions and left...all undetected. **A historical Note:** John unknowingly was instrumental in establishing the first Bamfield Marine Station. He advised **Aubrey Gorbman** (one-time Chair of Zoology, UW, and President of the Zoological Society of America) of the rich slime eel population of Barkley Sound. Aubrey established his lab in the recently collapsed boat-house on Rance Island, that he named the Bamfield Marine Station. He gracefully surrendered that name when the 5 universities came to town. *L. Druehl*



BMSC Black Bear stakes out his/her territory on the marine station tennis court. Unaware that the original tennis court, hidden under a modern surface and now used as boat parking lot, is an antique (ca1904) whose white lines consisted of shells and surroundings hosted white-flannel tennis with Gin & Tonics. *L. Druehl*

DANGEROUS WEATHER

What a contrast between the April and May weather in Bamfield. So wet in April; more than twice the average rainfall. We had 15.75 inches (400mm) of rain in April. Normal is 7.23 inches (184mm). That is more than any April rain total since I have been keeping records (2006) and the rainiest month since January of 2022. Then May--only 1.5mm of rain this entire month--so dry. Somebody turned off the faucet. The average rain for May is 4.19 inches (107mm). Temperatures have been pretty unremarkable with a short 3-day warming where it got to a high of 31 degrees in May. *Jerry Baird on the Beach*

Sprucing up Bamfield's past.

Eric Wickham and friends stain the boardwalk's iconic net shed,. This shed was built in ca. 1921 to service and store seine nets by the Wickham brothers, Swedes, who fished and built fishing boats. **Lars Wickham** married **Britta** and they raised 8 children in the house located above the shed. More recently the shed housed a gift shop.

Source: Bamfield Memorial Tree Books (relating to Leaves on the Eileen Scott Centennial Park Memorial Tree in the Memorial Pavilion for past Bamfielders.) Photo M. Phillips



Rain or shine, Bamfield's Post Office has served us since 1903. Other institutions that have survived the decades are the Outpost Hospital, Life Saving Station, and Pioneer House (precursor to McKay Bay Lodge). Our PO is unique in that it is the place Bamfielders, regardless of geographic address, meet and catch up on the latest gossip (hopefully, the new Community Hall will rectify this). There have been 14 Post Masters/ Mistresses*, with **Rose Janelle** being the most recent. She followed **Joe Pearson**, now with the Lake Cowichan PO. Then **Mary Scholey**, a biker, minister, a purveyor of candy to kids and a contributor to the west side cat issue. In my recollection, Mary was the last employee to lick stamps. The recent, beautiful wood interior of the PO was completed by **Mark Kelly**. *L. Druehl, online research J. Del La Puente, photos by M. Phillips (Joe is standing in front of a J. Phillips pastel).* *As explained in my forthcoming novel *Bamfield Posh*, the post mistress is, by definition, Bamfield's Matriarch.

Great Tunes. The 13th annual Bamfield Music-by-the-Sea Festival will be performed 2 nights, 22-23 July in the Rix. Do not miss this world classic!

