

SPROAT LAKE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Winter 2010

Published by Penny Cote – Sproat Lake Director – Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

Sproat Lake Volunteer Fire Department - In December 2009 we received our newest truck. This is our third tender (water tanker) that will ensure we continue to meet the water hydrant status certification granted by the Fire Underwriters. We are always looking for new volunteers. We require a minimum number of volunteers in order for homeowners to qualify for Fire Insurance. Currently, our numbers are low and we would like to increase the number of trained volunteers in our fire district. If you are interested in joining the Volunteer Fire Department drop by any SL Fire Hall on a Tuesday night at 7 pm and ask for the Hall Captain, email sproatfire@telus.net or call Peter Klaver at 250-720-7066. Thank you to all the volunteers that service this community to keep us safe.

Please remember that it is the responsibility of all property owners to display visible house numbering and keep driveways passable for emergency responders so they can find you.

Sproat Lake Parks Commission - On the weekend of July 25-26, 2009 (some of the hottest days of the year) a group of dedicated local heroes installed the very popular new playground equipment at Cougar Smith Community Park. Special thanks go out to McCoy Lake Excavating, Dolan's Concrete and Sand, B & M Bobcat, Pete's Pile Driving and Dave Koszegi. Along with the \$100 donation from Preceptor Xi Sorority, SLPC was awarded a grant for \$14,881 from the Recreation Infrastructure Canada Fund toward the \$50,000 purchase and installation of the new playground equipment. The community is invited to check out the new changes at the Park which include a new bike skills park, which was requested and created by local youth with the help of a few local bike enthusiasts, the bike club and the SLPC.

Other projects include the Dickson/Faber Community Park wharf being refurbished; and the Lakeshore Walking Trail has been resurfaced with new material. Motorized vehicles such as quads, which will damage the new surface, are requested to respect rules and stay off the walking trails. Volunteers are welcome to join the SLPC. Please call Chris at 250-720-2230 for more info.

Cougar Smith Community Park is in need of trees for shade and decoration. Anyone updating your landscaping and interested in donating their unwanted trees, please call Chris at 250-720-2230 or Penny at 250-724-5040.

ACRD Budget – Copies of the 2010 ACRD draft budget will be available after February 24th, 2010 at the ACRD office at 3008 – 5th Avenue upon request.

The Pacific Rim Health Co-Op Association will be attending the SLCA AGM to discuss their budget request for the ACRD to purchase the building on Elizabeth Street in Port Alberni from the City, and donate the building to them.

Water Infrastructure Study - The ACRD has conducted a water survey for residents of the Bell Road and Stuart Avenue area. The ACRD is consulting with the City of Port Alberni and Tseshaht and Hupacasath 1st Nations regarding the water line. The ACRD has applied for a water line Infrastructure Study Grant to provide updated information on costs and create a plan for the proposed water line for the Bell Road and Stuart Avenue area.

The Alberni Valley Water Study is to be completed by Koers & Associates Engineering early this spring. The consultant will be making recommendations on a future treatable water system that will possibly be fed by Sproat Lake, Great Central Lake or other sources. There will be public consultation in the Spring including options and associated costs.

Alberni Valley Background Study – The background study is a report being completed by the Regional District that will serve as the basis for Official Community Plan updates for Beaufort, Sproat Lake, Beaver Creek and Cherry Creek. The study focuses on how the Alberni Valley has changed over the past 10 years and where we need to go in the future. The central goal of this study is to develop Community Plan policies that address issues that are important to local residents, like economic growth, agriculture, environmental protection and outdoor recreation (parks and trails). At this stage, community input is key to complete the study and begin work on updating the Community Plans. We encourage you to drop by any of the information meetings to ask questions and provide your input at any of the following:

Saturday, February 20th Open House at the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Office
3008 – 5th Avenue 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Thursday, March 4th at the Beaver Creek Community Hall
8505 Beaver Creek Road 7:00 pm – 9 pm

Tuesday, March 16th at the Beaver Creek Volunteer Fire Hall
6038A Beaver Creek Road 7:00 pm – 9 pm

Thursday, March 18th at the Sproat Lake Community Hall
9346 Bomber Base Road 7:00 pm – 9 pm

Tuesday, March 23rd at the Cherry Creek Community Hall
3729 Moore Road 7:00 pm – 9 pm

A short questionnaire will also be available on the website.
For more information please contact the Planning Department at 250-720-2701 or visit the website: <http://www.acrd.bc.ca>

Sproat Lake Community Hall – The Community Hall has been booking Hall rentals for 2010, and has a rental contract with the long-term tenant in the basement. Also, the paddlers are storing equipment in the basement clubroom with the vision of it becoming a paddling center. The Hall has been in need of a new roof for many years and now the roof is leaking and in need of replacement. Cost estimates have come in between \$10,000 and \$16,000. We have funds available to cover the cost.

Sproat Lake clean up in Two Rivers Arm and Stirling Arm was a huge success this past fall. Thanks to the many local volunteers who worked hard to bring the beaches back to a natural state by removing all kinds of debris that had been abandoned above and below high water. Special thanks to Pete's Pile Driving and crew for collecting and retrieving the garbage from the beaches, including items too big for a pleasure boat and delivering them to an easy-access area for Stan Kujula and Brian Cote to truck to the landfill and recycling depot. Clean beaches contribute to clean water even in your back yards. Thank you all for being good lake stewards.

Community Forest - City of Port Alberni has received the 25-year Community Forest lease in the Sproat Lake area. Logging will begin down Taylor Arm sometime in 2010. For more info call the City of Port Alberni at 250-723-2146.

WATER TESTING will be offered for e coli and total coliforms at a group rate of \$34 on **Monday, March 1st, 2010**. You can pick up your bottles any time at the ACRD office at 3008 - 5th Ave., Monday – Friday between 8am – 4:30 pm. Also, for this test, they can be picked up at the Tseshaht Market at 7585 Pacific Rim Hwy during business hours until Monday, March 1, or at the SLC Hall on Saturday February 27, 2010 between 10 am and 12 noon. Testing will take place Monday morning with water samples and forms delivered to the **Sproat Lake Community Hall on Monday March 1st between 8 am and 11 am** to be transported to the NILabs in Courtenay.

This is a great opportunity to test water filtration systems from Lake sources or wells, etc. If you do not have a filtration system on your drinking water you are advised to boil your drinking water as it is a raw water source.

If you have any concerns regarding our community, be sure to come and voice them at the **Sproat Lake Community Association Meeting (AGM) on Thursday, February 22nd, 2010 at 7:00 pm** at the Sproat Lake Community Hall on Bomber Base Road off Lakeshore Road.

Thank you to all residents who care and make this a wonderful community to live in. For more information on this newsletter please call Penny at 250-724-5040 or email coteart@shaw.ca

Sproat Lake Community Association
Annual General Meeting
Thursday February 25th, 2010 at 7 pm
To be held at the
Sproat Lake Community Hall
On Bomber Base Road off Lakeshore Road

All are welcome and encouraged to attend this public community meeting.

Agenda

- Welcome
- Minutes of the last AGM
- Treasurer's report
- Water testing bottle and requisition pick up
- Delegation from the Pacific Rim Health Co-op
- ACRD budget discussion
- Parks and Trails report
- Beach cleanup, Out houses and Sani station
- Road Maintenance Committee
- Community Hall
- Bell Road water line
- SLCA Elections

For more information please call Penny at 250-724-5040 or email coteart@shaw.ca

Sign up to our email list for the latest update on community news and announcements. To comment on these or any other issues, please send an email to sproatlca@hotmail.com or call Penny 250-724-5040 or email coteart@shaw.ca.