

Roberts Creek SCRD Director's September Newsletter

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In person: Gumboot Café, Saturday Mornings, 10-12, except August

I hope that everyone is having a good summer. I can't quite bring myself to use the past tense yet. What a vibrant place the Creek is in the summertime, with Festivals, Mandala Painting, Music, Farmers Markets, Creek Daze and the like! Sea lions off of the pier were among our many summer visitors. Bears too, of course, so contact the Sunshine Coast Fruit Tree Project fruittreeproject@onestraw.ca if you need help gleaned your fruit, or can spare some time to support their work.

Fall Reminder

According to data compiled by the fabulous Speed Watch volunteers, of all the sites that they monitor around the Sunshine Coast, **the road in front of Roberts Creek Elementary School has the highest incidence of speeding!**

Let's change that. Because we are a Rural Area (as opposed to a Municipality) our roads are the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation, and provincial policy limits the engineered solutions (such as speed bumps) that are applicable. Enforcement by the RCMP happens frequently, but we need to take it upon ourselves to make the roadway safer for pedestrians of all ages, in particular those who are making the healthy choice to walk, bike or bus to school at this time of year and as it gets darker. **It's a 30km/hr zone there.**

Volunteer Corner

The SCRD holds an annual **Backcountry Trash Bash** at rotating locations around the Sunshine Coast, and this September is Roberts Creek's turn! This provides an opportunity for the community to take an organized approach to ridding our treasured backcountry of the products of thoughtless illegal dumping. Sites can be reported using the provincial "Report All Poachers and Polluters" Program, at www.env.gov.bc.ca/cos/rapp/form.htm or 1-877-952-7277.

This year's event takes place on **Saturday September 17th, from 11:00 to 3 PM**, and will be based out of the Roberts Creek School Gym. Bring yourself, your truck if you have one, some gloves, some friends... Pre-registration is encouraged, by email or phone, at infrastructure@scrd.ca or 604-885-6806. Lunch will be provided. Hope to see you there!

"Howdy Neighbour" Fall Community Potluck for Newcomers (and Oldcomers too!)

Wondering about all the SOLD signs that popped up this summer? Are you new to Roberts Creek? Have you got new neighbours? Looking to meet some of the great folks who have joined us this year? Reconnect with old friends? Why not wander over and invite the new folks to join you at a **Community Potluck Dinner on Sunday October 16th at the Roberts Creek Hall starting at 5 pm**. It's free, just bring food to share. And the kids of course.

There will be music, information about the community, food of course, door prizes, and lots of fun. Come whether you have actual new neighbours or not. Bring old neighbours. A good old community sharing! Get it on your calendar and look for more details closer to the date.

Water Meters are coming

For those of us on Regional Water (largely properties below the highway) **we can expect water meter installation to take place between now and next summer**. Widely recognized as a water conservation best practice, meters will give individual households and the Regional District the data to help inform our changing relationship with water in response to changing hydrological conditions.

Installations in Roberts Creek will follow those in Halfmoon Bay and Egmont, and be preceded by a letter in your mailbox from the SCRD, a booklet mailout from contractor Neptune Technology Services, an Open House at the Hall, and doorhangers 3 days prior to and following installation. Meters will be installed at your property line, and you might have noticed some markings on the roadways as infrastructure

Water rates will be set by the Board following a public process once all meters have been installed and data analysis has taken place. Want to learn more? www.scrd.ca/Water-Metering

Standing Committee Schedule changes

The SCR D has shifted its Committee meeting schedule. It looks like this:

2nd Thursday of the Month 9:30 AM - Planning and Community Development Committee

3rd Thursday of the Month 9:30 AM–Infrastructure Committee

4th Thursday of the Month 9:30 AM– Corporate and Administrative Services Committee

The Board will explore using The 1st Thursday of the Month for a variety of purposes in the Fall, including possibly special meetings on specific topics, workshops, public engagement sessions, and the like.

Board meetings continue to take place on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the Month, typically at 1:30 PM

The specific meeting schedule for the rest of 2016, and Agendas (typically posted on the Friday prior to the meeting) and can be found here: <http://www.scrd.ca/agendas-2016>. Unless otherwise posted, all meetings take place at the Field Rd SCR D offices in Wilson Creek.

Recreation Guide

The Fall and Winter Recreation Guide should have arrived in your mailbox in late August. Lots of great things to do on the coast as the dark months approach. If you missed it, it can be accessed online here: www.scrd.ca/files/File/Community/Recreation/Rec%20Guides/2016%20Fall%20and%20Winter%202017%20FINAL_WEB.pdf

Roberts Creek Business Directory

While you are checking your mailbox this month, keep an eye out for the Roberts Creek Directory of Everything. This great resource contains 135 listings of Roberts Creek businesses, services, organizations, artists, shops, accommodations and the like, and has been **updated for 2016**. An online version can be found at robertscreekdirectory.ca Spare copies can be picked up in various places “downtown”. The Directory is a project of the fabulous folks at Sustainable Local Economic Development RC (Curious? Look them up in the Directory!)

SCR D August Newsletters Topics

The **August edition of the SCR D’s “Coast Current Newsletter”** includes information on the following topics: Chapman Lake Water Supply Expansion Project, SCR D partnership with ElderCollege, tips on shrinking your footprint by avoiding disposable items, and more. You can sign up to receive the newsletter here : <http://www.scrd.ca/Newsletter-Signup>. September’s issue should be out by the time you read this.

Upcoming Union of BC Municipalities Conference (Sept 26-30, Victoria)

This annual conference provides the opportunity for local government officials to meet with and learn from each other, attend workshops and presentations, lobby the provincial government, and debate resolutions. This year the SCR D Board will be meeting with the Ministry of Transportation and Ministry of Health, among other officials, with regards to a variety of issues.

The **SCR D is advancing specific Resolutions** for debate with regards to holding the Provincial Government accountable to the all of the original 32 recommendations of its Climate Leadership team , bike lanes in areas served by single highways, and reinstating funding for adult basic high school education. Advocating for improved watershed governance frameworks, supporting affordable housing, and local government input into marijuana regulations, are among some of what I will be looking to advance.

The week will be bracketed for me by a pre-conference UBCM workshop on **community consultation in provincial Forest Policy decision making**, and a one-day **Watershed Governance** conference in Vancouver on the way home. Drop by the Gumboot Café on either one of the adjoining Saturday mornings and you’ll meet Michelle Morton, who is Roberts Creek’s Alternate SCR D Director. Michelle has a background in local government, community development, environmental leadership and social work.