



# Belcarra Barnacle

June 2023

Belcarra's Community Newspaper

Volume 44 Issue 5





Published ten times yearly by

THE BELCARRA BARNACLE.

Our purpose is to inform and involve.

The Barnacle welcomes all contributions about our local community.

If you would like to submit an article to the Editor, please be advised that your name will be listed as the author.

We also reserve the right to edit for brevity, accuracy, clarity or taste.

Photos and original art will be returned if requested.

#### HOW TO REACH US:

Put submissions in the Barnacle Box outside the Village Office.

Mail:

The Belcarra Barnacle,  
4084 Bedwell Bay Road, Belcarra, B.C.  
V3H 4P8.

E-Mail: [belcarrabarnacle@gmail.com](mailto:belcarrabarnacle@gmail.com)

For Out of Town Delivery:

The Belcarra Barnacle is available by mail, for \$20.00 per year. Please send a cheque and mailing information.

DEADLINE for submissions to the Barnacle is the 20th of the month.

#### VOLUNTEERS:

Editor:

Dayna Fitz 604 469 0408

Advertising:

Sandra Rietchel 604 786 5114

Treasurer and Distributor:

Clive Evans 604 931 7396

Members:

Nora Boekhout 604 937 1127

Deborah Struk

Bonni Marshall

Michele Babineau

Deneige Davis

[www.belcarra.ca](http://www.belcarra.ca)

### Words from the Editor:

Hello,

I'm Dayna Fitz, the new Editor of the Barnacle. The Village of Belcarra has been my home for the past 18 years. Klaus and I moved here for the quiet, and for the easy access to trails and ocean. We live with our dog Farley on Marine Ave. The three of us enjoy gardening, hiking, sailing, and travels in our Airstream. We recently added grand-parenting to our list of favourite activities. Nothing makes us happier than sharing with our Boo Boo (Brynn), and all of our family, this beautiful Village.

I'd love to hear from you. Please keep sending your stories, articles, and photographs.

And to get to know each other a little better, I've included a picture of Farley. If you recognize him when we are out on the trails, please do say hello.



Dayna Fitz

[belcarrabarnacle@gmail.com](mailto:belcarrabarnacle@gmail.com)

### ADVERTISING RATES:

Classified ads (3-5 lines) are free for Belcarra Residents.

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 RCMP - Non-Emergency 604 945 1550 or  
 604 469 1599  
 Village Roadways, Water & WARD Emergencies  
 604 917 0113

IMPORTANT DATES  
JUNE 2023

- 5 Belcarra Garden Club Meeting
- 5 Regular Council Meeting
- 5 Full Moon
- 11 Belcarra Day!!
- 18 Father's Day
- 19 Regular Council Meeting
- 19 New Moon
- 21 Summer Solstice
- 21 National Indigenous Peoples Day
- 24 Ste-Jean-Baptiste Day
- 30 Golden Spike Days Starts

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*June*

## COUNCIL MEETINGS 2023

Council meetings are in-person  
 at the Village Hall.

Livestream is available at:  
[Village of Belcarra YouTube Channel](#)

Please email questions during the meeting to  
[prichardson@belcarra.ca](mailto:prichardson@belcarra.ca) and they will be read  
 at the appropriate time

Please check the Village website for more  
 information [www.belcarra.ca](http://www.belcarra.ca).

## COVER PHOTO

Our front cover features a photograph  
 submitted by members of the Sasamat  
 Volunteer Fire Department (SVFD).

It was taken from above the Farrer  
 Cove fire looking south towards  
 Camp Howdy and the ELC dock.

See page 8 for more photos and a  
 map.

The cause of the fire of May 13th is  
 still under investigation.

We are grateful to the members of the  
 SVFD for all of the work they do to  
 keep us safe.



## Mayor's Report

Ahead of us, in so many ways, is a sunny June.

May was a busy month for Belcarra. There was the CRAB hosted Spring Social and BBQ. Then a celebration of Walter Laube's long and fruitful life as a Belcarra pioneer, teacher and enthusiastic father. During the May hot spell, a fire on the north slope of Farrer Cove broke out and was quickly brought under control by our Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department.

Here are the Council highlights since my last update.

### Council Meeting, May 8, 2023

A trail presentation by Colleen MacDonald was followed by a 2022 year-end police service level review.

Grant funding applications and receipts were advanced.

Information for additional chlorination at the Tatlow Tank was received.

Village of Belcarra Taxation Bylaws Numbers 606, 610 and 611 were adopted.

### Council Meeting, May 23, 2023

An engineering report for the Tatlow Tank was received.

Overview of Council's 2022-2026 draft strategic priorities, goals and work plans were adopted.

A financial amendment bylaw to support the strategic planning was introduced.

Information was provided regarding MetroVancouver taxes for Sasamat Fire Protection services.

Recommendations regarding a local government infrastructure planning grant and a "Growing Communities Fund" were adopted.

Staff presented a draft proposal for a noise control bylaw.

More detail, and a recording of these meetings, are available on the Village website [\[www.belcarra.ca\]](http://www.belcarra.ca).

This Council's priorities for the 2022 to 2026 administrative term have now been presented to the Village. This was a process of highest importance to this Council and puts forward as many of the ideas that Villagers said were important to them and that Council considers achievable during our term. This was a work of harmonious cooperation, accommodation and decisiveness for all Council members. The process was lead by Paula Richardson (Chief Administrative Officer) and Ken Bjorgaard (Financial Consultant).

Please refer to the Village website for the complete documents.

Happy to chat,  
Jamie





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## Thank you Michelle Montico!

After 10 plus years, Michelle has retired from her post as Editor of the Belcarra Barnacle.

Michelle took over when Cecily Baptist retired at the end of 2011. Michelle's first issue was in February 2012 and the theme was Love. She went on to help us design, edit, and publish the next 94 issues with her last in May of this year.

It's not always easy being the Editor of a little paper and we very much appreciate Michelle's long time efforts on behalf of our community and her commitment to our paper.

We wish her all the best in her retirement!



## Belcarra Block Watch Volunteers Needed

Coquitlam RCMP are looking for volunteers to coordinate Block Watch in Belcarra.

If anyone is interested in volunteering, an application form is available on the Village of Belcarra website.

If you have any questions about the Block Watch program, or the application process, please email:

[Coquitlam\\_Blockwatch@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:Coquitlam_Blockwatch@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)

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for Port Moody-Coquitlam

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A Village between forest and sea.

# Overview of Council's Strategic Priorities & Goals (to 2026)

## Manage & Renew Our Assets & Infrastructure

*We will manage and safeguard our assets and infrastructure by:*

- Continuing to build our Asset Management Program (for hard & natural assets)
- Renewing key infrastructure & assets (see Key Project List)
- Making water system improvements (see Key Project List)
- Making waste & recycle service and facility improvements



## Steward Our Community & It's Natural Environment



*We will care for our Community and value its natural environment by:*

- Inventorying, mapping, and maintaining our natural assets (tree canopies, wetlands, riparian areas, etc.)
- Adopting and operationalizing a new Official Community Plan (OCP)
- Incrementally building out and maintaining a multi-use path, trail and road shoulder (MTRS) network
- Re-developing the tennis court site

## Achieve Financial Sustainability Through Fiscal Management

*We will operate in a fiscally responsible and financially sustainable manner by:*

- Creating a long-term (15 years) financial plan that is integrated with asset management & considers alternate land use scenarios
- Providing regular fiscal updates
- Instituting a Finance Committee
- Creating a formal, ongoing grant writing process



## Place an Emphasis on Emergency Management & Preparedness

*We will make public safety a priority by:*

- Updating our emergency preparedness plan
- Creating and implementing a fire safety & resiliency plan
- Implementing a mass notification system





# How We Will Get There

## Through Formal Communication & Community Engagement

*We will place a priority on communicating with our citizens, staff, and partners by:*

- Holding townhall meetings
- Placing an emphasis on formal external and internal communication
- Holding regular meetings with our Advocacy Partners

## By Streamlining Our Operations

*We will operate efficiently and effectively to provide value and service to our Community and its residents by:*

- Providing the resources to “get the job done”
- Modernizing policies, procedures and bylaws
- Having regular operational updates including progress towards achieving our strategic priorities
- Building our information systems and technologies
- Aligning our human resources with our strategic priorities

## Key Project List (not all inclusive)

- Paving - Marine Avenue & Belcarra Bay Rd (from stop sign to Turtlehead Rd)
- Water Reservoirs - Tatlow (excavating & fencing around tank); Tatlow & Dutchman Reservoirs (inspection & assessment including investigation of chlorination for Tatlow)  
Water System - design options for increasing water capacity - will lead to a decision on, and budget for, water system improvements
- Trails - Watson Trail improvements & renewal of 3 trails from Marine Avenue to the beach
- Re-development of Tennis Court Site - scope & cost to be determined
- Bedwell Bay Upgrade Project (from Kelly to Main) (BBUP) - gabion walls, drainage, road repairs and potential path
- Bedwell Bay Rd Safety - road barriers & flashing beacons



**Your Council's  
Strategic Priorities & Goals  
"Aimed at Achieving Real Results"**

## Overview of Council's Strategic Priorities & Goals (to 2026)



*A Village between forest and sea.*

### Fire at Farrer Cove

On Saturday evening, May 13, smoke and then flames were reported on the north slope of Farrer Cove.

The Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department (SVFD) responded at just after 9 pm. They were brought to the site by Royal Canadian Marine Search and Rescue Station 2 (RCMSAR2) out of North Vancouver.

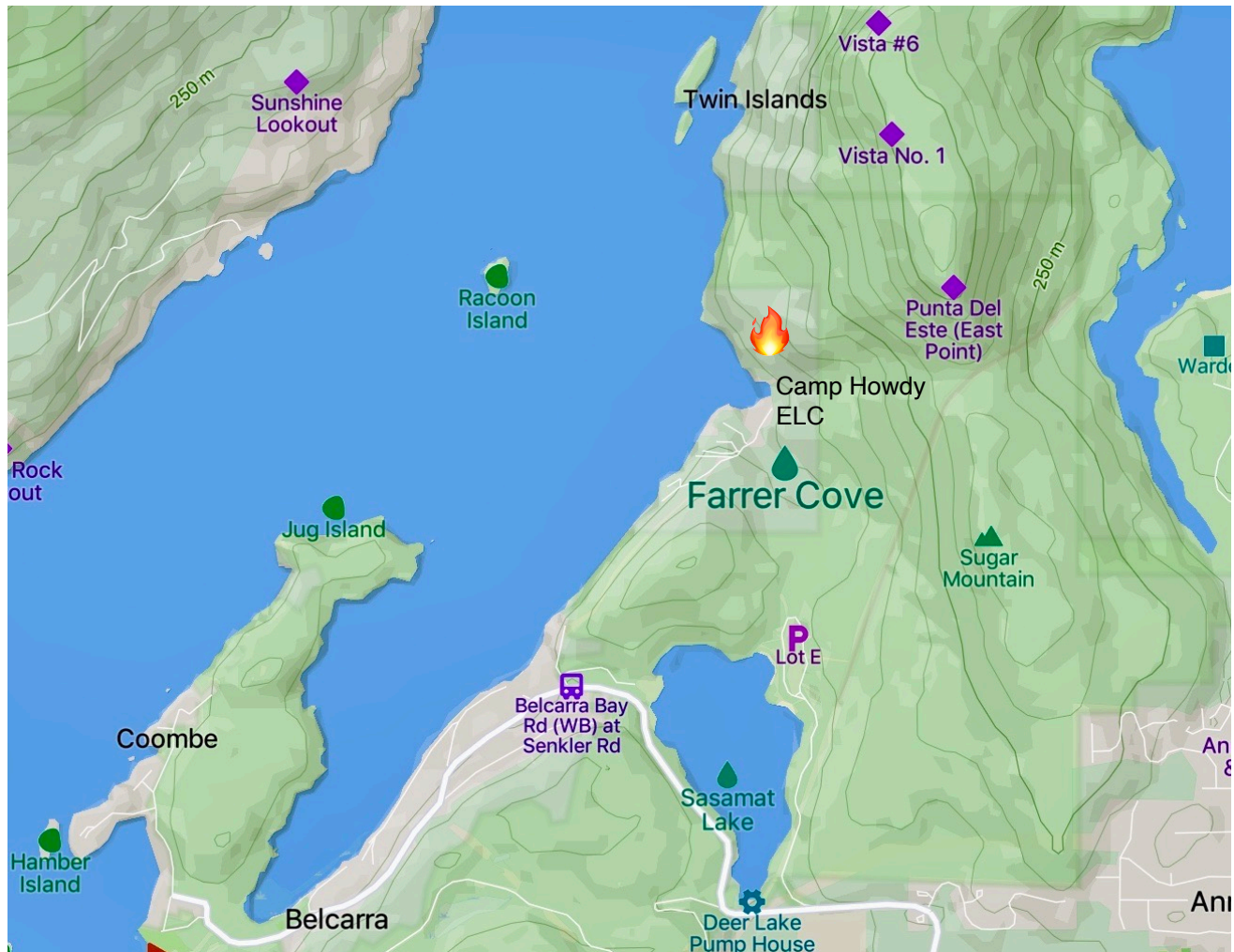
The following commentary is from the SVFD Fire Chief, Jay Sharpe:

"The investigation is ongoing but I can confirm that the fire was caused by a failure in the main private power line that feeds several properties in the Farrer Cove area. We received notification that the pole was smoking so we had the power to the area disconnected. The hope was that the pole fire would stop once it was no longer being fed. This did not happen and the fire dropped from the pole to the ground. Our first in crew took an aggressive approach and was able to stop the fire from spreading uphill into the forest. Our second in crews attacked the fire from below as burning debris fell down the hill towards the water and a neighbouring property. In the morning we were assisted by a crew from Metro Vancouver's Watershed Initial Attack Team and a small crew for the BC Wildfire Service. The fire was considered active until Wednesday May 17<sup>th</sup> when we finally declared it to be out."



Photos submitted by SVFD





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**Lillian Francis Jillings****February 15th, 1920 - March 21st, 2023**

Published in the Vancouver Sun and Province newspapers  
April 22nd, 2023.

Following a long, well-lived, and healthy life, our lovely mother Lillian (Bid) passed away peacefully March 21st at the age of 103.

As a mother, nana, nana2, aunt and friend, she leaves behind a beautiful legacy of kindness, thoughtfulness, patience and optimism. She will be remembered with admiration by her son Ken (Ruth), daughters Gail (Chris), Laurel (George), six grandchildren, Leisa, Mark (Alaina), Allison (Thomas), Brent (Caroline), Greg (Rachel), Kathryn (Neil), and five great grandchildren, Liberty, Madden, Max, Henrik, and Jacob.

Lillian was predeceased in 2021 by the love of her life, and soul mate Laurie, following 74 years of wonderful marriage filled with love and respect. Born and raised in Vancouver, Lillian enjoyed this beautiful city for all her 103 years, and we treasure her recollections of the incredible changes she experienced in time and place.

Through the years she was happiest working on home building projects with Laurie and was thankful to spend the past 60 years living in the North Vancouver home they built together. They were a team extraordinaire!

She loved gardening, sewing, fresh air, travelling the world, and summers filled with family and fun at Bedwell Bay.

Her thoughtfulness revealed itself in many ways and she lived her life by example. Whether simply preparing a meal for a friend, listening with a compassionate ear, or dedicating time to her 30 years of volunteering at LGH Auxiliary, she sincerely cared about people.



Without a doubt, nothing gave her more joy than supporting and spending time with family.

She encouraged, listened, and inspired her children and the next two generations

that followed, with her positive outlook and down to earth advice. At 103, she continued to actively participate in daily conversations to stay up to date with her family and friends.

She taught us all to grow old with resilience and grace.

Lillian leaves us with her love and the cherished memories we all share. We are comforted and at peace with the thought she is reunited with Laurie, hand in hand, once again.

With a special thank you to Lillia, Vilma, and Shangri-La for their sincere care and support through the past year.

In remembrance, please consider a donation to the CNIB, enjoy a quiet moment in your garden, or make a gesture of kindness.





Stories From The Archives  
Volunteer Firemen – Port Moody Takes  
Steps to Organize Brigade

Researched By: Ralph Drew,  
Belcarra, B.C., May 2023.

Source: Vancouver Daily World, Thursday, August 6th, 1916, page 18.

"Port Moody, August 3rd, 1916 — The city council will take steps shortly to organize a volunteer fire brigade and the personal canvass of the young men of the city has been suggested as the best method of completing organization of a force that will be a credit to the city [population 1300]. Uniforms will be provided, a recreation room fitted-up in the city hall basement, and annual sports tournaments may be staged in order to maintain interest in the undertaking. Firemen will be exempted from the \$2 road tax [about \$50 today] and will be the recipients of many other benefits according to the plans outlined by Mayor Britton."

Source: Vancouver Daily News-Advertiser, Thursday, August 31st, 1916, page 7.

"Port Moody, August 30th, 1916 — A volunteer fire brigade has been established in the city. So far, 14 men have joined. The men have elected their own officers. They are: Fire Captain, Alex Raynor, Strand Hotel; Deputy Captain, Mr. Urquhart; Secretary, J.J. Lye, City Clerk. W. Gormley was appointed to look after fire truck equipment and to be driver. The city already possesses 1000 feet [305 meters] of hose and a chemical engine. It is now proposed to purchase a second-hand motor car and convert it into a fire truck. The fire fighters will only be paid in cases of fire attendances, and that at the rate of \$1 [about \$25 today] for the first hour, and 50 cents for each subsequent hour. Uniforms will be furnished to the men. It is proposed to give sleeping accommodation in the basement of the city hall to four of the brigade and install phone communication between the mills and them. The men will begin practice immediately."



### Down by the Bay By Clive Evans

What have you seen in your garden lately?

Well not in the garden, but close by in Bedwell Bay, we were treated to a display of wildlife that was truly amazing. A feeding frenzy on anchovies was performed by a dozen seals, two dozen gulls, and at least five Cormorants. This was witnessed around six to seven in the evening of 10th May. The activity moved up and down the Bay allowing good views of the feeders. A repeat occurrence happened the next evening, with slightly less activity. On the third night we were feasted to see a heron sit on a rock to watch the scene, and later a Bald Eagle sat nearby to see what was happening. On several occasions the seals came very close to the dock as they darted around under water.

I am always amazed at the foliage of the Lenten Roses (Hellebores) that appear to stay green the whole year and still produce plenty of flowers as early as February and lasting into June and beyond.

Wisteria and Bluebells are showing in our NE facing yard and apple blossoms and Kerria are in full bloom. Kiwi fruit leaves are starting to turn white and of course many of the Rhodos and Azaleas are coming into bloom and are a joy to see. With this burst of warm weather, there is a proliferation of growth of many plants in the garden including the grass.

We have been sprinkling bird seed on our deck handrail and enjoy watching our feathered friends toing and froing. Whilst the numbers are quite reduced at this time of year, we have seen Steller's Jay, Blackcap Chickadees, Dark Eye Juncos, Song and White Crowned Sparrows, and House Finches enjoying their fill.

Sure, the Crows and squirrels muscle in now and again causing the Spotted Towhees etc. to run for cover. The occasional hummer buzzes by and a Bald Eagle is seen at its favourite perch down by the bay this morning.



Photo Submitted by Deborah Struk

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# Is your home ready for a wildfire? Prepare your property with FireSmart

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## NON-FLAMMABLE LANDSCAPING EXAMPLES

Managing vegetation is one of the key ways to mitigate wildfire threat. Get FireSmart Landscaping tips and insights in the [FireSmart BC Landscaping Hub](#)

South magnolia



Pink dogwood



Camellia



Hardhack



## Improve your home's chance of surviving a wildfire by making strategic decisions in your yard



## Hot Tips

- Store flammable materials (such as propane and firewood) at least 10m from any home
- Clean your roof and gutters annually to remove leaves and needles
- Consider replacing flammable vegetation like cedar and yew hedging with fire-resistant plants
- Opt out of mulching your garden this year
- Stay aware of fire danger ratings and regulations
- Keep grass cut to less than 10cm
- Install screens on vents and other openings
- Create an evacuation plan for your family
- Clear fuel and combustible materials from underneath decks

### IMMEDIATE ZONE

After choosing non-combustible building materials, treatment of the Immediate Zone is the first area to focus on when implementing FireSmart guidelines on your property. Treating this zone (0m – 1.5m) reduces the potential for embers to ignite the home. This zone should be free of all combustible materials and vegetation.

### INTERMEDIATE ZONE

Treating this zone (1.5m – 10m) ensures that direct flame contact with the building cannot occur, and reduces the potential for radiative heat to ignite the home. Maintaining this buffer around your home helps create a defensible space. This space is needed to slow or stop the spread of wildfire and helps to protect homes from catching fire from direct flame or radiant heat.

### EXTENDED ZONE

Treating this zone (10m – 30m) is to reduce potential fire intensity. Coniferous (i.e., evergreen) trees should be thinned to create a minimum of 3m of space between tree crowns. Branches should be pruned to a height of 2m from the ground. Accumulations of branches and needles should be regularly cleaned.



## WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD A RESILIENT BELCARRA



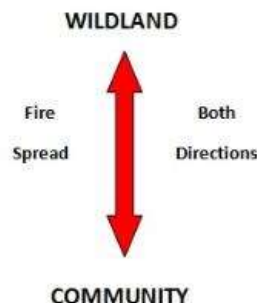
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### How do wildfires affect Belcarra?

Belcarra is at moderate risk of a catastrophic loss from wildfire due to the abundance of fuel within the municipality and its proximity to wildland. Belcarra is located in the wildland-urban interface, which is the area where the forest meets the community. In the wildland-urban interface, fire can spread from the forest into the community or from the community into the forest. Both scenarios are of equal probability and importance when considering interface fire. It is crucial that residents take actions to reduce wildfire risk to their property.



### What is FireSmart™?

British Columbia FireSmart™ leads the development of resources and programs designed to empower the public and increase neighbourhood resilience to wildfire across the province. Homeowners can take steps to reduce the probability of fire moving from the forest to a home or fire spreading from a home to the forest.

Learn more at [firesmartbc.ca](#)



# BELCARRA DAY 2023



## JUNE 11TH

təmtəxw'tən/  
Belcarra Regional Park  
Picnic Area  
10:00am-2:00pm



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10:00 -  
2:00

10:30 - 12:30

10:30 - 1:30

11:30 - 1:30

11:00 - 1:00

1:00 - 1:30

1:30 - 2:00



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BY WILD EDUCATION



CANDY SHOPPE  
BY CRAB



PACIFIC TRACKLESS  
TRAINS



ART SHOW  
BY LOCAL TALENT



PLANT A POT  
BELCARRA GARDEN CLUB

SUNDAY JUNE 11TH

# 2023 SCHEDULE

temixten/Belcarra Regional Park Picnic Area



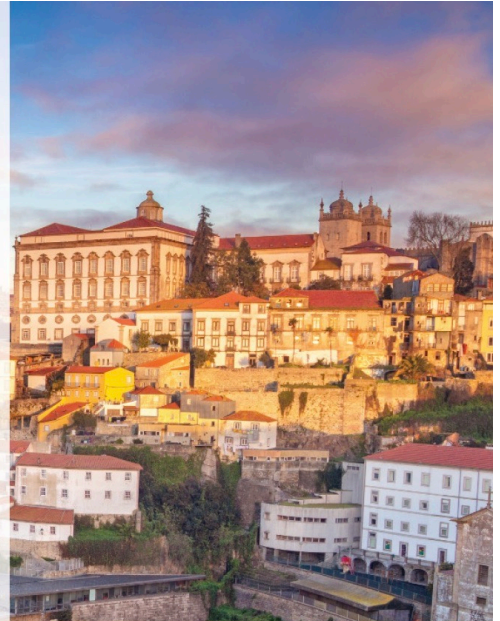
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### Anmore Spirit Park Improvements helped by Government Funding

From the Village of Anmore Facebook page:  
The Village of Anmore has been awarded \$375,000 from the Pacific Economic Development Canada (PacifiCan) to improve Spirit Park, including upgrading critical infrastructure to address ongoing drainage issues, increasing accessibility for future community events within Spirit Park, and installing new playground equipment. The improvement project will start as part of the Village of Anmore Community Hub construction.

<http://www.canada.ca/en/pacific-economic-development.html>.

The Village of Anmore is set to provide the remaining \$125,000 needed to complete the \$500,000 Spirit Park improvements project.

Photos Submitted by Brenda Hogg



Communities  
in Bloom  
Plant PURPLE!

April photos are now posted!  
<http://tinyurl.com/rwcf9b85>

Send in your May Belcarra  
PURPLE photos  
(flowers, plants, garden deco)  
to [norab604@gmail.com](mailto:norab604@gmail.com)





## VILLAGE NEWS

### The Belcarra Garden Club

By Les Bramley

Hey Everybody !

The July Belcarra Garden Club meeting is on Monday, July 3rd, at 2pm. It will be held at our house at 4071 Bedwell Bay Rd. There is room for four cars down our drive, plus some street parking, and at the village hall car park. Sturdy shoes are required as our yard is truly rustic.

Our PlanBee Native Plants course was interesting and as an added bonus we lucked out and we were given a tour of VN Greenhouses.

We hope to do another trip this year towards the end of summer, watch for the info in our trusty Barnacle.

HAPPY GARDENING !

To become a member, please contact us at 604-937-7103 or email: [lesbramley@shaw.ca](mailto:lesbramley@shaw.ca)

Members of the Belcarra Garden Club will be at Belcarra Day decorating pots and planting seeds. While your kids are busy planting, take the opportunity to ask your gardening questions.

### Quips and Quotes

By Barbara Shelley

"What really interests me about youth is that it's always the time you remember later. But I won't be able to remember my old age. So! I have to live it to the fullest!"

Annie Ernaux

Winner of Nobel Prize in Literature, 2022  
The New Yorker, November 21, 2022



### CRAB Corner

By Dayna Fitz

Well, I'm sorry I missed it. Word is that our Spring Social and BBQ was a lot of fun and very well attended.

We have a lot of folks to thank including all of you who came out to eat and share a glass of wine with your neighbours and friends.

Thanks to Jonathan of **Henry's Outdoor BBQ** ([henrysoutdoorbbq.com](http://henrysoutdoorbbq.com)) for his grilling skills and juicy BBQ chicken.

Thanks to Peyman Majidi who supplied delicious sweet treats from his shop **Urban Gate** [urbangate.ca](http://urbangate.ca).

Thank you to our volunteers who helped shop, set up, decorate, prepare food, and clean up after everyone went home: Sue and Doug Brain, Liisa Wilder, Cathy Fong, Patty Lawson, Maureen Jamieson, Dave Warren, Penny Moen, Lyle Mills, Alyson and Michael Wall, Andrea Jauck, and Betty Lewendon. Sue, Doug, and Lyle all studied and passed tests ❤️ so that we could eat and drink while meeting government requirements!

Thanks to Deneige Davis for our posters and cute graphics. See the centre pages for her recent efforts.

Thank you to Dr. Dennis Saunier who won the 50/50 draw and then promptly donated his winnings to the SVFD. We raised \$415 for the SVFD at the Spring Social.

You have another opportunity to support the SVFD...at Belcarra Day! We have lots planned for the kids. Please bring cash to purchase a lunch (cooked by the SVFD) and buy a raffle ticket or two. We have some great prizes courtesy of Thrifty Foods, Bryant Ko, and Ross Saito & Family (Canadian Tire).





*A smokin' Success!*

## SPRING SOCIAL & BBQ

Thanks to everyone who came out for an awesome night! Photos submitted by Liisa Wilder.

Keep sending in your pics to  
crab4084@gmail.com





## Kid'z Space

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 N N D T X D A D O P  
 L G A A G X V P N E  
 Q H D U L K E Y A L  
 T C D H I F A B M H  
 S E Y D Q E C Y T U  
 X G A D D T V H I G  
 Q V X G B L O V E O  
 G Z U W B V B L O L  
 H I K W L E H I M F  
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**Happy  
Father's  
Day**



## Black Bears

The following is from WildSafe BC:

Did you know that BC has some of the highest populations of black bears in the world with estimates ranging from 120,000 to 150,000 animals. It's no surprise that most of BC is considered bear country, including our village.

Here are some important things to know about black bears:

- Black bears are extremely fast and can run equally fast uphill or down
- Black bears are excellent tree climbers
- A black bear has a fine sense of smell that can detect food over 1 km away
- Black Bears have excellent memories and the females teach their offspring where to find food
- Bears are active during the day (diurnal); however, in higher risk areas, such as those with human activity, they may become more active and feed at night.

As long as a bear is moving through our community, is not lingering, and is not interacting with us or our property then there is no conflict.

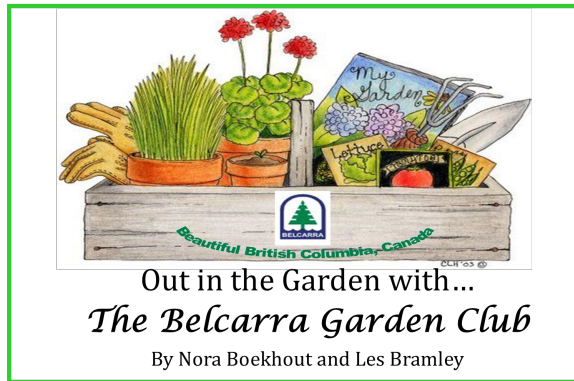
There are many situations when a bear moving through the community is to be expected, usually while they are moving to a natural food source.

When bears quit moving through the community and start using the community as a foraging area for human-provided foods, then conflicts develop. Bears can become food-conditioned. Once a bear starts equating humans with food, they tolerate humans in much closer proximity than what is safe for both bears and humans. This increases the potential for a dangerous interaction between the bears and us.

We can help reduce conflicts with bears by securing attractants and preventing bears from becoming food-conditioned in the first place. While fruit from domestic trees or bird feeders placed on high may seem harmless, both can draw bears into our community which increases interactions and conflicts with people. This may make your neighbours feel unsafe in their own backyards or on community trails.







### PlanBee Native Plants Field Trip



We were delighted to head out on a field trip to Langley to meet owner Josh Thompson. He is both passionate and knowledgeable about native plants! His mission is to help declining bee and pollinator populations by making native plants more accessible to the public and educating others about what they can do to help.

Josh explained that native ecosystems have evolved to co-exist in our conditions. They are the most resilient in our climate and seasonal changes. They are lower maintenance (when established), requiring less watering and that's an important consideration these days! There are native plants adapted to both shade and sun.

Growing native plants is not just a "gardener's whim" however! Much of our native wildlife does not thrive on the fancy hybridized plants we purchase from garden shops. 90 % of insects are specialists, so they only feed on specific plants. We have 400 types of bees in BC! Butterflies and moths are generalists as adults, but specialists as caterpillars.

Furthermore, the local genetics of native plants may vary according to location and our BC insects can taste the difference! You can actually pollute the local genetics by importing what you thought was the same plant.

Once you have decided to "go native", the best tip is to see what is growing in the wild in your area. It is best to plant in groups of 3 or more to attract the pollinators. Choose a mixture of plants so that you have a bloom succession from spring to fall. Leaving the fall debris enriches the soil & provides a winter home for many beneficial insects. Many insects will benefit if you leave a foot of the hollow Sunflower stalks for their winter hibernation.



Josh sells native plants in many categories: wildflowers, shrubs, trees, seeds, plants for bees, butterfly host plants, shade plants, full sun plants. Note that native shade plants need dappled sun. Moisture is an important factor with your new plants, especially in the first year as the roots become established. Josh cautioned us that there will be differences in how the plants grow in a garden compared to in the wild.

Josh has made a commitment to increase the biodiversity in our garden choices and we are pleased to know we can play a part as well.



A more comprehensive article as well as related links are available on our webpage:

<http://tinyurl.com/rwcf9b85>



### Belcarra Blessings

Deborah Struk

Hello June!

How can it be we are half way through 2023?

The month of May brought Belcarra Pub Night, the Belcarra Garden Club field trip to PlanBee Native Plants, Mother's Day, and lots of beautiful flowers. Thankfully, a forest fire was successfully put out at Camp Howdy, thanks to our amazing Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department and those who helped them.

This month brings Father's Day. A blessed Father's Day to all those young and old out there. Being a father, and a dad, carries with it so much responsibility. There are also times of wonderful fun and glorious moments.

I pray for all of you that the Lord would provide in every single way on every single level (physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual) provision and wisdom.

For some of us our dads have since left this world; perhaps you are estranged, or you would rather not remember your dad. May you receive all the healing you need. My earthly dad was far from perfect. He had many weaknesses and did not really know how to show love. But he did his best that he knew how with his own human brokenness. I choose to remember the positives such as the camping trips, fishing trips, Palm Springs vacations, and his big hugs.

I am blessed to know our Heavenly Father, (creator of the universe) through His son Jesus. He is the only ever faithful one in my life. People let us down at some point. He is just and He is loving. He loves each one of us, but gives us the choice IF we want to have a relationship with Him. He knows each of us fully, the depths of who we are, and what fills our soul. As the song goes, "You're a good, good Father, it's who You are." When I take the time to listen to Him, appreciate, and be thankful for what surrounds me then I feel His love.



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## Letter to the Editor

It's Time!

By Klaus Bever

On May 23, 2023 Council unanimously adopted a set of documents that outlines their plans for the current administrative term (2023 - 2026).

The delivery of their thoughts reflected a style that was until now absent from many recent council meetings. The overall spirit was sober, calm, and thoughtful of the concerns, preoccupations, and hopes that many villagers have expressed. Political gamesmanship was absent; it was replaced by quiet acceptance and pride in a body of work that is both well organized and in Council's view, clearly achievable.

Both Paula Richardson (Chief Administrative Officer) and Ken Bjorgaard (Financial Consultant) were identified by Council as key individuals instrumental in advancing this work. The full documents give a broad overview of Council's goals, time frames, and funding sources. These may be viewed at [www.belcarra.ca](http://www.belcarra.ca). This council seems to have achieved a goal that previous Councils were unable to find: harmony. They worked together with respect, dedication to task, and pride in achievement. On issues, they seem to find accommodation to their personal views and make the community's wellbeing paramount.

And safety for all Villagers is Council's goal. All Villagers, of all ages and all abilities need improved safety along our roadways. All Council members speak openly to this need and especially of the needs to make Bedwell Bay Road a safer place to walk, run, and cycle.

Council instructed staff in November 2022, following an ICBC safety audit of Bedwell Bay Road, to begin traffic calming as outlined by the ICBC audit. It has been more than six months since Council's instruction to staff. Many Villagers await those safety improvements.



## Letter to the Editor

## Optimizing Storage Capacity of Tatlow Tank

By Ian Devlin

The purpose of this letter is to suggest "next steps" for optimizing the storage capacity of the Tatlow Water Reservoir to provide additional water supply for fire fighting.

I wish to acknowledge the progress being made by Council and Village staff on getting information on the water system:

- 1) Council has a confirmation from the District of North Vancouver (DNV) that they can currently supply 20 litres/second water input for the Village of Belcarra.
- 2) Recent upgrade to the Village SCADA system (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) allows the village of Belcarra to Monitor real-time data, directly interact with water system sensors, valves, pumps, motors, and record events into a log file.
- 3) Village of Belcarra has developed procedures to ensure that Incident Command has direct access to the SCADA system to monitor levels in the Tatlow tank during all firefighting events, and the water inflow valve is opened during any callout.
- 4) A working operational manual has been developed to detail the operational procedures to be followed for the water system and the new SCADA system.

Continued from page 24

5) Work is proceeding on determining the life expectancy of both tanks in the Village: the Dutchman Creek tank available for backup fire fighting; and the Tatlow tank used for combination of functions for municipal water supply and as water storage for fire fighting supply, to the 35 hydrants throughout the village. I must presuppose that both tanks pass, with flying colours, any inspection and life expectancy considerations currently being done.

The initial engineering design criteria for the Belcarra Water system resulted in the availability of water for fire fighting not meeting the 60 Litres /sec for 2 hours because of two factors:

1) The initial Tatlow tank design was for an additional ring to be installed to provide for added water volume for fire fighting. Unfortunately, this was not possible due to seismic problems with the footings of the existing tank. This has resulted in lower water volumes being available for fire fighting.

2) Considerable discussion has occurred on the minimum set point for the Tatlow tank. An engineering report by OPUS Engineering (August 4, 2017) details information on the existing Tatlow altitude valve, a hydraulically controlled valve. This valve functions based on differential water pressure and opens at 70% reservoir level and closes at 100%. At present, the minimum set point is at 60-65% of the Tatlow Reservoir storage capacity. The lower minimum set points are due to the chlorine residual requirements for the safety of the municipal water being supplied to our residents.

By increasing the usable storage capacity to 90%, the Belcarra's municipal water system should be able to achieve a desired fire flow of 60 Litres/sec for 1.5 hours.

The limiting factor to increasing the usable storage capacity to 90% is the ability to maintain the residual chlorine level at  $>0.20$  ppm. By installing an automatic dispensing mechanism for adding sodium hypochlorite (either solid pellets or liquid form) to maintain the desired chlorine residual, the usable storage capacity can be increased to 90%.

Several years ago, the Dayton & Knight engineers indicated that an automatic sodium hypochlorite dispensing system would be relatively low cost.

They also indicated that this approach to managing residual chlorine levels is already utilized in conjunction with other municipal water systems.

Fraser Health has identified two areas of interest that Council needs to address; the need for installation of a chlorination system and a written monitoring plan to ensure and document our chlorine residuals are maintained "Fraser Health recommended chlorine disinfection equipment be obtained for future needs in a 2019 inspection report." (i.e., the regulatory agency indicates they require a measurable chlorine level in the potable water supply).

In view of the foregoing information, it is suggested that Belcarra Council:

"Request WSP to provide a recommended design and cost estimate for the installation of an automatic sodium hypochlorite dispensing system to the Tatlow Water Reservoir to increase the usable storage capacity to 90% (or more) while maintaining the residual chlorine level at  $>0.20$  ppm."



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My constituency office is here to address the needs of the community and I encourage you to reach out if you require assistance.

# BONITA ZARRILLO

Member of Parliament | Députée  
Port Moody-Coquitlam, Anmore, Belcarra

What my Community Office can help you with:

- Address issues you may be having with federal ministries or agencies
- Provide information on locating government services and contact information
- Assist in understanding government policies and services
- Receive information to attend community events
- Advocate on behalf of the community to government
- Provide congratulatory and greeting messages
- Provide government documents and other web-based forms if you don't have internet access

## Contact

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604-664-9229

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