



# Belcarra Barnacle

September 2023

Belcarra's Community Newspaper

Volume 44 Issue 7





**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.

#### **SUBMISSIONS:**

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

Paper submissions can be placed in the Barnacle Box outside the Village Office or sent by mail to:

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

**DEADLINE:** The 20th of each month.

Out of Town Delivery of The Belcarra Barnacle is available by mail at \$20.00 per year to cover mailing expenses.

Please send cheque and mailing information.

#### **VOLUNTEERS:**

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Mayling Stubbs

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

#### **Words from the Editor:**

Welcome to your Community Newspaper!

To all of you who have enjoyed having more human interest stories, hearing more about what your neighbours and friends are doing, and helping villagers celebrate and mark milestones in their lives... please... keep the photos and stories coming!

Happy fall!

Dayna Fitz, Editor  
[belcarrabarnacle@gmail.com](mailto:belcarrabarnacle@gmail.com)

#### **ADVERTISING RATES:**

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

	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>5 Issues</u>	<u>10 Issues</u>
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**Please send ads by e-mail in PDF, jpeg, or tif format to:**

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## BELCARRA DIRECTORY

Belcarra Village Hall	604 937 4100
<a href="http://www.belcarra.ca">www.belcarra.ca</a>	
CRAB (Penny Moen)	604-727-2510
<a href="mailto:c.r.a.b.4084@gmail.com">c.r.a.b.4084@gmail.com</a>	
SVFD (Jay Sharpe )	604 765 2944
<a href="mailto:jay.sharpe@anmore.com">jay.sharpe@anmore.com</a>	
RCMP - Non-Emergency	604 945 1550 or 604 469 1599
Village Roadways, Water & WARD Emergencies	604 917 0113
SVFD Recruitment:	<a href="mailto:sasamatrecruitment@gmail.com">sasamatrecruitment@gmail.com</a>

IMPORTANT DATES  
SEPTEMBER 2023

- 4 Labour Day
- 5 Back to School  
Grandparent's Day
- 10 CRAB Potluck Picnic in the Park
- 11 Regular Council Meeting  
Belcarra Garden Club Meeting
- 14 New Moon
- 17 Terry Fox Run
- 23 Autumn Equinox
- 25 Regular Council Meeting
- 29 Full Harvest Moon
- 30 Truth and Reconciliation Day
- 30 Orange Shirt Day

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## 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

Our front cover features a photograph submitted by Tamryn Goodes.  
 Orcas in Belcarra!

Do send your favourite local photos and artwork to the Barnacle. It is a pleasure to share them.

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





## Mayor's Report

This September follows the hottest summer and worst wild fire season on record in British Columbia. The recent heroic efforts by first responders in Kelowna and elsewhere in the province caused fires, seemingly out of control, to be stopped. This work done by them, many who made personal sacrifices and worked endless hours, have captured our hearts. A sincere thank you to all of them.

We look forward to an autumn of cooler temperatures and rain.

Closer to home our SVFD continues to keep us safe. Remember to follow directions provided by Chief Jay Sharpe. Please check your email or the Village website for updates.

Here are the Council highlights since my last update.

### Council Meeting, July 10, 2023

Council recognized William Mostrenko's tremendous achievement in receiving the Governor General's Academic Bronze Medal at Heritage Woods Secondary School.

Urban Systems provided a report regarding the Watson Trail entry barrier and provided options for going forward.

Ian Devlin, Belcarra resident, provided a presentation on the Tatlow Reservoir Water system, including details for additional chlorination of the reservoir to allow the minimum set point fill level to be raised. Many residents provided discussion on these matters. Council requested staff to provide additional information at the next meeting.

Paula Richardson (CAO) provided an update on parking and a reminder that permits are required while parking in Belcarra.

Deputy Mayor Ruzycki reported on activities of the Vancouver Port Mayor's Committee meeting.

The Village of Belcarra Financial Plan Bylaw No. 606, 2023, Amendment Bylaw No.613, 2023 was adopted.

Council requested staff to report in September on a resident's concern pertaining to water impact, in conjunction with a report on the Kelly Road construction.

### Council Meeting, July 24, 2023

The Village's integrated long-term financial plan and report from the Finance Standing Committee meeting were brought forward.

Additional reports regarding Watson Trail and the Tatlow Reservoir project were received. Further updates were requested for September.

Tree trimming at the end of Marine Ave. was discussed.

A group of Port Moody/Alderside Road residents, made a presentation on upcoming recreational waterfront licensing with the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority.

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

The new crosswalk beacons at the top of Kelly Road are in place.

A letter in response to correspondence received from the Mayor of the Village of Anmore, is available on the Village website.

The September Council meetings will include items on the Official Community Plan, our water system, interface wildfire development, a strategic plan update, and a Western Canada Marine Response presentation.

Happy to chat,  
Jamie





## Belcarra Block Watch

By Diana Drake, originally published in the September 2022 Barnacle

Schools will be back in session Tuesday, September 5 and school zone speed limits will once again be in effect: 30km/hr from 8 am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Prepare for more traffic on the roads in the early morning and afternoon and plan travel times accordingly.

Stay focused behind the wheel and slow down. Keep to posted village speed limits and be extra aware, particularly at drop off and pick up times. Watch for children on crosswalks and our narrow roadsides.

Remember, too, that some children may now be taking regular transit. Therefore approach all stationary buses with increased caution. Shuttles have been known to stop just beyond a crosswalk leaving those who exit to cross from behind the vehicle, virtually invisible to oncoming traffic. Children should be reminded to wait until the bus is gone and/or they have a clear view of the road in both directions before trying to cross.



## Village of Belcarra Posted August 18, 2023 High Fire Danger



Due to the extended periods of dry hot weather, restrictions have been put into effect for tree falling, land clearing, and brush pile clean-up. These conditions are effective immediately.

A fire safety plan needs to be submitted and approved prior to an activity. Fire Safety Plan to include provisions for fire watch and fire suppression capabilities (extinguishers and/or water hoses).

Anyone who wishes to undertake any of the above listed activities may send their fire safety plan to -

Jay Sharpe, Fire Chief SVFD  
jay.sharpe@svfd.ca.

Please also send a copy to - [snovak@belcarra.ca](mailto:snovak@belcarra.ca) and [prichardson@belcarra.ca](mailto:prichardson@belcarra.ca).

## Irina's MagiClean Services



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VILLAGE OF  
BELCARRA

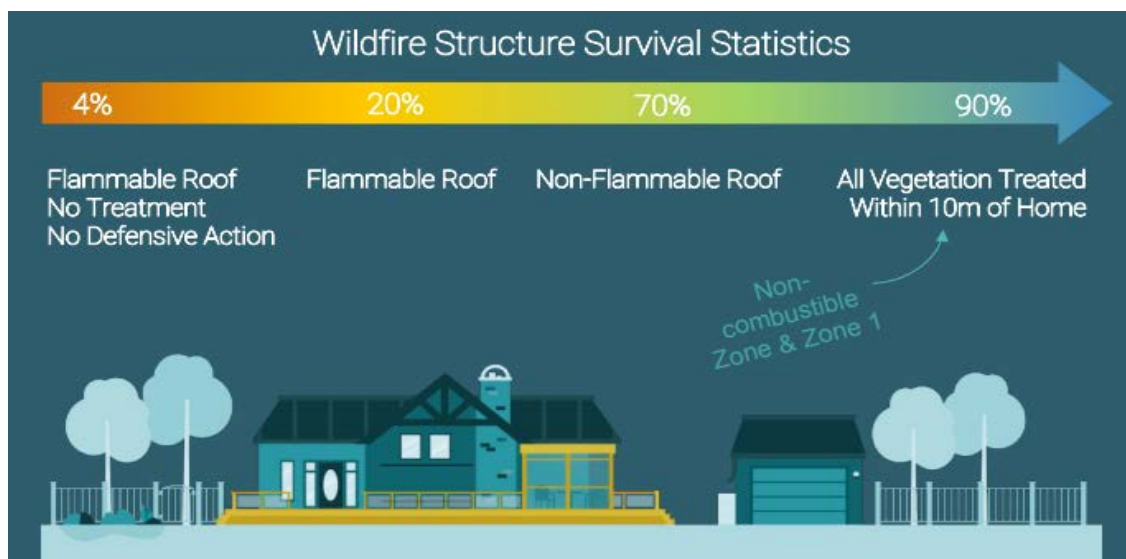
## How Fire Smart Are You?



B. A. Blackwell  
& Associates Ltd.

### How is Belcarra affected by wildfire?

Most of Belcarra is in the wildland urban interface, where forest meets community. Fire can spread in both directions, from forest to homes and homes to forest. Residents can take actions to significantly reduce the possibility of damage and loss of property, and reduce the risk to public safety.



### What is FireSmart™?

FireSmart™ BC is a program that offers resources and guidance to empower residents to increase the wildfire resiliency of their neighbourhood. Visit

[firesmartbc.ca](https://firesmartbc.ca) to learn more and access many references, such as the Homeowners Manual and Landscaping Hub, including a fire-resistant plant selection tool.



### Did you know?

You can find fire-resistant plants at participating garden centres and nurseries by looking for these tags!



### What can you do?

- Remove debris from your gutters
- Mow your lawn and keep it under 10cm
- Move combustible materials, such as firewood and propane tanks, at least 10m away from your home
- Clean under your decks and porches to remove combustible debris, such as leaves and branches
- Prune trees on your property so that branches are at least 2m above the ground
- Choose fire-resistant plants, such as mock orange and sumac, for your garden



**Lawn watering regulations are in effect May 1 to October 15****Stage 2 – Residential**

Lawn watering is **PROHIBITED**.

Watering trees, shrubs, and flowers is permitted any day from 5:00 am to 9:00 am if using a sprinkler, or any time if hand watering or using drip irrigation. All hoses must have an automatic shut-off device.

**Edible plants** are exempt from regulations.

**Stage 2 – Non-residential**

Lawn watering is **PROHIBITED**.

Watering trees, shrubs, and flowers is permitted any day from 4:00 am to 9:00 am if using a sprinkler, or any time if hand watering or using drip irrigation. All hoses must have an automatic shut-off device.

**Edible plants** are exempt from regulations.

**STAGE 2** Water Restrictions

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## Stories From The Archives

## Big Seiners Invade Upper Burrard Inlet

Researched By: Ralph Drew, Belcarra, BC, August 2023.

Source: Vancouver Sun, Tuesday, July 16th, 1946, page 10.

"Chug-chug of big purse-seine fish boats, one of the most familiar sounds along the British Columbia coast, is being heard today [July 16th, 1946] in upper Burrard Inlet for the first time within the memories of fishing men here."

"The seiners have been granted permission for the first time to cast their nets for anchovies in the inlet above Second Narrows Bridge for two months dating from last midnight. The move has been made to boost the anchovy-canning industry here."

**Only in B.C.**

"Anchovies, a little larger than sardines, are canned and sold either under the correct name or as 'West Coast Sardines'. B.C. waters are the only place in Canada where the anchovy is caught."

"Small hand-seine boats have been permitted previously to fish anchovies in Burrard Inlet and purse-seiners have been allowed to fish them upcoast. But the supply has not kept pace with the demand."

"Anchovy-canning, a new wartime-created industry in B.C. is being boosted by the world demand for food of all kinds. Two North Vancouver plants, North Shore Packing and Francis Miller & Co. have been canning these fish."

**Deep Cove Ban**

"Heretofore, the inlet above Second Narrows Bridge has been primarily a sport fisherman's area with no salmon, herring or other types of seining conducted there."

Deep Cove is the section now banned for anchovy-fishing."

"Fisheries Research Board experts will study the new operations, to determine future potentialities of the anchovy in the Inlet."

## After Notes:

1. In 1947, the 'Deep Cove Ratepayers Association' declared that anchovy fishing had ruined sport fishing at the resort. A petition signed by 1202 persons asked that commercial fishing in the North Arm [Indian Arm] be prohibited.
2. A compromise agreement was reached to protect the interests of sport and commercial fishermen alike until the anchovy population was better understood.
3. The area subsequently closed to seiners was extended from Deep Cove itself across the North Arm between Cove Cliff and Turtle Island [sic. Hamber Island] to the south and 'The Quarries' [Quarry Rock] and Jug Island to the north.
4. The two North Shore canneries, in West Vancouver and North Vancouver, were the only canneries in the British Empire packing anchovies.
5. By late Spring in 1948, the schools of anchovies had not returned and the superb spring salmon sport fishery, last experienced in 1946, was gone!



**604-290-2750 or 604-464-5844**  
**[abledrain@shaw.ca](mailto:abledrain@shaw.ca)**



## Recreational Dock Licences

Update from the (VFPA)  
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority

On Thursday, August 24, the VFPA hosted a Zoom call to provide an update on the new dock licence agreements and allow for a question and answer session with the audience.

The following information is copied from the VFPA slides.

The VFPA outlined their role and responsibilities as follows:

“Developing guidelines, design criteria and environmental requirements for existing and new recreational docks. Licencing ~500 recreational docks in Burrard Inlet, Indian Arm, and Port Moody Arm”.

The VFPA highlighted two changes made to the licence agreements since their roll out of 2020.

**Cancellation:** “Going forward all licences will state that unless we are required to comply with any other applicable law, regulation, or legal requirement, we will only be able to terminate for purposes of fulfilling port’s mandate under the *Canada Marine Act* and with 15 months’ notice”. Later in the presentation the VFPA added that they will only terminate a licence:

- “If the licensee is in default under the licence at anytime.
- If legally required (for example, by another governmental decision maker or a court).
- Otherwise, with 15 months’ notice, if reasonably required in furtherance of its mandate”.

**Environmental clean-up responsibility:** “Going forward all licences will state that you are only responsible for your own or invited visitor’s contamination”.

Later in the presentation VFPA noted “Language has been added to the spills clause to clarify that licensees’ are only responsible for the remediation of spills and contamination caused by the Licensee or the Licensee’s invitees.” Further, related to debris clean-up, “The port authority does not remove debris from licensed areas, such as the zones occupied by recreational docks, the beach, or intertidal zone. Licensees are therefore responsible for the removal of debris in proximity to their recreational dock.”

Other topics the VFPA addressed included the term length of licences. The VFPA noted “Dock owners can apply to renew their licences after the 10-year term plus the 10-year renewal.”

The VFPA noted that they are not seeking to alter any of the current arrangements with respect to boathouses and rail systems.

The VFPA noted that a recreational dock licence is transferable on the sale of ones home. Further, “Sections of the licence specifically set out the process of assigning or transferring your licence”.

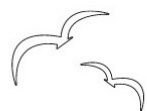
*[note: the VFPA did not speak to group wharves in their presentation].*

VFPA intends to update their website, share a link to a summary of “frequently asked questions”, and send out updated licence agreements.

Further information is available at [portvancouver.com/land/leasing/recreational-docks/license-and-fee](https://portvancouver.com/land/leasing/recreational-docks/license-and-fee)

or by email to [recreationaldocks@portvancouver.com](mailto:recreationaldocks@portvancouver.com).





## Down by the Bay

by Clive Evans



Where the birds all sing and the flowers bloom. What have you seen in your garden lately?

If you live on Main Avenue chances are that you have seen a bear in its underwear and, better still, the wonderful sightings of the orcas on their way up Indian Arm. It appears that much of our wildlife are coming back in strength. Judging by the deer eating all my bean leaves and hostas, regular showing of the anchovies in Bedwell Bay, and a report from a boating friend of the large run of pink salmon heading up toward Indian River.

The long period of sunshine has certainly had an effect on the garden with many flowers and fruit appearing before their usual time. Phlox, Japanese anemones and buddleia are all that are left. The second flowering of wisteria and weigelia have finished.

My raspberries have gone into hibernation, but signs of the later varieties are promising. I guess that I will just have to settle for the abundance of blackberries instead. Apples are now starting to fall, and the crop is much larger than most years. Arugula is also prolific this year, so I hope the nearby recovering beans take note and start producing. Not having to cut the grass so often is one plus from the weather but I am sure we will not be surprised to find an alternate task that needs attending.

Doing a bird count each day provides some amusement, watching the Douglas squirrels marshalling their claimed territory and the pecking order of our feathered friends with the raucous Steller's jays trying to take over all the feeding spots only to be ignored by the house finches. A large showing of band-tailed pigeons is getting quite frequent. Early showings this year included brown-headed cowbirds and black-headed grosbeaks, among the 14 or so varieties noted. Of course, watching the antics of the hummers and the rare sighting of the bald eagles makes the pastime enjoyable.

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# PICNIC

# POTLUCK

**SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>**



təmtəmíx<sup>w</sup>tən/  
Belcarra Regional Park  
Picnic Area Shelter #1  
**11:00AM-3:00PM**



*Join us for our 5th Picnic in the Park!*

POTLUCK STYLE EVENT: Come bring your favourite dish to share!

EVEN # HOUSES - Please bring an appetizer or entrée

ODD # HOUSES - Please bring a dessert or salad

Please bring your personal plate and utensils 🍴



HOSTED BY C.R.A.B.





Photos submitted by Guilherme Carvalho.

Guilherme's photos were featured in an article by Tahnushi Bhatnagar of the Daily Hive.

<https://dailyhive.com/Canada/mobbing-explained-why-small-birds-attack-eagles>



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Photo submitted by Brenda Hogg.

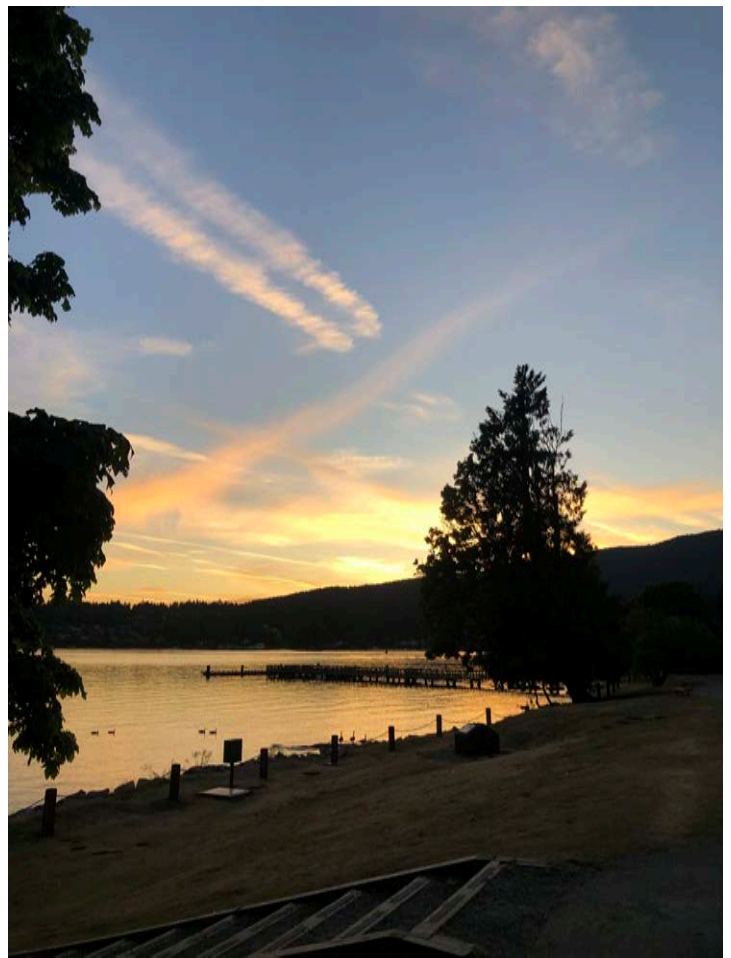


Photo submitted by Deborah Struk.

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## VILLAGE NEWS



Congratulations Peter and Nora Boekhout on the newest addition to your family! Welcome to the Village, Turbo!



Fun times at the third annual Boulder Island Flotilla! This event was hosted by Red Boat Charters (thank you Dan Greenwood).

Photo Submitted by Red Boat Charters



### CRAB Corner

We have had a nice break after Belcarra Day and are ready to host more fun-filled community events :-)

#### **September -**

Hope you are ready to share your best picnic dish at our 5th Annual Picnic Potluck in the Park on Sunday, September 10 at 11 am.

Do email us if you are able to help with set-up and/or clean-up.

#### **October -**

Halloween Fireworks on October 31 (fire hazard conditions permitting) and a Kid's Halloween and Costume Party on the afternoon of Sunday, October 29.

Lynn Jagger is hard at work designing Halloween themed games and would appreciate any black yarn you might have to spare.

We are looking for a donation of pumpkins. If anyone is interested in donating pumpkins or helping at the Halloween party, please let us know.

#### **November -**

We are hosting a pre-holiday season Artists, Authors, and Artisans Fair. The fair will take place at the Village Hall, in the afternoon on Sunday, November 12. Please let us know if you are interested in reserving a table to display and sell your work.

#### **December -**

Santa Ships and hot chocolate in the park!



## The Belcarra Garden Club

By Les Bramley

Hi Everybody!

The September Belcarra Garden Club meeting is on Monday, September 11th, at 2pm. It will be held at the Belcarra Park picnic shelters.

On Thursday, September 7th, the BGC is heading to Chilliwack to take two courses. The first course will be given at 11am by Jack Oostenbrink, an edible landscape designer and owner of Fruits and Shoots - a boutique garden nursery in Chilliwack. He will guide us along the way as we convert our growing space into a beautiful and productive garden.

Jack is giving BGC members a 20% coupon for those who wish to purchase any plants.

The second course will be given at 1:30pm by Dan Oostenbrink, the owner of Local Harvest. Dan will help you gain confidence in the garden. He's passionate about organic growing and gives a practical, no-nonsense approach for gardening that will maximize your garden's productivity.

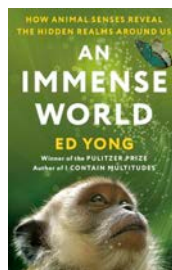
We will be leaving the Village Hall at 9:30 am, and as usual, carpooling. Please let us know if you wish to join us on this trip. All are welcome, both courses are free.

HAPPY GARDENING !

To become a member, please contact us at  
604-937-7103 or  
email: lesbramley@shaw.ca  
Membership is free.

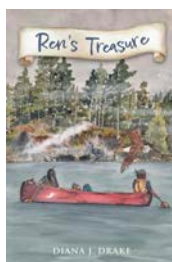


### ***An Immense World*** by Ed Yong



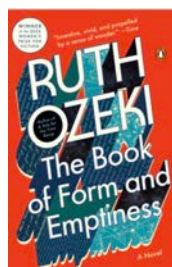
Sea scallops have as many as 200 eyes. Ticks know you are there because you are 'hot'. Most creatures have senses we can barely comprehend. "An Immense World" is an astonishing and fascinating look at all the ways creatures around us 'experience' this planet. I guarantee you will never look at the world in quite the same way again. cbap

### ***Ren's Treasure*** by Diana Drake



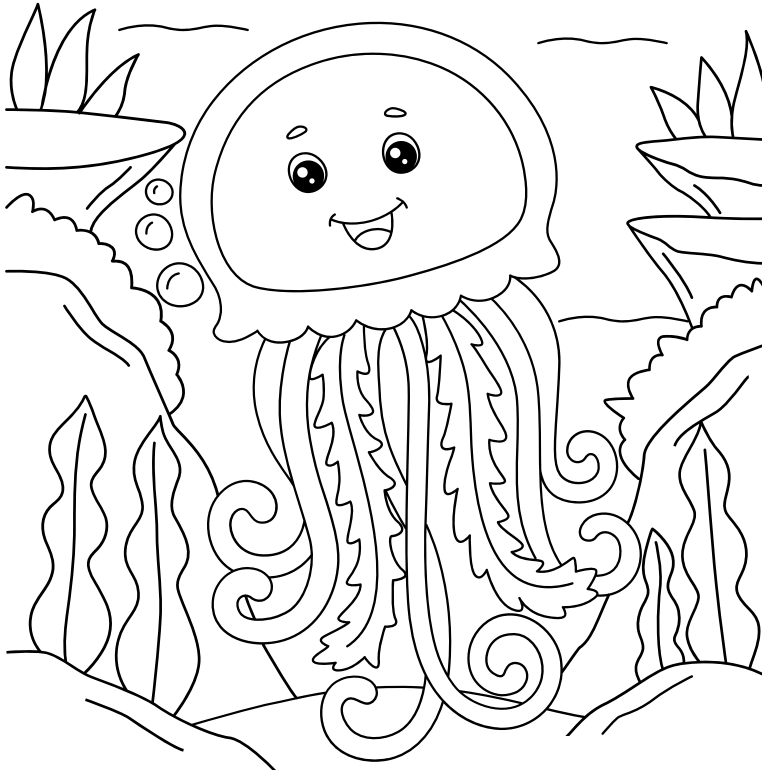
"Ren's Treasure" by local author Diana Drake is a fun and informative book for all ages. There are exciting adventures on Indian Arm/ Sleilwaut and interesting information about the inlet's "sacred Indigenous sites, mysterious islands ... and secret caves." Available on Amazon as an ebook or print book copy. CM

### ***The Book of Form and Emptiness*** by Ruth Ozeki



In the beginning of this story a woman and her son are devastated by the sudden death of their husband/father in a freakish accident. The woman is an unrelenting hoarder who works at home. Her son hears voices and must adjust to school and his mother. The author skillfully winds us through their lives to an ending I think you'll love. CG

## Kid'z Space



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**New Clients Welcome!**

A. How did the lobster get to the ocean?

B. How do oceans say hello to each other?

C. What does a dolphin say when he's confused?

A. By shell-copter.  
B. They wave!  
C. Can you please be more Pacific?!



## UNDER THE SEA WORD SEARCH

ANEMONE

CLAM

CRAB

DOLPHIN

EEL

JELLYFISH

LOBSTER

OCTOPUS



SEAWEED

SHARK

SQUID

STARFISH

STINGRAY

SWORDFISH

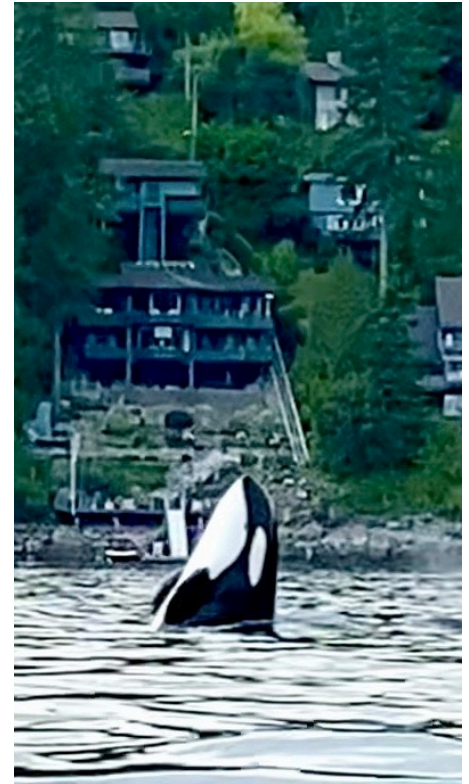
WHALE

S	L	S	E	Y	S	S	X	V	Z	E	E	C	Q
M	E	B	U	Q	N	T	H	J	H	S	N	R	Z
C	E	E	U	P	I	S	A	Y	A	E	O	N	J
S	S	I	R	N	O	B	R	L	I	S	M	N	R
J	D	E	G	O	Z	T	K	J	C	Y	E	L	I
G	E	R	M	A	L	C	C	Y	T	B	N	B	D
M	A	L	N	I	H	P	L	O	D	X	A	E	R
Y	V	S	L	O	B	S	T	E	R	T	E	R	T
X	U	D	B	Y	Y	C	F	E	Y	W	G	M	C
P	W	F	Z	Y	F	J	N	L	A	O	U	U	P
U	N	H	Q	W	L	I	B	E	R	H	B	B	M
Y	L	J	A	D	E	F	S	Z	Y	F	Y	I	G
J	F	M	G	L	C	L	M	H	F	V	Z	F	K
P	T	W	B	J	E	N	T	D	B	Q	X	H	A
S	W	O	R	D	F	I	S	H	U	D	C	W	Q





ORCAS!!



Photos submitted  
by Davina Tang



A few orca facts from  
Canadian Geographic:

**Scientific name:**  
Orcinus orca

**Type:**  
Mammal

**Diet:**  
Carnivore

**Group name:**  
Pod

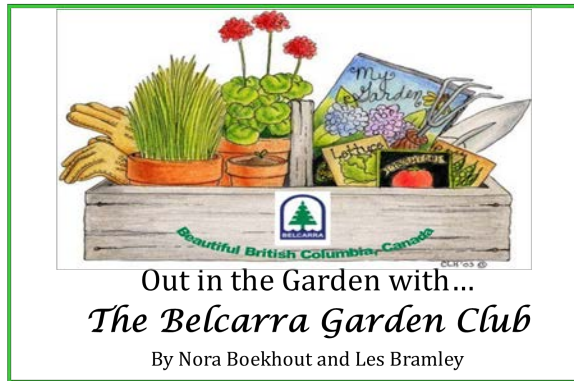
**Average weight:**  
7 to 9 tonnes

**Average length:**  
7 to 9 meters



Photo submitted by Red Boat Charters Facebook





### **Japanese Beetle Control**

by Nora



You may have seen posters at local garden shops about an invasive “bad bug”, the Japanese Beetle. It has now reached Port Coquitlam and Burnaby. The Invasive Species Council of BC increased its surveillance in the Lower Mainland to 6000 traps! Restrictions now apply year-round to the movement of outdoor plants with soil or soil-related matter. This beetle feeds on more than 300 species including fruit trees, grapevines, roses, and many landscape and food plants.

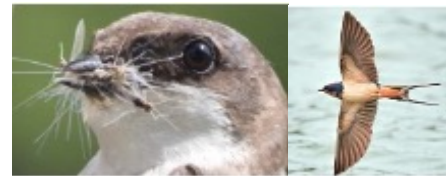
I urge you to read the full ISCBC 23-09 PDF publication on our webpage!

Three main characteristics are: metallic green head, metallic copper-brown wing coverings, and white tufts of hair around the abdomen. Adult beetles feed on leaves, chewing between the veins and leaving a lacy network. Eggs are laid in grassy areas and the larva feed on roots until the cool weather. They overwinter and begin feeding again in spring. Remember to “shake it before you take it” and report any suspicious beetle or evidence of lace-like damage (take photos!) to:

[BCPF.Japanese.Beetle@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:BCPF.Japanese.Beetle@inspection.gc.ca).

### **Declining Swallows and Insects**

By Les



As the adage goes, “the changes are a-coming”, and they are not always good news. For years we used to have barn swallows nesting in our garage and then they disappeared. There were no more flocks migrating north, passing our house in the spring. We also noticed on our road trips that our vehicles were not getting splattered up with bugs to the same extent they used to be. What is the connection? The lack of food, in the form of insects, is why our swallows have gone. Air pollution has an effect on flies, altering how they attract one another and mate. I have to admit, I don't really know about pheromones... Estée Lauder worked for me when I met Kathy!

Pheromones are distinctive to male and females of a species, and in the case of flies, they are being disrupted by the increase of ozone in the air, a result of air pollution. Scientists at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Germany discovered increased ozone levels caused a decrease in pheromones, which caused females to be less attracted to males and led to courtship between male flies. The males started courting each other as they could not distinguish ozonated males from females!

Ozone is thought to affect the patterns of many insects. Such are the irrefutable changes in today's world environment.

Full articles and links re on our webpage:

<http://tinyurl.com/rwcf9b85>



Belcarra Blessings

Deborah Struk

Welcome September!

Who remembers the excitement of going back to school? I do, as a student and as a teacher. My mom, bless her soul, sewed back-to-school outfits for all 6 of us. Looking back at September photos we had some pretty 'snazzy' outfits. That was in the 70's and everything was snazzy, right?

Do you remember the smell of new crayons? For some it's the memories of a noisy school bus. So much has changed. But yes, going back to school is a special time of year.

As a schoolteacher, I fondly remember prepping my classroom: decorating bulletin boards, planning curriculum, and excitedly anticipating the incoming students. Many blessings to all those heading off to school near and far. The ability to learn new things is an amazing gift. Whether we are going off to school, or just remain aware in our School of Life, be blessed with knowledge and wisdom.

What a wonderful thing it is to be able to have the ability to see, hear, smell, taste, and touch. How delightful (and critical) it is to use our minds to think, while we observe with our own eyes. We can be thankful we are not mindless and robotic. (Aha, another reason to stall the implementation of AI in our world.)

We hope to see many of you at the Belcarra Potluck Picnic in the park, September 10 at 11 am. It will be lovely to reconnect and meet new families.

Blessings of health, peace, and joy be upon you all this September.



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## Letter to the Editor Fire Halls

By John Snell

Many in the village have no interest in social media so any postings to a Facebook page will remain a mystery. This letter to the editor will hopefully provide clarity regarding the fire hall issue for those who prefer to receive village news via the Barnacle.

2018 (March) An Engineering Assessment was commissioned by SVFD Trustees, Belcarra's ex-mayor Ralph Drew being one them.

2018 (September) Mayor Ralph Drew retired and relinquished trustee status with SVFD.

2018 (October) Belcarra elected Neil Belenkie as Mayor, who then became one of Belcarra's three SVFD trustees.

2019 (April) The Engineers Assessment report was officially presented to trustees, advising that both fire halls were beyond their "best before" date and that replacement should be considered. A proposal for a trustee field trip to inspect Bowen Island's new fire hall was made.

2020 (May 11th) Over a year later, Belcarra's Financial Consultant, Ken Björngaard, presented the Engineer's Report to Belcarra council with the recommendation that funding for fire hall replacement be incorporated into the budget and planning processes of the Village moving forward. This recommendation was defeated by council.

2020 (Fall) Following Neil Belenkie's resignation, Jamie Ross became Belcarra Mayor and assumed the position of SVFD trustee.

2022 (April) SVFD trustees, including two from Belcarra, went on a field trip to Bowen Island, where they met with Bowen's Fire Chief and Deputy Chief.

SVFD Fire Chief Sharpe and Deputy Chief Bolam were also in the party.

2022 (July) SVFD hosted a workshop, outlining and reasoning why there was a need to begin moving ahead on fire hall replacement. A number of trustees, councillors, and public were in attendance at that workshop.

2023 (May) Some ten months later SVFD trustees met. The topic of the fire hall replacement and Anmore's intention to move ahead was made known to all present, including Belcarra's three trustees.

2023 (May 23rd) Ken Björngaard, our Financial Consultant, detailed in a report to council the financial structure of the SVFD, which was verbalized for greater clarification.

2023 (June 5th) Belcarra Mayor reported that trustees attended SVFD trustee meeting on June 1st and that "it was a good meeting". No mention of the fire hall replacement discussions that took place.

2023 (June) Anmore Mayor John McEwen made a courtesy call to Mayor Ross regarding contents of a forthcoming letter regarding next steps for both villages concerning fire hall replacement planning.

2023 (June 23rd a few days later) Both Mayor Ross and CAO received the aforementioned letter. Despite this letter being made public it was placed into "legal" by the CAO and Mayor prior to the council meeting of July 10th.

This prevented and denied any discussion on the issue during the council meeting on the 10th.

2023 (July 24th council meeting) During the public question period, Mayor Ross advised that a return letter to Anmore was being prepared and would be made public when sent.

Continued on page 21



Letter by John Snell cont'd. from page 20

2023 (July 28th) This return letter, drafted by Belcarra's lawyer and sent from Mayor Ross to Anmore Mayor, advised as follows... "Belcarra is prepared to discuss changes in the governance model and financial rules for the Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department Service with Anmore".

Be that as it may, the fact remains that the trustees have known since April 2019 that the day would come that the issue of replacement of fire halls would become an action item.

That day is fast approaching, and in all probability the issue will surface at the next SVFD Trustee Meeting in early September.

It is likely the design and consultation phases of replacement fire halls will be discussed by the trustees at that time, and in all likelihood with the recommendation to move ahead with the project ASAP.

As the saga unfolds it will be fully reported in the Belcarra Oversight Group page on Facebook.

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## Letter to the Editor

### Conflict of Interest

By Sherry Chisholm

I am motivated to write this letter because of the many apparent conflicts of interest that the Mayor of our small village appears to have. It seems to me there are too many for our Mayor to make unbiased decisions or even to speak to many issues because of conflict.

Our Village OCP (Official Community Plan) includes some reference to road allowance and docks and therefore the Mayor must recuse himself because of conflict of interest. As the Mayor cannot participate in discussions regarding our future plans for the Village, he is therefore unable to represent the Village on many important matters.

At present the Vancouver Port Authority is sending out a new contract which, in my opinion, is unacceptable and we need a Mayor who can represent us at the Port meetings. Other municipal Mayors are all actively involved in discussions representing their voters at the Port.

Because the Mayor resides beside Tatlow Trail (road allowance) he would be greatly affected if it were sold. He would certainly be required to remove his personal use (encroachment). This, once again, puts him in personal conflict.

When discussing the plan to enhance the Watson Road path, possibly even paving for bikes, once again puts him in personal conflict. It appears to me that he is trying to encourage folks to use Watson Trail only (approximately 100 feet away) and in doing so he leaves Tatlow Trail, by his home, for his quiet personal enjoyment, with no need to remove his encroachment.

Another appearance of conflict is about the sale of Road Allowances (there are approximately 31). If the Village sold only a few upland road allowances we could clear our debt for water and pay our 50% share of the new fire halls that need to be built, and there would be no tax increase added by another long term debt or possibly a per property levy. The Mayor would certainly be personally affected, and once again would need to leave the table.

The Mayor is in conflict on dock discussions, OCP discussions, and any discussions regarding development or even sale of any road allowances because of his encroachment and residential location by Tatlow Road allowance. It seems to me that our Mayor will spend more time off the official table discussion than on.

The council members must openly represent the Villagers on these important Village matters. It seems to me that our Mayor should, for the sake of appearance and his inability to discuss and represent these important matters which greatly concern Villagers, rethink his responsibilities to the Villagers.

## Communities in Bloom

Summer photos are posted!

<http://tinyurl.com/rwcf9b85>

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





## Wear Orange September 30th

From the Government of Canada website

Orange Shirt Day is an Indigenous-led grassroots commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the individual, family, and community inter-generational impacts of residential schools, and to promote the concept of "Every Child Matters". The orange shirt is a symbol of the stripping away of culture, freedom, and self-esteem experienced by Indigenous children over generations.

On September 30, we encourage all Canadians to wear orange to honour the thousands of Survivors of residential schools.

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/national-day-truth-reconciliation.html#>



## Letter to the Editor Dream to Cure Bike Ride By Kevin Ham

Join us for a cancer charity ride, led by four time Tour de France winner and one of the greatest cyclists in our generation, Chris Froome.

The ride starts and ends in Rocky Point Park in Port Moody.



The ride is followed by lunch and talks by Chris Froome and oncologist Dr. Azra Raza at Camp Howdy, Belcarra.

This ride is dedicated to all those who are fighting, who have fought, and who will fight this devastating disease. Cancer respects not age, nor boundaries, nor any person.

Please join us at the start line at Rocky Point Park at 7:30 am on September 23, 2023. Ride with us. For more information and to register, go to [DreamtoCure.com](https://www.dreamtocure.com)

## ALTERATIONS

I've yet to meet a challenge too difficult, so don't be afraid to drop by to see if I can help with fitting or stylistic details that need a revamp! I'm usually in the studio from 9-5, and can be available evenings and weekends. Just let me know what time is best for you!

Call Barbara  
604-936-8495  
or email: [bshelly@shaw.ca](mailto:bshelly@shaw.ca)

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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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