



15 Maple Road
Bag Service 2800, V0N1A0

www.alertbay.ca

Phone: 250-974-5213

Fax: 250-974-5470

officeclerk@alertbay.ca

Office Hours –

M-F 0900-1700H

NO ICBC 1-2PM

**SERVICE
CONTACTS**

Public Works &

After Hours Emergencies

250-974-7091

Animal Control

250-974-4188

Recycling

250-974-4216

Boat Harbour

250-974-5727

Community Hall

250-974-2649

Fire Hall

250-974-5332

Visitor Centre

250-974-5024

Campground

250-974-7028

EMERGENCY- 911

Did you know?

***Every year almost
10 million bouquets
of roses are
imported to
Canada from
Colombia
and Ecuador
(South America).***



The Ech♥

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2015

TREASURE MARKET!



We have a couple of exciting events coming up: our spring Treasure Market on Sunday, Mar. 29, 1-3pm at the Community Hall, and Spring Clean-up, Thursday Apr. 9.

Treasure Market table rental is \$10 at the Village Office. We are seeking groups to run a fishing booth, cake walk, and to provide lunch for sale. The Village will work with you to get a temporary food permit for hot food items, but we need at least two weeks' notice.

We are also seeking volunteers to help with Treasure Market set-up, Saturday, March 28 at 1pm.

For more information, visit us at the Village Office.

INSIDE!
DOUGHNUTS,
ART LOFT, VOLUNTEERING,
PROPERTY ASSESSMENT
AND MORE!

DOUGHNUTS & PRIZES!

Thursday, Feb. 26, 6:30pm Community Hall

The 'Namgis First Nation and Village of Alert Bay have hired the firm Ecoplan International for an economic development plan! We're getting closer to the end of the process and hope to have a final report in another couple of months.

We had a great turnout at our first economic development meeting in November. Now we need your input to prioritize economic actions for Cormorant Island's future.

There will be a feedback session with interactive clickers. Door prizes from U'mista!



*Come for the doughnuts.
Stay because you care.*

ILLEGAL TAXIS

The Alert Bay RCMP have received a number of complaints regarding community members offering rides for a fee. If you charge a fee for providing a ride, you are in effect operating a taxi service without a license. This is an offense under the BC Passenger Transportation Act and you could be charged with Operating Without a License, with a fine of \$1150.



"You would not likely be covered in an accident. You are also taking business away from the only cab company in town," advised Constable Bandurak of the Alert Bay detachment. Those getting rides in illegal taxis: you are taking part in an illegal offense.

Source: December 2014 Kala'mas

SAVE MONEY ON HYDRO

If you are a low-income homeowner, renter or housing provider, you may be eligible for home energy evaluation and installation of energy-saving products, including furnaces, light bulbs and shower heads.

Search "BC Hydro Energy Conservation Assistance Program" or come into the Village Office for more information.

BC Hydro 
powersmart

Podium



Every month, we'll be featuring someone from Alert Bay in this new section, Podium.

Know someone we should be proud of? Send us a picture and the details!

ALERT BAY
ART LOFT
GALLERY & GIFT SHOP

CALL FOR ART:

2015 Show Schedule
as of January 12th 2015

January
GALLERY CLOSED

Feb 20 - Mar 29 :: ART DUE: Feb 15
SHOW: "Faces & Figures"
Portraits, Animals, Real or imagined!

April 3 - May 17 :: ART DUE: Mar 29
SHOW: "Birds of a Feather"
Crows, Ravens, birds local or exotic.

May 22 - Jun 28
SHOW: Guest Artist

Jul 2 - Aug 02 :: ART DUE: Jun 21
SHOW: "My Alert Bay"
Stay tuned ~ any Alert Bay themed art accepted,
ALSO a special call for digital photography, we will
take care of printing and framing (\$).

Aug 7 - Sep 27
SHOW: "Salon Style Small Works Show"
plus Artfest Carryover
Try to keep pieces smaller in size and geared
towards tourists if you hope to sell!

Oct 2 - Nov 15
SHOW: Guest Artist

Nov 20 - Dec 24 :: ART DUE: Nov 8
SHOW: "West Coast Moods"
ALSO "Small Works" and Winter Market
We love the drama of the coast! We also love small
saleable items for the Winter Market!

**OPEN CALL
FOR ALL SHOWS**
(except May/Jun and Oct/Nov)
ALL MEDIUMS ACCEPTED

Please become a member to receive updates,
or find us on facebook!
www.AlertBayArtists.org

BIRD-PROOF YOUR GARBAGE CANS

The Village charges \$10 to clean up a garbage can mess. Prevent messes by using a bungee cord to keep the lid on tightly. The Village also sells animal-proof garbage cans.



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Do you bake?
Do you have spare bedrooms?
Do you have a vehicle?
Do you have experience with registration?

Help us welcome residential school survivors and their families into our community February 17-18. Call the 'Namgis Band Office if you can contribute: 974-5556.

GLAD TIDINGS CHURCH

Opening service Sunday Feb. 15 at 1pm. Welcome Rev. Rick and Poula Ivens to Alert Bay! Refreshments to follow.

HELP THE ECHO!

Send your photos, articles, comments and poems to apritchard@alertbay.ca.

PROPERTY ASSESSMENT & TAXES

Your Assessment

By now, property owners have received their yearly Assessment Notice from BC Assessment. BC Assessment is the government body responsible for deciding the value of your property. The Village uses that value to calculate your taxes.

The value of your property may be lower than last year. Sadly, this drop in value does not mean that your taxes will go down. This is because regardless of your property value, the Village must collect a certain amount of money to provide you with services: clean water, sewage disposal, garbage pickup, snow removal and road maintenance, to name a few.

Your Taxes

Only 54% of the taxes you pay goes to the Village: 24% to pay off the money borrowed for the sewer system, and 30% to pay employees and provide services. The other 46% of your taxes goes to various government agencies, the largest of which is the schools.

The tax rate

Your assessed value is multiplied by the tax rate to calculate taxes. The Village calculates its tax rate based on the amount of money it needs to operate. Then, other government agencies either tell us how much money to collect on their behalf or what rate to use. Homeowners pay part of Village taxes. Most of the rest comes from local businesses.

Example: Village tax calculation

In this example, a property that was worth \$133,400 in 2014 had Village taxes of \$630. Its 2015 value is \$112,300. If the Village needs the same amount of money from that property owner to operate, it would have to increase the Village portion of the tax rate:

Year	Assessed Value	Tax Rate per \$1 of assessed value	Amount Collected (Village portion only)
2014	\$133,400	.0047205	\$630
2015	\$112,300	.0056010	\$630

ALERT BAY
ART LOFT
 GALLERY & GIFT SHOP

OPEN TO ALL ARTISTS!

CALL FOR ART

FEB/MAR SHOW:

Faces & Figures

TIME TO GET BUSY CREATING!

Artwork Drop Off

at ArtLoft Gallery

SUN FEB 15th 2-3:00

~ Must be a member of the Alert Bay Artists Society (\$10/year)
 ~ All ages ~ Work must be framed/suitable for display
 ~ Art may be offered for sale. Sale handled by the ArtLoft Gallery.
 ~ 75% of sale price to Artist, Gallery retains 25% commission.

Any art that contains faces or figures of people or animals, real or imagined!
 ACCEPTED: ARTWORK IN ANY MEDIUM!

...ASPIRE... INSPIRE...

2015
 HOSTED BY THE ALERT BAY ARTISTS SOCIETY

MEETING TIME CHANGE

The Village of Alert Bay gives notice per section 94 of the Community Charter that Council Procedure Bylaw no. 695 will be reconsidered in an upcoming bylaw amendment.

Council is considering changing meeting times from Wednesday evenings to Monday evenings.

Coming Events Heart Month?



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8 FERRIS WHEEL DAY! 	2 GROUNDHOG DAY! 9 FAMILY DAY! VILLAGE OFFICE & ICBC CLOSED!	3 	4 RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS DAY! 11 COUNCIL MEETING 7PM!	5 "maladjusted" THEATRE PRESENTATION 7:30PM @ LAM 12 DARWIN DAY! 	6 13	7 DONNA'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION! 7PM @ LEGION 14 VALENTINE'S DAY 
15 OPENING SERVICE GLAD TIDINGS CHURCH 1PM PANCAKE DAY!	16 17 ST. MICHAEL'S MEET & GREET 5PM	18 ST. MICHAEL'S RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL HEALING CEREMONIES 10-4:30	19 SHOPRITE CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY! 	20 CHERRY PIE DAY! 	21	
22 	25 SHOPRITE SENIOR CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY! COUNCIL MEETING 7PM! 	26 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING ALERT BAY COMMUNITY HALL 6:30PM DONUTS & PRIZES!	27 	28		

Karate at the Community Hall—
Drop in the Village office to find out more!

Call 974-5448 for Bowling !



TIDES OF CHANGE

Economic Development Strategy



Important Community Meeting

We need YOUR help to finalize our joint economic plan.

- WHEN:** Thursday February 26, 6:30 pm sharp.
(We know you are busy. We'll keep it short and snappy.)
- WHERE:** Alert Bay Community Hall
185 Cedar Street
- WHAT:** A draft plan has been developed based on your input from the last meeting, survey, and interviews, as well as Council discussions. At this meeting we'll present the plan for discussion, and have activities to help us sort out the details of the plan.

Questions? Comments?

Contact Adriana Pritchard at the Village of Alert Bay (apritchard@alertbay.ca, 250-974-5213) or Joseph Isaac of 'Namgis (josephi@namgis.bc.ca)

*Great prizes
from U'mista!
Donuts, tea and coffee!*

*Be a part of
"what's next!"*



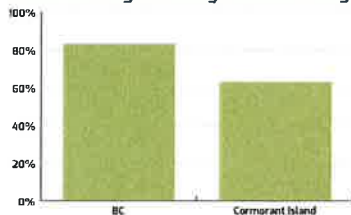
Are you interested in the future of Cormorant Island?

This poster shows some interesting facts about our people and our local economy.

Did you know?

EDUCATION IS A PRIORITY, BUT WE STILL HAVE A WAYS TO GO

Adults with high school graduation or higher (2011)

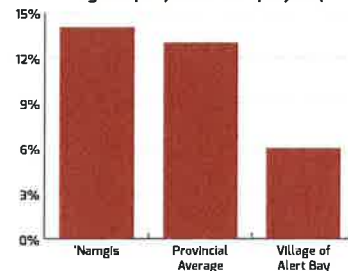


Women on Cormorant Island typically have higher levels of education than men. For example, there are at least double the amount of women with advanced degrees (PhD, Masters) than men.

WE ARE ENTREPRENEURIAL

There are at least 100 small businesses on the island.

Percentage of people self-employed (2011)

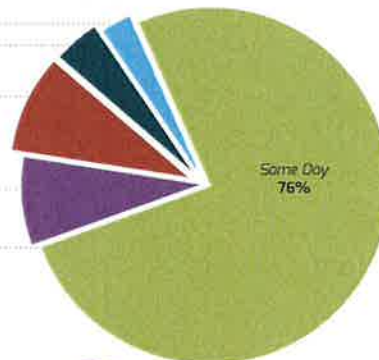


WE HAVE LOTS OF TOURISM POTENTIAL

- There are about 20,000 visitors to our island each year
- Increasing numbers of tourists to BC are seeking Aboriginal experiences and outdoor adventure – both of which we are strong in!
- Currently most visitors to our Visitor Centre are day-trippers

Length of stay on Cormorant Island

1 night	3%
2 nights	4%
3 nights	9%
1 week	8%
2 weeks	0%
14+ nights	0%



Concerned about issues like population loss, the closure of the credit union, and the future of our local businesses?

The 'Namgis First Nation and the Village of Alert Bay are currently working together on an economic development plan. There are lots of great ideas that have been suggested in the past, but nothing has moved forward. **Now it's time to pick a few realistic projects that we can actually start on right away.**

Want to know more?

Read the full background report at <http://cormorantisland.wix.com/cormorantisland>

Want to get involved?

Come out to a community meeting on November 6, 6:30 pm at the Alert Bay Community Hall

Contact Joseph at 'Namgis (josephi@namgis.bc.ca) or Adriana at the Village of Alert Bay (apritchard@alertbay.ca)