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**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**  
250-527-0974

**EMERGENCY- 911**

## ***BC Ferries open house!***

Get information on the  
ferry closure this  
October!

Thursday May 15,  
6-8pm,  
Lawrence Ambers  
Recreation Centre

# The Echo

VOLUME 3, ISSUES

MAY 2014

## **LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JUDITH GUICHON VISITS CORMORANT ISLAND**

### ***Cormorant Island students consider Navy careers***

Lt. Gov. Judith Guichon was thankful for the calm seas as she arrived at CFB Esquimalt on April 22. "I've never been to sea before," Guichon said before boarding the frigate HMCS Calgary. Lieutenant Governors have long accompanied the navy on training, said a Government House spokesperson.

The Calgary's 220-plus crew conducted navigational training, demonstrations and drills on the trip to Alert Bay, Sointula, Port Hardy, Oweekeno (Rivers Inlet), and Heriot Bay. In Oweekeno, the Lieutenant Governor officially opened a new library as part of the Write to Read Project.

On Cormorant Island, Guichon was welcomed by T'sasała Cultural Group dancers at the 'Namgis Big House. She feasted with community leaders before touring the U'mista Cultural Centre. While she danced and learned about Kwakwaka'wakw history and culture, ten lucky Alert Bay and T'lisalagi'lakw School students motored out to the Calgary.

Students toured the vessel and accompanied the crew on training exercises. Alex Nelson-Smith, Grade 4, said that the highlights of the tour were, "Seeing other boats on the radar and doing the training exercise where you find people in smoke using a thermal camera." When asked if he intended to join the Navy, Nelson-Smith replied, "Maybe."



### ***Did you know?***

***In Britain and Commonwealth countries like Canada, Lieutenant is pronounced lef-TE-N-ant, although the American pronunciation of loo-TE-N-ant is gaining popularity***

Source: "BC Lieutenant Governor sets out on tour of coastal communities." C. Hartnett, Times-Colonist.

# CREDIT UNION CLOSURE

The Coastal Community Credit Union (CCCU) decided to close their Alert Bay, Sointula and Cortes Island branches without public consultation and without warning. The announcement on April 3 gave our communities 90 days notice for a planned July 5 closure. Cormorant Island, Sointula and Cortes Island community leaders immediately requested a meeting with the CEO and Board Chair of the CCCU to present a list of questions and concerns on behalf of CCCU members and islanders. At the meeting in Parksville on April 12, the CCCU would not answer questions about their reasons, nor provide financial information to explain the decisions. They seem to feel that helping members move their accounts to Port McNeill is sufficient.



*It's enough to make you cry*

Now, all three communities are brainstorming how to delay the community-crippling closures and find alternate solutions. The Special Resolution petition to reverse the decision included over 900 signatures—thank you to the 257 signers from Alert Bay! The CCCU has 90 days after receiving the petition to call a general membership vote, making their deadline July 16.

In the meantime we continue with our efforts to get more branch-specific financial information from the CCCU. We have requested a meeting with the Board of Directors to communicate that closing our only financial institutions will not only create hardship for their members but will also undermine the effort to strengthen and build our local economies.

We need to remind the CCCU Board that credit unions are not banks. They are owned by members and they exist to serve all members. When you Google “Credit Union Values” you find:

We need to stand up for these lofty goals that seem to have been forgotten. Please watch for updates and notice of the general vote on the resolution to keep our branches open. You need to keep your CCCU membership to vote in favor of maintaining our financial services on Cormorant Island. Don't jump ship just yet!



*We love our community so much*  
**WE MADE IT PART OF OUR NAME**



*[Insert your own caption here].*

## *Come walk with us!*

Submit your kilometres to the Village Office as we walk across Canada! We have made it to Camp Hughes, Manitoba.

Camp Hughes was a Canadian military training camp in the municipality of North Cypress. It was used for Army training from 1909 to 1934 and as a communications station from the 1960s to 1991.

Camp Hughes was designated as a National Historic Site of Canada in 2011. It features an intact World War I battlefield terrain, created for training purposes by the Department of National Defense 1915-1916. It is one of the only World War I-era trench systems remaining in the world.

## *Month of 3 Milkings*

The month of May is named after Greek and Roman goddess Maia, representing spring and fertility. In Old English, the word for May meant “month of three milkings” because you could milk your cows three times a day. Do you have a cow? We would be interested to hear if this is true.



## *Mother's Day Tea!*

Appreciate your mother! Take her to the Legion Ladies' Auxiliary Mother's Day Tea!

Everyone welcome (mother recommended, but not required)!  
Sunday May 11,  
1-4pm at the  
Legion.





## DIABETES AWARENESS

Aboriginal diabetes awareness event 1 PM May 7th at the 'Namgis Health Centre field. There will be a fitness challenge, prizes, blood sugar testing, give-aways and refreshments!

## CRUISE SHIPS

Two pocket cruisers, the Sealion & Seabird, are arriving for day visits on May 5 & 6. They are owned by the Linblad Company of Sweden and the National Geographic Society.

## TRANSFER STN HOURS

The transfer station will be closed Tuesday May 20 (day after Victoria Day).

## RECYCLING

Do you have questions about recycling? Drop by the Shoprite Deli May 3, 11am to 2:30 pm. Recycling stickers will be available!

## OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN!

Open house at the Village Office Council Chambers Saturday May 10. Time TBD. Look for posters!

# NO ROOM FOR BROOM!

### *Help us combat invasive plants!*

Scotch broom is native to Mediterranean regions of Europe. It was brought to other continents as a garden ornamental and is now an invasive species in India, New Zealand, Australia, and the Pacific Coast of North America. It displaces native plants, affecting the forestry industry by out-competing native tree seedlings.

Each plant produces thousands of seeds that sprout in open or disturbed soil. Plants are extremely flammable, dead or alive, and cut plants leach toxins.

Cutting the broom must be done carefully to minimize regrowth and seed scattering. If stem is narrower than a pencil, pull it. If wider than a pencil, cut the stem below the surface, after flowering but before seed pods form.

Do you have Scotch broom? Take it to the transfer station, or call Public Works at 974-7091 for free curbside broom pick-up in May.



## ALERT BAY NATIVE PLANTS

### *Maianthemum dilatatum* *False lily-of-the-valley*



Maianthemum means May flower. If you walked through the trails in April, you may have noticed the heart-shaped leaves of this ground cover plant. The clusters of leaves, with little white flowers interspersed, is reminiscent of lily-of-the-valley.

### *Lysichiton americanus* *Skunk cabbage, swamp lantern*






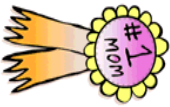











Skunk cabbage might not have a pretty name, but its cheerful yellow spathes brighten up the Alert Bay Ecological Park April-May every year. The flowers are actually the tiny green clusters on the spike in the middle, and the distinctive scent attracts pollinators.



# Coming Events

## Correct posture month!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 STAR WARS DAY! MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU! 	5 CINCO DE MAYO! 	6 ARE YOUR HANDS CLEAN DAY? 	7 ABORIGINAL DIABETES AWARENESS EVENT 1PM 'NAMGIS HEALTH CENTRE DIABETES WEBINAR 10AM-11:30AM	8 POSTCARD DAY! 	9 LOST SOCK MEMORIAL DAY OH NO! MY LUCKY NBA SOCK 	10 MIGRATORY BIRDS DAY! OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN OPEN HOUSE VILLAGE OFFICE
11 MOTHER'S DAY! TEA @ THE LEGION 1-4PM EVERYONE WELCOME!	12 	13	14 COUNCIL MEETING 7PM <b>You're invited!</b>	15 BC FERRIES OPEN HOUSE 6-8PM LAWRENCE AMBERS	16 SHOPRITE DISCOUNT DAY	17 MOREL MUSHROOM DAY! 
18 INTERNATIONAL MUSEUM DAY! 	19 VICTORIA DAY! VILLAGE OFFICE & ICBC CLOSED	20 SHOPRITE DISCOUNT DAY! TRANSFER STN. CLOSED	21 NEW RECYCLING PROGRAM STARTS THIS WEEK! GET INFO @ VILLAGE OFFICE	22 BUY A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT DAY! 	23 LUCKY PENNY DAY 	24
25 COOKIE MONSTER'S BIRTHDAY! 	26 DOES COOKIE MONSTER EVEN EAT COOKIES WITH ICING? 	27	28 SHOPRITE SENIORS DISCOUNT DAY! COUNCIL MEETING 7PM <b>It would be SO nice if you came!</b>	29 LEARN ABOUT COMPOSTING DAY! 	30 HOLE IN MY BUCKET DAY 	31 ONLY 20 DAYS TILL SUMMER! 

## Emergency preparedness week: May 4-10!

Drop by the Village Office anytime or the Shoprite Deli May 6 & 7 from 2-6pm for emergency preparedness information.

Call 974-5448 for Bowling !