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Cover image: Denman Hardware, Denman Island.
photo by Dreadful Imagery

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS
MIDNIGHT MONDAYS FOR THE
FOLLOWING THURSDAY ISSUE**



• DENMAN: 700 • HORNBY: 520 •
• E-SUBSCRIPTIONS: 103 •

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*The opinions expressed herein do not
necessarily reflect the views of the
Publisher.*

Denman Island Covered Recreation Space GoFundMe Campaign

COMMUNITY INFO

By Dylan Gale · DCRSC

<https://gofund.me/19b95dd5>

DICES has launched a Go Fund Me campaign for the Covered Recreation Space (CRS). We realize there hasn't been a lot of talk about this project over the last while and want to get folks excited about it again. We are going to need a stoked community to make this happen!

Imagine what a beautifully built outdoor covered space could be used for...the possibilities are endless! We can't wait to see the creative ways that the Denman Community uses this space. Here are a few of the things we are excited to see happening in the CRS:

- rainy day play time
- heatwave play time
- after school programs
- summer camps
- community feasts
- outdoor concerts
- sports such as pickleball, basketball, soccer and street hockey
- skateboarding
- evening markets
- community seed and grain processing
- community meetings

Covered Recreation Space



Denman Island

DICES/DIRCS project

Please check out our Go Fund Me and share it far and wide. You can find it here: <https://gofund.me/19b95dd5> or search for "covered recreation" on gofundme.com. If you can afford to contribute please consider doing so.

Here is the text from our campaign:

DICES AND DIRCS are working to build a timber-framed Covered Recreation Space (CRS) over the cement pad next to the Back Hall. This space will be for the community to use for sports and recreation, concerts and feasts and as an always open dry/shady space for families to play. Let's make this community resource a reality!

We have secured over \$275,000 of funding but are still short \$65,000. Unfortunately, we are running out of time to use some of our major federal funding. Please help us close this shortfall so we can begin construction soon!



INNER ISLAND Mutual Aid Collective

COMMUNITY INFO

By Eartha Muirhead

IIMutual Aid took root after an evening discussion on climate collapse and is grounded in a longing to build our resilience through social connections. At each gathering there will be a project to work on, food to share, and a discussion topic for informal conversation. People are welcome to bring instruments and other joyfull contributions.

IIMutual Aid will be both informal, i.e., you can call someone with specific skills and ask for help, and/or join more formal gatherings, on the third Saturday of every month and is open to anyone. We will be communicating via an email list so if you're interested in joining send an email to ejmuirhead4@gmail.com.

The first Mutual Aid Party will take place Saturday, February 18th. Location TBA.

Mutual aid involves people making time for each other through voluntary reciprocal exchanges of labour and resources. We know that cooperation, not competition, is the driving mechanism behind evolution and that cooperation has pragmatic advantages for the survival of humans, animals, and the earth. We also know there are many folks without the resources to hire helpers, who live alone and/or have physical barriers to keeping up with sometimes simple but endless tasks.

We already have a long tradition of supportive mutual aid, such as the freestore and free shack, meal trains, Conservancy work parties and the Facebook groups for town pickups and rides. We hope this initiative will allow folks to share their talents, build resilient/compassionate networks and learn new skills. 🍷

Take Out Near You TAKE OUT NEAR YOU:

FOOD

By Tony Aly

Open Thursday through Monday, Noon to 7PM. Our menu includes beef and veggie Burgers (gluten-free buns available), fries and poutine (gluten-free vegan gravy available), Korean-style fried chicken, and pizza (from 4-7PM). Come check us out at 3646 Denman Rd (the old bakery), online at TakeoutNearYou.com, or call (250)335-1099. 🍷



Kevin Mitchell - In Concert Sat Jan 28

MUSIC

By Kevin Mitchell

Sat 7 pm, Kevin Mitchell will be performing with special guests, including Steve Ireland on bass and harmony. In the vein of Alt Country Roots, Folk and Blues, his songs are honest and engaging and performed with a unique style that plays like the band. "Country/roots music that is organic in all the best traditions of folk and has a groove that gels with the very best roots music." Dinner served at 6pm, cover charge of \$15 🍷



Folk Duo Coming to Denman

MUSIC

By David Merk

IN keeping with how the best and most enduring folk music obliges audiences to take a closer look at history, society, and ourselves, Canadian duo The Co-Conspirators deliver thought provoking and joyous songs and stories in their live show, coming to Denman Island on Sunday, February 5th.

These troubadours continue to criss-cross the country, honing their skills as musicians and performers. With over 80 shows in 2022, they are starting off the new year as they plan to continue: performing for audiences near and far. "There is nothing that can equal the connections made with people through live music. No Zoom or any on-line experience can equal the bond shared between live audience and performers," says singer/guitarist Will Richards. "It is unique." *continued on P.4...*

TIDE TABLE

• Secondary Tidal Station Ford Cove •
• Source: tides.gc.ca •

2023-01-26 (Thu)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
02:30	1.4 4.6
09:21	5.1 16.8
15:53	2.3 7.6
21:19	3.9 12.9

2023-01-27 (Fri)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
03:14	2 6.7
09:52	5 16.4
16:50	2 6.5
22:46	3.8 12.4

2023-01-28 (Sat)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
04:01	2.7 8.8
10:23	4.9 15.9
17:46	1.7 5.6

2023-01-29 (Sun)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
00:38	3.8 12.5
04:59	3.3 10.7
10:55	4.6 15.3
18:42	1.5 4.9

2023-01-30 (Mon)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
02:28	4.1 13.3
06:19	3.7 12.2
11:28	4.4 14.5
19:38	1.3 4.4

2023-01-31 (Tue)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
03:49	4.3 14.2
08:04	3.9 12.9
12:07	4.2 13.9
20:32	1.2 4

2023-02-01 (Wed)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
04:46	4.6 14.9
09:47	4 13
12:59	4.1 13.4
21:22	1.2 3.8

2023-02-02 (Thu)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
05:29	4.7 15.3
10:57	3.9 12.7
14:02	4 13.2
22:08	1.1 3.6



...continued from P.3 Training a modern-day lens on folk's deeply rooted tradition of storytelling through song, the Quebec-based band's performances offer songs that orbit around hard-scrabbled characters, troubled lives, unadulterated love and joy, social injustices, personal struggles, and more. Though influenced by vocal harmony groups of the past (The Weavers, Ian and Sylvia Tyson, Richard and Linda Thompson), their feet are firmly planted in the here and now, with harmonies that blend into what can seem like one voice. They sound - as Canadian folk legend Valdy said - like they have been singing together their whole lives. There are times when their two very distinct voices seems to blend into one.

From contrasting rock and classical music backgrounds, Richards and co-conspirators Katherine Simons, came together in 2014 and found common ground in folk music. They discovered their diverse musical backgrounds combined to create something unique.

In 2018, they quit their day jobs and hit the road full time — playing hundreds of shows across Canada, and recording and releasing their debut album, *Shadowing the Organ Tuner*, in 2019. In January 2022 they released their second full length album, *The Unreliable Narrators*.

Audiences will certainly attest that there is nothing unreliable about The Co-Conspirators' abilities to bring out the best in each other as singer-songwriters, musicians, story-tellers, and entertainers. Their musical mission is perhaps best put in the



following excerpt from the album forward written by David Boyle: "The Co-Conspirators travel. They sing and share a message or two, and invite you to empathize, hear some hard truths, make the personal universal - and vice versa."

The Co-Conspirators perform at The Denman Island Community Centre (back hall), Sunday February 5th at 2PM. Doors open at 1:30.

This event has a suggested donation of \$15 but PWYC. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Feel free to bring your own refreshments.

For more information contact The Co-Conspirators at thecoconspirators.band@gmail.com

Save the Gravelly Bay Arbutus Tree

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Alan Stoddart

sign the petition here:

I just started the petition "Save the Gravelly Bay Arbutus Tree" and wanted to see if you could help by adding your name.

<https://chnng.it/j8BVvWYk> 🍷

Riki Gee - Cosmic Cowboy

MUSIC

By Anthony Gregson

ONE way to break into the music business is to open up a coffeeshop called the Pornographic Onion. That 's what Riki Gee did way back in the day when he wanted to meet Toronto musicians. It paid off. Basil Steele of Steele's Tavern on Yonge St. came along, liked what he heard of Riki's songs, and gave him his first gig. Of course, to get there, this being the sixties, you need some serious motivation, something to help you find yourself, so it helped to be a draft dodger. The United States was always obliging in that regard, even if you were a Canadian studying on a green card at the University of Detroit Mercy. It seems that green card holders were (and still are) required to register for possible service in the US armed forces, and in 1962, ideal cannon fodder at age 19, what with the Cuban Missile Crisis. and US involvement in Vietnam ratcheting up, that was more than a mere possibility. "I freaked out and tore up my green card. It was probably the biggest mistake of my life," says Riki, meaning, the Green Card, and the loss of opportunity in the Great Jukebox, though he admits, American failings have also been an unfailing lode of song material. Did it really matter? Not if you heard what we heard when the Grapevine called on Riki at his Union Bay home.



Now 78, the storied Cosmic Cowboy is revelling in an elder renaissance that should be a lesson to us all about never giving up. Emerging from the quietus of grief after the death of his wife, Riki wasn't so keen to talk about the past as the outpouring of new songs – thirty in the past year, with another two score and six in the works.

*There's a space in the country, it's a comfort to be
When my bones get to creakin', I know its time to leave
Searchin' for a union with the unconscious sea
For you, for me, for solid, for space,
For the human race, that it may find a place
To rest its weary bones.*

The flood of new music is huge for a storied singer-songwriter who has produced only three albums over a career stretching back sixty years. In all that time, Riki has lived only as musician, with no side jobs.

Starting out in the Toronto of the sixties and seventies, when the Canadian music scene was busting open, Riki first began to write songs while studying radio and television at Ryerson Polytechnic in Toronto. This was the era of Ronnie Hawkins, Ian and Sylvia, Oscar Peterson, and Neil Young. There was a Spring Thaw exercise where everyone had to prepare something, and Riki's song drew the attention of Brian Ahern who had a label where he cut his first record, a 45 with two songs, Tea Gardens and Bottle Up Daydreams. Ahern was also Anne Murray's producer and engineer. Riki had a brush with the big time when Anne Murray released This Way is My Way, a version of his song Sunspots, on her Snowbirds album from Capitol Records.

Meeting up with Daisy Debolt (aka Toronto Elevator), they began to tour. That ended when their manager disappeared with the profits. "Everyone was getting ready for Woodstock, and I had dove in too deep," so Riki hit the road, ending up in Fairbanks, Alaska. There he met Gail, the bar manager where he played. Gail became his partner and eventually the mother of two daughters. The two of them ended up in Denver Colorado where Riki finally came into his own with the Tumbleweed label in 1971.

Tumbleweed was a tiny tax write-off for Gulf and Western, an octopoid conglomerate (bedding, zinc, cigars, forging, books, and Paramount pictures amongst everything else). Tumbleweed stood out in the industry as "radical hippies", not only because of all the toking, but also a unique honesty with artists in keeping just one set of books (not, apparently, that there were any royalties to speak of). Riki stood out on his own, as the resident hippie/cosmic cowboy. An article in the Hemp Connoisseur for August 2017 pops this flashbulb on the scene: "Gee told McCabe, 'I'm out of pot, but I did spill some hash oil on this sweatshirt.' They cut up that sticky part of Gee's shirt and began smoking it . . ."

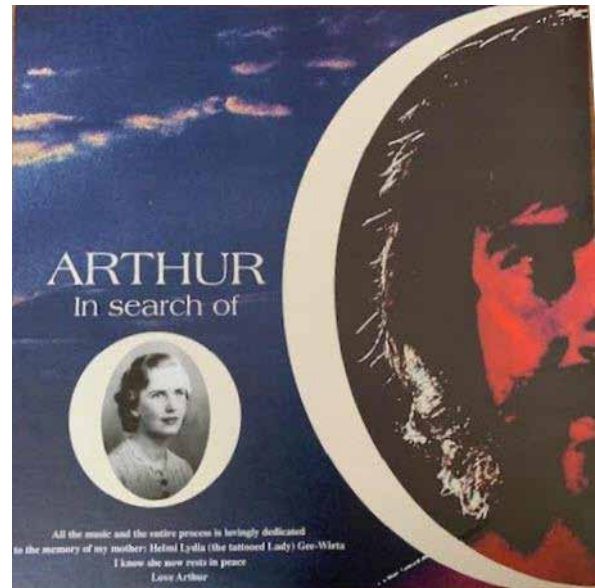
Riki made another record, City Cowboy, the sleeve still one of his favorite of all covers. It was an exciting time, with lots of experimentation, but it didn't last because Gulf & Western's distributor, ironically named Famous Music, never took the label seriously. With records hard to come by, Tumbleweed folded after only two years (the Wikipedia entry on G&W doesn't even list Tumbleweed amongst its many historical

holdings). City Cowboy lived on, in a sequel, a CD, Lonely City Cowboy. Both recordings are the subject of screenplays.

Riki has his own explanation of why he didn't go on to make more CDs. Tumbleweed, he thinks, needed to focus on doing more for their performers and less for the catalogue. There's also something else. "Most people were pot heads, but I was LSD."

An electric violin is a reminder of Riki's roots in classical music. When he was aged three, his mother had one of those dreaded mommy dreams of him playing the violin. Torn between junior hockey and music, he must have worked hard because in high school he turned down a scholarship to Juilliard. He always knew he didn't really fit in, but it took time – a stint at Ryerson, another in Detroit, then the draft and a return to his hometown of Kitchener, then Ryerson again before he realized that music – his own music – was going to be his life.

continued on P.6...



...continued from P.5 Riki's life after Colorado became one of touring with different bands, based out of Toronto, and then, from 1984, Guelph, Ontario which was another musical hotspot in the eighties. For eighteen years he was with Celtic Blue, and in between tours, Dark Monkey with Tony Quarrington and Jeff Bird, Open Ear and Hank Sinatra, Honkey Tonk Nightmare, and Zamboni Jiver. Riki was indefatigable, always jamming when not on the road.

Celtic Blue picked up a fellow in Alberta named Brent Raby who had been tree planting at Big River. After that, Riki kept running into him, Brent turning up one birthday with a "forty-pounder of Jack". His concern for Brent's family life is what brought Riki out to Denman Island around 1998. Like others, Riki instantly realized that Denman was where he needed to be, especially with the intensity of its musical life

For the next ten years or so, Riki lived at the centre of Denman's music. His cabin down on Lacon Road near Macfarlane was the scene of many memorable jams with island musicians, amongst them Kevin Mitchell and Sheldon Rempel. He also enjoyed working with Roxanne Cowes-McPhail. Some outstanding videos on You Tube of kitchen jams in Guelph give you an idea of what Riki could bring. He hosted the highly successful weekly Blue Note Café at the Guesthouse, and also took part in shows at the Community Hall. Riki was a presence.

Green Wizardries, Poor But Comfortable

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Maxine Rogers

The sun is coming back a little more each day. My hens are laying like mad and I feel confident that 2023 will be a good year for Canada. After all, New Zealand just got lucky and their Prime Minister has run out of gas, as she says, and she will be stepping down. Perhaps Canada will be so lucky and we too will see our Prime Minister step down. Here's hoping.

Sadly, I don't think a change of Prime Ministers is going to help much. Each time we vote a Prime Minister out, we do so to the cry of, "Anyone has got to be better than this one," only to find out that the next one is worse after all.

We will certainly be dealing with inflation in food prices this year if the last few years are anything to go by. Canada's Food Price Report for 2022 predicted a 5 to 7 percent increases in food costs last year but they underestimated and food prices shot up 10.3 percent instead. Did your income go up by 10.3



Leave Us Alone, one of Riki's songs, famous on Denman, captures the vibe:

*Here we are living on this physical plane
Nobody knows where we came from.
All we can do, help each other out
Knowin' that we're all playing games.
On the physical plane, this is the physical plane
We want to help by really letting go
We really want to let go, we're already letting go
And its starting to show.*

All good things come to end. The steady deterioration in his wife's health eventually compelled a move to Union Bay. His home by the scenic highway, conveniently screened by a high cedar hedge, became the scene of many jams including Denman musicians. But even today, Riki says he can never get enough of Denman's musical life and would love to be over there more.

So, where to with all those new songs? It started out as a CD project but it's morphed into something way bigger. The music, as always in Riki's life, has taken over.

*You can take me like a river, take me right back to the sea.
Take me like a river, you are my destiny.
And you don't got no problems, and I've got no time
To worry 'bout the many things that we have left behind . . .* 🍷

percent last year? No, I didn't think so. Neither did mine.

They anticipate food prices rising 5 to 7 percent this year which they estimate will cost a family of four an additional \$1,065 in groceries alone. I expect they have again been too conservative in their estimations. We shall see.

That is just the price of food but the taxes we are paying on our little house have gone up sharply last year and again this year although house prices are down. Building supplies, meals out, car repairs and every other category of goods and services I can think of are also going up. For example, my sister was trying to buy a friend a dog and a two-year old, rescue terrier was priced at two thousand dollars. I thank the Gods that I got my excellent cat, Festus, when we could still afford to buy a pet.

I think it is time we got on a war footing and emulated what the British did in the Battle of Britain. The first thing they all did was to become more self-sufficient. People learned to garden vegetables and everyone who could kept a few hens. They raised rabbits and rabbit meat was not rationed. Brits who grew up during and after the war still love a baked rabbit.

They ate more vegetables and less meat because meat and eggs were rationed. Back then, everyone had an equal chance to get meat and eggs because the prices were controlled and everyone got the same ration cards. Now, we are seeing rationing by price so the poorest people are made desperate and the wealthy feel no pain.

People who run the food banks in Ontario are reporting a lot of customers asking them how they can access Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) because they are so upset at having to use a food bank at all that they want to kill

themselves. I have a message for those people and anyone else who feels desperate for any reason: your lives are worth living and are a precious gift. Do not throw your lives away. You are our countrymen and you are loved.

Being poor but comfortable, and we are all getting a lot poorer by the day, takes a lot of study and the willingness to change your habits. After learning to garden vegetables, with of course some flowers to delight the heart and feed the pollinators, the most vital skill is learning to cook from scratch.

A 389 millilitre can of re-fried beans costs \$3.50. I make re-fried beans from our home-grown Jerusalem broad beans which I soak overnight and simmer until they are tender, fry some onions and add the beans and spices and the total cost for 2 litres of re-fried beans is about 50 cents, including the fuel used to cook them. They taste delicious and we serve them with home-made salsa made from our own canned tomatoes, drained and mixed with onions, dehydrated tomatoes and peppers, all from our garden.

My next favourite money saver is the electric slow-cooker. Put some inexpensive shin beef in there in the morning with French mustard, onions and dark beer, cook on low and you will have a delicious carbonade of beef ready for supper; a meal good enough to use as a company dish and it costs next to nothing. Long, slow gentle cooking brings out the best in the less expensive cuts of meat. There are no bad cuts of meat, just bad ways of cooking them.

Conversely, you can put some steel-cut oats, water, salt, cinnamon and raisins in the slow cooker on low after supper and wake up to a nutritious breakfast that is hot and ready to eat and a thousand times better for growing kids than those ghastly high-sugar breakfast cereals that cost way too much.

We are all going to get a lot poorer before things get better so we might as well try to do it in comfort. 🍷

Phoenix Riting! *By Phoenix Bee* I went out last Wednesday night to see a live music show at Joe King Clubhouse, what a treat! Suzie Vinnick and Lloyd Spiegel put on a fabulous couple of sets for us. Being a front row centre sort, I showed up early and planted myself at the front table, where I had an intimate view of the players' flying fingers and every nuance of body language.

Suzie Vinnick has taught at Blues Camp in the past and performed on the island many times. She opened the show with a solo set, featuring tunes from her album released in September 2022 called "Fall Back Home." Suzie has been nominated for no less than three Maple Blues awards this year, including Songwriter of the Year, Female Vocalist of the Year and Acoustic Act of the Year. All three of those skills shone bright Wednesday night. Songs like the Hornby-written (by an islander I believe) "The Pie That My Baby Makes," "Salt & Pepper," and the Chilliwack cover "Rainco" were standouts for me.

Lloyd Spiegel was a revelation, as I hadn't heard of this Australian veteran bluesman before. Lloyd has lived, breathed and played the blues all his life, raised by a blues-obsessed dad, and has been performing actively since age ten, a prodigy! This is a masterful guitar player, and he writes great songs. He caressed his instrument like a lover, making it do things I wouldn't have thought a guitar could do. There are many great guitar players out there, but few who make playing seem so intimate, sensual and technically stunning. The word 'virtuoso' comes easily to mind. My favourite song of the set was "Dirt Road to Paradise," what a great song.

It was a wonderful night of music, and at the end (which included a two-song encore) Suzie came back up and played bass, which brought out dancers for a great end to a fab night. I enjoyed this performance so much, I played both Suzie's new album and Lloyd's double live albums on Sunday evening during The Album Hours (CHFR 96.5 FM). It was a great night on the radio and a chance for any listeners who might have missed the show to hear this amazing talent.

Speaking of blues, registration has just opened up for this year's Blues Camp. I'm going again--I can't wait!--last year was so much fun. If you ever dream of playing the blues, or just being a part of a seriously cool happening, check it out, as a student or audience member, for the evening performances. Blues camp and its concert and dance evenings marks a high point of the year on this island. You can sign up for just a class or two if you don't want to commit to the whole thing. Find out more at hornby-blues.bc.ca.

On a personal note, I struggle with the hard truth that I 'can't win everyone,' as one reader reminded me. Writing this column has been a real opportunity to develop mental strength and resilience to express myself publicly in this way. This column ranges from 'my opinions about issues' to 'what's happening around the island' to 'omg what an awesome event I saw' to who knows what--and the act of writing it can often terrify my little person inside that just wants to be liked. ("Do you agree with me? Does it mean I'm bad if you don't? Did I not say it right? Is there a better way?") That little person will never go away, but with time I find I'm able to soothe her from within and speak my sooth from the heart.

The truth is, every column is a new opportunity to charm, offend, inform, alienate or (hopefully) entertain. I have no control over the way what I say is received, all I can do is stretch myself, self-correct when I'm off-track, listen to your feedback and learn from it. Every week I do better, some weeks I don't get it right, but this platform has moved me on a growth path and I am deeply grateful for it and for everyone who has given their feedback, whether it's positive or horrified.

Diversity of thought is as important as any other diversity, and so I neither expect nor wish for everyone to agree with me. It's enough that I contribute to the conversation. Peace to all, and may blessings flow your way in a form that feels good.

That's what I think! What do you think? Email me at phoenixonhornby@gmail.com 🍷

New Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health

January 23, 2023

HEALTH & WELLNESS

By BC Rural Health Network

**THE BC RURAL
HEALTH
NETWORK**

(BCRHN) welcomes the appointment of Jennifer Rice as the Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health by Premier David Eby. This appointment demonstrates the government's commitment to addressing the unique challenges faced by rural, remote, and Indigenous communities in regard to healthcare.

"We are excited to have Jennifer Rice as the Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health," said Peggy Skelton, President of BCRHN. "Her experience in emergency preparedness and commitment to addressing the needs of rural communities make her the perfect candidate for this role. We look forward to working with her to improve the healthcare experiences of

rural residents in British Columbia."

"The appointment of a Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health is a positive step towards addressing the healthcare disparities faced by rural residents in British Columbia," said Dr. Jude Kornelsen, Chair of the BCRHN Implementation Committee. "We look forward to collaborating with Jennifer Rice and the Minister of Health to bring our position papers to fruition and improve the healthcare experiences of rural residents."

We would like to thank Premier David Eby for recognizing the importance of rural healthcare and for taking steps to address the issues faced by rural residents in British Columbia. We also want to acknowledge and commend Dr. Kornelsen and the members of the Implementation Committee for their hard work and dedication in bringing forward the position papers on rural health care to the government.



BCRHN

British Columbia
Rural Health Network

We believe that with the support of Premier Eby and Ms. Rice, we can work towards improving the healthcare experiences of rural residents in British Columbia.

For more information and media requests please contact:

Paul Adams, Executive Director,
paul.adams@bcruralhealth.org

Letter to the Editor

I want to thank Michael Rapati for his excellent article, CO2 Footprint. Yes, we are creating the problem and by changing our actions, we can fix it.

Maxine Rogers

A Way Forward for Canada

OPINIONS

By Perri Gorrara

Grapevine by Caitlin Johnstone. I look forward very much to, hopefully, crossing paths with you in the future.

We need to begin to rebuild Canada on many levels. Firstly, we must become a peacekeeping nation again and turn our backs forever on the Military Industrial Complex. We must, no longer support the warring behaviour of the USA, as its hegemony disintegrates due to its enormous national debt.

Secondly, we must end all political contributions by corporations to any political party or any person standing for election as an MP, either nationally or provincially. This will decrease corruption significantly. Thirdly, we must end all affiliation with the World Economic Forum and the World Health Organization and develop a Canadian Circular Economy that prioritizes Canadian production of goods and services with zero plastic waste (replaced with hemp products that are 100 per cent biodegradable).

We must, as caring human beings, develop a society in which no one is left behind. A society that prioritizes solving problems over generating wealth for a small minority of people. As Caitlin Johnstone put it: "Nobody's going to become a billionaire by ending homelessness or making sure the elderly and the handicapped get everything they need. Nobody's going to become a billionaire by making sure that mothers get everything they need to raise physically and psychologically healthy children."

The question before us is; do we need more billionaires or multi-millionaires in Canada- or do we need to create a new Canada in which civil rights are respected, food is no longer contaminated with harmful additives, pesticides, herbicides and mRNA injections given to livestock, medicines and vaccines are properly scrutinized for effectiveness and any possible harmfulness and the people at the bottom of the Totem Pole are assisted in all areas?

The World Economic Forum is advocating for a One World Government in which a significantly smaller world population is controlled using microchips implanted in their

brains and activated by 5G technology ' as stated many times by Noah Harari, the right hand man of Klaus Schwab of the WEF. Digital currencies and Universal Basic Income may sound appealing to many people, but the consequences of internet surveillance and the ability to shut off income if one posts something on the internet that the powers that be disagree with should discourage us from supporting this grave, potential attack on Free Speech.

Bill Gates and The World Health Organization have already run a "tabletop" simulation of the next pandemic. It is scheduled to occur in 2025 and start in Brazil. The virus/parasitic illness will be called SEERS aka Severe Epidemic Entrovirus Syndrome. It is expected to kill and injure one billion children.

Do we, as Canadians want to sit by as all this unfolds, or, are we willing to stand up and reinvent Canada as a nation that supports its citizens and is an example of a healthy, circular society that leaves no person or the natural world behind?

Here on Denman and Hornby Islands, we have the opportunity to reinvent our societies, economically and philosophically. Exciting times are ahead of us...



B.C. LAND SURVEYOR

PETER T. MASON

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surveyor-ark@uniserve.com

Denman WORKS! Economic Enhancement Society

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

2023 Community Project Grant Applications

Denman Works! invites all non-profit organizations to apply for a Community Project Grant to assist with financing their proposed projects and ongoing plans.

Deadline for submission: Friday, March 3rd, 2023

Eligible projects: must provide economic benefit to Denman Island and may be a new initiative or an enhancement to an existing initiative.

For example, in 2022, Community Project Grants were given for affordable housing, a climate change survey, Denman Sings, purchase of farming equipment, a Christmas artisan flyer, the Denman Recreation Guide, and a new shared workspace at the Community Hall.

Eligible costs: could include equipment purchase or rental, materials and supplies, contractor fees, training, start up wages for new positions, and marketing.

Complete details and an application package may be found at our website:
<https://denmanworks.wordpress.com/community-project-grants/>

Hard copy applications can be picked up and dropped off at Abraxas Free Post under Denman Works

**For more information, contact Tony Gregson, Chair,
Denman Works 250-335-0287 or email denmanresource@gmail.com.**



Understanding the CVRD Budgeting Process

Join us for a free online information session to learn the basics of the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) budgeting process. Learn how the CVRD's budgets are created and how to read a budget. Provide feedback and be involved in the upcoming electoral area financial planning cycle.

Online Information Session

Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Time: 12:15 to 1:15 pm

RSVP: www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/currentbudget

We look forward to having you involved in this community conversation.

For more information,
call: 250-334-6000 or visit:
www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/currentbudget



Canada's Misguided Loyalty

OPINIONS

By Sally Campbell

THERE are many aspects of governance we can criticize,

and public comment is an integral part of any democracy. People sometimes ask "Why is little Israel being singled out for criticism when so many other states commit more egregious offences?" First of all, Israel is the only state in the world running an apartheid regime, in which fully 50% of its population, namely the Palestinians, are subjected to a legally-entrenched system of oppression. This has all been well-documented in many reports by the most reputable human rights organizations. Simply google Israeli Apartheid. Secondly, we Canadians play a significant role in maintaining that regime.

We in Canada need to know what that role is. I see 4 primary aspects of our support:

1. Tax exemptions for contributions to hundreds of "charities" registered in Canada that subsidize illegal settlements, support Israeli military, and contribute to a two-tiered regime of inequality.

2. Ongoing recruitment in Canada for the Israeli army, illegal under Canadian law.

3. Ongoing complicity with the Israeli State's exclusionary agenda by our government. Trudeau's naming of Zionist Irwin Cotler as "Canada's Special Envoy on anti-Semitism to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance" (IHRA) is a prime example. (Cotler equates almost any criticism of Israel with anti-Semitism and is a prime promoter of IHRA's dangerously broad definition of anti-Semitism.) Congratulating Israel on its recent election of the most rabid anti-Palestinian, racist, homophobic, violence-promoting, religious-nationalist government in its history is another.

4. Votes at the UN.

Our country consistently votes with Israel and the US, opposing resolutions supported by the vast majority of the community of nations, condemning Israeli violence & crimes against the Palestinian people. As of 2022, Canada had voted against 50 UN resolutions supporting Palestinian rights (Jonathan Kuttub, **Canadian Foreign Policy Institute** webinar). I thought we believed in human rights.

We continue to support the State of Israel despite its continuing violations of international law, egregious enough to warrant being labelled an apartheid state. As an aside, I first read about Israeli apartheid in Jimmy Carter's book, **Palestine: Peace not Apartheid**, in 2007, and I remember well his clear, calm and reasoned explanation of his use of "the A word". Even though this was something the Palestinians had been declaring for decades, I was hoping my Jewish friends would not see that book on our bookshelf! I somehow wanted to protect them from that judgment, given how much being Jewish had become equated with unconditional

support for Israel, especially since 1967. I worried that they would consider me anti-Semitic for even having that book. Nonetheless, Carter's words were prophetic, as 15 years later, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Palestinian situation, Israel's own B'Tselem, and a number of other respected human rights groups have analyzed the definition of apartheid under international law and come to the same conclusion.

Why then, does Canada continue its blind support of the State of Israel?

Here are a few possible reasons:

1. We don't know what's actually going on in Israel-Palestine. This is why I went there in 2014. The separate roads system, the lack of infrastructure (water systems, pavement, building permits, enough schools) in Palestinian areas compared to Israeli areas, the barbed wire and armed lookout towers, the truly offensive Separation Wall hundreds of kilometers long, the multitude of checkpoints that Jewish Israelis cruise through, while Palestinians are herded into waiting areas like cattle, passing at the discretion of arrogant young Israeli soldiers - all this I saw firsthand. These are just a few of many examples of the violent dehumanizing system the Palestinians have endured for 7 decades and counting. If you visit bustling and progressive Tel-Aviv, you see none of this.

2. Guilt about the Holocaust and Canada's failure to welcome Jewish refugees fleeing from the Nazis.

3. Our service of Empire & Imperialism. British Zionist Baron Rothschild began financing "Zionist colonies" as he called them, in the 1880s. Britain gave the green light for a Jewish state with the 1917 **Balfour Declaration**, wanting a non-Arab presence to protect its interests in the Middle East. Israel continues to be an outpost of Western imperialism, with deep military and economic ties to the West. For instance, of the 2 companies shortlisted for Canada's planned \$5B purchase of armed drones (some to be stationed at a base near you), one is Israeli, one is American.

4. The absence of a Palestinian narrative. The State of Israel's propaganda campaign (called Hasbara in Hebrew) has been hugely successful. To this day, people associate the word "terrorism" with Palestinian resistance, and most of us are completely unaware of Israel's violent founding. (see Thomas Suarez' **State of Terror: How Terrorism Created Modern Israel**, 2016. The 2022 movie "**Tantura**", now on Amazon Prime, explores in depth one of the massacres that took place during the 1948 dispossession of 750,000 Palestinians from over 500 villages.)

Canada has responsibility for its part in human rights abuses everywhere, no matter the pulls to comfortable silence.

Next time: The CRA & tax-free money to Israel. 🍷

Let's Nuke the World Over Who Governs Crimea: Notes From the Edge of the Narrative Matrix

OPINIONS

By Caitlin Johnstone · OP January 21, 2023

provoked the war in Ukraine. Supporters of the US empire have spent months posting dog memes and accusing strangers of being paid by Putin. It's clear who's in the right.

♦ So does everyone else in the world get a vote on whether their lives should be risked in an offensive to control who governs Crimea? Or will the Biden administration just be making that call on behalf of all living creatures?

It's so crazy how the fate of everyone alive and everyone who could potentially be born in the future is riding on the way two governments choose to navigate a conflict in Ukraine, just because those two governments have most of the world's nuclear weapons. It's like two people in a bar getting into a brawl that kills everyone in their city. Nobody else in the world gets a vote on the decisions being made that could kill everyone alive and end humanity forever; just a few people within those two governments and their militaries.

♦ The US empire is telling Moscow "I'm the craziest motherfucker around, I'll keep ramping up the brinkmanship looking you right in the eye and daring you to use nukes," while telling the rest of the world "I am the voice of sanity that you should all look to for leadership."

One of the empire's faces is the virtuous upholder of freedom and democracy, while the other face puts on an intimidating show of viciousness like a prisoner biting off someone's cheek in the prison yard. At least one of those faces is necessarily lying.



♦ Literally the only reason mainstream westerners are fine with the US empire's nuclear brinkmanship with Russia is because most don't understand it, and those who do understand it don't think very hard about it. They avoid contemplating what nuclear war is and what it would mean.

C R I T I C S
Of the US empire have spent months compiling mountains of evidence showing that the empire k n o w i n g l y

Whenever I touch on this subject I get a bunch of replies like "Yeehaw! That's right bitch, we're standing up to Putin!" They're not approaching the subject with anything like the gravity they would if they understood what's happening and had seriously thought about what could be. They don't understand how horrifyingly dangerous it is that the empire is considering backing a Crimea offensive, and they haven't sincerely contemplated what it would be like for every living creature to die horribly and for no one else to ever be born again for all of time.

Whatever position you have on this whole conflict, you should be approaching the possibility of nuclear annihilation with the most profound solemnity imaginable, because it is without exaggeration the single worst thing that could possibly happen. Take it seriously, or be silent.

♦ If a nuclear war between Russia and NATO erupts, the answer to the question "Was it worth it?" will be a decisive "No." Not just for people like me, but for everyone, no matter how sympathetic they are to the western power structure and no matter how much they hate Russia. If their answer isn't "no" immediately, it will be their answer in a matter of hours. If people don't immediately understand the horror that's been unleashed upon our world and how nothing could possibly have been worth it, they will understand it in short order.

♦ The term Mutually Assured Destruction was first coined by Hudson Institute's Donald Brennan in 1962, but he used it ironically, spelling out the acronym "MAD" in order to argue that it's insane to hold weapons that can cause armageddon. These games of nuclear chicken are insane.

The argument for nukes is that the threat of their use wards off the large-scale conventional wars we saw in WWI and WWII, but that only works if the fear of their use deters conventional attacks. The US empire is getting more and more brazen with its proxy warfare against Russia.

It used to be undisputed conventional wisdom that hot warfare against Russia must be avoided at all costs because they're a nuclear superpower. Now the idea of backing full-scale offensives to carve off pieces of the Russian Federation is gaining widespread mainstream traction. This disintegrates the uneasy stability that MAD is theoretically supposed to create, because MAD assumes the other side won't be crazy enough to launch conventional offensives against a nuclear superpower due to fear of rapidly spiraling escalation into full-scale nuclear war.

If you've got two people pointing pistols at each other, an exchange of gunfire might be avoided for fear of retaliation. But if one of the gunmen breaks the standoff by walking

continued on P.12...

...continued from P.11 toward the other holding a knife in his other hand, odds are the other guy pulls the trigger.

I hate it when I get people saying "I hope we do nuke ourselves off the map, we're horrible." It's not okay for a few idiots to be playing games with every life on this planet. Just because you're unhappy with life here doesn't mean all the innocents around the world are, doesn't mean the animals are, the bugs, the trees. Your disaffected feelings are not a valid reason not to fight this thing tooth and claw. Keep your omniscient ideations to yourself.

Westerners frame the idea of nations like Russia and China "attacking their neighbors" as though that's somehow less moral than the US attacking nations on the other side of the planet who cannot possibly pose any threat to US national security. At least Russia can make an argument that its invasion of Ukraine was in its national security interests due to US/NATO militarization there, and China could make similar arguments if it ever attacks Taiwan. US wars are done solely to defend US planetary domination, not the US.

Liberals are all about examining privilege except when it comes to western privilege. Then they're more than happy to blow up everything and everyone for their belief in their inherent ideological superiority and their right to rule over every single country on earth.

Facebook, Instagram and Whatsapp are no longer designating the neo-Nazi Azov Regiment as a "dangerous organization." To be clear, nothing has actually changed about the Azov Regiment. It's still the same people with the same ideology. All that changed is the Official Narrative.

For years and years, up until just last year, the mass media had no problem acknowledging that Ukraine has a Nazi problem and calling Azov neo-Nazis what they are. All that changed is we moved into an information ecosystem of aggressive war propaganda.

No amount of PR rebranding will magically transform Azov neo-Nazis into wholesome moderates. You can change Kentucky Fried Chicken to KFC, but it's still the same stuff in the bucket. 🍷

On the Persistence of Politicians

OPINIONS

By Gwynne Dyer · OP January 22, 2023

ALL political lives, unless they are cut off in midstream at a happy juncture, end in failure, because that is the nature of politics and of human affairs," wrote British politician Enoch Powell half a century ago – and then proceeded to demonstrate the truth of this proposition in his own lengthy but undistinguished political career.

Jacinda Ardern, New Zealand's soon to be ex-prime minister, has created her own 'happy juncture'. Last week, to the astonishment of practically everybody, she announced that she would resign from the office because "Politicians are human. We do all that we can for as long as we can, and then it's time. It's time."

That's not universally true, of course. Many, perhaps most politicians cling on to power long past their sell-by dates. Indeed, they hang on for as long as the law and the voters allow – and in some cases even past that point, as the post-eviction careers of Brazil's ex-president Jair Bolsonaro and US ex-president Donald Trump illustrate.

Short of those insurrectionary extremes, the woods are full of dethroned and deluded former leaders who imagine they can still regain power. Consider British ex-prime minister Boris Johnson, for example, who is clearly plotting a comeback despite his humiliating ejection from office by his own party last year.

Ardern is different. She did well in her five-and-a-half years in office, which included a mass-casualty terrorist attack, a volcanic eruption, and the Covid-19 pandemic. Her crisis-management skills were an unexpected bonus, but her real

strength was a calm and empathetic approach to every problem she dealt with.

And yet her power and her popularity inexorably eroded, because that is the way politics works. Leaders have to make choices, and each one is bound to alienate some people. Probably the most costly in Ardern's case was her decision to 'Go Early and Go Hard' in isolating New Zealand to protect it from the Covid virus.

The policy undoubtedly saved many lives in the pre-vaccine first year of the pandemic, but the extreme travel bans were probably maintained for too long, and the backlash grew with time. So did the anti-vaxxer movement, whose hate campaign probably did a lot to wear her down.

As another former New Zealand prime minister, Helen Clark, put it: "The pressures on prime ministers are always great, but in this era of social media, click-bait, and 24/7 media cycles, Jacinda has faced a level of hatred and vitriol which in my experience is unprecedented in our country."

Then add the global cost-of-living crisis, which is actually due mostly to the war in Ukraine, but is weaponised by opposition parties in every democratic country to attack the government in power. Ardern's popularity at home has been in decline for the past year – but she is still the most popular politician in the country.

She's quitting anyway, and some critics say that it's because her Labour Party is doomed to lose the next election. She denies that, saying that Labour can win but needs new leadership, and the numbers suggest that she may be right.

Three months ago the two major parties, Labour and the

centre-right National Party, were level-pegging in the opinion polls. Right now the National Party leads by 5.5%, but that's almost within the margin of error when the sample is only 1,000 people. Her presence might make the difference in next October's election, but she is suffering from burnout.

She didn't use that word, but it's clearly what has happened. As she said herself: "I know what this job takes, and I know that I no longer have enough in the tank to do it justice. It's that simple." The hardest thing is knowing when to stop, but she has figured it out.

Is this because she's a woman? Probably not. Margaret Thatcher went down fighting after eleven years in office, and only assassination removed India Gandhi after a total of sixteen years in power.

Is it because she's a new mother? Perhaps in part. She's only the second national leader to give birth while in power, and having an infant and then a toddler at home is one of life's most exhausting experiences, even if you have a great deal of help from your partner.

Her own assessment is that she can't do the job justice any more, and that's greatly to her credit. Many in the Labour Party are angry at her right now because it feels like she left them in the lurch in an election year, but it was the right decision.

Men also suffer from burnout: everybody in demanding jobs is vulnerable. Maybe the average male politician would just soldier on instead, but burned-out people make poor decisions. She's only 42 and she'll go on to do other things, but she needs a break. 🍷

Not bonnie

by Thomas Provençal

*With Dr. Bonnie Henry
yet again accused of crime
the people of our province
are given hope another time
that justice won't be purchased
or blinded by the slime
of her sick sardonic attitude
exposed on TV prime.
By forcing healthcare workers
to line up for the shot,
though it's useless for protection
against a flu that most have got
and proven to be deadly
as it causes blood to clot,
she disregards her Hippocratic
oath or just forgot.*

They will come...

*Even though you've stood for generations,
Holding up your portion of the sky, they will
come...
Even though you steadfastly announce our
arrival
And, without fail, anchor our sense of place, they
will come...
Children, mothers, fathers, grandmothers and
grandfathers,
For hundreds of years, have drawn a deep breath
At your sight, knowing they're 'almost there';
Time to slow down and relax a bit
Before the last stretch home.
Still... blind to your magnificence, they will
come...*

*In passing, people touch you in awe,
Amazed at your girth, at the power of your limbs
Raised in constant prayer and thanksgiving.
Offering travellers, near and far, a moment's pause,
A welcoming shelter from summer's blazing heat,
They stop to marvel at your outstretched canopy.
Unable to treasure these gifts, they will come...
Stout and sturdy, you've withstood countless winter gales,
Teaching us constancy and endurance through life's adversities.
Winnowing stars on crystal clear nights, sifting through coolest moonlight,
Your ever-present leaves provide cover for our wayward souls.
Though we humans have lost our way, you continue to give,
Generous in the silence and slow grace of your kind.
Without fail, Mother Arbutus, you enrich us all.
Still... they will come... with hooks and saws to hack and claw.
Tearing at roots so deeply embedded, Earth'll surely shudder at your loss
While Beauty flees from humans whose hearts fail to measure the cost.*



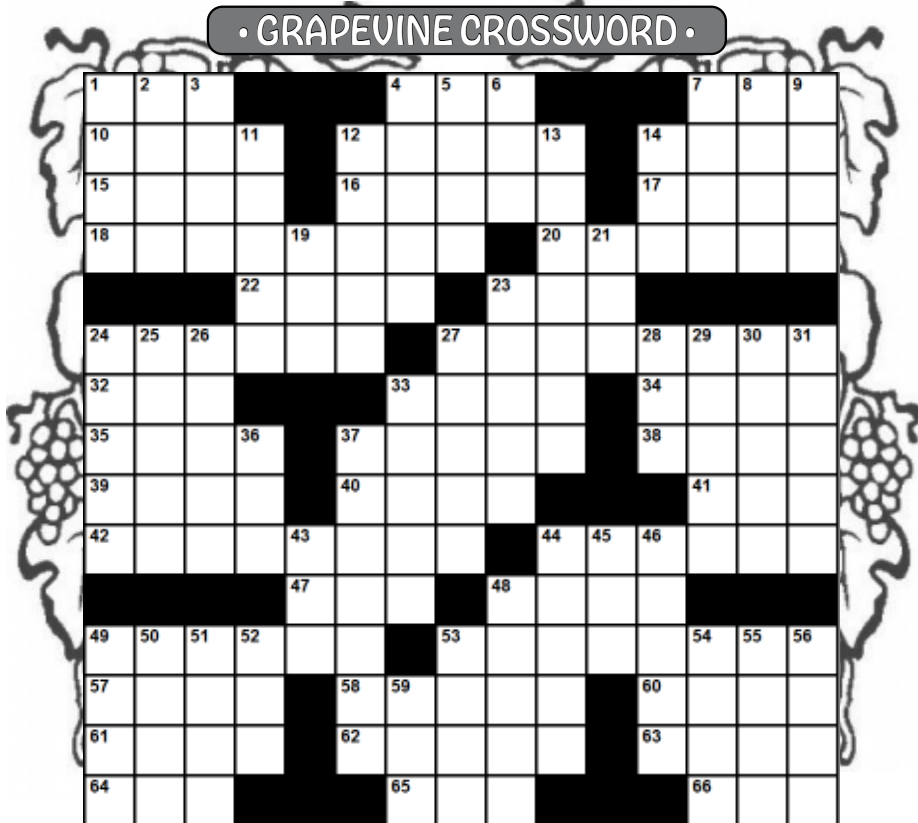
Tree Illuminated

by G.M. Theriault

*Alone and still under the moon
Silver coated in snow white,
Crystals reflecting in the light
Glittering clear as if noon.
Soft whisper on the wind
A muffled vibration "I love you"
Valid winter echo back "I know"
Spirit of the tree just told me so.*

A Li'l Chickadee

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. A notorious Peron
4. Alternative to 401k
7. Aladdin prince
10. Ancestor of Christ
12. Soots
14. Blood formation
15. Extra dry
16. Monastery
17. Eye at the beach
18. Nearly black
20. Fire bomb substance
22. Mandolin's cousin
23. Cat's cry
24. Hope's pal
27. Fool hardy
32. Cut with an ax
33. Chime sound
34. Alternative to a saber
35. Competent
37. Collection of quail
38. Alan, Larry or Stephen
39. Bird feeder treat
40. Sponsorship, var.
41. Act dovish
42. Appreciative of beauty

44. How to

44. How to address the men
47. Denial in Glasgow
48. Body of knowledge
49. Unit equivalent to 3.26 light years
53. Oddity
57. Stead
58. Kingly decree
60. Exam answer
61. Bedouin tribesman
62. Of sound
63. Flow slowly
64. Cookbook meas.
65. Carried out
66. Agree silently

• DOWN •

1. Exuberance
2. Actress Miles
3. Tel ----
4. Permeate
5. Mr. Goldberg
6. Breakfasted
7. Aquatic plant
8. Hang laxly
9. Agenda component
11. Pastoral pieces
12. Laced with profanity
13. Working together
14. Cagney or Lacy
19. Fella
21. Blow away
23. Horse hairs
24. Big name in banking
25. Picture riddle
26. Big eyed baby
27. Kind of duty
28. Albanian currency
29. Demille films
30. Barcelona mister
31. Lilies of the west
33. Motherless calf
36. Antique ending
37. On order of Eutheria
43. Compass pt.
44. Be prepared, e.g.
45. Historic time
46. Brief brawl
48. Of sound mind
49. Builder's map
50. Makes public
51. Bring in a crop
52. Classroom stand in
53. French region
54. Anemic's supplement
55. Greek liqueur
56. Call for
59. Bad bomb

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

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4	3	5	8	9	1	6	2	7
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2	9	6	7	4	5	1	8	3

Grumpism



“Argued with someone in a shop who was using their sticker gun. Now I've got a price on my head. Happy Australia Day!!!!”

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

C	H	A	T		W	O	E		U	L	C	E	R	S
R	O	V	E		O	H	S		S	I	E	N	N	A
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P	O	L	L	E	X		E	N	S		L	E	E	S

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ing, drywall, flooring, tile, flooring,
minor plumbing/electrical, deck/
fencing and landscaping. Forty years
of boating and fishing experience.
Also accomplished guitarist/musi-
cian. Reliable and trustworthy. Per-
sonal and work references available
upon request..Paul 604-807-4465

• **EMPLOYMENT** •

**BLACKBERRY LANE CHILDREN'S
CENTER** seeks a part-time Early
Childhood Educator Assistant or
Responsible Adult. Candidate must
be comfortable working as a team to
guide groups of children, ages 1-5.
We provide competitive wages in a
supportive, nonprofit environment.
Wage based on experience and edu-
cation. Please send resume to black-
berrylanecentre@yahoo.com

**BLACKBERRY LANE CHILDREN'S
CENTRE** seeks a Program Coordina-
tor for the After School Care Pro-
gram. Responsible Adult certificate
and First Aid certificate needed.
This is a unique opportunity for
a creative and autonomous in-
dividual to implement their own
program based on children's
needs and interests. Must be
confident guiding a group of 4-8
children ages 5-8 within a positive
and engaging learning environ-
ment. Position requires 2.5 h/day
prepping, running and closing,
2pm to 4:30pm from Monday to
Thursday. Please send letter of
interest and resume to blackberry-
lanecentre@yahoo.com

• BUSINESS DIRECTORY •

• (H) Hornby • (D) Denman • (UB) Union Bay •
• (FB) Fanny Bay • (C) Courtenay/Comox •

• ACCOMMODATIONS & RENTALS •

- Denman Activity Centre (Seniors) Rentals 335-3027 (D/H)
- Denman Community Hall Rentals 335-3027 (D/H)
2 halls, commercial kitchen, new sound system
suitable for concerts, plays, meetings, weddings, etc.

• REAL ESTATE • INSURANCE • FINANCIAL SERVICES •

- Bente Pilgaard, RE/MAX The Islands 250-792-0128 (H/D)
- Cloutier Matthews LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants 338-7367 (All)
- Donna & Jenessa Tuele • Royal LePage Hornby 335-1720 (D/H)

• BUILDING • CONSTRUCTION •

- Aquarian Systems • Water Cisterns • Ed Hoeppner 335-2037 (D/H)
- Roc-Isle Drywall, Harvey Hodgins • 35 yrs exp. 'certified' 334-4776 (D/H)
- Seaside Electric • LEL0207455 • 702-0570 (D/H)
- Shel Brodsgaard • Excavation & Services • 250-703-3898 (D/H)
- Excavator/Backhoe/Tandem Gravel Truck • Kenny Mather •
250-703-6512 (All) • John Isbister • 250-335-2565 (D)
- Ray Ulovec • Backhoe/Excavator Septic Installation • 335-3145 (D/H)
- DB Excavations • Dorianbaker56@gmail.com • 250-465-1889 (D/H)
- Tree Service • Darian Chase • Arborist 218-0404 (All)
- Cal's Bobcat Services • Auger, Grapple, Rake • 613-447-8873 (All)

• SERVICES •

- Denman Works! • Tony Gresson 250-335-0287 denmanresource@gmail.com (D)
- Peter T. Mason • Land Surveying 757-8788 (All)
- Able & Ready Septic Pumping Service • 250-338-8822 (D/H)
- Bottled Water Delivery • DenmanWater.ca • 250-228-7161 (D/H)
- Florist-Keep Floral (Emma) • 250-335-2746 (D)
- Home Town Shredders • Document Shredding • 334-7111 (D/H)

• HEALTH & WELLNESS •

- Acupuncture • Margot Davey, R.Ac • 778-992-0165 (D)
- Registered Massage Therapist • Mary G Vellet • 11100 Dusty Rd •
250-202-1268 (D)
- Physiotherapist • Acupuncturist • TCM Herbs • Carmen RPT, RTCMP
335-2260 (D/H)
- Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leah Kelly 335-2584 (D)
- Chiropractic Care on Fridays • Dr. Dawn Armstrong, DC 465-8482 (D)
- Acupuncture • Jenny McCartney, R.Ac • 250-508-8160
• www.heartwoodacupuncture.ca (D/H)
- Ryan Moulf Counselling (Statera Therapy) • Ryan Moulf, MA, RCT-C
• moulfcounselling@gmail.com • remote service (D/H)
- Jessi Schlegel • Personal Training & Fitness Classes • 604-329-3466 •
online & in-person (D/H)



KEVIN MITCHELL JANUARY 28TH

14 CHOICES OF FROZEN
MEALS. CALL AHEAD TO ORDER
SANDWICHES OR SUCH!

OPEN 7 TO 3 DAILY CLOSED MONDAYS
ESPRESSO DRINKS, BULK STORE, FROZEN DINNERS
AND POT PIES, CALL TO ORDER SANDWICHES
250.335.2688

FORTNIGHT EVENTS

THURSDAY 26

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 4:30pm-6pm

FRIDAY 27

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm
- Dora Drinkwater Library CLOSED until 02/13

SATURDAY 28

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FREE STORE 9-Noon
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30-12:30
- Dora Drinkwater Library CLOSED until 02/13
- SEEDY SATURDAY 10am-2pm Community H.
- KEVIN MITCHELL Guesthouse 7pm p.3

SUNDAY 29

- AL-ANON United Church 7pm

MONDAY 30

- Dora Drinkwater Library CLOSED until 02/13

TUESDAY 31

- Dora Drinkwater Library CLOSED until 02/13

WEDNESDAY 1

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- Dora Drinkwater Library CLOSED until 02/13

THURSDAY 2

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 4:30-6pm



FRIDAY 3

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm
- Dora Drinkwater Library CLOSED until 02/13

SATURDAY 4

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30-12:30
- FREE STORE 9-Noon
- Dora Drinkwater Library CLOSED until 02/13

SUNDAY 5

- AL-ANON United Church 7pm
- CO-CONSPIRATORS p.3 2pm Back Hall

MONDAY 6

- Dora Drinkwater Library CLOSED until 02/13

TUESDAY 7

- Dora Drinkwater Library CLOSED until 02/13

WEDNESDAY 8

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- Dora Drinkwater Library CLOSED until 02/13

THURSDAY 9

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 4:30pm-6pm



Call out for Public Comment Re Geoduck Application in Baynes Sound

Dear Denman Island Community Members and Friends,
We Need Your Help!

The deadline for public comment is **February 18, 2023**, and we are asking you to please take a few minutes to provide input on this important and potentially precedent setting marine issue regarding Geoduck aquaculture with PVC tubes in Bayne Sound! This application is an amendment to change the infrastructure at an existing shellfish lease at Tsable River situated between Buckley Bay and Fanny Bay.

For those who are comfortable with submitting online, the comment LINK is quick and easy:

<https://comment.nrs.gov.bc.ca/applications?id=6362b28312126d00220eab25&fbclid=IwAR08zCGZ5cZL0lhJ023ksCq7eIKQ1Cul-cTWSXVh7y7XRVV8a7f7FkvNqB4#details>

See the other side of this insert for our letter of opposition explaining our concerns. Feel free to use that letter for points to include in your own letter (it is best to write in your own words).

Alternatively, you can fill in the form below and drop off at Abraxas Free Post (ADIMS binder) and we will scan and submit your comments for you.

Tear Off Here

Attention: FLNRO Ministry of Forestry, Lands and Natural Resources / Front Counter BC

Re Aquaculture Application Land File # 0278767, Macs Oysters, Transaction Dis # 945617

Front Counter BC, Suite 142, 2080 Labieux Rd. Nanaimo, BC, V9T 6J9

Email: frontcounterbc@gov.bc.ca

From Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

I am opposed to this geoduck application for the following reasons:

*

*

*

Signature _____

Date _____





ADIMS OFFICIAL LETTER OF OPPOSITION January 24, 2023 (slightly modified to fit insert)

Comments RE: Crown Land File # 0278767

Mac Oysters Ltd, Transaction # 945617

Attention: Ministry of Forestry, Lands and Natural Resources

With the first Area Based Aquaculture Management Pilot just underway in this region under the management of K'ómoks First Nation, DFO, and the Province, it is both irresponsible and disrespectful to the managing entities to permit a new type of aquaculture without regard to the process and without their review of impacts to the marine ecosystem.

ADIMS recommends that this application be processed after the area-based management plan for shellfish aquaculture is developed.

ADIMS also recommends that the request to culture Geoduck in PVC tubes be denied. Approval of this application would create significant contamination issues for both marine and human life and set a dangerous precedent. PVC tubes are not manufactured for use in the marine environment.

The following includes some of our concerns regarding the use of PVC tubes and anti-predator netting:

- Intertidal Geoduck cultivation using PVC tubes will create toxic conditions in the surrounding waters and seabed. It creates a hazard for marine life and humans as the PVC tubes leach toxic chemicals like phthalates and shed microplastics due to weathering from UV light and abrasives like sand. These microplastics form Persistent Organic Pollutants and spread toxic substances up through the food web.
- **This risk cannot be taken within an Ecologically and Biologically Significant Area (EBSA) where Steelhead spawn and migrate and Pacific herring spawn and are reared. Vinyl Chloride is listed as a toxic substance and stabilizers commonly used include cadmium and lead, for which there is no safe level.**
- In addition, the tubes are expected to become loose, sending them into the environment where they will continue to degrade and pollute the environment. This was demonstrated in an earlier so-called trial installation of Geoduck in PVC tubes on Denman Island in 2017, with the tubes continuing to wash ashore in 2023.
- Notably, the proposed management plan uses netting covers to prevent PVC tubes from dislodging and fouling the environment. Our experience is that a cover of netting is ineffective. Once washed away, the tubes are invisible and unrecoverable. DFO shellfish management does not plan to ask growers to label tubes, so they cannot be tracked. It is also highly unlikely that limited enforcement can address the issue after a problem occurs.
- The application's use of anti-predator netting as a cover presents an entanglement hazard for marine wildlife (e.g., sea lions, fish, birds). The proposed Geoduck plots are adjacent to sensitive salt marshes and the Tsable River where the Steelhead spawning areas are recovering.
- The applicant's management plan for predator netting must be improved. In the application and online one can see that a high percentage of their nets are visibly fouled with growth, loose or half buried, which is non-compliant with the Conditions of Licence.
- Lastly, predator netting, being plastic and exposed to the elements, should be reduced to a minimum as it continuously sheds toxic microplastics into the marine environment.

ADIMS provides the residents of Denman Island a strong voice in protecting our marine environment.

For more information: www.adims.ca or Email: adimsinfo@gmail.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AssociationforDenmanIslandMarineStewards/>