



# Saltair District Residents Association (SDRA)

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

## April 2023

### Annual General Meeting – Saltair Community Centre, April 27, 7 pm

Please come out and join us on April 27; members only vote on the new SDRA board – volunteers please!

New members welcome! Come to the Saltair Community Centre a little early, renew your membership, have a chat.....

Agenda is:

- a) Business Meeting
  - i. Agenda, Minutes of 2022 Meeting (see attached, end of newsletter)
  - ii. Presentations
    1. Gavel – handmade, to honour past Board Members for their efforts
    2. Community Service Award
    3. Introduction of the Saltair High School Bursary Awards
    4. Summary of Survey Results
  - iii. New Business for Consideration (member voting)
    1. New fee structure
    2. Neighbourhood Yard Sale – June 18
    3. Board Elections – recruitment of volunteers; committees
    4. Fundraising efforts – ideas
- b) Climate Crisis and Net-Zero Emissions Deceptions Seminar with Dr. Geoff Strong
- c) Update on CVRD questions – Jessie McClinton
- d) Questions from the floor



### EARTH DAY – April 22, 2023

#### THEME: Invest in Our Planet

On Earth Day 2023, there are two additional goals that must be met during this economic revolution: saving humanity from the climate crisis and creating green economies for everyone. The focus is on every country worldwide. Our planet's future can only be secured if we invest together in it. Whether you're looking to learn more about climate change, get involved in local environmental conservation programs, or if you just want to show your support for the cause, there are plenty of ways to get involved. We hope that you will take time this year to celebrate Earth Day and contribute to the protection of our planet. Here's some ideas:

- Make efforts to reduce our energy consumption at home and at work.
- Instead of driving habitually, consider carpooling, cycling, or walking more often.
- When shopping, consider purchasing eco-friendly products.
- It is a great idea to recycle and compost as much as possible.
- Volunteer or donate to environmental organizations.
- Plan [Earth Day activities](#) at school or at home. It will create awareness among participants to save the earth.

## Quadra Island community's answer to climate change? Feed everyone

(March 17 <https://www.campbellrivermirror.com/community>)

Volunteers comb discarded food for nutrition, getting it to those who need it. The Quadra Island Climate Action Team (I-CAN), has teamed up with the two grocery stores on the island and a local health food business to launch the Quadra food recovery program, which aims to keep edible food from being sent to garbage dumps.

"It's a win-win situation all around", said Boyle, a member of the organization.

The stores don't have to pay to truck unsellable but potentially edible food off the island to distant landfills. Instead, it can be put to use feeding island residents and animals or nourishing local gardens, thereby boosting food security in the community by offsetting the steep cost of food — a pre-existing issue aggravated by COVID for the ferry-dependent community at the end of the supply chain. It will also reduce the significant greenhouse gas emissions generated by transporting food waste off Quadra and south down Vancouver Island to the closest available waste station in Cumberland. The nearest landfill in Campbell River is already maxed out.

"Climate change is making us all more vulnerable when it comes to food supply," Boyle said. "The idea behind the program is to improve the island's self-sufficiency and a circular economy as much as possible."

Food and other organics account for 30 per cent of the total waste sent to regional landfills, according to Comox Strathcona Waste Management. It takes up space in landfills and produces methane, a particularly potent greenhouse gas fueling climate change.

Across the country, nearly 60 per cent of food produced in Canada — or 35.5 million tons — is lost and wasted annually at every stage of the supply chain, according to Second Harvest, a national food rescue organization. That waste generates the equivalent of 56.5 million tons of CO2 emissions each year. Yet 32 per cent of food waste, or 11.2 million tons of food, is avoidable or edible and could be redirected to help feed the 5.6 million people who are food-insecure.

## Unchecked climate change putting Salish Sea in hot water

<https://www.vancouverislandfreedaily.com/news/unchecked-climate-change-putting-salish-sea-in-hot-water/>

(Vancouver Island Free Daily - March 24, 2023)

"Warming temperatures are having a pronounced effect on Canada's West Coast. Last year was the hottest on record for the ocean, an upward trend only expected to continue as it wreaks havoc on coastal communities and spurs irreversible losses to marine ecosystems. But climate impacts on the ocean have localized and serious ripple effects along the B.C. coast, particularly in the Salish Sea, oceanographer Jennifer Jackson said.

Increasing water temperatures, lower levels of oxygen and increasingly acidic oceans impact the survival of important marine species Pacific salmon are a prime example, said Jackson, section head of ocean modelling for Fisheries and Oceans Canada's (DFO) Pacific branch. Once abundant in B.C. — and foundational to the food security and culture of First Nations — most salmon stocks are at risk due to the cumulative effects of warming waters, changing food webs, habitat destruction, overfishing and the increased risk of disease or parasites from fish farms.

Shellfish, another food source and economic driver for coastal communities, are increasingly vulnerable to die-off in warm water temperatures that can trigger the growth of toxic algae or harmful bacteria, Jackson said. The devastation of sea stars on the B.C. coast, particularly the massive, many-armed sunflower sea star, is another example of the deadly combination of warmer waters and disease, Jackson said. The collapse of sunflower star populations, in particular, had a nasty ripple effect on marine ecosystems. A primary predator of sea urchins, the sunflower stars' disappearance left the spiny sea creature unchecked to devour kelp forests in B.C. waters, resulting in a 30 per cent decline of habitat vital to a host of marine animals, including otters, seals and fish.

A third climate impact causing big changes in the Salish Sea is ocean acidification, Jackson said, particularly in the Discovery Islands region off the east coast of Vancouver Island near Campbell River."

The proposal for a massive network of marine protected areas (MPAs) spanning two-thirds of the B.C. coast stewarded by First Nations, the province and the federal government can act as biodiversity banks and fish nurseries to help rebuild fisheries.

# The top five things to take away from the UN's massive, final climate report

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/article-un-final-climate-change-report/>

The whole article is a concise precis of the high points - please do take a minute to read it – there are 2 listed that jumped out to me personally so I've highlighted them. I do wish the CVRD would update their OCP from their 2050 timeline!

1. Climate change is here, now
2. **The next decade matters a lot**

Since the last Ice Age ended nearly 12,000 years ago and human civilizations developed, the Earth's long-term average global air temperature has never varied by more than 1.5 degrees above a stable 14 degrees Celsius.

More than a century of burning fossil fuels as well as unequal and unsustainable use of energy and land led to global warming of 1.1°C above pre-industrial (1850-1900) levels. **The global average is expected to pass the 1.5 degree warming mark by the mid-2030s, no matter what humans do.**

With every degree the world gets warmer, the negative consequences intensify: heatwaves; heavier rainfall; and resulting food and water insecurity. Our ability to slow or reverse the effects of climate change and adapt to them will be hindered.

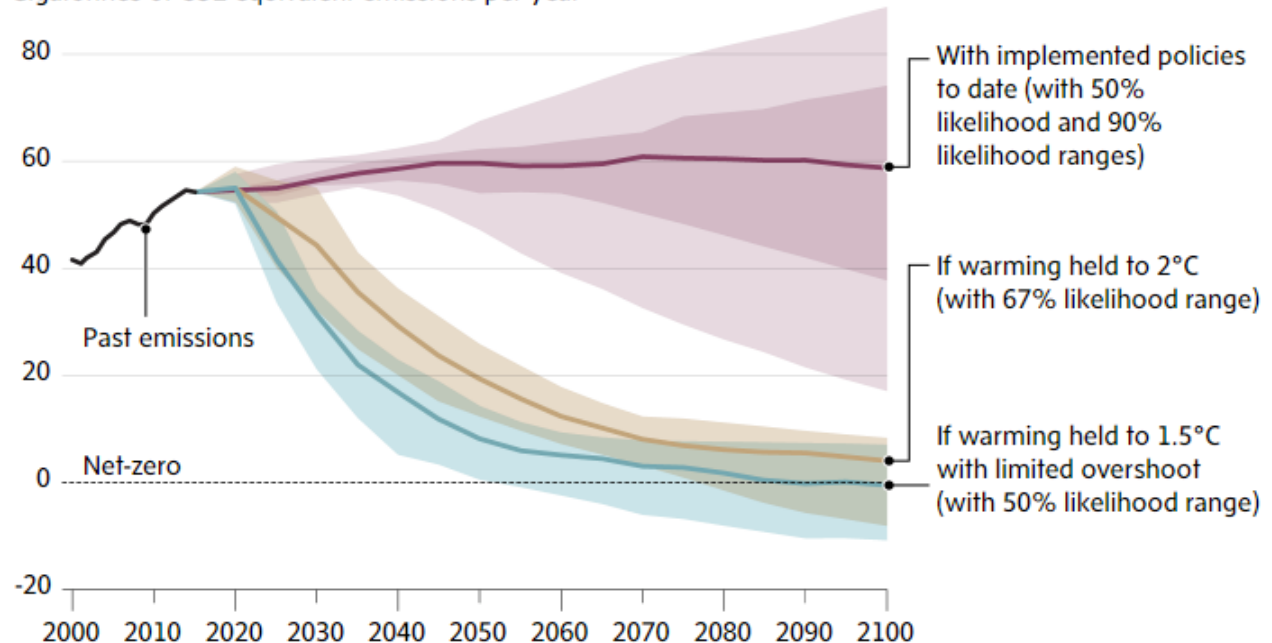
3. Billions on earth are vulnerable
4. **An urgent system-wide approach is necessary – and more effective**

Tried and tested policy measures need to be scaled up and applied more widely to achieve the emissions reductions needed for climate resilience. Effective and equitable climate action requires coordinated policies, international co-operation, political will, inclusive governance and ecosystem stewardship.

Emissions need to be cut sharply and quickly. Global greenhouse gasses need to be cut in half by 2030 if we want to limit warming to 1.5 degrees.

## Future emissions scenarios

Gigatonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions per year



SOURCE: INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The benefits of fighting climate change go beyond lowering the Earth's average temperature. When people have access to clean energy technologies, their health improves. Low-carbon options such as walking, cycling, taking public transit and using low-carbon electrification improve air quality, health and employment opportunities.

Current climate investments need to increase at least threefold. If suitable policy measures are shared, and adequate finance is made available now, every community can reduce or avoid carbon-intensive consumption.

5. Reduce barriers, accelerate climate-helping technologies

## Climate & Physics – Ocean Currents Are Slowing

Deep ocean water flows from the Antarctic could decline by 40 per cent by 2050, according to a study published in the journal Nature. <https://www.theweathernetwork.com/en/news/climate/impacts/rising-antarctic-ice-melt-will-dramatically-slow-global-ocean-flows> (April 6, 2023)

As temperatures rise, freshwater from Antarctica's melting ice enters the ocean, reducing the salinity and density of the surface water and diminishing that downward flow to the sea's bottom. The "overturning circulation" of the oceans, driven by the movement of denser water towards the sea floor, helps deliver heat, carbon, oxygen and vital nutrients around the globe. Ocean overturning allows nutrients to rise up from the bottom, with the Southern Ocean supporting about three-quarters of global phytoplankton production, the base of the food chain, said a second study co-author, Steve Rintoul.

But deep ocean water flows from the Antarctic could decline by 40% by 2050, according to a study [published on Wednesday](#) in the journal Nature. This could have a disastrous impact on global climate, the marine food chain and even the stability of ice shelves, new research has found.

"If we slow the sinking near Antarctica, we slow down the whole circulation and so we also reduce the amount of nutrients that get returned from the deep ocean back up to the surface," said Rintoul, a fellow at Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO). **(AND THAT'S A FOOD SUPPLY ISSUE!)**

## So What's Up with that CVRD Landslide Hazard Bylaw? *(Opinion)*

I have to admit that I'm becoming increasingly frustrated with the lack of transparency from the CVRD (in spite of all their assurances to the contrary). There is no information that I can find on the CVRD website – WOW what a surprise. Some of their committees' minutes are a year out of date. Either they haven't bothered to meet or they don't want anyone to know what they're talking about.

To recap: This is an amendment to the Official Community Plan that designates an area of Saltair as a Landslide Hazard zone. That zone stretches up to roughly 200 meters above the high water mark, along most of the shoreline between the border of Ladysmith (note they were exempt) and the border of Chemainus (ditto), and along Stocking Creek. The bylaw is an outcome of a Stantec-Palmer Engineering report – which actually reported that **nothing should be done to change existing shoreline protection bylaws, until a lot of other supporting studies should be done AND action completed by the CVRD in conjunction with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI).**

SO, I ask – what has been done to actually accomplish the hard scientific work to determine whether, or how much of, this area is truly a landslide risk – or not. Especially given that Stantec-Palmer estimated that the risk was less than 10% for the next 500 years. AND maybe that risk is really greater because the CVRD has not yet done anything in conjunction with the MOTI to fix the ongoing damage from unmitigated surface water runoff? Such damage, by the way, Stantec-Palmer indicated was the far greater risk and source of damage in Saltair.

According to Don Hatton of Hatton Insurance, who spoke regarding insurance matters for our area at a meeting on this subject hosted by the SDRA, suggested that adoption of this bylaw and designation of this land as a Landslide Hazard zone could result in properties being viewed as "uninsurable." Will CVRD stop assessing taxes if that happens? Stop charging permit fees for upgrades and changes? Fat chance.

**Saltair District Ratepayers Association (SDRA)**  
**Annual General Meeting (AGM) – April 28, 2022**  
**For the Society's Year 2022 / 2023**

Location: Saltair Community Centre, South Oyster School Road, Saltair

Attendees: SDRA Board, SDRA Members & Associate Members

Covid Rules: All attendees: masks recommended

Members:

- ✓ Status was verified at the door; members & associate members welcome
- ✓ No new Members attended; a new Associate Membership was collected at the door

**Members Business Meeting**

◆ Chaired by: Jane Cole Walton, SDRA President

1. AGM call to order: 7:05 pm
2. Motion to adopt agenda as presented – moved by Sue Miller, seconded by Steve Holland – all in favour by show of hands
3. Motion to adopt Minutes of 2021 AGM – moved by Tim Godau, seconded by Denay Shelling - all in favour by show of hands
4. Jane read out a summary of the March 2022 bank statement as the transition from Jane to Denay (our new Treasurer) is still in progress. Submitted: \$151 deposited from the Seedy Sunday table, insurance for the gym rental paid, \$63 invoice for Take5 advertisement paid. Motion to accept the Statement was passed by show of hands.
5. Jane provided a summary introduction to the revived SDRA Community Service Award, a certificate of recognition that the society has not done for some time. In recognition of the many, many volunteers who have worked thousands of hours on the Saltair Community Centre, from establishing the first society board to all of the improvements and new projects, the Community Service Award was presented to Tim Godau and Jackie Reick.
6. Jane highlighted the major changes now incorporated into the SDRA's Constitution including the name change and establishing an 'Associate Member' standing – as circulated to the members via the Newsletter. Motion to adopt the circulated changes to the Constitution: moved by Sue Miller, seconded by Ann Silins – all in favour
7. Dues are not included as part of the Constitution, but are voted on separately. Motion to retain the current dues structure (\$15 single; \$20 family) and to add dues for the Associate Member standing of \$5 single, \$10 family: moved by Sue Miller, seconded by Diane Holland.
8. The current SDRA Board of Directors was introduced, with their current terms:
  - President ....Jane Walton
  - Secretary.... Sue Miller
  - Treasurer... Denay Shelling
  - Membership ...Diana Holland
  - Committee on Climate Change... John Silins
  - TBA.... Kerry McIntyreConfirmation on the Board from the members – all approved by a show of hands
9. Invitation to new prospective board members or volunteers for future activities: no volunteers at the moment but perhaps individuals will come forward re: involvement in future activities

10. Discussion Items from the floor:

- a. Road speeds – discussion about: just the bus route, around the Community Centre, in all areas? Should there be a petition? Maybe at the “Safety Day” we discussed next? Would entail negotiations with the Dept. of Transport.
- b. Set up a “Safety Day” with several activities around personal and property security – bicycle riders / rodeo, fire hazards, RCMP speakers, information desks – tentatively 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of June, prior to schools letting out for summer
- c. Contact the Dept. of Transport regarding roads in the area with significant potholes – (identify other areas of concern from members in next newsletter....)
- d. Candidates Meeting – prior to the election
- e. Bird /butterfly “flyways” – what local property owners can do / contribute

11. Business meeting adjourned. Call for motion – moved by Diana Holland and seconded by John Silins

12. After Adjournment Discussion:

- a. John Silins – call to donate to the refugees and victims of the Russian invasion of Ukraine
- b. Home and environment fire safety: local impacts of climate change; options for mitigation/remediation; fire threats & hazards; preventing / mitigating home damage in case of widespread fires; what resources are available locally