



Saltair District Residents Association
(SDRA)

www.sunnysaltair.ca

www.saltairdra.ca

JUNE 2024

Saltair-wide YARD SALE

JUNE 22 (anytime that day)

(You just need to get the stuff out to the street)

We're posting everywhere on social media

Phone (250-924-6924) or email (info@saltairdra.ca)

You can add your street to our list,

or just set up and wait for the shoppers

Take a minute to round up some neighbours to join in!

JUNE 1: Focus Groups Meeting – SCC

Still working on consolidating information from this second of three or four meetings, but there are some comments and feedback I can share.

1. Turnout was much less than the first meeting; one comment was "Infrastructure is boring". Another was "it isn't sexy". Points well taken. The time of year, early summer, could also have been a factor. Because of the low turnout and perhaps because the emphasis was not established early on, the aspirational results of the first meeting – Housing – was not tied into this topic by the attendees.
2. As a result of the above, a second Focus Groups Meeting on this topic will be held in late September or early October, prefaced by a better explanation of the scenarios. Hopefully this will facilitate both the turnout and the connection between the results of the first meeting and the subject – Infrastructure Planning 8 – 20 years.
3. Attendees were mostly as enthusiastic in their discussions as in the first meeting – some were returning participants and others were new to the process. Virtually every response indicated this is definitely the right process and direction.
4. Also from the evaluation forms, in general:
 - a. the consensus indicated Saltair wants to plan this ongoing development independently from the CVRD – which means a consideration for the next meeting – HOW do we do that
 - b. many responses indicate attendees want more discussion time
 - c. all respondents will or likely will attend the next meeting

As above, consolidation and full reporting of the evaluations and discussion notes is still in progress. As soon as they are ready, they will be posted on the SDRA website: www.saltairdra.ca



MEMBERS – PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES –

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT FOR THESE ACTIVITIES!

And we have a lot of folks who have not renewed with their membership dues.

You can pay through the website or contact us at info@saltairdra.ca to set up delivery. Many thanks

AGM Meeting Minutes – see attached at the end of this Newsletter

Apologies for being so late; the Focus Groups Meeting sort of got in the way....

CVRD SURVEY – feedback re: 2025 budget engagement

<https://www.cvrld.ca/DocumentCenter/View/110091/News-Release---2025-CVRD-Budget-Survey> (June 3 release)

The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) wants to hear from the public on how they would like to be engaged on the 2025 CVRD Budget.

Like many other regional districts in British Columbia, the CVRD has an extensive and complex budgeting process, delivering over 180 distinct services across the region at a household, community and regional level. As each residential property receives different services from the CVRD depending on the Electoral Area or municipality, as well as the individual neighbourhood, budgetary decisions and resulting taxation impacts affect each property differently. The amount of taxes paid by each property owner is also largely influenced by the assessed value of their property, as generated by BC Assessment on behalf of the Province of BC.

In the interest of ensuring property owners are aware and engaged in this process, the CVRD has launched a short survey to gather feedback from the public. This includes preferred options for receiving and providing information to the CVRD, public desire to participate in the budget process, as well as general comments related to the CVRD budget process. This input will help shape the 2025 CVRD budget process that begins in autumn 2024, and ensure CVRD staff are properly planning and designing engagement opportunities that reflect the needs and desires of Cowichan area residents. To complete the survey please visit www.planyourcowichan.ca/cvrld-budget-2025

North Cowichan just received a grant to speed up delivery of homes

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2024HOUS0098-000930> **\$100,000** – not chicken feed - The Local Government Development Approvals Program, administered through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM), was created to help local governments implement best practices and develop innovative ways to support non-profit housing organizations, developers and other stakeholders to speed up the delivery of homes. And North Cowichan is one of 38 communities to receive a grant. Nanaimo, among others, received \$150,000. *Where's ours??*

From the Take5 – June Issue – finding fruit rescuers

If you didn't see it, there is a seriously worthwhile effort in place for volunteers to harvest unwanted fruit and vegetables and re-home them to organizations which could really use them.

If you missed it, here's the gist: the Ladysmith Resource Centre (LRCU) has helped organize the "Fruit Rescuers" project. They need 3 things, basically now.

1. People with fruit trees and veggie gardens who will have too much to pick or use themselves to sign up
2. Volunteers to come to the donators orchards and gardens to harvest the excess (no windfalls allowed)
3. Organizations, who can handle the food in the appropriate way and distribute it to folks that need it, to step up, take their portion and get it into the right hands.

The donator gets 1/3 of what is harvested (if they wish to keep it), the volunteers get 1/3 and the balance is distributed among the distributors. This process has multiple benefits beyond feeding people – e.g. preventing wildlife incursions.

If you wish to be included in any one of the 3 categories above, you can contact the LRCU directly at 250-245-3079 or the Project Coordinator at Shannon@lrcu.ca.

If you have friends, family or neighbours who may not have heard about this and have excess produce, please pass this along.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT:

REDIP (Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program) supports rural economic development projects that promote economic capacity building, economic diversification, resilience, clean economy opportunities, **and infrastructure development**- https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/economic-development/find-support-organizations/rural-economic-development/redip_program_guide_2023-24.pdf

Economic Diversification: REDIP-ED has two types of grants. Only one is allowed in each intake (i.e. cycle of application acceptance) So, for example, the first intake could fund a project's planning and the second intake (submit at the same time) could partially fund the project's implementation.

The **Development grant** aims to support the **planning** of programs, services and **infrastructure** projects (max funding \$100,000).

The **Implementation grant** aims to fund the implementation of programs or services, or the **construction of infrastructure** resulting in **new**, upgraded or preserved local asset(s) (max funding \$1,000,000).

IN THE WAY OF EXPLANATION (If you haven't seen it already)

May 2, homeowners in most B.C. municipalities and regional districts can apply to Secondary Suite Incentive Program through B.C. Housing's secondary suite website. (Saltair is eligible due to Bill 44, allowing secondary suites and carriage houses providing their lot/septic meet requirements).

The offers eligible homeowners forgivable loans covering up to 50 per cent of costs up to a maximum of \$40,000 to add secondary suites or accessory buildings (garden suites, laneway houses) on the property of their primary residence.

They must rent out those units for five years at rates 40 per cent below market rates to see the loan forgiven.

Eligible homeowners must obtain building and occupancy permits from their local government, have a combined gross annual income of less than \$209,420 and have property assessment values below the homeowner grant threshold of \$2.15 million.

About 1,000 homeowners will receive forgivable loans each year, which will add 3,000 new rental units, according to government.

From the CVRD: To find out if your property can support a secondary suite or accessory building, confirm the size and servicing of your property meets the minimum parcel size required and its level of servicing. ([zoning bylaw](#)) NOTE: there may be 2 different bylaw instruction for the two different types of expanded housing.

BC Builds: launching a platform to connect landowners with developers, operators.

BC Builds has launched a new [platform](#) to connect residential developers and housing operators to landowners of pre-zoned sites. BC Builds will facilitate partnership agreements and lease terms and help support the evaluation of proposals to match zoned land with developers and housing operators. First Nations, government, non-profit and community [landowners](#) can submit suitable parcels of land for future projects by reaching out to BC Builds staff. The program is specifically to speed up delivery of lower cost rental homes for middle-income people in BC.

Proposals are being sought for eight pre-zoned housing sites on public lands that have been added to the BC Builds property list to fast-track more rental homes to be built for people with middle incomes in B.C. Working closely with First Nations, non-profits and local governments, eight parcels of pre-zoned land from the Interior to Vancouver Island have

been secured for future BC Builds projects and are now available for housing development.

BC Builds is seeking proposals to connect residential developers and housing operators to the landowners of these pre-zoned sites through a new online platform on the BC Builds website. By providing pre-zoned land, low-cost financing and grant funding, these sites will be developed into homes people and families with middle incomes living and working in that community can afford.

ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/caring-for-young-children/space-creation-funding/childcare-new-spaces-fund>

The ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund is instrumental in creating thousands of new licensed child care spaces throughout B.C., improving access to child care for families who want affordable, quality care. The fund is an integral pathway for public sector child care providers to create accessible and inclusive child care spaces.

The ChildCareBC New Spaces Fund helps to create, expand and relocate child care centres proposing to create new licensed child care spaces. The following applicants are eligible to apply, among others:

- Indigenous Governing Entities
- Local governments
- Not-for-profits and Indigenous Not-for-profits
- First Nations Schools

Funding is not available for occasional care, child minding, recreational care, preschool, family or in-home multi-age license types.

The complete list of eligibility requirements can be found in section 6 of the funding guidelines:

- [2024-25 Major New Spaces Fund Funding Guidelines \(PDF, 778KB\)](#)
- [2024-25 Minor New Spaces Fund Funding Guidelines \(PDF, 770KB\)](#)

This might be a great idea for a development project in Saltair. If you're interested, check out the website link.



COMING IN JULY – BASEBALL Championship Games

We're organizing an event to celebrate our local baseball enthusiasts – date set is **July 27**, so mark your calendars now!

In addition to cheering on your favorite team (or all of them), indulge in some amazing food from Smitty's Smokin' Pig vendor truck and maybe Ice cream.

[Please check out our website \(www.saltairdra.ca\)](http://www.saltairdra.ca)

[Now with Electronic Dues Payment Option \(Join, Renew Page\) AND Donations](#)

"Alone, we can do so little; together, we can do so much." – Helen Keller



Saltair District Residents Association (SDRA) 2024 – 2025 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

MINUTES

1. Call to order : approval of the Agenda: moved Janet Evans; seconded Tim Godau
2. Presentations
 - a. Reports from Board/ Committees
 - i. Finance – see attached
 - ii. Communications
 - b. Accomplishments in the 2023/2024 Year
3. New Business for Consideration
 - a) Board Elections –
 - Expression of sincere thanks to outgoing members:
 1. Jane Walton – an active member for 16 years, a previous President, and one of the “keepers of the history” with us
 2. Kerry McIntyre – our outgoing President who is taking a sabbatical from the SDRA to finish his workshop, do some travelling and get a little rest; he will continue to help out on an intermittent basis, delivering posters and organizing the Christmas event
 - recruitment of volunteers: approved by a show of hands by the members, the new SDRA Board now consists of:
 - New members: Janet Evans*, Lauren Cartmel*, Jackie Rieck*, Dave Keys
 - Returning members: Denay Shelling*, John Silins*, Diana Holland & Sue Miller (non-voting volunteer); asterisk* = directors listed on Societies registration 2024
 - b) Confirm fee structure: confirmed by a show of hands by the members: (first year free) and \$10 per person renewal thereafter
 - c) Focus Groups Meeting – Infrastructure: June 1
 - Scenarios relating what is needed for infrastructure changes/updates to accomplish the aspirational housing ideas from the first meeting
 - Facilitators have confirmed availability and willingness to assist
 - d) Neighbourhood Yard Sale – June 22 – watch for posters and social media posts
 - e) Halloween & Christmas Events – planning in progress; look for requests for temporary volunteer and donations requests
 - f) Easter next spring is on the planning horizon
 - g) Other possibilities:
 - Food Drives – can we organize more than one or two a year?
 - Music in the Park – possibly for August
 - Nature Walk – fall 2024
4. Question Period – repeated members of the new SDRA Board

Adjourn: moved Tim and seconded Janet

SDRA Financial Report

April 2023 - March 2024

April 2023

AGM

Expense \$57.50

December 2023

Bottle Drive

Fundraising \$1,103.00

June 2023

Summer Heat Preparedness Event

Fundraising/Donations \$17.00

Expenses \$87.50

Cost \$70.50

January 2024

Logistics Meeting for how to operate focus groups

Expense \$30.00

September 2023

Community Conversations

Costs Covered by Donation

February 2024

12 Insurance Easter Event \$175.00

Focus Group

Fundraising/Donation n/a

Expenses \$350

Final Cost \$350

October 2023

Fall Fair

Fundraising \$281.00

Expenses \$ 25.00

Profit \$256.00

March 2024

Seedy Saturday

Fundraising \$407.00

Expenses \$ 25.00

Profit \$382.00

Halloween

Donation/Fundraising \$7,032.13

Expenses \$5,580.60

Surplus \$1,451.53

November 2023

Event Water Utilities Presentation

Costs Covered by Donation

Easter Egg Hunt

Donations/Fundraising \$745.00

Expenses \$228.32

Surplus \$516.68

Overview

Beginning Balance April 2023 \$2,963.31

Event Fundraising/Donations \$9,585.13

Event Expenses \$6,383.92

Ending Balance March 2024 \$6,164.52

(Note: 2023/24 Net Revenue \$3,201.21)

Note: SDRA Bursaries to Ladysmith & Chemainus S.S. Increased to \$500.00 each due May 2024