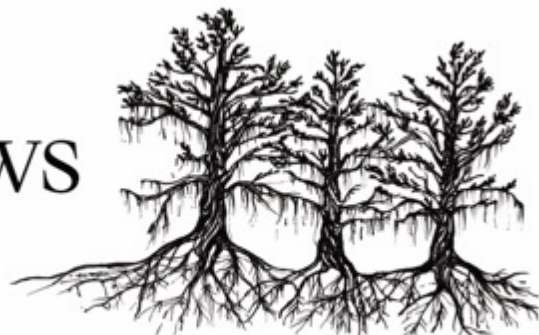




Xwe'etay News



Issue 33

October 2026

A Note from your Editors

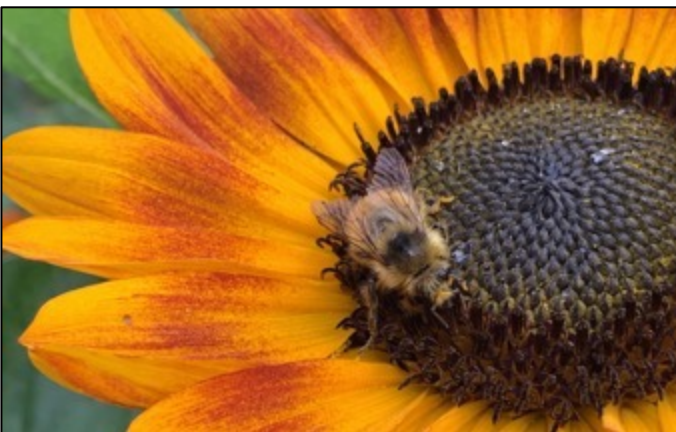
It seems to us that the shift from t-shirts to warm coats came suddenly this year. With the changing weather comes shifts in the tempo of our community. We are so fortunate to live in a place where we can allow the seasonal rhythms, the light and the dark, the busy and the chill, the gatherings and the solitude, to influence our days.

The sunflower seems like an appropriate theme for these shifts. Some continue to turn towards the sun to catch the last rays and are still providing pollen for our bees. Others have moved on from showy flower to providing seeds for the birds whose feeding frenzies will help them through winter.

In the last issue, we asked the community to step up to help with funding the newsletter. And, oh my, you did. Thank you for your support – in so many ways.

The photo theme next month is **hibernation** (whatever that means to you).

- With gratitude, The Yew Collective (Anna, Dana, Darcy, Deb, Don, Karen, Sue, and Wendy)



Katrina Jean

The yellowish cuckoo bumblebee



Birds on Lasqueti



The Swainson's Thrushes, Warblers and Vireos have left for warmer forests. This still leaves us with all the year-round resident birds. Now there is a more subtle Autumn migration. Some birds are moving from more northerly and higher elevations down to our warmer, less snowy low-land forests. Most of these species include some year-round residents, so the new arrivals are not obvious.

In August, there was a surge of Red-breasted Nuthatches, many coming from higher elevation nests. You may have noticed this horde because many were young birds, still practicing how to say "yank, yank, yank." By October, some of these Nuthatches have moved on, but on any Winter walk you are likely to be accompanied by "yank, yank, yank."

Another subtle Winter resident is the diminutive Pacific wren, frequently seen flitting through the snowless underbrush. Their constant search for tiny invertebrates is a reminder of how much life is busy near the ground, even in Winter.

Perhaps the most dramatic Autumn arrivals are the Pine Siskins. Swirling through the air in a coordinated group they move from one tree top to the next. Some years they do not come, an indicator of a poor tree seed crop.

In November and December, Trumpeter Swans usually stop briefly to graze in shallow ponds around the Island. The grey birds among them are this year's cygnets.

Enjoy the quiet season walks. -Marti Wendt

Candidate statements for upcoming Islands Trust election

Tor Klebe



1 A) Why are you running for this position? B) What do you hope to achieve?

A) Having been encouraged to put my foot forward, I realize my love our community here, and the other Islands in our trust have motivated me to offer myself as an open gateway and advocate for all of our community's considerations and wishes.

B) I hope to achieve great dialogue and understanding in our community.

2 A) What experience do you bring to this role?

A) Having lived in the Gulf Islands for nearly 30 years, (Victoria Prior), raised a family, sailed the Salish Sea and beyond, extensively I have spent and been a part of many changes over that time. Particularly Salt Spring and Lasqueti. As I have had great joy to call both of them home.

B) As a happy and thankful full-time Resident, Member of the Community, Steward and Taxpayer, our Community is what matters most to me. Not only for us, but our kids, grandchildren and beyond. Having reached grandfather status in my own family, I feel that I have a good grasp on life and reality in life, our community and the Islands in general.

3 A) What do you think the community's needs and priorities are? B) How do you plan to address them?

A) Some of our community's needs, just in a few words, that I am sensitive to would include clear and meaningful communication between our reps and our community, as well as availability, and transparency on all Trust considerations.

B) Already being in the public domain here on Lasqueti, I am available and Approachable in Lasqueti's "Living Room", I would always encourage good conversation, Ideas, and meaningful back and forth.

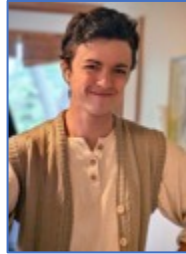
4 A) What would your approach be to Governing?

A) As some change over time is inevitable, I am well aware that our community here would advocate for none to little change. If, I had a mission statement, it would include I am here to represent the wishes of our community.

I am readily available through most forms of communication including but not limited to phone, zoom, email, in-person and smoke signals.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

JS McIntosh-Fash



Hi everyone, I'm JS, and this will be my fourth winter full-time on Xwe'etay/Lasqueti. I'm an educator at the school, and spent this summer teaching democratic governance to one of your six-year-old future leaders. Until he's ready, you've got me!

I'm running for Trustee because land use decisions are where community values take shape into a literal world, and I'd like Lasqueti's whole voice to sit in that office. That begins with electing younger generations alongside experience, but also extends to a Trustee's commitment to process. I'd prioritize building out accessible public input streams, so our civic record reflects our full range of views. When values are in tension, I'll publish the reasoning behind how I balanced them in my vote.

I'm also running because the Trust is undergoing high-level changes after years of review, and what happens next isn't straightforward. Working out which changes serve local projects and create answerability for public spending takes Trustees willing to wade through 600-page agendas, recognize where Lasquetian interests are at stake, and build consensus with other islands towards structural improvements.

I've worked for farmers on climate policy and farmland protection, and seen non-profits through accountability and reform. I studied Oceanography and Philosophy at UBC, and have spent years translating science, politics and finance into plain language. I enjoy untangling knots, and you can count on me to put in the work and report back clearly.

Here on Lasqueti, our land use bylaws stay meaningful by reflecting what this community has decided is important about its own way of life. In our complaint-based system, they should be applied with that purpose in mind, updated through due process where they're outdated, and informed by demonstrable consultation in complicated cases. Completing the Community Plan is one major piece of that, along with building civic tools that make rules and processes easier to follow for everyone.

None of this translates to a Lasquetian future without a healthy environment. I support expanding voluntary conservation options, and studies of what Lasqueti's watersheds, aquifers, forests and shorelines can sustain so that future planning can rest on known information. Thanks!

Dave Olsen

If we are going to Preserve and Protect our Community and the many Ways of Life here, we need TWO Trustees that have the knowledge, experience and desire to control the bureaucracy and prevent the off-island Chair of our LTC from continuing to override our Community's wishes.



Today's costs for land use planning are primarily for new zoning applications: last year, there were zero applications for Lasqueti. Yet, the average annual cost per resident in the Islands Trust is \$387 in property taxes for the land use planning service provided by the Islands Trust. If the qRD provided this service, it would average only \$20 per year per Lasqueti resident!

These Issues will be my focus, if elected:

- 1) Reduce the Islands Trust budget and ballooning bureaucracy.
- 2) Host Four Community Meetings Every Year.
- 3) Add a Second Town Hall to regular LTC meetings and allow people to speak freely.
- 4) Stop the Islands Trust's new Policy Statement.
- 5) Protect Our Official Community Plan (OCP) and Land Use Bylaw (LUB) from "Standardization" or Worse.

Please see October's ***Our Isle & Times*** for a full page explanation of my platform.

The Islands Trust has recently centralized their planning teams, in order to standardize how they update each island's OCP. That makes having TWO local Trustees that can work well together more critical than ever. During the last term, the off-island LTC Chair often overruled what our Community wanted and in the next term, the stakes will be even higher.

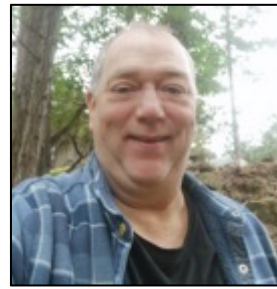
Nobody moves or stays here for more government regulations. If we don't make a clear change in our Trustees, the off-island LTC Chair will impose even more regulations on us. If elected, I will ensure that the LTC is fully transparent and I will continue to keep our Community fully informed. I've been fighting hard to protect our Community's Autonomy and I will only fight harder if I am elected as your Trustee.

Please VOTE for a Change on October 7th or 17th.

Your voice is the most important voice and it needs to be heard before it is silenced for good.

Tim Peterson

I am standing for re-election this term to represent the interests of all Lasquetians, as we review our Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaws. Building on the LCA OCP Committee report of 2018, and the work of previous terms, it is important that we carefully consider how these documents represent the vision of the community, as it may be many years before we can expect another comprehensive review of the OCP.



I bring several years of experience as a local trustee, and an understanding of the processes and policies of Islands Trust to the table, as well as open curiosity and an interest in hearing from our community.

Do our current bylaws serve us well, and will they continue to do so into the future? What land uses are not currently permitted that should be, if any? Are there any permitted uses that we should consider changing?

These are questions that need to be asked and carefully considered. Part of any OCP review should be to discuss the allowable population density of our island home, and consider the impacts of a rising population on an island with a finite area, and limited infrastructure, and whether the status quo is likely to continue to serve us well, or if changes should be contemplated.

If re-elected, I would strongly support opportunities for public dialog on what a collective vision for our shared future could be. I see opportunity for robust formal engagement, for example, through stand-alone town hall style meetings.

I also recognize that not everyone is comfortable speaking at public events, and I would be interested in hearing suggestions of other ways to engage, which could be inclusive of a wider range of community input.

I am well aware that we may not agree on everything, but I believe that one thing we all share is a love of this beautiful island we call home, and that it is worth deeply considering how we can preserve and protect the values of our unique and vibrant community, now, and for the next generations to come.

Pachiel Smith

I want to continue Lasqueti's legacy of being a small yet effective powerhouse. In particular, I plan to move important community work such as our OCP forward.

The events, projects, and community spaces we value don't just happen, they take dedicated effort. I'm not afraid to step up and provide my time, muscle and knowledge. Representing the island as trustee feels like a natural progression along this path.

Living here, I'm making what I want to see happen on the island a reality. Many of you will know me as a First Responder, a role I've been in for the past 6 years. Or when the Arts Fest wasn't going to happen, my sister and I stepped up and brought it back to life. I'm a member of the LCA, APC and Arts Council and created Bad Genny because we needed a band to make you all dance! I put my money where my mouth is, whether it's schlepping, organizing or making my voice heard. I plan to bring this same energy to the Trust Council and our LTC.

Lasqueti has changed a lot in the past five years with more new faces, busier ferries and a new crop of island kids growing up. We need to protect our island, our community, and our ability to live here. The Trust is another tool we have to raise our voice and be heard.

Born and raised on the island, it is my home in a way that no other place can ever be. I am someone who will stand up for our distinctly different way of life, protect our community, and who will also listen to that community. I will work with the other trustees and planners to advance the values most important to us. I am a representative who has stuck with Lasqueti through thick and thin, knows our past, our present, and is dedicated to our island's future. This is why I am asking for your vote on October 17th.



Noel Taylor

Why do I want to put my name forward for the Position of Island Trustee? The original intent of the Island Trust was to build an effective local system of governance that empowers each individual island to create a community plan and from that bylaws that reflect and enforce the values and vision of each island community. The intention of having a Trust was to envision how to protect the natural environment and to share experience of how to do that from different island communities. In particular to study and learn how over-development and/or lack of foresight on other islands can be avoided or redirected in future planning.

I think the Island Trust has lost its direction and is no longer effective or accountable to the people it is supposed to serve. The Island Trust mandate is land use, not the political agenda we have seen in the past 4 years with an ever-increasing budget and very little work on preserving and protecting the islands. It is encouraging to know that the proposed Trust Policy as presented failed to gain support.

Skills I Bring: Enthusiasm and love of this amazing community and island that we call home. I have owned land and lived on the island for 56 years... Experience in local, municipal and provincial political systems. I served as Regional District Director for Lasqueti for 18 years 1978 - 1996. History - I was there in 1975 when the Island Trust was formed and the Lasqueti community agreed to be part of the Trust. I was part of the writing of the first community plan and vision statements for Lasqueti. Skill - Graduate of the Justice Institute Mediation and Negotiation Certification 1994.

I feel called to bring my skill set forward and offer to be an Island Trustee. Unlike an inexperienced newly elected person, it will not take me 2 – 3 years to learn and understand the politics and systems of the Trust. I am most certainly not in this for a pay cheque. I am very much a get on it, get it done, show results kind of person. I believe in community, where together we co-create a rich dynamic vibrant place to live and care for the land and environment. I would be honoured to serve as an Island Trustee, I ask for your support. Thank you.



*Note that the candidate statements have not been edited by our team. Many thanks to Andrew Fall for thinking to ask the candidates for their statements and for organizing the submissions.

From your Regional Director-Elect Shelley Garside

I was acclaimed as your Area E director when nominations closed on September 11, and I am grateful for the support I received from this community. I will take on the role when the new board is sworn in on November 5th. Here is what I plan to work on, and where I need your help.



I ran because I care about this island and the people who live here. I had a good deal of encouragement, and thirty-plus years of community volunteering did the rest. There is something uplifting about working with your neighbours toward common goals.

Ferries: The ferry is a provincial matter. What I bring here, is more than ten years chairing the Lasqueti Community Association Ferry Committee, and the standing to take our case to the ministry, BC Ferries, our MLA and our MP. Islanders need service that is consistent, reliable and adequate.

Fire and waste: The Lasqueti Island Volunteer Fire Department and our waste management services must be kept in good shape and strengthened where appropriate.

Health care and seniors: Islanders deserve to access care and support here at home, not only across the water.

Regional parks: Our parks need to be maintained and supported for our residents.

Where a service falls short, I will say so directly and lobby for a fix. Most of this work is done through relationships: with qRD directors and staff, the Islands Trust and our local trustees, provincial ministries, and our representatives in Victoria and Ottawa.

Regarding taxes: I want them as low as the services islanders need will allow. I will not support spending that places avoidable burdens on Lasqueti taxpayers.

My background is in boards and committees, both nonprofit and institutional. I served as vice-chair and then chair of the Vancouver Island University Board, and I sat on the Island Health board. At home, I have chaired the Ferry Committee and, for the past several years, the Advisory Planning Commission.

I plan to roll up my sleeves and get up to speed quickly to minimize service gaps during the transition.

What I want most is to hear from you. Which services matter most to your household? How do you see the island's future? This is not one person's vision. We are a community that lives, works, and plays here, and our shared vision is the one that must move us forward.



Art and Drawing at Provisions Saturdays this October

We welcome you to the cafe to draw and make art inside or out on the lawn when it's good weather on Saturdays from opening time until ~1pm.

Materials, pencils, paints, paper and other supplies available for free.

All ages welcome, come prepared to express your creativity and have fun!



Field Review:

Kollter Tinbot ES1 Electric Motorbike

The Kollter ES1 is a German engineered bike, manufactured in China. In 2025, with rebate, the total take-home price was ~\$7000. On Lasqueti roads and terrain its effective range is ~60-80km with dual-battery. It can be throttled to qualify as a "limited speed" bike if you don't have a class 6 motorcycle license.

Its two 72V 32Ah lithium batteries are very similar to the Super Soco – aluminum case, carry handle. Batteries are removable, though the compartment is not designed to make it easy.

The 120V charger draws ~1200 watts, recharging from ~50% depleted in just a couple hours. But this may represent a significant portion of inverter output on small solar electric system. You typically can't run other loads on the same 15A circuit while charging.

This bike is chain-drive from a high-quality permanent magnet motor. Which means chain tensioning, lubrication, and cleaning maintenance, especially given dusty, muddy roads. The chain did come off once while riding due to improper tensioning (my bad).

The high-tensile steel frame is built for strength, but that makes it heavy, reducing overall efficiency. Off-road suspension handles washboard and potholes well. Typical of dirt bikes, it has high clearance giving it a higher centre of gravity. With the optional off-road tires, the seat is even a few cm higher, making it harder or impossible for riders with shorter legs. But the aggressive tires do give the bike good traction on our roads.

The ES1 is powered roughly like a 125cc engine. It is designed for 2 passengers and handles the extra weight well with a thumb-switch to boost torque on hills. But the dirt bike seat is not luxury comfort for either rider.

The electronics are over-kill, key fob, anti-theft system, etc. But it has a simple keyed ignition switch that works well. The charging panel is convenient, with a battery disconnect switch and a USB charging port. But the panel cover is latched with a shoddy plastic clasp that seems likely to break.

The ES1 is a real off-road bike. It has a lot of torque and is fun to ride. We added an optional luggage rack, which makes it convenient to pack spare clothes, rain gear, pot luck meals, etc. It's done good service in the first year, but I withhold final judgement for a few years and a few thousand more Lasqueti km. – *Joseph Fall*



Arts Council Update October

To begin, a big welcome home to our vice president, Julia W. It is a such a pleasure to have you back with us.

Construction on the Clay Commons is moving steadily forward. Since Mike P has brought us to lockup, there has been a lovely combination of paid and volunteer workers getting jobs done. We have had Aiden B-B doing ceilings and window trim, Jim M finishing off the electrical, Jan D helping bring water to the building, Jen B and Faren W insulating the building and Clare K, our resident Mud Girl, leading a dynamite team consisting of Kaia B, Valeria D, and Faren W in putting up lath and plastering. It is really becoming a beautiful space. We are in the process of applying for an equipment grant to get everything we need to get the studio up and running. We have already started acquiring a few things. We have our kiln body and bricks for the rocket kiln coming up from Vancouver, Maya G is lending us her lovely electric wheel while she is out of the country, and Jen B has donated a whole bunch of glaze making materials.

We have partnered with other island organizations this fall to bring art to the community. We started with LINC and the Reconciliation Committee and an exploration of Indigenous crabapple orchards, printmaking with both the public and with the younger class at FBS ahead of Dr. Chelsey Armstrong's talk on October 30th and crabapple walk on October 31st.

We are also working with the LINC's Xwe'etay/Lasqueti Bumble Bee Project to celebrate our native bumble bee species, most likely at the end of November. This will include BOMBUS! an all ages, bumble bee themed art show. Start working on your art! Dates to be announced.

Lastly, our AGM is coming up on Saturday, October 24th from 1 to 3. If you have rented space or had an art show in the gallery, if you have attended an event, or are excited to support programming, please consider attending. A membership is required to vote and can be obtained by emailing arts@lasqueti.ca. It costs \$5.00 and is good until September 2027. There will be cake by Jen B. -*The Arts Council Board*

International Coastal Cleanup Day

While Lasqueti has a long history of organized beach cleanups, including LSD (Lasqueti Styrofoam Day) and Ocean Legacy funded cleanups, this year was Lasqueti's first time participating in International Coastal Cleanup Day (ICC). Traditionally, ICC happens on the third Saturday of September, which almost always coincides with our Fall Fair! So, we opted for the weekend prior. Sixteen volunteers collected 2 truck loads and one boat load of trash along our shores in less than 3 hours.

How is this possible? While some of it is indeed land-based waste from Lasqueti Island - think remnants of old homesteads and vehicles - much of it is stuff that washes up on shore due to ocean currents and surface winds. Debris from aquaculture, commercial fishing and other coastal activities make up a large portion of what we find here. Chunks of Styrofoam from floating docks are a particular problem, as they degrade into finer and finer pieces which become impossible to remove from the landscape. Think "Styrofoam midden".

Each year, the Ocean Conservancy creates a report based on the findings from all the ICCs that submit their data. With over 40 years of data collection, it has been possible to see trends, inspire research and inform policy. The latest report includes findings from recent autopsy research on how little plastic it actually takes to have a lethal effect when ingested by ocean animals. For example, swallowing 6 tiny pieces of rubber (such as a balloon fragment smaller than a pea) was found to kill seabirds 90% of the time. Even 3 pieces led to a 50% chance of death. Besides ingestion, entanglement in "ghost gear" (lost/abandoned fishing gear) creates a similarly devastating threat to wildlife. Find the reports here:

<https://oceanconservancy.org/work/plastics/cleanups-icc/annual-data-release/>.

It's interesting to note how marine debris composition changes by world region. In Canada, the top 2 most numerous items found were cigarette butts, followed by food wrappers. Cigarette butts are actually composed of plastic fibres, which themselves are steeped in toxic chemicals that persist in our environment even longer than the plastic itself.

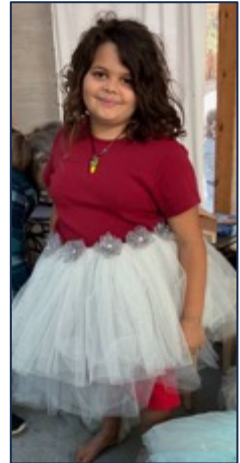
If you'd like to get involved in regional efforts to improve the state of our seas, one group you might consider is Ocean Wise. Their website, <https://ocean.org>, has a myriad of ways to get involved here in BC, including microgrants for youth!

– Heather Crawford

The last summer market (was it really only one month ago?!)



Joanne Berthiaume at the last market giving out the tutus she created. "What better way to celebrate a parade and put a smile on their little faces?" Joanne created these beautiful tutus from scrap fabric from her work with a school in Montreal.



Rune Rosehart



Lupine Rosehart
and Tilia Bain



Helen Ayres, Zora Slavick,
Seraphina Churchill, and
Sasha Scanlan



Thank you, musicians! Bruce, Cuba, Ken L., Merrick, Dave W., Nikki D., Bob B.
(photos: Sophia Rosenberg)

Fall Fair 2026

Dear community,

We had another wonderful Fall Fair this year, and what a beautiful sunny day it was. Well over 350 of us came together to celebrate the bounty, our traditions and the changing of the seasons. We played, laughed, danced, shared food and enjoyed all the wonderful things people brought to the day. Nearly 300 people paid at the gate, dinners virtually sold out, and 108 new members joined the LCA. A pretty amazing turnout for one sunny Saturday.

This is what community is all about: everyone showing up, pitching in and sharing what they can. Thank you for being there and for continuing to build a Lasqueti culture of generosity, reciprocity and belonging.

We are also especially grateful to carry on the spirit of the Fall Fair that Jenny V. helped shape so lovingly over the years. She and Andrew Fall took on organizing in 2011 with a vision for a fun, community-focused day, and Jenny brought so much energy and care to the games, displays, decorating, setup and cleanup. Her absence was deeply felt this year, and so much of the spirit of the day still reflects what she helped create. I hope we made Jenny proud.

There are far too many people to thank individually here: our organizing committee, the incredible dinner and food crew, musicians and sound team, gate volunteers, vendors, contest organizers and judges, display contributors, game and activity helpers, cleanup crew, and every person who brought food, flowers, produce, crafts, music, energy or helping hands. We have shared a longer thank-you online so we can properly acknowledge as many of those contributions as possible.

And finally, thank you to everyone who simply came and joined in. Whether you brought a pie, entered a chicken, danced the reel, pulled a rope, served a plate, cheered from the sidelines or came to be part of it, you helped make the day what it was.

The Fall Fair belongs to all of us, and somehow, every year, we make it happen together with a lot of heart, a lot of helping hands and just the right amount of hilarious chaos. Thank you, Lasqueti. ❤️ — *The Fall Fair Organizing Committee*



Leithen M'Gonigle



Leithen M'Gonigle



Jon Martin



Leithen M'Gonigle

Tilia, Sophia, and Dorothea

This month, I would like to provide some information on the MOST form (Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment).

What is a MOST form, and what does completing the MOST form involve? Ideally, the MOST form is completed following an individual Advance Care Directive or the Lasqueti "Good to Go".

Completing the MOST can help ensure that an adult's wishes for care are followed and that undesired care is avoided.

There are six designations on the MOST form that provide direction about resuscitation status, critical care, and medical interventions. They range from comfort care to intensive care. The form is completed by a most responsible Practitioner (MRP), based on advance care planning and conversations with a capable adult, their family, or their substitute decision-maker about health care goals.

Having a document on file that addresses important health care questions, including the desired level of care, can be reassuring for everyone: the individual, family, friends, and health care providers. The MOST is an option for all adults; however, it is especially important for adults with an advancing illness or a life-limiting chronic condition.

If you are being admitted to hospital, it is a good idea to bring your MOST form with you.

The MOST is valid in all care settings, including community and home care, and is honoured by the BC Ambulance Service. It is recommended that MOST forms be updated annually. It is important to know that, even if you have a MOST, you will always be asked to provide direction for your care as long as you are capable. ♥ dianne

Nurse in clinic Oct 8 & 15. Clinic: 250-333-8891;
Dianne: 250-240 5712 lasquetihealthcentre@gmail.com



Darcy Dobell



Kitchen Creations

Wild Mushroom Cobbler



This is a perfect fall recipe. Adapted from one of my favourite cookbooks by Anna Thomas, *The New Vegetarian Epicure*.

2 lbs red onions
2 1/2 Tbs each olive oil and butter
Salt
1 oz dried porcini
1 lb fresh wild mushrooms or a combo of wild and cultivated
2 cloves garlic, chopped
Pinch each thyme and cayenne
Black pepper
1/2 c red wine
1 1/2 Tbs flour
1 1/2 c low fat milk, heated

Peel and slice red onions. Heat 1 Tbs olive oil and butter in large, ovenproof skillet and cook onions with a sprinkle of salt over low heat until caramelized. Remove to plate. Soak porcini in boiling water, just covered, for 30 minutes. Clean and slice fresh mushrooms. Rinse porcini, saving the liquid, and chop finely. Strain liquid through coffee filter and reserve.

In same skillet melt 1 1/2 T olive oil and 1/2 T butter. Add garlic cooking for 1 minute, then add mushrooms and cook until they release liquid. Add porcini, thyme and cayenne and pepper to taste. Keep cooking until mushrooms are beginning to colour and liquid is evaporated.

Add red wine and strained mushroom soaking liquid. Add onions back to pan and simmer for a few minutes.

In separate saucepan melt remaining T of butter and stir in flour until golden. Add heated milk and whisk until thick. Add white sauce to mushroom mixture and season to taste.

Biscuit dough:

Combine 2 c flour, 1 tsp baking soda, 2 tsp baking powder, 1 tsp salt in food processor. Add 4 T chilled butter and process until texture of coarse meal. Add 1/2 c grated Parmesan and mix for a few seconds. Transfer to a bowl and mix with 1 1/3 c buttermilk just until dough forms.

Spoon dough onto mushroom mixture and bake in pre-heated 400F oven for about 25 minutes. Serve hot with a salad and cranberry sauce or chutney or, your favourite relish. – Deb Perell

Going to Town on the Cardena

Lasqueti's commercial traffic used to be in a straight line: False Bay to Vancouver, no stops. We went to town maybe once or twice a year, often when dad went to the Truck Loggers' Convention. We stayed at the St. Regis Hotel and mom hung her taffeta dress, midnight blue, in the closet.

We started very early from False Bay, making sure the coal oil lamp at home was fully put out and the stove cold.

If we were lucky, the boat was on time for the dawn departure, and the winds were in our favour. Maybe some other islanders were on board, all of us dressed up for the event.

The Cardena was a rough and ready boat, designed to serve the purposes demanded of it: carrying freight, passengers and canned salmon from the canneries up the coast to the city.

There was an immediate change of atmosphere once we went up the gangplank from our familiar wharf. We boarded in time for breakfast and soon we descended into the lower deck where a soft rope was unhooked and we went to arrange ourselves at tables covered with white linen cloths, silverware, glasses, a pitcher of water and waiters standing by with tea, coffee and cocoa. I was served a half grapefruit, sections all cut and a red maraschino on top. I was stunned by the experience.

We would stroll along the aisles to pass the time. Past the sleepy, hungover loggers, the closed beer parlour, the families, the business people, and past the little news stand that the purser opened to offer candy, toys, magazines and cigarettes. A man with watery eyes once gave me a quarter to spend. Dad told me he was from a logging camp up the coast and there weren't any children around, and he missed them and loved to see them again.

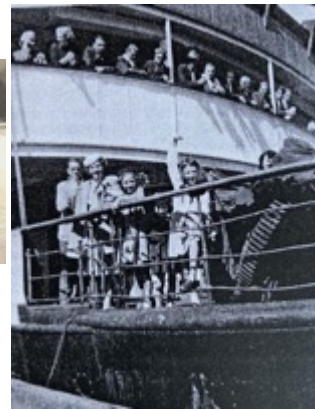
Soon, a restless stir in the air! We were coming to the Lions Gate Bridge! We bundled up and went to the bow to slide under it. This was the city! Cars and buses overhead, Stanley Park to the right, twinkling lights as the city woke up, the big red W from Woodward store, the smell of coffee roasting and the aroma from the BC sugar refinery. Vancouver just hit you square in the face.

As we went down the gangplank in our dressy shoes, Lasqueti was but a distant memory.

Adventures were waiting!
- Kate Hackett (Livingstone)



Photos from
Elda Mason's collection



Memories like Bruises

The cloud train roars down the strait
900 metres above the charging whitecaps,
Following, lifted and channeled,
By Texada's steep forested ridge.
A vulture tears across my view, twisting and
flipping
Like someone's lost brown umbrella.
With this blustering wind, every now and then
The rain spatters hard, like watermelon seeds on
my book page,
And the cloud mass above keeps ripping open
like
The over stressed stuck zippers on puffy
sleeping bags
Releasing startling beams of very welcome
sunlight.
That briefly illuminate my spattered pages with
warm yellow.
Where I sit, under a big cedar at the top of our
meadow,
The wind's gusts keeps bending the branches,
Briefly obscuring my view across the islets
(The furthest out being Larson,
The one the grandkids named: "Seal Island".)
An integral part of my favourite ocean view.
Once I step out of nature, walled and windowed,
back inside,
I sit and write from memory about the forest, sea
and sky.
I slowly weave similes and words, trying to get it
right before I die,
The view that's ever changing and so vibrantly
alive;
Ever changing - every day.
These memories, like bruises, are slow to fade.
- Dolf Schoenmakers

Feasting in the Fall at Provisions - a snapshot of where we are at - Harvest Dinners

Hello islanders! We wanted to send out a message in this issue to show appreciation for what it means to cook for you. For those of you who are new to the island, our team cooks, bakes and serves the island year-round and is constantly on the look out for fresh ideas, ingredients and cuisines to showcase what we do here.

Cooking from the heart on a daily basis in a small community is something that gives us a tremendous amount of joy and every year has brought a new concept to life. We are always planning breakfasts, lunches, other kinds of meals and regularly do spur of the moment dine in or take out dinners, host small and large events, assist with catering functions and give the type of one-on-one service that defines hospitality industry's core goal: making you happy.

The focus from day one has been to provide a comforting place where you are all welcome to gather, visit with each other, feast, drink and find the things you are looking for. Teaching cooking and baking along with essential life skills has also been the biggest goal and we want to especially honour the growing number of island-born and raised women and men who join us in the restaurant, bakery and store to learn how to do it all. This has been such a major joy in our lives throughout the life of this restaurant and is the main reason we are here. When you walk in the door and hear that "Good morning, how are you today?" from us you know that it is genuine and a kind of especially bright way to start your day.

This month we are offering our Harvest Turkey Dinners on the weekend of October 10th to the 12th - menu to be announced that week. When we say "comfort food" you can be assured it will be comfortable. Get ready to enjoy, recline, and relax!

You can also expect to see a variety of nationalities represented in our food this season, along with a focus on seasonal fruit, vegetables, meat, seafood, and other specialties. Drop by or call any time to see what is on offer. Thank you Lasqueti for showing up every day to let us cook for you.

Major love and good wishes for a fabulous Fall from False Bay Provisions. Looking forward to seeing you soon!



Sunflowers by the dock"

Camino C.

The Wednesday Social

It's the time of year again where we start thinking about the darker months and how we're going to fare through it. Some of us live in smaller, perhaps darker homes in the forest. The Wednesday social has become a staple in those times. People of all ages gather at the hall to play and talk and eat and help out in so many ways. Doing it together is part of the fun!

As we all have noticed, food is expensive these days. I don't want that to have an effect on the Social. I want to continue to make fulfilling healthy meals for everyone who comes. I do this because I love it and I feel it is incredibly necessary.

SO please reach out if you feel you could help with a donation of money time or food.

Thank you!

- Rachel Churchill rjc.oneofakind@gmail.com



Lianne Heath



From Tim Peterson: At the final Islands Trust Council meeting of the term, September 9-11, Trust Council approved a new Corporate Planning Process for the 2026–2030 Council term; the Information Systems Five-year Plan; recommended that the incoming Council consider amending the committee structure; updated the Resolutions Without Meetings procedures; and amended the procurement policy, among other business.

Dr. Tara Martin gave an informative presentation on the environmental impacts of hyper-abundant deer in the Southern Gulf Islands.

Trust Council also voted to send letters on a number of advocacy issues, including: requesting Provincial action on the recommendations in the Drought Ready Report; writing the Major Projects Office expressing opposition to the proposed West Coast Oil Pipeline being designated a project of national interest until further information and impact assessments are available; writing the Minister of Agriculture and Food, echoing Union of BC Municipalities' concerns regarding the New Regulation Encouraging More Food Processing in Agricultural Land Reserve; endorsing the contents of the Joint Statement issued by local government leaders following the June 2026 "Elbows Up For Climate" summit; and a letter to the Province asking that legislation be amended to exempt Islands Trust from the Infrastructure Projects Act.

Trust Council also voted to support my trustee sponsored motion, to join other local governments in writing to federal ministers and the PM, supporting parliamentary Motion M-35, regarding long-term federal operational support for BC Ferries, initiated by our MP Gord Johns.

The next Lasqueti Local Trust Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 23, 2026 at 11:00 am, following the election, and the inauguration of the new Trust Council. This initial meeting of the new term will be held electronically, along with all LTC meetings across the Islands Trust.

From Mikaila Lironi: Wow, 4 years have come and gone already. I have learned so much about myself, civics, my community, politics, and due process. I will forever admire anyone who runs for public office, as well as question the sanity of anyone who does more than one term. Ha ha.

Overall, despite the performative slander, harassment, and numerous Freedom of Information requests, it was a good term. Thank you to everyone who believed in me and kept me going. I definitely couldn't have done it without the support of many wonderful community members. Thank you to everyone who came to LTC meetings in solidarity.

My biggest take away is that listening to the loudest person who sounds like they know what they're talking about is usually not the most informed. If I've learned anything, it's that the quieter, thoughtful people who only speak up when it's important are the ones to listen to. In this age of boundless information, it becomes ever more important to verify your sources and see who benefits from what they're claiming. Try and focus on what people who sit in a different political camp have in common with you. It's easy to fixate on things that widen the divide and create polarization. We're all just trying to get by while living under difficult conditions. We need neighbours, community, and tolerance more than ever.

Thank you Lasqueti for electing me to the privilege of representing you. Thank you to everyone who sent encouraging words and supported me during the more difficult moments of my term. Thank you to Tim for being my co-trustee through it all, and to Chair Tobi Elliott who doggedly kept returning to the island when a lesser chair would have thrown in the towel.

Any candidates or community members who have questions about civics, the Trust, how local government works etc, please reach out lironimc@gmail.com or until October 17th, mlironi@islandstrust.ca

Thank you, Tim and Mikaela, for your service to our community.



Ken Lertzman

Super Snacker sunnies—great eating!



Term Winding Down

Many final meetings, including the Vancouver Island Regional Library, Coastal Invasive Species Committee, Regional Hospital District and of course the Regional Board and its committees (many people who care about literacy and public spaces, ecosystem diversity and resilience, and community health and well-being).

Our lives are in chapters, and the close of one chapter is often needed to begin the next. My role as your regional director after 8 years will close when the next Board is inaugurated.

I offer my full support and congratulations to our incoming Director-elect, Shelley, who has my confidence that she will represent our community well.

Ferry and Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT)

The qRD Board met with MOTT representatives to talk about our ferry contract. In brief, I asked the Ministry to (a) increase oversight and monitoring of adherence to the contract; (b) increase opportunity for public input to contract renewals; and (c) to include in the next contract: annual reporting requirements; fare increases consistent with the regulated price cap; and requirements for a public complaints process. These would increase consistency with routes operated by BC Ferries, and were received as reasonable requests.

Union of BC Municipalities Convention

Always an intense week right before Fall Fair (so extra fun rushing to return to Lasqueti in time). A few highlights:

- BC Ferries: The qRD Board met with senior BC Ferries representatives for over an hour on a range of topics. Plenty of time to reiterate my requests to the Ministry.
- Eyes of the Beast: Climate Disaster Survivor Stories: An amazing play by UVic Department of Theatre and Newworld Theatre based on interviews with people who lived through recent floods, fires, heat domes and other events in BC. If you get a chance to see this, don't miss it.
- Modern Treaties: Insights into the process and outcomes of the modern treaty process, with a focus on the Nisga'a Treaty.

Upcoming Election for Lasqueti Islands Trustees

I thank all candidates for putting their name forward – it is a significant offer. Voting supports our democracy (early voting Oct 7; election day Oct 17).

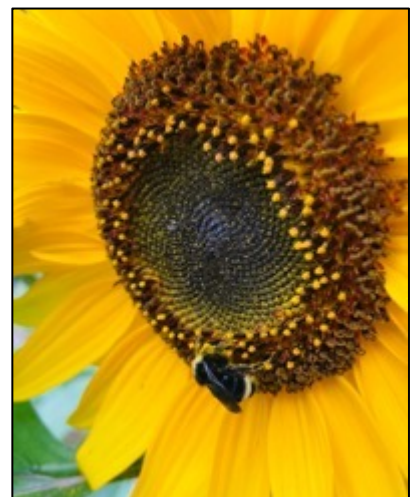
Church Property

Keep an eye on the email list for a community meeting that I will organize soon to talk about the Church property.

I am honoured to be your regional representative. afall@gathet.ca – Andrew Fall



Lianne Heath



Charlene Lloyd

Yellow-faced bumble bee

Invasive species in our environment can be a controversial and puzzling topic. Many plants and animals from other parts of the planet have become naturalized here in ways that make them difficult for most people to separate from native species. In an ever-changing climate and in the natural movement of life, changes to our surroundings are expected as species move about and adapt to their new home. Do we consider only those newcomers introduced by humans invasive? When and how are these so-called invasive species damaging or contributing to what we presently consider our “natural” environment? LINC hopes to address some of these questions in coming months in the form of its Newsletter articles and in learned talks and discussions.

Some recommended books on this complicated subject are: “Medicine Wheel for the Planet” by BC Indigenous ecologist and scholar Dr. Jennifer Grenz; and “Where Do Camels Come From?: Why Invasive Species Aren’t All Bad” by UK Botanist and Senior Research Fellow of Sheffield University Ken Thompson.

An excellent book by Hans Roemer and Mary Sanserverino, “Native Plants of British Columbia’s Coastal Dry Belt” helps to distinguish native and non-native plants here in the Gulf Islands.

On Sunday September 27th, LINC’s Land Steward Coordinator, Charlene Loyd, acting as an iNaturalist ambassador, led a large group of interested hikers on an invigorating hike from the base of Mt. Trematon down through the ecological reserve to the ocean side and back. With her extensive understanding of local plant and ecological systems, along with the participants’ experience and knowledge, these hikes become rich learning experiences.

On Friday October 30th, LINC, together with the LCA Reconciliation Committee and the Arts Council, will present a talk by SFU Associate Professor Chelsey Armstrong on how Indigenous forest gardening has profoundly shaped ecosystems across the Pacific Northwest. Next day, Saturday October 31st, she will lead a walk into a local native crabapple orchard.

LINC appreciates the ongoing support of its many members and would like to encourage your deeper participation by listening to your thoughts, ideas or questions on any conservation related subject. We hope to encourage better understanding of our natural environment and to promote learning to live in greater harmony within that environment. Write to: linc@lasqueti.ca



Dana Lepofsky

Supersnacker seed harvest



Dana Lepofsky

“Barb Greene, beloved Lasqueti ancestor, was often seen in this bold, hand-painted shirt. In fact, she had a few of them painted by her friend Sally Robinson. This one went home with Donna Lytle ten years ago, after Barb died, but she recently sent it back saying she thought it belonged here on Lasqueti.”

False Bay Provisions Book Store Fundraising Update for 2026

It gives us great pleasure to announce we have recently contacted False Bay School to give the students and teachers funds raised this year to stock the school library. The school principal agreed to match the amount for a total of \$886. Thank you to the community for helping us encourage ample reading choices for present and future students!

If you have books you would like to contribute to the store this fall or winter, please contact us at Provisions. We are currently looking for books focused on nature, local history, Canadian content, cookbooks, comics, children's books, art, flora or fauna, fiction, non-fiction, forest and or marine life.

Also, if you haven't explored the McRae Lending library please check the back area where we have a special collection of books from local resident authors available to borrow. We'll be submitting a list of new books catalogued for that project next month. As we fall into winter it is the perfect time to find that special book that you keep by the fire.

Thanks again for supporting the bookstore and library, happy reading and have a great October!

INDIGENOUS FOREST GARDENS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA



TALK: CHELSEY ARMSTRONG (SFU)
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30th
7:30-9:00 PM
ARTS CENTRE



WALK: NATIVE CRABAPPLE ORCHARD
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31st
10:00 AM-12:00 PM



Indigenous forest gardening has profoundly shaped ecosystems across the Pacific Northwest. Join us for a talk about these enduring landscapes, highlighting ongoing research in Ts'msyen, Gitksan, and Nuu-chah-nulth homelands, and showing how their stewardships support land-based foodways today.

SPONSORED BY LINC, THE RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE, AND THE ARTS COUNCIL.

Wisdom from Xwe'etay Gardeners



To clean or not to clean up?

It is such a lovely time of year to be in the garden, the pace so much slower than summer, the light gentler, the pressure to keep everything watered is over. Phew! And I just love to get in there and clean things up. Deadheading dahlias, cutting down failing plants, pulling out the dying squash vines. There is something very satisfying about looking at a tidy garden, ready for the winter.

But thinking in a more permaculture way, there is also the knowing that it is good to leave some of the "mess"—the dying, decaying parts, the dead flower heads, the scruffy stems of things long past production, because these provide places for insects to shelter and overwinter. We know that seed heads provide food for birds, piles of leaves and sticks create hiding places for snakes, but also, hollow stems can become homes for native bees!

Reading The Vancouver Bee Project website, I learned that some of our native bees nest inside hollow or pithy stems of plants such as goldenrod, elderberry, raspberries and other cane berries, yarrow, asters, and sunflowers. They lay their eggs inside the stems and leave pollen for the young, which may spend the winter tucked safely inside. The Vancouver Bee Project recommends leaving the dead stems of these plants standing over winter, then cutting them back in early spring to about 12–18 inches so the cut stems can provide places for bees to make their nests. And here's the part I hadn't really considered—those cut stems may need to stay around for another year or two while the next generation of bees develops and eventually emerges. For more information on this, check out their website: vancouverbeeproject.org.

So what should we leave behind? Seed heads, hollow flower stalks, fallen leaves and healthy plant debris in the "chop and drop" style. Simply chop it and drop it in place. Small piles of sticks or leaves tucked into a corner here and there are sure to prove useful to garden critters. In permaculture they say that the wild part of a garden, a part untouched and undisturbed by us, is where a little bit of magic can happen. And maybe, then, it means we can be a little bit lazier about our fall garden cleanup :)

— Anna Dodds

Lasqueti Island Children's Programs

Here are our Children's programs, as well as an acknowledgement to our Lasqueti Kids, and an expression of gratitude to those who support them.

In 2022, I began offering playgroup/group childcare. I've worked from the Arts Centre, from home (outdoors), and now at the Community Hall.

In 2024 Laila and Acacia began the Parents and Babes program. Parents come with their littles (starting at age 0) to play and socialize. They began at the JFC and later moved to the Community Hall, where the program will resume later this fall.

Violet Rosehart is beginning Kids Art Classes for preschoolers, homeschoolers, and any other youth available and inspired to come. This Art Club & Forest Theatre will begin October 1st at the Arts Centre.

~~~

It has been a delight and a privilege for me to run a once-a-week playgroup. Lasqueti kids are extraordinarily bright, strong, and kind. On John's property we went on countless walks, played in the mud kitchen, received amazing special guests, read books on the blanket under the plum trees, and fended off chickens and sheep during lunch time!

This summer Vida was with me in support to make playgroup day fun and easeful; she will continue as my helper at the hall. We are excited to see some playgroup kids in Kindergarten at FBS!

With more babes on the way we hope our children's programs will continue onwards. Previously we had Gretje running a licensed preschool for 27 years ~ she deservedly retired in 2020. Valeria, with the help of Jess H and eventually Ingo, ran the Arts Picnic until 2019, for a total of 22 years.

In addition to these generous contributions, I would also like to acknowledge the following (and any others!): Our FBS teachers, volunteers and coaches, Lasqueti's home school teachers, our babysitters and nannies, and the many amazing parents...all who create beautiful and loving conditions for Lasqueti children, families and community to grow in a good way. Many thanks  
- Carly "p"

### Children's Programs:

#### **Playgroup at the Hall, Tuesdays:**

**10-1 Preschool Kids & 10-3 All Day kids**

*To register contact Carly p*

#### **Parents and Babes at the Hall, Tuesdays:**

**10-12 By donation. Dates TBD! Contact Carly p**

### **Kids Art Classes at the Arts Centre, Thursdays:**

**10-12 Oct 1st, 9-week program. This program is Full!**

*~ If there is interest in January. Violet R will run the program again.*



Carly P.

Playgroup at the Johnmune, Summer 2026



Kathie Gascoigne



David Robinson

Revisiting last month's theme: We wanted to show off David Robinson's fabulous giant paper maché zucchini, which was displayed at the Fall Fair in 2023.

## Wonder when Ferry Passes go out?

Here's the official word:

On Lasqueti:

Sunday, 10:30 am, passes are put out for the 1:00 pm sailing.

Sunday, 1 pm, passes are put out for the 4:00 pm sailing.

Generally, no passes are put out for 8:00 am sailings, unless there is a school field trip or a large line up of people before 7:30 am.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday passes for the 11 am go out when the 8 am ferry leaves the dock.

Passes for the 4 o'clock ferry on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday go out when the 11am ferry leaves the dock.

At French Creek:

Passes the 2:30 pm ferry are put out at noon (when the 11 o'clock arrives at French Creek).

Passes for 5:30 pm ferry go out when the 2:30 pm is leaving.

## Help Wanted

Looking for an individual interested in writing periodic articles about waste management, recycling, and reuse efforts on Lasqueti Island.

Contact:

**Jason Kouwenhoven**

Manager of Environmental Services

[jkouwenhoven@qathet.ca](mailto:jkouwenhoven@qathet.ca)



qathet  
REGIONAL DISTRICT



Grete Lohmann

## Our Week in Review

|                                   | Sun                             | Mon                 | Tues      | Wed                 | Thu                 | Fri                 | Sat                 |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>A Life TimeZ Nursery</b>       | By appointment.<br>819 698 3829 |                     |           |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| <b>Black Sheep Gas</b>            |                                 | 2 - 6               |           |                     | 2 - 6               | 2 - 6               |                     |
| <b>Feed Store</b>                 |                                 | 11 - 3              |           |                     | 11 - 3              |                     |                     |
| <b>Ferry – from FB</b>            | 1, 4                            | 8, 11, 4            |           | 8, 11, 4            | 8, 11, 4            | 8, 11, 4            | 8, 11, 4            |
| <b>Ferry– from FC</b>             | 2:30, 5:30                      | 9:30, 2:30,<br>5:30 |           | 9:30, 2:30,<br>5:30 | 9:30, 2:30,<br>5:30 | 9:30, 2:30,<br>5:30 | 9:30, 2:30,<br>5:30 |
| <b>Free Store</b>                 |                                 | 10 - 3              |           |                     | 12 - 5              |                     |                     |
| <b>Life Drawing</b>               |                                 |                     | 7 - 9     |                     |                     |                     |                     |
| <b>Nurse</b>                      |                                 |                     |           |                     | 11 – 3**            |                     |                     |
| <b>Parsimony &amp; Providence</b> |                                 | 2 - 6               |           |                     | 2 - 6               | 2 - 6               |                     |
| <b>Post Office</b>                |                                 | 10 - 4              |           | 10 - 4              |                     | 10 - 4              |                     |
| <b>Propane filled</b>             |                                 |                     |           |                     |                     | 1 - 3               |                     |
| <b>Provisions</b>                 | 11 - 5                          | 9 - 5               | 12 - 5    | 10 - 5              | 9 - 5               | 9 - 5               | 9 - 5               |
| <b>Recycling</b>                  |                                 | 10 - 3              |           |                     | 12 - 5              |                     |                     |
| <b>Restaurant/Pub</b>             | 1pm - close                     | 1pm - close         | 3 – close | 1pm– close          | 1 – close           | 1– close            | 1– close            |
| <b>CS Bread Stand</b>             |                                 |                     | Bake day! |                     |                     | Bake day!           |                     |
| <b>Ultimate Frisbee</b>           | 5:00                            |                     |           | 5:00                |                     |                     |                     |

\*\*Nurse's clinic: October 8 & 15

## Community Calendar

- 3 October: Pacific Crabapple Pick and Print,  
1pm - 4pm.  
5 October: All Candidates meeting  
7 October: Advance voting, 8am – 8 pm, at the  
Hall.  
17 October: Voting day. 8am – 8 pm, at the  
Hall.  
30/31 October: Indigenous Forest Gardens.  
Presentation and native crabapple walk by  
Dr. Chelsey Armstrong.

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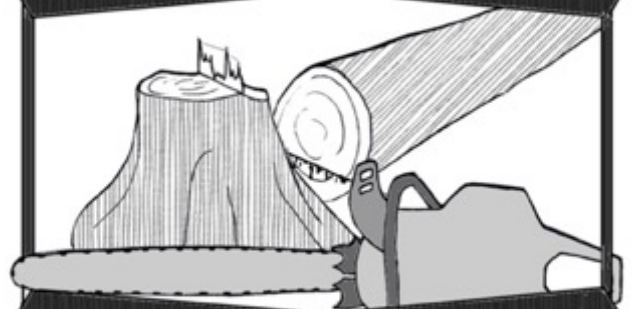
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|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| MONDAY   | 2 PM - 6 PM |
| THURSDAY | 2 PM - 6 PM |
| FRIDAY   | 2 PM - 6 PM |

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Online versions: [www.lasqueti.ca/xweetay-news](http://www.lasqueti.ca/xweetay-news)

**Deadline submission for Nov. issue: 29 Oct**