

**DIRECTOR'S NEWS SEPT 2011**  
**AN UPDATE FROM SCRD DIRECTOR, DONNA  
SHUGAR**



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**CONTACT**

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604-885-6800 ext 6505 www.creekdirector.ca  
In Person: Please contact me on any issue and  
I would be pleased to set up an appointment.  
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**CREEK DAZE**

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This was the first year since Creek Daze began in 1978 that I have been away from the Coast and unable to be there. By all reports it was another wonderful event and thanks are due to all the amazing volunteers and the RCCA executive who make this community event so special each year. Thanks also to Rob and the rest of the Mandala crew for another miraculous art piece! The new gate at the Pier is so beautiful! It was created by blacksmith Kelly Backs at his Roberts Creek smithy called Tree Studios.

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**OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN**

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The comments received on the first draft of the new Roberts Creek Official Community Plan have been reviewed by SCRD Planning staff and the OCP Review Committee. The majority of the comments supported the direction the Committee has taken in the new plan. Adjustments are being made in accordance with the suggestions received and a second draft should be ready to submit to the SCRD Board for first reading shortly. This enables the plan to be submitted to other agencies (e.g. MOT, Health, SIB and Squamish Nation, Agricultural Land Commission) for their comments and then to

the public through a public hearing process. Please check out the SCRD website for more information. [www.scrd.ca/Roberts-Creek](http://www.scrd.ca/Roberts-Creek)

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**BUS SCHEDULE**

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The SCRD Transit system will switch over to the shoulder season bus schedule Sept 6 – Oct. 11. Please consult [www.scrd.ca/Transit--Handy-Dart](http://www.scrd.ca/Transit--Handy-Dart) before you plan your trip.

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**CITIZENS ON PATROL**

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In June there was a public meeting at the Roberts Creek Hall to discuss the issue of vandalism and beach parties on our waterfront. The meeting was well attended by members of the public who heard comments from the RCMP, Gibsons Citizens on Patrol, and the Coordinator of the Youth Outreach program. The discussion was lively and while most attendees asked to be kept posted on future activities, there was not sufficient interest in forming a Roberts Creek CoP group. Most people felt that we as a community can be very effective in a more informal way by being a positive role model, ensuring that everyone feels safe in our community and reporting problems to the appropriate organization. A couple of useful tips were provided: if you are aware of a problem that requires the RCMP, use 911. Ask for a file number and to be provided with feedback about the outcome afterwards. It was surprising to hear that the RCMP had received only a couple of calls about problems this past Spring when there were many more incidents that have gone unreported. Having heard where some of the trouble spots are, the RCMP was better able to patrol and there were few incidents as the summer unfolded.

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## POOL CLOSURE

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The pool at the Sechelt Aquatic Centre is closed for maintenance until Sept 24. The fitness facilities remain open.

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## RECREATION GUIDE

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The SCRD Fall/Winter Recreation Guide came out in print form with the Aug 25 edition of the Local. It is also available on line at [www.scrd.ca/Recreation-Guide](http://www.scrd.ca/Recreation-Guide). The Guide is full of information about programs available at all SCRD recreation facilities. Fall registration is now underway.

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## PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

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The SCRD is preparing a Parks and Recreation Plan to coordinate efforts and make the best use of resources to fit your needs. The Plan will provide a vision for the future and a 10 year strategy to achieve it. It will focus on park and trail development, recreation facilities and services and will identify priorities. Your participation in the development of this plan is welcome! In October there will be several focus group sessions to get feedback from different age groups as well as different recreation groups in the community. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Fenwick, General Manager, Community Services Department, 604-885-6802 ext 8 or email [prmp@scrd.ca](mailto:prmp@scrd.ca)

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## HENDERSON BEACH

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There has recently been quite a bit of building activity at the Henderson Beach Access and this is expected to continue and increase. The SCRD holds a Statutory Right of Way permit with MOT to enable public recreational use and access to the beach. However, we are not currently fully utilizing the area we have available. I would like to know how you feel

about making some minor improvements to the beach access such as providing portable toilets during the summer months, a bear proof garbage can, removing the invasive plants (morning glory and Japanese knotweed) and generally tidying things up. If you have an interest in this area please come to a short meeting in the Roberts Creek Elementary School library on Tuesday Sept 13, 7:30pm. If you are unable to attend that evening please send me an email with your thoughts.

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## SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING

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The Sunshine Coast Regional Sustainability Plan, “**We Envision: One Coast, Together in Nature, Culture and Community**” is in its public consultation phase. The ultimate goal of this work is to enable a common long range vision, as well as a coordinated road map for sustainability-in-action in our communities. The discussion paper is built on the knowledge that it’s easy to lose sight of the common big picture if we’re solely working on individual specific actions...and similarly, that the work on the ground won’t happen if we’re only talking about vision. The team that has been working on developing the plan has been drawn from Sunshine Coast Community Services Society, Community Futures Development Corporation, Sunshine Coast Community Foundation (Vital Signs), SD 46, Town of Gibsons, District of Sechelt, SCRD, Vancouver Coastal Health, VOICE on the Coast

They have focused on a series of Core Values in the areas of economic vitality, health and social well being, cultural vitality and environmental sustainability that should inform all of the work that we do. This has been an exciting project and now you have a chance to become involved. Please go to [www.onecoast.ca/](http://www.onecoast.ca/) to read the discussion paper and find out how you can provide your input. Thank you to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Green Municipal Fund which provided the financial assistance for this project.