

**DIRECTOR'S NEWS OCTOBER 2009**  
**AN UPDATE FROM SCRD DIRECTOR, DONNA  
SHUGAR**

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In Person: Gumboot Restaurant Saturdays 9-11am except Oct 3.

**BEACH FIRE UPDATE**

Increased patrols by the RCMP and the province-wide campfire ban both helped to greatly reduce the beach fire problem in the latter part of the summer. The SCRD is still examining ways of increasing the fire protection district onto the beach. We hope to have some more efficient controls in place by next summer. The extended patrols by the RCMP were part of a Crime Reduction Overtime Initiative which helped in a number of problem areas this summer. We hope that the local detachment is able to get this additional funding again next year as it was very valuable on Roberts Creek's beaches.

Although we are moving into the Fall season, good safety practices still apply. Please do not abandon fires burning on the beach!!

There have been complaints about dog waste on the beaches. Please use the bags provided at the Pier Park or bring your own bag for other locations. We all love to use the beach and hope to keep it clean!

**TRAFFIC LIGHT**

We have been informed by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure that the intersection of Roberts Creek Rd and Highway 101 does not qualify for a traffic light. The region in which we fall is huge, extending from Lund, down the Sea to Sky, to

Boston Bar. Only one traffic light per year is included in the budget for the entire area so strict guidelines govern how that location is selected. In June, an MOTI engineer spent 15 hours doing traffic counts and analysis at the intersection including traffic and pedestrian volumes, accident history, and whether there are interruptions of traffic flow. The intersection failed to meet MOTI criteria except for ferry traffic times when there was some restriction of traffic flow. It would be possible to have a special Fire Signal installed specifically for the Fire Dept. However, this would have to be included in the Fire Dept's budget and therefore fall on the shoulders of Roberts Creek taxpayers. In a time of provincial cutbacks and the need for budget restraint I do not think that is a good option.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

On Oct 20 at 7pm there will be a public hearing about the proposed Shoreline Bylaws. This will take place at the Roberts Creek Hall. It is your opportunity to let the SCRCD know about how you feel the Shoreline should be managed. Input following the Hearing is not admissible.

Check the website for the full text of the proposed bylaw: [www.scrd.ca](http://www.scrd.ca)

## **BACK YARD BURNING**

Please remember that the Roberts Creek Smoke Control Bylaw is now in effect and backyard burning is only permitted Oct 15-Nov 15 and then only on lots one hectare or larger. Small campfires for warmth, cooking or ceremony are permitted. Please check the SCRCD website or my website for full details. HYPERLINK "<http://www.scrd.ca>" [www.scrd.ca](http://www.scrd.ca) You may drop off yard waste for free at either the Landfill or the Gibsons Greenwaste Facility just past the IGA mall. Please respect the regulations to keep the air clean for us all.

## **FARMERS MARKET**

The Wednesday night Farmers market at the Roberts Creek Hall has been a great success! The last market day will be Oct 7, 4-7pm, your last chance to support your local growers this season!

## **BIKE LANE**

Despite many other cutbacks we have received our federal gas tax funding as expected. We will be continuing the bike lane on Lower Rd from Largo towards Gibsons. We hope to be able to make it to Woodley with the funds available. A meeting was held on the road with interested neighbours who were all in favour of the project.

The bike lanes are for the safety of cyclists and pedestrians which makes it safer for motorists as well. Parking in the bike lanes compromises everyone's safety! Please do not use the bike lanes for parking!

This is the third and final year of Highway 101 safety improvements funded by the province. As part of this safety work the Ministry of Transportation will be installing some more bike lanes on the water side of Highway 101 in the 80k zone in Roberts Creek.

Other work being done by MOTI will include chip seal surfacing on a number of Roberts Creek roads: Blackburn, Maskell, Margaret, Carey, Crystal, and Agnes.

## **CLEAN UP COUPON DROP OFF EVENT**

SCRCD residential garbage collection customers with 2009 coupons will be able to take their excess refuse materials to Gibsons Disposal and Recycling on Oct 24, 9am-3pm, 1018 Venture Way. A maximum of 450 kg or a small pick up load is permitted. To verify what

types of materials are acceptable, check the website [www.scrd.ca](http://www.scrd.ca).

### **LIBRARY FUNDING**

The Roberts Creek Reading Room has lost its provincial funding. The SCRCD, through taxes from the Roberts Creek area, does support the Reading Room with an annual grant, but there is not money in the budget to make up for the \$5,100 provincial shortfall. The Reading Room is important to many of us and I hope the community will be able to help out with individual donations. This is especially important as our “library” expands into the side of the building vacated by the Post Office.

### **RECREATION**

A leak in the Sechelt pool caused some extra energy costs over the last several months. During the recent maintenance closure the leak was repaired. In addition, the water treatment system is being changed from a salt system to a UV disinfectant system. This change will result in less wear and tear on our machinery. The pool is up and running at full capacity and ice has been in the Gibsons Arena facility since mid August. There is a robust schedule of recreation programs underway at all 4 rec facilities. Check out **HYPERLINK** "<http://www.scrd.ca>" [www.scrd.ca](http://www.scrd.ca) and click on the recreation link.

### **REMEMBRANCE**

In the last couple of months Roberts Creek has lost 2 community pillars, Don Savien and Don Jenkins. These two men were part of the fabric of this place for many years. Both have been remembered for their kindness, for their gentle and loving way with children and for their humour. We are richer for having had them with us and they will be missed.