



**Hornby Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association  
(HIRRA)**

4305 Central Road, Hornby Island, BC, V0R 1Z0

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**Committee Reports to the HIRRA AGM April 10, 2019**

**President's Report HIRRA AGM April 10, 2019**

This being our Annual General Meeting, we now have the President's Report. Last Saturday, I went to the Water Sustainability Forum at New Horizons and listened to presentations on what has to be one of the most important issues on Hornby. It was yet another reminder of all the important work done on this Island by volunteers. There's the Free Store Volunteers, Hornby Island Fire Rescue, Heron Rocks, Hornby Conservancy, HIAC, Joe King, Hornby Radio, HICEEC, ISLA, SPARK and many others. And, of course there's HIRRA, with the breadth and depth of work done by over 60 volunteer committee members on behalf of the Hornby Community, and, the less visible work done by the rest of the HIRRA membership, who may not presently be on a committee, but who come out month after month to our meetings to stay informed and transact business. The social and cultural life of this community is as rich as it is because of Hornby's volunteers, and everyone here should be proud of what they contribute.

For its part, the HIRRA Executive is routinely involved matters large and small, sometimes in support of Management Committee work and the work of other community organizations, sometimes engaging with the CVRD or other government agencies, sometimes spearheading initiatives on behalf of the Hornby community. Often, the Executive's work is below the surface, and merely ensures that potential problems do not become real ones.

This past year, a small sampling of Executive work included co-sponsoring a CVRD Emergency Preparedness presentation last February, ongoing negotiations with the Ministry of Transportation around restoration of the Ford Cove Hill road and the Beulah Creek crossing, supporting HICEEC's initiatives to implement Community Bus service, shepherding HIRRA Bylaw and Policy revisions, arranging funding from the CVRD for a Hornby Conflict Engagement Workshop, negotiating School District 71's temporary use of the Community Hall after last summer's school fire, and managing the decision-making process that resulted in HIAC receiving permission from HIRRA to build a new Community Arts Centre on HIRRA leased Crown Land. Again, a small sampling.

But the most direct impact work is performed by our HIRRA Management Committees, and in a few minutes, we'll hear from them. First, a report from our Treasurer, followed by two related motions.



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**Regional Parks and Trail Committee report April 10, 2019**

- Generally a very productive year. Parks all look good.
- The Committee and CVRD have approved an application by HIMBA to hold a bike race in Mount Geoffrey Park on June 15-16
- Culverts and gravel have been used to upgrade the roadside trails and signage has been replaced with CVRD posts and maps.
- Bridges have been repaired and most of the old mesh has been replaced by aluminum mesh and stainless steel hardware.
- The CVRD has completed the digitized trail maintenance program.
- The Devil's Kitchen capital project was completed successfully.
- Boat Ramp Crown Land license of occupation was approved and an engineer's study suggests the need for further funding.
- We will reprint the paper brochure maps for Mount Geoffrey and the Crown Land trails even though most people now use phone apps.
- The Gull Road trail has been surveyed and applications to the ALC have been sent for approval.
- We are still working on the permanent outhouse proposal for Sandpiper Park for next year. The CVRD will have to apply for a license of occupation from MOTI.
- A note: Doug DeMarzo and Daniel May will meet at Sandpiper Park on Thursday at 10:30am to discuss the issue of a permanent outhouse.
- They will follow that with a meeting at the Gull Road proposed trail in the afternoon.
- We hope to have the portable outhouse at Grassy Park placed in a more suitable location this summer.

Betty Kennedy, on behalf of the Committee



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**Recycling Waste Management Report for HIRRA AGM April 10, 2019**

2019 started off with sending Hornby Island and the Recycling Depot into the deep freeze and Scott Hardy worked many hours clearing the Recycling Depot road and parking lot to provide access for our patrons.

Again this year is starting off to be a busy time for the Recycling Depot. In the first quarter we have already shipped six 40-yard bins of household waste, five bins of Construction and Demolition Waste, six bins of recycling, one bin of commercial cardboard, one bin of scrap metal, two skids of paint, two skids of flammables, one skid of pesticides, three 40-gallon drums of aerosols, six skids of electronic appliances, one skid of light fixtures, five skids of electronics and two skids of household batteries. As well we shipped 234 bags of surplus Free Store clothing and 51 boxes of surplus Free Store books to the diabetes foundation. A busy first quarter.

In January five staff members completed an Occupational First Aid level 1 training course. We have installed flags on our parking bollards to help drivers see the bollards as they are backing up towards them. We have installed an eyewash station that provides 15 minutes of clean warm water and thus meets the new ANSI standards. Moving forward, our staff will be re-trained in WHMIS, WVH, TDG and other required training.

Currently we are working together with the CVRD to replace our aging backhoe shed. This is the last building the CVRD is replacing at the Depot. Originally this was to be a Quonset hut style building, however our old shed will be replaced with another shed style building. The CVRD also is planning to do some maintenance on the recycling building. They will be installing snow breaks on the roof and improve the air quality in the building by adding venting.

In 2018 we shipped 34 40-yards bins of household garbage, 32 bins of recycling, 20 bins of carboard from commercial users, 14 bins of construction and demolition waste, 12 bins of scrap metal, seven bins of wood waste, three bins of branches and two 20-yards bins of drywall off island. As well we shipped six skids of paint, two 40-gallon drums of aerosols, two skids of flammables, one skid of pesticides, 18 skids of electronics, 16 skids of electric appliances, eight skids of light appliances of island. The diabetes foundation received 218 bags of Free Store surplus clothing and 40 boxes of surplus Free Store books in 2018.

For those who are interested, the solar panel array has produced 23.3 Mega watts total of clean energy to date.

In 2018 we had the talented Tessa Mythos rejuvenated our firefighting tank and she created a wonderful tank mural that spreads around the whole tank.



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We also celebrated the Recycling Depot's fortieth birthday. The celebration was a great success and lots of fun was had by all who attended. Many volunteers worked tirelessly to make this a great event and I want to thank everyone who participated.

We would like everyone to know that there is a call out for more volunteer hands in the Free Store. If you are interested in this fun volunteer opportunity, or know someone who might be interested, our volunteers are looking for up to ten more people per week for one to four-hour shifts. For more information you can contact the Recycling Depot or just show up at the Free Store during open hours and start sorting.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the many volunteers that help run the Recycling Depot. All the Free Store Volunteers, the Recycling Committee, HIRRA and our paid staff for their years of dedication and hard work.

Thank you.

Stani, Depot Manager



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**Hornby Recreation Committee Report for HIRRA AGM April 10, 2019**

Hornby Recreation has been working hard to offer the community options for physical activity despite the long winter and no gymnasium.

We have been working alongside HIES in offering the children at our school Recreation based afterschool programs and have been successful in a fall tennis session, karate session, trail riding session and are now moving into Spring with soccer which will run until the end of the school year. We are also excited to have Joshua, our amazing tennis instructor, return for the spring with the largest enrollment yet of 24 kids participating. Thank goodness for the children's, parents' and Joshua's patience and flexibility as we juggle outdoor tennis sessions and this rain.

Throughout the fall and winter, we had a great opportunity thanks to June Cannon to partner up and offer four Family Dances at the Community Hall. These dances had a great turn out with a wide age range and were true community events. The funds raised from these dances are going towards some subsidy funds for youth involved in Hornby Recreation and back into youth who are pursuing the fiddle and music with June. Thanks again to June Cannon and all the volunteer family band members who played for us.

As we all know, we had a good snow year. We had two great successful ski days up at Mount Washington. One in February and one in early March. These ski days were well attending by locals and we also had a lot of young participants getting on skis and snowboards for the first time.

Our spring is shaping up nicely, as I said before. Spring tennis has begun as well as soccer starting outside for youth and adults. We are also planning to get our Hornby Ravens Youth Soccer team together to play in their annual soccer tournament in Courtenay in early June.

Our Summer programming is well on its way with dance camp, artistic movement, circus, tennis, ocean swimming lessons, outdoor explorers camp and sailing. We are pleased to have been chosen by the MOSS program put on by BC sailing to come to Hornby island this summer for a week to offer elite sailing experiences for ages 6 to 14. The moss program supplies two CYA certified instructors along with all the boats and gear needed. This program is allowing us to continue to run a sailing program as it is becoming harder and harder to hire CYA certified instructors.

Some more exciting summer news is that the LGOS organization (Lifeguard Outreach Society) is returning for their third year to offer ocean swimming lessons, swim to survive ocean safety, and survival skills and to offer level one standard first aid. For all our other programs they will run as usual with a change of location for artistic movement



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and circus. These programs will be held either at Joe King Club house or in the multi-use room at our new temporary school.

We have a few changes coming up with Hornby Recreation as I am clearly pregnant and will be going on maternity leave mid-May. We are currently in the process of hiring someone for my position as the Recreation Coordinator from May 1<sup>st</sup> until March 2020. I will work alongside this person for the beginning of May to train them and of course will still be on island and available if needed.

One last note: we have our annual Community Baseball event coming up on May 18<sup>th</sup> at Joe King Ballpark. Save the date and come on out to play ball, have a burger and enjoy a drink. This event has a real community turn out and it gets the kids involved in baseball as well as other community members of any age that have not played in years. It's a fun one, so please do stop by. May 18<sup>th</sup> at Joe King.

Thank you.

Jade Wilson, Recreation Coordinator.



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**Report from the Hall Committee to HIRRA AGM 10<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

The Community Hall was booked for 264 events during 2018 as well as housing the School from Monday to Thursday from September to February. The school continues to use this space as a gym twice a week. The Hall Committee would like to thank everyone involved in the huge effort that was made to ensure that this programme worked. The school staff, members of the Parents Advisory Committee and our cleaning staff all managed to pack and unpack the necessary equipment each week. And to Alan Fletcher who built the lockable cupboard in the wood shed as well as organizing some emergency heat.

The two main challenges for the past year have been the continuation of the P/A system purchase and installation and the improved lighting projects. As many of you know, Melisa Devost has spent countless hours researching, cajoling and pacifying many people as well as being the project manager. We all owe her an enormous vote of thanks for all her hard work. The third microphone jack solution is on its way. The P/A system was tried and tested at the Film Festival to much acclaim.

The project manager for the lighting upgrade is Ron Doucette. I would like to draw your attention to the now uniform light switch panel that includes remote control capabilities. The completed light project is in our future.

General maintenance of this precious building continues. Glenn Ford has secured the mushroom outside and created handicapped parking spaces. The heat pumps continue to keep Thermotec busy.

The Hall now has an online calendar that shows when there are bookings. The site will not take bookings or show any details of each booking. People still have to speak to the Booking Agent.

The Hall Committee would like to thank Lynn, the Booking Agent, Colleen, who cleans this building, and Glenn, the handyman for all the ongoing work they do and for their dedication to alerting the Hall Committee of any problems and their willingness to come up with creative solutions.

I would also like to thank Judith Lawrence, Melisa Devost and Gabriel Jeroschewitz for meeting once a month during the past year and having ideas about how to keep this building running as well as it does. Also thank you to Reina for taking our minutes.

Vicki Bale on behalf of the Committee



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**Report from the HIRRA Comfort Stations Committee (a.k.a. the Privy Council)**

Prepared for HIRRA AGM April 10, 2019

There are several themes emerging from our work this past year that will require attention, creativity and energy as we move forward.

1. There is increasing usage of existing outhouses and increasing demand for new ones. Overall, we see the availability and adequacy of public toilets as part of the Hornby infrastructure that serves both residents and visitors and needs to be considered along with all other natural and built resources.
2. Specifically, an additional porta-potty to serve the Market and a porta-potty to serve the playground/playing field are needed for the upcoming high summer season. We consider both of these initiatives necessary and indeed urgent, but have no budget to contribute to rental costs.
3. There is a high degree of support from HIRRA members for eliminating the use of summer season rented porta-potties and replacing them with permanent accessible outhouses with larger holding tanks. Permanents are preferred for environmental, aesthetic, accessibility and capacity reasons.
4. Our three existing permanents are showing their age and need updating.

These needs all require funds for rental costs, construction costs and repair and upgrading costs. HIRRA Parks and Trails have agreed to contribute money towards a permanent outhouse in Sandpiper in 2020, and we very much appreciate their commitment. Long-term, there needs to be a way of acquiring funds for outhouse construction in areas that are not formal parks. The Privy Council was told this year by CVRD that we do not have a Capital Reserve and are restricted to a maintenance budget only. This seems nonsensical to us and we hope to gain more clarity in this coming year.

In responding to increasing usage and increasing demand, we see one useful role for the Privy Council that does not require additional monies: bringing together stakeholders, particularly in the Central Services Area, and facilitating communication and collaboration about public toilet needs and options so that solutions might be found that serve everyone.

Finally, we are very pleased that the HIRRA Executive decided to convert the Privy Cleaner position from a Privy Council contractor to an employee. Colleen's performance as an employee has been as exemplary as it was as a contractor and we are grateful for her contributions.

Nym Hughes for HIRRA Comfort Stations Committee: Chris Aikman and Tony Law





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**Invasive Weed Report to HIRRA AGM April 10, 2019**

During 2018 there were 288 hours spent removing Daphne and some Bull Thistle from ten properties in the Ford Cove area.

Two local women worked for a total of 208 hours and were paid from the HIRRA Weed account and the rest was done by volunteers.

We are very appreciative of the money received through HIRRA.

But Daphne is increasingly becoming a major problem everywhere on the island. There just isn't enough funding available at present to deal with it all. This issue needs to be tackled in a more comprehensive way.

What would be MOST helpful would be to have more owners involved in the removal of Daphne or other invasive plants on their own properties.

If you have, or think you have, Daphne on your land and need advice, feel free to call me. It is relatively easy to get rid of by using a vinegar, salt, soap solution that is dabbed on the cut stem.

Anna Zielinski on behalf of the Committee

**Boat Ramp Update April 10, 2019**

We have a new contact person at CVRD, Daniel May, who has applied for a large ICET grant for the boat ramp and seems keen to get things done.

If we don't get grant money, he is thinking of having some urgently needed repairs done in the short term to keep the ramp safe and functional.

We have had an engineers' report done and the cost of replacing the ramp has come in at around \$300,000.

Signs have been installed at the boat ramp.

Reina, through HIRRA, has applied for a Co-op Community Spaces grant we are still waiting on that. I would like to meet with Ford Cove Harbour Authority to help with funds and ideas for the ramp, as CVRD has taken on the liability for the ramp, which was a stumbling block for FCHA.

We have \$12,440.65 in our boat ramp fund from a grant from the Co-op and the Quilt fundraiser.

I'm interested in meeting with Emergency Preparedness Committee to combine efforts, as the boat ramp would be of interest to them as well.

Unfortunately, most of the Committee are either very busy, or away most of the winter and spring. I have not been able to get meetings together. I would like to look at forming a new committee with locals that are not quite so busy or away half of the year as we need to meet more often. I will discuss this with our existing committee when we can all get together.

John Struthers, Boat Ramp Chair on behalf of the Committee



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**Cemetery Committee Report April 10, 2019**

**Burials:**

In the past year we had 4 full body burials and 4 cremated remains.

**Committee Members:**

- Welcome new Committee member, Gloria Herbert
- Thanks to Eva Wetzel for her many years of wonderful service
- Dedicated, caring and sensitive service from Committee members

**Accomplished:**

- New brochure printed and available at clinic, Home Support, and at this meeting
- More detailed information is also on the HIRRA website as well as the brochure
- Appreciation to Sasha LeBaron for his careful machine digging of graves this year
- Regular maintenance and cutting back salal

**Upcoming Plans:**

- All are welcome to join us to clean up the Cemetery at a work party on Thurs. April 18 at 10:00am.
- We plan to install new metal row markers to help locate plot numbers at that time
- Park and Trails employees will be adding new signage to alleviate parking problems and reserving three parking spots on the left for Cemetery use

**Reminders:**

- Graves must be identified with a permanent name marker within a or two year of burial
- With environmental concerns in mind, we ask that people not leave balloons in the Cemetery and remove broken glass or fragile plastic when cleaning up graves especially after winter
- Portal Plaques, a good way for people to be remembered who are not buried in the cemetery. Available from Engrave It for approximately \$250.

Tina Wai on behalf of the Committee



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**Ad Hoc Cemetery Committee Report to HIRRA AGM April 10, 2019**

This is a summary of what we have done, and some of our plans for going forward. We began our work by reviewing the Province's guidelines for cemeteries. Using Hornby maps, we identified several larger pieces of land that could perhaps be suitable for a new cemetery. HIRRA then mailed confidential letters to owners requesting that they consider deeding a small portion (2 hectares or more) to the community. We also put articles in the First Edition noting the need for a new cemetery and asking community members to consider land donation. We also asked for comments and suggestions.

We received several response letters, all negative. This has sent us back to look at Crown Lands, and land abutting the current cemetery.

Ellen made a presentation to New Horizons Literary Lunch about the value of cemeteries to communities and our need and search for more space for burials. Ellen spoke with the head of Engineering at Provincial Parks, asking about the possibility of park land abutting the current cemetery being made available. His suggestion was that we have an in-depth look at the land behind the current cemetery before they would consider giving park land.

I spoke with former Local Trustee Tony Law to hear his thoughts and ideas, and also to learn about any previous efforts to find additional cemetery land. Earlier this month, I received a file from the Cemetery Committee that includes information about what has been previously investigated. This is helpful in deciding our next steps.

At this point we are asking HIRRA to investigate the availability of funds and grants that could be used to conduct a formal feasibility study, including an engineering assessment of the lands abutting the current cemetery.

According to the HIRRA Cemetery Committee there is space remaining in the current cemetery for an estimated 63 sites set aside for full body burial. Several of these must remain to provide access for grave digging machinery. Many of these sites are unsuitable (soil composition, drainage issues) for full body burial, but could be made available for burial of cremated remains. There are 72 spaces not yet used for cremated remains burial.

Finding new cemetery space and/or expansion of the current cemetery or new land is taking time. We need to continue to expand the work that our Ad Hoc Committee has done so far. It will take much more time and effort by all to create available cemetery space for the future.

Submitted by Ad Hoc Cemetery Search Committee Members: Ellen Leslie, Mary Mackenzie and Helen Onorah



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**Housing Committee Report April 10, 2019 HIRRA AGM**

The HIRRA Housing Committee was established to provide an official community entity for the discussion of concerns around housing and a forum to develop ideas for the future. Over time, the Committee became a meeting place for concerned individuals as well as representatives from other community groups.

The focus gradually shifted to supporting the Beulah Creek Housing project and trying to provide a discreet resource for helping owners and potential renters find each other.

With the formation of the new Hornby Island Housing Society and its commitment to including most of the HIRRA Housing Committee's work, we believe that there is no longer a need for a separate HIRRA Committee and we are reporting to the assembly that the Committee is disbanding.

Respectfully,  
Daniel Siegel on behalf of the Committee



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**Emergency Preparedness Committee Report to HIRRA AGM Apr. 10, 2019**

The four person ad hoc Emergency Preparedness Committee was established in 2018 and first met on June 30, 2018 to establish the mandate and terms of reference.

In July, the Committee began assessing and documenting Hornby resources for shelter, water, food, communications and heavy equipment. They had discussions with CVRD Denman Island Emergency Planners regarding neighbourhood teams and emergency social services.

In August, Amy LeBaron joined the Committee. The resource assessment continued and agreements were reached with owners, managers and boards regarding their role in a community emergency. Discussions were begun with the Health Care Society regarding clients with higher risk issues.

In September, the Committee began planning an earthquake search and rescue simulation training event and continued discussions with HIFR, including assessing their emergency equipment and resources, which are extensive.

In October and November, there was discussion with the CVRD about options for a generator swap with Denman and Hornby Fire Departments that would result in a small portable generator being made available for community use. Planning was started for a radio communications network and how to fund radios and other necessary equipment.

In December, the Committee discussed with the school Vice-principal the possible use of the old school or the new modular school buildings as community reception, triage, first aid, shelter places once student needs have been addressed.

In 2019, Reina applied for a BC Hydro grant on behalf of the Committee and plans to apply for HICEEC and Community Grant funding as well. The Earthquake simulation event led by Russel Roy was well-attended (40 people) and very exciting with sound effects, simulated injuries and various roles for participants as well as lecture time beforehand and debrief afterward.

Discussions are ongoing with the Co-op and Gas-bar regarding their role in a wide-spread emergency. Plans are underway for first aid training sessions, a Face Book page, articles in the First Edition and setting up neighbourhood teams. Committee members, led by Gary Burtinsky, have been testing some recently purchased hand-held radios to assess coverage and communications between zones and to a central coordinator. Two more people are willing to join the Committee.

David Wiseman on behalf of the Committee



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**Fall Fair Committee Report to HIRRA AGM – April 10, 2019**

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Hornby Island Fall Fair was a bit different than in previous years. We were all set for the Farm when the weather forced us to make a snap decision on the Friday afternoon before the Sunday event on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Cancel the fair? Reschedule? Find a new location? Cancelling didn't feel like an option. Finding a new date would have been a scheduling nightmare since so many people are involved in making the Fall Fair happen. And we extend a big thank you to all those people!

That left us with finding a new location and, as luck would have it, the Hall was available. The weather turned out to be as blustery and wet as predicted but we did our best to make it work with the limited space. We had to cancel animal competitions and donkey rides, but all the other quintessential events took place – the competition tent, art contest, food, music, harvest baskets, and more. One of the highlights was the zucchini races. SPARK really stepped up and built a ramp so that all the hard work put into building the racers was not wasted. Ursula Joy posthumously won the best dressed zucchini car, which was wonderful.

The Barn Dance took place at Albini's and 100 people turned out to eat corn on the cob and dance the night away.

The theme of the 2018 Fair was Recycling, tying in to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Depot.

Revenue for the 2018 Fall Fair was \$2,662. This is down significantly from the year before with 2017 revenue coming in at \$4,196. Donations at the door were down quite a bit, due in part to the community rallying around the school restoration fund and due to the blustery weather. Event expenses increased by \$1,633 from the year before, mainly attributed to the purchase of eight tables for the competition tent for \$1,100, the purchase of fair ribbons and totes, and increases in costs to things like music, port-a-potties and printing. Final accounting confirmed a loss of \$2,140 but the Fall Fair does have a fund balance of \$4,246 to support this year's event.

We thank the Co-op and the Union Bay Credit Union for their donations. And, thank you again to all the volunteers that make the Fall Fair a special event for the community.

The Fall Fair Committee is made up of Alsoon Brine, Gary Manzar, Alison Stevenson and me. Margot Bushnell helped out with the accounting last year but will be dedicating her time to other organizations this year. Cori Roy has agreed to join the committee – welcome, Cori! If you are interested in becoming a volunteer at the event, please get in touch directly with me or any of the Committee members.

The 2019 Fair will be held on September 8<sup>th</sup> this year. The theme is yet to be revealed!

Anita Lewis on behalf of the Committee