



Hornby Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association
P.O. Box 16, Hornby Island B.C. V0R 1Z0

HIRRA April 11, 2018 AGM Reports

President's Report

(Rob McCreary)

This being our Annual General Meeting, we now have the President's Report. While driving along Central Road last Sunday morning, I noticed a group of Cemetary Committee volunteers cleaning and tidying the Cemetary area, and it reminded me of the breadth and depth of work done by all of our volunteers on behalf of the Hornby Community, and by the rest of the HIRRA membership that may not presently be on a committee, but that comes 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. Now, we all know that other groups besides HIRRA contribute importantly this way - Hornby Island Fire Rescue Volunteers, Hornby Conservancy, Heron Rocks, HIAAC, Joe King, Hornby Radio, HICEEC, and many others. But, HIRRA is definitely the largest with over 60 volunteers actively working on Committee responsibilities throughout the year. For its part, the 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. This past year, a small sampling of these includes supporting HICEEC's initiatives to implement Community bus service & an ISLA grant proposal & an electric car charging station on HIRRA property, a meeting and long series of communications with the CVRD re community concern over the delays completing the new Fire Hall, acquiring a grant from the CVRD towards development of a conflict engagement program for Hornby, research and extensive communications enabling the continued use of the Copse by the Farmers' Market, co-sponsoring, along with Hornby Island Fire Rescue, a Community Emergency preparedness presentation in February, and, your HIRRA Rep on the Ferry Advisory Committee, along with the other Community Reps on the FAC, working hard to get ferry service to Hornby improved, and while we can't claim sole credit for it, 2017 saw the restoration of most of Hornby's original ferry schedule. Again, a small sampling. But, arguably the most valuable work is performed by our HIRRA Committees, and in a few minutes, we'll hear from them.

HIRRA 2018 AGM FINANCIAL REPORT – 2017 YE Review

(Prepared by Joanne Ovitsland, Bookkeeper / Presented by Lynn Nunley, Treasurer)

In 2017 we undertook a general review of HIRRA Budgetary and Bookkeeping processes. With consultation of Committees, Managers and staff we;

Developed 5 Year, Annual and Monthly Budget reports that had common language and setup to ensure consistency across all HIRRA Committees

Budgets were expanded to include Committee Fund Balances and previous year actuals to provide improved understanding of financial status

For the first time Budgets were posted on the HIRRA website for review prior to approval process

In support of the above, and with consultation and input from P&P we transitioned to a new SAGE “Company”, which means we set up a new Chart of Accounts. 2017 YE numbers were mapped to reflect the new Chart of Accounts and we started off 2018 using the new accounts.

We are now easily able to analyze certain expenses that are common across more than one Committee (i.e. Telecommunications)

This project was very labour intensive which contributed to the Core Services Deficit of \$962.

In January we began the process, with tech assistance from Duncan McCaskill, to develop a method of “auto-filling” all Committee Monthly and 5 Year Budget reports by exporting data from SAGE to Excel. This process is almost complete, with some minor tweaking still required. Once the system is fully in place it will save many hours every month. This process was not possible until after the first step of the project was complete.

Currently the Bookkeeper is working on a “HIRRA Financial and Budgets 101 Info Package” for Committees to utilize to ensure understanding of bookkeeping processes.

We will be working with P&P later this year so that the Financial Review produced for 2018 will better reflect our new Chart of Accounts and Budgets.

Our goal is to ensure efficiency and transparency in all financial and bookkeeping processes undertaken by HIRRA.

Boat ramp repair committee:

(Chair: John Struthers presenting)

Our committee is holding together for another year, consisting of: John Struthers, Colleen Work, Peter Walford, Larry Wasserman, Mike Pedneault, Rich Ward, Sally Englund

CVRD has applied for tenure for the Hornby boat ramp, Doug DeMarzo of CVRD said these things take time, but it looks likely that this will go through.

Funds raised to date \$2,000 from HIRRA and \$2,000 from the Co-op, thank you very much.

The boat ramp will be the theme for the Quilt fundraiser this year.

Jean the wharfinger of Ford Cove Harbor Authority offered us a 60' surplus length of dock, which we agreed to secure from them. Unfortunately there appears to be some miscommunication on this matter and is yet to be worked out.

The dock would need to be anchored in the ramp area, plus the styrofoam floatation removed and replaced with a different type of floatation.

A grant application has been applied for in the amount of \$28,000 for these repairs.

It is proving difficult to have regular meetings with our committee as our members are off-island and in different countries for half the year, however we are hoping to meet as soon as everyone is back on the island.

We will continue to raise funds for the boat ramp and foresee once the CVRD has tenure of the boat ramp progress will happen.

Cemetery Committee Report for HIRRA AGM April, 2018

(By Tina Wai)

In 2017, the following 5 people passed away and were laid to rest in our cemetery.

Doris Savoie, Emma Joy, and Kevin McMahon, were buried and Bobcat, and Paul Clements had their ashes interred.

The Cemetery Committee would like to acknowledge the work done by the sub committee this year on the need to develop a new cemetery. There are 131 full body burial sites and 63 are full. Leaving approx. 50% of the cemetery for future use. This figure is in reality less because of the hidden layers of hardpan under the ground, which is very expensive to jackhammer and makes some of the land unusable as burial sites.

As to plots for ashes which obviously require less land and depth of soil, there are currently 9 plots left in the row of 36. However, we have the potential to create 2 more rows for 78 more plots for ashes.

This year the Committee spent considerable time rewriting and updating comprehensive information for the public. That has now been put on the HIRRA website and Stevi is getting the new brochure prepared for printing. The website contains more and variable info such as costs, etc. that may change over time. So if you are planning ahead and want to be buried in our cemetery, consider having a look at the HIRRA web site.

Every year maintenance is required in the graveyard. We are still keen to have a Community work party Day, perhaps Family Day next year, and make tidying up the cemetery a positive community event. Last Sunday, 9 people including our aging committee and 2 community members had a work party, raking leaves and tidying up the graveyard.

Also earlier this year, a few alder trees came down in storms and were cleaned up. The salal on the west and north side of the cemetery was cut back as it was encroaching and overgrown on some grave sites. The backhoe entrance required leveling and widening by cutting down three trees.

And finally, the first memorial bronze plaque was placed in the portal to honour former residents of Whaling Station Bay, Jose and Jim Smith. This is a wonderful new way to honour past Hornby residents who are not buried in the cemetery. Information is now available on the website or from committee members.

(P.S. Thanks to Margaret Pethick for presenting this report at the HIRRA AGM.)

Report to HIRRA on Privy Council Activities (Comfort Stations)

Since April 2017, the Outhouse Committee (aka "Privy Council") oversaw the maintenance of the three permanent outhouses at Little Tribune Bay, Shields Road (Big Tribune) and Carling Road (Whale Bay). The first two were repainted, and a bike rack was installed at the third, so that all three locations now have bike racks in place.

Seasonal portables were supplied by Coast Environmental for three more locations: near the Copse market (May 16 – September 5) and at Grassy Point and Sandpiper (June 13 - September 5) community parks. Under contract, Colleen Work cleaned and supplied all six locations on a regular basis, which was daily during the summer peak period for the permanent locations, and weekly for the portables (which are also serviced once a week by the supplier, Coast Environmental).

An attempt was made to liaise with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's Courtenay office to discuss access & safety concerns at Carling Road. The Ministry contact was unresponsive. It may be time to approach our MLA for assistance on this matter.

In 2018, we are looking for new volunteers to form the committee. Tony Law will remain on the committee, but Ted Goodden is stepping down, and Chris Aikman will be available only on an irregular basis.

Respectfully submitted by Chris Aikman

Report to HIRRA: Community Hall Committee

(By Wendy Burton)

Hall Activities for 2017

Based on preliminary data, activities in the Hall for 2017, yielding a rental income \$12502.50, included nine music events, 57 exercise classes, five presentations, four plays, eight art shows, Ben's Café, the Herring Fest, yoga, meetings, use of the kitchen, two dances, fourteen movies, indoor markets, presentations, fund-raisers, two weddings and three uncategorized events.

Hall Employees

Lynn Nunley has been "promoted" from contractor to employee of HIRRA, as Booking Agent and Maintenance Coordinator, effective January 1, 2018.

Colleen Work is the Community Hall Janitor, an employee of HIRRA.

Glenn Ford continues as our "handy-person on call" contractor, a valuable resource for the Hall.

Acoustic Improvements

The work on the sound baffles on the stage are nearing completion. The bulk of the work was done before Christmas, and now Ted Tanner is working on fine-tuning the baffles. When the work is completed, the committee is considering a back-stage curtain, which will mark the back stage area, with regards to sound transfer.

Melisa Devost and Wendy Burton have met with the working group: Larry Lingle, Ted Tanner, Stani Veselinovic, Don Geppert and Ian Emberton. Bernie Morissette has joined the working group. This working group is an open group. Anyone who wishes to attend is welcome to do so.

The group had decided the system should be installed in components, with the speakers and amplifiers going in first. The consensus is to have six 10" speakers, two at front of house, two in the middle of the main Hall and two at back of house. For several reasons, the decision about speakers has been delayed. Melisa Devost, if she is successful in her re-election to the Hall Committee, will meet with the working group to discuss going to the CVRD call for proposals process and do the project to install a public address system in one fell swoop.

We are planning to renovate the tech room to accommodate a sound board with simple pre-set levels for two "plates" at the front and back of the main Hall. The public control plates would simply have on/off, volume and plug-in ports for external equipment. The

electrical changes will require a permit. Once the upgrades are in place, policies will be needed regarding who would have access to the technical room.

This plan would accommodate the needs of both basic users and some more complex sound performers.

Lights

The decision about ordering lights for the main Hall has also been delayed.

We are also planning to improve the working lights on the stage. It is important that the work lighting be user friendly and not interfere with other stage lighting needs.

The not-so-good news

The heat pump in the Round Room was out of action for several weeks. When it was finally returned, we were greeted with a bill for about \$1700, most of it labour and travel charges. Our one year warranty on labour had expired about three months before the heat pump stopped working.

We continue to battle mice in the Hall. We are on the lookout for rats, but we believe the visit from V.I. Pest Control last year may have done the trick. Glenn Ford has done some work in the kitchen, and Colleen Work reports the signs of mice have greatly reduced. The building is not nor can it be made rodent-proof. We are installing signage for those using the kitchen, reminding them about safe food preparation practices.

Hornby Island Fire Rescue Annual Report 2017

2017 was a significant year for HIFR. We changed fire chiefs, moved into a new fire hall, acquired a new apparatus, picked up 5 new recruits, and while doing all of that, did the most calls in our history. We survived a conflict resolution process and emerged as a stronger team. We did a traumatic call that had a lasting effect on our people and attended several other scenes involving the deaths of community members and friends. We saved a house and had our helicopter landing zone reinstated as a direct result of our hard work. Although trying at times, 2017 contained much to be proud of.

Callouts and activities The Department recorded the following summary of volunteer time for regular training and incidents for 2017. This summary doesn't account for informal time in unrecorded training and home study:

	Practices(hrs)		Incidents(hrs)		Courses(hrs)		Total(hrs)		Incident #		
2017	1844	1025	140	3,009	179	2016	2499	898	472	3,869	140
2015	2164	824	275	3,263	129	2014	2171	918	236	3,325	130
2013	1790	585	220	2,595	102	2012	2197	983	576	3,755	130
2011	1922	1018	390	3,330	114						

Our incident breakdown for 2017 with a total of 179 calls:

- 131 Medical - 4 MVI - 1 Walk-in First Aid - 18 Duty Officer - 5 Hydro lines down - 1 Missing person - 3 Structure fire - 4 Chimney fire - 2 False alarms - 5 Brush/beach fire - 5 Public Service

Medical calls accounted for 73% of our incidents in 2017. This percentage varies by 5% each year but the increase in average age seems to indicate that this number should continue to rise.

Recruitment and Retention This fall's class of new members was our biggest in recent memory with five new members, all of which are still on the roster. In addition to the new recruits we saw the return of two previous fire fighters who had left the department. It's not clear what led to this welcome influx but some contributing factors could be the prospect of operating from a new building, change in chiefs, or an increase in person to person recruiting. Our roster at the end of 2017 included 11 fire fighters, four members close to taking their fire fighter exams, and five new members undergoing training.

Our auxiliary program suffered this year with all but one member fading out. This could be due to us focusing more resources on getting the nine new members through the training program to become full fire fighters.

Training Quana Parker and Faroe DesRoches have developed a twist on the traditional training model that we have used for years. They have front loaded the program with training in skills that don't necessarily tick the IFSTA module checkboxes, but will impart skills needed to be useful on a fire scene. This will let us give them pagers and have them come out to calls even if they are operating in a limited capacity.

Quana has resigned as HIFR Training Officer. Faroe DesRoches has agreed to take on the role. Thanks to Quana for his time as T.O.

This year, members attended the following off island courses:

Air Brakes Endorsement – 1 member JI Examiner Workshop – 2 members Basic Auto Extrication – 1 member LAFC – 1 member Fire Service Instructor – 1 member Hazmat Operations – 5 members

An increased focus was put onto building a training facility. The proposed training tower was cut from the new fire hall plans in order to save money. In order to fund a new facility we cut back on sending members to off island training opportunities and used that saved money to buy five shipping containers. These containers will be shipped to Hornby in 2018 and assembled to create a training facility in the back lot of the fire hall property.

Fire Prevention Scott Towson has signed on to take over inspections from Iain Palmer. Scott and Iain have done a few inspections together and hope to increase the frequency this year. This is a voluntary inspection service focused on helping building owners and managers improve the safety of their buildings and operations.

The Department annual Fire Cadet Camp was well attended during Spring Break, with 18 children attending. This has proven to be a popular program which raises fire safety awareness for the children as well as their parents.

The Department continues to provide several successful initiatives such as the free smoke alarm program and school visits.

Community Engagement Our web site (www.hifd.org) is a useful tool in reaching people with information on the latest activities in the Department. Facebook and Twitter have also proven to be useful in getting information out to the public.

When BCAS and Helijet shut down night time operations on the airstrip we were able to generate a large amount of community good will by leading the efforts to have it reinstated. Temporary landing lights were loaned to us through community connections, then new lights were purchased through engagement with the Hornby Island Co-op.

The groundwork at the airstrip was partially funded through a grant from the Hornby Island Community Fund.

Finance The Operations budget for 2017 was \$194,282 with a Protective Gear and Equipment budget of \$8,500. The Department ended the year with a surplus of approximately \$3900.

Fire Hall Completion We were expecting to be operating in the new building at the beginning of 2017 but it turned out to be the very end of 2017. There are still significant projects that remain to be completed by the fire department membership such as the completion of the outside storage room, the pressurized truck fill water system, the front walkway, deck covering, and landscaping.

The fine tuning of how we operate in the new building is an ongoing process and will continue for a year or more. A grand opening and community open house is scheduled for Feb 11.

Superiour Tanker Shuttle Accreditation (STSA) The new tender was delivered in September and was put into service almost immediately. The Fort Garry / Freightliner rep has been out on several occasions to fix some minor deficiencies and our own Captain Zielinski has done a huge number of improvements on the "new 63".

We have much training and practice to do but I am hoping that HIFR can be in a position to challenge the STSA test before summer.

Thank you to everyone for their patience and tenacity throughout the past year. It was hard on all of us and our families. However, we are coming out on the other side as a stronger team. We have much to be proud of and much to look forward to. I'm excited about what the upcoming year will bring and looking forward to working with all of you.

Doug Chinnery Fire Chief

Invasive Weed Committee Report to April 2018 HIRRA AGM

Broom and Gorse Removal Update April 2017-2018

Broom eradication is predictable in that it does not end. Some areas like the gravel pits, Lea Smith Road, Joe King Park, Downes Point, Four Corners, Walton Place and Roburn Road continue to need hours of work each. There will be a significant workload in controlling the broom in the years to come. The present effort has been greatly supported by Shelley Creelman, and Karen and Dick Brown. Our Fire Chief deserves a special commendation for removing gorse from a cliffside.

As in the previous year, broom eradication only paused for the drought/summer season, and when the rain returned in earnest, started anew. Smaller plants are easy to spot when the grass is not actively growing. The strategy has been to target the identified sites early, and revisit if the infestation is heavy. The roadside is scanned when the broom blooms in April/May.

It is our hope that Hornby Islanders will participate in this effort and remove the broom that they run across. Because all the large broom has been removed, one or two-year-old broom is very easy to pull. It becomes inefficient to pay workers to pull broom along the road side. They would spend more time in a car than pulling broom. Therefore we have not used any money for broom or its nasty cousin Gorse this year.

Thank you to everyone who has helped, and continues to help, with the broom busting. Together everyone achieves more.

Submitted by Eva Wetzel, Invasive Plant Committee, HIRRA

Report regarding the removal of Daphne and Bull Thistle

During the fall/winter of 2017 there were 4 people removing Daphne in the Ford Cove Area and Seawright Road. This work slowed down during the winter of 2018 to 24 hours of work done but this covered the Heron Rock Friendship and Heron Rock campsite area (35 acres). More work is needed and planned for this spring as there are a few properties that have not had Daphne removed for 5- 6 year. A rough estimate of 120 hours will be needed or \$2400. Each area will need to be revisited to remove any new growth on a 2-3 cycle.

I have been removing Bull Thistle from Ford Cove to New Horizons over the past 6 years. Last spring I spent 40 hours doing this but am not prepared to continue doing it. There is now a small pool of workers that hopefully will be able to continue.

I estimate that at least 50 hours are needed or \$1,000

Anna Zielinski, April 2018

Hornby Recreation Report for HIRRA AGM April 11, 2018

Hornby Recreation has been busy since last HIRRA AGM in 2017. We had a full-on Summer season last year, stayed busy through the winter with Pickle Ball, Table Tennis Dodge Ball, Terry Fox Runs, Halloween Activities, Ski Days and Tennis sessions.

Through out the school year we have helped run and facilitate Recreation based afterschool programs. This has been a lot of fun. We have completed 2 indoor sessions of soccer, a Yoga session and are now ready to move outside for Spring Soccer which will run to the end of the school year.

Our April has filled up quick with Off island swimming lessons running April 13-May 4th, Spring Tennis session April 23-May 17th and we have also collaborated with Hornby Island Football Club and HIES to put together a small advanced soccer team to travel off island for games!

Summer is a quick season away and we are preparing for our summer programs. We have put together a new Registration and Cancellation Policy which is making things much more manageable and clear for every participant, instructor and administrator and it is being well received within the community. Most programs returning this summer, with a few new ones and we are hoping to have Sailing back in action!

Save the date on May 19th. A Saturday as we will be hosting and Community Baseball game for all children and adults alike. There will be food, drinks and a great time for the whole community. Everyone Welcome. Stay tuned for more information about this fun annual Hornby Recreation fundraiser Community event.

Our current on-going programs are Pickle ball on Monday nights 5:15-7:15pm @ the school gym. They are always happy to have new players join in. Dodge ball will also be starting up again this April 19th Thursday nights 5:15-7:15pm @ the school gym. Also don't forget to check out our website for current happenings or follow our facebook group- Hornby Recreation.

We want to thank you HIRRA and the Hornby Island Community for your on-going support. We are excited to welcome in the nice weather and are gearing up for another great Summer Season.

A Note from Our Recreation Coordinator:

Hi Everyone, sorry I can not make it tonight. Just a reminder that I am happy to hear about any feedback from the community and if there are any specific activities, events, and programs you would like to see happening, do let me know!
Happy Spring and talk soon.

Jade Wilson (Recreation Coordinator)

Recycling Report to HIRRA Membership April 2018

The first quarter of 2018 has been business as usual at the Hornby Island Recycling Depot.

We collected and shipped five 40-yard bins of household garbage, two bins of construction waste, two wood waste bins, three scrap metal bins and eight bins of recycling of the island. We shipped twelve skids of "Product Care" materials so far. Our drywall diversion program collected one 20-yard waste bin full of dry wall scraps and old drywall.

As many of you know September 2018 will be an important date for the Hornby Island Recycling Depot for it marks the 40th anniversary of Reducing Reusing and Recycling up on the hill. We are planning a celebration for this important event. We are currently talking to musicians, artists and volunteers to participate. We hope to have a T-Shirt available for sale as a fund raiser to help cover celebration cost and the recycling committee is researching other funding avenues.

We are also working together with HIAC on having our firefighting tank painted artistically this year and we are looking for ideas and artist to help us to complete this project. We hope to convert the tank, so our volunteer firefighters can easily connect their equipment at the same time. The cost for prepping the tank would be covered by the CVRD and HIAC has some monies available for the artistic component. If you or you know someone that wants to get involved in this project? Contact us.

Recently we updated our website and it is now easily accessible through the HIRRA website or by going directly to www.hirra.ca/recycle/. We want to take this opportunity to thank Bob Cain for letting us use his picture on our history page.

The Interact and credit card payments service we implement this year was embraced by many making it more convenient to pay for garbage.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who spent countless hours sorting at the free store, making the Free Store possible for the residents and visitors of Hornby Island.

And a thank you to the "Recycling Committee" and the "HIRRA" executive for dedicating many volunteer hours to the Recycling Depot.

And I would like to acknowledge Scott Hardy, Scott Sweeney Annie Nagle, Phi Bailey and Shawn Jamison for their hard work and dedication.

Thank You

(Stani Veselinovic, Manager)

Regional Parks and Trails Annual Report to HIRRA April 11, 2018

The Hornby Regional Parks Committee has overseen maintenance and planning for the Mount Geoffrey Nature Park and the Crown Land trails as well as six Beach Access Parks. In the past year the roadside trails have been added also.

The CVRD has recently applied for tenure of the Crown land at Shingle Spit. Some funding for repairs for the boat ramp will be part of the Regional Parks budget. This has been the case for summer fire patrols in the Beach Access Parks also.

The CVRD supplied 6x6 posts and signage for the roadside trails which were installed at various points on the trails. We have just noticed that a few of the signs have gone missing. I will ask for suggestions on how we should respond to this at the end of the report.

The Management Plans for the Regional and Provincial Parks have been finalized and a copy is available at the library.

The 2018 capital project is an upgrade to the Devils Kitchen Trail.

An onsite meeting was held in August to discuss the development and upgrade of the trail on Gull Road. Part of it will require a survey and when all of the permits and approval are in place we hope to set that as the 2019 capital project. The trail has been monitored through the winter to understand how best to develop a reasonably dry trail.

The CVRD has given approval for HIMBA and a Vancouver Island mountain bike group to host a race on Mt. Geoffrey on July 8th.

HIMBA is our local mountain bike group that frequently does volunteer work on the trails.

The maintenance contract was recently renewed with Yana Pethick.

The CVRD is working on a digitized maintenance inventory program for Mount Geoffrey and Crown Land trails. This will keep track of work that has been done and what needs attention such as bridges and culverts.

Yana met with representatives from the Land Conservancy of BC and Hornby Island Conservancy who hold a covenant on the Back 40 portion of the park. There will be a walk through this area in May to identify local vegetation and birds etc.

All of the members of the committee are willing to stand again.

(Betty Kennedy)