

HIRRA April 13, 2022 AGM Reports

Hall Committee Annual Report

Another year has disappeared under Covid-19 rules and regulations. One minute the Hall has been open the next closed. Masks on, masks off. Vaccine passports necessary for some activities then not. The insurance situation presents more dissemination of information and the serious implications to the running of all the programmes.

A presentation was made to the Islands Trust about creating a Heritage Building Registry for Hornby Island. It was well received but is very far down on the Islands Trust work plan. The CVRD was also approached and there may be a way to create a registry through the CVRD. Work continues with thanks to Margaret Birch.

Work continues on the gutters, lighting and ants as noted by the extensive building inspection report from 2021.

The Hall Committee has begun investigating the possibility of the building being used as a warming centre during very cold weather and/or a cooling centre during hot summers.

Plans are being drawn up for the Accessible washroom. It certainly is a jigsaw puzzle with a very limited amount of space in which to move.

There is a new stove in the kitchen as the old one decided to lock the oven door with no way to reopen it!

The Hall Committee has its own e-mail address and we await the arrival of City West and the installation of fiber optics.

I would like to thank the Committee for their dedicated work on behalf of this precious building. Judith Lawrence, Gabe Jeroschewitz, Hilary Wood-McDonell and Margaret Birch.

Respectfully submitted by Vicki Bale, Chair of the Committee

Comfort Stations Report

The Comfort Stations Committee reports increased usage, again, in 2021. We bought twice as much toilet paper as in 2020 and had to pump out all the outhouses twice as often as usual, putting us over budget for pump-outs in 2021, and we predict, 2022.

The 35-year-old outhouse at Little Trib is disintegrating and we are attempting to find a cost-effective solution.

Increased summer heat and greater awareness of the existence of Tralee Beach resulted in a request from neighbours to provide outhouse facilities to serve that beach but we had both practical and budgetary concerns. We will reassess after this summer.

The increased size of Tribune Bay Provincial Park has called into question the necessity of HIRRA providing outhouse services at the bottom of Shields Road but no decisions have been made.

One positive from 2021 was our co-operative problem-solving relationship with the Depot and the beach access garbage contractor to more effectively address the garbage and dog poop issues at beach accesses.

However, the major accomplishment of the Comfort Stations Committee in 2021 was surviving a very challenging year and managing to provide our usual high level of service and cleanliness, due entirely to the stellar efforts of our employee, Colleen Work, and that is the best that we can claim.

Submitted by Nym Hughes, Chairperson

Recycling Waste Management Report

Highlights of 2021:

- Busiest year ever for both recycling and landfill waste.
- 78 land fill waste bins, roughly twice of 2015
- 114 bins of diverted/recycled materials, roughly twice of 2015
- Highest refundables beverage container donations ever \$20,000 +
- Highest tipping fee revenues ever \$100,000 +
- Collaborated with Rob Zielinski & Ocean Stewards removing marine debris off island
- Received electricity in the backhoe shed & cash kiosk c/o CVRD
- Collaborated with the HIVFD in fuel reductions and soil creation
- Temporarily suspended glass and foam collection due to flooding in the lower mainland.
- Attempted re opening the Free Store – Closed as covid hit Hornby
- Stripped and recycled 118 mattresses

Thank you to all the staff, HIRRA staff and Executive, the Recycling Committee, the Free Store volunteers, and all our patrons.

Hornby Recreation Annual Report

Summer 2021 was a full success. We were able to offer almost our full programming from previous Covid times. We offered sailing with MOSS sailing, nature camps, art camps, soccer, kayaking, and ocean swimming lessons.

September 2021 our community moved into Hornby's NEW elementary school. This was exciting for everyone in the community to finally have a school and for Recreation we were most thrilled about the use of a school gymnasium. Throughout the Fall we built an account with the new booking system with SD71 to have access to the gymnasium. We were then able to offer adult programming like indoor soccer, pickle-ball and basketball. During the Fall of 2021 we offered afterschool soccer programming outdoors for grade Kindergarten to Grade 7. Soccer was very well attended in both age groups. Thank you to our Coaches, Jonattan Escobar, Daniel Arbour and Steve Gillespie, and thank you to Alexandra Lamont and Bill Hamilton, our Rec. Committee members who volunteer their time for soccer to happen.

Due to Hornby Recreation being in a deficit with our budget for 2021 our Recreation Coordinator was then laid-off until January 2022.

Winter 2022, we hosted 1 Ski Day on Mt. Washington in February. This ski day was huge success with 35 people participating. We are hoping to host more events at Mt. Washington in the coming years.

We offered soccer afterschool programming for grades Kindergarten to Grade 7. These ran in two separate groups. Kindergarten-Grade 2, and Grades 3-7. Our grades 3-7 continue to play indoors until the field is dry. We are looking forward to having a Ravens soccer team this year within this age range and taking them to town to play in a tournament. We will be offering youth baseball later in the spring.

Hornby Recreation continues to book the use of the school gymnasium for adult user groups like indoor soccer and pickle-ball, etc. We are working towards some fundraising events and activities to raise money that will directly go into programming for youth and adults in the community. We are also planning some fun events to bring the community together for good causes as the weather gets better.

Summer 2022 is in the planning stages, and we are excited to have access to a gymnasium for indoor programs like circus and artistic movement.

Fingers crossed we are moving out of the pandemic and can have a safe, healthy fun spring and summer ahead. We look forward to planning more youth programming but also bringing back adult and community programming for our community. Hornby Recreation will continue to follow all government recommendations moving forward with COVID19.

HIRRA Invasive Plant Report

Our total budget of \$1,870, or 93 hours, was used to eliminate 14,000 Daphne.

A total of 110 volunteer hours were spent removing 14,000 daphne and Yellow Flag Iris.

We would like to give a big shout of thanks to the homeowners who are dealing with their own invasive plants.

Anna Zielinski from the Invasive Plant Committee

Regional Parks and Trails Committee Report

At last year's AGM in May 2021, Brian Kittleson and Sasha LeBaron left the Trails Committee. Many thanks to Sasha and Brian for your many years of service. Replacing them were Leslee Richards and Amanda Zielinski.

As a management committee of HIRRA, one of our main roles was to provide direction, management and budgetary oversight to the Parks Maintenance Contractor. We also receive community input and respond to requests for advice to CVRD.

Throughout the year, we had ongoing discussions about signage throughout the parks and trails system, and the use of e-bikes on Mount Geoffrey.

We created a new email address for public comment (regionalparks@hirra.ca). We also started writing monthly articles for the First Edition, and updated the Trails page on the hirra.ca website <https://hirra.ca/services/parks/>

We participated in a site visit with Hornby Island Fire Rescue, to review emergency access to Mount Geoffrey.

We participated in community consultation about the placement of a memorial bench in Sandpiper Park.

We continued advocacy about inappropriate camping associated with the Regional Parks by contacting the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

We reviewed our 2021 budget, prepared our 2022 budget, and had it approved at the October HIRRA meeting.

The Trails Committee oversees the Hornby Island Mountain Bike Association (HIMBA) work parties. In 2021, HIMBA did 246 person-hours of work on 15 different trails. Many thanks to the volunteers, your contributions to the trail system are very appreciated.

We ordinarily participate in an annual monitoring visit to the Cross Property portion of Mt Geoffrey Regional Park. Due to extreme weather in early December, the visit was postponed, and will take place in April 2022.

In the fall, HIRRA and other parties were served with a lawsuit relating to a mountain biking accident that took place in Mount Geoffrey Regional Park. This was distressing enough, but it led to a much worse situation. As a result of the lawsuit, HIRRA's insurance provider terminated their coverage, thus interrupting all of the many services that HIRRA provides. Some trails and Technical Trail Features in Mount Geoffrey Regional Park and the Crown Land were closed. In addition, the Parks Maintenance Contractor's insurance was interrupted.

Subsequently, HIRRA has secured coverage for public liability and property, but excluding Parks and Trails. Therefore HIRRA severed the Parks Maintenance Contract with CVRD and CVRD will manage the Hornby parks and trails directly, as of February 28, 2022.

The Parks Maintenance Contract ended when HIRRA severed the contract with CVRD. CVRD is in the process of hiring a Contractor who will work for and report directly to CVRD. In the meantime, contract work in the park will be done by an interim contractor if the need arises.

The CVRD has re-opened most trails and Technical Trail Features.

The Regional Parks and Trails Committee will continue, but in an advisory capacity only.

We wish to say a special thanks to Yana Pethick, who was the Parks Maintenance Contractor to HIRRA for 15 years. Yana's knowledge and care of the parks and trails is evident everywhere on the mountain, roadside trails, and beach parks.

Many thanks to Reina LeBaron, who was our recording secretary for many years. Reina's excellent minutes are the reason we were able to prepare this report for you (and they help us do our job in so many other ways as well).

At this AGM, Betty Kennedy and Rusty Harrison will retire from the Trails Committee. We are grateful to Rusty and Betty for their decades of service to the Trails Committee. You leave big shoes to fill, especially in this time of transition. We hope we are up to the challenge.

Tom Rutherford's position is up for election and he is willing to stand for a 2-year term. Chloe Baird Titcomb and Nadeane Trowse are willing to stand as well.

Hornby Regional Parks and Trails Committee

Betty Kennedy, Chair

Rusty Harrison

Tom Rutherford

Leslee Richards

Amanda Zielinski

Emergency Preparedness Committee 2021/2022 – Report for HIRRA AGM

This past 2021/22 year, the Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) launched an active campaign to develop and provide outreach to the community about preparing for their families, and helping fellow neighbours prepare for significant events, such as power failures, road closures, and other larger disaster events.

With the support of the Comox Valley Regional District and their emergency service providers, the EPC launched a first draft Neighbourhood Map to break down the island into 'neighbourhoods' and 'zones.' The map designates about 40 zones that require the help of residents to volunteer as a coordinator for each zone. Through the year, the committee sought the interest of residents and successfully recruited about a dozen people who have indicated an interest or willingness to work in their neighbourhood or assist to assess whether the proposed zones were appropriately sized. The recruitment process will continue through the coming months for coordinators and residents willing to help assess their neighbourhood.

The development of the map was one part of our larger initiative – to implement in support of developing a Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program (NEPP) for Hornby Island. A newly developed NEPP Guide was “soft launched” in February by the Comox Valley Emergency Program, by inviting local area EPCs to review the Guide for completeness and usefulness. The committee and several residents helped compile input on the Guide during March for the CVRD.

The committee added an informational section on Emergency Preparedness to the HIRRA website, and a dedicated email for residents to contact the committee. The EPC provided regular news updates about emergency preparedness and the work of the committee through several First Edition issues, a winter-time flyer for the Hornby Tribune, provided map and information signage at the Hornby Island Fire Rescue Display Board at the Coop, and gave verbal updates at two regular HIRRA meetings.

Provided the financial support from the CVRD, the committee acquired a small start-up inventory of emergency and safety supplies that will be used for neighbourhood coordinators following orientation training planned for 2022/23.

Our aim through 2022 will be to launch the NEPP in several neighbourhoods with the new NEPP Guide booklets, recruit residents to volunteer as coordinators or neighbourhood champions for their zones, organize training and support with the CVRD for volunteers, finalize

the Neighbourhood Zone Map, and assess options for establishing emergency radio communications between neighbourhoods.

Prepared by Co-Chairs, Amy LeBaron and Margaret Birch

Hornby Island Emergency Preparedness Committee

nepp@hirra.ca

Cemetery Committee Report

Committee members for 2022:

- Larry Smith, Iain Palmer, Kathleen O'Brien, Barb Inglis continuing
- Gemma Colin. Gloria Herbert, Tina Wai, up for re-election for two-year terms.

Stats:

- In the past year, Jan 1 to Dec 31 2021, the cemetery had no full body burials and 7 cremation internments.
- Due to Covid 19 several internments have been delayed, however sites have been paid for and documentation is held pending burial.
- The Stewards have gathered for three work days to clean up leaves, branches, work shed etc.
- We have engaged Mike Works Landscaping to mow the grass and help maintain the grounds during the summer months.
- Although our guideline pamphlet and our stewards reinforce to the bereaved the need to supply permanent markers on the burial sites, some sites remain without permanent markers. If they are not able to do this for their family member, then we will have to undertake finding funds to get simple markers made. We continue to research the purchase of engraved markers for the unmarked graves. We are also researching possible grants to finance this project. With Covid, it has been difficult to get this undertaking completed.