

# Protection Island Ratepayers Association Newsletter 2006

**The 2006 PIRA Annual General Meeting will be held SUNDAY JUNE 25 at Beacon House Community Hall on Gallows Point. Registration begins at 12:30 and the meeting at 1:00 pm.**

PIRA is Protection Island Ratepayers' Association and all property owners are invited to join. PIRA membership costs \$10 a year per person. This newsletter is our annual report, recapping significant events of the past year.

PIRA has the following objectives:

-To secure improvements in the best interest of Protection Island ratepayers;

-To promote and develop the welfare of residents and ratepayers of the community;

-To own and maintain buildings and property for the betterment of the community.

PIRA has a board of nine elected volunteer directors. Every year at the AGM, three PIRA directors are elected for a 3 year term. We will be electing four new directors this year.

We invite you to stand for election as a PIRA director—it's a great way to get to know your fellow islanders, learn about the community, and contribute to its well being. If you are interested in standing for nomination, contact Liam or Shannon at 714-0320. Nominations can also be made from the floor at the AGM. .

The AGM is our annual opportunity to get together and talk about issues of concern to us all. If you can't be at the AGM in person, please mail annual dues of \$10 per person to:

PIRA  
1135 Pirates Lane  
Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 6R1

Membership count for 2004-05 was 109 and 81 for 2005-06. Eighty people attended the 2005 AGM, held on June 26, 2005.

All residents are invited to PIRA's bi-monthly meetings at Beacon House on dates posted on island bulletin boards and Pro-Isle. We welcome your participation and input. Look for PIRA's suggestion box on the notice board by the Ferry.

PIRA now has a new website, where we'll post meeting minutes, survey results and other relevant community information. See us at: [www.pira.ca](http://www.pira.ca)



## THE ROAD REPORT

This year the water problem that has plagued us for some time has been repaired. The city works installed a culvert and drainage system that the heavy rains in late May were easily handled by. The usual June grading was done this year in May, to be followed by the dust suppression. According to the city the usual road maintenance schedule is as follows:

- 1.- Each week: Road condition survey is done by the Sewer Utility Worker.
- 2.- Three times per year: (usually late November, late January, and March if required) Grading, and shoulder repair, pot-hole filling and general maintenance.
- 3.- June: Grading and shoulder repair, drainage maintenance.
- 4.- June: Application of dust suppressant.
- 5.- June: Vegetation control and brush cutting.

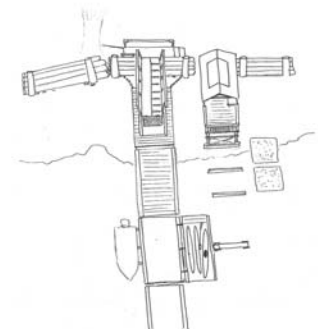
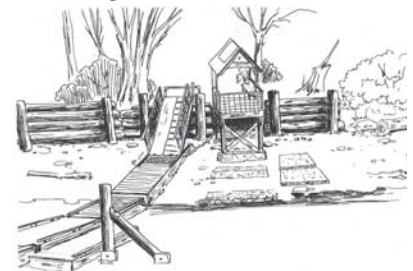
## MUD BAY DOCK

Major improvements and repairs continue. Larry's work parties are doing fabulous things. Please remember he is not responsible for the dock. All users are. The expectation is that the fees will cover overhead only. That does not include the labour and material for ongoing maintenance and improvements.

Costs are up about 20% so far this year. Users are to be congratulated for getting their fees paid for the period ending Sept 30/06. Summer users can pay Cathy (at 9 Pirates lane or mail to PIRA) and pick up their decal. The fee is a flat \$100 for all users Oct 2005 through Sept 2006.

Expect a full dock this year as we are at capacity. Rafting can be expected. Please don't lock your fellow boater in. Remember to use lines that can be moved without forcing someone on the bow of a boat to get out.

**A dock users meeting will be held June 25, 2006 at 10am at Beacon House in conjunction with the PIRA AGM.**



Sketch of Mud Bay dock by Carl Ashley

## LEESHORE

Leeshore is an initiative to acquire two properties on Protection Island to meet the growing need for improved access to our island.

In April, 2005, PIRA appeared before Nanaimo City Council, explained the initiative and asked the City to fund the first step, an appraisal of the Leeshore properties. Council agreed and with permission of the Leeshore owners an appraisal was undertaken last July/August. As agreed, the city shared the result of the appraisal with the owners.

City staff then began trying to open discussion with the Leeshore owners. This continued through the fall and into winter. However, there was never a meaningful response from the Leeshore owners.

In February, 2006, PIRA wrote to the city suggesting that a letter from the mayor's office to the Leeshore owners might jump-start dialogue. Our letter also asked that PIRA be immediately advised and asked for comments if the city were to receive any development proposals on the Leeshore properties,

In March, a letter was sent from the mayor's office to Mr. Don McIntosh, Leeshore Resorts (1978) Ltd. The letter expressed the city's sincere interest in acquiring the properties. It described how the purchase could benefit all parties. The letter also emphasized that the city expected to pay nothing less than full market value. To date there has been no response from Mr. McIntosh.

In conclusion, the Leeshore owners are apparently not motivated to sell at this time and so our initiative is currently stalled. PIRA continues to believe that acquiring Leeshore is a good solution to Protection Island's growing need for improved access. The City of Nanaimo agrees.

## JUNK AWAY

Two very popular grass-roots events took place in the past year to remove unwanted items from the island. The first one held November 19 concentrated on Metals, with the second on May 6 focusing on non-metal objects. The evening before the May 6 event, a gathering was held at Beacon House to celebrate the previous success and to set up a Free Store for the exchange of unwanted items.

### Junk Away Finances

#### Fund Raiser Sep 10, 2005

Total Fund Raiser profit: \$4056.19

#### Metal Pick-up Nov. 19, 2005

Total money raised: \$1832.00

Total expenses: \$1534.94

Balance after first pick-up: \$4353.25

#### Non-Metal Pick-up May 6, 2006

Total money raised: \$1045.00

Total expenses: \$3966.46

Estimated balance: \$1474.37

THANK YOU to all who contributed so generously and in so many ways to the Second Pro Isle Junk Away Day, Saturday, May 6, and the the Free Store and Potluck, May 5.

### PIRA DIRECTORS 2005-06

For tirelessly pursuing ways to retain our Island's uniqueness while making life better for all, thanks to PIRA Directors Denise Bonin, Peter Frewin, Laurel Karjala, Ralph Kirby, Norm Lowden, Cathy Pearson, John Routledge, Liam Taylor, and Shannon Taylor.



## PIRA MAILING LIST

We are trying to keep our mailing and email list current. Please forward any address corrections, changes, and updates (including email) to:

PIRA

1135 Pirates Lane

Nanaimo, B.C. V9R 6R1

If you have sold your property in the past year and receive this newsletter, please inform us so we can take you off our list.

If you do not wish to receive information from PIRA, please let us know.

## PROTECTION ISLAND LIONS CLUB

The Protection Island Lions Club is a volunteer service organization whose membership works to support the local community in a variety of ways including the sponsorship and maintenance of the Beacon House Community Center at Gallows Point. The Community Center is made available whenever possible to support the wide range of islander interests and activities, and this in turn is only possible through the generous donations of time and energy from people within the community itself. The Lions would like to thank all those who continue to support this process that helps us all get together, solve problems, learn, have fun, and build a spirit of community on our little island.

A special thanks is once again due this year, as it has been in years past, to Shawne Wasilieff whose diligence and dedication has continuously kept the Community Center vital.

## FIRE STATION NEWS

### SMOKE ALARMS

A reminder that spring is the time to change the batteries in your smoke alarms, which we know that everyone has installed.

#### IF YOU NEED TO CALL 911

- ◆ You will be asked whether you require Police, Fire Dept or Ambulance service.
- ◆ All 911 calls go to an operator who is NOT in Nanaimo.
- ◆ It is **ESSENTIAL** to identify your location as **PROTECTION ISLAND IN THE HARBOUR OF NANAIMO**.
- ◆ You **MUST** give your **STREET ADDRESS** which must be **CLEARLY VISIBLE** on your property so you can be found.

Our Fire Dept. will respond to all **MEDICAL EMERGENCY** calls. Each on call fire fighter is trained in **First Response First Aid** and will stay on the scene until paramedics arrive.

#### FIREFIGHTERS WANTED

Our Fire Department welcomes new members. Interested residents ages 19-58 please see Chief Veronica on Tuesday evenings at the Fire Hall when regular practices are held. Good health and a two year commitment are required due to the amount of training involved



### BACKYARD BURNING

As a result of vigorous lobbying, Protection Island was exempted from the burning ban now in force in Nanaimo. It was a hard won victory for our Island as a unique community within the City. Please take note of the following regulations.

#### BURNING REGULATIONS

Burning of organic yard waste and prunings is allowed during daylight hours on Fridays and Saturdays in April and October ONLY.

A **FREE VERBAL PERMIT** is required for each day you burn. Phone Nanaimo Fire Dept. non-emergency number 753-7311 in advance any time in the week you wish to burn.

Calling for permits is **MANDATORY**. It also gives the City an indication of PI's need for backyard burning. If we don't demonstrate our need we could still lose this privilege!

Garden waste fires may be a maximum diameter of 4 feet in daylight hours only. Cooking fires must be in a container no more than 2 feet in diameter for a maximum of 2 hours.

Land clearing and burning of plastics, household garbage, stumps and wooden construction material is **NOT** allowed.

Burning regulations are posted on community bulletin boards.

#### FIRE HAZARD HIGH SMOKING WATCH

As another hot, dry summer approaches, please be aware of the fire hazard. Smoking bans in the parks may again be implemented. Watch for posted signs and please don't throw cigarette butts or matches on the boulevards. If you have visitors who smoke, please educate them too. Thank you and have a safe and enjoyable summer.



### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

If you have not yet filled in the questionnaire for emergency preparedness, please do so right away and drop it off to Veronica Zehntner or Josie Thornton.

A reminder that if you are on any medication, please ensure you always have at least a 10 day supply on hand as we will be on our own for that long in the event of a major earthquake.

#### FIRE FIT CHALLENGE

For the 3rd year in a row Station 7's team returned victorious from the Fire Fit Challenge Competition held in Sooke Saturday May 6th, 2006.

Paula Ng took 1st place in the women's division with a time of 3 min 40 seconds well over a minute ahead of her nearest competitor.

Ed Iwaskow claimed 2nd in the very competitive men's under 30 division with an impressive time of 1 min 51 seconds. Jason Metz placed a close 4th in the men's over 40 division with a time of 2 min 59 sec.

In the relay event a mixed team comprising Dianne Glassen, Paula Ng, Veronica Zehntner, Ed Iwaskow and Jason Metz did not manage any prizes despite an excellent time of 2 min 20 sec but a good time was had by all.

Congratulations to the Station 7 team!

## LANTERN FESTIVAL

Earthly D-Lights: Protection Island's Second Annual Lantern Festival, held at Pirates Park on April 22nd, 2006 was a d-lightful evening in the park with friends and family! Thanks again to everyone who helped make it a success! The key lantern committee members deserve special mention: Andrea, Antony, Corinne, Jason, Josephine and Wendy. We didn't need tarping this year but thanks go to the tarping team for being prepared for the weather! Photos of the night's events can be seen at <http://innercoredesign.com/lanternfestivalphotos06.htm>.

The evening started with the bagpiper's call to light all the park lanterns. Thanks to John for leading the procession.

Beautiful lanterns were everywhere as were the wonderful sounds of musicians, visual d-lights from performers and yummy hot chocolate from Station 7 Fire Department! Some of the larger lantern installations we put together by Sandee, Paula and Jason, Wendy and Corinne, and Russ and Pamela.

Thanks to all the musicians and performers with special mention going to Andrea, Antony, Jorg, Paul, Rick, Russ, and Trish!



## PROTECTION ISLAND MUSEUM

Your Protection Island Museum now has a website: [www.protection-island-museum.ca](http://www.protection-island-museum.ca) Many thanks to Fredrik for his hard work and perseverance! .

The Protection Island Cultural Historical Society invites you to attend an historical party moment—

## THE GALA OPENING of the PROTECTION ISLAND ARCHIVES

a brand new building for really old stuff.

Sunday, May 28th, 2 to 5 p.m.  
33 Cutlass Lookout

Refreshments! Music! Children's Activities! Ribbon Cutting! Guided Tour!

For information, call Heather at 753-8162.

Board Members: Heather Cooling, Jurgen Goering, Sandra Hedley, Barbara Neild, Rick Scott, Tauno Tuominen, Parker Williams

## CROKINOLE

The First Irregular Gallows Point Crokinole Championship Challenge took place on Saturday March 4 at Beacon House. A very good time was had by all and Liam Taylor triumphed.

The 2nd Gallows Point Grand Championship Crokinole Tournament will be held at Beacon House Saturday June 10th, 6:30pm. New game structure, everyone plays until the end! (if you want to)

For tickets (\$2 each) please call Barb at 741-8905 or email [barbith@telus.net](mailto:barbith@telus.net)

If you have a crokinole board and/or card table you can lend for the evening please let Barb know,

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

We are a Neighbourhood Watch community. Contact Josie Thornton or Roger Gumbert for more information.



## P.I. GARDEN TOUR SUNDAY JUNE 12

The annual Garden Tour is scheduled for Sunday June 11. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss another great walk around island gardens.

This year the north end will be the focus, and refreshments enjoyed in Barb Routledges's wonderful garden.

Details will be posted later on community boards and on pro-isle.

If you have opened your garden for past tours and are willing to do so again, or are willing to be a first-time participant, please call Heather Cooling 753-8162 or send an email to [jcooling@island.net](mailto:jcooling@island.net)

## "PROTECTION COLLECTION" CD

The "Protection Collection" CD is mixed and ready for mastering and manufacturing. Recorded right here on P.I., it features over an hour of the musical and spoken word talents of:

Rick Scott, John Gogo, M'orphaeus, Andrea L'Heureux, Jason Metz and the P.I. Kids Vocal Ensemble, the Sheds, Paul Gogo, Mike and Carol Matthews, Russ Morgan, Dean Fowke, Karey and Jana-Lynn Faris, Tracey Moss, Larry Iwaskow, Mike Becher, Anthony Maki, Carl Ashley, Norm Lowden, John Sinclair, Graham Millington, and more...!

In order to pay for mastering and manufacturing, pre-sales of the CD are being offered. The CD's cost \$20 a piece and will be delivered when they are hot off the press. People are encouraged to buy multiple copies to sell later on. contact Anthony at 754.6033 or e-mail [anton\\_maki@yahoo.com](mailto:anton_maki@yahoo.com)