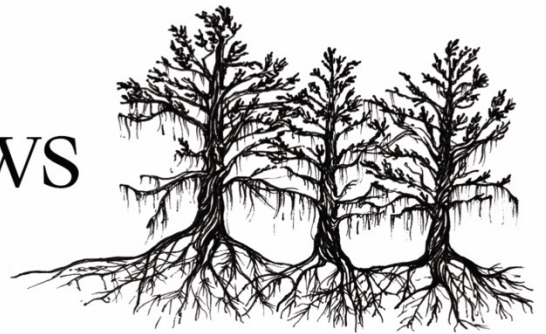


Xwe'etay News



Issue 29

June 2026

A Note from your Editors

As we go to press for the June issue of *Xwe'etay News*, birds and frogs are belting out “pick me” songs, bees are busily visiting flowers in search of pollen, our gardens are producing first fruits, and we are taking tentative dips in the ocean.

Yet, our hearts are heavy with renewed and compounded grief with the passing of another beloved community member: Alex Bain.

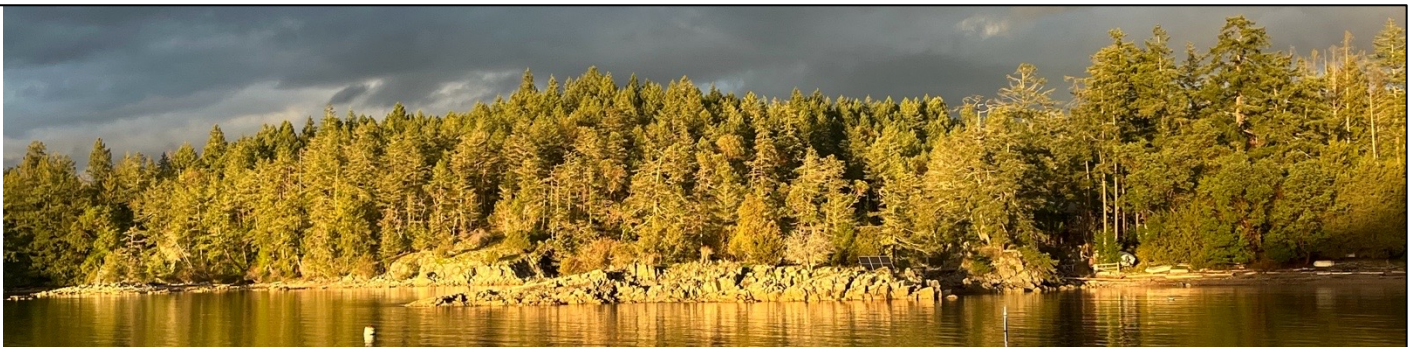
We, at the Yew Collective, recognize the importance of acknowledging the stream of moments that make up our community’s fabric — from silly to solemn, from joyous to sorrowful, and everything in between. By continuing to tell our stories, we honour the many strands that weave us together.

With love and gratitude,
The Yew Collective
(Anna Dodds, Dana Lepofsky,
Deb Perell, Karen Gates, and Wendy Wickwire)
xwe'etaynews@lasqueti.ca

Oh yes! The next photo theme is **BERRIES!**



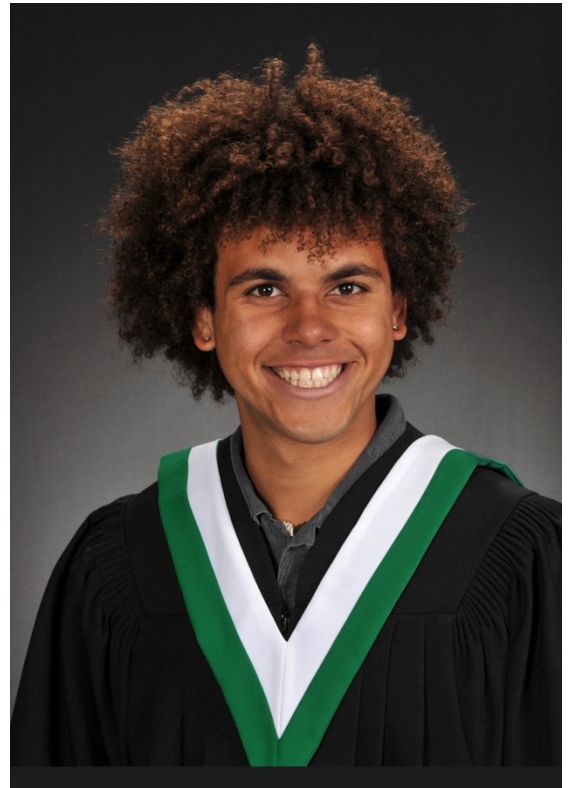
Alexander Luxton Bain
July 24, 1950 - May 28, 2026



Ken Lertzman

*We acknowledge and honour the Indigenous Peoples
who, for generations, have made Xwe'etay/Lasqueti their home.*

Congratulations to False Bay School's Graduates!



False Bay School is proud to congratulate **Janaka King** and **Vida Violini** on their graduation. We are thrilled to celebrate their accomplishments and this important milestone in their lives. This year marks a special moment for our community as we honour Lasqueti Island's first two high school graduates. Janaka and Vida have worked hard to reach this achievement, and we know the entire community joins us in wishing them success and happiness in the adventures ahead.

To celebrate, everyone is invited to a **Community Graduation Beach Party at Spring Bay on Friday, June 26**, beginning at **4:00 p.m.** Come out to congratulate Janaka and Vida, share in this historic occasion, and celebrate with friends, family, and neighbours.

Congratulations, Janaka and Vida! We are so proud of you.



A flock of organic chicks (Caroline Barrientos)



A flock of kids: Sterling, Serafina, Evan, Zinnia, Juniper, and Helen; June 2021, at Denise's dance studio (Carmen Stewart)

Goodbye Bon Vivant Jack Soule

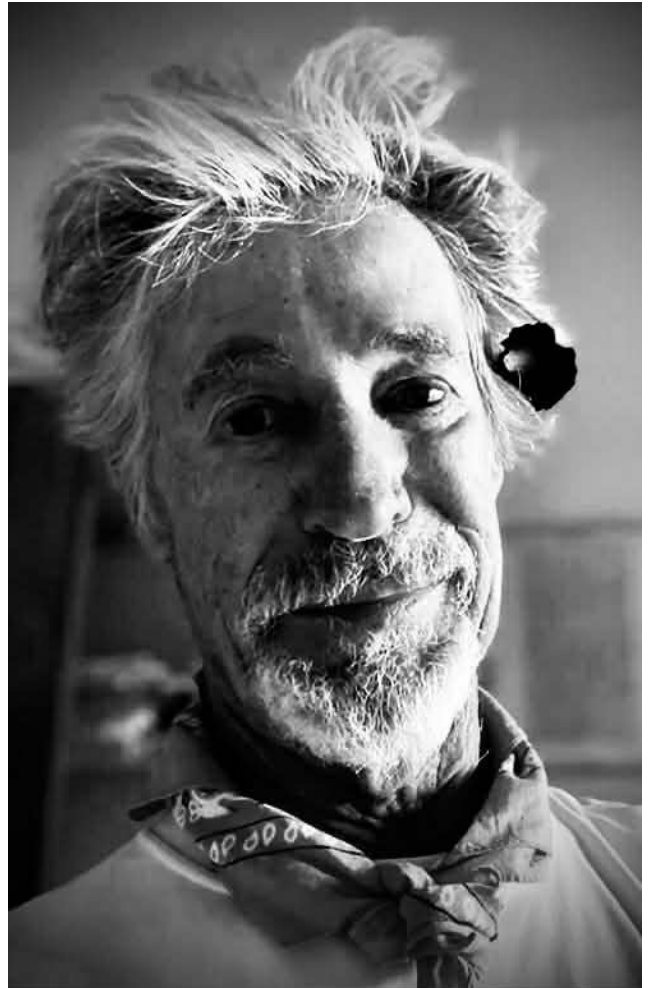
Jack Soule lived life to its fullest and gracefully let go on February 16, 2026, at his San Diego home in the peace of sleep. He danced his destiny across continents with zest, vigor, good companionship, and mischievous flair, finding himself quite by chance at home on Lasqueti Island. Fortune smiled upon Jack, and he smiled back. He always said it was better to be lucky than smart.

“Cool kiddy from the motor city,” John William was born in the spring of 1941 to John and Ivy (happily married for 60 years!) -- a school principal and grade school teacher -- and was soon after joined by his “carrot top” brother, Thomas. Little John easily slipped into the nickname “Jack,” hinting from the start of a frisky fellow who slipped out of trouble as easily as he got into it. With charm and curiosity, Jack always kept an eye open for adventure, warm companionship, sparkling beauty, and joy. If there was music playing, he was dancing. A colorful sign on the family home describes his freedom-loving bon vivant lifestyle, *Amigo de Todos, Serviente de Nadie*—Friend to Everyone, Servant to None.

A master of awkward questions at perfectly awkward moments, Jack pounced on chances to shine light where light needed to shine. A balance of Trickster and Bodhisattva, Jack amazingly managed to have it both ways—most of the time. He loved his early morning wholesome breakfasts, followed by a few jellybeans, as much as sousing it up at the nearest locale with friends new and old. For him, Lasqueti was perfect. A bar, local store serving homemade ice cream, no police, lots of trespassing opportunities, rousing festivities, and colorful characters galore. He felt right at home.

Comfortable in different roles: Professor of Political Science, Captain of a ferrocement boat he built (the *Blackjack*), beloved Husband, Papa, retired Professor (yes, this is a job), and of course Grandpa Jack. He is survived by his beloved wife—Maureen, three children—Cory, Suzanne and Renée, three grandchildren—Savanna, Trevor, and Gabriel, and a big red cardinal perched brightly over Laing Lane and Main Road.

We plan to host a Celebration of Life for Jack sometime early August – Jack’s family



Jack in his mid 30s, having just finished the *Blackjack* and about to sail off



As part of our ongoing exploration of bees on Lasqueti, students in grades 7-9 studied the different bumble bee species found right here on the island. After learning to observe the unique colour patterns, body shapes, and distinguishing features of each species, students created detailed drawings of native bees. Cruz illustrated a striking yellow-and-black bee with bold linework, Arlen painted a vibrant Black-tailed Bumble Bee in vivid colour, David produced a labelled diagram of bee anatomy, Akili captured a Vancouver Bumble Bee visiting pink flowers, and Ruthie brought a Fuzzy-horned Bumble Bee to life using mixed media. This work connects to the X'we'etay/Lasqueti Bumble Bee Project on iNaturalist, a community science initiative documenting the bumble bee species present on our island. <https://iinc.lasqueti.ca/news/the-xweetay-lasqueti-bumble-bee-project/>

We encourage families to get involved — next time you're out in the garden or on a trail, snap a photo of any bumble bee you see and upload it to the project to help build our understanding of Lasqueti's important pollinators! - Carolyn Smith



Meet the Neighbours



Aischa F. South End

“I like to pretend I don’t have an accent,” says the woman raised in Berlin. Maybe that’s because her blueprint is “not a city girl. Ever since I was a little girl I wanted my cabin in the woods.” In 2012 she made her dream come true, and Wwoofed across Canada to B.C.

She applied to work at Cindy’s. “I had no idea. Oh, I have to take a ferry, and find French Creek, and take another ferry. It was the middle of winter. But I did Wwoof for her, going back and forth to Germany until 3 years ago when I decided, I am doing this NOW.” She’s here in a comfy cabin with a greenhouse. “Being self sustainable is very important to me.”

Aischa wanted a career she could emigrate with. She is a trained glass artist, a health educator and an ECE teacher (she taught 5 school classes in Germany). She’s also an artist, expanding into that space more here than ever before.

With Holotropic Breathwork, “I found my calling. I have always been about transformation and expansion.” What’s more expansive than breathing? In many languages, breath and spirit have the same root. It’s the original medicine. Her breathwork schools are Breathwork Detox, focused on emotional, mental, physical and energetic detox, and Dan Brulé, a Master of Breathwork, who teaches hundreds of techniques in a profound way. “I’ve been doing this every single day for three years. Every emotional, spiritual, mental state has a breath pattern, and having that awareness, being able to access that, being able to use your own breath to change the breath pattern and therefore change your emotional state, that is super powerful. And like everything in life, for sustained changes you have to be disciplined, and stay on it. It’s one of the best tools the body has.”

Aischa is building her website so that she can work remotely and work with others. She’s been part of a couple of “magical” collaborations here. Wouldn’t a weekend retreat be great?

Until she came here, Aischa never felt rooted or connected. “This is the first time I have felt home. Energetically, Lasqueti is very special. The nature is amazing, and the community is beautiful. It’s quite spiritual here. People are more connected to themselves and to mother Gaia. We have everything all in one. Most people don’t get to experience that.”

- Suzanne Heron



Mother’s Day, Clothing Optional

Tree frogs and feral sheep.
My eyes are bright and alive;
Summer’s creeping nearer,
The forest is dry enough;
I have longed to lie,
And be dry
In a cushioned bed of spring moss,
And stare up at the blue blue bits of sky
Between the different greens of old
needles and timid new leaves
And, with painful expansion, breathe,
And then long shuddering exhalation,
breathe,
Sinking ever deeper
Into this ahhhhhh
At long last. YES!
My place in this world
Here!
And all around me;
Do I imagine it?
(Surely not) . . .
Many small things giggle
And a few large things fart.
- Dolf Schoenmakers

Do you have a long-term health condition or know someone with one? Persons with chronic conditions, either mental or physical, may experience some good days and some bad days. Or, perhaps, they manage chronic pain on a daily basis. Maybe they gave a condition that requires a specific daily routine that takes time and energy. No matter what the situation is, one of the cornerstones of healthy coping is good communication, not only with health care providers but with family and friends in a community. Poor communication can be detrimental to a person's physical, mental and emotional health. No one really knows what anyone might be managing on a daily basis.

Most comments or assumptions may be well intended. However, choosing words thoughtfully can prevent harm and hurtful feelings to those managing chronic conditions. Offering unsolicited advice or false assumptions may create a harmful result or trigger negative emotions, which was not usually something that was intended at all! Here are some examples. "Oh, but you look so well". "Why don't you try this special.....?" "Can't you just.....?" There are many.

Communication has been said to be the "lifeblood" of all relationships and relationships are a lifeline to healthy coping. How then can we better "show up" whether we are the person living with the chronic condition or the supportive family member or friend? Communication is, after all, a two way street. Sometimes the most straight forward way to help someone managing these conditions is to ask how they would like to receive help. Then, try to be comfortable with their response.

Good listening is probably the most important skill to learn. Slowing down and listening before commenting or offering advice is important. Listening involves hearing the words, the tone and observing body language.

If you are the person with the chronic condition or if you are living with chronic pain, it may be up to you to make sure the lines of communication are open. As uncomfortable as it may feel in expressing your feelings or asking for help, chances are that others could be feeling the same way. They may want to help to gain some understanding but they don't know how. Empathy and communication can work together to help avoid misunderstandings and foster healing and positive relationship growth. It may not be easy, but worth it! Best, ♥dianne

Clinic phone: 250-333-8891; Dianne's phone: 250-240-5712 lasquetihealthcentre@gmail.com

Clinics: June 4, 11, 18, 25



As our dry spring moves into a warm summer, conserving nature is a collective endeavour. Thanks so much to all who participated in the Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy (LINC) Annual General Meeting (May 31st), along with the film screening of *The John Olsand Nature Reserve, A Story of Change* (directed and narrated by Sheila Harrington, filmed by Sue Ashcroft, and with the participation of Wendy Schneible and Donald Gordon) on how Johnny Olsand came to donate his land for conservation and how the land has changed over the decades. That same day, we also hiked to the Nature Reserve. Among recent events, LINC organized a guided early morning bird walk with Pierre Geoffray from Powell River. We heard lots of songs and especially remarkable was the song of the Warbling Vireo and the sight of the Black-Headed Wilson's Warbler. We also formed a circle to remember Jenny V. who had passed earlier that morning. Nature continues....

When walking on the trails of protected land, you might come across one of the many black roofing tiles serving as protective shelter for snakes, including the elusive sharp-tailed snakes. These tiles create warm environments where reptiles keep warm during cooler weather (even in summer, please leave these tiles in place so that the snakes may return). This is part of LINC's efforts at tracking the Island's wildlife. If you wish to help out on one of LINC's projects, you can join the next work party on June 14th (lunch included thanks to Suzie Rezansoff). We're hoping to host events in the coming months on mushrooms, geology, and Indigenous food ways. New (and familiar) folks are always welcome to join in!

- The LINC Board

Wisdom from Xwe'etay Gardeners



To Squish or not to Squish...

"Innocent until proven guilty" – Arne Bartz

"When I don't know what a critter is, I kill half of them!" – a Lasquetian

"Squish now, ask later" - Dana

While working in my greenhouse a month ago, I was dismayed to discover that my soil was infested with hundreds of small grubs. On-line searching suggested they were the European Chafer beetles – which apparently love to feast on roots. After much squishing and despair, I wrote our BC gardening guru, Linda Gillkeson. Linda was impressed with the magnitude of the infestation, but told me they were unlikely Chafer, but rather the native June Bug; Chafer beetles are just now showing up in Nanaimo. Native or introduced, Linda and I agreed that the extent of the infestation warranted squishing.

However, in the course of my squishing spree, I also took out what I always thought were "white wireworms" but are actually the larva of a Stiletto fly (which eat wireworms) as well as a larval form of a ground beetle (which eat slugs and grubs). Beyond the fact that these play a role in pest control, given the importance of a diversity of critters for general ecosystem health, and that so many native insects are declining in numbers, I was dismayed by my rash choices to squish.

In my efforts to repent, with Linda's help, I offer you a few bug photos to help you decide how to deal with critters in your garden. – Dana L.



Chafer beetle or June beetle grubs



Elizabeth Cronin

Stiletto fly, eating a wireworm



The now squished larva of a ground beetle that eats slugs and grubs



Linda Gillkeson

The parasitic fly of the non-native Cabbage White butterfly that just emerged from its chrysalis. Many beneficial flies look like houseflies



Linda Gillkeson

Cottony scale being eaten by the larvae of a native lady beetle



Linda Gillkeson

Scymnus larva eating aphids on the leaf. Scymnus is a group of lady beetles with fluffy white larvae that get mistaken for mealybugs or cottony scale.

My Oceanside Chocolate Home Association (MOCHA)

Looking for Community Integration Support Workers

MOCHA is a volunteer Board whose members (Martha Holmes, Andrew Fall, Tim Peterson, Denise Schmit, Jasmine NeeNee, and Beth Ott) work with Latisha Seaton, Judy Peterson and Michael Huguenard to help ensure that Latisha's needs and desires are met

To enable Latisha to continue to live and thrive on Lasqueti, MOCHA is looking for people interested in regular paid work.

Interested individuals must be enthusiastic and eager to learn and apply skills to help care for Latisha, including personal care, and indoor/outdoor activities. CI Workers will provide support to Latisha during the day, Monday – Friday. Training provided.

Contact: Judy and Michael 250 333-8534 10am- 10pm or any MOCHA Board member.

Latisha Seaton - Let me introduce myself

You may have seen me at community events; perhaps you don't know me personally. I have lived on Lasqueti for over 30 years in an accessible home mid-island with Judy and Michael.

I have some challenges walking and speaking, but I can hear well and communicate with gestures and with the help of my computer tool.

I am often overlooked in crowds, sitting in my wheelchair, but am very happy when people talk with me.

I'd love it if you can tell me a silly joke.

I enjoy painting, going to the beach and socializing at community events.

And very important: I especially like chocolate!



A Rock Flock. I am a herder of rocks. This first photo is all wild spring bay rocks that I have domesticated. The round rocks in the photo on the right are native to many places I have travelled. (That flock has prospered and increased considerably since the time of the photo.) – *Sophia Rosenberg*

Birds on Lasqueti

We usually think of baby birds as naked, blind and helpless nestlings. But some of our breeding birds hatch with a thick coat of down, ready to walk or swim away, under parental supervision, in a couple of days. These more developed birds are called precocial. Some of these birds are immediately able to seek out their own food, while others need to be shown appropriate food, or still be fed by their parents. These mobile young have a major advantage in being able to hide from predators.

Most of us have watched Mallard ducklings and Canada Geese paddling along under parental guidance. We also have three species -- Wood Ducks, Hooded Mergansers and Common Mergansers -- which usually nest in cavities. At two days old these ducklings are able to climb out of the cavity, leap into space, and flutter to the ground. They know to march directly to the safety of the water. Since what would have now been appropriate trees with cavities were logged in the forties and fifties, kind souls have put up nesting boxes.

The secretive Virginia Rail hatches into a long-legged, black puffball. While these young can walk and swim, the parents feed them directly until they are old enough to be taught to forage. I was stunned to see a partially-feathered Rail fly almost straight up to escape over my garden fence.

Blue Grouse, from elsewhere on the coast, were released on Lasqueti in the sixties. Blue Grouse are now called Sooty Grouse. In the open, post-logging forests of the seventies and eighties, young grouse were a frequent, delightful sight. Gradually they declined; it is a long time since anyone reported hearing or seeing a Grouse. – *Marti Wendt*



A flock (?) of Pale Swallowtails (Ken Lertzman)



A flock of mussels at a low-low tide (Ken Lertzman)



A flock of False Bay kids on a Stein Valley hike, May 1994 (Leithen M'Gonigle)



A pod of Pacific white-sided dolphins in Rouse Bay, May 2025 (Leithen M'Gonigle)

A Flock of Feisty Females at Ogden Lake



Marge Beales, Molly Millicheap, Helen Anderson, and Alex Brown Kozak (1983; Alex's 60th birthday)

My grandmother, Nellie Brown, had two sisters: Jean (married to Roy Oben) and Agnes ("Aunt Mick"). The three of them came together from Scotland. Roy landed a job as school teacher at Chas Williams school (now False Bay school). He and Aunt Jean also ran the post office for a time. There were 3 schools here then: "Maple Grove School," "Tucker Bay School" and "Charles Williams' School."

One day Uncle Roy asked Aunt Mick to hop on Charlie Williams' mail car to deliver an important letter from a Vancouver law firm to Mr. Millicheap. He was about 40, she was in her late 20's, or so. Apparently, they hit it off and down the road got married. Meanwhile the depression hit and many people left the island due to no work. Uncle Roy was going to lose his job so my grandmother, Nellie, brought her three young girls up from Vancouver and the two eldest went to school. They stayed for two years and of course Lasqueti got in their blood. Archie and Mick had one child, Tommy. Mick later suffered from a kidney ailment, Bright's disease (nephritis) and wouldn't go to Vancouver to be treated as she was so busy running the farm. She died when Tom was 12 and of course everyone was devastated. My grandmother brought the three girls up every summer and Archie and Tommy loved the company as they were so terribly lonely without Aunt Mick. The doctor told Archie that had she come for treatment they could have saved her life.

So, our family has a long history on Lasqueti. My mother, Alexandria, started bringing us up each summer as well as Aunt Helen so there were 9 kids at Uncle Archie's Ogden Lake home all summer every year. We later started each family having one month – July or August – and then we traded months the following year. We brought up all our food from Woodward's store in Vancouver which was delivered to the ferry terminal as we boarded. Archie had a huge garden, a wonderful orchard, and blackberries everywhere. We spent all day swimming in the lake, rowing the leaky rowboat and fishing for many trout. I believe I caught the last trout in Ogden lake when I was 16. They tried restocking it twice, but it didn't take.

Our big treat was to picnic all day at Marshall's Beach. In those days we could drive down to the trail that led to the beach, often confronted by Ralph Lewis who referred to my mother as "that Oben woman". Amazing how much fun was spent playing on logs all day in the ocean.

Spring Bay was another treat. Spring Bay Road was not there yet. The road ended at Tom and Molly's, so we marched through the bush from where Bruce and Wendy's trail is. Molly made fried chicken, potato salad, and chocolate cake and we had so much fun. Sometimes Tom caught a salmon and we cooked it on the beach. Such fond memories. Looking back to those days, we were rich beyond belief!

So, the feisty femme fatales kept us in line, made us do chores and let us run free all day. It was heaven! - Susan Ellard

Editor's note. We were so intrigued by this photo – and Susan's comment that "The reason they were so feisty is they raised 23 children between them (Marge: 8; Molly: 4; Helen: 4; and Mom Alex: 5)" – that we asked Susan to tell us more about these four feisty Lasqueti women.

The Saga of George Tranfield – Part 5

After abandoning his homestead at a Musqueam village site, and spending jail time in New Westminster, and struggling with a store in Nanaimo, George had a new idea.

Elda Mason's book states that Albion George Tranfield was the first settler on Lasqueti and that he raised sheep to sell in Nanaimo, but she was likely referring to George, who pre-empted land around 1871. The first survey of Lasqueti, in 1875, shows a handful of settlers: Higgins, Pearse, Prowse and Hickson, plus Tranfield's Pre-emption (+house) at Orchard Bay at the head of False Bay, and Albion Tranfield's Pre-emption (George's son) at Johnson's Lagoon.

On April 20, 1872 George wrote to the Chief Commissioner of Lands & Works and the Surveyor General: *"When I applied for leave to pre-empt land on Lasqueti Island, I totally overlooked the fact of my house being at least half a mile from the beach, and as I shall be the only inhabitant on the Island it would be impossible for me to have a boat or other vessel to transport me and produce to and from market ... Therefore, I should be greatly benefitted if you would allow me to divide my claim so that I might have a house on each moiety, or if you would allow me to take a claim for one of my children in California or to purchase a portion or in any way that it may seem most fit in your judgement ..."*

The reply was sympathetic, but negative: *"I should have much pleasure in permitting you to pre-empt for your absent son or to divide your claim at Lasqueti Island, were it not that the law is against such a cause."*

While Albion also pre-empted, both abandoned their claims around 1875 (after George unsuccessfully sued Pearse about claims of stolen sheep). An 1879 letter from the Government Agent to the Surveyor General stated *"at the present time there are no other persons on Lasqueti Island who have to prove up their claims except Cap't Pearse. At least so I believe. The two Tranfields have long since lost all right or title to their claims. Geo. Tranfield never improved his claim nor lived on it a sufficient time so that he lost his right to it. Albion Tranfield lost all title to his claim through not living on it and improving it. Moreover, he formally abandoned it in this office."*

George's saga ended in 1879 in Nanaimo, where he was laid to rest. – *Andrew Fall*



Portion of the 1875 Carey Survey Plan



Sometimes in the winter on a calm day, there will be a long line of cormorants flying in formation... to where? Just for fun, I think. Made from a copper plate etching. - *Ronaldo Norden*



From Mikaila Lironi:

What does a New Brunswick Court Decision Mean for Aboriginal Title and Private Land in BC?

You may have heard about a court decision in New Brunswick involving the Wolastoqey Nation? It has everyone excited about what it means for BC and the Cowichan Decision. In the simplest terms, both cases raise the key legal issue: can Aboriginal title still exist on land that is privately owned?

Cowichan Decision: Aboriginal title may continue to exist even if the land was later transferred into private ownership. This is especially significant, as much of BC is unceded territory.

Wolastoqey Decision: the New Brunswick Court of Appeal rules that Aboriginal Title cannot legally coexist with private fee-simple ownership because both involve exclusive ownership rights over the same land.

What these Decisions have in common: neither decision means homeowners are at risk of losing their homes. Canadian Courts support this as they place high value on the rights of 3rd-party property owners.

Then who will be affected by decisions about Aboriginal title and private fee-simple land?

In British Columbia, Aboriginal title issues are most relevant in areas such as forestry, mining, pipelines, major development projects, and the use of undeveloped Crown land.

What does this mean for the Islands Trust?

For the Islands Trust, the growing legal recognition of Aboriginal rights and title means that the Islands Trust must consult and negotiate with First Nations before proceeding with large projects or land-use decisions. In fact, regardless of any court decisions, the Islands Trust is already participating in discussions with First Nations regarding land development and policies in the Trust Area.

So what does this mean going forward?

The differing BC and NB decisions also highlight that Canadian law in this area is still evolving. Many legal experts expect that higher courts may eventually be asked to clarify how Aboriginal title and private property rights interact across Canada.

For questions or a list of sources, don't hesitate to contact me. Mikaila Lironi 250-812-2560

mlironi@islandstrust.bc.ca

From Tim Peterson:

Greetings all,

First, thank you to all who came out to our May 4th meeting. The points raised by community members really helped our decision making on the issue of minimum lot size. Following the Public Hearing, the Local Trust Committee decided to scrap the proposed amendment, and instead to request staff to draft a new Land Use Bylaw amendment to limit subdivision potential of lots 64.74 hectares or more, to a minimum lot size of 4.05 hectares. This more accurately aligns with the original intent, limiting the creation of "extra" lots on large parcels, while retaining current subdivision potential on smaller existing lots. Your insights and questions were invaluable to the process.

Our final regularly scheduled meeting of the term is on July 6, at 11 am at the Community Hall, although it may be possible to consider an additional special meeting, depending on how far along the bylaw amendment is at that point. Please consider attending if you are able. Trust Council meets June 16-18. In March, Council elected to meet electronically for our final two meetings of the term, in order to reduce expenses. Trust Council will receive briefings on Candidate Information and New Council Orientation Program, and the 2026/27 Communications Strategy. Council will also consider responses to the British Columbia Coastal Marine Strategy, Policy Statement Amendment Policy 1.2.1, and a proposed Budget Process Policy Amendment, among other business.

Details and the full agenda will be posted to the Islands Trust website following the Executive Committee meeting of June 3. Navigate to "what's happening" then "meetings and events" to view the documents, watch live, or attend virtually. You must "attend" to speak at the public comment period, which is usually on the Tuesday afternoon.

As always, please feel free to contact your trustees with your questions, comments, or concerns.



Kitchen Creations It's Asparagus Time!



Asparagus is a treat in the spring. Grilled on a hot BBQ or blanched and chilled in an ice bath, it's to be enjoyed in all its short-lived glory. This NYTimes recipe is definitely one to add to your repertoire.

Asparagus Gomaee with Chilled Tofu

1/3 cup toasted white sesame seeds
 1/4 cup tamari or soy sauce
 2 tablespoons sugar
 1 tablespoon rice vinegar
 1 tablespoon vegetable or sunflower oil
 1 pound asparagus, woody stems removed, cut into 1-inch pieces
 Salt and Pepper
 2 (14- to 16-ounce) packages silken tofu
 2 scallions, thinly sliced
 Cooked rice or noodles, optional

Make the go-ma sauce : Grind sesame seeds until coarsely ground, leaving lots of texture. Transfer the crushed sesame seeds to a medium bowl, add the tamari, sugar and vinegar, and mix to form a paste. Set aside.

Heat a large skillet over medium-high for 2 minutes. Drizzle with oil and add the asparagus. Season with salt and pepper, and toss until asparagus is bright green and just tender, 2 to 3 minutes. Transfer to another medium bowl and immediately add half of the sesame sauce. Toss to coat, then set aside to cool for 5 minutes.

Drain the liquid from the packages of tofu and gently tip the blocks onto a kitchen towel, trying to keep the blocks in one piece, if possible. Pat with another clean kitchen towel, removing as much liquid as possible. Transfer the blocks to one large rimmed plate (or shallow bowl) or two smaller ones — leave whole or cut into 1-inch blocks — and spoon over the remaining sesame sauce, dividing it evenly between the two blocks.

Top the tofu with the asparagus, ensuring it is evenly distributed. Top with scallions and serve with rice or noodles on the side, if using. – *Deb Perell*



qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT

Wharf resolution to be submitted to FCM (Federation of Canadian Municipalities):

Trustee Peterson and I have initiated a process for the qRD to submit the resolution “*cease divestment efforts of remote port facilities*” to FCM (the Islands Trust cannot jointly submit since it isn't a member of the FCM). I have also been in communication with FCM staff in their Policy and Public Affairs section to ensure the process unfolds as needed. If accepted, it would be considered at the autumn FCM convention.

Grants in Aid Applications: In June, the qRD will consider grant applications from across the qRD. Many applicants will present their projects to the qRD Finance Committee in early June.

Meeting with Minister of Transportation and Transit at the UBCM convention:

I put forward a motion for the Board to direct staff to schedule a meeting with the Minister of Transportation and Transit (Mike Farnworth) at the UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) convention in September regarding options to ensure contract and operation accountability for the Lasqueti Island ferry route. If accepted, this would give the qRD Board up to 15 minutes to speak to the Minister about the importance of improving oversight and accountability on ferry routes that are sub-contracted by BC Ferries. This would give an opportunity to directly ask the Minister to implement some of the requirements that BC Ferries must meet on their routes, including increased transparency and reporting, oversight of adherence to the contract, and development of a process to deal with customer complaints. The specific request and talking points will be developed with the ferry committee and will incorporate public input from the WPM community meeting and provided to the ferry committee.

Please feel free to contact me. I am honoured to be your regional representative. Director Andrew Fall, qathet Regional District

Contact: afall@qathet.ca

What does the Cowichan Court Case mean for Lasqueti: A presentation by Regional Director Andrew Fall, June 17

Join the LCA Reconciliation Committee for a presentation by our Regional Director, Andrew Fall, about the relevance of the Cowichan court case for Lasqueti residents.

Andrew will share a short summary of his interpretation of the court decisions, based on his reading of all 700+ pages of the ruling, plus workshops held by UBCM and AVICC. This will be followed by a moderated Q & A from the floor.

Where: at the Hall.

When: June 17, 7pm

Ken Lertzman will be chairing the session.

We're hoping to have a Zoom option. If islanders want to participate remotely, please email Peter Johnston: pjohnston@lasqueti.ca If we can get Zoom set up, Peter will send out a Zoom link right before the event.

- The LCA Reconciliation Committee

Come meet MLA for Ladysmith-Oceanside, Stephanie Higginson

On Thursday, **June 4th** our MLA for Ladysmith-Oceanside, Stephanie Higginson, will be on island from noon until 4:00 **at the Lasqueti Hotel and Pub.**

The meeting will start with a presentation, break for lunch, and then resume with a question-and-answer town hall.

In addition to representing our riding since 2024, Stephanie was appointed Parliamentary Secretary for Primary Care Access in November of 2025.



Flock of Mergansers by Rouse Bay

Ken Lertzman



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Strategic Priorities Survey

Your input will help Islands Trust identify priorities in future strategic planning activities.

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Have your say!



Scan the QR code to complete the survey



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**2026 SILLY BOAT RACES & PARADE
AUGUST 29, 2026**

MEET US AT TEA POT AT NOON WITH YOUR PARADE CREATIONS

MEET US AT BOAT RAMP AT 1:30 WITH YOUR FLOATABLE CREATION



CONTACT TRACI 250-954-5225 ANY QUESTIONS

Community Hall Outhouse Project

Request for bids. The LCA Board is seeking a project manager to design and spearhead the construction of our new outhouses. We are hoping to have the project completed ASAP. Contact the Board by email for more information. lca_board@lasqueti.ca

Celebration of Life for Milan

The family of Milan Cejka welcomes you to a celebration of his life.

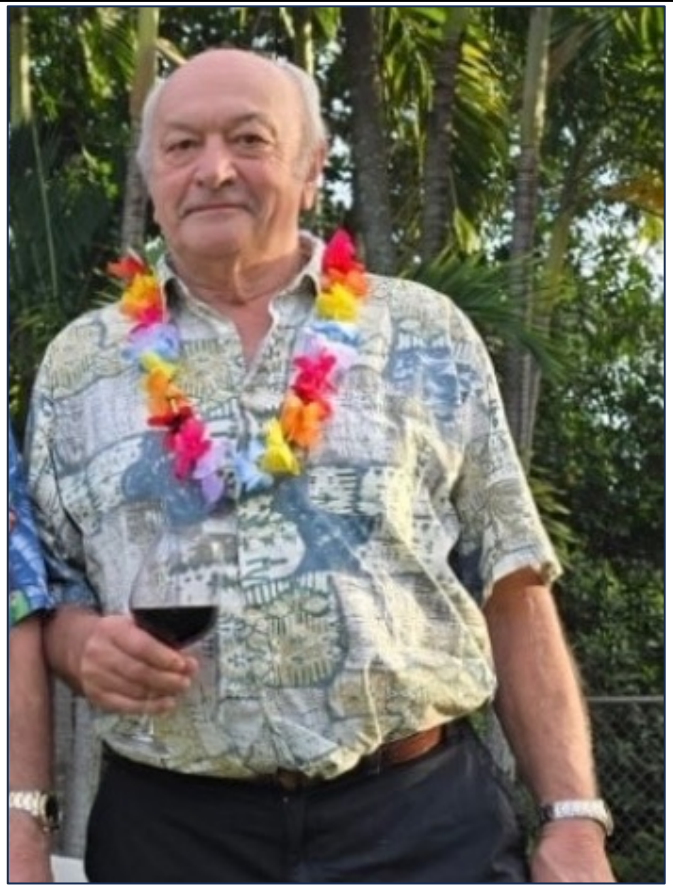
July 17th, 12:00 - 4:00 pm
At the Teapot house grounds.

Barbecue and drinks. Please bring your stories, memories, and photos of Milan, and a lawn chair if you want.

To contribute a side salad, dessert, or garden produce, please contact Mopsy
250 240-0287

mopsypurcell@gmail.com

For all other inquiries contact Mark Cejka
250 240-1408



Our Week in Review

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
A Life TimeZ Nursery		10 -5					
Black Sheep Gas		2 - 6			2 - 6	2 - 6	
Feed Store		11 - 3			11 - 3		
Ferry – from FB	1, 4	8, 11, 4			8, 11, 4	8, 11, 4	8, 11, 4
Ferry– from FC	2:30, 5:30	9:30, 2:30, 5:30			9:30, 2:30, 5:30	9:30, 2:30, 5:30	9:30, 2:30, 5:30
Free Store		10 - 5			10 - 5		
Life Drawing			7 - 9				
Nurse					11 – 3**		
Parsimony & Providence	2 - 6				2 - 6		11 - 2
Post Office		10 - 4		10 - 4		10 - 4	
Propane filled						1 - 3	
Provisions	11 - 4	9 - 5		10 - 5	9 - 5	9 - 5	9 - 5
Recycling		10 - 5			10 - 5		
Pub – Coffees	9 - 1:30pm				7 - 10:30	7 - 10:30	7 - 10:30
Restaurant/Pub	3 – close	5– 9pm	3 – close	3 – close	3 – close	3 – close	3 – close
CS Bread Stand			Bake day!			Bake day!	
Ultimate Frisbee	5:30			5:30			

**Nurses clinic: Thurs, June 4, 11, 18, 25

Community Calendar

June 4. Stephanie Higginson, 4pm at the pub.
June 14. LINC work party.
June 17. Info session on the Cowichan case. 7pm at the Hall.
June 26, 4pm. Community Graduation Beach Party, Spring Bay.
July 3, 4. Arts Festival.
July 17. Celebration of Life for Milan.
July 5. Jenny's dance party.
August 29. Silly Boat Race Parade. 1:30 at the ramp.



Ken Lertzman

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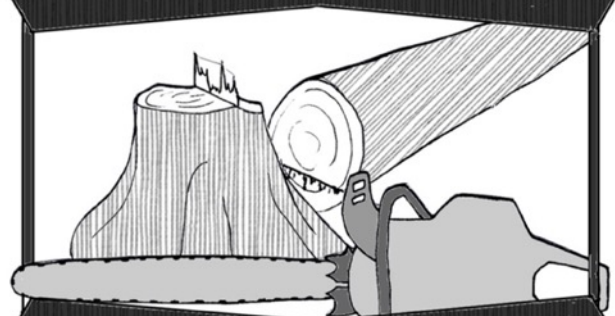
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RONAN: 250-240-1198

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Xwe'etay News is the monthly newsletter of the Lasqueti Island/Xwe'etay community. All submissions come from the island's community; donations cover production costs. An editorial collective is responsible for final production. To submit material for consideration (<400 words) or to make a donation: xweetaynews@lasqueti.ca
Online versions: www.lasqueti.ca/xweetay-news
Deadline submission for July issue: June 27