

THE HORNBY WAY: an owners' and residents' guide

[Representatives of the various organizations described below are asked to proofread for correctness of information or to supply additional information if desired. Please reply to Dan Bruiger, 335-0005, dbruiger@island.net, before March 8]

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Introduction

This booklet is a publication of HIRRA, the island's local association of residents and property owners. It arose from a need, perceived by the Executive, for an overview of the mechanics and the spirit of local governance and "how things work" on Hornby (in 2006). This includes the branches of local government, the networks of island associations, and the unique possibilities and responsibilities offered by island life in a small community. An important audience for this work are new residents and nonresident property holders. Old-timers will also find here useful facts and contact numbers.

Levels of Governance

'Governance' is a general term to describe the flow of decision making through which a community conducts its affairs. It includes the volunteer community work accomplished by informal or private organizations and individuals. 'Government', in contrast, refers to legally constituted rule, as set forth in the law of the land. Sometimes it refers to the particular

administration in power. Governance indicates the ways in which the community regulates its own life and how things get done; government is the legal system of procedures for regulating community life and the officials who carry it out. In many cases, government establishes the framework which other organizations help to flesh out.

These distinctions are significant for Island life because of how the levels and aspects of governance feed back to each other in a small community. For example, while it may not be legally required that elected representatives of government be residents of the community they serve, this tends to be the case on an island. The fact that our local authorities live here as community members, with whom one may readily meet and speak, gives a special and pleasingly informal flavour to local government. As your neighbors, they tend to share your concrete interests when not your political philosophy. They probably belong to the same community organizations that you do.

Also, governmental and non-governmental functions tend to be intermeshed in an island community, where so much is done by volunteer effort. A unique aspect of governance on Hornby is the fact that several important services that are the responsibility of the Regional District have been subcontracted back to community organizations. Thus, fire protection and waste management services, along with several others, are maintained through tax monies levied through the Regional District, but are administered locally through the Hornby Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association. And, through grants and volunteer effort, other community organizations perform services often provided elsewhere by government agencies. Thus, for example, the Hornby Island Educational Society runs auxiliary educational programs and serves as advocate for children and families.

What, then, are the "levels of governance" on Hornby Island? To begin with the obvious, we live in an elected parliamentary democracy, on the British model, whose supreme law of the land is the Canadian Constitution. That Constitution invests all powers of local government in Provincial governments. Specifically, it does not invest the right of self-governing directly in counties, municipalities, or villages, etc. At our local level, therefore, the law of the land is determined by the British Columbia legislature, and by other agencies to which it has delegated power, and within limits it has set.

The agency created by the Provincial government, some decades ago, both to provide local services to unincorporated areas and to unify municipal services, is the system of Regional Districts in British Columbia. Our district is the Regional District of Comox-Strathcona (RDCS), which includes both Denman and Hornby islands as well as Quadra and Cortes islands and the municipalities of Campbell River, Courtenay, Comox, and Cumberland. While Regional districts bear some comparison to counties in the USA, each Regional District is divided into smaller "Areas". Ours is Area K, consisting of Hornby and Denman. Area K has one representative, elected every three years, titled Regional Director.

The agency created by the Provincial government in 1974 to "preserve and protect" the unique quality of life and environment found in the Gulf Islands is the Islands Trust (IT). Hornby and Denman Islands fall within the defined jurisdiction of IT, whereas Cortes, for example, does not—even though it is in our Regional District. There are two representatives, elected every three years, titled Local Trustees. In addition, the Trustees appoint a volunteer committee to consult in decision making: the Advisory Planning Commission (APC). The

jurisdiction of Islands Trust and of Regional District are complementary. For instance, what would be the land use, zoning and planning function in a municipality is here the responsibility of IT; what would be water supply, trash collection, dog licensing, and nuisance regulation in a municipality is here the responsibility of RDCS. Yet other functions, like schools and highways, remain directly Provincial responsibilities.

To recap: local government is a Provincial responsibility, applied through such legislation as the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter*. Power of local government on Hornby is delegated by the Province to the RDCS and the IT. The RDCS acts as a council or board of twenty in total, on which our Director sits as one voice. The IT meets periodically as a full assembly of 26 to consider general business; but in addition, the two local Trustees meet with another Trustee to consider business pertaining to Hornby particularly (the Local Trust Committee). While these are the levels of official government, governance extends to other community organizations, as described below.

The Hornby Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association (HIRRA) was established in 1973 as a community-wide volunteer organization, consisting of an executive board and various committees that perform specific functions necessary to the life of the community. It now manages a budget of several hundred thousand dollars and retains several employees, including an Administrator and Bookkeeper. Even so, its more than fifty elected positions remain volunteer activities. As a grassroots form of governance, it comes as close as one can hope to direct democracy through "town hall" meeting, in which all community members have the opportunity to voice their concerns and make decisions affecting the common good. The Association has no legal standing as a government, of course, and has sometimes been at pains to be taken seriously by the Provincial government and its ministries. Because of its close cooperation both with the Regional District and the Islands Trust over the years, however, these agencies tend to accord it some of the respect they would to a municipal council, and have used it often as a forum to consult the will of the community in their own decision making. While HIRRA lacks the legal authority of a municipal council (to levy taxes, for example), it has the advantage for community members of direct participation, which the council system lacks.

While HIRRA is an umbrella for its various committees, several of which are under contract with the RDCS to provide essential services, there are more than thirty other community organizations, not including their subcommittees. They depend almost entirely on volunteer effort, which is the lifeblood of the community.

In the past several years, the Regional Director, Islands Trustees, and HIRRA Executive have met informally from time to time to liaise about present and future needs of the community. With a recent commitment to more regular meetings, this alliance could evolve into a further level of governance. At the very least, it reflects the spirit of cooperation that makes Hornby work.

For further reading on local governance in British Columbia, see Andre Carel *Citizens' Hall: making local democracy work* Between the Lines Press Toronto 2001

The Hornby Way

Many Hornby residents have left behind city and suburb in favour of a more relaxed, informal, “alternative” lifestyle. In contrast to the noisy bustle and formality of urban life, Hornby offers not only relative peace, quiet, freedom, and self-sufficiency, but also what many would regard as more “real” contact: direct, friendly, caring and respectful interaction with neighbors. We enjoy a balance of a rural experience of nature and of “doing your own thing”, along with a satisfying sense of community and belonging. While these experiences may be typical in many small communities, they are intensified here by the literal fact of insularity: “the rock” does not lie along the road to anywhere else, and the drawbridge goes up at the end of the day. The police are absent half the year and our neighbors and friends are the trained personnel who would come to our aid in case of medical, fire, or other emergencies. There is therefore a sense of localism and self-containment, and of mutual dependence and personal responsibility, that is more difficult to find in anonymous urban settings or in small towns more connected by road to the outside world.

This, of course, is a mixed blessing. While we are somewhat protected from the ravages of “development” and commercialism of the larger world, we are also relatively isolated here with our own limited numbers and resources. In some ways we are like a clan or an extended family. Despite the potential unity this situation favours, there are diverse subcultures that only partially overlap; paradoxically, you may see the same faces daily or weekly at the Co-op, yet occasionally meet someone “new” who’s been a fellow islander for twenty years!

In an urban setting, what you do may seem inconsequential measured against a vast reservoir of anonymous others. Here, your actions may have immediate consequence for people you know—and therefore for yourself as well. It is a basic truth that human beings tend to deal more fairly with those they are certain to have repeated dealings with in the future. In a situation of mutual dependence, we *need* for our neighbor to prosper and to wish us well. Unlike in the larger world, one has to think twice, for example, before opening a new enterprise that would put someone else out of business.

Country life understandably represents escape from the constrictions and regulations of denser urban living. Some visitors, for example, seem to arrive here from the city with the expectation that traffic, alcohol, and noise laws do not apply, or that fire safety regulations and even common sense may be discarded. As locals, we may be glad for visitors to have a good time—but not at the expense of burning our island down or keeping us awake at night! In truth, we are subject here to the same balance of concerns that apply in the city: the needs and rights of the individual are always in relation to the needs and rights of others.

This balance applies, of course, to residents and property owners as well as to visitors. In some ways, it is all the more dramatic and crucial on an island, because of the promise of personal freedoms, on the one hand, and the intense nature of community, on the other. Successful life on Hornby depends on keeping this balance more as a *harmony* than an opposition. Most people intuitively understand this, and many conflicts are resolved informally through a friendly word. Though physical separation between neighbors may be greater than in the city, we live in closer psychological quarters. Our expectations may differ, bringing us into conflict. My neighbor’s freedom to run machinery in their yard may conflict with my freedom to enjoy peace and quiet. The same neighbor may seem a nuisance on one day and a godsend when

I am obliged to call upon them for help of some sort.

There are times when friendly negotiation fails. Here too the situation is different than in the city. Police are present in the summer months only, when they often are overtaxed by tourists. The Regional District has noise control bylaws, but there is no enforcement officer resident on the island. The Islands Trust has zoning and land use bylaws, but again there is no resident enforcer, and the means and the willingness to prosecute offenders is limited. In conflict, as in other things, to a large extent we are thrown back upon our own resources as a community to manage our own affairs. Indeed, this is most often preferable to setting in motion the heavy machinery of legal process, which can be exhausting both financially and psychologically for all concerned. On an island, serious conflicts can affect and drain the whole community. HIRRA has recently amended its bylaws to include a mediation function, expanding its mandate to include the promotion of good relations in the community and peaceful resolution of conflicts.

Much can be said for the merits of self-reliance. A unique aspect of island living is just this dimension of relative autonomy, whereby the community as a whole, as well as individuals, enjoy freedom of self-determination more than dependence on outside authority. Our Community Hall is a monument to the ethos of do-it-yourself—expressing both independence of spirit and community cooperation among volunteers. We are proud, in fact, of our independent “Hornby spirit”, and jealously guard our distinct ways of doing things from the intrusions and seductions of the more conventional outside world.

Another symbol of this distinction is “HIRRA’s Guide to the Etiquette of Meetings”—a protocol adopted to keep a friendly and respectful atmosphere during HIRRA meetings. It is based on the radically democratic premise that every member of the community carries needed information about how the community can maintain its health and plan its future through cooperative effort. This is to be assumed even (and perhaps especially) when his or her point of view appears to conflict with one’s own! It is also based on the proposition that such information can best be assimilated by the community when offered in a constructive way. In other words, every view should be offered in a friendly and cooperative spirit, free from personal attack, and should be heard and taken seriously in the same spirit. This is a very different political model from that of the larger world, where confrontational wrangling in governing assemblies is often manipulative, disrespectful, disorderly, and does not lead easily toward consensus.

While consensus is more difficult to achieve than simple majority rule, it is also a far more satisfying and stable basis for community decisions. Where there is solid community support for an idea, it tends to go forward. And there tends to be a better feeling among dissenters where there has been adequate chance for them to express their opinions, and sometimes passionate feelings on an issue, and to have these respectfully heard and noted. Literal 100 percent agreement may be unrealistic in many cases, but it serves well as an ideal toward which to strive. This is so, if only because reaching for consensus entails thorough discussion and the sense that all voices have been heard; but also because 60% agreement, for example, is preferable to 51%! Friendly, earnest cooperation in a spirit of problem solving and general consent may not be the model of politicking and hasty decision making we are readily familiar with a cynical culture, but it is likely the one most suited to the long-term well-being of an island community.

We have on Hornby, therefore, the opportunity to co-create a different and perhaps more

civil way of doing things than is usual in the wider world. No definition of “the Hornby Way” is offered here, because there will be as many conceptions of it as there are islanders. Nevertheless, Hornby’s deserved community pride extends to the presumption that we have here the opportunity to forge a model for participation, respectful process, and self-determination that could work even in communities that do not benefit from our insularity. Our recycling program, for instance, was one of the earliest in the Province. Our HIRRA system of direct democracy is the envy of a number of other small communities. Partly through the protection of the Islands Trust mandate, but also partly through strong community spirit, we have largely preserved our way of life against the commercial development that has rendered much of North America a “paved-over paradise”. While definite advantages have fostered here a vision of community in cooperation with nature, which is a viable alternative to the mainstream culture, the fact of our insularity should not lead us to conclude that such localism cannot take root elsewhere. The only hope for the world may be that it *will* take root—*everywhere!* There is implied in this kind of idealism the notion of microcosm and a corresponding ethic: we should conduct ourselves in this community in a way that, if the rest of the world did likewise, would lead to a sustainable planet and a just and satisfying sense of community around the globe. We should act as if the world were looking to us for example, giving new meaning to the adage: “Think globally, act locally”.

Nor should our advantages lead us to be lax or complacent about our own situation, always precarious and under siege from attitudes and forces prevalent in the larger culture. The only reason the Hornby spirit exists from generation to generation of islanders is because people repeatedly take it seriously and find their creative ways to support it and renew it through concrete action, which is usually some form of volunteer effort. Hornby is above all a place where you can make a difference.

Community Vision

The Hornby Island Community Vision Statements constitute an articulation by the majority of the community of the “*ideal Hornby Island in the year 2020*”. This process was a way to create a picture of the future that Hornby Islanders wanted for the Island, and provide another means by which Islanders can have more local control over their lives. The vision statements are intended to play two roles in the community:

- 1. To inspire and motivate groups and individuals to take action and organize efforts that will lead to the realization of the community visions.*
- 2. To act as a tool through which groups and individuals can “filter” their decisions. By asking the question “Does this project or initiative fit with what the community wants for itself”, the visions can help with the first step in the community consultation process. They are not intended as a limiting factor or enforcement mechanism for new initiatives, rather as a tool in the ongoing work of deciding the wisest directions for Hornby Island.*

Introduction

Community Visioning gave Hornby Islanders the chance to create a clear picture of our ideal future. We believe that with a community-supported vision we will all be better equipped to start working towards those visions TODAY.

The first phase of the Visioning Project was coordinated by the Community Economic Enhancement Committee [HICEEC] and took a year to complete. Over 500 community members participated, providing input through workshops and written questionnaires. This input was synthesized by an Advisory Committee of about 35 people over 3 months. The statements that you hold in your hands are the culmination of an inclusive and comprehensive effort to create a broadly supported vision for Hornby Island.

The vision for Hornby places its hope for the future on the enthusiasm, commitment and involvement of Islanders themselves. Working as individuals, families and neighbours, visitors, local organizations and governing bodies, one step at a time, is how the vision will actually be achieved. Remember, the future of Hornby is in your hands....in all our hands.

Vision Statement Summary

Hornby Islanders have envisioned a future based on our community strengths and our desire to remain a diverse, sustainable and viable community. Central to this vision are the values that we share as a community—creating a balance with the natural world, working together cooperatively and peacefully, taking personal and collective responsibility for the well-being of the community, and celebrating the special spirit and energy of this unique island and its people.

Living Sustainably

Hornby Islanders understand that living in balance with nature is essential. We are dedicated to improving our transportation systems, incorporating renewable energy sources, utilizing more sustainable building practices, recycling our resources and respecting the limits of our water supply.

Strengthening Community

We will build a healthy and diverse community by pooling our resources, sharing our skills and working cooperatively. A community where everyone is respected, well-nourished and adequately housed, where our education systems thrive and healthcare is available for everyone.

Building A Thriving Economy

Hornby Island will diversify its economy by building on the strengths within the community such as our vibrant arts scene, sustainable agricultural practices, diverse healing arts and our capacity to live in harmony with nature. Tourism is a valued part of our economy, and to be more sustainable it will become more integrated into the values and lifestyles that Islanders cherish.

Creating Local Control

Hornby Islanders intimately understand this island's natural cycles, its community and its needs.

We will continue to find ways to bring as much decision-making power as possible into the hands of the community. In cooperation with off-island agencies, we will establish our own mechanisms for dealing with conflict, protecting the environment, providing essential services, creating peace and security and meeting the needs of all our citizens.

Agriculture

In the year 2020, Hornby Islanders strongly support local agricultural activities which include permaculture, horticulture and aquaculture. We place a strong value on organic agriculture, self-sufficiency and creating value-added agricultural products. There is a strong market for local agricultural products, both on and off the island. The community uses a large percentage of cleared arable land for agriculture and there are many communally owned and operated lands and facilities for food production. People come to Hornby specifically to learn about our thriving agricultural sector and participate in many facets of agricultural production.

Arts

In the year 2020, Hornby is known for its thriving arts community. All the arts are part of our daily lives and we cherish the contributions that artists, performers and crafts people make to our community.

Art is also one of the mainstays of the economy, with both residents and visitors buying local arts and crafts. Visitors and residents of all ages enjoy the many learning opportunities provided around the arts. Through mutual support and collective initiatives, local artists work together to improve their skills and businesses.

Building Practices

In the year 2020, buildings on Hornby are known for their beautiful and creative design and their environmental sensitivity. Small-scale, energy efficient buildings with a light ecological footprint are the norm. Common use is made of recycled and innovative materials. New buildings and renovations are done in a manner that is sensitive to the unique Hornby aesthetic and in harmony with the natural environment. This “Hornby style” is affordable, accessible, rural, natural and hand-built with heart. Building methods and materials incorporate a “zero-waste” philosophy and alternative energy practices. The community works to promote the recycling and re-use of building materials. Buildings and landscaping integrate energy conservation methods, water catchment and storage techniques and innovative and effective used-water disposal systems into all designs.

Community Values

Community values are an attempt to create a broad picture of what many of us currently hold in common, rather than an attempt to impose these values on individuals. Community values help to guide our individual and collective lives, and provide common reference points through which

to make decisions and guide our community's future. Hornby Islanders value:

- Our connections to the natural world
- Diversity
- The spirit and energy of this unique island and its people
- Simplicity, self-sufficiency and sustainability
- Working through our disagreements in a respectful manner
- The strong sense of belonging and safety that comes from living in this community
- Our connections with the rest of the world
- Local control over decisions which effect our community and our environment
- Working cooperatively to create an inclusive and healthy community
- Creativity and innovation

Cooperative Ventures & Community Infrastructure

In the year 2020, cooperative and community-run ventures are flourishing because the community believes that collective initiatives are the most effective ways to meet the needs of the community, maintain local control and create a healthy economy. In order to survive and be able to live the simple, low impact lifestyle we desire, we have developed many effective ways for pooling and sharing our resources, talents and energy. We realize that only through mutual effort and respect will we be able to achieve our goals of self-reliance and self-determination.

Local government bodies and community organizations play an active role in initiating and sustaining a variety of ventures for the common well-being, from land acquisition to construction of facilities and the establishment of co-ops. Community services such as the Fire Department, the Recycling Depot, the Co-op, the Community Hall, New Horizons and the Ballpark are shining examples of our cooperative spirit in action and have inspired many other cooperative ventures.

Hornby Island is connected to a network of other like-minded communities with whom we share and trade resources and services. Seasonal residents and visitors are interested in working on and supporting our community efforts.

Many of our needs are met locally in centrally-clustered service areas, which encourage the shared use of resources such as parking lots, energy, equipment, etc. These central areas also provide many opportunities for people to gather together, participate in arts and cultural activities, shop and visit.

Economy

In the year 2020, Hornby Island's economy reflects and helps sustain the unique nature of Hornby's people and natural environment. We recognize that a healthy community is what creates a healthy economy and visa versa. Our thriving and diverse economy is comprised of small-scale, locally and/or communally-owned businesses, services and value-added industries as well as low-impact tourism.

Many community groups are working to create and finance the infrastructure necessary for

the prosperity and common good of all. Local taxes are retained in the community to support local initiatives. The community encourages activities that promote local and individual self-sufficiency, and barter and trade are integral parts of the economy. We re-circulate resources and currency within the community and patronize local businesses and services.

There are plenty of skill-building and educational opportunities, cooperative and support mechanisms to assist the creation and success of small businesses. Employment opportunities and apprenticeships for youth are widely available. Everyone is able to support themselves doing what they love. We also value the contribution of volunteer and unpaid labour to our community.

The arts, agriculture, education, high tech, health care, trades and small-scale production are the major sources of income. Additionally, we are successfully marketing our products and services off-island. Our connections to the broader economic structures are based in just and fair trade practices and do not contribute to the exploitation of people or the planet.

Education

In the year 2020 Hornby Island is known as a centre for learning where education is a lifelong pursuit, with plentiful opportunities for people of all ages to develop their full potential. Education is focused on the unique assets of the community such as the healing arts, agriculture, the arts and the environment.

The community has created a lifelong learning infrastructure (which could be an actual Centre or a loose network) that is responsive to the needs of all individuals and the community. It is flexible, well-funded and sustainable. Learners and teachers from around the world are welcome and important participants in this educational process.

There is a high level of local involvement in all aspects of the educational system. The education system emphasizes intergenerational mentoring, global awareness and connection, developing life skills, creativity and environmental awareness.

The community values its local Community School and Preschool, and works together to ensure their continued viability. Teens are offered a choice of an excellent high school education right here on Hornby, on Vancouver Island or anywhere in the world. Adult education is an umbrella activity for academic, social, creative and economic development.

Energy

In the year 2020, Hornby Island has extended the type of forward thinking that created the Recycling Depot and has become a centre of learning for energy conservation and innovation. There is strong support and encouragement for the development and use of renewable energy systems that promote local energy self-sufficiency and are environmentally sensitive. There are active research and development projects taking place on renewable energy sources and the “zero-waste” ethic is integrated into how we use energy.

Environment

By the year 2020 we are living in balance and harmony with the Earth. Many of us chose to live on Hornby because of the healthy, wild environment and we cherish our intimate connection with the natural world. Everyone understands the natural limits of this fragile ecosystem and strives to reduce their ecological footprint by living lightly on the land.

All forms of human activity are designed to have a minimal impact on the environment. Land use planning emphasizes resource conservation. We take a strong stand on protecting our water resources, defending native species from invasion, avoiding the use of harmful chemicals, and maintaining a GMO and nuclear-free zone. Effective mechanisms are in place to conserve our supply of clean fresh water for everyone on the island. Safe, innovative systems for processing sewage are widely used and respected.

We take an active role in educating ourselves and our visitors on environmental issues and are known for our environmental sustainability. Our “reduce, reuse, recycle” program has resulted in the word “waste” being dropped from our vocabulary.

Governance

In the year 2020, Hornby Island community members support, value and actively participate in an innovative model of autonomous governance. This new structure is responsive to the community, encourages and facilitates egalitarian participation and is based on the principles of consensus building and cooperative conflict resolution. This kind of governance structure will:

- Reflect our diverse population
- Retain local taxes to meet local needs, wherever possible
- Have in place clear conflict resolution mechanisms to resolve community disagreements on policy, neighbourhood, political and land-use issues
- Maximize local decision-making on local issues
- Cooperate with off-island agencies and resources
- Facilitate inclusive and widespread participation in decision making
- Encourage community groups to meet regularly to create a network/forum for discussion, celebration and decision making.

Health

In the year 2020, Hornby Island has become a place where people come to heal and to be healed. The community defines health as inclusive of physical, psychological, emotional, sexual and spiritual well-being, and not merely the absence of disease. Individuals are supported in their effort to become self-actualized, integrated beings. Spirituality is a vital aspect of health and all

sacred paths and health choices are respected and supported. People are aware of what they need to do to maintain and be responsible for their own good health and they have access to many options for prevention and healing.

To assure lifelong well-being we have high-quality, community-based health care. There is a community-run holistic health care centre that embraces western and complementary health practices. We reach out to health experts and networks in the wider world and invite people to visit our excellent healing facilities.

The community values its local health services such as permanent, full-time doctors, First Responders team, local clinic, dentist, home support services, Health Care Society and diverse alternative practitioners.

The community acknowledges and works to enhance all the determinants of good health including: safety, affordable housing, food and clean water, social interconnectedness, economic well-being, support for children, families and seniors, easy access to all levels of health care, etc. We know about and understand addictions and mental health issues and there is an integrated support system to assist in achieving wellness in these areas.

Housing

In the year 2020 Hornby Island is a balanced, diverse community where all its residents are able to find adequate housing. Stable and affordable housing makes it possible for residents to put down roots and build a life here, actively participate and contribute to the well-being of the community.

The community takes collective responsibility for land availability, housing options, creating local mortgage funds and land-use planning. We have in place easy and amicable ways of assessing and deciding on land and housing issues. There is a broad range of housing options and choices available for everyone from home ownership to temporary accommodation, from large lot rural to clustered housing and single person dwellings. Some areas combine mixed use zoning, multigenerational housing and communally available resources, facilities and services.

A strong community priority is placed on creating affordable, year-round housing for permanent residents. Because the community values year-round residents, they are not evicted from rental homes during the summer. All landlords and tenants are responsible to and respectful of each other and the environment.

Houses are energy efficient, ecologically sound, built to last and well-maintained. Every home has adequate water through the use of catchment and storage as well as environmentally friendly waste water management.

Peacemaking & Conflict resolution

In the year 2020, Hornby Island is a safe, understanding and trusting community that is respectful of its core values, which include: personal responsibility, respectful communication and a variety of local mechanisms for resolving conflict.

Hornby Islanders have little or no need for police intervention, and there is a freedom from fear which allows people to leave their doors unlocked and children to play in safety. Islanders

are committed to resolving their differences peacefully and take personal responsibility for dealing with personal and community conflicts. The foundation of Hornby's conflict resolution approach will include:

- The creation of a set of core community values (for families, individuals, groups, neighborhoods, governance, etc.)
- On-going education on communication and conflict resolution skills for the entire community.
- Access to relevant services and resources to help underlying problems which lead to personal and community conflict (e.g.: drug and alcohol counselling)
- Building connections among neighbors which will encourage strong community bonds and understanding.
- On-going community consultation with local law enforcement agencies.

Recreation and Entertainment

In the year 2020, Hornby Islanders enjoy our own unique island ways of having fun and have created many interesting options for recreation and entertainment. The community stays strong by providing many opportunities to gather together, celebrate and stay healthy in mind and body. There is a lively cross-generational cultural scene with activities that are an ongoing part of community life. The sea and local parks provide wonderful opportunities for outdoor activities. Children and teens have plenty of space and opportunity for creative and recreational activities. Facilities for recreation and entertainment fit with local values and recognize the need for Islanders to maintain a simple, rural lifestyle.

Social support

Diversity is the cornerstone of any healthy community. The Hornby community thinks of itself as a large multigenerational family. We take care of each other like an extended family would and take responsibility for meeting the needs of our community members. Strong neighbourhoods provide a place where people know and support each other, share resources and provide a strong social network. Families, singles, youth, seniors and kids are all vital parts of our diverse community, and a balance of representation from all these groups has been achieved.

Activities, services and support are available for families so that they are able to have a safe and enjoyable life on the island. Youth are seen as a vital part of the community and have opportunities for education, recreation and employment. We have excellent infrastructure in place to allow our elders to remain on the Island until the end of their days. This includes health care, housing and other support services.

There are many opportunities for close connection among all members of the community from the very young to the very elderly. Effective relationship and communication skills are a

vital part of maintaining a healthy community. Services and support mechanisms are in place to address the needs of people who are in crisis.

Tourism

In 2020 tourism is only one part of Hornby Island's diverse and thriving economy. Tourism is now actively planned and managed by the community for the benefit of residents, visitors and the island itself. We foster low-impact, "intentional" tourism and have a manageable, comfortable number of visitors each year.

We prefer the concept of a "visitor" rather than a "tourist". A visitor is someone who comes to the island in the same manner in which they would visit a friend - respectfully and lovingly - and we welcome them accordingly. We have found ways to inform visitors and summer residents about the lifestyles, values and ecology of the island so that tourism is a positive experience for both year round residents and visitors. The ideal visitor would:

- come here because they appreciate and share our interests and values
- walk, bike or use public transportation
- purchase local goods, food and services
- walk lightly on the land (including water use and disposal)
- contribute time and energy for the benefit of the community and participate in the community.

We have incorporated some of the ideas from the "Slow Cities" movement such as preserving and celebrating our traditions and lifestyles and then encouraging our visitors to participate in them. We work at what we love and people come to learn about what we have to offer. Visitor accommodation is accessible for people of all income levels. The community feels energized and stimulated by visitors to the island and welcomes the excitement and fun provided by interaction with new people and new ideas. Visitors leave the Island feeling revitalized in body, mind and spirit.

Transportation

In the year 2020 Hornby Island no longer participates in the global petroleum economy. We are forerunners in the use of renewable energy sources for transportation. We use Canadian-made and environmentally friendly fuels to power our vehicles and have significantly reduced our use of individual motorized vehicles.

We have a low-cost, convenient, community transportation system, such as a bus or a tramway/train to get around the island and into town. The ferry system is affordable and provides convenient service for residents. There is a strong infrastructure making it easy for visitors and residents to choose to travel by foot, bike, or horse. We have lessened the need to travel because many of our needs are met locally in centrally-clustered service areas.

Regional District

The Regional District System

British Columbia's system of local government is unique among the provinces in its use of regional districts. These are local government authorities designed to provide for needs inadequately covered by either municipalities or the Provincial government. One such need is for basic local government services to small, unincorporated communities and rural areas of the Province. Another is to provide services across municipalities and unincorporated areas, throughout broader subregional areas or entire regions. Regional districts were first created in the mid-1960s specifically to address these needs. Nearly everyone in British Columbia lives within one of the Province's 27 regional districts.*

The services provided by Regional Districts in B.C. include fire protection, emergency programs, recreation facilities, libraries, water supply and waste disposal systems. The populations of B.C.'s regional districts range from 1.9 million people in the Greater Vancouver Regional District to 4300 in the Central Coast Regional District.**

“Regional Districts are governed by a Board consisting of two types of Directors. Electoral Area Directors are elected directly by rural area voters and serve three-year terms. Municipal Directors are first elected to a Municipal Council and are then appointed by Council to the Regional District Board for a maximum term of three years. Annually, the Board elects the Chair, who establishes Committees to deal with issues such as land use planning, environmental management, water supply, etc.

“Most matters when dealt with at the Board table, are voted on a one person-one vote basis, but there are certain issues which are voted on using a ‘weighted vote’. The weighted vote is determined by population. Every municipality and electoral area is designated 1 vote for every 2,500 in population. No municipal director is permitted more than 5 votes...”***

The Regional District of Comox-Strathcona

The RDCS was established in August of 1965. It covers an area of approximately 20,292 square kilometers. Its borders extend from Cook Creek in the south, north of Qualicum, and north and west to include Gold River, Sayward, Tahsis and Kyuquot.

The Regional District of Comox-Strathcona is a partnership of nine electoral areas and eight municipalities. It provides nearly 100,000 residents with over 140 services, ranging from parks to full-service sports facilities to solid waste management.**

Some of the services and programs provided by the Regional District of Comox Strathcona to Hornby Islanders are: Garbage disposal and Recycling Depot, Fire Protection, Community Hall operation and maintenance, public outhouses, Grants-in-Aid, Victim Services, Comox Valley Community Justice Service, Search and Rescue, CV Emergency Program, 911 Service, Noise Control, Pesticide Awareness, Regional/Community Parks, Economic Development, Recreation Services, Regional Library, CV Exhibition Grounds, Public Transit, CV Airport Service, and property tax collection and administration. Some of these services are provided through contracts between RDCS and HIRRA (see HIRRA, below).

Our local Regional Director for Electoral Area K (Hornby and Denman) is Carol Quin. She

resides on Hornby, and has served as an Islands Trustee and past president of HIRRA. To contact her:

Carol Quin

**1020 Central Road, RR#1, Hornby Island, BC V0R 1Z0
(250) 335-2603 fax 335-2602 email: ctquin@mars.ark.com**

*Adapted from “Introduction to Regional Districts: Communities in Partnership” published by Union of BC Municipalities, available as pdf file from their website

**Adapted from <http://www.rdcs.bc.ca/section_admin/>

***Quoted from <http://www.rdcs.bc.ca/section_admin/>

For a complete list of Directors and their coordinates, or other RDCS information, please go to their website: <www.rdcs.bc.ca>

For further reading on the purposes of regional districts, see: *Regional District Review* by Robert Bish, available online at <www.uvic.ca/padm>

For more information on regional districts and for a copy of the *Regional District Tool Kit*, see the Union of British Columbia Municipalities website: <www.civicnet.bc.ca>

A bibliography on regional districts may be found at:
<http://www.mcaaws.gov.bc.ca/lgd/pol_research/BIBLIOGRAPHY/book7.html>

Islands Trust

What is the Islands Trust?

The Islands Trust is a unique federation of local island governments with a provincial mandate (from the *Islands Trust Act*) to make land use decisions that will “preserve and protect” British Columbia’s Gulf Islands. It includes a land trust that holds land and covenants for conservation. An International Joint Commission first recognized the need to protect BC’s south coastal islands in 1973. In 1974, the Government of British Columbia enacted the *Islands Trust Act* to “**preserve and protect the trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the trust area and of British Columbia generally, in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, other persons and organizations, and the government of British Columbia.**”

Where is the Islands Trust Area?

The Trust Area is a scenic archipelago of 13 major islands and more than 450 smaller islands. It covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island, including Howe Sound and as far north as Comox (excluding Texada Island). The Trust Area is approximately 5200 square kilometers in size.

Local Trust Committees

There are two **Local Trustees**, elected every three years, for each group of islands designated as a Local Trust Area. Together with an appointed Chair, Local Trustees form a Local Trust

Committee, responsible for land use decisions within their Local Trust Area, excluding First Nation reserves. Its responsibilities include the preparation and adoption of Official Community Plans, land use bylaws, zoning and subdivision bylaws, the regulation of soil removal and deposit, and authorization of various permits under Part 26 of the *Local Government Act*. Official Community Plans in the Trust Area must also be approved by the Minister of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services.

Island Municipalities

The *Islands Trust Act* allows for incorporated municipalities within the Trust Area. To date, there is only one—Bowen Island Municipality, incorporated in 1999—which has a seven-member Council with broad municipal powers including land use planning. From the Municipal Council members, two Municipal Trustees are elected to Islands Trust Council for a three-year term.

Islands Trust Council

The 24 Local Trustees and two Municipal Trustees form the Islands Trust Council, which makes decisions about overall policy, staff resources and budget. The Islands Trust has a Staff of more than thirty, with offices on Gabriola and Salt Spring islands and in Victoria. Staff includes land use and policy planners, researchers, mapping technicians and support staff. Property taxes, along with provincial grants and development application fees, fund the operations.

Islands Trust Executive Committee

An Executive Committee, made up of the Chair and three Vice-Chairs elected by the Islands Trust Council, guides day-to-day operations and cooperative relations with other levels of government. It reviews the land use bylaws of Local Trust Committees and of Bowen Island Municipality to ensure consistency with the Islands Trust object. Executive Committee members serve as Chairs of Local Trust Committees.

The Islands Trust Policy Statement

The *Islands Trust Act* requires Trust Council to implement an *Islands Trust Policy Statement*, which outlines general positions and policies of the Islands Trust. It helps other jurisdictions and levels of governments with authority in the Trust Area to understand how their actions can best carry out the object of the Islands Trust. The *Policy Statement* also guides the land use plans of Local Trust Committees and Island Municipalities. It ensures these plans are consistent with broader policies for the overall Trust Area and with the Islands Trust's provincial object. The *Policy Statement* can set out different policies in different parts of the Trust Area.

Advisory and Other Groups

Local trust committees and island municipalities often establish a variety of advisory groups made up of volunteers from the community such as Advisory Planning Commissions, Advisory Transportation Committees and Advisory Design Panels. Boards of Variance are autonomous bodies with authority under the *Local Government Act* to permit minor appeals to specific local bylaw regulations.

Public Involvement

Many residents and property owners are directly involved in local governance through membership on volunteer committees and commissions. Those interested in attending the regular public meetings of Local Trust Committees and of the Islands Trust Council can contact Islands Trust planning staff or their Local Trustee. Information about ongoing activities and public meetings is also available from notice boards on some islands, island newspapers and the Islands Trust website.

Land Use and Building on Hornby

Siting and Use permits from Islands Trust are required for all new construction more than a hundred square feet (9.6 square meters) and for additions to existing buildings. Application forms are available at the Hornby Post Office or from the Islands Trust Northern Office, where staff can answer your questions: (250) 247-2204. Bylaws and application forms are available online: <www.islandstrust.bc.ca>.

Permits are also required for sewage disposal. Call Environmental Health Office at (250) 336-3202.

The regulations of the Home Owner Protection Office apply to building on Hornby, as elsewhere. Call 1-800-407-7757 for information. Although there is no building inspection on Hornby, the B.C. Building Code still applies.

It is suggested to read the Official Community Plan and the Land Use Bylaw regulations applying to your property, before planning construction. These can be viewed at the Post Office, the Community School, the Library and on the Islands Trust web site.

Confirm your water supply. In many locations on Hornby the quantity or quality of groundwater water supply is doubtful. Rainwater catchment systems are encouraged. Establish the site of your sewage disposal system. Talk with neighbours about your plans for your property.* Early communication can help identify and resolve potential conflicts.**

Observe the minimum 15m set back from the natural boundary of the sea for all buildings and structures.

A home business is a well-established way for people to pursue livelihoods on Hornby. *Home occupations* can include Bed & Breakfasts, artist or craft studios, professional offices, daycare, food processing, manufacturing and repairs. Because these businesses are in residential areas, they need to be conducted carefully to avoid impacts upon the neighbourhood. The Hornby Island Land Use Bylaw includes regulations to address this issue and should be consulted.

A home occupation should not alter the residential character of the premises. Nuisances to other lots such as noise, glare, fumes, vibrations, electrical interference and odours should not occur. Hazardous materials (explosives or inflammables) should not be used. A home occupation should be conducted entirely within the dwelling unit or a permitted accessory building. A retail store, restaurant, salvage or junk business is not permitted as home occupation. Items produced on the property may be retailed as part of a home occupation, along with the incidental sale of retail goods associated with the home occupation. Materials stored for use in the home occupation should not take up more than 10% of the lot. Off-road parking for employees and customers must be provided, along with screening for parking and storage areas.

The Official Community Plan was developed with community input to express the spirit of how land should be zoned and used on Hornby. The Land Use Bylaw expresses the letter of how the OCP is to be carried out. Please consult these documents for further details regarding zoning, construction, home occupation, etc.

*Including major clearing of trees. There are several small local sawmills for producing lumber.
**In many instances, enforcement of relevant bylaws begins with complaints from neighbors. It is always wise to consider your neighbors.

Hornby Island Local Trustees:

Ron Emerson, (250) 335-2047, email: <remerson@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Cari St. Pierre, (250) 335-0920, email: <cstpierre@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Northern Island Office

700 North Road

Gabriola Island BC VOR 1X0

Phone: (250) 247-2063 Fax: (250) 247-7514

All offices can be also reached **toll-free** in BC: 1-800-663-7867

Website: <www.islandstrust.bc.ca>

General Email Enquiries: <information@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Above information about Islands Trust was abridged from their 2003 "Information Brochure" at<<http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/usingoursite/search/search.asp?qu=brochure&so=&FreeText=of&sc=&RankBase=1000&pg=2>>. The section on Land Use and Building was abridged from a Local Trust Committee brochure "Living on Hornby".

For further information, and coordinates of other Trustees and IT personnel, see their website.

Hornby Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association

The Hornby Island Residents' & Ratepayers' Association (HIRRA) is a nonprofit society, registered in the Province of B.C. since 1973. Through this association, Hornby Islanders have an opportunity to be self-governing. HIRRA administers some of our tax dollars and, as its name implies, membership is open to residents and property owners of the island.

HIRRA's principle functions are guided by a published Vision Statement, Constitution and Bylaws, various Policies, and management contracts with the Regional District of Comox Strathcona (RDCS). Through contracts held with the RDCS and the elected Management Committees, HIRRA administers the following tax funded local services:

- * Fire Protection/First Responders' Program including transportation for medical emergencies and summer beach fire patrols
- * Recycling Program including a rural garbage transfer station
- * Operating and maintaining the Community Hall

- * Maintaining the comfort stations (privies) at beach accesses
- * Stewarding Mount Geoffrey Regional Nature Park
- * Organizing local recreation activities

In addition, HIRRA elects an Executive consisting of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, employs an Administrator and Bookkeeper, and maintains elected standing committees for stewardship of the local cemetery, for police liaison, for construction and maintenance of trails, and (recently) for the annual Fall Fair. Elected committees responsible for these services report to the Executive and general membership at regular monthly meetings. At present, there is one non-elected ad hoc committee, for planning and coordinating use of lands shared by several community groups and interests.

HIRRA owns the Community Hall, the Savoie Clinic, and the properties these occupy. HIRRA leases land to the RCMP, rents space to the portable dental clinic, and rents the Savoie Clinic to the Hornby and Denman Community Health Care Society.

HIRRA leases the adjacent ten-acre parcel from Crown Lands for future siting of community facilities. At present, the only improvement on this land is the building owned by the Hornby and Denman Community Health Care Society.

The Fire Hall and Recycling Depot are situated on crown land, which is leased by the RDCS. The RDCS owns the improvements on these lots.

Through HIRRA, you can have a voice in community affairs. Eligibility to vote requires a minimum of 42 days of membership. Become a member by registering at one of our meetings, held on the second Wednesday of each month except August, starting at 7:30 P.M., generally at the Community Hall. Notices of monthly meetings and their agendas are included as inserts in the weekly *Grapevine* newsletter.

To introduce new business at general meetings, write to the HIRRA Executive requesting that your business be placed on the agenda *before* the Executive meeting preceding the general meeting in question. That Executive meeting is usually scheduled the Monday of the week prior to the general meeting (i.e. about nine days before). Business may be introduced from the floor at the discretion of the Chair.

If you have any questions about the structure or operation of HIRRA, please contact any member of the Executive. We will try to answer your questions or refer you to the appropriate Management Committee. You can also go directly to our web site (www.hirra.ca) for policy statements, monthly minutes, etc., also accessible through links either at www.hornbyisland.net or www.hornbyisland.com, or refer to binders kept at the Public Library.

CONTACT:

Mail: "HIRRA" box at the Free Post at the Co-op on Hornby Island (no stamp required) or posted in regular mail to HIRRA, PO Box 16, Hornby Island, BC, V0R 1Z0

E-mail: Janet LeBlancq (Administrator) <janetl@mars.ark.com>

Website: <www.hirra.ca>

HIRRA Vision Statement

The aim of the association is to contribute to the ongoing evolution of a vibrant, self-governing community that supports and nurtures the well being of all islanders and of the island itself. This will be achieved by:

- * providing a forum for democratic participation, open to all and respectful of diverse views for discussion and resolution of community issues,
- * expressing the spirit and will of the community to government and other agencies,
- * providing information to the public,
- * fostering coordinated efforts among the volunteer groups active in the community, and
- * administering certain public services.

Current HIRRA Committees:

Cemetery Committee. Maintains and administers the local cemetery, which is owned by HIRRA.

Executive Committee. Four elected positions, of two-year terms, responsible for the general business of the organization, coordinating and overseeing its committees and the Public Administrator and Bookkeeper. The President normally chairs monthly HIRRA general meetings.

Fall Faire Committee. A new committee which organizes the annual fall fair.

Fire Protection and First Responders Committee. Responsible for the management contract from RDCS to HIRRA for the operation of the Fire Hall, Volunteer Fire Department, and First Responders.

Hall Committee. Responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Community Hall.

Police Liaison Committee. Meets with RCMP and with general public to facilitate communication and coordinate their interests.

Privy Council. Responsible for maintenance of comfort stations around the island.

Recreation Committee. Has been running the summer youth program for several years with RDCS funding. Program is being expanded to meet general island recreation needs with tax dollars which formerly went to Courtenay recreation facilities.

Recycling Committee. Responsible for the management contract with RDCS for operation of the Recycling Depot and Free Store.

Regional Parks Committee. Maintains recreational trails in Mount Geoffrey Regional Park, with funding provided through HIRRA by RDCS. Responsible for HIRRA and community liaison with Regional District, Parks Department. Beach accesses, formerly under Highways jurisdiction, are being transferred to RDCS as local Regional District parks, to be managed by this committee.

Shared Lands Committee. An ad hoc committee established to coordinate diverse community interests and planning with regard to present and future public lands, including the 10-acres on Sollans Road under lease to HIRRA.

Trails Committee. Creates and maintains the system of “motorless traffic trails”; funded through grants.

HIRRA CONSTITUTION (Revised May 1989)

1. The name of the association is the Hornby Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association.
2. The purposes of the association are:
 - a) To protect and advance the interests of the residents and ratepayers of Hornby Island as expressed in the official community plan.
 - b) To prevent pollution and abuse of land and natural resources.
 - c) To encourage voluntary community or individual enterprise.
 - d) To cooperate with other community organizations on and off the island.
 - e) To assist government agencies, at all levels in the management of Hornby Island affairs
by:
 - i) Being cognizant of government functions, procedures and services at all levels.
 - ii) Entering into contractual arrangements and/or agreements with appropriate agencies for the financial and administrative management of Hornby Island affairs and services.
 - iii) Representing Hornby Island residents and ratepayers to appropriate government agencies.
 - f) To represent and to assist residents and ratepayers to obtain, maintain and improve recreational facilities, both public and private, on and off the island.
3. The operation of the association shall be carried on without purpose of gain for its members and profits or other accretions to the association shall be used in the promotion of its objects. THIS PROVISION SHALL BE UNALTERABLE.
4. In the event of dissolution or of the winding up of the association, any money or assets of the association remaining after the satisfaction of its debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred to such organizations concerned with social problems or organizations promoting the same objectives as this society as may be determined by the members of the association at the time of winding up or dissolution. Failing such determination then such money and assets shall be given or transferred to some other organization provided that such organization referred to in this chapter be a charitable organization or a trust recognized by the department of National Revenue of Canada as being qualified as such under the provisions of the INCOME TAX ACT OF CANADA from time to time in effect. THIS PROVISION SHALL BE UNALTERABLE.

HIRRA BYLAWS

Hornby Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association Bylaws (revised March 2002) (revised Dec 14, 2005)

General

These bylaws represent those items of a regulatory nature peculiar to the Hornby Island Residents' & Ratepayers' Association. Separate publications may be required to supplement and

expand these bylaws and should contain routine and procedural information regarding the day to day operation of the association. Procedural documents may be changed, as required, by the executive. No supplementary publications shall contravene the legality or the intent of the constitution and by-laws.

1. Membership

All persons of voting age according to the laws of B.C. assessed for municipal taxes upon land on Hornby Island are eligible for membership. All residents of voting age according to the laws of B.C. not being owners of land nor being named on the tax assessment notices on land owned on Hornby Island are eligible for membership in the association after six months residency on the island.

2. Membership Rights and Obligations

- a. There shall be a membership roll in the custody of the secretary stating the names and addresses of the members. Persons eligible for membership shall become members on submission of their names to the Secretary and entry into the membership roll.
- b. Members shall obey the regulations of the association and submit to its rulings or those of the presiding Officer.
- c. A member may vote on any resolution providing he or she has been a member for at least forty-two (42) days before the date of the meeting at which the vote is taken.
- d. Any nonmember may attend meetings of the association and may participate to the extent approved by the presiding chairperson, but eligibility to vote shall be in accordance with existing by-laws.

3. Meetings, Quorum and Voting Rights

- a. Whenever possible, a circular seating arrangement for general meetings shall be adopted.
- b. HIRRA'S GUIDE TO THE ETIQUETTE OF MEETINGS shall be a referent to guide the spirit of general and committee meetings and to encourage respectful speaking and listening, as a complement to ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER for the conduct of procedure.
- c. The President, or in his or her absence, the Vice-President or, in their absence, a member chosen by the meeting, shall preside over the meeting.
- d. When questions arise as to the proper parliamentary procedures and rules of debate, the chairperson shall apply ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER.
- e. In general, procedures and a flow of business shall be followed which encourage thoughtful consideration and adequate discussion of issues, and which reduce the likelihood of very close votes. Consideration shall be given to the need of all to be heard, and to the need for discussion to build toward consensus, as well as to the need to make decisions.
- f. On those votes which serve to advise other levels of governance, a count of yeas and nays shall be recorded, along with summary arguments.
- g. There shall be a minimum of ten (10) meetings per year, at such a time as shall be

determined by the membership.

h. The Annual General Meeting shall be held within four (4) months of the end of the fiscal year.

i. Special meetings shall be called at the discretion of the President or, in his or her absence, the Vice-President or on written requisition to the Executive by at least ten (10) members in good standing.

j. Each member shall have, at most, one vote on any resolution. No proxies are admissible at any time.

k. At all general meetings twenty-five (25) members, or twenty per cent (20%), whichever is less, shall constitute a quorum.

l. The chairperson shall have the tie-breaking vote in the event of a tie but shall exercise this discretion with due consideration for section 3e, above.

m. Voting for the executive and management committees shall be by secret ballot; so shall the voting on any resolution where, in the opinion of the chairperson, such procedure is warranted; so also where, by show of hands, the majority of those present and eligible to vote so require a secret ballot.

n. Notice of all regular meetings shall be broadly advertised at least seven days before the date of the meeting. Special meetings may be called with the unanimous approval of the Executive with advertising not less than fourteen days before the meeting. Emergency meetings may be called with the unanimous approval of the Executive. In such cases, as many islanders as possible will be notified by telephone and email so as to assure a quorum for decision making. For the purposes of this clause, an emergency is defined as a serious situation needing prompt action.

4. Executive Committee and Management Committees

a. The Executive and management committees shall be drawn from the voting membership of the association.

b. No person shall hold more than one office on the Executive at a given time and no Executive member shall concurrently hold term on a management committee.

c. The Executive shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The term of office for Executive members shall be two (2) years, to be staggered so that half (50%) of the Executive members are due for election each year. The President and Vice-President will be elected in alternate years and the secretary and treasurer will be elected in alternate years. The first two-year term of Vice President will commence in 2006. The first two-year term of President will commence in 2007. The first two-year term of Secretary will commence in 2006. The first two-year term of Treasurer will commence in 2007.

d. There shall be a management committee for each of the service functions for which HIRRA has a contract with the Regional District of Comox Strathcona and for other functions as may be decided from time to time. The term of office for management committees shall be one year. Each of the management committees shall consist of between three (3) and seven (7) members. Any change in the number of committee members shall be recommended by the committee and decided by vote at the general meeting before the Annual General Meeting.

- e. The election of Executive officers and management committees shall be the last order of business at the Annual General Meeting. The retiring officers and committee members shall complete the records of the association and hand them over to their successors.
- f. In the event of a vacancy occurring in the Presidency, the Vice-President shall assume the office of President, and other vacancies in the Executive shall be filled by Executive appointment pending an election.
- g. Committee members absent from three (3) consecutive meetings may be replaced by Executive appointment on recommendation of their committee.

5. Duties of Executive Officers and Committee Chairpersons

- a. President: to preside at all general and Executive meetings, to attend if he or she wishes, all committee meetings as an ex-officio member, and to sign all necessary correspondence, announcements and cheques.
- b. Vice-President: to assist the President and to perform the duties of President during his/her absence.
- c. Secretary: to assure that minutes of all meetings are recorded, to assure that all papers, documents and correspondence are read as required by the association. To assure the notification of all subcommittees of their appointment and of the business referred to them, the posting of notices of all meetings, to assure the proper handling and filing of all correspondence, all records not specifically assigned to the keeping of others, including minutes books, registry of members, copy of the Constitution and Bylaws of the association, files, correspondence, and reports.
- d. Treasurer: To sign with the President or other signing authority, when required, all orders for expenses, to assure all funds are received and held safe, to assure money from the association's funds is paid out for all authorized expenses. To assure that a record is kept of all money received and expended, to assure that a record is kept of all receipts and vouchers, to make regular reports to the association of its financial condition, to arrange a year end audit by an auditor appointed by the membership at the annual general meeting.
- e. Committee Members: Duties are in accordance with the function performed and are detailed in separate documents as appropriate. In general, each committee oversees the operational aspects of its function.

6. Borrowing Powers

Borrowing on behalf of the association shall be exercised by the Executive only after the approval by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members voting at a general meeting.

7. Altering of the Constitution and Bylaws

Requirements are:

- a. seventy-five (75) percent majority of members in good standing at a meeting or portion of a meeting advertised for the specific purpose of altering the constitution and/or by-law.

- b. Notice of the meeting must be posted at a minimum of two designated public places on Hornby Island.
- c. Notice of the meeting must be given a minimum of forty-two (42) days prior to the meeting.
- d. Notice of the meeting must contain an actual wording of the altering resolution being submitted to the meeting.

8. Interpretation of Constitution and Bylaws

Where there is considered by the chairperson to be an ambiguity or omission in the constitution or by-laws, a unanimous ruling by the Executive shall determine the issue. Such determination shall be considered precedent until such time as the constitution and/or by-laws are altered, as laid out in paragraph seven, to deal with the issue.

9. Inspection of Books and Records

The books and records of the association shall be open to inspection by members at any reasonable time at the place where such books and records are normally kept.

10. Discontinuance of Membership

A member ceases to be a member if he or she:

- a. Ceases to be a resident or ratepayer, or
- b. Has been expelled from the association by proper process of Roberts Rules of Order, in a meeting duly advertised for that purpose, and in accordance with the British Columbia Society Act.

11. Establishment of Policies, Grievance Procedure, and Conflict Resolution

- a. Those directives, of a sufficiently general nature to be deemed not discretionary, shall be established by the Executive as Policy, subject to approval by motion carried at a general meeting; or shall be established by motion carried from the floor, and subject to Executive approval (three of four, one of which must be the President). Policies approved by both the Executive and the general body shall then be signed by the President (or in his or her absence, the Vice-President) and one other Executive member, witnessed by the Administrator, and stamped with HIRRA's seal. The date of the general meeting in which the policy was approved shall be marked on the document that is signed, dated, and witnessed. Notice of enactment of policies shall be made available to the public within thirty (30) days of signing into effect, with original documents and paper copies kept on file. In addition, the Executive shall from time to time make known to the general body, and to the committees, policies and other guidelines for the conduct of meetings and of business and other information as needed.
- b. The Executive shall establish grievance procedures for HIRRA employees and contractors, shall establish procedures for the resolution of conflicts with and within HIRRA, and shall

encourage general peace and good relations within the community.

HIRRA's GUIDE TO THE ETIQUETTE OF MEETINGS

- Everyone welcome; leave old grudges at the door**
- Assume that everyone has a positive motivation and a valuable perspective**
- Listen and speak respectfully, even in disagreement**
- Allow for all to be heard (who want to be), with no one dominating**
- Focus on issues rather than individuals or personalities**
- Speak from personal experience rather than hearsay**
- State opinions directly rather than contradicting others**

Community Organizations and Services

This section does not include emergency services or private businesses. A comprehensive list of services and contact numbers, on and off island, as well as business and residential listings, is maintained in the locally produced *Hornby Telephone Directory*, updated yearly.

<u>Group</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Conservancy Hornby Island	Tony Quin	335-2603
Denman-Hornby Ferry Advisory Committee	Jim Garton	335-0120
Emergency Social Services (ESS)	Lynne Carmichael	335-1360
Fall Fair	Jan Bevan	335-2570
Farmers Market	Anne McKay	335-0987
Ford Cove Harbour Authority	Una Keziere	335-2141
Greenhouse Organic Sewage Treatment Society	Michael McNamara	335-0115
Heron Rocks Friendship Society	Paddy Tsurumi	335-1971
Hornby Community Radio Society	Albini St. Pierre	335-3252
Hornby-Denman Health Care Society	Sheila McDonnell	335-2885; fax -2883
Community Counsellors		335-2848
Hornby Festival Society		335-2734; fax -0121
Hornby Island Cats Group	June Crichton	335-0699
Hornby I. Community Economic Enhancement Corporation*	Sheila McDonnell	335-1319
Hornby I. Community School		335-2125, fax -2006
Community Programs	April Lewis	335-1085
Community Access Centre (computer/internet)		335-1033
Job Shop		335-1033
H.I. Community School Parent Advisory Council	Jennifer Fletcher	335-0607
Hornby I. Co-op	Margaret Sinclair	335-1480
Hornby I. Daycare Society (preschool)	Robin Walford	335-0824
Hornby I. Educational Society	Susan Crowe	335-1629

Bursary Committee	Florette MacLean	335-2901
Community Fund Committee	Eleanora Laffin	335-2490
HOPE Kitchen	Susan Crowe	335-1629
Room to Grow	April Lewis	335-1085
School Gym Use		335-2125 or 335-1085
Hornby I. Elder Housing Society		335-1916
Hornby I. Fabricators	Muriel Rogers	335-2880
Hornby I. Fire Dept. and First Responders (non-emergency)		335-2611
Fire patrol and burn permits (pager)		703-9022
Hornby I. Medical Clinic (non-emergency)		335-3036; fax -1700
Hornby I. Performing Arts Committee	Peggy DeVost	335-0376
Hornby I. Provincial Parks Committee	Florette McClean, chair	335-2901
Hornby I. Recycling Depot and Free Store		335-0550
Hornby I. Residents & Ratepayers Association		
Janet LeBlancq, Administrator		335-2844
Hornby I. Theatre Society	John Grunewald	335-0165
Hornby Water Stewardship Project		335-0293
Island Gallery		335-2660
Islands Trust Advisory Planning Commission (APC) [contact: Hornby Trustees]		
ISLA Land Trust (Islanders' Secure Land Association)	Jan Bevan,	335-2570
Joe King Ballpark and Clubhouse (Hornby Island Athletic Assoc.)	Bob Cain,	335-2572
Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Program	Ron Sitter	335-0699
New Horizons Society	Janet LeBlancq, 335-2844	Marilyn Mullen, 335-1390 [?]
Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Society	Gord Campbell	335-0080; fax: 335-0847
Vancouver Island Public Library, Hornby Branch		335-0044

*formerly a HIRRA committee

Denman-Hornby Ferry Advisory Committee

The Gulf Islands served by BC Ferries Corporation have Ferry Advisory Committees (FACs), appointed in cooperation with local government. These represent the communities served by BC Ferries. They work with BC Ferries to identify local issues and improve communications with their communities about service changes and projects.

Denman and Hornby Island are served by one committee, comprised of 13 appointed members, including the Chairperson, with balanced representation from each island. The members are selected from various parts of the community:

- Residents and Ratepayers Association
- Education Society
- Seniors
- Commercial interests
- Emergency and health services (Fire Dept/Community Health Care Society)

The committee meets a minimum of twice per year and the meetings are open to the public.

The meetings are attended by BC Ferry personnel such as the Superintendent for the region and the Senior Captains of each route, the Terminal Manager, and the Communication Coordinator. As needed, others from the Ferry Corporation will attend, such as representatives from the Planning Department and Senior Management.

During 2004 and 2005, the FAC organized and conducted, through a subcommittee, a public survey resulting in a report submitted to BC Ferries entitled "Community Survey of Ferry Use and Service for Denman and Hornby Islands". The second term of the service contract between BC Ferries and the BC Government will be coming up for negotiation in the near future and this report provides information to the parties prior to their negotiations.

Emergency Social Services on Hornby Island (ESS). Community-based Emergency Social Services teams are trained and encouraged to be self-sufficient in local disasters, ranging from house fires to forest fires, plane crashes to chemical spills, and even epidemics. One portion of a community's emergency response plan must address small-scale disasters, where services are provided for 1 or 2 families, as well as more extensive ESS events. ESS are those services required to preserve the health and well being of people affected by disasters, including responders. The services provided by ESS are emergency food, clothing, and lodging; family reunification; emotional support and other specialized services as required. The latest provincial emergency plan assumes that it could be up to eight days before off-island assistance would be available.

The ESS program operates through a Provincial and area chain of command, coordinated through the Fire Department. Volunteers are trained in skills such as registration services, which are defined by the ability to interview and speak empathetically with people who have been affected by a disaster or emergency. They are trained to receive displaced people in a gathering place called a Reception Centre (on Hornby Island the Community Hall has been so designated), in a caring and nurturing manner. They are ready to be mobilized by an established and practiced communication network and willing to give of their time to assist their community. They are familiar with the available facilities in the Hornby Island community and involved in established networks with local businesses able to supply goods and services for people affected by a disaster or emergency.

Fall Faire The first Hornby Island Fall Faire (a descendant of previous Summer Fairs, Flower Shows, and Harvest Festivals) was held in September 2001. The focus is on agriculture and crafts, and the event is intended for islanders more than tourists, though it attracts many visitors. It is a one-day event, usually held on the second Saturday after Labour Day, from 11am to 4pm, in a farm setting (usually at the Olson Farm). Admission is free, although donations are welcome. The Fair usually features a short parade, farmers' and artisans' market, local music and entertainment, information booths and demonstrations, fund-raiser food booths, auction of harvest baskets, and competitions.

Competition categories (listed in a flyer distributed during the summer) usually include flowers, produce, baking, preserving, wine and beer, eggs, livestock, workshop arts, needle arts, children's creations, and special categories. Winners receive ribbons, merchandise prizes, and glory!

As of 2005, the Fair is managed by a committee of Hornby Island Residents and Ratepayers Association (HIRRA). There is no tax funding for the Fair. It is financed through donations, competition entry fees, auction, as well as support from the Union Bay Credit Union, the Co-op, and other sponsors. Volunteers are always needed to make it a great success!

The Farmers' Market offers a picture window into the personality of our island. It is a lively and sociable outdoor venue for the sale of local goods (“Make it, Bake it, or Grow it”)—a showcase of all that we (including children) create and produce here on Hornby. It's eclectic, artsy and fun. Stop by and be part of it all! Pick up some locally-grown veggies for supper, treat yourself to a big bouquet of flowers, a new plant. Load up on fresh baked bread, and spreads, pickles and preserves. It's a great place to look for a gift. Diverse local artists and artisans offer woodwork, metal sculpture, paintings, cards, photographs and jewelry, to mention but a few. Meet a friend for a tasty lunch, from the exotic to the traditional. Relax, have a massage, or simply come and enjoy the show. There's music, there's poetry; stay a while and you will instantly feel yourself a part of our community.

Located beside the Community Hall. May 24th through June, plus September: Saturdays 11am-2pm. July and August: Wednesdays and Saturdays 11am-2pm. We hold off-season markets inside the Hall at Thanksgiving, Christmas and at various other dates. Check local publications for notices. CONTACT: Anne Mckay, 335-0987.

Ford Cove Harbor Authority is a tenant of the Small Craft Branch of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, with which it exchanges funding, planning, and management functions. The mandate of FCHA is to provide a safe harbour for Hornby residents and visitors, whether for commercial or recreational use, and economically viable management of the harbour facility, under direction of the Harbour Board and Manager.

For information concerning seasonal usage, availability of moorage, moorage rates, or reservations for grid or derrick use, please contact:
Una Keziere, Harbour Manager, tel (250) 335-2141; fax (250) 335-2121

Heron Rocks Friendship Society cares for its nine-acre conservancy near Ford's Cove, the gift of Hilary Brown, who has lived here since 1937. As well as caring for the property and Hilary's home, members are restoring the heritage orchard.

Our programs address issues that affect our community and beyond. We also cooperate with other organizations to arrange presentations—at the New Horizons Literary Lunches, for example. As well, we support a variety of projects, such as Hornby Water Stewardship, Townsend's Bat House Research Project, and the Under The Maple summer programs. These public events and gatherings bring people together from all walks of life, promoting understanding between people and encouraging appreciation for many aspects of the environment. Through our Hilary Brown Youth Fund, we foster youth activities that reflect our aims. Their ventures include leadership workshops, environmental activities, and cross-cultural experiences. One of our most popular events is the Annual Plant Sale and Berry Tea. It is held Victoria Day weekend on site, and is our major fund-raiser. Our tri-annual newsletters keep members informed of activities and pertinent concerns. We welcome new members!

Hornby Community Radio Society 96.5 CHFR-FM is a nonprofit society with over 100 paid members. Our purpose is to operate a licensed community-based, volunteer-run radio facility on Hornby Island, which will provide Hornby Island (and eventually Denman, Texada, Lasqueti, and Vancouver Islands with music and entertainment, up-to-date information and events, and education on selected topics. We now have a license to operate a 5-watt community radio station, with our antenna and studio site located at the Joe King Ball Park. We hope to start broadcasting sometime this winter and soon after to raise enough money to upgrade our license and coverage.

We are now (2006) constructing our studio. All necessary electronics equipment, including transmitter, antenna and tower accessories, have been paid for and are in our possession. This is a one-time opportunity for generous community members to qualify as a founding member with privileges such as your name on our studio building and on-air mention of your support.

We believe our community radio can advance the economic and social well being of our community. We have received several grants-in-aid from the Regional District, donations of materials from Canadian Tire, Windsor plywood, the Union Bay Credit Union, and are presently in dialogue with Coast Country Insurance, among others.

The Radio Society has been very busy these past years, completing the licensing process with the CRTC and obtaining basic equipment for our station. Our major accomplishments were:

- license to broadcast from the CRTC
- Channel amendment from Industry Canada and CRTC
- tower obstruction clearance from Transport Canada
- Industry Canada Certified transmitter, cable and antenna
- calling letters, CHFR-FM, from Industry Canada
- siting approval from the Island Trust
- over \$3000 funds raised in 2005
- sold nearly 500 “Airwaves” fundraiser compilation CDs
- purchased all essential equipment for broadcasting
- secured tower in place
- organizing a tutorial workshop for the winter with CBC’s Kathryn Gretsinger
- studio construction started
- monthly updates in the First edition
- web site created: www.chfr.ca, to inform locals here and abroad, of our progress
- organizing Hornby’s first Radio-play with local artists

CONTACT: tel: 335-3252; email: <chair@chfr.ca>; web: <www.chfr.ca>; 3851 Central Road

Hornby and Denman Community Health Care Society was formed in 1979 to provide home support services to community members “to maintain their optimum function, socially, emotionally and physically, minimizing complications in illness, stress in crisis, and physical and emotional deterioration in the aging.” It owns and maintains a Centre on Hornby (1965 Sollans Rd), on land which HIRRA leases from the Province. In association with the Vancouver Island Health Authority, it manages the Doris Savoie Medical Clinic (2115 Sollans Rd, Hornby) on land leased from HIRRA. A Denman Centre has been operating since 1998.

The HDCHCS is funded through contracts with various agencies, through grants,

fundraising, donations and memberships (\$5 per year). It employs about 25 persons, mostly part time, and further draws upon some 20 volunteers. It provides the following services:

* HOME SUPPORT AND HOME ASSIST SERVICES: to enable ill or disabled persons to remain at home, reduce the length of stay in hospital, provide physical and psychological support, help keep families together. (Karen Etheridge, Supervisor).

* EQUIPMENT LOAN: short-term loans of home care equipment are free of charge to residents of both islands. Inventory includes canes, crutches, walkers, wheelchairs, hospital beds, commodes, bedpans and urinals, bath benches and more.

* LENDING LIBRARY of pamphlets, books, audio and video tapes.

* COUNSELLING SERVICES are provided at the Centres by Vancouver Island Health Authority, Mental Health and Addictions Services. Confidential counselling is available for individuals, couples and families coping with stress, depression, grief, addictions, interpersonal conflict, and other mental health concerns. The counsellor may also facilitate access to information, diagnosis, referrals, rehab services, self-help and support groups, and other services.

* YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAM is funded by the Ministry of Children and Family Development. A Counsellor provides help and referrals to teens, children and families experiencing parent-child conflict or other distress. Sponsors workshops in parenting and communication skills.

* FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMS The Society supports community initiatives to address the social and broader determinants of health and well-being—such as housing, food security, employment and education. It works with the Community Schools to provide Christmas hampers and Food Bank programs and to support Hornby's HOPE Kitchen.

* HORNBY ISLAND (DORIS SAVOIE) MEDICAL CLINIC may be contacted directly at 335-3036. The DENTAL CLINIC may be contacted directly at 335-2933.

* VOLUNTEER SERVICES are coordinated from the Centre on Hornby by the Administrator. A network of volunteers provide rides, friendly visits, meals, and information, as well as planning workshops and community programs such as hospice, palliative care, and grief support. Call the Centre for more information or to become a volunteer.

* COMMUNITY SELF-HELP AND SUPPORT GROUPS can use the facilities on both islands for meetings and workshops. Contact the Administrator for info on such groups (eg Detox Support, Overeaters Anon., Co-Counselling, Meditation, Elderhousing) or to use the facility.

CONTACT: Sheila McDonnell, Administrator, tel 335-2885, fax 335-2883,
email:<hdhealth@mars.ark.com>

Hornby Festival Society presents a multidisciplinary arts Festival each August, which features high-calibre professional performing and visual artists from across Canada and beyond. The HFS made its debut as the Hornby Island Chamber Music Society in 1982, which presented an annual summer concert series featuring the Vancouver-based Purcell String Quartet. Since then the Festival has expanded to present emerging and established professional musicians in all genres, composers, dancers, actors, artists and authors. We are also lucky to have the generous participation of our local artists and performers as an important part of Festival activities. The Festival is part of a national network of presentation organizations to encourage Canadian artists in performance and creation, as well as making the arts from across the country available to

audiences throughout Canada.

The Hornby Festival Society is a not-for-profit organization with registered charitable status. Currently, the organization is supported by an active Board of Directors and managed by two permanent staff—an Artistic Director and General Manager/Administrator—as well as a Bookkeeper and two Technical/Production staff.

The Society remains viable through the generous support of members, donors, sponsors, government funders, volunteers and ticket buyers. Please check our website or contact the office for more details on events, ways you can contribute, or any other information. Our office is located at 2135 Sollans Road, in the annex behind the Community Hall.

CONTACT:

Hornby Festival Society, Schoolhouse 1-1, Hornby Island, BC V0R 1Z0

Tel: (250) 335-2734

Fax (250) 335-0121

E-mail: hornbyfestival@uniserve.com

Web: www.hornbyfestival.bc.ca

The Hornby Island Cats Society is a registered nonprofit society formed in 2005 in order to have as many Hornby cats as possible neutered and spayed, whether domestic or feral, so that the cat population stays healthy and purring.

HICS' objective takes a community focus with a concern for the health and welfare of the feral and domestic cat population. The end result of un-neutered or un-spayed feral or domestic cats is an increase in the "unwanted" cat population on Hornby. Many people have felt first-hand the heartache of watching homeless, hungry and malnourished cats and kittens suffer unnecessarily and die sad deaths, often quietly and out-of-sight.

Cats feel many of the same things that humans feel—e.g., pain, fear, hunger, cold, thirst. Like people, cats thrive on attention, love, care and companionship. Young feral cats (offspring of abandoned domestics) can be easily domesticated and older ferals can also become human companions; it just takes a bit longer. Feral cats did not choose their lifestyle, they were born into it, often as a result of human neglect. As such, their care is a community issue. People who are concerned about the welfare of feral cats on their property can work with HICS to catch, neuter/spay and then release the cats back to their point of capture. (All the cats ask for after that is a bit of food each day). Euthanasia is not an option for HICS.

Our goal is to raise enough funding to fully pay for all direct costs (transportation and vet fees) related to a neutering and spaying program. HICS pays for all veterinarian costs for feral cats, and provides financial subsidies as appropriate to assist pet owners to have their domestic cats fixed.

Hornby Island Community Economic Enhancement Corporation (HICEEC, or "high-seeK") is a nonprofit organization established to foster community economic development that is sustainable, diversified and grounded in community values. HICEEC works on the principles of "Community Economic Development", which links social goals, environmental protection, and economic development. Current efforts focus on strengthening the capacity of local entrepreneurs to capture more markets and grow their businesses.

Strategic goals include:

- *reclaim local economy and foster employment.
- *develop programs and managerial infrastructure to support Hornby's economic capacity and resilience (for example, developing a Hornby Brand).
- *facilitate job creation and community-owned equity.
- *build community owned equity (property ownership, investment mechanisms, etc.).
- *facilitate social and economic community planning and develop appropriate initiatives.

For more information please call 335-0922 or email ceec@uniserve.com or go to the website <http://mypage.uniserve.ca/~ceec/>

Hornby Island Community School

The Hornby Island School received the official "Community School" designation in 1993, but has always been a community school at heart. The designation gives it the freedom to expand programs to include a broader teaching spectrum, by including community members and parents, as well as to expand the school's function, with a curriculum of community classes and recreational programs. There is now a separate office for the Community programs, in the Room to Grow building, which was built by the community for the school. The school operates on a year to year basis, with no guarantees for the next year, trying to match sources of funding with actual costs. The school now provides many services, including support for our higher grades, who must take the bus into town every day (leaving at six in the morning, and coming back at five at night). The school has developed a program whereby these students can take Wednesdays off, and study in the Room to Grow building. The Community School sponsors or coordinates many programs ranging from educational support, recreational programs, community services, community development, and new initiatives like Pro D Day Host and job skills training. The Room to Grow building also houses the Job Shop and the Community Access Centre, with computers, printers, copiers, fax and internet access.

Hornby Island Community School Parent Advisory Council are active participants in the education process at the Hornby Island Community School.

Parents have the right, responsibility, and opportunity to participate in the process of determining the educational goals, policies and services provided for their children. Through PAC they have a voice to ensure their children are provided with the healthy and supportive environment necessary for learning. They have a chance to help shape and support the goals of the school system and to share the tasks of educating their young.

Hornby Island Co-op recently celebrated its 50th anniversary. Services available to members and nonmembers alike include: Post office with delivery to the island five days a week. Visa, Mastercard and debit card purchases with extra cash available on debit card transactions. ATM in store. Film processing two days a week through Studio One in Courtenay. Prepaid telephone cards for sale in \$5, \$10 and \$20 increments. Prescription delivery service through Resale and Overwaitea in Courtenay two days a week. Free Post message exchange area. Photocopier for letter, legal or 11"X17" paper. Outside notice boards for individuals and community organizations. Ringside Market, with spaces available to vendors of local products and a

permanent display area for the annual quilt raffle. The Art Wall inside above the main doors which exhibits local artists' work on a rotating basis. Local organic seasonal produce and eggs. Local bedding plants and flowers. Organic and natural products, environmentally safe cleansers and personal products. Fishing licenses and tide guides.

In addition to these services the Hornby Co-op supports many community organizations throughout the year with donations of goods, services and money. We provide a bursary, for post-secondary education for Hornby students, and sponsor two teens every year to attend Camp Rainbow. The Hornby Co-op supports our local suppliers. We carry a delightful selection of Hornby originals—candles, soaps, teas, nutritional supplements, healing oils, baking, paté, smoked salmon, eggs, energy balls, postcards, cards, and maps.

In 1972, the hardware department at the Co-op was a mere 10' by 12' space in the south east corner of the store. Even then, there were a surprising number of products to cover basic plumbing, electrical and automotive needs. Gumboots hung aesthetically from the rafters and a soup pot bubbled on an old wood stove. We've grown considerably since then and now offer a large array of hardware, houseware and dry good products. In the summer, we also carry camping gear, beach toys, lawn chairs, water shoes, beach towels, and sporting goods. Visit us downstairs at the Co-op; we will be happy to help you find the products you need to ensure that your stay is a delightful one. Become a Co-op member for a \$110 lifetime membership fee, and save ten percent on your grocery bill once a month. Shop locally, support your neighbors and the Hornby economy.

Hornby Island Daycare Society (preschool) was started in 1973. We operate with a philosophy recognizing children's' rights and personal empowerment and try to instill values of mutual respect and caring for the environment. Since our expenses exceed our income from modest user fees, we hold fundraising events that have become island institutions; for example, the Strawberry Tea and Fashion Show and the Preschool Auction. In addition, we manage a bottle depot (behind the preschool), where we gratefully accept your returnable bottles.

The preschool is open for morning and afternoon sessions, Monday thru Thursday, 8:45am-3:15pm, except during school holidays.

CONTACTS: 335-2684 (preschool premises)

Robin, 335-0824; Annie, 335-2420

Hornby Island Educational Society envisions a healthy, vibrant, inclusive community, where a love of learning is supported throughout people's lives. Our mission is to further education and community development on Hornby Island through programs, services and activities in support of that vision.

HIES is a nonprofit organization with charitable tax status, incorporated in 1980, with a Board of 9 volunteers. For the past 13 years, it has employed a full time Coordinator to manage its many programs and services. The Community Programs aspect of HIES operates with local partners and links with off island agencies. The Board's main tasks are to oversee the Community Programs and manage the buildings that it owns: Room to Grow, the Teen Trailer (and soon, we hope, the HOPE Kitchen building). HIES also owns four small sail boats that are used in the summer recreation sailing classes. It manages the Hornby Island Community Fund,

the Bruce Fairbairn Memorial Bursary, the Hornby Island Memorial Scholarship, and partners with the Denman Community School and Denman Church to manage the Denman Island United Church Memorial Fund. Since the mandate of HIES is to provide services and programs that are accessible to all, subsidies are available. Funding for the programs and services comes variously from user fees, donations of money and food, fundraising, recreation tax dollars, the Ministry of Education, the Gaming Commission, Industry Canada, Comox Valley Community Information Services Society, the Island Communities Network, the Creative Employment Access Society, and Human Resources Canada. Other project-specific grants are obtained when possible. Details of funding can be supplied.

The Board is structured so that each Board member is responsible for at least one of the following areas of programs and services:

Family Support

The Toddler Drop in Program is a child minding service for toddlers under 2 yrs old. Children may be dropped off in a fun, safe, nurturing and developmentally appropriate environment. Two adult supervisors are present with a maximum of 8 toddlers. The program operates 10 months of the year on Tuesdays from 9am to noon at Room to Grow and on Fridays from 9am to noon at the Preschool. There is a \$5 user fee for the 3-hour period if the child is dropped off and the service is free if the parent stays with the child.

Parenting Education

This course, of three eight-week sessions throughout the school year, offers basic communication skills to parents with a new skill being introduced each week by the facilitator. The group also spends time each week checking in with each other and offering suggestions for dealing with parenting situations that arise. Free child care and snacks are offered.

Youth After-School Program

Provides supervised after-school sports and arts activities for grades K to 7, for both those students enrolled in the School and those who are home schooling. Operates in three ten-week sessions throughout the 10 month school year. The Coordinator organizes a sports and arts activity for primary, intermediate and senior grades each week, recruiting local instructors, some who volunteer their time and others who are paid a small honorarium.

K-7 curriculum support

This includes the Arts Afternoons programs, the Volunteer Appreciation Event, and the Hot Lunch program when it is running, with some involvement in events such as Open Houses, winter concerts and other special events. Special guests, speakers, courses may be arranged in response to requests from the K-7 program.

Tutoring support

HIES provides space for tutors to offer their service, and can act as a link to the family if appropriate. Tutors use both the Room to Grow building and the Teen Trailer as sites for their

service, as the students are comfortable in both locations and both are very close to the school building.

Financial support for courses

Students who need subsidy to participate in courses offered can make request to HIES for financial assistance. Students taking dance, fiddle, marimba and photography have all been subsidized when needed.

Teen Tutoring

This program offers tutor support one day per week to students attending Lake Trail and Vanier., In agreement with the staff and administration at both schools, students can attend Room to Grow on Wednesday mornings from 10am to 1pm instead of commuting to Courtenay that day. The Lake Trail and Vanier teachers provide the homework that will keep them in step with their classmates and which is supervised by a tutor on site at Room to Grow.

Vanier/NIDES program

This program allows the Grade 10-12 Vanier students to work at home for the November to February term. The Vanier teachers meet with the NIDES counselors and teachers to itemize the Distance Ed courses and modules that Vanier students will work on at home. Materials are sent to the Hornby School for distribution and tests are supervised there.

Distance Ed support

Students in any grade can receive both tutoring support and test supervision through this program while enrolled in NIDES.

Girls Group

An activities and support group for girls aged 10 to 13, and a second group for girls aged 14 to 18 yrs. The facilitators cover a range of topics from body image to peer pressure, sexual issues and safety concerns. The girls provide the lead in topics to be discussed and activities to be planned and carried out.

Boyz Club

An activities and support group for boys aged 11 to 15. The facilitator covers a range of topics that arise from issues and concerns identified by the participants.

Teen Drop In

This program offers a fun, supervised and safe environment for teens in Grades 6, 7 & 8 on Fridays and for those in Grades 9 & up on Saturdays. Special events and field trips are also offered throughout the year. There are three supervisors each night, one paid and two volunteers. They oversee the activities taking place at the Teen Trailer, the gym and in the school field. The Teen trailer has a pool table, a foos ball game, ping pong, music and snacks as well as a variety of teen age books and table top toys.

Bruce Fairbairn Memorial Bursary

Created by the Rockin Stinkbugs in honor of Bruce Fairbairn. With various dance fundraisers and donations from Judy Glover, the capital investment for this fund is approximately \$17,000, interest from which allows the distribution of a \$500 scholarship to a Hornby student attending an accredited post-secondary institution in BC.

Hornby Island Memorial Bursary

This bursary fund was created by donations from islanders in memory of deceased loved ones. It has accumulated approximately \$2200 over the years and since the interest generated is very small, there have been no bursaries distributed yet.

Denman/Hornby Island Memorial Bursary

Created in 2003 by a Denman Island resident to support musical projects on both Hornby and Denman, especially ones that would integrate both islands or across generations. The schools on Denman and Hornby, in conjunction with the Denman United Church, oversee the fund.

Community Education: Adult Ed courses

Offers classes and workshops on topics that are community directed. In two sessions (October to December and February to April) regular offerings include: Community Choir, First Aid, Food Safe, Computer classes, and Scottish Dancing. Courses taught mostly by local instructors with expertise in a particular area; off-island instructors utilized when appropriate. User fees apply.

Post Secondary Distance Ed Support

Adults pursuing post secondary education through Distance Learning also receive support through HIES, through the use of the Computer Site or having their exams invigilated on the island by the Community Programs Coordinator.

Hornby Island Community Fund

This special vehicle within the Comox Valley Community Fund has been established by HIES to encourage those who care about this community to make donations, gifts and bequests to an endowment fund dedicated to fulfilling Hornby community dreams. The capital fund is currently at \$107,000 and generates about \$3300 in interest distributed to community groups annually. A selection committee reviews applications.

Computer Access Program

This service, located in the Room to Grow building, offers public access to computers, printers, Internet, scanners, CD burners and a phone/fax machine. A donation of \$2 per hour is suggested, but all are welcome regardless of ability to pay. A skilled help desk person is available at times throughout the year, depending on funding and/or volunteer capacity. Computer Access Hours: Tuesday through Friday from 10am to 5pm and Saturdays from 11am to 2pm. The CAP site also offers a library of University and College calendars as well as employment related information

and brochures from comox Valley community resources. Those clients working on educational or employment activities have first priority.

Job Shop

Located in the Room to Grow building, the Job Shop offers assistance with career planning, job search, interview skills, resume preparation, liaison with training and funding opportunities, and small business support. Also provides access to books on employment and small business related issues. The Hornby Job shop is a subsidiary of the Job Shop in Courtenay. Appointments must be booked through the Courtenay office, at 334-3119.

Gym Rental

This service coordinates and oversees the rental of the School gym, the only gymnasium on the island. Current user groups include badminton, volleyball and basketball for adults, Teen Nights for youth and the after school programs for the elementary aged children, including circus, gymnastics, floor hockey and indoor soccer.

Natural History Display

A student is hired to staff the exhibit at the School for the summer months and hosts it for the public 5 days per week throughout the summer. The exhibit remains available to public access the rest of the year through classes and scheduled openings.

Food Programs

a) *Community Dinner*, for 60 to 75 people, a fun event created weekly with donated food and effort.

b) *HOPE Kitchen* (Hornby's Opportunity for People to Eat) provides inexpensive meals and an opportunity to build connections between all ages and socioeconomic groups. In the old RCMP residential trailer beside the clinic, now open at least two days per week for lunch (11am to 2pm).

c) *Food Bank/Give Aways* also operates from this facility using donations from the Salvation Army in Courtenay, local donations from community members, farmers and fishers and donations from local and off island businesses.

d) *Muffin in the Morning* program was created to provide extra food to any student who may need it. Our concern that there be no stigma attached led us to offer food to each class for all to share. This program offers a variety of snacks to supplement what the students bring with them for lunch and recess. The first year, we offered muffins every morning (hence the name). This year, we are offering a different supplement each month, rice crackers & jam, bagels & cream cheese, muffins, etc.

Hornby Island Elder Housing Society was established in early 1992 to address concerns that, because of the escalating economics of the housing market, Hornby seniors would be hard pressed to remain on the Island when looking for accommodation that was both affordable and suited to their needs later in life.

We are a registered nonprofit society whose mandate was established to provide “affordable, safe and pleasant collective housing in a ‘village’ setting for elders who are experiencing increasing difficulty managing their daily lives for a variety of reasons including diminishing physical vitality and mobility, loss of spousal support or economic factors.”

The Village site is a 5 acre property on Central Road close to the Co-op Store and was formerly owned by longtime Hornby residents Lorna and Moffat MacPherson. At present the site has 7 compact residences, each housing a Hornby senior. Two of them could be suited to couples. The facilities are owned by the Society and rented to each party. Under current Island Trust Bylaws an additional 5 units can be built at the site as need arises and as construction costs allow.

Prospective residents must be at least 55 years old, with Canadian citizenship or landed immigrant status, and must either have lived on Hornby, or have an established connection with Hornby, for at least two years. New residents are selected by the Residency Selection Committee appointed by the Elder Housing Board of Directors.

Hornby Island Fabricators are a weaving and spinning group of approximately 40 members. We meet at the Betty Smith Centre on Sollans Road every Tues 10am—the Old School House next to the New Horizons and Library. If you are interested in fibers and would like to learn how to weave or spin, we teach at the centre. Contact Muriel Rodgers, 335-2880

The Hornby Island Fire Department has had a colourful history dating from 1971, with First Responders service inaugurated in 1993. Almost by definition it promotes camaraderie and professionalism among its volunteer members. The Fire Protection and First Responders program now represents one of the main contracts our community has with the Regional District to provide local essential services. Its mandate is to protect lives and property, and secondarily to reduce fire insurance costs. With an overall annual budget of more than \$130,000, it is funded by tax dollars from the Regional District through HIRRA’s Fire Protection and First Responders Committee. The Department has a roster of more than twenty hardworking and dedicated members, including a salaried Chief and summer Fire Patrol Officer. The dangerous nature of the job requires a high level of training, to North American standards, in structural fire fighting and safety. Weekly practice is traditionally Thursday evenings, with rookie trainings on other nights, as required (they are always looking for new recruits, regardless of gender). A clubhouse atmosphere provides volunteers with a place to relax after callouts or to be on hand before.

The Fire Department also provides service to the community in specialized areas of:

- *Medical response and transport
- *Motor vehicle accident extrication and rescue
- *High angle rescue
- *Ground search and rescue
- *Wildland fire fighting

The Department is well equipped for these services with a 2004 front line pumper truck, 1,500 gallon tanker truck, rescue vehicle, ambulance, and 4x4 Duty Officer pickup. Specialized tools include “jaws of life”, full high angle gear, and two defibrillator units with basic ECG function.

Community fire safety initiatives, developed to educate people and reduce fire threats, are carried out year round. The summer Fire Patrol helps prevent summer fire problems and provides education on safe fire practices. Other initiatives include a program to distribute and install free smoke alarms in all houses. NON-emergency contact: 335-2611

Hornby Island Provincial Parks Committee serves as community advocate in regard to Provincial parks, and as liaison with the Ministry responsible for them, as well as with other government agencies and with visitors to Provincial parks. Its purposes are to advise the Ministry, to maintain a transparent communication with the local community, to ensure the community's involvement in Committee activities, and to seek a balance between the land, with its inhabitants, and the people who use the three Provincial parks: Tribune Bay, Helliwell, and Mount Geoffrey Escarpment.

The Committee was first formed about fifteen years ago as an advisory group appointed by Islands Trust, in response to community alarm at changes undertaken in Tribune Bay Park by the Provincial Government without local consultation. Though not a registered society, it was reformed in 2004 as a committee of six persons, two of whom are appointed by Islands Trust, two by Conservancy Hornby Island, and two by election from a general community meeting of interested parties.

Hornby Recycling Depot and Free Store opened its doors in 1978. It now represents one of the two largest services contracted by RDCS to HIRRA, with a budget of over \$150,000 annually. With some paid staff, it is still largely a volunteer effort, with a dozen volunteer workers and the ongoing cooperation of the public to sort their refuse beforehand and on site. The Depot has played a leadership role in implementing reduction, reuse, and recycling services and community education programs. Hornby residents now generate less than half a kilogram of garbage per person per day, much lower than the provincial average. The Hornby Island Recycling Centre has generously shared its experience with communities and nonprofit organizations throughout BC and as far away as Ireland and Australia.

Today at least, the rest of the Province seems to be catching up with us, in declaring that it is no longer acceptable for Canada to produce more garbage per capita than any other country except the USA. We can be grateful to those Islanders who, more than a quarter century ago, decided to do it the '*Hornby Way*'.

PRECYCLE, RECYCLE, BUY RECYCLED:

- *Buy items that can be reused rather than thrown away.
- *Avoid disposals such as diapers, razors, lighters and pens, plastic foodware, paper plates, throwaway batteries. Each of these has a reusable alternative.
- *Choose the least packaged item or buy in bulk.
- *Buy milk, juice and beer in bottles.
- *Tell your store manager when you see excessive packaging. Encourage local businesses to use and sell recycled content products.
- *Bring your own grocery bag or box.
- *Buy recycled goods and new goods made with recycled materials and packaging

TEL. 335-0136

WEBSITE: www.hornbyisland.com/Recycle

above material adapted from their website

Hornby Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association (HIRRA) (see above, under “governance”)

CONTACT: Janet LeBlancq, Administrator, 335-2844; <janetl@mars.ark.com>

Hornby Island Theatre Society (HITS) began its 22 season run in 1984, and by now has done over 40 productions. It's a hardworking, award-winning, nonprofit theatre “company” whose aim is to bring the magic of the stage to our island. Community run, HITS uses mostly local talent to mount two to three shows a year, which aim at professionalism in spite of limited resources. They are always looking for new talent, which includes many skills besides acting: stage management, set construction and costume design, direction, production, promotion, etc. Auditions and recruitment are advertised in general mail-outs of flyers, on posters, etc., well in advance of opening night. To be notified of upcoming plays, contact: <rslaskin@mars.ark.com>. Or phone John Grunewald for info: (250) 335-0165

Hornby Water Stewardship Project is a volunteer program of the Heron Rocks Friendship Centre. Its goal is to foster knowledge about the value and vulnerability of the groundwater, fresh surface waters, and marine waters of Hornby, as well as conservation and protection of these waters for future generations. The Project has monthly meetings and its activities include:

- * Studying, sampling, and reporting on the quality of surface, marine, and ground waters
- * Establishing a library containing reports and other publications pertaining to water stewardship on Hornby and water in general
- * Preparing information brochures to inform, encourage, and enable people to conserve and protect the waters of Hornby
- * Increasing awareness of Hornby's aquifers and the need to protect them
- * Providing a well-water quality analysis service to Islanders. Water Stewardship volunteers from time to time provide sample containers, receive the samples on the Coop porch, and deliver them to the laboratory in Courtenay for analysis, with results reported to well-owners. The dates for this service are posted on their website (www.hornbyisland.net/water) under the “Water Quality Testing Service” button.
- * Undertaking specific projects to improve water and enhance groundwater recharge. The Sandpiper Area is the first of such projects (for example, the “De Pape Road Ditch Water Improvement Program”)
- * Encouraging water conservation through rainwater harvesting and selling rain barrels for this purpose

* CONTACTS: <johnhow@telus.net>; Pete Brady, 335-1092; Mary Mackenzie, 335-0273

* Website: <www.hornbyisland.net/water>

Island Gallery is a showcase for Hornby arts and crafts. Cooperatively run by the artists it serves, it was known by various names over the years until incorporating in 2005 as a nonprofit society. Its mandate is to provide an attractive and economically feasible venue for more than 60 local artists and crafts people to display their work for sale. A new show is mounted monthly. Located at 1665 Central Road, summer hours are 10am-4pm, July through mid September. The Gallery is open on weekends only during the rest of the year.
tel. (250) 335-2660
Website: <www.hornbyisland.ca/HIARG>

ISLA Community Land Trust (Islanders' Secure Land Association) is a community land trust for Hornby and Denman Islands, incorporated as a not-for-profit society in April, 2005. Members elect a board of directors from their ranks, receive an annual newsletter, and are eligible to apply for ISLA home ownership.

A community land trust is a democratically controlled nonprofit organization which owns land in order to provide benefits to its local community, such as making land and housing available to residents who cannot otherwise afford them. It differs from a conservation land trust, which preserves land for habitat or environmental reasons. However, environmental concerns are also part of ISLA's mandate. ISLA, whose policies are still in formation, intends to apply "green" building practices wherever suitable and to make conservation covenants tailored to each parcel of land.

Community land trusts are being developed in many communities to address problems associated with rising real estate prices. These CLTs control housing costs by removing land from the commercial market, thereby limiting land costs, and by limiting equity in buildings to actual investment. CLT housing may be individual homes on small lots, co-op or co-housing, cluster development, farms, or other appropriate forms. The key differences from usual home ownership are:

- * the CLT retains ownership of the land itself
- * ecological factors are taken into account
- * homes (buildings) are never sold on the open real estate market.

ISLA hopes to establish a broad base of membership in all income and age ranges and to find support from other organizations. The goal is to acquire vacant land for the above purposes, or land with buildings in place, on Hornby and Denman Islands. Buildings can be owned by those who use them. ISLA plans to help people own their own homes through renewable long-term leases of the land. Homes can be resold, but not for profit, as the contract with ISLA limits equity to actual investment adjusted for inflation.

Land trusts are an important non-governmental initiative to maintain community viability. You can support this concept by joining ISLA (annual individual membership \$15, family membership \$25, business membership \$40), and by making donations. A further and major form of support would be donation of one's estate to a land trust. By willing your property to ISLA, you insure that it will be used in perpetuity for purposes you approve. It is possible to make provision in your will, and through contract, for specific occupants (for example, your children and/or yourself while living).

For more information, **contact:**

CONTACT: Jan Bevan, 4590 Northwind Trail, Hornby I., BC, V0R 1Z0, (250) 335-2570, fax 335-2883; email: <island@hotmail.com>

Islands Trust Advisory Planning Commission is a group of several local individuals (six, at present) appointed for a term of three years by the Local Trust Committee to deal with matters referred to them by the LTC. It is not an elected or decision-making body per se. For example, the APC sometimes is directed to conduct local hearings, review the Official Community Plan or Land Use Bylaw, process applications for variance permits and temporary use permits, etc. Ideally it is an impartial, non-partisan group representing a cross-section of community views and interests. (See 'Islands Trust', under 'governance', above).

Joe King Ballpark and Clubhouse are located on Central Road, opposite the Fire Hall.

Established in 1984, the Joe King Ballpark is a nonprofit organization to support and encourage sports on Hornby Island. It is run by the Hornby Island Athletic Association, which holds a long-term lease on Crown land where the ballpark is located. In past years, HIAA has received capital funding from the Vancouver Foundation, Provincial Government, and Regional District.

Ongoing funding is derived from clubhouse events and rentals, t-shirt sales, wash house revenue, membership fees and donations. All work is done on a volunteer basis by community members.

In 1996, the Association gained charitable status; donations above \$50 qualify for a tax receipt. Annual membership fee is \$10 for individuals, \$25 for families. Members are entitled to use of all club facilities, a vote at the AGM, and reduced admission to special events. The Clubhouse may be rented for nonprofit events. Other facilities include: tennis court and roller blade rink; baseball field; wash house with showers, toilets, and laundry; public pay phone. HIAA also currently hosts the Hornby Island Radio Society.

Regular events include "Eagle Ball" (summer baseball), "Sweet Thursday" (Thursday afternoons), and Club Night (live music, usually Thursday nights). Ample parking is provided.

website: <www.joekingpark.com>

Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness Program (NEPP) While there is nothing we can do to prevent earthquakes, hurricanes, winter storms and other natural disasters from occurring, *we can prepare for them!* Experience shows that after a major natural disaster, your most reliable source of help will not be the government. Rather, it will be your own personal preparedness and the help of prepared neighbours.

The first 72 hours after a disaster are the most critical for survival. These are also the hours that you can count on the *least* for outside help. The fire department and RCMP will likely be overwhelmed by the number of calls they receive and will be unable to meet everyone's immediate needs. NEPP assists individuals and neighbourhoods to be prepared for the disaster and to cope with the outcome until outside help is able to assist. There are a number of organized NEPP neighbourhoods that function well on our little island thanks to the efforts of the pro-active people in those communities: Cape Gurney Landowners' Association, Whaling Station and the Strachan Road group, to name a few.

Organizing an effective preparedness program for your neighbourhood is not difficult. It takes one or two neighbourhood meetings to get the program up and running, and then an annual meeting to see what's new and to make any required changes to the plan. Phone if you need

information on emergency disaster preparedness or if your neighborhood is interested in setting up a NEPP. Experience shows that people want to help each other after a disaster. If your neighborhood is NEPP-organized beforehand, you will know how to do this and you will respond more calmly and effectively. **Don't Be Scared....Be Prepared!**

CONTACT: Ron Sitter, Coordinator, H.I., 335-0699; e-mail: ron&june@telus.net

New Horizons is a non profit charitable society (1978) to promote meaningful programs of social, educational, creative and physical activities for members, who are in the 50+ age group. Operates the New Horizons Center on Hornby, where it also leases space to the Vancouver Island Regional Library. There are currently more than 125 members taking part in New Horizons activities, which range from Yoga and T'ai Chi classes to Scottish dancing, bowling in Courtenay, book clubs and bridge, to name but a few.

New Horizons supports seniors through an outreach to the Hornby-Denman Community Health Care Center, and provides an annual bursary available to Hornby youth planning further education upon graduation from secondary school.

Weekly literary lunches, hosted by volunteer members of New Horizons, are held on Thursdays from September till gardening season, and are a popular fare for all islanders. One may combine a library visit, lunch at New Horizons with friends and neighbours, and take in an interesting speaker after lunch who may tell about bee keeping, Shot Gun Annie's garden, or "Is it time for hearing aids"?

The New Horizons Hall is available as a rented space for purposes ranging from dances and small musical events to meetings and public forums. The New Horizons Society is a valued community resource, well used by members and friends.

Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Society

A nonprofit organization to operate the Tribune Bay Outdoor Education Centre, in the Tribune Bay Provincial Park on Hornby Island. For children residing in the Comox Valley and Parksville-Qualicum School districts. We offer youth a variety of "hands-on" programs—e.g. kayaking, beach study, team development and environmental education. These offer physical and mental challenges, promote personal growth, develop cooperation and present opportunities for learning and recreational activities useful for a whole lifetime. The Centre is open to any nonprofit youth group with environmental or outdoor education as the focus of their time there. The Centre also runs a family camp for the deaf, a summer residence camp for children in grades four to six, and a day camp for younger children. Future plans include developing a certificate leadership program for high school age youth.

Preservation of Nature and Community

The Coastal Douglas Fir ecosystem supports the highest number of species but is the most endangered and the least protected in B.C. It is found only on the Gulf Islands, part of the East Coast of Vancouver Island, part of the San Juan Islands and in a narrow strip of the Sunshine

Coast. Less than 3% of this area is protected—far short of the Provincial goal of 12%. Only 1% of the original forest remains in an undisturbed state. The Coastal Douglas Fir zone includes the increasingly rare Garry Oak woodlands.

What you can do to help:

- * Retain significant areas of natural vegetation on your property and use local knowledge to identify important wildlife habitat or plant communities that are best left undisturbed. Logged-over land can eventually become "old growth" again! Talk with neighbours about establishing contiguous "wild areas" across adjoining properties. Maintain natural drainage patterns and any existing wetlands.
- * Consider going a step further to place a conservation covenant on all or part of your property to protect it in perpetuity. (The Islands Trust Council is working to reduce property taxes for land protected in this way.)
- * Avoid the temptation to create a park-like landscape. Underbrush, snags and fallen dead trees all play an important part in the ecosystem.
- * Control nonnative species. Introduced plants such as broom, holly, daphne, ivy and orchard grass can spread and crowd out native plants and eliminate habitat for species such as butterflies.
- * Use native vegetation for landscaping (this can also help save water).
- * Stay on trails when walking in the forest and keep dogs leashed.
- * Become more informed about our forest ecosystem.

If you live on the waterfront, you can help protect Hornby's shoreline, valued for its viewscape and for recreation by visitors and residents alike. Over 80% of wildlife utilize the shoreline and there are rare ecosystems occurring on land adjacent to the ocean. Our rich and diverse marine environment is vulnerable to pollution from run-off and seepage along the shore.

- * Observe the minimum 15m setback from the natural boundary of the sea for all buildings and structures.
- * Allow natural debris (driftwood, fallen trees) to accumulate to provide a natural buffer.
- * Retain natural vegetation as much as possible. Replant native species to restore natural areas where these have been lost.
- * To maintain views, carefully prune trees rather than felling or topping them.
- * Consider establishing wildlife corridors on your property.
- * Ensure that wildlife is not disturbed by dogs and human activity. Harlequin ducks are particularly vulnerable during their moulting phase.
- * Make sure that your sewage disposal system is adequate and functions well. Septic systems need regular inspection and pump-outs. Do not overload the septic system or draw heavily upon well-water.
- * Handle fuels, oil and chemicals carefully to avoid spills.
- * Reduce the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers.
- * Use alternative cleaners such as baking soda and vinegar instead of toxic products. Use soap free of phosphates.

Above material abridged from Islands Trust Local Trustee Brochure "Living on Hornby"

Parks on the Island are: Tribune Bay Provincial Park, Helliwell Provincial Park, and the Mount

Geoffrey Escarpment Provincial Park, recently added through an initiative of Conservancy Hornby Island. RDCS owns and maintains Mount Geoffrey Regional Park, with its system of recreational trails, and is negotiating transfer of certain beach accesses as new parkland. In addition to forest and beach areas designated as parks, there are also protected marine zones with appropriate designations (see map). Oyster leases around the island should be respected.

A mandatory total fire ban is usually in effect island-wide at the height of summer. **Burn permits** are required for open trash or slash fires during much of the year (prohibited, of course, during bans. See Fire Dept. & First Responders section below under “Emergency, Safety, and Complaint” for more details). **Beach fires** are allowed except during total fire ban, but are regulated by the Fire Patrol. Bring your own bucket to have sea water handy, build your fire away from driftwood, and use common sense. Use the fire rings where provided. If you notice reasons for concern, phone the Fire Patrol pager number, 703-9022.

Litter is a problem all year round, and especially during “tourist season”. Sometimes a volunteer effort is organized to clean up Tribune Bay beach at the close of summer. Individuals sometimes take responsibility for removing trash from a stretch of roadside as well. Caution should be exercised by pedestrians and cyclists engaging in this service; vehicles should not be used except to pick up bags of collected refuse where the shoulder is wide enough to pull completely off the roadway.

Long-range community planning is a necessity for an island, with its limited land area, access, and water. We do tend to address things as they come up, responding to arising needs on an ad hoc basis, and this has worked fairly well over the years. For instance, when the 400-acre Links-Parson land (the western bluffs of the Island between Ford Cove and the Ferry) went up for sale, the community and friends of Hornby donated money to jointly purchase this property with the Province, adding significantly to our parkland. But there is also a need for thinking ahead.

The Official Community Plan involves a level of future planning, limited by Islands Trust jurisdiction, mandate and finances, and by feasible expression in the Land Use Bylaw. (Regional District planning functions largely do not apply to areas within Islands Trust). Hornby’s idealistic Community Vision Statements reflect another level of looking toward the future—a wish list. There is a vague area between, in which it is left to local initiative to fulfill the OCP and the Community Vision. The level of overall coordinated future planning that would be done, say, by a far-thinking urban planning commission (in the best of possible worlds), still needs to find consistent concerted expression on Hornby. The following considerations might be included in such a planning initiative:

- 1) maintaining a balanced community profile (and solving the perennial housing crisis)
- 2) support for local economy and agriculture
- 3) creating a unified plan for the core area (including Crown Land and the ten-acre “Shared Land”) around the Community Hall and other core areas, on a “village centre” concept; obtaining crown grants for more community land
- 4) increasing local autonomy; review of tax functions and services provided (for example, road maintenance); review of governance options.

One problem affecting even the immediate future of our island is “community profile”. Hornby participates in a trend toward gentrification shared by other recreation areas. Increasingly, more properties are held by retirees or as secondary residences, less by younger, working people and families. This is largely a function of market forces and an aging population bulge. It could be argued that there is nothing to do about this trend. However, it does threaten the vitality of our community. Fewer young families can afford to live here and the school hovers on the edge of closure. As it becomes increasingly difficult to secure the services of local trades and hired help, we become more dependent on the outside world.

This problem merges with the perennial housing shortage for renters. There has long been a crisis for long-term renters, many of whom are rendered homeless during summer months, when owners reoccupy their properties or rent them to vacationers. The problem is worsened by winter rental houses that have been converted to short-term vacation rentals, with some properties purchased for that express purpose. Prohibiting or limiting vacation rentals has not been a popular idea here, though it has been pursued in other communities. But other approaches may be more workable, such as creating some form of low-cost community housing, dedicating land trusts to this use, or establishing (with Islands Trust) special covenants allowing denser zoning for this purpose. In any case, housing remains an important issue to consider for a well-balanced and vital community in the long term.

Local business opportunities similarly depend on housing availability as well as on zoning. Careful thought must be given to the question of how to encourage and support a local economy without endangering our special island habitat and culture. Hornby was once a significant food producer in the Province; one way to promote local economy in harmony with rural island life is by supporting increased agriculture and horticulture. This, of course, goes against a worldwide trend to use agricultural land for other human uses. Promoting agriculture and local production of goods on Hornby requires a conscious political will.

Despite the Island’s dispersed rural-residential neighborhoods, several areas lend themselves as centres. One such is the area surrounding the Community Hall (owned by HIRRA). Besides the School, this includes immediately the “Shared Land” along Sollans Road already under lease to HIRRA, on which the Health Care Society building is located, as well as the nearly six acres of Crown land adjacent to the Hall at the northwest. In a broader sense, it includes the present Fire Hall (owned by RDCS), Joe King Park (under Crown lease), and potentially other Crown Land parcels along Central Road to the northwest (see map). A long range plan is needed to coordinate the future use of all these lands for community purposes.

Our present system of governance seems to work quite well. Much of it is based on volunteer effort. Our local government representatives (Regional Director and Local Trustees) are responsive to community input, and HIRRA affords a direct voice in community affairs. Nevertheless, the community might choose periodically to review its governance options, with a view toward greater local autonomy. Each organization that contributes to the functioning of the community probably reviews its own functioning, but there may also be place for a more general and overall look at how things are working on the Island. This kind of discussion may be facilitated in “town hall” type meetings designated for the purpose. HIRRA, jointly with Regional District and Islands Trust, have sponsored several such forums in the past three years, covering topics touching on review of how our tax monies are used and the pros and cons of

other forms of governance such as municipal incorporation. The latter has been a recent hot topic on some other islands, with municipal status rejected by referendum on both Salt Spring and Gabriola Islands. Other possibilities (brainstormed by the Islands Trust) have included forming an all-islands regional district and forming something like an islands national park zone. Still other strategies might attempt to create a new structure or gain more local control over tax monies working through variations on existing arrangements. Any changes would be subject to Provincial approval.

Shopping and Investing Locally

It is a sign of our times that more and more people living on Hornby derive their income from off-island—such as pensions, retirement funds, and investments. Many people also spend much of their income off-island. In addition, there is a recent trend toward a rent-based economy on Hornby, with both resident and nonresident property owners deriving income from short-term vacation rentals. As land prices and taxes rise, it becomes increasingly difficult for local businesses to thrive. This in turn aggravates the trend away from local production and toward investment or rental economy.

If we cherish the idea of a vital community, there must be a place within it for all walks of life, not for retirement or vacation only. Many people have observed that, without jobs for enterprising younger folks and places for them to live, there will soon be no one for us older folks to call upon—no tradespeople, homecare workers, or other hired help, let alone children and a school. Unless we support local enterprise, there may be few farmers or employers. Hornby has long enjoyed a sense of self-reliance as a community, but we could lose this if we become too passive and dependent on the outside world to supply our needs.

In contrast, to buy locally or hire a local service is to invest in the future of our community. It might cost a little more to shop at our local stores than in town, or to buy local produce at the Coop or directly from your neighbor instead of imports. Some of this difference is offset by transportation costs. And the difference can be considered an investment in the health of our island economy. Some people may wish to go even further in support of local businesses by investing directly in them through loans, or by initiating lending circles. And, by all means, please do support your fellow islanders by shopping locally.

Map(s) [pending]

EMERGENCY, SAFETY, AND COMPLAINT

Phone **911** for medical, fire, and police **emergencies**.

RCMP **non-emergency** number: 338-1321 (Courtenay)
Fire & 1st Responders **non-emergency** number: 335-2611 (Fire Hall, 3850 Central Rd.)
Fire Patrol and Burn Permit Pager: 703-9022
Emergency Social Services (disasters): 335-1360
Medical & Dental: 2115 Sollans Rd.
Doctor's pager **emergency only**: 703-7751
Medical Clinic (**non-emergency**): 335-3036
Dental Clinic: 335-2933
RDCS Noise Bylaw infraction complaints:
RDCS Corporate Services Office, Deborah Oakman, General Manager
600 Comox Road, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 3P6
tel: (250) 334-6000 fax: (250) 334-4358
toll-free (in 250 exchange area): 1-800-331-6007
email: administration@rdcs.bc.ca
Animal complaints: RCMP, 338-1321
Air traffic noise complaint: Canadian Forces Base, Comox, 339-8211, ask for
"WingOperations"

FIRE CLOSURES AND SAFETY. Please note that fire closures exist during the summer and must be respected. Check the fire rating board at the Fire Hall or phone the non-emergency number for details. Burn permits are required during part of the year for hand-piled slash fires and always for machine-piled fires. Permits may be obtained by phoning 703-9022.

Every property has been assigned a **fire number**, which should be **visibly posted** at the roadway entrance to your property. This number represents a location based on distance to established coordinates. It is the number you should report to 911 in case of emergency, and is essential to the fire department in order to locate your premises. Have it posted by your phone, along with emergency numbers, for the benefit of guests, babysitters, etc. It is not a mailing address, though many people use it effectively for that purpose.

Fire is a serious hazard in summertime, with typical dry conditions and water shortages. Never smoke in any forest area or discard cigarettes along roadsides (dry grass is very flammable). There is much you can do to prepare your property against the possibility of fire damage—e.g. removing underbrush near the house, using metal roofing, having a water hose and supply handy. Consult the Fire Department for advice. They also offer yearly trainings in forest fire combat, before the dry season. Only persons so trained are permitted to participate in forest fire emergencies.

SPEED LIMITS. Please note that the maximum speed limit on Hornby is 60 kilometers per hour, except where a lower limit is posted. A 30 km/hour speed zone surrounds the School and is posted. A system of "motorless traffic trails" is in place alongside the roadway, from the Cardboard House Bakery to the Coop, and along a segment of St John's Point Road. These trails are for the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians. Users should pay attention to places where trails cross driveways or the roadway. Motorists should pay attention to places where the trails are entered or cross the roadway to the other side. Many cyclists, pedestrians, and

equestrians do use the roadways, which is their legal right. Please, share the road!

NOISE CONTROL. Synopsis of REGIONAL DISTRICT BYLAW NO. 2356:

- “it is not the intent of the Board to prevent or prohibit those sounds customarily emitted or usually associated with the normal conduct or reasonable daily activity at reasonable times...”
- “No person, being the owner, tenant or occupier of real property, shall allow or permit the real property to be used so that noise which occurs on, or is emitted from, that real property is liable by its continuous or persistent nature to disturb the quiet, peace, rest, enjoyment, comfort or convenience of a reasonable person or persons in the neighbourhood or vicinity.”
- “A Bylaw Enforcement Officer is hereby authorized to enter, at all reasonable times, on any property subject to the regulations or direction of the Board, to ascertain whether the regulations or directions of this Bylaw are being observed.”

Specific prohibitions: (SCHEDULE ‘A’)

At all times: loudspeakers of any sort; persistent yelling hooting or shouting; persistent barking of dogs

Between 9pm and 8am: auditory signalling devices (bells, gongs, horns, sirens, etc); operation of off-road vehicles, saw mills, power saws, compressors, lawn mowers, etc; any type of manufacturing, processing, or repair

Between 10pm and 7am: necessary construction, building, or well drilling

Exceptions: emergency measures and public works; church bells and call to prayer; community events (dances, concerts, fairs, sports games, etc); agricultural machinery, logging under permit in fire season

A pdf version of the full noise bylaw (2356) can be downloaded from the Regional District website. Click on ‘bylaws’ at <www.rdcs.bc.ca/section_admin/>

DOGS AND ANIMALS. At present, there is no Regional dog control bylaw applying to Hornby, no dogcatcher, and no pound. However, **Provincial laws do apply.** Dog offenses should be reported to the R.C.M.P. Under the *Wildlife Act*, a dog “at large and harassing wildlife” is subject to being killed. Under the *Livestock Act*, a dog is not permitted to “run at large”. To be considered not at large, a dog must be on its owner’s property, or be securely confined or fastened, or be in “direct and continuous charge of a person who is competent to control it.” A dog found at large and “attacking or viciously pursuing livestock” may be killed on the first offense. (There is no “one free bite.”) The Provincial and Regional Parks have their own dog rules. At minimum, dogs must be under control at all times in the parks. In some parks, or during some seasons, dogs may be prohibited (check entrance signs). Most businesses have dog policies. Dogs (except for helper dogs for the handicapped) are not permitted in areas where food is prepared or sold. The Hornby Island Co-op does not allow dogs on the porch, or in the Ringside Market. Elsewhere on Co-op property, dogs must be leashed. Chains are provided at various locations, for leaving your dog tied while you shop. Be aware that other shoppers will not appreciate a dog who yelps while tied up. Lost dogs should be advertised on the Co-op notice boards or in the *Grapevine*.

People who are concerned about the welfare of feral cats on their property can ask for assistance from the Hornby Island Cat Society to catch, neuter or spay, and then release the cats

back to their point of capture. The Society will subsidize veterinary costs for feral cats.