



John Horgan MLA Juan de Fuca

Community Report

NOV/DEC 2014

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From Provincial to Personal...

I would like to thank everyone who put in their time and effort to run for public office, from School Board Trustee, Councillor and Mayor to Regional Director. It can take a lot of courage to run for an elected position. A great deal of hard work has to be done and many candidates and volunteers put in endless hours, all in an effort to improve our communities. Win or lose, all who put their names forward to represent us at the municipal level have my thanks and congratulations.

This past month I have raised a number of issues and concerns at the Legislature. From the Mount Polley disaster to fired health care workers and ferry cuts, I have pushed for accountability by the government and ideally, answers for their actions. For example, the government promised to improve and sustain ferry services, but they did not bother to do an economic

impact study before making reckless cuts to ferry routes. Now we know these cuts are actually costing us money. Rather than saving money, a study commissioned by the West Chilcotin Tourism Association showed that in this first year alone, the cuts made to the Discovery Coast Passage route (Route 40) cost the region \$3.3 million in lost economic activity, and \$3.9 million in lost tourism revenue.

I have been asking the government to look at the shortage of acute-extended seniors' beds in Sooke as it is an on-going crisis in our community, and everywhere across the province. The need for spaces for our seniors is only going to increase and we need new beds now. I have also questioned how some seniors on the Island have been told that they will be limited to only one guest for a Christmas meal, or perhaps

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Community Office

WEST SHORE OFFICE
Monday–Friday
10am–4pm

ADDRESS

122–2806 Jacklin Rd
Victoria, BC

T: 250-391-2801

john.horgan.mla
@leg.bc.ca

www.johnhorganmla.ca



John Horgan, MLA
Juan de Fuca

invites you to his

Christmas Open House

Wednesday, December 3rd
4:00pm to 7:00pm

122 – 2806 Jacklin Road
(corner of Jacklin Rd and Goldstream Ave.)

Light snacks and refreshments will be served.

Telephone 250-391-2801
for more information.
Please drop by.

Food bank donations gratefully accepted.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Nov 29–30 Warming to Winter. Sooke Philharmonic presents a potpourri of seasonal fare by Walton, Telemann, Handel, Bach, Vaughn Williams, Rutter and Haydn. Nov 29th at 7:30pm Sooke Baptist Church, 7110 West Coast Road. Nov 30th at 2pm New St. Mary's Church, 4125 Metchosin Road, Metchosin. Under 16 free. Tickets and info: [CLICK HERE](#).

Nov 29 Sooke Fall Fair Christmas Craft Show. Come to the biggest little craft fair and support the Sooke Christmas Bureau. Local crafts, baking, collectibles and gifts. Concession with hot coffee, hot chocolate, chilli and goodies. Admission by donation to the Sooke Christmas Bureau. Sooke Community Hall, off Eustace Road. 10am-4pm. Info: [CLICK HERE](#).

Nov 30 Sooke Santa Parade. This fun community parade starts at noon from Sooke Elementary along Sooke Road to Shields Road, culminating at the Sooke Community Hall off Eustace Road where hot dogs and hot chocolate will be available. Parade starts at noon with assembly at 11am at Sooke Elementary School. Participants welcome – contact the Sooke Chamber of Commerce or for more info: [CLICK HERE](#).

Nov 30 Metchosin Seniors Association Annual General Meeting. The first Annual General Meeting will include a short presentation by Fire Chief Stephanie Dunlop entitled: "**10 Wonderful Things I've Learned About Seniors in Metchosin**". This will be followed by an opportunity to meet other members over refreshments. 2pm at the Metchosin Community House, 4430 Happy Valley Road. Info: [CLICK HERE](#).

Dec 3 10,000 Tonight. Help students from Belmont Secondary School collect 10,000 or more non-perishable food items in one night! All proceeds will be going to the Goldstream Food Bank. Volunteers are needed to sort items in the gym, drive others to different routes in the West Shore, and go door to door collecting items. 5pm at Belmont's North Gym, 3067 Jacklin Road. Info: 250-478-5501.

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From Provincial to Personal *from page 1*

none at all. Then on November 18th, I found myself standing up in the House advocating for seniors when the Fraser Health Authority cancelled flu shot clinics at seniors' community centres across the Lower Mainland with no notice. Under questioning the Minister has said that they will reverse course. It is another instance where time and time again seniors are placed last on the BC Liberal government agenda.

As the holiday season approaches it is always a good reminder to reach out to others. There will be many food drives, coat drives and other ways we can all contribute to our communities. Volunteering to serve meals to

others, such as the *Vital Vittles* program at Holy Trinity Church in Sooke, can go a long way. Volunteers are also needed to help with the Belmont High School 10,000 tonight campaign on December 3rd. Students will be going door to door from 5-9pm gathering food and monetary donations from Langford to Colwood (see Community Events for more details). Together we can all make our community a caring and inclusive place to live.

I hope to see you at my Christmas Open House on December 3rd at my Community Office and I offer you my best wishes for 2015.

*John Horgan, MLA Juan de Fuca
www.johnhorganmla.ca*



Thank you to all Canadian soldiers past and present who have served this great nation. We will never forget.
John observing Remembrance Day at the Veteran's Memorial Park Cenotaph, Nov 11, 2014.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Dec 6 Annual Christmas Light Up. Combined with the IEO Truck Light Convoy and Food Drive, come to Veterans Memorial Park for shopping, crafts, free hot dogs and hot chocolate. The Christmas Market starts at 5pm, food from 5:30-6:30pm (while supplies last), Santa arrives at 6:30pm, Official Light up is at 7pm and the truck convoy is scheduled to drive by at 7:45pm. Info: [CLICK HERE](#).

Dec 7 Skate with Santa. Enjoy the opportunity to skate outdoors. Skate for free with the donation of a canned item for the food bank. From 3-4:30pm. City Centre Park, 1089 Langford Parkway. Info: [CLICK HERE](#).

Dec 7 Pearson College Christmas Concert. Conducted by Yoomi Kim, this choir of international students promises to delight with songs of the season. There will be a dessert raffle and refreshments served at intermission. Proceeds go to the Metchosin Community House. Admission is by donation. Also welcome are food bank donations of non-perishable goods. 7pm Metchosin Community Hall, 4401 William Head Road. Info: [CLICK HERE](#).

Dec 10 Awareness Film Night. Come celebrate 20 years of presenting monthly documentaries on topics normally disregarded by the mainstream media with a re-screening of the first film screened: "Manufacturing Consent: Noam Chomsky and the Media", first part only due to the length of the film. Followed by tea, cake and discussion. Edward Milne Community School Theatre, 6218 Sooke Rd, 7pm by donation. Info: [CLICK HERE](#).

Dec 13 Highlands Coffee House: "Fine Spirits". The Coffee House is held on the 2nd Saturday night of the month and held in the Caleb Pike House, 1589 Millstream Road. Doors open at 7pm and entertainment starts at 7:30pm. There is an "open mic" that begins the evening. Donation of \$5, children under 15 free. Info: [CLICK HERE](#).

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John on the trail at Sandcut Beach on his way to the Surfrider Foundation Beach Cleanup. John makes an effort every year to get out at least once to help clean up the beach to protect and preserve our beaches.



← John with Annie at the beach cleanup.

→ During these dark days of November and early December, it was especially enjoyable to attend the Diwali Dinner and Dance event hosted by the India Canada Cultural Association in Victoria. This celebration of light marks the start of the new year on the Hindu calendar. It honours the victory of good over evil, and brightness over darkness. It also marks the start of winter and for many of us means keeping our spirits bright when the days are short.

From left: Gary Holman, MLA; Lana Popham, MLA; Gurbrinder Kang; Rob Fleming, MLA; Murray Rankin, MP; Maurine Karagianis, MLA; and John.



→ On November 12th, I had the opportunity to congratulate Anne Docherty of Hazelton BC, the BC recipient of the 2014 Council of the Federation Literacy Award. Anne's dedication to literacy is truly inspirational. Congratulations Anne!



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Dec 13 Join the Seagirt Santas. This event is in support of the East Sooke Volunteer Firefighter's Lighted Truck Drive with Santa for the Sooke Food Bank/ Christmas Bureau. Sit by the fire and have hot chocolate and a hot dog while you wait for Santa. Food Bank donations welcome. 7pm at 75 Seagirt Road, top of the driveway. Hosted by Shirley, Paul and Trina. Info: 778-425-0142.

Dec 14 Annual Metchosin Christmas Parade & Open House. Hosted by the Metchosin Fire Fighters Society, there will be Fire Trucks and Emergency Service Vehicles decorated with bright lights and festive decorations as they tour the streets of Metchosin.

Dec 21 Metchosin Santa Run. The Santa Run goes from 8am-1pm, departing from the Metchosin Fire Hall. Santa will be heading through the major roads in Metchosin. If you were missed last year, or have a special request, please call the Fire Hall at 250-478-1307. Map and info: [CLICK HERE](#).

The parade starts at 6pm from the Fire Hall, 4440 Happy Valley Road, and takes about 90 minutes to complete. Info: [CLICK HERE](#).

Do you have an upcoming community event?

Send full event information to John.Horgan.MLA@leg.bc.ca and we'll do our best to fit it in!

The Legislative Assembly of British Columbia offers a bi-annual *British Columbia Teachers' Institute on Parliamentary Democracy* for B.C. teachers in elementary, middle and secondary school. Eighteen teachers will be selected to participate and experience BC's parliamentary system first hand, and acquire an enhanced understanding of democracy. Application deadline: Dec. 15, 2014. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

Two Unique Opportunities

Interested in seniors' health care, personal care, housing, transportation and income support? Consider applying to serve on the *Seniors Advocate Council of Advisers*. The purpose of this volunteer council is to provide the perspective of seniors from diverse backgrounds, ages, geographical areas and cultures. Application deadline: Dec. 18, 2014. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).



2015 Winter Institute

February 24-28, 2015

The Legislative Assembly of British Columbia offers BC teachers a unique professional development program at the Parliament Buildings in our provincial capital.

Learn about parliamentary democracy and become champions of citizenship education. You will return to your school with an enhanced understanding of British Columbia's political system.

You will meet with the Speaker of the House, MLAs, senior public officials, and have a behind-the-scenes tour of your Parliament Buildings. You will also have plenty of opportunities to collaborate and share with your colleagues from across the province!

Application Deadline: December 15, 2014

For further information and to apply on-line visit

www.leg.bc.ca/bcti



www.leg.bc.ca/bcti

CONTACT

Legislative Assembly of British Columbia
Parliamentary Education Office
Room 018, Parliament Buildings, Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

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Seniors Advocate Council of Advisers

The Seniors Advocate is seeking applications for advisers

Advisers will provide the Office of the Seniors Advocate with feedback and advice on the issues facing seniors living in British Columbia, and represent seniors from diverse backgrounds, ages, geographical areas and cultures.

Applicants should have knowledge, education and/or experience in at least one of the Seniors Advocate areas of responsibility: health care, personal care, housing, transportation and income support.

Apply online, use the fillable PDF document (then print and mail/fax it) or request a copy of the application form be sent to you, by emailing info@seniorsadvocatebc.ca or phoning 1-877-952-3181 (In Victoria 250-952-3181).

Application form due by **4 PM DECEMBER 18, 2014**.
The council membership will be announced in February 2015.

Read more about the composition of the council, recruitment, responsibilities, term of appointment and support for the position at www.seniorsadvocatebc.ca.



Office of the Seniors Advocate