

THE NEW BAMFIELDER

Thank you Huu-ay-aht First Nations & Partners for a Smooth Drive: Happy Trails!

1 November 2023

www.bamfielder.ca

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Cutting the cedar ribbon at kilometre 76 on the Bamfield Main Road. Left to right: Huu-ay-aht Councillor **Edward R. Johnson**, Mosaic, CEO **Rob Gough**, Huu-ay-aht Chief Councillor **John Jack**, Former Minister **Scott Fraser**, Former Huu-ay-aht Chief Councillor **Robert Dennis Sr.**, MP **Gord Johns**, Western Forest Products, **Seanna McConnel**, Huu-ay-aht ḥawil **Jeff Cook**, Huu-ay-aht Councillor **Brad Johnson** and **Stephen Rayner**.

“Completing the Bamfield Road Reconciliation Project was a top priority for Huu-ay-aht. Working in partnership with the Province of BC, ᑕ awak ᓯqin, and Mosaic, together we have made this a reality. We wanted to provide a safer and more reliable route for everyone who travels in Huuay-aht territory. With this upgrade, we begin building a strong, self-reliant community and economy for Huu-ay-aht citizens and everyone in the region. We are grateful to everyone who has supported Huu-ay-aht in reaching our vision.” - Huu-ay-aht First Nations Chief Councillor, John Jack (Sayaač’ ath) . *Photo and quote from Huu-ay-aht press release.*

WELCOMING NEW SMOOTH-ROAD VISITORS TO BAMFIELD

The new Bamfield Main will entice day-trippers to visit our fair village. Some deficiencies that need attention to accommodate their needs: Downtown parking, Alcohol-free beer & wine & spirits, EV-charging stations, Information Centre, garbage cans, public benches, a statue of Eddie Bamfield lying on its side, Old Farts in front of The Market & Mercantile, Cotton candy & Tee shirt concessions, a laundromat, Bumper stickers reading “Please Visit Tofino.” Handicap accessibility, Directional signage, an oyster bar, Day hike trail map, and Downtown parking.

Lest we forget. They say now we can get to Port quicker, but the old road was posted at 70km and the new at 60km. And missing the potholes and bumps and wash-outs, visit Bamfield’s Tower Road for a nostalgic drive.

13 attend Bamfield Road Committee AGM. Highlights of Chair **Stefan Ochman’s** report: Bamfield Main chipped and sealed, and given a 1-year warranty; 9 tsunami signs purchased; 1 road and 3 trail counters and associated software purchased; a line will be painted on the road from Bamfield to Anacla in 2024; and the Road Reconciliation Committee will consider a memorial cairn at km 38. All previous directors were returned.



Submissions are welcome. They may be edited for clarity and taste, and should be brief. All submissions must have the author’s name. Submit to ldruehl@island.net. *The New Bamfielder* is free but we encourage readers to contribute to Bamfield Community School Assoc. youth programs. Louis Druehl



The *Native III*, crafted in Dodger Channel

Some sad news: On October 2nd, after 75 years as an integral part of the Bamfield fishing fleet, the *Native III* sunk at the wharf in Port Alberni. Designed by **Jackson Jack** and built in Dodger's Cove in 1947 by Jackson and his son, **Ernie**. The double ender always seemed to ride easily through the water. **Johnny Vanden** said all of Jackson's boats seemed to go faster with less power than other boats. "He went by eye and the shear was always perfect." Ernie and later, his son, **Alan**, would gas-up and buy fishing gear at Ostrom's. There was always time for Ernie and **Leonard Jennings** plus other guys in the store to enjoy each other's fishing tales. Ernie's sense of humour would set the whole store crowd laughing. He died in 2016 and now his beautiful boat is gone, too. Both will be missed. It's the end of an era. *Katharine & Suzanne Jennings*, photo Marc Philips



An eloquent evening, and not a pair of gumboots in sight.



The Bamfield Community School Association's 11th annual Oysters, Authors and Ale was a blast. BCSA's coordinator **Jaslyn Haberl** emceed with exuberance and passion one would expect from a Hawaii condo salesperson. Mostly, the local readers were snappy and original...inspiring. **Heather Washburns** was a standout; her poetry thoughtful and her singing gutsy. Nationally recognized **Gary Geddes** showed us the power of the poetic word and author **Ann Eriksson** did double duty, promoting environmental awareness, particularly for children, and depicting, in insightful prose, an aspect of our rural lives. The silent auction was well endowed and attended (\$5500), the beers (Victoria Brewery) appreciated, the oysters (Nova Harvest) out of this world, snacks (The Wreckage) healthy, and student subsidy (Canadian Kelp). Bravo, BCSA's **Renee Gaudet's** overall organization. *L. Druehl*. Pics *R. Hopkins*



Bamfield's musical inspiration. William James Joyce, (July 6, 1952-December 23, 2021). His Celebration of Life, held in Bamfield's West Park Pavilion, October 1, 2023. **Daryl Chonka** spoke eloquently, of Bill's mentoring, of being urged to forego a job in Ontario, a choice that led to an exciting musical career. **John Hughes**, ditto the job in Ontario, after being offered the use of expensive musical instruments and encouraged by Bill to use them. (thus, The Broken Group). **Cory**, Bill's son, an artist and musician, appreciated his free-range upbringing and permission to live a artistic life. **Jared**, grateful for Bill taking him in as a neglected little kid and raising him as a brother for Cory. A tribute from **Clifford Charles** praising Bill as a neighbour in the days when the Charles family lived at the Coast Guard Station. Gratitude from both **Sheila and Annette Charles** for the fun and adventure Bill brought to the children of Bamfield. A Robert Service poem, "The Men That Don't Fit In" by John Hughes and **Thom Coley** belted out Bob Seeger's "Night Moves." The rain held off, the sun shone, the tears flowed, and the music rocked, thanks to Daryl Chonka and his band, plus **Oliver Evans, Phil Lavoie, John Hughes, Thom Coley**, and Cory Joyce. Yet another amazing "Only in Bamfield" event! *Judith Philips*, pic, too.



Oh My Gawd, CBC radio has dropped its 10 am (exact) time signal as of 10/10/23. The signal was started in 1939.

Do we have to 'Fall Back,' really!, Premier David Eby?

A short and sweet zoom Community Affairs (33 minutes) was attended by 15. **Bob Beckett**, Regional Director commented on the improved Bamfield Main and noted the important Bamfield Official Plan will be presented by ACRD 4-7pm, 9 November at the Bamfield Community School. **Julie Bradley**, Community School Association: Oysters, Authors and Ale raised over \$9000. All events posted at the school. November nights, 6-7pm, financial services will be available. 22 November **Aneri** will hold cooking class. Contact BCSA. Bamfield C. of C. **Marnie McAughtrie**: recommends groups and businesses post events on [Visit Bamfield](#) and [Bamfield Corkboard](#). Bamfield Arts Council, **Julie Bradley**: Christmas Craft Fair, 2 December, 11-2pm; for table and information contact juliebradley@live.ca. *Abstracted from J. Willock minutes*