

THE NEW BAMFIELDER

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The New School Playground

A summer installation of the new playground at Bamfield Community School has welcomed its first group of kids to swing, slide, and run around. The old playground was demolished, and thanks to funding from Pacific Rim School District 70 and BC government grants, a new recess activity area was installed.

Robin Schmitt says, "The students love the variety of activities available! There are cool double slides, circular routes for playing tag games, lots of climbing options, and a wide variety of age-appropriate activities." She also adds that "the students were involved in choosing and designing the new playground," which adds to their enjoyment of the shiny new equipment.

The switch from pea gravel to woodchips has also been a highlight. No more pesky rocks in everyone's shoes. The students do have one complaint: "A new playground does not make recess any longer!"

In unfortunate news, the new playground gave its first major injury to Finnley Kranz. Samantha Kranz explains that on the day before school started, Finnley was playing with his friends when he jumped, landed wrong, and ended up in a cast. After an X-ray, a break was ruled out, but ligament damage still has him in an air cast. He is excited to get back onto the playground once he is back in action.

Get well soon, Finnley! **Abigail Andiel**

Local Election on October 17th

Mark in your calendars, that on October 17, 2026 there will be a local election for Bamfield's Area A ACRD Director, for a four-year term commencing in November 2026. Candidates include Max Salamon and Stefan Ochman. Voting will take place from 8AM-8PM at the Bamfield Firehall. Find more information at

<https://www.acrd.bc.ca/2026election>.
Pre-voting: October 7 & 14, 8AM-8PM
Abigail Andiel

Wedding Announcement!

On a Sunday in early September, Bamfield received a precious shipment (not delivered by the Lady Rose!) of friends and family coming together from across the continent to celebrate the marriage of long-time local Max Jaworski and beloved visitor Lindsey Mitchell. With help from countless locals, we enjoyed a true Bamfield style wedding on Brady's Beach. It would not have been possible without the incredible community I share here (and a commitment to strengthening my delegation skills!!), and I want to thank everyone for their part in celebrating our special day.

I couldn't have imagined a more perfect celebration. We love you all so so much (and wish we could have a wedding here every year!)

Lindsey and Max



New Park at the Bamfield Community School.

Another Fungus Fest Gone By

The Fungus Festival was a big success this past weekend bringing together mushroom experts and enthusiasts alike for two days of workshops, guided walks, guest lectures, and celebrating mushrooms. New this year, MycoMap BC was introduced to the festival, teaching participants how to collaborate on this province-wide DNA Sequencing project with fungi collected throughout the weekend and highlighting the need for collaboration across demographics and institutions to address underdocumented species living among us. Did you know you can find Gibellula sp. (a fungus that parasitizes spiders) on the undersides of salal leaves?!

Thank you to all the volunteers that make this festival a reality every year.

Hannah Schriber



Finnley Kranz, First Day of Grade 3! Photo: Samantha Kranz

A Very Bamfield Harvest Auction

If you needed proof that Bamfield knows how to come together - and how to have fun while doing it - the 2026 Harvest Dinner & Auction made a pretty good case.

The annual fundraiser for the new Community Hall raised an astonishing \$35,960 in one night, a record for the event. Local businesses, organizations and community members donated an extraordinary assortment of treasures, treats, creations and experiences, and Bamfielders responded with enthusiasm - and some impressively deep pockets. Among the offerings were beautiful handwoven cedar pieces, paintings, old photographs, and pottery; handmade fishing lures, an abundance of fresh garden vegetables, a few fur coats and even a stay in Paris. And the Port Desire koala was promptly returned to the inlet whence it came!

The auction wouldn't be the same without cheesecake and this year, it sold for a remarkable \$700—proof that dessert can be a serious community investment.

For Rosie, vice-president of the Bamfield Community Hall Society since 2010, the evening was another reminder of what makes this place special: people showing up, pitching in, donating what they can, and having a good time while doing it. The new hall is about halfway to completion. And if the Harvest Auction is any indication, Bamfield is very much behind it.

Sophie Dufresne

Forest - Feast - Frolic: All the Fall Things!



Fall program 2026 students Spencer Jamieson, Kayla Heiman, Willa Herwig, and Lucas Miller at the low tide. Photo: Becca Holte.

30 years of Fall Program at BMSC!

30 years ago, Dr. Rich Palmer was invited to co-teach a course in the first ever Fall Program in Marine Sciences at the BMSC. Each year, a cohort of 24 students completes a semester of immersive courses here, and this hands-on program has proved to be very impactful over time.

This program, but also Bamfield, clearly leaves its impression. Rich had checked his class lists, "I wondered how many students have come through the fall program that went on to do wonderful things... had worked in Bamfield or are still working in Bamfield... and it's quite a remarkable list." For example, Dr. Amanda Bates and Dr. Jenn Sunday, who both took the program, concurrently taught courses here this summer.

The lists also revealed various community members "... [there's] Amy McConnell, Angela Fortune, Alex Niese, Dan Zayonc, Olivia Walker, Alessandra Gentile, and Tao Eastham..." Other alumni include Taylor Ford-Sahibzada, Carter Burtlake, and more. For 30 years now, students have come to study the incredible ecosystems and biodiversity found here, and in the end their lives have changed forever, largely thanks to the community around us.

Read the full blog at bamfieldmsc.com.
Kirstynn Joseph

Pickled Chanterelles

1 lb cleaned chanterelles in bite sized pieces
2 tbsp kosher salt
2 cups white wine vinegar
1/2 cup water
1/3 cup white sugar
2 tsps dried thyme
1 tsp peppercorns
2 bay leaves
2-3 cloves garlic

Dry sauté chanterelles in a pan. As they release their water, add 1 tbsp salt. In a pot, bring the remainder of the ingredients to a boil to dissolve sugar and salt. Once dissolved, let the pickling liquid rest as the mushrooms continue to cook off their water. Once nearly dry, add the mushrooms to the pickling liquid and simmer for 5 minutes. Pack the mushrooms into jars, with garlic, bay leaves, and peppercorns in each jar. Top with pickling liquid, let cool, and keep refrigerated as you enjoy them until they are gone.

Chef Max Jaworski

Mr Cindy & the Secret Emchy Society + Carolyn Mark at The Bamfield Wreckage

There's something wonderfully appropriate about taking a band from Oakland's queer-country underground and dropping them into Bamfield.

On September 24th, **Mr Cindy & the Secret Emchy Society** joined Canadian alt-country songwriter Carolyn Mark for a night of roots, country, Americana and beautifully unclassifiable songs at The Bamfield Wreckage.

It's an especially fitting pairing for Bamfield: music with a little saltwater in its veins, a little dirt under its fingernails and absolutely no interest in behaving itself.

The show was part of a five-date BC tour taking the artists from Powell River through Courtenay, Bamfield and Ucluelet before ending in Victoria.

Cindy Emch

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Oct 3 ~ Oysters, Authors & Ale
Oct 12 ~ Thanksgiving
Oct 17 ~ Election Voting Day
Oct 31 ~ Halloween!
Oct 31 ~ BVFD Dance, 19+

The Weathered Verse Poetry

Harvest Auction

Oh you did make me laugh, John Hughes,
The way you sold the goods
To raise the roof
Of the grand new community hall.
A piece of history!
You quipped
About shipwreck pix.
And marble halibut
And lithuanian quilts
That guilted dollars
from holes in our pockets
To pay for sockets
In the grand new community hall.
You wheedled us
Into cinnamon twists.
Taunted us
With weatherbeaten signs,
old chamber pots,
A teapot
Only a wrestler could lift.
Ignited bidding wars over mink coats and
gasoline canisters,
Prawn traps and pies,
And a

7-0-0
d-o-l-l-a-r
c-h-e-e-s-e-c-a-k-e

That someone laughed when they paid for
But'll put the door
on the grand new community hall.

Clara Mooney

West Side rezoning hearing brings out record attendees

The ACRD community hearing of the west side, Lucas Development was held on September 24 in Port Alberni and saw a turnout of 70+ community members both in person and online. The meeting ran for almost three hours! You can watch the whole meeting on YouTube, video linked on the ACRD website.

Stella Wenstob

Submissions are welcome. Please send them with the author's name to thenewbamfielder@gmail.com. The New Bamfielder is funded by donations. We appreciate anything you can contribute. Any extra funds will be donated to the Bamfield Community School Association's youth programs. **Editors: Taylor, Amaya, Hannah, Abi, Stella, Sophie**