

**Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin**  
APRM, #1 - 4401 William Head Road, RR#1, Victoria, B.C. V9C 3Y6  
<http://www.aprm.ca/>

**“Spring” Newsletter, May 30, 2005**

Dear Fellow APRM'er,

The purposes of this newsletter are to invite you to the Annual General Meeting and briefly to review current community issues.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**7:00 PM, Wednesday, 15 June**  
**Metchosin Community House**

**Agenda**

7:00 Speaker: **Ramona Scott, “TLC Agricultural Partnerships.”**

8:00 Refreshments

8:20: AGM

- Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- Treasurer's Report
- President's Report
- Election of New Officers (see “Opportunity Knocks!!” on page 2)
- Constitutional Changes (see “Proposed Constitutional Amendments” on Page 3)
- Other business

9:30 (est) Adjournment

**On-Going “Rural Metchosin” Issues**

**OCP REVIEW:** There have now been one open house, a public survey, and two workshops on issues. Most public input has favoured the type of “Rural Metchosin” reflected in APRM's mission statement. A minority, however, prefers smaller lots, second houses on lots, more development, commercial activities, etc., etc. The public input from the surveys and the open house can be read at the Municipal Website (<http://www.district.metchosin.bc.ca/>).

A second open house has been scheduled for 6:30, Tuesday, 28 June at Hans Helgesen School to seek public views on the most “knotty” issues arising from work so far (e.g. secondary residences, better environmental controls, Village Centre Plan, bylaw enforcement, trails development, etc.) Watch for details in the mail, and Metchosin Muse.

**•3963 Metchosin Road: Rezoning Proposal** to rezone an existing FOUR acre AG/RU split zoned lot to AG (10 acre minimum) and subdivided into TWO 2-acre lots. This lot has a non-

conforming second residence. APRM has opposed this proposal as inconsistent with the OCP's density rules. It would be a precedent which might be followed by many similar properties with non-conforming residences. Council intends to hold an "informal Public Hearing" at the next Planning and Environment Committee, now anticipated for 6:30, Monday, June 27. APRM's Resource Group is preparing a comprehensive summary of issues to be posted on our website (under "issues").

**5076 William Head Road: Trail Connection to the Goose:** APRM opposed (unsuccessfully) the rezoning which doubled legal density. Still unknown is whether residents' wishes to legalise the long-standing connection through the property from William Head Road to the Goose will be secured as part of the subdivision (against the expressed wishes of the rezoning applicant and presumptive owner of the new lot).

**Sooke Road Business Park-Section 38 (Metchosin Properties):** The developer withdrew the application, pending outcome of the OCP Review. The majority of persons who commented during the OCP review opposed business parks, or other major commercial developments outside the Village

Centre. Residents are advised to remain vigilant should this sprawl-feeding, anti-rural proposal re-emerge.

**Development of Sections 120 and 121, Mt. Ash Viewpoint and Trails (Metchosin Properties):** Subdivision plans and (controversial) trails remain under discussion between the developer and the Approving Officer.

**Soil Disposal and Removal:** Residents have often complained (sometimes for years) about noise, nuisance, traffic and environmental damage associated with some soil removal/disposal cases. Sometimes, these activities have commenced without permits; in others, amounts of soil or time periods allowed have exceeded reasonable levels in terms of nuisance and environmental impact. In March, APRM suggested ways to clarify and strengthen bylaw criteria and procedures in March. (Details on our website.) Council has remained silent.

**Sections 25 (Metchosin Park), 28 and 95 :** APRM requested parks status for these environmentally and recreationally valuable lands. There is as yet no new proposal from Lands and Water B.C. or from B.C. Government on these lands' future use (after Metchosin Council opposed LWBC suggestions made in late 2004). Stay tuned!

### ***Opportunity Knocks!!!***

Several current executive members must move on to other activities in the 2005-06 year. The Constitution precludes anyone serving in the same position for more than three years. Our Returning Officer, **Sandra Martin**, is actively seeking persons willing to serve. She has already found some. If you would like to find out more about what is involved and/or suggest yourself or someone else, please ring Sandra at **478-9743**.

## Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The proposed changes are in **underlined bolded text**, and deletions *in italics* between *{parentheses}*.

A. **Amendments Passed in June 2003:** These amendments were not given to the Registrar of Societies in the appropriate form. Re-adoption will permit official registration.

1. Delete from section 6.4.6, Treasurer's duties *{ "ensure that payment of any indebtedness exceeding \$75.00 is approved by a majority of votes at a general meeting." }*
2. New **Section 7.2 The Chairperson of the Resource Group shall be elected by the general membership at the Annual General Meeting.**
3. 5.2, Insert **Chair of the Resource Group** in the list of Executive members.

B. New Amendments Proposed for Annual General Meeting, June, 2005)

4. Section 8.4.1 "Notice of General Meetings may be given by advertising, telephone network, mailings **or email** as determined by the Executive."
5. Section 8.4.2: Notice of **proposed changes to the Association's constitution or bylaws** or notice of the Annual General Meeting or any Extraordinary General Meeting requiring written notification **shall be notified** *{delete: may be given}* by mailings **or by email** to members in good standing at the most recent address given by him/her to the executive at least 14 days prior to the meeting date."
6. **Section 8.4.3. "A notice sent by mail is deemed to have been given on the second day following the day on which the notice is mailed.**
7. New **Section 14** (& change existing sections 14 & 15 to 15 & 16). **Privacy Policies.**  
**14.1. Membership lists will contain the names and addresses of members.**
8. **14.2. Membership application forms shall remain confidential. The information on them will be available only to members of the executive or members authorized by them to contact and inform members of matters connected with the aims and objectives of the Association.**
9. **14.3 Membership Application forms shall be destroyed after three years.**
10. Add to duties of the Secretary **Section 6.3.6. Act as Privacy Officer of the Association.**

**Do you worry about being an "inactive" member?** If so, don't!! "Inactive" members are essential.

- They give moral support to the "activists" (who otherwise may succumb to doubts about whether they are working only for their individual egos or interests).

- Their presence gives extra weight to APRM proposals (not that we are always satisfied that we have been heard by officialdom!).
- They are better and more quickly informed of issues through their membership, enabling “inactive” members to act in timely fashion on issues important to them.
- Their financial support is essential to cover costs of newsletters, community circulars, information searches, etc., etc. Never doubt the efficacy of “cheque-book activism.”
- Best of all, “inactive” members sometimes “catch fire” and enjoy participating in APRM activities.

Memberships run to the end of June. **If you are unable to attend the AGM, please take the time to fill out and return the attached membership form (unless it has been crossed out, in which case our records show your membership is good to June 2006).**

Please feel free to encourage friends and neighbours to join APRM, and feel free to reassure them about the above benefits of “inactive membership!”

Yours sincerely,

Frank Mitchell, President

PS. You can find copies of most APRM letters and policy papers under the “issues” part of the APRM website at <http://www.aprm.ca/>. Queries: call Frank at 478-1671.

PPS. **Please remember to give the APRM number 19391 when you purchase anything from the Co-op or Save – On Gas.** APRM receives a dividend of 5% on the former, and 2.5% on the latter. With your help, these amounts can add up!

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<b>APRM MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM</b>	
(All memberships are annual and run to June 30)	
Name (Names, if Family Membership): _____	
Address: _____ Postal Code: _____	
Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____	
Type of Membership: (✓) <input type="checkbox"/> Individual-\$5.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Family-\$8.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining-\$20.00	
Donation: \$ _____ Total Remitted: \$ _____	
Date: _____	Signature: _____

**Please place this form and your cash, cheque or money order payable to APRM in an envelope and return it to:** Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin, #1 – 4401 William Head Road, RR#1, Victoria, B.C. V9C 3Y6 **OR** leave your envelope at Metchosin Corner Store (APRM box).