

Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin (www.aprm.ca)
Summer 2008 NEWSLETTER and

INVITATION to the APRM POTLUCK PICNIC &

Tribute to Dave Houseman

Founding member of APRM, for his many years of commitment to Metchosin's rural and green values and APRM work

Noon – 3 pm
Sunday Aug 10
530 Witty Beach Road (Mitchell's)

Please Bring – Kids, guests, some food to share, BYOB, be Earth friendly, bring your plate, mug & cutlery and cash, if you want to renew your membership or win the door prize.

APRM will provide -- Lemonade, tea, coffee, ice, condiments, grills for barbequing also hamburgers, buns and corn

Hay Rides! Kids' door prize
EVERYONE WELCOME!

Parking in the field near the House is available—no need to walk up the drive!!
Call Moralea Milne for more info. 478-3838 (moralea@telus.net)

Association News

Executive: The Annual General Meeting AGM) on June 18, under the chairmanship of returning officer Lorne Rosenblood, elected the executive comprising: Derek Wulff (President), Jim MacPherson (Vice President), Ken Farquharson (Secretary), Moralea Milne (Treasurer), Sally Garcelon (Member-at-Large), and Frank Mitchell (Chair, Resource Group). The meeting passed the minutes and treasurers report (which had been verified by Dave Houseman, for whom many thanks are due.)

The AGM speaker was Deborah Curran, Environmental Lawyer and a founder of Smart Growth BC, on “Can you be rural and smart?” Fortunately, the answer was “yes.” Deborah had several good ideas on how to ensure that rural areas on the urban periphery can retain their environmental, agricultural and recreational values in the face of development pressures.

Meeting Schedule: Regular meetings are at 7:00 pm the third Wednesday of the month (October through June except December), at the Metchosin Community House. Meetings include speakers (sometimes), discussion and resolutions on rural issues, and

housekeeping matters. Most importantly, refreshments! Meetings are announced in the Muse and (less reliably) on our website (www.aprm.ca).

Remember to visit the APRM table at **Metchosin Day** on Sunday, 7 Sept. for our very popular “**I Love Rural Metchosin**” stickers, interesting displays, and lively discussion!

ISSUES:

East Sooke-Metchosin Amalgamation: All Metchosinites have an interest in this matter. The Resource Group proposes the following DRAFT APRM resolution:

“REFERENDUM ON EAST SOOKE AMALGAMATION STUDY

‘Metchosin voters will be asked in November whether there should be a “Phase 2” study of the financial implications of amalgamating East Sooke and Metchosin.

‘APRM supports amalgamation in principle. This would help to preserve our vitally important green spaces and natural habitats, and increase the political weight of rural residents in the region. APRM therefore recommends residents vote in favour of this study.

‘In addition, APRM recommends a parallel public consultation process for Metchosin and East Sooke residents to review the non-financial issues related to amalgamation.’

We hope that members will discuss and approve it (with suitable modifications) at the picnic. (This timing is necessary, since our next regular members’ meeting will be in October, and we would like to have an APRM position at Metchosin Day.) If you can’t come to the picnic, but have suggestions (pro or con) on the above draft, please contact Frank Mitchell (478-1671, or fhm@shaw.ca) before the picnic so your views can be heard.

Village Centre Plan: The principal proposed change would be to extend the existing Village Development Permit Area along William Head and Metchosin Roads (and to make some areas on Happy Valley “reserve” areas). The deadline for public input on the proposals is July 31. All details and questionnaire form can be found on the municipal website site or at municipal hall. Make sure your views are heard by **Thursday 31 July!**

Secondary Suites: Council approved Bylaw 550 (enlarging secondary suites to 90 sq m (about 950 sq. ft.). Council will hold an open house on Sept 16 to discuss other aspects of secondary suites, presumably whether suites in detached buildings should be allowed. The APRM opposes detached suites, and also argue that the main priority now should be on registering legal suites and enforcing the rules.

We hope for a quiet (and warmer) summer – but stay tuned just in case!

Hope to see you at the Picnic!

Derek Wulff, President
478-2677 derekwulff@shaw.ca

PS. IF there is a membership form attached to this newsletter, it means we have no record of your having renewed to June 30, 2009. Please consider renewing -- at the Picnic and at Metchosin Day – or through the mail/corner store drop box.

PPS. If NO membership form is attached, many thanks for being up to date!

PPPS. Please quote the number 19391 when buying gas or groceries at the Co-op or Save-on Gas and you will contribute to the APRM while shopping!