

Association for the Protection of Rural Metchosin (www.aprm.ca)
Spring 2009 NEWSLETTER

Dear Fellow APRMer

Sorry about the late arrival of this newsletter. But better late than never!!

Association News

Housekeeping Issues: The **Annual General Meeting** AGM) will be on June 17 at Metchosin Community House. Our speaker will be Rob Kline, (agriculturalist with the Ministry of Agriculture) on Agricultural Area Planning.

Election of Officers: Current executive comprises: President -Derek Wulff, Vice President - **VACANT**, Treasurer - Jim MacPherson, Secretary - Ken Farquharson, Director at Large - Sally Garcelon and Chair, Resource Group - Frank Mitchell. They are willing to serve again in one capacity or another, if necessary. BUT they would also be happy to make room for newcomers!! And note that we MUST replace "vacant."

Are you willing to bring some new blood onto the executive? <i>Would you like to serve on the APRM executive? Would you like to nominate someone else?</i> Please contact the returning officer, Sandra Martin, at 478-9743

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).

May Meeting will be ***Tuesday***, May 19th, (**not** Wednesday, due to a booking conflict for the Community House). The agenda comprises the normal list of issues.

ISSUES:

East Sooke-Metchosin Amalgamation: APRM supported the Phase 2 study on amalgamation, and Council requested the Minister of Communities to release the funds for the study. There has been no word from Government. Let us hope this does not mean that the Minister has some other plans for governance in this area. It is worrying that that Candidate JodyTwa told the all-candidates' meeting in Langford that he would favour a new regional district incorporating if the majority of the concerned municipalities (not voters in each) agreed. Since the concerned municipalities are Colwood, Langford, Sooke, Metchosin, and Highlands, it's not difficult to see what the outcome would be!!

Village Centre Plan: More than sixty residents attended the Village Centre Round Table on April 20th. Rather than having to comment on the various past proposals, the participants were presented with an air photo map showing the properties now used for commerce, and asked what they thought was needed. Many interesting suggestions were made, not all in agreement with each other! Let us hope that Council will distil the results of the roundtable, indicate those issues on which there is relative consensus, and clarify those which are controversial, and then invite the public to another roundtable to see if some agreement(s) can be reached. Eventually, of course, Council will have to bite the bullet on some items. After which the public will have a say at public hearings to any changes in the OCP. Stay posted.

Detached Secondary Suites (better described as "Second Houses"): Council advertised TWICE for residents to participate in an advisory committee on this issue. We had held completion of this letter until the members were announced (expected most recently on May 11) but Council has inexplicably delayed again. We undersand the first meeting of the committee will be on **June 4**. **All meetings will be open** to the public.

Te'Mexw Treaty Negotiations: These negotiations include the Scia'new band (Becher Bay Band). Negotiations are now in Phase 4 (agreement in principle), which will determine all the main outlines of the eventual treaty, including arrangements on land. We understand that the Government has made an offer to the First Nations, and that First Nations have made an initial response, and that discussions will resume shortly. At the APRM March members' meeting, those present passed a resolution to contact the government to explore the opportunities for public input and discussion on the land parts of the treaty. The thought was that public discussion, including with First Nations, might help to identify win-win solutions for all sides. Government negotiators have expressed thanks for this letter, and we hope that something constructive may come of it.

Pacific Salmon Foundation - Community Salmon Project: APRM has applied for, and received a grant of \$1,500 from the Pacific Salmon Foundation to facilitate monitoring local beaches and shorelines on which forage fish might spawn. Please contact Bev Hall at beverleyhall@shaw.ca if you are interested in participating. For further information see: Forage Fish of Metchosin and Beyond at <http://www.foragefishmatter.blogspot.com/>

APRM members volunteered on Earth Day, helping to clean up the roads (and posts) in Metchosin - thanks! It is great to see our members taking part in so many positive ways in our community. Unlike Woody Allen who said "I don't want to be a member of a club who would have me as a member," I'm proud to be a part of a group that has so many great volunteers and realizes that to enhance community life, we have to take part!

Hope to see you on the 19th.

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

PS. 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!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS: APRM memberships run out at the end of June, but anyone who cares to renew now will be updated to June 30, 2010.

APRM MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM <small>(All memberships are annual and run to June 30)</small>	
Name (Names, if Family Membership): _____	
Address: _____	Postal Code: _____
Phone: _____	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 or cheque 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).