

Association for the Protection of Rural Metchoshin (www.aprm.ca)
Summer 2009 NEWSLETTER and

INVITATION to the APRM POTLUCK PICNIC

**Noon – 3 pm Saturday Aug 8
530 Witty Beach Road (Mitchell's)**

Please Bring - Kids, guests, a dish 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, hot dogs, buns and corn.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

Parking in the field past the House — no need to walk up the drive!!

Info: Frank at: 478-1671 fhm@shaw.ca

Association News

Executive: The Annual General Meeting (AGM) on June 18, under the chairmanship of returning officer Sandra Martin, elected the executive comprising: Derek Wulff (President), Margaret Frisby (Vice President), Ken Farquharson (Secretary), Jim MacPherson (Treasurer), Sally Garcelon (Member-at-Large), and Frank Mitchell (Chair, Resource Group). The meeting passed the minutes, treasurer's report (which had been verified by Dave Houseman, to whom many thanks are due) and the budget. The meeting also passed a resolution to increase the annual family membership fee to \$10. The other fees remained constant at \$5 for individuals, and "sustaining" at \$20.

The AGM speaker was Rob Kline, B.C. Department of Agriculture, who addressed us on "Agricultural Area Plans" and the role of such plans in helping local government to preserve agriculture and rural environments. He illustrated the application of agriculture area plans by Saltspring Island and North Saanich in supporting local marketing of food, strengthened agriculture land zoning and additional support for agriculture through OCP policies.

APRM Meeting Schedule: Regular meetings are at 7:00 pm the third Wednesday of the month (October through June except December), at the Metchoshin 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 on our website (www.aprm.ca).

Remember to visit the APRM table at Metchoshin Day on Sunday, 13 Sept. for interesting displays and lively discussion.

ISSUES:

East Sooke-Metchoshin Amalgamation: After the last election, Metchoshin Council and the CRD Director for Juan-de-Fuca Electoral Area requested the minister to disburse the funds for the Phase 2 "restructure study." Not a peep has been heard

since. Of concern is that the Liberal candidate in the last election favoured amalgamation of the West Shore municipalities. Let us hope that the government doesn't plan to follow this idea.

Village Centre Development Permit Area (VCDPA) OCP Amendment: The Council has proposed changes in the OCP section on the vision for and policies regarding the VCDPA. The policy proposals clearly and fairly reflect extensive public input. The same cannot be said for the size of the VCDPA. While Council proposes reducing the existing area (by excluding all properties on Happy valley road west of the Community House and of the School Museum), it also, more controversially, proposes to add four properties on Metchosin/William Head Roads (part of the lot South of the Community Hall, part of the lot East of the Community Hall, and two properties north of the lot with the offices of Tractor Time.). A draft bylaw to amend the OCP containing these proposals will be considered at the August 10 Council meeting. If approved then, the amendment will go to public hearing before final adoption. Residents who have comments are urged to give these to Council on or before August 10 as well as at the public hearing.

Secondary Suites: The first three meetings of the 12 person (plus 3 alternates) committee to examine whether to allow detached secondary suites (really second dwelling units on single lots) were totally consumed with procedural matters. The fourth meeting on July 23 finally started addressing the substantive issue, with a review of bylaws in Metchosin and elsewhere. Members of the public are welcome to submit comments to the committee. Meetings are open to the public. Minutes will also appear on the Municipal website at <http://www.metchosin.ca/Detached%20Sec%20Suites%20Committee.htm>

We hope for a quiet summer – but stay tuned just in case!

Hope to see you at the Picnic!

Derek Wulff, President
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PS. IF there is a membership form attached to this newsletter, it means we have no record of your having renewed to June 30, 2010. Please consider renewing -- at the Picnic or 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!