



Representing the Residents and Ratepayers of Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River
www.opsrra.ca

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2022 | 1:30 - 3:00 PM

Camp Jubilee (Girl Guide Camp - Shirley)

Agenda

1. Introductions and Announcements - Agenda Approval
2. Approval of the [Minutes of 2021 OPSRRA Annual General Meeting](#)
3. Board Report
 - [Update on Activities](#) - President
 - [Membership](#)
 - [Treasurer/Financial](#) - [2022-23 Budget](#)
4. Election of Officers
 - a. Report of the [Nominations Committee](#)
 - b. Elections for the Board (Mike Hicks presiding)
5. Guest Panelist Susan Zedel Camp Jubilee History and Natural Knowledge
6. CRD Update - Mike Hicks
7. Membership Forum
8. Adjournment



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2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 19, 2021 | **Time:** 7 PM

Place: Zoom Meeting

Directors Present: Bill Dushenko, Diane Foster, Cheryl Wirch-Ryckman, James Gaston, Jay Evans

Guest: Mike Hicks, JdF Regional Director; Christina Peacock, CRFAIR

OPSRRA Members and Public Present: (attendees ranged 19 - 15)

1. **Introduction and Announcements:** President Bill Dushenko welcomed the members to the AGM and outlined the meeting format. He introduced the current board and instructions around Zoom.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Moved: Sid Jorna

Second: James Gaston

Approved

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting

Moved: Jay Evans

Second: Lynn Moss

Approved

3. **President's Report** – Report on website
4. **Membership Report:** there was a 4% decrease in membership
5. **Treasurer's Report**
Motion to accept the financial report as presented
Moved: Brenda Mark
Second: Chris Moss
Approved

6. **Election of Officers - Report of the Nominations Committee**

The OPSRRA Nominations Committee puts forward the following names for election at the 2021 AGM

- President: Bill Dushenko
- Vice-President: Cheryl Wirch-Ryckman
- Treasurer: Diane Foster
- Directors: James Gaston, Jay Evans, Chris Moss, & Lynn Moss

Any OPSRRA member in good standing may stand for nomination for election to the OPSRRA Board.

Elections

Mike Hicks outlined the procedures for the election. Nominations from the floor were asked for, there were none.

The Directors acclaimed at the April 2021 OPSRRA Annual General Meeting are:

- President: Bill Dushenko
- Vice-President: Cheryl Wirch-Ryckman
- Treasurer: Diane Foster
- Director: James Gaston
- Director: Jay Evans
- Director: Chris Moss
- Director: Lynn Moss

7. Speaker: Christina Peacock, CRFAIR.

7 days of food needed for an emergency situation. The island only has 3 days of food on site for the current population.

5% of food consumed here is grown here. Used to be 80%

Food hub in the region helped to get food out and distributed when the supply chain was disrupted during the pandemic. The Good Food Network provides a connection and alignment of efforts for a healthy and sustainable food system. More robust infrastructure and investment is needed in order to better create a resilient food system. Great restaurants that focus on the local food market, make a difference. Province is investing in a food hub for the region, which also makes a difference. In Salt Spring, they have a place called The Root which has a collaborative kitchen for community food processing. Global food market is well-established and funded and difficult to disrupt that cycle of reliance.

8. Speaker: Mike Hicks, JdF Regional Director

Ministry of Transportation improvements in our region has been huge for our region. Over \$100 million in improvements for the region. Roger Cell service will add 7 cell towers to provide service from Sooke to Port Renfrew as part of a recent government grant. Rogers might be able to add high speed internet to the towers. TELUS fibre is still pending out to Port Renfrew. CREST will now have better service for the region.

Due to recent BC Assessment changes, taxes for the trailer park went down but as a result they went up for the rest of Otter Point. Jordan River has had a lot of visitors during COVID from around the region, unable to solve the parking and defecating issues with roadside being MOTI and campgrounds closed. Port-a-potties in the Jordan River campground were opened as was the one in Muir Creek.

Development in the region has a new standard for approvals on projects as UNDRIP requires consent. Marina in Port Renfrew is still under consideration until consent is reached. Similar hurdles will be faced by Jordan River Brewery. Pacheedaht have asked non-residents to withdraw from the issue with Fairy Creek Watershed.

[ICET](#) is an island-based funding organization for small communities and we're the only EA in this organization. The advantage to membership is groups can apply for up to \$300,000 (matching dollars) for local projects. COVID relief provided to local governments was lamentably small given our size and population but has recently been increased. Some of the funding was shared with community halls to help with offset losses this year, more money is earmarked for local fire halls.

Decision to exclude our region from the Arts Facilities Committee and regional transportation. Neither are core to our communities and shouldn't be part of our taxes.

9. Questions from the floor

A request was made to keep an eye on maintaining and growing trails and parks in the region as OCPs will soon need to be revisited. These green spaces also play a role in maintaining animal corridors and biodiversity. Links can be found on the OPSRRA website for projects on water and other resources.

10. Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Bob Phillips

Second: Heather Jorna

8:15pm



**Representing the Residents and Ratepayers of
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Annual President's Report on the Previous Year presented at 2022 AGM

Spring AGM 2021

OPSRRA's held its spring AGM via Zoom on **Monday April 19, 2021 at 7:00 PM** with 19 members and guests in attendance. The current slate of directors from the nomination committee was acclaimed including the following:

President - Bill Dushenko

Vice-president - Cheryl Wyrch-Rickman

Treasurer - Diane Foster

Directors: James Gaston, Jay Evans, Lynn Moss and Chris Moss

Our invited guest speakers included Christina Peacock (CRFAIR - Capital Region Food and Agriculture Initiatives Roundtable), who spoke about emergency food security issues on the Island and elsewhere, and Mike Hicks (JdF Regional Director) who spoke to Ministry of Transportation improvements in our region, improved cellular tower and high speed internet access, BC tax assessment changes, new standards for Indigenous consultation under UN-DRIP (United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples), ICET (Island Coast Economic Trust) funding to support and offset operating expenses for local community project, and regional exclusion from Arts Facilities Committee and regional transportation taxes. Membership forum topics included the maintenance and growth of parks, trails and green spaces with upcoming OCP (Official Community Plan) updates.

Completion of "Welcome to Jordan River *diitiida*" Signs

It has been a long road to getting these important community signs produced and installed. They are now marking the outer edges of Jordan River, welcoming people to the area. It started with initial funding from BC Hydro and the CRD, sign post donations from Queesto, help from some very talented young students from Camosun College, and guidance from OPSRRA member Murray Tompkins who previously orchestrated the Otter Point and Shirley welcome signs for OPSRRA. This project was finally completed in spring 2021 with additional installation-donation assistance of [Totangi Properties](#) and [Jordan River Gravel](#). This will allow Jordan River/*diitiida* to stand out as the welcoming and vibrant community that it is.

Otter Point Rd and Highway 14 Corridor Improvements

Scansa Construction's shoulder-widening, repaving, and line-painting work along Otter Point Road from the municipal boundary to Butler Road was completed in spring 2021. Our understanding from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) is that they're "looking at (further) improvements along Otter Point Rd. (possibly from Butler Road further west to Kemp Lake Road), but funding has not been formally committed."

Upgrades have been continuing along the West Coast Road portion of Hwy 14 in Shirley (lane and shoulder widening, slower vehicle pullouts, slope stabilization, deformity repairs, etc.), with OPSRRA requesting periodic updates on Hazelwood Construction's work from the MOTI project manager, Mike Boissonneault, as residents await updates provided on their website <https://www.gov.bc.ca/highway14>.

The work on the Connie Road to Glinz Lake Road 1.5 kilometre realignment project has also been proceeding over the last year along Highway 14 by Windley Contracting Ltd. including realigning and widening to four lanes, park and ride, pedestrian underpass, median barrier and new road connecting with Manzer Road to the east and Connie Road to the west via Gillespie Road. Completion is expected at the end of summer 2022 along with the other improvements on West Coast Road.

Variance Applications and Land-use Change

OPSRRA has been monitoring potential development projects, variances proposals and large land sales over the past year including:

- application to the Shirley Jordan River Planning Advisory Committee to create a craft brewery in Jordan River (Jordan River Craft Brewing Company);
- proposed strata development at 4090 Otter Point Road (three homes on three acres);
- zoning amendment application (RZ000271) at 9662 West Coast Rd in Shirley to upgrade a portable home-based sawmill operation to an industrial sawmill with accessory log and lumber storage; and
- the [Canadian Horizons Property up for sale at 3799 Otter Point](#), consisting of 558.86 acres and eight separate titles associated with trails in the area.

We endeavour to keep our members informed as these projects evolve; however, if you hear anything in the pipeline please let us know at info@opsrra.ca.

Low Airplane Flyover and Noise Issues

OPSRRA has been in contact with CRD and has learned that the Federal Government is undertaking a revamp/ modernization of the airspace around Vancouver and Victoria International airports. Representatives from the Juan de Fuca EA CRD office were invited to take part in the consultation, and expressed concerns regarding repetitive training and sightseeing flights over rural residential communities in our electoral area. Although the project has been on temporary hold due to COVID, CRD has informed us that it is discussing other approaches they can pursue as well.

Federal Candidates Meeting

We successfully held our first virtual federal candidates meeting using Zoom on **September 12, 2021** with roughly two dozen participants in attendance, including five of the six candidates from the parties represented in our riding: Rob Anderson (People's Party of Canada, PPC), Randall Garrison (New Democratic Party, NDP), Laura Frost (Progressive Conservatives, PC), Tyson Strandlund (Communist Party of Canada, CPC) and Harley Gordon (Green Party); with regrets from the liberal candidate, Doug Kobayashi. It was a good opportunity to sound out the potential candidates on issues considered of particular importance to our communities including tools and strategies for resolving the climate crisis, true reconciliation with First Nations in moving forward together, and the protection of fish stocks and local orca populations.

Invasive Shiny Geranium in Otter Point and Tansy Ragwort

A communique was received from Jenny Eastman, Regional Invasive Species Program Manager at CRD, that the [invasive Shiny Geranium \(*Geranium lucidum*\) has been found in the Otter Point area](#). The province has designated this plant as Early Detection Rapid Response with the goal being eradication. If you spot this plant, then please report it using the provincial [Report a Weed app](#) (free and easy to use) or by contacting her (jeastman@crd.bc.ca or 250.360.3302) with location details, size of patch, and a photo (if possible).

Tansy Ragwort, another invasive species, is pretty, but poisonous to humans, pets and livestock. The largest concentration on Southern Vancouver Island is in Metchosin, but it has begun infiltrating the Juan de Fuca area as well. Details on the species, including photos, methods for identification and toxicity, can be found at [Invasive Species Council of BC](#). You can also download this helpful pamphlet for a full list of [invasive species specific to the CRD](#).

Emergency Preparedness during the Summer Heat and Dry Spell

Unprecedented high temperatures from climate change, our long summer dry spell, and gusting winds, which resulted in the recent devastating fire in Lytton BC in 2021, are a poignant reminder about the importance of being prepared for such events in our communities. For this reason, having a “Grab and Go” bag at the ready for any potential disasters is a good idea. Please refer to BC’s [Build a household emergency kit and grab-and-go bag](#) website for more information.

OPSRRA also reminded its members that fireworks are not allowed for any summer celebrations and hope everyone stays safe and maintains good fire prevention efforts in everything you do. With the record breaking heat wave, the smallest spark can start a fire and there is no reason to believe 2022 will be any less challenging. We also acknowledged the good folks who put out the wildfire near Mystic Beach on the Canada Day weekend. To keep an eye on fires in your area, download the [BC Wildfire app](#) for current wildfire activity.

Fairy Creek and Walbran Old Growth Logging Moratorium for Two Years.

The B.C. government agreed to halt logging in the old growth forests of Fairy Creek (1,199 ha) and central Walbran (1,489 ha), at the request of the Pacheedaht, Huu-ay-aht and Ditidaht First Nations in their traditional territory. This is also in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) which was a guiding principle behind the government’s decision. The

moratorium will provide “the three First Nations...time to develop resource-stewardship plans for their lands.” OPSRRA respects the decisions made by all parties and looks forward to the successful outcome of this process.

Membership Drive

OPSRRA held an information booth at the Sooke Applefest which took place on the rainy Sunday of September 26. Despite the rain, the event was fairly well attended and, in addition to spreading the word about our organization and its role/activities, we were able to secure five new memberships. Many thanks to OPSRRA board members, Jay Evans, and Chris and Lynn Moss for setting up and running the booth that day.

We had a very successful year in 2021 renewing 23 existing OPSRRA memberships, as well as recruiting 19 new members and four new business members. The hope is to continue our membership drive in 2022, including hosting booths at community events to get the word out about OPSRRA.

Water Survey and Issues

OPSRRA’s water survey, which started on September 2 and was extended until the end of November 2021, has been a resounding success with over 90 respondents. We are currently analyzing the results and comparing them with previous years (2015 and 2017) and will be reporting on them shortly. Although lack of water has been relatively successful in dissuading large scale development in our communities, and preserving the rural lifestyle we enjoy, climate change and overuse is causing more existing wells in our communities to dry up. This has resulted in more people needing to truck water earlier every summer as drought conditions begin.

A new organization, known as the 606 Water Group, is made up of citizens concerned with (ground) water resources in our area. Its namesake comes from the 606 water aquifer, which stretches under Langford through Metchosin, East Sooke, Sooke, Otter Point, Shirley, Jordan River up to Sombrio Beach. A great majority of wells in this large area are drilled into this single water source, in addition to a few shallow aquifer lenses; however, local officials don’t know the exact number or amounts.

OPSRRA has been supporting 606 in asking the local CRD government to examine new building permits and variances carefully to ensure that water security is protected from cumulative impacts. This also needs to be supported by 1) hydrological surveys and automated climate stations to gain up-to-date, realistic information on the present state of ground water in our communities, and 2) requiring potential developers to prove unequivocally that there is adequate water for the requested land use **before** seeking permits. If you’re concerned about water security in your community, contact 606watergroup@gmail.com for more information.

Household wells can be registered and commercial wells (including farm wells) can be [licensed through the BC government](#) which creates a record of the well being in place. Having a record, including a properly-completed well log, may prove to be important in the future with more development planned in the area. Nanaimo Regional District has useful information including a [December 2020 webinar on wells](#). The CRD is also a good source for information on [irrigation](#) and [septic systems](#).

Community Signage Repair

Some of our notice boards are aging and in need of repairs and paint, including the *Welcome to Otter Point*, which was leaning a bit. Your OPSRRA board is attempting to assemble a group of interested volunteers to survey the amount of repairs that are required and assist with this endeavour.

Many thanks to Murray and Pat Tompkins, Gerard Leblanc, Chris and Lynn Moss for removing the Welcome to Otter Point sign for repairs and to Murray for restoring the sign which still needs to go back in place. If you are interested in volunteering and assisting us, please contact director2@opsrra.ca

New Business | 2022/2023

Call for Board Directors for Spring 2022 AGM

Our annual spring AGM is scheduled for Sunday April 24 at Camp Jubilee (Girl Guide Camp - Shirley). There are also board vacancies and we need your help. Normally at the AGM, we elect our new board of directors, so if you're interested in running for a director's position, wish to nominate someone, or have any questions about being a director, please don't hesitate to contact us at info@opsrra.ca.

Fall 2022 Local Government Election

The next election for CRD Directors is **Saturday, October 15, 2022**. Every four years the Capital Regional District (CRD) conducts local general elections to choose a Director to represent each of three Electoral Areas. Our current Director is Mike Hicks has continued to serve since the last election in October, 2018. To learn more about how the CRD is governed, or if you want to run for Director, check out the CRD's informative site: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/about/how-we-are-governed>

OPSRRA has advocated for the revisiting/revision of Bylaw 2040 (as it relates to vacation rentals) with the CRD for some time and feel this can provide a potential solution that would still be fair to property owners, as well as their neighbours. We also agree that it's an important election issue and will definitely be on the agenda at OPSRRA's local candidates meeting this coming fall 2022.

Membership Renewal Process

A reminder as we continue our transition from lifetime to five-year renewable memberships, please renew your membership (if you haven't already). It's only \$10.00 per person for five years and \$10.00 per year for a business. You can do this several ways - by filling in the [membership form](#), pay online, send an e-transfer to info@opsrra.ca, or even mail a cheque to the address below:

OPSRRA
c/o 9193 West Coast Road
Shirley BC V9Z 1G3

Your board has also been exploring ways of increasing engagement with residents using FaceBook and Twitter, as well as developing a poster for local notice boards promoting new members and supporting local businesses. Thank you, again, to everyone who has already renewed!

Happy 30th Anniversary, OPSRRA!

Formed in 1992 by a group of residents who felt that Otter Point and Shirley (and eventually Jordan River) needed to have a voice and the means for people to get together and express their views about issues and events in their communities. OPSRRA is now 30 years old! Over the years, our organization has grown from a time before the internet, email and cell phones were commonplace. Its early meetings were held in one of the founder's cabins in Tugwell Creek. Today meetings are held in more public places to support a large and growing membership and community.

With its mandate to: maintain the rural character of the area, foster protection of the environment, support the values important to the residents, provide a means to lobby government officials and advocate for responsible land use decisions; it has evolved to become a strong and effective organization, as well as a respected voice for our communities to all levels of government and other organizations.

OPSRRA has a lot to be proud of, having achieved a number of important milestones and other achievements for our communities from community signage to environmental protection and community safety, and network connectivity to official community plans (OCPs) in cooperation with regional government partners.

We've also grown with the times, moving much of our operations and information to on-line platforms, including director's and other reports and information to a newsletter blog format, to keep our members instantly updated and informed. This has been primarily due to the hard work and dedication of all of our board directors and volunteer members over the years.

Happy Birthday OPSRRA! And here's to another 30 years of service to our communities and their vibrant future...!



Membership



<i>Region</i>	2021 COUNT of Members	2020 COUNT of Members	2019 COUNT of Members	2018 COUNT of Members	2017 COUNT of Members
Jordan River	31	33	36	29	25
Otter Point	288	325	335	328	315
Shirley	85	90	97	86	83
Grand Total	404	448	468	443	423

Year over Year Change in Membership

-7.22% 2021 over 2020

-4.27% 2020 over 2019

5.64% 2019 over 2018

4.73% 2018 over 2017

Additional Members (Non-voting)

21

There were 67 drops in 2021 as the membership list was updated to reflect moves, etc. from the region.

Treasurer's Report

OPSRRA Balance Sheet February 28, 2022

ASSETS

Bank Accounts	\$	2,615.68
Petty Cash	\$	252.45
PayPal	\$	18.82
Designated Project Funds	\$	-
Accounts Receivable	\$	61.39

TOTAL ASSETS	\$	2,948.34
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LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable	\$	456.30
Work in Progress - Welcome Signs	\$	35.53
Work in Progress - Community Notice Boards	\$	540.32

TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$	1,032.15
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EQUITY

Opening Balance Equity	\$	1,553.50
Net Income	\$	362.69

TOTAL EQUITY	\$	1,916.19
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$	2,948.34
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**OPSRRA
Revenue & Expenses
February 28, 2022**

	Total	Projects	Operating
REVENUE			
Membership: Personal	\$465.00		\$465.00
Membership: Business	\$70.00		\$70.00
Donations			
Interest Income	\$1.96		\$1.96
Grants			
TOTAL REVENUE	\$536.96		\$536.96
EXPENSES			
Meetings - 2 per year	-\$33.00		-\$33.00
Advertising & Promotion			
Gifts/Honorariums			
Insurance			
Refreshments			
Operations	\$158.15		\$158.15
Internet, Website & URL			
Office Supplies and Postage			
Fees	\$49.12		\$49.12
eCommerce Fees			
Society Fees			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$174.27		\$174.27
Net Surplus or Deficit	\$362.69		\$362.69

Projected Revenue, Expenses and Budget 2022/2023

Operating Revenue and Expenses

	Actual 2018-19	Actual 2019-20	Actual 2020-21	Actual 2021-22	Projected 2022-23
Income					
Mbshp - Personal	\$ 130.00	\$ 330.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 465.00	\$ 300.00
Mbshp - Business	\$ 150.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 120.00
Donations	\$ 100.70	\$ 202.25	\$ 65.00	\$ -	\$ -
Fundraising					
Interest	\$ 3.50	\$ 9.02	\$ 4.15	\$ 1.96	\$ 2.00
Total Income	\$ 384.20	\$ 601.27	\$ 309.15	\$ 536.96	\$ 422.00
Expenses					
	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Approved Budget
Advertising	\$ 104.85	\$ 124.98	\$ -	\$ 15.00	\$ 100.00
Gifts/Honorariums	\$ 31.88	\$ -	\$ -		
Insurance/Hall Rental/ZOOM	\$ 60.00	\$ 60.00	\$ -	-\$ 25.60	\$ 60.00
Milage Reimbursement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Misc	\$ -	\$ 10.65	\$ 21.40		
Office Supplies	\$ 23.62	\$ 4.95	\$ -		\$ 30.00
Refreshments	\$ 67.05	\$ 54.77	\$ -		\$ 50.00
Service Fees	\$ 5.37	\$ 4.72	\$ 6.11	\$ 9.12	\$ 10.00
Signage	\$ 43.00	\$ -	\$ -		
Society Fees	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
Webpage/Domain Name	\$ 169.75	\$ 135.00	\$ 135.00	\$ 135.75	\$ 140.00
Total Expenses	\$ 545.52	\$ 435.07	\$ 202.51	\$ 174.27	\$ 430.00
Revenue minus Expenses	-\$161.32	\$166.20	\$106.64	\$362.69	-\$8.00



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Report of Nominations Committee

The OPSRRRA Nominations Committee puts forward the following names for election at the 2022 AGM:

- President: Cheryl Wirch-Ryckman (incumbent)
- Treasurer: Diane Foster (incumbent)
- Membership: Lynn Moss (incumbent)
- Director (at large): Jay Evans (incumbent)
- Director (at large): Chris Moss (incumbent)

Vacant:

- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Communications
- Director at Large