

South of Town Events

February, 2026

From the Area C Director....

Well, I hope you all had a nice time over the holidays and took the opportunity to recharge your batteries. I know I did. I was lucky enough to get away for a day of skiing while we still had snow. Hopefully we see a change in weather soon, otherwise we won't have the snowpack that we need to sustain us through some of the drier times. Plus, there are so many people in our community who enjoy the white stuff in the back country – another one of the many great reasons to live here!

There have been a lot of conversations happening regarding the recent request by Powell River Energy Inc. (PREI) to export their electricity to the United States for the next thirty years, and there should be! This is a big deal. The two hydroelectric facilities that are currently owned by PREI and that exist within the qathet Regional District (qRD) were built to support the paper mill in Townsite. The mill obviously doesn't use the power anymore, so PREI wants to export it, but this would greatly reduce the attractiveness of the former mill site for any industry that may be considering it for new development. The local community accepted the negative environmental and ecological effects that came along with the hydroelectric facilities because the mill brought financial prosperity to the area, but if the electricity is exported, the only entity that will benefit will be Brookfield, the multinational corporation that now owns PREI. The qRD, the Tla'amin Nation, and the City of Powell River, along with many members of our community, the MLA, and the MP, have sent letters opposing PREI's request, and the CER (Canadian Energy Regulator) listened. The CER has recommended to the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources that a Licensing Procedure occur, which would include a hearing where statements can be made regarding the export permit. The decision to elevate this to a Licensing Procedure will be made by the Minister, so the three local governments have written a joint letter to the Minister requesting a Licensing Procedure and the included hearing, and that the hearing be held in the qRD so that those affected by the decision can have the opportunity to speak to it. Keep your fingers crossed.

In January we had a Special Board meeting which was initiated by our local MLA, Randene Neill. She did not have anything in particular to discuss – she just wanted to stop by to have a conversation and allow the Board members to bring up any topics of interest that she might be able to assist us with. This gesture was greatly appreciated by the Board members as it provided us with the opportunity to speak directly with our MLA, and the fact that she's also the Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship means that she has greater influence on some of the issues that are affecting our area.

That's about it from me! January and February can seem like a slow time of the year, but make sure you check the back page to see what's happening in Area C, and if you want to see what's happening in the broader community, check out qathet365.ca. Enjoy!

Clay Brander, qathet Regional District

Lang Bay Hall: On FB at langbaycommunityhallandevents or at www.langbaycommunityhall.ca

Every 2nd Sunday of the month, 1:00-3:00: Song Circle - Open to everyone - play, sing, or just enjoy the music. Admission by donation. For more info contact Pat at 604-485-5198.

Sunday, Feb. 22nd, 1:00-4:00: Games Day! - Everyone welcome to come and enjoy a fun afternoon of board games. Bring your favourite or come and learn a new one. Contact Chris at 604-223-0553 for details. A donation of \$2.00 p/p is recommended.

Tuesdays, 10:30 am-noon: Lang Bay Friends – Open to everyone - informal discussions, projects & potluck lunches. Email lghascats@gmail.com or lilian.thompson@telus.net.

Tuesdays, 6:15-7:15 pm: Yoga with Danielle - \$10.00 drop-in fee. Call or text Danielle at 604-223-9493 for more info.

Wednesdays, starting Feb. 4th, 9:30-10:30 am: Mindful Moves Yoga & More – Contact Robin 604-483-6759 for more info.

Wednesdays, 6:30 – 7:15 pm & Fridays, 9:30-10:15 am: South of Town Fitness with Paula - A fun and effective workout targeting core and lower body with a great stretch to finish. \$10.00 drop-in fee or eTransfer paulagiroday@gmail.com.

Thursdays, 7:00 pm sharp: Cribbage – \$2/player, Contact Rob at 604-578-8465 for info

Thursday, Feb. 12th, 10:30-noon: My Voice Advanced Care Planning - This free workshop will guide us through steps to plan our future health care in the event we are unable to do so. Pre-registration is required for this event. Contact Pat at 604-487-9238 to register.

Kelly Creek Community Church:

Sundays, 9:00 am: In-person Sunday services at 2380 Zilinsky Road. Also available on Facebook or YouTube. Contact 604-208-0446 or office.kellyck@gmail.com for more info.

Thursdays, Feb. 12th and Feb. 19th, 1:00-3:00: Knitters' Café - All fibre arts welcome.

Kelly Creek Community School and Youth & Family:

The gym is available for public use on weekends and some late afternoon/evening weekdays. Birthday parties, pickleball, volleyball, yoga, or whatever floats your boat. Pickleball lessons are available for beginners, families and/or groups. We have all the necessary equipment. Contact Kevin at 604-487-9925 for bookings or more info.

Thursday, Feb. 19th, 10:00-11:30 am: The ORCA Bus at Palm Beach! Activities and learning for children under nine and their families. Full calendar at www.youthandfamily.ca.