



DEPUTY MAYOR'S REPORT

APRIL, 2023



I recently reread the Town's Newsletter and garbage/organics/recycling info that came with the Utility Bills in February. There is a lot of beneficial info in the newsletter that residents should check out. And, if you know renters who didn't receive this information please encourage them to pick up the info at the Town Office.

The Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities Conference was held from April 14th to 16th in Nanaimo with the following Informative conference and clinics:

- The Evolving Roles of Municipalities in Community Health (Our Cowichan)
- Growing Farmers and Food Resilience in the Cowichan Valley (food recovery and helping Young Agrarians with land leases)
- Media and Social Media information – who should be speaking to the media and how to handle media and Facebook discussions
- Pleased that the Scotch Broom resolution passed unanimously. This will be our 6th year clearing broom in bloom from the town.

It was Volunteer Week last week and I know we all appreciate the work of the many volunteers in this community. Many beneficial projects would not be completed without the commitment of our local volunteers. A former Mayor and Council hosted an event from time to time honouring some local volunteers with a certificate of appreciation. Perhaps we can implement that again in the near future.

The Annual Day of Mourning is Friday, April 28th at 11 am at the Forest Worker's Memorial Park by the Library with refreshments to follow at the Kaatza Museum complex. I'm so pleased that this event, sponsored by the Steelworkers Local 1937, the Nanaimo Duncan and District Labour Council and WorkSafe B.C., is held annually at the Forest Workers' Memorial Park, built in 2007, by the Cowichan Lake Community Forest Cooperative. We are there to honour those who have passed away while on the job, not only in forestry, but in all areas of employment. People should be safe at work and be expected to return home safe and well at the end of each day.

The two following items should be noted:

- July 1st celebrations will again be held at Central Park from 11 am until 2 pm with music, fun events for kids, refreshments and Canada cupcakes;
- Residents have asked if we are going to do a Town BBQ at Saywell Park again now that the COVID restrictions have been lifted. Perhaps Council can discuss this at a future meeting.

Carolayne Austin
Deputy Mayor
Lake Cowichan