

## Village of Port Clements

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Port Clements, BC  
VOT1R0

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"Gateway to the Wilderness"

We're on the Web  
[www.portclements.ca](http://www.portclements.ca)

## LANDFILL HOURS

Monday -Friday 11am-3pm  
Will be open the 1st Saturday ONLY of every month  
11am-3pm

## COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Meetings are open to the public and are held in the Council Chambers located in the Multi Purpose Building at 36 Cedar Ave West Port Clements, BC at 7:00 pm.

Submissions of Correspondence and/or requests to appear as a delegation in front of Council must be made in writing four business days prior to the scheduled meeting.

Welcome to the Emergency Planning Page of the Newsletter. At the January 2016 meeting of the Emergency Planning Committee it was suggested that we create a data base of people in town who would consider billeting people should we have a situation requiring evacuation from a portion of town or from another community into our town and we run out of beds through the Motel and local bed & breakfast providers. This list would be updated annually and the information kept strictly for use by the Emergency Planning Committee. If you are willing to have your name added to our list please call us at 250-557-4295 or email [cao@portclements.ca](mailto:cao@portclements.ca) and indicate your name, address and how many people you could accommodate. Emergency Management BC allows \$25.00/person/night compensation for evacuees that get billeted at private homes.

Also discussed was the issue of people with disabilities in town who may require additional assistance in an emergency situation. The Emergency Planning Group thought we might also create a data base for this information which could be of assistance to the Fire Department or volunteers when we needed to deal with some or all of the community in an evacuation situation. This would be a self-registration situation and again the information would only be used for emergency situations and only passed along to individual(s) tasked with assisting the person in the evacuation process. If you are interested in having your name or someone in your houses' name included in this list please call or come in and see us or email [cao@portclements.ca](mailto:cao@portclements.ca) and indicate your name, your address and the type of assistance you may require (mobility challenges, oxygen tanks, etc).

Council meetings are the first and third Monday of each month,

February 1 & 15, March 7 & 21, April 4 & 18, May 2 & 16, June 6 & 20, July 4 & 18, August 2 & 15, September 6 & 19, October 3 & 17, November 7 & 21, December 5 & 19

Committees of Council include:

Tourism Committee  
Emergency Planning Committee  
Recreation Commission



Committee meeting dates will be posted on the scroller.

Want to join a committee and make recommendations to Council? Then come out to a meeting and get added to the email notification list!

Village of Port Clements

Volume 7, Issue 1

February 2016

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### EVENTS

- Mondays 3-5pm Theatre classes at the gym
- Tuesdays 5-6:30pm acrobatic dance at the gym
- Wednesdays 5:30-7pm children's badminton at the gym
- Wednesdays 7:30-9pm adult badminton at the gym
- Thursdays 1-2pm Alternate Fitness in the Seniors Room
- Mondays 2-4pm Seniors Social in the Seniors room
- Monday February 22nd 7:30-9pm Book Club in the Library

# THE LEADER

## What's Happening with Gwaii Tel

### Village of Port Clements Update

Bringing decent Internet to a relatively small population living in a remote location presents all

kinds of challenges and GwaiiTel has been working steadily on dealing with these challenges.

Our efforts got a major boost this year, when a number of funding proposals the society had submitted were successful. The resulting funding of just over \$10 million will help clear up a number of bottlenecks which currently prevent faster and more reliable internet speeds.

Firstly the funding will allow the society to increase the number of radios sending internet signals from Mount Hays in Prince Rupert to the

tower in Old Massett, doubling current

capacity and providing the Islands with a safety net. Furthermore, the funding allows the construction of an underground fibre optic cable which will bring the signal from Old Massett

down island. From Massett the cable will run along Highway 16 to the firehall in Port Clements

before heading further south, connecting with an existing cable in Skidegate. The new cable not

only contains the fibre optic strands, but also an empty channel, which will allow for possible

expansion for future services. We provide the high speed fibre

optic signal to the island communities and the local service providers will be able to use this signal to provide better service to their subscribers.

*GwaiiTel Society is a non-profit Internet society owned by the communities on Haida Gwaii that*

*supplies broadband to the islands. GwaiiTel brings Internet from the mainland to Haida Gwaii and into communities. Local Internet Service providers then provide services directly to homes and businesses.*

*Article submitted by Gwaii Tel*

## Bits and Pieces of Port Clements News

- ◆ The Village Office has a new staff member. Glenda Saruga joined the Village of Port Clements January 4. Glenda hails from the Yukon but came to the islands for a visit in November and fell in love with the islands and decided to stay. Please pop by the office and say hello to our new staff member.
- ◆ Related, the reason we have a new staff member is because Danielle Dysserinck, previous Deputy Clerk at the Village Office, decided to take a job in MacKenzie. Danielle joined us at the beginning of September and will be missed.
- ◆ By the time you read this the biomass project should be almost complete. The commissioning of the system will take place the week of February 15th and then, fingers crossed, all will be well and the Village can enjoy some reduced costs and a greener energy source. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to bring this to fruition
- ◆ from the previous Council who planted the seed of the concept to our Public Works crew and all the contractors who have been diligently working on it.
- ◆ Budget planning has begun for the 2016-2020 horizon for the Village of Port Clements. Council and staff will be meeting and working on our next 5 year budget over the next six weeks. If you have ideas you would like to have considered as a part of this process please feel free to send us a note, call us, or pop by the office and have a chat.
- ◆ The Business Façade program, a funding program offered by Northern Development Initiative Trust to promote small business façade improvement in an attempt to draw more customers, especially tourists, into local business establishments, is once again being offered in Port Clements. The program pays up to 50% of approved upgrades for businesses. There is an application process which goes to Council for approval. It is imperative that before any work begins you come in and talk to the staff about what constitutes "approved expenditures" AND Council must pre-approve the application before funding can be considered. If you are interested in more information please contact Kim Mushynsky at the Village Office 250-557-4295 for more details.
- ◆ Council is awaiting notification on the following funding applications:
  - ⇒ Engineering study for water system
  - ⇒ Playground equipment for Community Park
  - ⇒ Path extension from Sunset Park to the Community Park and then on to the Museum
- ◆ In addition the Community Hall Society applied for funding for additional renovations. 2016 could be a busy year in Port Clements!!
- ◆

### DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE???

We want to hear from people in town. If you have a good story you want to share please email them to [cao@portclements.ca](mailto:cao@portclements.ca). Articles or columns can be between 150 and 225 words. topics of interest coming up... Community Dances,

Valentines day, Easter, and Spring Break to name a few. Please refrain from Slanderous comments and should you include personal information about someone, ensure you have their permission. Our newsletter is mailed out with Utility bills quarterly in February, May, August and November and articles need to be received by the last Wednesday of the previous month in order to be included.



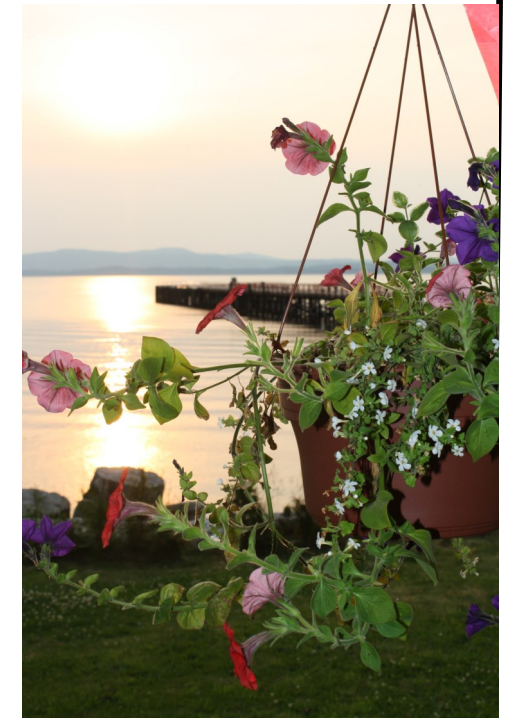
## Utility and Property tax balances

Please be advised that any outstanding amounts on your utility account as of December 31, 2015 have been transferred to your property taxes as arrears and began accumulating interest as of January 1, 2016.

2015 Property tax amounts outstanding as of December 31, 2015 have been transferred to arrears and began accumulating interest as of January 1, 2016.

Any balances that were in arrears as of December 31, 2015 have been transferred to delinquent.

Property tax accounts which have a delinquent balance as of September 2, 2016 will be advertised in the Observer for the 2016 tax sale which will be taking place on Monday September 26, 2016. Please drop by the office if you have any questions about your account balances.



## Community Events

The Grade 7 students of Port Clements Elementary are raising money for a trip to Victoria to celebrate their final year at PCES. The students and parents are being sponsored by the Village of Port Clements to do a town cleanup. The Grade 7 students will be going around town and picking up litter from the roadsides and the ditches. They will also be picking up litter from outdoor community spaces such as the Museum, Community Park and Sunset Park. The Village of Port Clements will be paying the students \$500 for the town cleanup. The Village of Port

Clements has also committed to match any funds the students raise from a bottle drive up to a maximum of \$300.00. The Grade 7 students are asking residents if they have any bottles to donate to call Jessie Fletcher at 250-557-4519 or call the school at 250-557-4333. The students will pick up the bottles at the destination indicated. If you wish to be involved in the bottle drive or garbage cleanup in any way, such as driving, etc. please let Jessie know. Thank you for your support.

On another front for our youth, the Port Clements Rec Committee is teaming up with some local volunteers to try and revitalize our teen center and hold regular teen events here in Port Clements. This is just in its infancy at the moment but ideas are being generated and logistics discussed and funding options sought out. If you would like to get involved in this initiative please contact Bev Lore or Ryan Brown for more details on upcoming planning meetings.