

June, 2020 First Edition

## HICEEC REPORT

### **Coming together in trying times**

HICEEC is participating in regular COVID-19 Response ZOOM calls:

- COVID Response Group (HIRRA/Rudy Rogalsky organizer);
- State of the Hornby Economy (HICEEC/Karen Ross organizer);
- HISTRA (Hornby Island Short Term Rental Association, [histra.ca](http://histra.ca));
- Tourism Vancouver Island Resiliency (Island Coastal Economic Trust funded)

It is heartening to witness representatives from so many organizations and local businesses coming together to provide compassionate, strong leadership. Concerns for the health and safety of all members of our community, and adherence to the guidance from the Provincial Government and Public Health Officer, has been the consistent focus of this work. And as the time comes for the re-opening of our economy, these groups will work to ensure that it is done with care and caution.

### **LOVE & PE@CE**

When the pandemic pressed the pause button on in-person meetings, it elevated social media and online communication to the level of essential services. HICEEC applied to the CVRD for a grant-in-aid to support Facebook moderators in Area A. Director Daniel Arbour initiated weekly calls with the moderators, to establish a peer support network. Hornby Island Community Connections, with over 1800 members, was selected as the participant from Hornby. Sincere thanks to Pat for his devotion in moderating the page, and to Daniel for his vision in providing weekly Zoom meetings to support this group of volunteers, along with a small 'thank you' honourarium. As Pat said, "We're all in this together, stay safe Hornby. PE@CE"

### **Knowledge is Power**

- Updated information for non-profits and individuals is at: <https://bcnpha.ca/resources/covid-19-coronavirus/>. This site has printable pdfs with information on Federal Resources, Provincial Resources, Regional Health Authority Resources, Harm Reduction Resources, Guidance for Women Fleeing Violence, and Poster Resources.
- For small businesses, with federal and provincial summaries: <https://covid.smallbusinessbc.ca/hc/en-us>

### **As one door closes, another opens?**

In February, HIRRA notified HICEEC that they would not be renewing their lease for office space, in the building shared with the UBCU. (Savoie Building). Discussions are still ongoing, and perhaps a solution can be reached. In the meantime, other options are being investigated. HICEEC'S office spatial requirements are minimal; the current space is under 200 square feet.

Perhaps there is space in another building, or an area for a small addition?

Or perhaps it is a bigger discussion. Are there people, or organizations, that need office space

and could participate in capital funding and/or paying market rent? Anyone with pertinent ideas, please contact HICEEC Chair John Heinegg, or send an email for the Board: [karen@hiceec.org](mailto:karen@hiceec.org)

### **Guide guidance**

When the “essential travel only” restriction is lifted, get your copy of the 2020/21 Visitor Guide. It has a slightly different look, and front cover social messaging, this year—thanks to Kali Wexler for the ultimate social distancing picture. Support your local enterprises by picking up your copy on site, or at the Buckley Bay ferry terminal. Thank you to Caroline Sneath for coordinating production this year.

### **Will the Wheels on the Bus Go Round?**

After 3 years of increasing ridership, the Community Bus Steering Committee was keen to keep the momentum of public transit going, but the logistics of implementing COVID-19 protocols and physical distancing, on such a small bus, have probably flattened the tires on this summer’s operations.

### **Plug Share**

Thanks to Ian Emberton Electrical for working through the pandemic and installing the new part for HICEEC’s Electrical Vehicle charging station. It is now back in service. We gratefully acknowledge the UBCU for providing the hydro for the charges. The user fee is put in a fund for capital improvements, maintenance, and repairs to the charger. Users are asked to be sure to bring sanitizer to disinfect the pump handle after they have touched this common surface.

Submitted on behalf of the volunteer HICEEC Board: John Heinegg, Katherine Ronan, Carlyn Bishop, John Grayson, Jeff Zamluk, Jim Bulmer, and Jack Hornstein.