

July, 2019 First Edition

HICEEC REPORT

Aloha!

Welcome to Jeff Zamluk, Jim Bulmer, and Jack Hornstein, who joined the HICEEC Board at this year's AGM on June 2. Goodbye to Cath Gray: HICEEC will greatly miss her professionalism, dedication, expertise, and warm smile. But we take consolation in the fact that she'll remain on the marketing committee. (Incidental note: although the "C word" is anathema to some on Hornby, HICEEC committee membership is a way to work on a specific economic project that fits your skill set, without the greater demands of board membership.

Skill Development Workshops

HICEEC brought Sarah Huebert, of the Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC), to Hornby to present a grant-writing workshop on May 24. Representatives from 12 of Hornby's non-profit organizations attended, and gained valuable knowledge on how to secure funding for their groups. (How did HICEED fund the workshop? Why, we applied for a grant....)

Another skill development program, on professional driver Class 4 training, was held June 8, and prepared seven students for writing their Class 4 Learner's License. This license is required to drive the community bus, some fire department vehicles, and any public transport carrying more than 11 people.

If you missed the Septic System Maintenance Workshop on June 9 you can still get excellent information on the topic, through the CVRD website: <https://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/septic>

Progress toward better Internet access

HICEEC and the Denman Island Internet Committee have been working to get funding for a Digital Roadmap and Implementation Plan—initial public consultation and planning that will lay the groundwork for applying for capital infrastructure funding. If we succeed, that work should start with a survey this summer. Please watch for that, and be sure to provide your input. Evidence of a cohesive, prepared community will enhance the opportunity at the "big ask"—the multimillion-dollar grant needed to actually get fibreoptic cable to every household on Hornby.

Blue is the new black

By the time you read this, the blue Hornby bus should be plying its route across the island. New for this year:

- A bike rack
- An onboard donation box
- Route changes

- New sponsors: Union Bay Credit Union and the Thatch Pub join the Jeffrey Rubinoff Sculpture Park, Hornby Island Residents & Ratepayers Association, the Coop Store, and Fords Cove Store and Cabins. We'd like to drive home a big thanks!
- Route and map are published, thanks to Daisy at: hornbybus.com

The geography of delay

With summer ferry users once again facing multiple-sailing waits, HICEEC is installing road signs, placed at spots corresponding to a full ferry load and advising travellers on how many sailings their wait is likely to be, if the lineup extends to that sign. These will be displayed in July and August. We have also written to BC Ferries asking for a live feed from the traffic camera next to the Thatch and public Wi-Fi access at Gravelly Bay.

Ambassador Program launched

The summer visitors who patronize Hornby businesses often have questions about our island. To help with the answers, we've created a 4-page document explaining basic community facts and values, and detailing business hours. It's available for download at <http://www.hiceec.org/community-marketing.html>

What else are we working on?

Hornbyisland.com EVENTS calendar, Hornby Denman Visitor Guide, participation in CAST, support for shoulder season economic enhancement, support for the Farmer's Market internet, Ferry Advisory Committee, etc.

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