



THE eAGLE eye

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**Eagle Bay Community
Association**

2134 Members!

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/1671529733082218](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1671529733082218)

Planning for the Future Eagle Bay Community Association

submitted by Cathy Wolf on behalf of the Eagle Bay Community Association

Our Annual General Meeting in July gave me an opportunity to report that several of our long-term initiatives have been completed. The Hall Renovation Project and the Emergency Preparedness Program along with our Hall Handbook have been signed off. It has been more than 5 years since these programs were approved. Thank you to our members and to the community at large for all the hard work and support that we received throughout the years. The Association is pleased that a fully renovated and emergency-ready facility is now available to our community.

As I noted in my president's report, the window for community grants appears to be closing. Over the past two years funds we accessed for our renovations have been greatly reduced - locally, provincially and federally.

As a Community Association, it raises two critical questions:

1. How do we create the financial conditions that will allow us to take capital projects going forward, such as a new roof or refinished flooring?
2. How do we create a capital reserve that pays interest beyond the rate of inflation and provides us with the flexibility to withdraw funds when needed?

To address these questions, Directors determined that going forward with an investment into an Exchange-Traded Fund or ETF con't on next page

EXECUTIVE

President: Cathy Wolf
Vice President: Brian Howley
Treasurer: Linda Lemon
Secretary: Don Loerke

DIRECTORS

Wanda Parker, Wendy Crawford, Paul Wolf, Kelly Geraghty
Robert Kunka, Geneva Whynot, Connie Hundseth

Planning for the Future Eagle Bay Community Association can't

would offer the Association the greatest chance of building capital reserves that would address capital needs in the future. A motion was passed at our last Board meeting that would allow us to invest no more than \$10,000.00 into an ETF that provided a reasonable dividend – a rate greater than our current rate of inflation. The Board's motion has also been set on a trial basis of one year so that we can report back to the membership how our approach worked. We would then seek approval from the membership at our 2027 AGM to continue with this approach if successful. We know that market fluctuations are inevitable but by investing in a highly conservative ETF such as Canadian Charter Banks or the Standard and Poor 500, we would be positioning the Association to address capital costs going forward and not let our building or grounds fall into disrepair.

Operational dollars for the hall are not in question or jeopardy. The Association keeps a minimum \$30,000 as an operational reserve. We continue to generate operational dollars through Association events, our bottle depot, donations, memberships, and grant-in-aid requests from the CSRD. Creating a capital reserve is the issue that addresses high cost, infrastructure needs that maintains the building and grounds. We do need to plan ahead and not be caught in a situation where the roof needs repair, for example, and we have to spend operational dollars to fix it.

The Board also elected Kelly Geraghty to sit as a Director for the next two years. Kelly brings a strong background in community service and support networks. Thanks Kelly, Directors look forward to working with you as we launch some new ideas and programs in the coming months.

"Five years ago, my husband and I bought a property in Eagle Bay. We had been searching for a place to retire to and fell in love with the Shuswap area and Eagle Bay in particular. Over the last few years we have been impressed with the sense of community in Eagle Bay and have enjoyed participating in the events and programs available. When the need arose to fill an opening on the board, as a member at large, I was happy to volunteer. Although I don't yet live here full-time, I look forward to participating actively in the decisions that will shape our community into the future."



Also this month, sadly, our condolences go out to Sue Nickel and family as we learned of John's passing on July 25 from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (Lou Gehrig's disease). John and Sue were both directors who played a critical role in spearheading Music Cafes. Many of you will know John through his leadership in the "Stumps" musical group, the EBCA "in house" band for two years. John's great passion for composing and performing music made an impression on all who met him. He performed on stages around the world and we pay tribute to him for his contribution and legacy to our community.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/en-ca/obituaries/abbotsford-bc/john-nickel-12980364>

EAGLE BAY ACTIVITIES

HALL ACTIVITIES

Quilting

Mon 10-2ish
Inez 250 675-4531

Crafts

Combined with Quilting until further notice

Eagle Bay Explorers

Summer Break
Kat 778-549-8111

Fitness

Summer Break
Wanda 250 675-5098

Eagle Bay Music Café

4th Saturday (except July)
May, June
July Aug, Sept
5:30-9pm



The Hester Files are a remarkable collection of Eagle Bay's history, carefully compiled over many years by long time resident and local historian

Renee Hester. Through newspaper articles, photographs, personal stories and historical records, Renee documented the people, places and events that helped shape our community.

Many of these documents have been available on the Eagle Bay website over the years, but following changes to the software used to display PDF files, a number of the documents were no longer accessible. Rather than risk losing access to this valuable collection again, we have created a Google Drive library containing the complete Hester Files. It provides a permanent, easy to access archive that anyone can browse and enjoy. We invite you to explore these fascinating stories of Eagle Bay's past and help preserve them for future generations.

The original History page on our website, which includes additional historical information and some of the featured files can still be found here:
<https://www.eaglebaybc.ca/history>

The complete Hester Files library is available here:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dV_DWVmg73Khwuq-gHKZlnhN1vigz2Ni?usp=drive_link



Volunteer Recognition Series

Our 'Thank You' postcard series celebrates the volunteers who quietly make Eagle Bay such a special place. We begin with our Bottle Depot team, who collect and sort an incredible 270,000 bottles and cans each year. It's often hot, sticky work, but their dedication helps fund the many activities and improvements that bring our community together."



Communities aren't built by buildings. They're built by people. Thank you to our Bottle Depot volunteers for helping make Eagle Bay the community we all enjoy.

SUMMER events

Only 4 tickets left online!



EAGLE BAY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Eagle Bay Fire Department Open House August 8th, 2026

EBFD are holding their annual Open House on Saturday August 8th from 11am – 2pm. We hope you will all come out and join us for a fun filled day.

Eagle Bay Fire Department Deployment

Jeremy Wozniak is away for a fourteen-day deployment to the Boston Bar area. Our Command Truck is deployed with a SPU (Structural Protection Unit) crew to the fire near Clinton. Two other members, Leon Kozak and Taryn Black, are on standby and ready to be deployed when called.

We want to thank all these members for their incredible dedication in being willing to drop everything at very short notice and go and help other FD's and communities in British Columbia when needed.

Eagle Bay Community Outreach

You may have noticed our Command Truck or one of the other Apparatus driving through the community throughout the week. We appreciate all the waves! This is another opportunity for us to spread the message of fire safety and awareness. If the lights and sirens aren't going, feel free to flag us down if you have any questions.



Recruitment

Join Us! EBFD is actively seeking new members to be part of the Fire Department. We'd be happy to discuss with you what's involved in joining. Check out the great recruitment video on the EBFD Facebook page.

For more information, call Stephen at: 250-209-2450

Fire Dept. Stats & Call Outs

Total Call Outs 2026 = 8

Two Call Outs since last reported. One burn complaint and one vehicle that went off the road.

Fire Department Personnel: 20 Firefighters, 2 Junior Firefighters, 5 First Responders Total: 27

John Edry - Fire Chief

Email: eaglebayVFD@csrd.bc.ca Cell: 250-515-4790

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EBFireDepartment

**EAGLE BAY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
Open House
Saturday August 8, 2026
11 AM to 2 PM**

- * Free Hot Dogs, pop, coffee, ice cream
- * Door Prizes for kids and adults
- * Fire Blanket Demo
- * Gear donning demo
- * Meet “Ember” FireSmart mascot
- * Complete the Firefighter obstacle course
- * See the firetrucks and have your picture taken
- * Meet our many Firefighters



EAGLE BAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

Submitted by Michelle DeFrene

“Brothers and sisters, look at what you were when God called you. Not many of you were wise in the way the world judges wisdom. Not many of you had great influence. Not many of you came from important families. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and he chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. He chose what the world thinks is unimportant and what the world looks down on and thinks is nothing in order to destroy what the world thinks is important. God did this so that no one can brag in his presence.” 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

I love these verses. So often we feel inadequate for the task that God places before us. Or maybe we don't step up when we see a need because after all, surely there is someone who would be much better suited and capable than ourselves. If I were to rent a table at Eagle Bay Day market to sell masterpieces of art, anyone that knows me would know that I don't have an artistic bone in my body and all compliments would rightfully be directed to the artist. It would be foolish for me to accept praise for something that I obviously don't have the skill to accomplish on my own. Similarly when we rely on our own wisdom and our own strengths then we are limited in our capabilities. But when we follow Gods leading for our lives He will always stretch us beyond our natural capabilities. His power is then displayed through our weakness. If you feel God calling you to something that makes you uncomfortable, or inadequate, maybe it's time to take that step of faith and allow God to use you for something extraordinary.

We are a church that loves to share meals together. This month we took advantage of the sunshine to enjoy our meal outside.



We were delighted to have a visitor that knew how to play the pump organ in the old chapel.



KAREN'S CORNER



Stories of the people, places, and history of Eagle Bay written by Karen Loerke and published in the Eagle Eye and saved on the Eagle Bay Website at <https://www.eaglebaybc.ca/history>.

Reflections of the Hamster Days

This article challenges the notion that meaningful culture can only emerge in big cities or professional venues. The Hamsters' story is a joyful romp that shows how a handful of neighbours—propelled by infectious enthusiasm, laughter, and a fun-loving spirit—created a theatrical legacy that united Eagle and Blind Bay. Their story invites us to celebrate the playful, spontaneous side of grassroots creativity and to recognize how much fun and laughter can spark a community's identity. For over thirty years, the Hamsters brought joy, friendship, and a unique artistic spirit to the region—achievements too numerous to cover in a single article. This edition focuses on their formative years, 1990 to 1999; a subsequent edition will explore their journey from 2000 to 2020.

Last summer, I had the privilege of visiting Dot Salter, the oldest living member from the Hamsters' formative years. Dot recounted her 14 years with the Hamsters with remarkable clarity, reflecting on how each production brought people together and forged friendships among participants and audience members alike. She spoke candidly about her eventual departure, prompted by difficulty hearing her fellow performers and the technical cues. During those formative years, her husband, Bob, served as master of ceremonies, captivating audiences with his stories and humour between scenes.



The Hamsters chose their name to reflect their purpose: “the oldsters hamming it up.” From the start, their shows celebrated fun—inviting everyone to join in laughter, enjoy the jokes, sing along, and delight in the onstage mishaps that made the group so special. As Dot put it, “We welcomed every flub and forgotten line, because that’s where the real comedy happened!” Their first shows, bursting with improvisation and playful energy, were based on nursery rhymes and staged each spring, from March to May. These productions had three acts and always ended with lively refreshments and plenty of chuckles. The first director, Phyllis Asay, was a retired drama teacher who fostered not only creativity but also a sense of joyful mischief in Eagle Bay. All programs were handcrafted, and the props—mostly made from cardboard—were as charming as the performers themselves.



KAREN'S CORNER (ON'T

The first Hamsters show, “The Smugglers,” was presented in March 1990 as a comic operetta, with 14+ performers before sold-out crowds at Eagle Bay Hall. Most members had little or no theatre experience, yet their excitement was evident. As one local newspaper noted, “From a nucleus of four people with musical talent, the group of twenty or so now includes many people with little or no musical or theatrical experience. What the Hamsters lack in experience, they more than made up for in obvious enjoyment.” The program listed names such as Sharbinin, Asay, Mackenzie, Miller, Salter, Pemberton, Summers, Malcolm, Sabulka, Williams, Aparvary, Hurst and Puddifant.

In 1991, the Hamsters staged “A Night at the Cabaret” on May 10 and 11. They filled the night with songs, skits, a fashion show, “Miss Eagle Bay,” and a grand finale. Dot called the fashion show one of her fondest memories. Men strutted down the runway in women’s bathing suits, lingerie, evening gowns, and sports outfits, drawing cheers and laughter as the runway ran down the middle of the Hall. Murdo MacKenzie claimed the crown as Miss Eagle Bay, and the judge had to fetch a ladder just to reach his head—he was that tall! The women later joked they couldn’t wear their outfits after the show; they just didn’t feel right. The night ended with lunch, \$1.65 beer, and \$1.50 wine. That year, Borrowman and Malinowski joined the fun as new members.

Among the songs, the Hamsters performed an acrostic they wrote about themselves, and it was a hit with the audience.

H is for the happy times together.
A is for another show for you.
M is all the months of memorizing.
S is all the sewing that we do.
T is for the tunes we sing and dance to
E is for the eagerness we show.
R is all the reading and the writing.
S is for the smiles that come our way.
Put them together, and they spell Hamsters.

In 1992, the Hall became the Eagle Bay Saloon, which featured “The Tortoise and the Hare Hit the Road,” a sing-along with Pat Payne and Helen McKenzie, and an old-fashioned melodrama, “Not Fit for Man nor Beast!”, complete with the Eagle Bay Dancers! The program announced that “Shootin’ started at 8 pm,” setting the evening’s tone.

In 1993, The Hamster Productions included an Assistant Director, Pete Sharbinin; a Music Director, Pat Payne; a Stage Manager, Cindy Maggiore; a set construction crew; a costume designer; a make-up team; and kitchen staff. The production featured three scenes. 1. “One Spring Morning,” featuring songs from musicals such as Oklahoma!, Bye Bye Birdie, Annie Get Your Gun, and Kismet (Stranger in Paradise).



KAREN'S CORNER (ON'T

2. A Comedy Satire: “Three Penny Opera,” a behind-the-scenes look at talent casting. 3. “The Elevator,” a CBC Radio Playhouse adaptation of a 1974 radio drama, staged for the stage. Dot recounted that it was a difficult play to perform because of costume demands and extensive use of props.



During each production, the Hamsters made intermission part of the fun. The program cheerfully announced, “Ah yess! Time out for libation, a smoke, or a quick run to the biffy! Hurry back because the action resumes in 15 minutes.” This wasn’t a rustic outhouse—the Hall featured modern indoor plumbing, much to everyone’s delight.

In 1994, three-act performances continued with “Snow White and Friends,” a fairy-tale spoof; “Fortune is a Cowboy”; and “Hoboes,” featuring songs such as “King of the Road” and “Springtime in the Rockies.” Throughout these years, the Hamsters radiated a fun-loving spirit—always ready with a joke, a silly wig, or a spontaneous dance. Many of the same names recur across the programs, revealing a “well-oiled machine” theatre troupe on a contagious mission to have fun and spread joy!

In 1995, the Hamsters performed “Jack, the Beanstalk and Chicken,” “Radio Jumble,” and “Neglected Husband’s Sewing Club.” New members that year were Duff, Gratton, Hill, Payne, and Woolsey. During the finale, the Hamsters wrote and sang another hit song: “We’re the Hamsters from Eagle Bay. Show us a stage, and we’ll put on a play. We won’t do Shakespeare or even Neil Simon. But we’ll ham it up and do bad rhyming.” It was a Dr. Seuss story brought to life.





KAREN'S CORNER (ON'T

There were no shows in 1996 or 1998. The reasons aren't clear, but performers sometimes need a break. Even so, the Hamsters' story continued in the years that followed.

In 1997, the group performed "The Ledge" and "Cinderella." In 1999, they staged "Housekeeper Wanted," "The Gift," and "Someday Perhaps." Programs from these years weren't available, so details are limited. Any missing information is unintentional, as these memories come from former performers and the programs that were found.

It's impressive that a small lakeside community like Eagle Bay hosted so many lively, entertaining productions. The secret ingredient? A fun-loving spirit that ran through every rehearsal, every costume change, and every off-key note. Each show showcased the dedication and enthusiasm of everyone involved, from writing scripts and songs to building props, making costumes, applying makeup, preparing meals, learning lines, and managing the stage. Taken together, these efforts celebrated community and creativity—with laughter and light-heartedness at the heart of it all. Audiences always left with smiles and stories to share.

We owe a heartfelt thank you to Dot Salter, who carefully preserved these memories in her organized folders—each brimming with notes about the shows. At 97, she continues to impress us with her remarkable memory. We also celebrate all the participants who turned the Hamsters into an annual event everyone looked forward to, whether you still live in Eagle Bay, have moved away, or have passed on. You built a legacy that will always live on in our stories and our hearts.

MOMENT OF THE MONTH

Dot Salter celebrates her 97th birthday.

At 97, Dot Salter shines as our beloved Honourary Citizen of the Year. This joyful occasion was celebrated with her treasured friends from the Quilt and Craft Club—a vibrant, close-knit circle that brings laughter, creativity, and heartfelt connection every Monday. These wonderful ladies are always there for one another, turning each meeting into a celebration of friendship and plenty of giggles! If you're looking for a welcoming place to belong, there's always room for you to join in the fun on Mondays! Thanks, Inez, for the pictures.



AREA C DIRECTOR REPORT

AUGUST 2026

CSRD AREA C NEWS

Emergency Preparedness IN AREA C, THE HEART OF THE SHUSWAP

FROM THE DESK OF MARTY GIBBONS AREA C DIRECTOR

Area C is known for its mountains, streams, lakes, and forests, but these same features bring risks from wildfire, flooding, extreme weather, and other hazards. Climate change is increasing the likelihood of hotter summers, drought, and more intense weather, making emergency preparedness more important than ever. Responsibility is shared among the CSRD, provincial, and federal governments. Locally, the Shuswap Emergency Program, operated by the CSRD, supports Areas C, G, F, and E, as well as Salmon Arm and Sicamous.

I wrote the paragraph above in my August 2023 Area C newsletter. Shortly afterward, the Bush Creek wildfire devastated the North Shuswap. Since then, the CSRD has worked to improved emergency preparation and response. Even so, the most important step residents can take is personal preparedness. I encourage every household to start with the following steps

These practical steps help protect families, neighbourhoods, and first responders. (Links on pg 2)

- ☒ **Download the Alertable app,**
- ☒ **Review Shuswap Emergency Program information,**
- ☒ **Prepare a 72-hour kit, and make evacuation and communication plans.**
- ☒ **Join or create a Neighbourhood Emergency Program**
- ☒ **FireSmart around your home.**

Question or Comments? Please don't hesitate to contact me directly
at mgibbons@csrd.bc.ca or call 250-463-1484

AREA C DIRECTOR REPORT (ON'T

AUGUST 2026

CSRD AREA C NEWS

SHUSWAP EMERGENCY PROGRAM WEBSITE

<https://tinyurl.com/Shuswap-Emergency-Program>



DOWNLOAD THE ALERTABLE APP ON YOUR PHONE

<https://tinyurl.com/Alertable-CSRD> The Alertable App will send important notifications for areas you selected directly to your cell phone. With the Alertable App, residents or their friends and family can stay informed even when they aren't in the area. Alertable can also send important messages to landlines, email, text, or even smart speakers like Alexa or Google Home.



FIRESMART YOUR HOME

<https://tinyurl.com/FireSmart-CSRD> The Fire Smart program is a service provided by the CSRD in conjunction with our Fire Departments. This is a free service, and the CSRD can also provide financial assistance through grants for approved Fire Smart activities.



HAVE A PLAN AND BE PREPARED

<https://tinyurl.com/Emergency-Plan-BCgov>

It is recommended that residents have an emergency kit that will enable them to be self-sufficient for a minimum of 72 hours, either sheltering in place or when evacuated.



PARTICIPATE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD EMERGENCY PROGRAM (NEP) <https://tinyurl.com/CSRD-NEP-Info>

The NEP is a grassroots neighbor-helping-neighbors program run by community volunteers and supported by the CSRD. Please contact the CSRD to connect with the NEP in your area, or if not active, to start a NEP for your area.



APPLY TO JOIN YOUR LOCAL FIRE DEPARTMENT

<https://tinyurl.com/Join-CSRD-Fire-Dept>

Firefighters at Sunnybrae, White Lake and Eagle Bay Fire Departments are a crucial component of keeping our Area C Communities safe. Be a Community Hero and play a key role during an emergency!



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AREA C DIRECTOR REPORT (ON'T

AUGUST 2026

CSRD AREA C NEWS

2026 AREA C GRANT-IN-AID SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES



I am pleased to report that the 2026 Area C Grant-in-Aid budget has been almost fully allocated and distributed supporting our local communities. My goal is to ensure Area C tax dollars provide the greatest possible benefit to residents. I have focused on the following as a guideline

- Funds should primarily support organizations and activities within Area C
- Preference should go to initiatives that benefit as many taxpayers as possible
- Grant-in-Aid should not be the sole source of funding or be used for
- organizations or activities that pay wages or compensation.

Community halls remain a priority because they provide space for arts and culture, concerts, emergency meetings, weddings, rentals, and other local activities. For 2026, Area C halls received \$20,000

Sunnybrae Senior Center, \$4,000;	Sunnybrae Community Association, \$4,000;	Eagle Bay Community Association, \$6,000;	White Lake Community Hall, \$6,000
Eagle Bay Firefighter association \$4000	White Lake Firefighter association \$4000	Sunnybrae Firefighter association \$4000	\$250 for Salmon Arm Secondary Golds Football helmet replacement,
Total 2026 Area C Grant-in Aid allocations to date \$33,700 invested in our communities!		\$700 for Eagle Bay Days	\$750 for the White Lake Turtle Festival



Eagle Bay (Hall) Community Association

Question or Comments? Please don't hesitate to contact me directly at mgibbons@csrd.bc.ca or call 250-463-1484

AREA C DIRECTOR REPORT (ON'T

AUGUST 2026

CSRD AREA C NEWS

SHANNON BEACH BOAT DOCK REPLACEMENT

At the July CSRD Board meeting, I raised concerns about the slow progress on replacing the Shannon Beach Boat Dock. This issue has been ongoing for about three years. After the dock was moved inside the roped-off swimming area and became inaccessible for boat use, residents raised concerns. CSRD staff later assessed the dock as damaged and removed it. Last year, I brought forward a motion to include dock replacement in the 2026 CSRD work plan and to include \$50,000 in taxation for the project.

At the June Board meeting, I requested an update. Staff later advised they were waiting for provincial tenure approval and that the process could take up to two years. This was extremely disappointing. At the July meeting, I moved that the Board write to the province expressing concern about the delay for a dock that had been in place for many years.

The Board unanimously supported the motion, and several directors shared similar concerns about bureaucratic delays affecting community infrastructure

Area C Official Community Plan Amendment No. 725-36

A property owner in the Tappen-Sunnybrae area has applied for an amendment connected to a proposed subdivision. The property was previously the subject of two applications seeking a significant increase in permitted dwellings, and neither received CSRD Board approval.

The current application proposes a two-lot subdivision separating the western 3.7-hectare portion from the eastern 8.9-hectare portion. The proposal is not currently supported by the existing Official Community Plan.

The draft bylaw would redesignate Lot 1 to Agriculture with a site-specific policy recognizing the lot size and prohibiting future subdivision. It would also redesignate Lot 2 to Rural Residential, which establishes a two-hectare minimum lot size for future subdivision. The CSRD Board supported first reading, which now begins the required public consultation process.

As this process continues, I encourage residents to review the information, participate in consultation opportunities, and share their views with the CSRD. Public input is important in decisions affecting land use, community character, agriculture, and long-term planning in Area C.

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