



THE eAGLE eye

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**Eagle Bay Community
Association**

2048 Members!

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

Looking Forward to 2026

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

Happy New Year

Directors are looking forward to sponsoring a number of engaging events at our Community Hall and Park for 2026:

March 14: Bingo

April 11: Spring Market

May 10: Mother's Day Brunch

May 23: Music Café

June 14: Father's Day Breakfast

June 27: Music Café

July 4: EBCA Annual General Meeting

July 11: Bingo

July 18: Music Café

August 1: Eagle Bay Day

August 22: Music Café

Sept 12: Bingo

Sept 26: Music Café

Oct 24: Open Mic Coffee House

Nov. 14: Bingo

Dec. 12: Christmas Party

EXECUTIVE

President: Cathy Wolf

Vice President: Margaret McCormick

Treasurer: Linda Lemon

Secretary: Don Loerke

DIRECTORS

Wanda Parker, Wendy Crawford, Paul Wolf, Brian Howley
Geneva Whynot, Connie Hudseth

Mark your calendars, get your daubers and dancing shoes ready, and stay tuned for updates to our calendar as events continue to be planned for the year. More information about each event will also be posted on our website, on our Facebook page and in the “Eagle Eye” and “Scoop”.

Directors did wrap up our 75th anniversary celebrations with donations to the community. The Community Association is please to support the Sorrento Food Bank, Eagle Bay Bible Camp and the Eagle Bay Community Church.



Tina Hysop & Cathy Wolf



Dan Sylvestre, Cathy Wolf,
Chet Fritchett



Jesse DuFrene, Cathy Wolf,
Jane Dale

The Community Association also took next steps in asking for volunteers to support Directors in opening and closing the hall during identified emergencies. Our thanks go out to Lyn and Michael Overholt, Rita Hart, Karlin and Terry Doyle and Carol Tapsay for stepping up, attending the training session, and extending support through our Emergency Preparedness Plan.

Don't forget to purchase your 2026 Eagle Bay Community Association membership - \$20.00/ family, \$10:00/single

Stop by the Mercantile, go online at www.eaglebaybc.ca or attend Community Sponsored events to register your support for the work of the Association and the maintenance of our Community Hall.



EAGLE BAY ACTIVITIES

HALL ACTIVITIES

Quilting

Mon 10-2ish
Inez 250 675-4531

Crafts

Combined with Quilting until further notice

Eagle Bay Explorers

Tuesdays starting at 10:30
Kat 778-549-8111



Fitness

Back January 6th 9:00 am
Tuesdays & Thursdays
Wanda 250 675-5098

Eagle Bay Music Café

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

Happy New Year Eagle Bay

The ladies in the Eagle Bay Craft and Quilt Club have been busy making “cuddle quilts”, afghans and slippers to donate to kids who might need a hug. There are many charitable organizations that need our help especially this time of year.

If you are interested in learning to knit, crochet, quilt or any other craft, our Eagle Bay library has a great selection of books on almost any craft you can think of for all ages.

Also in the library a good selection of recipe books, gardening, self help, woodworking and of course novels. LOTS of great reading material for the long winters ahead.

If you like puzzles, we have lots to choose from for your entertainment.



EAGLE BAY HAPPENINGS

Eagle Bay Christmas Party

The Eagle Bay Community Hall was filled with Christmas cheer on Saturday 13 December as families came together for the annual Eagle Bay Christmas Party. From the moment the doors opened, there was a wonderful sense of excitement and community throughout the hall.

The highlight of the afternoon was the Eagle Bay Explorers' performance of A Charlie Brown Christmas. The young cast delivered a joyful and heartfelt production that captured both the humour and spirit of the story. As hosts and performers, the Explorers truly shone and earned well deserved applause from a very appreciative audience.

Santa's visit was a big hit with the children, who gathered eagerly to share their Christmas wishes. Festive crafts, along with plenty of tasty refreshments, added to the fun and kept everyone smiling.

Thank you to Wendy Crawford, the Eagle Bay Board of Directors sponsor, to Santa Brian and to the Eagle Bay Explorers for creating such a memorable afternoon. It was a lovely celebration and a reminder of the special role these events play in bringing the Eagle Bay community together.



WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT CELL COVERAGE IN EAGLE BAY

By Margaret McCormick

Earlier this fall, I began raising concerns with TELUS about a noticeable decline in cell coverage in Eagle Bay following antenna and equipment changes in the area. Until earlier this year, many residents experienced fairly consistent service for both calls and data. After this work took place, coverage became increasingly unreliable, with dropped calls and limited or no data in some locations.



These changes coincided with a federally mandated requirement for Canadian telecom providers to remove Huawei network equipment from their systems by 2027. As part of this national security requirement, carriers are replacing radio and antenna equipment across their networks, including in rural areas like the Shuswap. The primary purpose of this work is compliance, not improved coverage, and service patterns can shift during and after the transition.

One important discovery during this process helps explain why Eagle Bay has been affected by work on nearby towers. Although there is a cell tower located near the Eagle Bay Mercantile, cell signals do not simply travel to the closest tower. Because of terrain, trees, and elevation, much of Dolan Road (where we live) and surrounding areas actually receive their strongest signal from a North Shuswap site rather than the Eagle Bay tower. This may also be true for other parts of Eagle Bay.

On October 20, I wrote to TELUS requesting a technical review of degraded service in Eagle Bay. That letter prompted engagement from TELUS Executive Customer Relations and technical teams, who began testing and reviewing network performance in the area.

While that work was underway, I escalated concerns following the regional power outage on December 15th, when cell service became unreliable at a time many residents were relying on mobile phones due to widespread internet outages. TELUS then conducted a detailed analysis of that evening.

TELUS has since shared its findings directly with me. To clearly distinguish what TELUS has said from my own interpretation, the following points are taken directly from their explanation.

What TELUS confirmed about December 15th

- * A power failure caused an intermittent outage at an adjacent cell site serving the Eagle Bay area, requiring an RF technician to restore service.
- * The regional power outage caused a surge in wireless traffic as customers shifted from home internet to mobile service.
- * Although generators kept the primary serving sites online, a technical failure affected 2 lower frequency bands on one site, reducing overall capacity.

WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT CELL COVERAGE IN EAGLE BAY

- * The combination of increased demand and reduced capacity resulted in a temporary network overload.

TELUS also outlined steps they have taken and are taking following the investigation. After equipment changes at North Shuswap and Scotch Creek sites, TELUS completed live optimisation work and reviewed performance data to fine tune network behaviour. They also reviewed issues linked to a component swap completed last summer on one Eagle Bay serving site and continue to monitor performance.

Looking ahead, TELUS has confirmed a planned capacity upgrade for the Eagle Bay site on Eagle Bay Road, scheduled for the end of Q1, intended to better handle high demand during outages and peak periods. TELUS is also exploring an interim option for the Eagle Bay Community Hall, including the possible use of a small indoor cell unit, known as a PICO cell.

While cell coverage in Eagle Bay has not materially improved as a result of this process, there is now a clearer understanding of why service behaves the way it does in different parts of the community and what factors contributed to the December outage.

One practical option that has helped me indoors is WiFi Calling, which is explained in the sidebar and if you haven't already I highly recommend you connect your cell phone to your wifi.

I want to acknowledge the TELUS team I worked with throughout this process. They were responsive, thorough, and took the issue seriously, even when the answers were technical and complex. My hope is that this information helps shed light on the realities of rural cell service and why it can be affected by a variety of factors.

WiFi Calling

WHAT IT DOES
Allows calls and texts to go through your home internet connection instead of the cell network

WHEN IT HELPS
Inside your home or within Wi-Fi range
Areas with weak indoor cell signal

WHEN IT DOES NOT HELP
Outside your home
During internet outages
For broader outdoor coverage

WHAT YOU NEED
A smartphone that supports Wi-Fi calling
Wi-Fi calling enabled in your phone settings

Availability and setup vary by device and carrier





EAGLE BAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

Submitted by Michelle DeFrene

"I am the light of the world. The person who follows me will never live in darkness but will have the light that gives life." John 8:12
~ Jesus



One of the things that I've noticed about living in Eagle Bay is that we seem to experience darkness more than many around us. During the winter most of us live in the shadow of the mountain, and at night year round the stars are amazing because there really is very little light pollution. When the power went out recently, my daughter and I were left in total darkness. After a bit of stumbling around, I found the matches and lit one. Isn't it amazing how even the tiniest amount of light has such an enormous impact in complete darkness?

There is a favourite restaurant of mine in Vancouver called the Dark Table. The servers are all blind, and the restaurant is in total darkness. You order your food before you go in, then you put your hand on the shoulder of your server and he guides you to your table. The number one rule is that you are not allowed to bring in anything that emits light. There are no phones or light up watches etc. permitted, nothing that will interrupt the total darkness. Your depth perception gets messed up and it's extremely disorienting, but without fail there is always someone who ignores the rules, or forgets about something that illuminates and suddenly a watch (or something else) will light up. All it takes is the very tiniest of lights to completely ruin the whole experience, that's how powerful light is. In total darkness it's impossible to ignore. If you don't want it, it must be extinguished because in the dark your eyes cannot help but be drawn to light.

In John 12:46 Jesus says, "I have come as light into the world so that whoever believes in me would not stay in darkness" Later in Jesus famous sermon on the mount, He instructs the people listening to be a light to those around them. "You are the light that gives light to the world... people don't hide a light under a bowl. They put it on a lamp stand so the light shines for all the people in the house. In the same way, you should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do and will praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)

As we see the darkness growing in the world around us, it's easy to feel despair. But times of blackest darkness are when light shines the brightest. We pray that Eagle Bay Community Church will always be a beacon that reflects Gods light. "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overpowered it." John 1:5

Verses for further contemplation: Ps. 119:105, John 1:6-9, John 12:35-36, John 3:19-21

EAGLE BAY COMMUNITY CHURCH

Submitted by Michelle DeFrene

Movie Night

A nice time was had by all
at our
Christmas movie night.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

On Christmas Eve we lit the final candle of advent. This candle symbolizes Jesus, the light, entering the world. The beauty of the symbolism is so profound. The room is in darkness, then from that one candle, the flame is passed from person to person until the whole room is bright.





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