



Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association

2730 Elk Street, Nanaimo, BC V9S 3T9

Building Block of our Community

Member Newsletter, Winter 2005

Correspondence: c/o Davidson, 2730 Elk Street, Nanaimo, B.C. V9S 3T9 phone: 756-0395

ajkdavidson@shaw.ca

Web Page: www.dbna.nanaimo-online.net

Our mission:

To identify issues affecting the Departure Bay Neighbourhood and to produce and promote neighbourhood devised solutions, to develop a sense of community awareness, and to provide a forum for neighbours to get to know one another

Executive Positions - Term May 2004 to April 2005

President:

Allan Davidson 756-0395

Vice-President:

Karen Hovestad 751-0988

Vice-President:

Fred Pattje 758-7575

Treasurer:

Kelly Franklin 760-0170 email: kelly_franklin@telus.net

Secretary:

Joan Wallace 758-8973

Past President:

Jennifer Davidson 756-0395 (non-elected position)

Non-elected committee positions

Social:

Joan Shillabeer

Newsletter & Publicity:

Reale Emond

Members at large contributors:

Rob Ward, Dave Shillabeer, Erik Warners, Penny & Dale Bent



Wishing everyone an exciting 2005!

Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association newsletter

In this issue:

- ◆ History Night report: Fascinating Ship Stories and more...
- ◆ Our February meeting:
 - Departure Bay Trailway with Tom Hickey
 - Project Reef Nanaimo
 - Linley Valley Development
 - Other Business
- ◆ Departure Bay Embellishment Project
- ◆ Helping the Tsunami victims
- ◆ Neighbourhood Issues and Questionnaire
 - Dive Association Pier
 - Hammond Bay Road Study
 - Linley Valley

DBNA FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

**Join us Thursday, February 3rd, 2004
At Kin Hut, Departure Bay Beach
From 7 pm to 9 pm**

Agenda:

- 7:00 pm Meeting summary Allan Davidson, president
- 7:15 pm Guest Tom Hickey to speak on proposed Departure Bay Trailway
- 8:00 pm Refreshment break and social
- 8:15 pm Neighbourhood Issues Update and General Discussion
 - Dive Pier
 - Linley Valley
 - Hammond Bay Road Study

3rd History night: a success!

The History Night evening of November 25th, was well attended by many locals and members.

The Kin Hut looked very welcoming with the candle lights and roaring fire. Thoughts of tea and scones made by the executive tickled everyone's minds.

Allan Davidson, Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association President, opened the meeting with a big thank you to everyone for coming.

Our keynote speaker, Doctor Julian Hancock, gave a very interesting and informative presentation on the Cadboro Ship, built in Rye, Sussex, England where he lived. Julian became interested in the ship when he moved to Nanaimo and learned that the ship surveyed the Fraser River and Fort Victoria in 1842.

Dr Hancock received a framed certificate of appreciation from Joan Shillabeer on behalf of DBNA for his entertaining slide show and discourse about the Cadboro.



The next speaker, Geraldine Manson, Snuneymuxw First Nation, was to show us some artefacts from Departure Bay and speak about the role of the First Nation in the area. Unfortunately, she was called away to an important, unexpected summit meeting in

Vancouver; As no other council member was available at the time she was obliged to go. She was looking forward to present at our event, sends her regrets and hopes to be invited to our 2005 History Night.

Chris Sholberg, City of Nanaimo, displayed the bronze plaque to commemorate the First Nations in Departure Bay. It is proposed to be installed at the foot of Bay St by Departure Bay Creek, following the completion of road improvements.

When asked if anyone would like to talk about their memories of Departure Bay, several people reminisced about their favourite times in our wonderful area. For the third year, (since the start of History Night), our favourite past teacher Laura Johnstone spoke about many interesting events of her life in Departure Bay. As usual, the audience was captivated by Laura's endless pool of wonderful stories.

Dennis Watson is a wealth of information and brought forward some interesting facts and details about earlier days of our neighbourhood.

The Deno family and Jim Harper gladly opened their treasure trove of fascinating old photographs for our perusal.

Special thanks to the executive for putting on such a delightful evening, to our wonderful volunteer bakers for the delicious goodies, to our servers, hosts, room monitors and to all who attended.

We all enjoyed ourselves and we look forward to repeating the fun at next year's History Night.

Joan Shillabeer, Social Planner Coordinator

Tsunami Disaster Relief Efforts

We are concerned as a Neighbourhood Association about the tsunami victims. Anyone wishing to donate can find information for various charities at the following website:

http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/asia_earthquake/helping.html

or at the following:

Canadian Red Cross at 1-800-418-1111 or www.paypaq.com/redcross

Save the Children Canada at 1-800-668-5036 or www.savethechildren.ca

UNICEF Canada at 1-800-567-4483 or https://secure.unicef.ca/forms/emergency_page.html

Oxfam Canada at 1-800-466-9326 or www.strategicprofitsinc.com/hosted/oxfam

World Vision Canada at 1-800-268-5528 or www.worldvision.ca

Medecins Sans Frontieres/Doctors Without Borders at 1-800-982-7903 www.msf.ca

Salvation Army at 1-800-725-2769 or www.salvationarmy.ca

Departure Bay Beach Embellishment Committee:

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING A NEW COMMITTEE?
THE DEPARTURE BAY BEACH EMBELLISHMENT COMMITTEE IS FORMING
TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE WAYS OF ENHANCING OUR WATERFRONT .**

In the process of looking at ways to embellish our waterfront; we will:

- ◆ Brainstorm for ideas
- ◆ Study feasibility (involves research and city hall contact)
- ◆ Document project(s) and seek required approvals and support for implementation. (This will include producing drawings and/or scaled models)
- ◆ Circulate a survey of project(s) to community for approval
- ◆ Presentations to public

Possible ideas for further consideration could include:

transform the outside of Kin Hut into a replica of a circa 1900 hotel façade; have the waterfront walk revamped and levelled off; paint murals on the cement part of the seawall; hire labour to keep the area clean and safe; provide free water transport to explore the bay (kayaks, canoes, etc. as it is done in Europe with bicycles); organize free community events like a monthly coffee house for our local talents to express themselves and entertain us; import some beach sand; and the list goes on!

**If your interest has been peeked and
you would like to contribute and sit on this committee, please contact:**

Reale at 760-0170 or reale_emonde@telus.net
or Joan S at 758-4355 or dshellab@shaw.ca

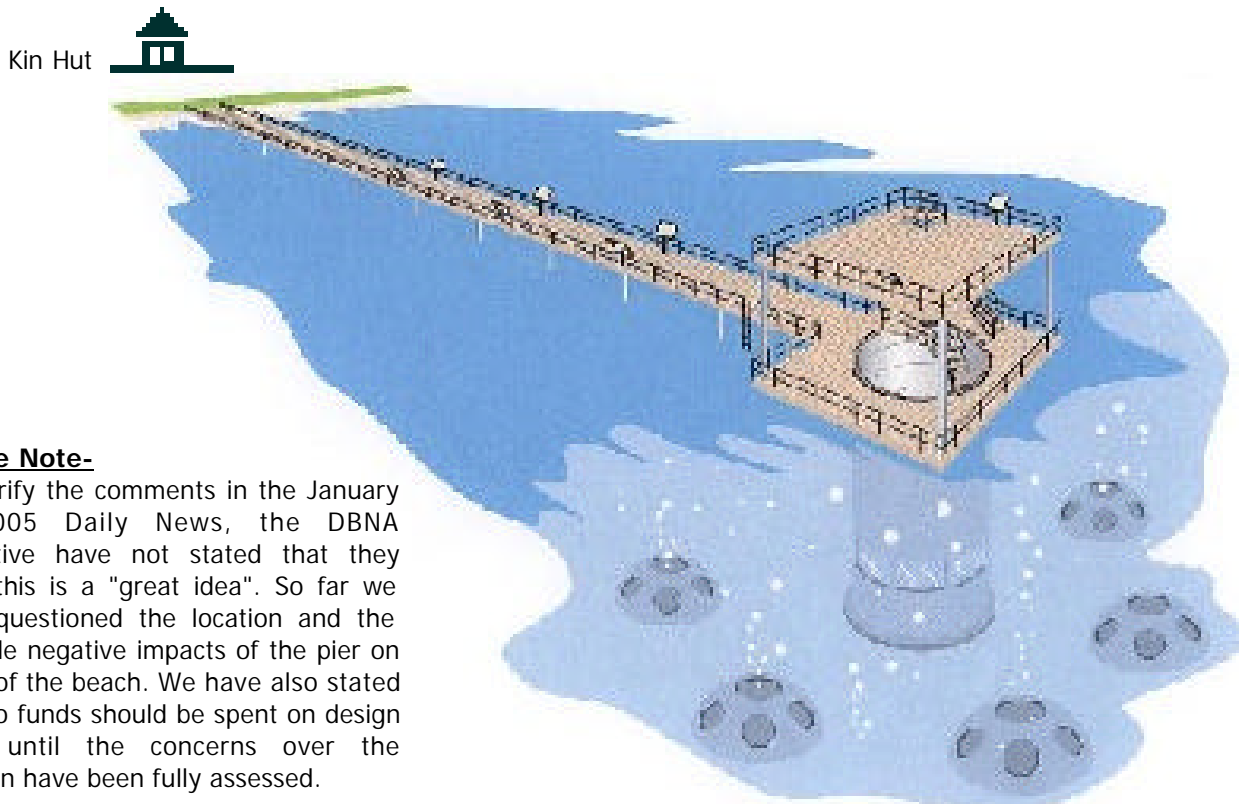
DBNA at work: your responses please!

In December, three fairly significant issues that will possibly affect the Neighbourhood were brought to the Executive's attention. We have briefly summarized these below for your information. A questionnaire is attached to this newsletter. **PLEASE TAKE A FEW MOMENTS TO COMPLETE THIS. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE GET YOUR FEEDBACK ON THESE IMPORTANT ISSUES SO WE CAN SPEAK ON BEHALF OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WHEN ASKED FOR INPUT.**

I. Proposed Dive Pier in Departure Bay

The Nanaimo Dive Association is seeking financial support and approval for a project that would see a 300 foot long elevated pier built off the beach at Departure Bay. The proposed pier would be directly in front of the Kin Hut, extending straight out into the Bay from the beach. At the end of the pier would be a vertical steel shaft sunken into the ocean floor. A stairway would be constructed to allow non-divers underwater viewing opportunities through viewing windows (there would likely be an entrance fee to access the facility). Around the shaft, an artificial reef would be created as a diving attraction. Divers would use ladders along the pier to enter the water. The Kin Hut would be used as a changing/washroom facility for those using the pier. If funding and approvals are obtained, construction is possible as early as this spring.

The executive would like to respond to this proposal before the formal presentation by the Dive Association to City Council on January 24, 2005 and welcome your comments and/or suggestions to help frame response to this issue. A conceptual drawing, provided by the Dive Association, is shown below.



Please Note-

To clarify the comments in the January 6, 2005 Daily News, the DBNA Executive have not stated that they think this is a "great idea". So far we have questioned the location and the possible negative impacts of the pier on users of the beach. We have also stated that no funds should be spent on design work until the concerns over the location have been fully assessed.

II. Hammond Bay Road Mobility Study

As you may know, the City of Nanaimo has commenced a study to identify safety improvements along Hammond Bay Road between Departure Bay Road and Prince John Way. An Open House was held on December 9, 2004. At this point the DBNA has not been asked for any input but, if there are strong concerns as to how the study is proceeding, we can pass these on to the City on behalf of the neighbourhood.

DBNA at work: your responses please!

III. Linley Valley Residential Development:

Linley Valley (District Lot 56)

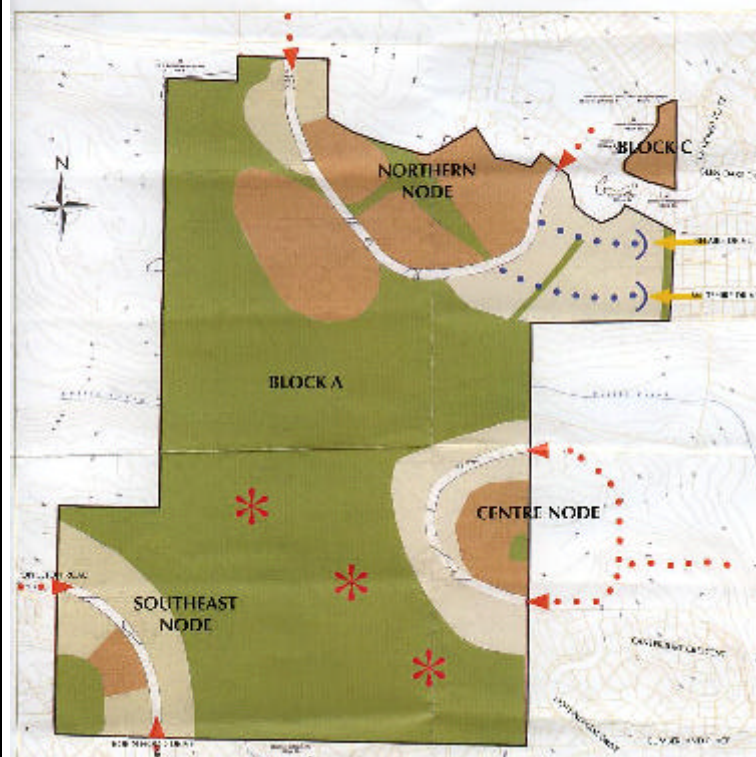
Lands and Water B.C., has submitted an application to the City of Nanaimo to amend the Official Community Plan in the Linley Valley area. This application involves a modification of the Urban Containment Boundary. The application, if approved, would see 40% of District Lot 56 (to the east of the recently purchased Linley Valley Park) made available for single and multi-family residential development. The remaining 60% of DL 56 would remain as additional green space adjacent to the existing park. The residential development would be clustered in three areas:

1. South-eastern node – Robin Hood/Poppleton - 49 proposed housing units on 14.7 acres
2. Central node – Linley Valley Road/Hammond Bay Road – 66 housing units on 18 acres
3. Northern node – Oakridge area/Glen Oaks Drive – 209 units on 49.4 acres

The south-eastern node directly abuts the DBNA neighbourhood boundary in the upper Sherwood Forest area. The central and northern nodes, although outside the DBNA boundaries, would likely result in additional traffic on Hammond Bay Road.

We have been invited to send representatives to sit in on Plan Nanaimo Advisory Committee discussions on this issue. The first meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2005. Your input will provide guidance as to what our position should be on this proposal. There will also be a Public meeting scheduled on January 27th, 2005 at 7 pm in the council chambers to discuss the Nanaimo Urban Containment Area; the public is welcome to attend.

PROPOSED PLAN Blocks A and C, District Lot 56, Crown Land



DEVELOPMENT SUMMARY

Attached/cluster housing	189 units/15.2 ha
Detached Housing	135 units/18.1 ha
Open Space	/58.7 ha
Major Roads	/ 2.9 ha
TOTAL	324 units/94.9 ha

LEGEND

- * Viewpoints/areas
- Fire access point
- Potential access point and route
- Potential internal cul de sac

**Please take a few moments of your time
to complete the survey on the next page.**

**As the timelines are fairly tight,
it is important that you provide us with your feedback as soon as possible.**

Survey on Neighbourhood Issues – January 2005

I. Dive Association Proposal (Please use additional paper if required)

1. In terms of this proposal, are you: strongly in favour neutral strongly opposed

Comments related to question 1:

2. What aspects of the proposal do you like best?

3. What aspects of the proposal do you like least?

4. What would you like the position of the DBNA Executive to be on this proposal?

5. Any other comments?

II. Hammond Bay Road Mobility Study (Please use additional paper if required)

1. If you attended the Open House, did you find it useful?

2. Have your questions/concerns been answered?

3. Are you happy with the approach being taken by the consultant/City?

4. What would you like to see happen as the next phase of this study?

5. Any other comments.

III. Linley Valley Proposal (Please use additional paper if required)

1. In terms of this proposal, are you: strongly in favour neutral strongly opposed

Comments related to question 1:

2. What aspects of the proposal do you like best?

3. What aspects of the proposal do you like least?

4. What would you like the position of the DBNA Executive to be on this proposal?

5. Any other comments?

If you require any more information on these issues, please phone one of the following:

Allan Davidson 756-0395

Fred Pattje 758-7575

Karen Hovestad 751-0988

Kelly Franklin 760-0170

Please send replies by email to: kelly_franklin@telus.net or reale_emonde@telus.net

By mail (or hand deliver) to: Allan Davidson, 2730 Elk Street, Nanaimo, BC, V9S 3T9