



# Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club Newsletter

Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club  
355 Gorge Road West  
Victoria, B.C. V9A 1M9  
Phone: 250-590-8193 (Info only)  
Website: [www.vckc.ca](http://www.vckc.ca)

December 2013

## Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club Christmas Party Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

See page 3 for party details.

### NOTICES

#### **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 7:30 p.m. - VCKC Clubhouse  
Please see page 2 for further information.

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Please come & help **Decorate the Clubhouse for the Christmas Party.**  
**November 30<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00am Hot apple cider & hot dogs will be served.

This is also a good time to drop off gifts for the raffle.  
(Santa is coming on Tuesday night to give out the winnings.)

See you there!

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The capital plan proposal on page 5 of this newsletter is available for your review. Please be prepared to comment at the **January 7<sup>th</sup>** meeting, or in advance of that to any executive member.

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

7:30 p.m. - VCKC Clubhouse

The Annual General Meeting of the Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club will be held on Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. for the purposes of:

1. electing the 2014 Executive,
2. appointing the Auditor, and
3. receiving reports from the President, Program Directors and the Treasurer, including the submission of the proposed 2014 Budget.

Further details concerning the Budget submission and the Nominating Committee's report may be found within this Newsletter. Additional nominations for the Executive may be made from the floor if there is a mover and seconder, *and* the nominee is a paid-up member who agrees to stand.

An Agenda and working papers will be distributed electronically to all Club members before the meeting.

**Voting:** You must be a VCKC paid-up member for 2014 in order to vote. Muriel Johnson, Membership Director, will be present at the meeting to accept new memberships and membership renewals from those who haven't yet taken out 2014 membership. However, you would assist the Membership Director greatly if you renewed your membership online **before** the meeting, paying by PayPal. Voting is by show of hands, although any voting member may request a secret ballot. Proxy voting is not permitted except by special resolution of the Club.

Members would do well to review the Club's Bylaws, Constitution and Policies before the meeting; they can be found on-line by clicking on the links at the bottom of the "Membership" page on the website (you do not need to log on to do this).

## December is the Time to Renew Your Membership!

Your 2014 membership, along with any boat storage and locker rental fees can be renewed in December - in fact, you'd be doing a favour to yourself and the Membership and Storage Directors if you got it out of the way before January! Don't forget that, in order to vote at the January 7<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, you must be a paid-up member for 2014.

The best way to renew - and the easiest on our hard-working membership Director - is to go on the VCKC website and pay by PayPal. Simply log in using your Member password, review and update your information, signify your agreement with the waiver, and pay using PayPal. If you are paying by cheque, you have two options: log in with your password and click [HERE](#) where it says "Pay by cheque". This generates an email to the Membership Director indicating that you have read and agree with the club waiver and that you will be paying by cheque. Don't forget to hit SEND! This eliminates the need for paper waivers. Alternately, you may obtain a paper copy of the waiver form at the Clubhouse, fill it out and send it to the Membership Director, 355 Gorge Rd. W., Victoria V9A 1M9 with your cheque.

**N.B.:** Cheques should be made payable to Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club.

This year when you renew you will be surveyed about your willingness/ability to help the Club by taking on a variety of volunteer jobs throughout the year - please remember that the Club relies on volunteer labour to get a lot of its work done. Help your fellow members by spreading the workload around!

**Rates:** Membership: \$50 single, \$70 for a family. Boat storage: \$60 outside, \$120 inside. Lockers: \$40. There is usually a waiting list for boat storage and lockers.

## Time Marches On in Saanich/View Royal

On a cold, drizzly Friday morning recently, Irena's outrigger team, Va'aa Va'aa Va'aa Boom, watched work crews lower the first steel span of the Craigflower Bridge into place from the South shore. The bridge foundations were completed a few weeks ago, and the cofferdam surrounding the north pier was removed during the first week of November. Utility installations are also nearing completion on the approach roadways, with concrete curbs and sidewalks being installed over the coming weeks.

The salmon are returning, herons are scarfing down cutthroat trout, winter sea-birds are back, the baby swans are all grown up and displaying their white plumage, the sewer pipe installation on Gorge Road seems to be nearing completion, VCKC volunteers have cleaned up the Gorge, and everything is right in our corner of the waterway. Now, if only the Olympic oysters could tell us how they're doing!

## THE "HOW-TO" ON MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Thinking about renewing your 2014 membership? Something new has been added to the online information.

After logging on using your password, choose the option "Renew membership: View Waiver and Pay Fee". Then beside your name, click on "update". This will open up a list of volunteer options. Pick the ones you would like to help with and then click "update individual".

Clicking the back button will take you back to the payment summary - just choose your method of payment and follow the prompts. Thank you for your volunteer efforts, we couldn't operate without you!

Muriel Johnson, Membership Director

## NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

### Spread Some Christmas Cheer December 3<sup>rd</sup>

December's General Meeting is given over to the **Annual Christmas Party**, although we hope to hear some reports from each of our Programs.

Plan to join Santa and your friends and fellow paddlers on Tuesday, **December 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 5:30 p.m. on. In addition to welcoming the Holiday Season, we'll be celebrating the work of VCKC volunteers throughout the past year.

Things to bring:

- Potluck food - surnames A-M bring salads or main dishes; N-Z bring appetizers, bread, or sweets
- A libation of your choice (remember to Drive Safely)
- Please remember to bring an item for the Food Bank hamper
- A gift for the gift exchange if you wish to take part (see below)
- Your wallet (for raffle and 50/50 draw - see below)

If you wish, you can place a small gift (value \$5 or under) under the tree in the gift exchange, which is optional. There will be a 50/50 draw with the proceeds going to Camp Shawnigan, and a raffle of special gift items, again to support Camp Shawnigan. If you have new, unused, desirable items you'd like to contribute for the raffle, please contact Mavis Pillar at: [pillarhetiller@telus.net](mailto:pillarhetiller@telus.net) OR bring your gift items to the Decorating Party, or to the Clubhouse before 5:00 p.m. on **December 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

## SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO VCKC

And so is the spirit of Christmas giving. Be there at the Club's Annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, **December 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 5:30 on. Bring some potluck food - remember, you're not feeding an army! - salads or main dishes if your name starts with A-M, appetizers, bread, or sweets if your name starts with N-Z. If you can't bring food, Christmas crackers would add to the festivity. Please remember to bring an item for the Food Bank hamper.

- Santa Claus will be there, and you can place a small gift (\$5 or under) under the tree in the gift exchange, which is optional.
- There will be a 50/50 draw with the proceeds going to Camp Shawnigan, and a raffle of special gift items, again to support Camp Shawnigan.
- If you have new, unused, desirable items you'd like to contribute for the raffle, please contact Mavis Pillar at: [pillarhetiller@telus.net](mailto:pillarhetiller@telus.net)

We're also using this opportunity to celebrate the work of the many volunteers who help the Club to function throughout the year.

Spontaneous singing of Christmas carols will be welcomed! Come and catch up with your friends and fellow paddlers.



## DECORATING PARTY

Get into the Christmas spirit early by joining the decorating party at the Clubhouse on Saturday, **November 30<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00 a.m. - there will be snacks, coffee, and good cheer.

## NOMINATIONS FOR 2014 EXECUTIVE

The Annual General Meeting for 2014 will be held on **January 7<sup>th</sup>**, 2014. During that meeting the 2013 Executive will step down and the 2014 Executive will be voted in.

Apart from Past President, all positions are voted on for a one-year period, and can be contested. All nominees must have a nominator and a seconder, and should be prepared to submit a short biographical statement to the Nominating Committee or the general membership. Nominations can be made at the AGM or beforehand to the Nominations Committee. At present the Committee has received at least one nomination for every post except that of Vice-President, which is still vacant. If you are interested in letting your name stand, or you know of anyone who would make a good candidate for any of the following positions (especially that of Vice-President), please get in touch with a member of the Nominating Committee:

Pam Carroll: E-mail: [president@vckc.ca](mailto:president@vckc.ca)

Bon Lee: E-mail: [pastpres@vckc.ca](mailto:pastpres@vckc.ca)

### VCKC Executive Positions:

President

Vice-President

Treasurer

Secretary

Past President

Membership

Safety, Standards and Education

Clubhouse

Storage

Voyageur Program Director

Canoe Program Director

Outrigger Program Director

Dragon Boat Program Director

Marathon Program Director

Kayak Program Director

Directors-at-Large (2 or more)

Webmaster (non-voting)

Newsletter (non-voting)

### Outgoing 2013 Executive



Back Row: Jean Chandler (Vice President & Newsletter), Maylene McMillan (Boat and Locker Storage), Darrelle Butler (Marathon Program Director), Joe Boyd (Voyageur Program Director), Ron Crabtree (Dragon Boat Program Director & Acting Webmaster), Doug Linton (Education, Standards & Safety).

Middle Row?: June Parker (Director at Large), Barbara Ambercrombie (Secretary), Sandy Rattray (House & Grounds), Ryan Ovens (Outrigger Program Director)

Front Row Anne Ardiel (Treasurer), Wendy Clapp (Director at Large), Pam Carroll (President), Roy Scully (Kayak Program Director), Muriel Johnson (Membership)

Missing are Past President Bon Lee and Canoe Program Director Dan Walker.

## BUDGETING FOR 2014

The Executive Committee spent a few hours at its **November 12<sup>th</sup>** meeting reviewing Programs' achievements relative to their budgets and objectives for 2013. The Treasurer anticipates that the Club will end the financial year in a sound position. Some Programs could not complete capital projects identified as priorities in 2013; for instance, we've been unable to move ahead on structural modifications that would improve boat storage facilities for a number of reasons. However, Maylene McMillan and her storage committee of experts (Derek Jenkins, Bob Rempel and Gord Wallace) will begin developing options with cost estimates in the New Year. This project is still considered the highest priority by the Executive. Members may see detailed information on the Programs' 3-year Plans after logging in on the VCKC website. The Committee decided to move some Clubhouse improvement projects - adding new electrical outlets to the kitchen, refinishing kitchen and bathroom floors - out of the capital budget and into next year's operating budget. (All program capital maintenance is charged to the operating budget.) The executive voted on the priority to be assigned to the remaining projects identified as capital needs for the coming year, and came up with the following list of Club-wide capital funding priorities:

Priority	Resource Need	\$ Estimate	Rationale
1	Storage - improve racks & increase covered area	\$5,750 + (?)	Increase club revenue & member benefits. Price will likely go higher; the amount will depend upon the type of structure we can build.
2	Coach Boat - aluminum	\$1,725 (used)	Lighter, safer, more power to keep up with racing boats; useful for coaching & video (all programs)
3	1 Langley Voyageur	\$11,500 new	More flexible uses. New, less maintenance. Will be useful for 2014 Brigade.
4 (tie)	1 kayak (new)	\$1,800	Smaller & lighter to match with smaller paddlers.
4 (tie)	1 Multipurpose Canoe, Royalex	\$2,500 new	Current fleet dated & due for renewal. Used for new paddler courses. Last chance to buy Royalex.
5	New Website	\$2,300 to \$3,450	User-friendly & effective. Design from scratch (with MYSQL database, PayPal, newsletter).
6	2 solo Outriggers	\$6,900 used (\$3,450 ea.)	Training boat for multiple programs - easy to learn & effective. More flexible uses.
7	Champion 10-man dragon boat	\$7,500	Would enable smaller groups to get out and race each other.
8	1 2-man or 4-man outrigger	\$3,450 to \$5,750	Allow small groups to get out. More flexible uses.
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$43,425 to \$46,875</b>	Excludes Storage \$3690 (approx.) brought forward from 2013.

### Add your Input Now!

**What can VCKC Afford?**  
 Consistent with last year's approach, spending for the above projects will be authorized only if and when the Club earns sufficient revenue for capital.

The process of putting together a budget for presentation to the AGM is still continuing; the Executive Committee will meet on **December 10<sup>th</sup>** to put the final touches on a budget to recommend to the membership in January. If you would like to comment on funding priorities, or have any other suggestions regarding the Club's use of its money, please send an e-mail to any member of the Executive (see contact list on the last page) by **December 4<sup>th</sup>** at the latest. You're also welcome to bend their ears at the Christmas Party.



## MARATHON PROGRAM

### The Marathon Program Proudly Announces: Two New Additions

Exciting news from the Marathon Canoe Program:

While having coffee at the Spiral Cafe a few weeks ago we were having a discussion considering what to propose for the upcoming year 2014, should we purchase a tandem or solo canoe?

Gord Wallace said he would be willing to sell his tandem and solo canoe to the club as a package deal. And it was a deal at \$3,000! Well, between coffee at the Spiral and the Executive Meeting on November 12, word got out... Much to my surprise the Executive voted unanimously to purchase both boats this year with remaining funds from the 2013 budget.

Darrelle Butler, Marathon Program Director

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## CANOE & VOYAGEUR PROGRAMS

### Trip Report - Remembrance Day

The Club's annual Remembrance Day paddle on the Cowichan River was a well-attended event this year. After the customary 2 minute silence at the Burma Star memorial stone, we launched 16 boats below Stoltz Pool - 1 voyageur canoe 3 kayaks, 2 or 3 tandems and the rest solo canoes. The silence was observed by about half a dozen other people - there always seem to be a few people who turn up each year at the memorial stone, and usually a bunch of flowers is on the stone base.

The water level, at 30cm/sec, was the lowest anyone could remember, and I had serious doubts about the advisability of taking the voyageur canoe down the river at that level. However, the boat and crew were at hand, so it was launched. My past observations on the river when running with the older, heavier voyageur canoes was that a level of

70 cm/sec was necessary to avoid bottoming out on some of the riffles, but the lighter Kawa seemed to manage with little grating on the bottom. Indeed, at the end of the run, there was little evidence of scratches on the hull - good route finding by Tim, no doubt.

It was a cool but not a cold day, and the sun shone much of the time. The air was heavy with the smell of dead salmon - it has been a good year for the chum run. There were quite a few fishermen on the river banks (plus a hunting party gralloching\* a deer on a gravel beach) so we missed some eddies to avoid disturbing them.

We proceeded down the river on three batches (or clusters?) to avoid too many boats seeking out too few eddies, and this worked well. We met up above the Bible Camp site, where the first group



\*gralloch ['grælək (Scot) 'grælbɔx] Brit noun

1. (Life Sciences & Allied Applications / Zoology) the entrails of a deer
2. (Individual Sports & Recreations / Hunting) the act or an instance of disembowelling a deer killed in a hunt

had stopped to investigate what looked like a crash helmet stuck in a log sweeper. Turned out to be a rescue dummy, not a body, so in relief, we stopped for some lunch on the smelly shores. So far, no-one had fallen in and the Kawa crew were gaining confidence.

There was a prolonged stop at the Splits, with many of the canoes and kayaks trying to catch the wave at the head of the wave train. Some were successful, most were not, but it was fun to try and to watch. Vimy Hole provided somewhat less play than usual - not a big hole at these levels, and only a few paddlers managed to get in and surf. The voyageur canoe tried, but it was too long a boat to be supported by the wave below. Randy, doing his first whitewater surfing for some years, managed some

good surfs before being tipped out and washed downstream.

And so down to the take-out at Vimy, where many hands made light work of carrying the boats up to the road. A post-run trip to the Oak and Carriage pub allowed a toast to the river gods, and then the drive past the Malahat to home. Thanks to all who came out - Randy, Dwight, Joe and Dawn, Phil and Dave (in a Grumman, no less), Tom, Tim M and his team of Jane, Bob, Sharon, Ryan and Megan (I think), Jay and Tim T, Barry, Peter, Todd in his wood canvas prospector, Greg, Martin, Jack and the 2 kayakers whose names I can't remember. Great to see such a mix of old hands and new hot shots.

Alan Thomson



### Up Coming Flatwater Trips

Alan Thomson hopes to run a Club flatwater trip in early December, but is uncertain of the date as yet.

### New Years Day Paddle

The New Year's Day paddle will leave from the Clubhouse. Arrive early enough to be ready for a 10.30 a.m. start.

Bring left-over food for a pot luck lunch. After the paddle the participants will take down of the decorations. As we usually do, Linda and I will provide soup and mulled wine or cider.

Alan Thomson

### Voyageur Course Report

There was a voyageur sterner's course on the weekend of Nov 16th/17th, with 10 students. All ten gained their Paddle Canada Intermediate sterner certificate and 6 also obtained their RCABC Big Canoe Sterner certificate. Thanks to Alan, Ellie, Tim, Jay and Roy for helping to teach the course.

### The 2014 Gulf Island Brigade

VCKC will be hosting its first Voyageur brigade in 2014. A brigade is a gathering of Voyageur paddlers from across the country for a great journey. They usually take the historic routes of Voyageurs past. Our brigade will explore the Gulf Islands for 6 days and nights. It will depart from Nanaimo on July 26th and conclude at the VCKC clubhouse in Victoria on August 1st - just in time for the Symphony Splash! Registration will open sometime early in the New Year. Now is a good time to start planning your next summer vacation.

For questions, please contact Joe Boyd: [voyageur@vckc.ca](mailto:voyageur@vckc.ca).



## A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF VCKC



The January New Year's Day paddle is a big tradition with the club.



February's guest speaker Maureen Duffus discussing old



In February, the hearty river paddlers had near flood conditions



In March we cleaned up. Don Munroe organized it with Tim Horton's & Waste management





In **March**, we had a huge Paddle for the Kids.  
Mavis was the top pledge fundraiser.



**April's** WUTG; a big event.  
Btw, WUTG means Wake Up

In **April** we had a Big Canoe  
Sterners Course



In **May**, we had the Switch Blade  
Race

In **May** we launched the new  
Munroe voyageur.

In **May**, we were  
still paddling the  
rivers as the rains  
receded.



### VCKC HAS A HISTORY MAN!

A big shout-out to Walt Hundleby, former President of VCKC's predecessor club, Victoria Canoe Club in the 1970's, who recently gifted the Club with a set of historical documents from the Executive's early days (yes, back before computers). Walt has kindly agreed to digitize those documents, so that the Club can start to maintain its archives on disc. Thank you, Walt!

In July we hosted the Guts & Glory dragon boat races.



In August, we splashed at the Symphony Splash



In August, the VCKC Team 'Unbalanced & Awesome' attended the Victoria Dragon Boat festival.



In September, the Outriggers had their annual Huli practise. Here are the Friday Flyers.



In October, Irena's Team Va Va Voom, is at the Bridges Race.



October General Meeting's guest speaker Rick Goner from the Victoria Harbour Authority





## VCKC Executive

### Executive

**President** ..... [president@vckc.ca](mailto:president@vckc.ca)  
 Pam Carroll ..... 250-479-8878  
**Vice-president** ..... [vpresident@vckc.ca](mailto:vpresident@vckc.ca)  
 Jean Chandler ..... 250-727-6923  
**Treasurer** ..... [treasurer@vckc.ca](mailto:treasurer@vckc.ca)  
 Anne Ardiel ..... 250.658.2442  
**Secretary** ..... [secretary@vckc.ca](mailto:secretary@vckc.ca)  
 Barbara Abercrombie ..... 250-598-7931  
**Past President** ..... [pastpres@vckc.ca](mailto:pastpres@vckc.ca)  
 Bon Lee ..... 250 477-1381

### Program Directors

**Canoe Program** ..... [canoe@vckc.ca](mailto:canoe@vckc.ca)  
 Dan Walker .....  
**Dragonboat Program** ..... [dragonboat@vckc.ca](mailto:dragonboat@vckc.ca)  
 Ron Crabtree ..... 778-430-4545  
**Kayak Program** ..... [kayak@vckc.ca](mailto:kayak@vckc.ca)  
 Roy Scully .....  
**Outrigger Program** ..... [outrigger@vckc.ca](mailto:outrigger@vckc.ca)  
 Ryan Ovens .....  
**Marathon Canoe Program** ..... [marathon@vckc.ca](mailto:marathon@vckc.ca)  
 Darrelle Butler .....  
**Voyageur Program** ..... [voyageur@vckc.ca](mailto:voyageur@vckc.ca)  
 Joe Boyd ..... 250-386-6004

### Other Executive

**Education, Standards & Safety** ..... [safety@vckc.ca](mailto:safety@vckc.ca)  
 Doug Linton ..... 250 727-0216  
**Membership** ..... [membership@vckc.ca](mailto:membership@vckc.ca)  
 Muriel Johnson .....  
**Clubhouse and Grounds** ..... [clubhouse@vckc.ca](mailto:clubhouse@vckc.ca)  
 Sandy Rattray ..... 250 386-9144  
**Boat & Locker Storage** ..... [storage@vckc.ca](mailto:storage@vckc.ca)  
 Maylene McMillan .....  
**Director at Large** ..... [director1@vckc.ca](mailto:director1@vckc.ca)  
 Wendy Clapp ..... 250 220-5787  
**Director at Large** ..... [director4@vckc.ca](mailto:director4@vckc.ca)  
 June Parker .....

### Executive Appointed Positions

**Newsletter Editor** ..... [newsletter@vckc.ca](mailto:newsletter@vckc.ca)  
 Jean Chandler ..... 250-727-6923  
**Webmaster** ..... [webmaster@vckc.ca](mailto:webmaster@vckc.ca)  
 Vacant (Ron Crabtree interim) ..... 778 430-4545

Note: the Deadline for submission of content for the next newsletter is **December 14<sup>th</sup>** 2013.

## December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dec-01	2	3	4	5	6	7
		5:30pm VCKC Christmas Party	7pm Gorge Waterway Initiative meeting		Gulf Islands Brigade Meeting	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		7pm Executive Meeting				VCKC Newsletter Deadline
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			Christmas Day	Boxing Day		
29	30	31	Jan-01	2	3	4
			10:30am New Year's Day Paddle			