



Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club

Newsletter

September 2015

Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club 355 Gorge Road West Victoria, B.C. V9A 1M9

Phone: 250-590-8193 (Info only) Website: www.vckc.ca

Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club General Meeting Tuesday, September 8, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Notices

September General Meeting

The September General Meeting will be a barbecue at 5:30. There will be a short meeting after we eat. Please bring something to barbecue and something to share on the pot luck table.

Garbage

VCKC has two bins for club use: grey for garbage and green for compost for club use. The second grey garbage bin is for the suite.

After using the clubhouse, leave recycling inside the clubhouse and take garbage and compost to the outside Club Bins in the wooden trash structure. If there is more to be discarded, have members take some home to their garbage and compost. Please rinse any recycling items of all food debris before placing in the recycle boxes.

Do not leave bags of garbage and compost in the wooden trash area or in the clubhouse. These attract flies and silverfish inside, rats and crows outside.

Dock Deck

The club is redoing the dock planking on Sat. Sept. 12th 9:00 am (and possibly Sunday too depending on how things go...) and we need some volunteers who are moderately fit with a bit of handyperson bent. i.e. can help with some of the following - pry out nails, lift planks, maybe use a saw or electric drill or hammer, measure and mark planks, put in nails or screws, etc. Please reply to clubhouse@vckc.ca

Paddle for Health -

A fundraising paddle benefiting BC Childhood Cancer Parents Association

Location: Willows Beach, Oak Bay

Registration: 8:30 AM

Date: Saturday, September 12th, 2015

Launch: 9:30 AM

See Executive News for details on signing up.

EXECUTIVE NEWS

VCKC MEMBERS AT WORK AND PLAY

Boat Rides for the Public -

Big Brothers/Sisters and Canada Day

The “maiden” voyage for VCKC’s new portable dock was at the Big Brothers and Big Sisters Picnic on June 6th. This dock, and the refurbished older portable dock, were both used for Canada Day rides. About 20 volunteers assisted on June 6th and many more enjoyed the July 1st boat rides and celebrations.

Summer Barbecues

Many thanks to Darrelle Butler and Barbara Murray for organizing the inaugural summer paddle and barbecues.

MEC Paddlefest

Rick Bryan, with the support of Dan Walker, organized the VCKC display and paddling intro at the MEC Paddlefest on July 18th. Volunteers assisted in profiling our club and providing some basic introduction to some of our paddling.

As well as being an active VCKC canoeist, Rick is the Vancouver Island Zone Rep for the Recreational Canoeing Association of BC (RCABC). His support for our sport is being felt throughout the island.

Switchblade

Darrelle Butler, VCKC’s Marathon Director, once again organized this unique race. It is a relay that involves many forms of paddling. The June 17th race was fun for those who attended and for the volunteers who made this fun event happen. And a big thanks to all those who helped out.

Guts ‘n Glory

Judy Leonard and Barbara Murray, our Dragon Boat Co-Directors, accomplished a very successful competition. Guts ‘n Glory, one of the three major annual program events depends on VCKC Volunteers to make its success.

Shoreline Middle School

Tim Marks is the VCKC member who connects with Shoreline Middle School through the Associate Group Membership Program. Tim joined the June executive meeting to summarize the Saanich Parks and Recreation Youth Development Strategy meeting that he and his daughter, Dawn attended on behalf of VCKC. Saanich is looking for ways to keep children ages 12 to 20 involved in recreational activities. Although there does not appear to be a role for VCKC in the Saanich plans, Tim did remark that

the key to success is a strong mentor for the children. Tim is a Master Instructor with RCABC and has taught, mentored and led many children in various paddling sports in Victoria.

Tim took this opportunity to profusely thank VCKC for the years of support for the introduction to paddling at Shoreline. Hundreds of children have become familiar with paddling and VCKC. He noted that due to the nature of learning, VCKC club members have kindly waited for the beach or dock to clear while students learned how to safely enter and exit our boats.

INCOME AND EXPENSES

Dock

The executive decided to reorder the capital budget priorities a second time this year. The dock boards are failing rapidly. A capital expense of \$2,500 was approved to replace the boards. Sandy Rattray is working with Alan Thomson to complete the project.

Clubhouse Security

A replacement lock and automatic door closer (similar to the basement door) is being considered for the front door of the clubhouse. Sandy Rattray, House and Grounds Director, is investigating options and will proceed if an appropriate option is found for under \$250.

Canoe Locker

Due to size and ventilation, Dan Walker, Canoe Program Director, will build a wooden replacement locker so that all items can be accommodated and the items inside can dry. The old one is very rusty and will be recycled. The cost for this: Free! Thanks a lot Dan!

New VCKC Website

Victoria Mann, our Webmaster (victoriavckc@gmail.com) is proceeding with the development of our new website based on executive input and basic approval of the look and feel of the drafted web site. The executive approved a two year contract with Wild Apricot at the June executive meeting. Merge Creative (an Alberta web design company) is working with Victoria to create our new site on Wild Apricot Web software (for small associations and non-profits). The executive approved a two-year contract with Wild Apricot at the June executive meeting. Victoria is facilitating its rapid design on our behalf.

EXECUTIVE NEWS (continued)

During design, an interesting dilemma arose. The official VCKC logo does not stand out well on various electronic screens. Since many programs have altered the colour combinations in order to display our logo to its best advantage, the executive decided that using an altered colour scheme for the launch of the site is preferable to our official logo. The official logo is a dark blue background with yellow lines. The planned launch logo will be a clear (white) background with dark blue lines.

COMMUNITY

Portage Route

The walking/portaging trail behind Shoreline Community School is complete thanks to the combined efforts of the Capital Regional District, School District 61, and the Town of View Royal. The new trail provides:

- A scenic, direct public access to and from E&N Rail Trail / Portage Park and Shoreline Drive;
- A convenient portage route between the Gorge and Esquimalt harbours.
- A safer route for students going to Shoreline Community Middle School; and
- A jogging circuit for the school's physical education program;

To complete the portage aspect of this trail, improved water access is being planned by the Town of View Royal. Executive have communicated VCKC's priority for access development.

- Our first priority is the access between 2775 and 2771 Shoreline Drive. It is much less tide dependent, much easier access, and a more direct route between the Gorge and harbour.
- Secondly, is the proposed access is at the end of Shoreline Drive. While seasonal and tide dependent, this access still has merit. Paddlers who are training for competitions across North America would use it.

Paddle for Health

This is a fundraising paddle benefiting BC Childhood Cancer Parents Association.

Location: Willows Beach, Oak Bay

Date: Saturday, September 12th, 2015

Registration: 8:30 AM

Launch: 9:30 AM

Paddlers will launch from Willows beach around Cattle Point into Cadboro Bay, landing at Gyro Park for a stretch and snack. Then they'll retrace their strokes back to Willows Beach for a hosted BBQ lunch.

Everyone's welcome...Kayak, SUP, Canoes - Outrigger, Voyageur Canoe, OC-1, OC-2 or know of a way to get a OC-6! More information on the event, registration and donations can be found at <http://www.paddleforhealth.ca>

If you would like to join the Quest for Heroes team - paddling in a Voyageur Canoe let Parm know at parmjitollek@hotmail.com to sign you up! Quest for Heroes Registration and Fundraising Goal - Registration fee is \$50.00. Suggested \$300.00 Fundraising Goal.

All donations are appreciated and we will do the best that we can to raise funds for a great cause.

It's a fun day and an opportunity to do something with fellow team members and other paddlers!

The Greater Victoria Green Team

This is the local program of Green Teams of Canada (www.greenteamsCanada.ca), a charity that organizes and runs hands-on activities educating the public about local parks and ecosystems, environmental conservation, and local food production. Some of their activities include invasive plant removals, planting native species, picking up litter, and trail maintenance (they are also open to other environmental activities as well!). They engage volunteers through social media (<http://www.meetup.com/Greater-Victoria-Green-Team/>), run activities in regional, municipal and provincial parks, create new volunteer opportunities and collaborate, helping infuse new volunteers into existing habitat restoration work **already underway** throughout the Capital Regional District.

Amanda Evans is the Program Manager, Greater Victoria Green Team. She is currently scheduling for activities to run between September and December 2015 (although they will continue into 2016), so if you are interested in working with the GVGTT this fall and winter, please let her know. They run activities during weekdays for youth groups and weekends for all ages.

Contact Amanda at:

amanda@greenteamsCanada.ca or 778-677-9078.

DRAGON BOAT PROGRAM

We have had a very busy dragon boat season. Our first summer event was Canada Day. A Big Thank You to all our volunteers. Along with the Voyageur program we raised \$1402 for Big Brothers and Sisters.

July 11th - 12th Awesome and Unbalanced went to the Nanaimo festival and earned a silver medal.

Guts 'n Glory went off as planned on July 18th. Again a big thank you to all our volunteers! Thanks to all of you we raised about \$3200 and a good time was had by all. This year we had 15 teams in the sprints and 10 teams in the 1250. We had 4 VCKC teams enter - 2 women's teams and 2 mixed teams in the sprints. Ageless warriors won bronze in the mixed division. We also had 1 mixed team and 1 women's team in the 1250. Congratulations to all our participants. Thanks for paddling in Guts 'n Glory.

VCKC entered a mixed United Team for GorgeFest on August 8th and the Victoria Festival August 15th and 16th. So nice to have VCKC represented in both these festivals again.



United Team at GorgeFest



United Team at GorgeFest
(photos courtesy Roy Greenshields)

GorgeFest (photos courtesy Judy Debrincat)

DRAGON BOAT PROGRAM (continued)

We are leaving the dragon boat in the water for the month of September so Shoreline school can use it. We are planning to put the boats away in October and are hoping to have some volunteers to help us just before the October general meeting starts.

Photos courtesy Wendy Clapp



Steven Lee helped coach United Team with Judy Leonard DB Director

Bon Lee helped coach the team

We encourage our dragon boaters to try other programs offered here at VCKC and hope to see you all again in early 2016 for the start of the next dragon boat season. A big thanks to all who participated this year.



VCKC United Teamwindup barbeque

CANOE PROGRAM

Welcome

Welcome back after the very dry and a very busy summer for Club members. A full set of canoe courses have been scheduled for this fall (details below). The Canoe Program will try to run regular, scheduled flatwater as well as once a month beginner/intermediate moving water trips this fall and winter. Details will be emailed and appear in the newsletter. As always, the river paddles will be dependent on rain and river levels.

Over the summer, Club members participated in the MEC Paddlefest, Slave River Paddlefest and did some independent tripping. Through this fall and winter, Canoe program meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month. Here again, details will be emailed and/or appear in the Newsletter.

MEC Paddlefest

Canoe program reps participated again in the MEC Paddlefest at Willows Beach this July. Along with extolling the virtues of the VCKC to anyone who would listen, we also gave rides to locals and visitors from far and wide. Seriously, far and wide - Mexico, Brazil, South Africa, China, New Zealand and surprisingly,

Australia. Thanks to Rick, Doug, Edmond, Roy, me and to Grace and Paul who came all the way down from Nanaimo to help. Thanks to Edmond and his very gracious spouse for the post event crabfest. Roy bought another kayak at the end-of-day auction, #26 in his collection, I think.

Ft. Smith trip (report courtesy of Rick Bryan)

Four Islanders made the long trip to Fort Smith, on the Alberta / Northwest Territories border to attend the Slave River PaddleFest, on the August long weekend.

VCKC members Doug Magnuson, Craig Lauridsen, and Rick Bryan travelled up from the Island, and met up with U. Vic's Gord Cumming, who journeyed down from his summer job in Yellowknife.

Over 140 boaters showed up for the four-day paddling event, which featured events for a wide-range of boating enthusiasts, from elementary school aged kids in kayaks, up to hard-core Class V hair-boaters. And everyone had fun.

Individual events included Flatwater Friday's picnic, tandem canoe race, and war-canoe race. On faster moving water, competitions

CANOE PROGRAM (continued)

included SUP Jousting, canoe surf-and-rescue, advanced and intermediate throw-down rodeos, advanced, intermediate and beginner down-river boater-cross races, the Great BeachBall Race, the International Pool Toy Race,

When stomachs grumbled, there was an abundance of hot dogs and watermelon. And for dinner, there was Butter Chicken one night, and Steak 'n trimmings the next - all included in the fee.

Our thanks to the amazing Fort Smith Paddling Club for putting together an incredibly well-run event, and to the community of Fort Smith (and our buddy Rick James) for their wonderful hospitality.

Was it worth the drive? You bet!

Here's a bunch of pix - have a look:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/116993570517460866817/SlaveRiverPaddleFest2015>

Monthly Eddyhopper paddles

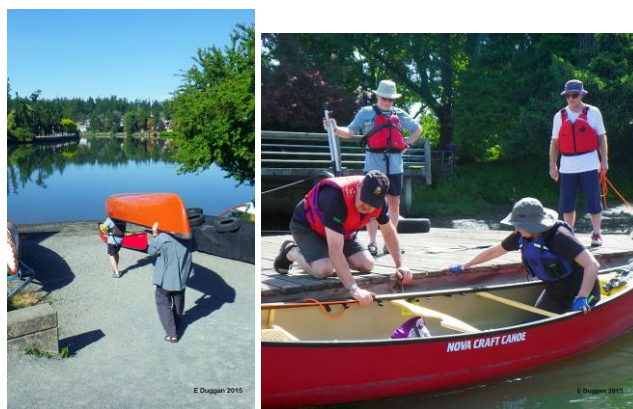
As mentioned above, the Club will be holding end of the Month 'Eddyhoppers'. What's an eddyhopper? It's a Club organized paddle on a local river for beginners and intermediates. Eddyhoppers are a chance for those who have just completed the moving water courses to test their skills. Where possible, we will partner experienced river paddlers with beginner or those new to river paddling. These paddles will be dependent on river levels, paddler skill and fitness. The Club cannot guarantee a spot for everyone on these trips but we'll do our best. Contact canoe@vckc.ca if interested. Details will be emailed.

Canoe Program Director

The Canoe Program Directorship is in need of some new blood, not to mention thinking and ideas. After 3 ½ years on the job, I'm a broken, shattered relic of what I once was. Actually, the job's not that bad. A bit of planning to do, some emails to answer, meetings to attend and a lot of excuses to go paddling. If you're into the canoeing side of things and would like to expand your participation in the VCKC please give it some consideration. With therapy, I hope to last to the new year.

Canoe Courses

Will the VCKC be offering Canoe courses this fall? Will the Sun go supernova in 7 billion years and destroy the Earth? Yes to the first, probably to the second. Those wanting to learn to canoe before the Apocalypse should sign up for at least one of the courses listed below. Please contact canoe@vckc.ca for details.



Summer Lakewater I course

Canoe Course *, **	Date	Cost
Lakewater I	Saturday, Sept 12 & Saturday, October 10	Membership + \$25
Lakewater II	Sunday, Sept 20	Membership + \$25
Lakewater III	Saturday, Sept 26	Membership + \$25
Lakewater IV	Saturday, October 3	Membership + \$25
Moving Water I	(2 day course) Saturday-Sunday, October 24-25 th	Membership + \$100
Moving Water II	(2 day course) Saturday-Sunday, October 17-18 th	Membership + \$100

*an Ocean Canoeing course may be organized dependent on interest and instructor availability. Please contact Canoe@VCKC.ca if interested.

**Canoe course details can be found at <http://www.bccanoe.com/>

CANOE PROGRAM (continued)

June Lakewater Canoe Courses (courtesy of Edward Duggan)



VCKC Executive

Officers

President
 Jean Chandler
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 250 727-6923
Vice-president
 Linda Thomson, interim
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Treasurer
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Secretary
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Program Directors

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Kayak Program
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Outrigger Program
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Marathon Canoe Program
 Darrelle Butler
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Voyageur Program
 Joe Boyd
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 250 386-6004

Other Executive

Education, Standards & Safety
 Ellie James
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Membership
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Clubhouse and Grounds (maintenance)
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 250 386-9144
Boat & Locker Storage
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Director at Large (social)
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Director at Large (events& volunteers)
 Ryan Ovens
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Executive Appointed Positions

Newsletter Editor
 Maylene McMillan
newsletter@vckc.ca
Webmaster
 Victoria Mann
webmaster@vckc.ca

**Note: The next deadline for submissions
for the newsletter is September 18th.**

September 2015

VCKC Events

Today ◀ ▶ September 2015 ▼

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	Sep 1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 7:30pm VCKC Gener	9	10	11	12 Portland Dragon B 8:30am Lakewater I 6pm VCKC Unbalan
13 Portland Dragon B	14	15 7pm Executive Meet	16 7pm GWI Meeting	17	18 VCKC Newsletter D	19
20 8:30am Lakewater I	21 5pm Canoe Program	22	23	24	25	26 8:30am LW III
27 8:30am Surf Ski and	28 8am Big Canoe Ster	29 8am Big Canoe Ster	30	Oct 1	2	3 ORPC Bridges Rac 8:30am LW IV Cours

Events shown in time zone: Pacific Time - Vancouver
 Google Calendar