



Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club

Newsletter

January 2018

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

Dates to Remember

Time Renew VCKC Membership and Pay for Storage

Annual VCKC New Year's Day Paddle: 10:30 am on January 1st. Bring your own boat or paddle in one of our big boats (Outrigger, Dragon Boat, Voyageur) Pot luck to follow

VCKC's Annual General Meeting: The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday January 9th. which is the second Tuesday in January. Elections for the 2018 Executive will be held at the AGM

Paddle for the Kids 2018 Saturday is March 24th, kick-off paddle and brunch is February 11th

~ NB: See calendar item on website for details; meet at the clubhouse unless noted otherwise

President's Message

It was another full house at this year's Christmas Party. We changed things up with Christmas lights parade using our boats on the Gorge before dinner time. The club had one of each type of boat (Canoe, Kayak, Dragon Boat, Marathon, Voyageur, Outrigger) out on the water fully lit and decorated as the neighbours cheered us on. The parade was followed by our traditional potluck as we enjoyed an opportunity to sit relax, chat and reflect on our club year. The 50/50 draw and hot chocolate donations raised \$210 for Victoria Cool Aid Society and Citizens Counselling Centre. Many thanks to Darrelle Butler for the excellent idea and for organizing the event.

It has been an interesting and enjoyable year as President. I have certainly learned a lot about how our programs interconnect and how they engage the community. A big thank you to all who pitched to help run the club and make it the success that it is. I would also like to thank the Executive who have taken extra responsibilities for running VCKC. Some will be stepping down, others will be working on behalf of members in 2018. A big thank you to all and I look forward to celebrating VCKC's 50th Anniversary with you in 2018.

Joe Boyd, President

EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS FOR 2018

The AGM is on January 9th.

All Executive positions are for one year and are eligible for voting at the next AGM in January 2018. The expectation of the Vice-President is that the person will carry on to president, but it is a one-year position.

Some of the current Executive would like to continue, but if anyone is interested in a particular position or would like to come onto the Executive as a Director at Large for a year and learn how the Executive functions, please contact Linda Thomson at pastpres@vckc.ca phone: 250-592 4170, or any other member of the Executive.

If you know of anyone whom you think would be interested or you would recommend for a position, again, please let us know. Positions can be shared, as is the case at the moment in the Dragonboat Program, although the position will still have just one vote.

Meanwhile, come to one of the next Executive meetings and observe. All meetings are open to a club member.

AGM: Key items are

1. Everyone must be a paid up member to vote, so renew one's membership on-line beforehand or come early to renew it at the meeting.
2. Items on the agenda will include approval of 2017AGM, review of 2017 financial statements and approval of 2018 budget.
3. There will also be nominations and election of VCKC's 2018 Executive. All Executive positions, apart from that Past President, are up for election.

Voyageur Director Update

37th Annual Voyageur Paddle for the Kids – March 28, 2018

Planning for the 2018 ***Peninsula Paddle for the Kids*** is getting under way. This annual fundraising event at VCKC is in support of the Lions Society Children's Charities. While Camp Shawnigan will be closed this year, the Lion's Society continues to provide needed support to families with sick children throughout BC. Funds raised by the club help the Lions Society operate the facility for children and families with special needs.

The route follows the shore of the Saanich Peninsula from Brentwood Bay to the Clubhouse. We paddle Voyageur canoes with two teams of 6 or 7 per boat. Each team paddles up to 2 hours and then switches off with another team. The whole trip is about 40 miles and takes 10-12 hours to complete. Bus transportation, great food, and a warm dry rest area are provided by the local Lions Club. It all makes for a great day of paddling for a good cause.

The paddle will take place this year on **Saturday March 24th**. There will be 7 practice paddles leading up to that date. Practice paddles can be the best part of the program. You can expect an adventure on every outing.

Practice Trips and Dates

Sundays February 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th

Sundays March 4th, 11th and 18th

All trips but the first two will start by meeting at the Clubhouse at 8:30am where ride shares and boat towing are arranged. Please bring a paddle, PFD, dry bag, dry clothes, weather-appropriate clothing, food, and water.


This program is open to all VCKC members. If you can't paddle with us, please remember to help support Lions Society Charities.

~ Tim Marks, Acting Voyageur Director

Canoe Director Update

The club received an early Christmas present when Ken Gibbard decided to donate his Mad River Courier solo ww canoe to the club. Speaking of new things, we have also purchased ten more long metal paddles for classes and club trips. Our previous selection was short on the longer paddles. Over the Christmas break we should have them painted with VCKC so they can join the selection at the clubhouse. Sometimes new things become older looking... the newest club Clipper Prospector had a violent meeting with a tree on the Sooke River during an Eddie Hopper. I guess its good to know that you can wrap a Clipper Duraflex canoe around a tree and still paddle it off the river, or at least across. Dan, Alan and Ken have been working on restoring the canoe. It should be good as new, but just not look as pretty it used to be. We should be able to let you know by the next newsletter.

- David



The BC Marine Trails Network (BCMTN) was incorporated in 2009 with the support of nine paddling clubs and a core group of directors. They began the massive task of inventorying potential sites along the entire BC coastline now estimated at 3100 sites. In 2011 two new trails—Gulf Islands and the West Coast North Trail—opened with a celebration coordinated by Stephanie Meinke and Paul Grey at Ladysmith's Transfer Beach.

In 2015 the BCMTNA announced the opening of the Sea to Sky Marine Trail with financing help from the Trans Canada Trail and support from Recreation Sites and Trails BC. Today, bear boxes and signage have been installed. The sites are now

maintained by the Sea Kayak Association of BC. Later in 2015, the BCMTNA started a membership program which has grown to over 500 members at the end of 2017. Members are provided amazing tools and benefits to help plan their trips.

The stewardship committee has conducted some important clean ups from 2014 – 2017 including removal of tonnes of debris from the West Coast of Vancouver Island, clean up of Chained and Gerald Islands.

In 2016, the BCMTNA started the Salish Sea Marine Trail (SSMT) project and continued work on the development of several documents including a Master Plan, signage documents, and the BC Ferries Walk On/Paddle Away paper. In the same year, the BCMTNA received charitable status.

2017 marked several successes including the completion of the SSMT (some work still to be done) and a great celebration on Newcastle Island with the Snuneymuxw. As well several new recreation sites have been established in the Discovery Islands. This took a number of years and persistent follow-up to establish new rec and new reserve campsites. The BCMTNA is currently working with BC Parks on a new provincial marine (trails) strategy. We are marching ahead with new and innovative ideas on creating trails, directed by a strong board of directors and committee members!

VCKC continues to support VCKC as a member and with a club representative to BCMTN. Alan Thomson, Roy Scully and now Jean Chandler have represented VCKC and supported the BCMTN. A number of VCKC members are also members of BCMTN. Benefits of membership include extensive information useful when planning a trip on the BC coastline and opportunities to participate in stewardship of campsites in the network. See <https://www.bcmarinetrails.org> for more information on BCMTN.

- **Jean Chandler, VCKC representative to the BCMTN.**

Learn more about Cuthbert Homes Park at <http://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/parks-recreation-culture/parks/parks-trails-amenities/signature-parks/cuthbert-holmes-park.html#fish>. Scroll down to read about paddling in the park.



Dragon Boat Director Update

We are pleased to say that both of us are returning as co-directors of the Dragon Boat program and are excited for the upcoming race season!

We are in need of coaches and steer people. Please consider donating your time- twice a week. Our program can't run without these valuable positions being filled. Please contact us for more information. It would be good to have some new faces to share in the fun and to share their knowledge and experience of this racing sport.

In addition to our returning women's team, we have some interest in forming a mixed team and we need more men and ladies to make this happen. Contact us if you have an inner dragon that you would like to unleash. No experience necessary. Just a desire to learn, race and play/paddle well with others

In recent years, the team typically partakes in 5 festivals (4 in Victoria and 1 in Nanaimo). This year, in addition to, there seems to be a "buzz" on getting to Portland for the Rose Festival Dragon boat races.

We will have a "Kick-Off" meeting in February and "Learn to Paddle" sessions in March. Dates TBA. Just let us know if you are interested and we can keep you posted on any new developments.

Paddles UP!



Paula Gough and Kim Capson
Co-Directors VCKC Dragon Boat Progr

2017 Christmas Party





January 2018 Events Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	Jan 1 10:00 AM Annual VCKC New Year's Day Paddle	2	3	4 7:00 PM Haida Gwaii Meeting	5	6
7	8	9 7:30 PM Annual General Meeting	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 7:00 PM Executive Meeting	17 7:00 PM GWI Steering Committee Meeting	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3

Club Contact Information

Officers

President	president@vckc.ca
Joe Boyd	
Vice-president	vpresident@vckc.ca
Tim Marks	
Treasurer	treasurer@vckc.ca
Mark Sondheim	
Secretary	secretary@vckc.ca
Hélène Poulin	
Past President	pastpres@vckc.ca
Linda Thomson	

Program Directors

Canoe Program	canoe@vckc.ca
David Dorosz	
Dragonboat Program	dragonboat@vckc.ca
Paula Gough & Kim Capson	
Kayak Program	kayak@vckc.ca
Roy Scully	
Outrigger Program	outrigger@vckc.ca
Jennifer Yee	
Marathon Canoe Program	marathon@vckc.ca
Darrelle Butler	
Voyageur Program	voyageur@vckc.ca
James (Phil) McEvoy	

Other Executive

Education, Standards & Safety	safety@vckc.ca
Ken Gibbard	
Membership	membership@vckc.ca
Muriel Johnson	
Clubhouse and Grounds	
(maintenance)	clubhouse@vckc.ca
Sandy Rattray	
Boat & Locker Storage	storage@vckc.ca
Arthur Caldicott	
Director at Large (social)	director1@vckc.ca
Jean Chandler	
Director at Large	
(events& volunteers)	director2@vckc.ca
Jennifer Yee	
Director at Large	
(events& volunteers)	director3@vckc.ca
Bill Buckley	

Executive Appointed Positions

Newsletter Editor	newsletter@vckc.ca
Susan Logan	
Webmaster	webmaster@vckc.ca
Arthur Caldicott	