



Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club

Newsletter

February 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

Feb 4th: Voyageur Program Open Day, 9:30 – 11:00 am – Non-members welcome
Feb 6th: General meeting 7:30 – Presentation by the BC Marine Trails Network Association
Feb 7th: – 7pm Dragonboat Program **Kick-Off meeting**
Feb 11th: Paddle for the Kids Kick-off and Breakfast, 9:30 am to 1 pm
February 18th and 25th from 9:00 to 9:45 am: Marathon Canoe Clinic
Feb 21 & 22: VHF radio course
February 24th and March 3rd from 11:00 to 11:45: Marathon Canoe Clinic
March 17th & 24th: 12:30-2:00: **"Learn to Paddle"**
March 24th – **Paddle for the Kids**
Save the Date: Saturday September 15th – VCKC 50th Year Anniversary Celebration
Please check website for details of events

President's Report

The 2018 VCKC Executive had their first meeting of the year on January 16th. Most members from 2017 are staying on for this year. This is a dedicated group of members who put in extra time and effort to ensure we continue to run the variety of programs and events that make this a great club. I would like to thank outgoing Executive **Darrelle Butler** who served as Marathon Director since 2012, and **Jennifer Yee**, who has served many years as vice president, Director at Large, and interim outrigger Director. A special thanks also to **Ralph Rossman**, who ran a very successful Wake-up-the-Gorge, and **Phil McEvoy**, who set a new standard for running Paddle for the Kids. Finally, I could not have stayed organized last year without the help of **Helene Pouline** as club Secretary. I will miss working with all of you.

A special welcome to our new Executive members:

- Tony Hopkin (Outrigger)
- Ryan Mader (Marathon)
- Mary Marks (Voyageur)
- Linda Hall (Kayak)
- Susan Logan (Director at Large)

Be sure to give your program leaders a shout out when you see them. These are the people who make our programs possible.



~ Joe Boyd, President

Important Reminder: The basement door and compound locks will get changed Feb 1. The new codes will be available on the website for all current members.

Monthly Meeting Notice:

Please join us at the February General Meeting on Tuesday February 6th at 7:20 pm. Following a short set of program updates and announcements, there will be a presentation by Stephanie Meinke of the BC Marine Trails Network Association (www.bcmarinetrails.org). Stephanie will give us an overview of BCMTNA, and tell us about the 'Cape Scott Circle Route' (aka Vancouver Island North Circle Route) aiming to open in 2019. This will be of interest to all paddlers seeking to do more tripping and exploration of our coast in their canoes/kayaks/voyageurs. Hope to see you there.

38th Annual Voyageur Paddle for the Kids – March 24, 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 6 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

Sunday February 4th – Portage Inlet – Intro to Voyageur (9:30 am)

Sunday February 11th – Victoria Harbour (9:30 am)

Sunday February 18th

Sunday February 25th

Sunday March 4th

Sunday March 11th

Sunday March 18th

Destinations will be posted on the VCKC website calendar.

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.

Plan to get a jump on your paddling season with fitness and fun by joining us on these dates. Meet new people and reconnect with friends. See local areas and wildlife. We saw whales on our way to Race Rocks last year!! Don't forget the after paddle beverage with your new found friends or great old ones!



If you have any questions, please contact Mary Marks: voyageur@vckc.ca, 250-642-7498

Canoe Program Update

February is a slower month for the canoe program. It's a good time to take the Marine radio course (accessible via the club calendar). This month the canoe instructors will meet and plan the spring canoe courses. Check the club calendar for any flatwater paddles added. With PFTK starting the weekends get used up pretty fast in February. The club canoe that was wrapped around a tree has been repaired, and paddles well. We have also added 10 metal paddles to the inventory in sizes from 57" to 60" to better accommodate taller paddles.

~ David Dorosz, Director

Dragon Boat News



We are excited and enthusiastic about this new 2018 season and look forward to the return of last year's women's team! In the plans for this year is the hope to have enough interest to add a new "mixed" team and a senior's team to participate in the Senior Games. Coaches and steers are needed to make this possible. We would love to hear from you.

Here are some dates to add to your calendar:

Wed Feb 7th. – 7pm **Kick-Off meeting:** – this will be open to all new and returning paddlers. A social event – a chance to re-connect, mingle and meet our coaches and discuss the plans for the race season.

Sat March 17th & 24th 12:30-2 **"Learn to Paddle"** - this is an opportunity to introduce new paddlers to the sport and learn basic techniques and an opportunity to paddle. Book now to reserve your seat!

April- the start of regular team practices- twice a week. Days and times still to be determined.

Saturday July 21st. VCKC's Guts and Glory: a 1 day festival in 10 paddler boats

Registration opens February 1st. Early bird deadline is April 15th.

Registered with Dragon Boat Canada as a CCWC qualifier!!

It is a fun event with two different race types: a 200 meter race and a 2500 meter combined –time race. Both in 10-paddler boats. There will be an on-site food concession and beverage garden available for all paddlers. Check out our website for more details. All club members welcome to participate! Gather a team together and register online!

If you wish to volunteer to help out at this event, send us an email and we will forward it to our organizing committee.

Please contact us if you have any questions.
Paddles Up!

~ Paula Gough and Kim Capson,
Co-Directors VCKC Dragon Boat Program

This year we'd like to send a dragon boat team to the Portland Rose Festival. If you have always had this on your bucket list but never had the opportunity to jump in that big boat you see pictured on the clubhouse wall then this is your chance! If you are in and want to go to Portland please let us know by **Feb 20, 2018**.

Here is a link to the event:

<http://www.rosefestival.org/event/dragon-boat-race>

It's June 9-10, 2018. Last year the fee was \$750USD for teams from outside Portland. Registration opened Jan 2 last year so we need to know soon if we plan to go! That fee includes a practice on the Friday and remember, someone needs to crawl out onto the head and grab the flag so a practice is kind of important!

And here's a link to the races:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a3JQCqLeu_c

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-SUIKLHaCXY>

Who's in?

Kayak Program Update

Your Kayak Program Directors for 2018 are Roy Scully and Linda Hall. We are both looking forward to a fun year of kayak courses and ocean kayaking. The kayak program and the canoe program will be combining for monthly meetings this year. We encourage you to come out and join in the discussion. With your input we can tailor a program to better meet the needs of VCKC members. You can check the calendar for the dates of the meetings and we will send a reminder email a week or so prior. The first of these meetings will have taken place after this newsletter update was printed (January 25th). At that meeting, fellow VCKC members, Leigh Brumwell and paddling crew, will have given a talk about their two-week trip from Takla Lake to Fort Saint James. It's great to get members sharing their experiences - a big thanks to this group for stepping up with their presentation.

The VCKC kayak instructors will be meeting in February to set the Sea Kayak course schedule. Last year we had our first course in March so keep your eye on the calendar (we will also send out emails to everyone who has listed "kayak" as an interest on the VCKC website). Our courses will follow Paddle Canada curriculum and we offer two levels: "Sea Kayak Basic Skills" and "Sea Kayak Level 1". We will also schedule some workshops to supplement the course material. You must be a VCKC member to register for any of our courses or workshops.

The canoe program is presently offering a VHF radio course, which is open to kayakers as well. You are legally required to have a Restricted Operators Certificate (Maritime) to operate a VHF radio on the water. So here is your chance to get that certification – February 21st and 22nd. For more information contact David Dorosz, Canoe Program Director.

The two programs (Canoe Program and Kayak Program) have decided to continue the Tuesday evening Canoe/Kayak paddles that have taken place for the past two summers. There is some discussion about more instruction to be given on those evenings. This is something we can talk about at our monthly meetings. These weekly paddles have been very well received with lots of participation - more on that in a future newsletter.

The budget has been approved to purchase another kayak this year. The club presently has 4

kayaks and one kayak on loan from Roy Scully so with this new kayak we will have 6 kayaks to use for our courses.

The club kayaks are for VCKC members use only and they are reserved during courses for course participants. The kayaks must stay in the Gorge Waterway unless you are participating in a VCKC club sponsored paddle. As the days grow longer demand for the club kayaks increases. Members use them to practice paddle strokes or simply to enjoy a paddle on the Gorge Waterway. If you would like to borrow a club kayak, and you have completed the Sea Kayak Basic Skills course, contact Linda Hall at kayakbooking@vckc.ca to book one.

Happy Paddling Everyone!
~ Linda Hall, Kayak Program

Marathon Program Update

Introduction to Marathon Canoe Clinic

- held at the VCKC clubhouse
- designed to introduce recreational and competitive paddlers from other boating styles to the basics of Marathon canoe racing.
- recommended for paddlers who wish to improve their paddling technique and be more efficient on the water.
- assist participants to feel confident enough in their abilities that they can join in club practices if desired.
- class size will be limited to five participants due to the number of boats available.
- course cost will be \$20.00 per person for club members.
- 4-days - 45-minutes of instruction Sunday February 18th and 25th from 9:00 to 9:45 am and Saturday February 24th and March 3rd from 11:00 to 11:45.



Please contact Ryan Mader: marathon@vckc.ca for details and to register for the course.

Call For

V o l u n t e e r s

Volunteers are requested to assist on

- ✚ February 11th – Paddle for the Kids Kick-Off Breakfast – cooks required contact Mary Marks: voyageur@vckc.ca
- ✚ March 24th Paddle for the Kids Post Paddle Supper - cooks required contact Susan Logan: director1@vckc.ca
- ✚ July 21 – Guts and Glory Festival- contact dragonboat@vckc.ca

Schedule of Club Events for 2018

March 24th – 38th Paddle for the Kids

April - Wake Up The Gorge,
Running of the Cowichan, Spring Cleanup

Canada Day Paddle

July 21st - VCKC Guts and Glory

Paddle trip to Myrtle Lake

June - Paddle Trip to Haida Gawii

September 15th Anniversary Celebration

October – Fall Cleanup

November – Remembrance Day on the Cowichan River

December – Christmas Decorating, Christmas Party and Lights on the Gorge

Refreshment Fund

We all enjoy a hot beverage on a chilly evening and that is what our refreshment fund supports, however, to make it work we need to remember to add our looney to the jar



February 2018 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 8:00 AM Flatwater Paddle	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3
4 8:30 AM Voyageur Program Annual Open Day	5	6 7:30 PM VCKC Monthly General Meeting	7 7:00 PM Dragon Boat 2018 Kick-off	8	9	10
11 9:30 AM Paddle For The Kids: Kick Off	12	13 7:00 PM Executive Meeting	14	15	16	17
18 8:30 AM Voyageur Paddle for the Kids - Sooke Basin 9:00 AM Marathon Program Clinic	19	20	21 6:00 PM Marine Restricted Operator's Certificate Course	22 6:00 PM Marine Restricted Operator's Certificate Course	23	24
25 8:30 AM Voyageur Paddle to Gulf Islands National Park (PFTK Practice #4) 9:00 AM Marathon Program Clinic - 2 4:00 PM VYPC Annual General Meeting	26	27	28	Mar 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
Jean Chandler	
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 & Linda Hall	
Outrigger Program	outrigger@vckc.ca
Tony Hopkin	
Marathon Canoe Program	marathon@vckc.ca
Ryan Madar	
Voyageur Program	voyageur@vckc.ca
Mary Marks	

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
Susan Logan	
Director at Large (events & volunteers)	director2@vckc.ca
vacant	
Director at Large (events & volunteers)	director3@vckc.ca
vacant	

Executive Appointed Positions

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