



Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club

Newsletter

January 2019

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

- Tuesday January 1st: **Annual VCKC New Year's Day Paddle** 10:30 am. Followed by a Potluck Lunch. Bring your own boat or paddle in a club big boat.
- Tuesday January 8th: **VCKC's Annual General Meeting** 7:30 PM; Elections for the 2019 club executive
- Wednesday January 9th: Kayak Meeting (tentative)
- Thursday January 24th : PFTK Stern Meeting

Please check website for details of events

President's Message

Happy New Year! Our club had an incredible year in 2018 while we celebrated our 50th Anniversary. 2019 is looking to be equally busy and productive as our many volunteers have great plans ahead. Please join us at the AGM on January 8th when the club Executive will report on the year past, and the projects and initiatives planned for the year ahead.

VCKC is a volunteer-based, member-driven community club. Our strength is in our member volunteers who are actively involved and never in short supply. I would like to thank all of the members who have contributed to making this such a flourishing place. After seven years on the club Executive, I can say that we have never been short of needed volunteers. The sum of all the effort makes one very effective club. Thank you!

~ Joe Boyd

2018 Christmas Paddle Parade and Potluck!

It was all things Christmas on the water and in the clubhouse on Saturday, December 8th with a festive Christmas Paddle Parade followed by a delicious and lively potluck social. Hot chocolate and candy canes donated by Fairway Markets along with Christmas music added to the holiday cheer as teams enthusiastically adorned their boats. A magical and sparkling procession of 17 boats of all sizes (including 3 SUP boarders) lit up the Gorge waterway as 71 paddlers made their way to the Craigflower Bridge and back. The creativity of the boat decorations was astonishing and included hundreds of lights (and reams of tape), imaginatively constructed Christmas trees, an actual real tree, holiday wreaths, gift wrapped presents, reindeer, musicians, and singers. Each and every boat added a special charm to the parade. Decorating plans for next year are already underway!



Thank you to all the participating paddlers for creating a beautiful procession along the Gorge.

The highly creative entries made for difficult deliberations by our judges to select the winners for the following decorating categories:

- Most creative design: Bon and Susan Lee (tandem canoe)
- Best light display: David and Julie-Anne Dorosz (tandem canoe)
- Best animation: Tim Marks, Mary Marks, Jim Brackett & Pat Eagan-Brackett (voyageur)
- Most Christmas cheer: Pearson College students (2 voyageurs)
- "Gotta be kidding": Ryan Ovens (OC1)
- Best small boat: Mark Teachman (SUP)
- Best big boat (tied):
Joe Boyd, Mark Sondheim, Elly James, Raoul Wiart, Andrew Peebles, Brian Gray, Lois Gray, John Lesley, Ken Gibbard (voyageur)
Darcy's crew with Pearson College students (OC6)





A very special thank you to Darrelle Butler for initiating the Paddle Parade last year. Looks like a new annual VCKC tradition has been launched!



Once off the water, the festive décor could be found throughout the clubhouse complete with beautiful table centerpieces from Ken Gibbard’s garden and an impressive feast of entrees and Christmas desserts. We were delighted to host the Pearson College students who added to the enthusiasm and energy of our celebration. Donations collected during the day were gratefully accepted by the Citizens Counselling Centre.

Of course, all of this is only possible with the generous time and energy of many volunteers: Darrelle, Jennifer, Pam, Gail, Bon, Susan, Louise, Libby, Dan, Wendy, Debi, Ken, Alan, Linda, Ava, Kian, Mavis, Don. Huge thanks to everyone who had a hand in making this a festive celebration!

~ Jayne Takahashi



Nominations for VCKC 2019 Executive

Elections are held annually at the AGM because all positions on the Executive are for a one year term. The following members of 2018 Executive are stepping down and not standing for re-election in their present positions: Joe Boyd, Tim Marks, David Dorosz, Linda Hall and Roy Scully, Kim Capson and Paula Gough, Ryan Mader, Muriel Johnson and Arthur Caldicott. I think we would all like to thank you for all the work you have put in on the club's behalf.

The following nominations have been received for the 2019 Executive;

Officers

President	Tim Marks
VPresident	Kim Capson
Treasurer	Mark Sondheim
Secretary	Jean Chandler

Directors:

Canoe	Louise de Montigny
Kayak	Karen Thrussell
Dragonboat	1 Jana Savage Cain 2 Linda Nimshon
Marathon	Bon Lee
Big Canoe	Mary Marks
Membership	Debi LaHaise
Clubhouse & Grounds	Sandy Rattray
Storage	Dan Walker
Safety	Ken Gibbard
Director at Large 1	Susan Logan
Director at Large 2	Ellie James

Nominations will continue to be accepted . If you are interested in standing for any position please contact Linda Thomson, at 3135thom@islandnet.com or Ph: 250 592-4170.

~ Linda Thomson, Past President

Big Canoe News

Christmas Paddle Parade

Four big canoes were decorated and out on the water on December 8. *Canada, Munroe, Shawnigan and Tillicum* were full of festive paddlers. Pearson College students and staff paddled *Munroe and Shawnigan*. It was great fun to see everyone out amongst all the other decorated vessels with such shiny and bright lights and laughter



PFTK - Paddle for the Kids

Our paddle dates are still in planning stages. We anticipate our start up Sunday, February 10. The beginning will be shorter paddles every Sunday, while we build up our stamina for the big event on Saturday March 30. PFTK is a chance to get out to paddle each week in big canoes.

PFTK has been a fundraiser for *Easter Seals, Lions Society for Children with Disabilities*. Thank you to everyone for all of your fundraising efforts in the past. We hope to raise money for this worthy cause again this year. Continue to watch for details on how to give donations in the New Year.



voyageur@vckc.ca

Stern Leader

Stern leaders are needed for planning PFTK. Please plan to join us at the club for a meeting on Thursday, January 24, 2019

Tim's Trip 2019

Contact Mary or Tim if you have any questions about the July big canoe trip described elsewhere in this newsletter.

Happy Paddling in 2019!!

~ *Mary Marks*, Big Canoe Director

Safety at VCKC

Those few of you who, like me, are constantly frustrated by computers will appreciate my frustration in November. I thought that I had emailed to our newsletter editor, Susan, a note much like the following for in the December newsletter. When it did not appear, I checked to see if I had just not pushed the send button. To my surprise there was no sign of the note anywhere in my computer! So here it is, a month late, but still relevant!

We are now into the time of seasonal change. Colder weather and colder water are upon us, we saw ice on the Gorge a couple of weeks ago. Most flat water paddlers do not wear wet or dry suits. This fall we had a couple of flat water paddlers dump on an ocean beach. Both were wearing wet or dry suits resulting in a mild inconvenience compared with a miserable time, especially if they did not have a dry change. Prepare for the worst, leave those blue jeans and cotton T-shirts behind, and fully enjoy the best of our paddling world, even on a bad day.

OC6 paddlers

All regular OC6 paddlers know their job should a huli happen. However, some teams regularly have subs. Sometimes several paddlers will shift from their normal positions, e.g. when a caller is replaced. When a sub is paddling it is a good idea for the stern to run through all six duty positions. If this is done regularly every paddler should know the duty of each seat position and so be ready wherever they are assigned. It is two years since we had an accidental huli but, we all need to be prepared!

~ *Ken Gibbard* Safety for VC

Kayak Program Update

2019 will bring lots of changes to the VCKC Kayak Program. Roy Scully and myself are stepping down as Program Directors and the January elections will bring in a new Program Director. This individual will continue work on the many initiatives begun in 2018 but will also bring new ideas and perspective to the program.

As noted in last month's newsletter some things to watch for over the winter months:

- Use of a pool to practice kayak skills
- How to choose a kayak

- Practice wet exits and re-entry in cold water
- How to make a Greenland Paddle

Two more initiatives are being actively worked on at the moment: VHF licensing and use, and an equipment “swap and shop” at VCKC - more on those events soon.

The next Kayak Program meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 9th, 2019. The new Program Director will send a confirmation email to VCKC members about the date of this meeting and any upcoming clinics. While Roy and I are stepping down from the role of director we both plan to continue to offer Kayak Basic Skills and Level 1 courses at VCKC in 2019.

I have enjoyed this past year as Kayak Program Director and I’d like to thank the membership for giving me the opportunity to represent them on the VCKC Executive board. The Executive Team has been a fun, dedicated group of people to work with. Over the past couple of years we have purchased two new and one used kayak and some much needed kayak equipment, so that we can better offer kayak courses and clinics. We now have a fleet of 6 kayaks, all in good working order.

Finally, once again a reminder: The club kayaks are for VCKC members use when taking courses or clinics, or when participating in club sanctioned paddles (Tuesday Night Paddles, day trips and camping). These kayaks are also available to VCKC members for personal use on the Gorge Waterway - on the club side of the Tillicum Bridge only. Members must have successfully completed the Paddle Canada Kayak Basic Skills course or have equivalent skills. Members using club kayaks must always paddle with one or more “buddies”. If you would like to borrow a club kayak contact Linda Hall at kayakbooking@vckc.ca to reserve one.

Happy New Year everyone and fun paddling in 2019!

~ Linda Hall

Tim Trip 2019 (The Big Canoe Summer Adventure)

Well here is what you all were waiting for, Tim Trip 2019, **Kyuquot Sound and North to Brooks Peninsula.**

We will be paddling two Big Canoes; the **35’ Salish Style STA’QEYA** and the **29’ Tillicum**, both are terrific canoes with great load carrying abilities, speed, and stability, just terrific seaworthy canoes. The down side: as great as they are on the water, they are a little on the heavy side especially lugging them up and down the beach between low and high tide.

We will **leave responsibly early (not insanely early) July 2** and drive to Artlish River put in and have a short paddle up stream to camp on the river bars. For the next week and a half we will explore Kyuquot Sound, the Mission Group, the Bunsby Islands, and up to the South Shores of Brooks Peninsula. If time and weather permits, our return may include Rugged Point Provincial Park. We will be passing the village of Kyuquot, so a mid-





whales. If you are poor in Math, there are **countless sandy beaches.** Sadly there are no hot springs, but on my last trip here, people did enjoy many swims in the ocean or freshwater streams close to the campsites.

Many spots have limited tenting sights so I am limiting our group size to **maximum of 16 paddlers.** Because the canoes are large and require a certain amount of muscle power on the water and on the land I am looking for **minimum of 14 paddlers.** It might be worthwhile sharing a tent if you can find someone who doesn't mind your snoring. Then instead of sleeping on the 16th best site, you might be able to enjoy the 1st best site.

Participants need to be fit and have experience with extended, unsupported camping. Weather should be pretty good for most of the trip. Much of the worst of WestCoast weather happens at a different time of year. Much of the seasonal bad weather is blocked by Brooks Peninsula to the North. All should be prepared to deal with bad weather if/when it comes. Southerly storms are very possible and could keep us shore bound for a day or two. Fog is possible but more likely later in the month and typical in August and later.

Paddling experience can be gained by participating in the Club's "Paddle For The Kids". In Fact all Tim Trip Paddlers should plan on participating in this fund raiser. Although we are traveling in remote areas of the WestCoast it is not as isolated as might first appear. Two summers ago we encountered a couple of guided kayak groups and some sport fishers. Chartered water taxi service is available most of the time.

Enjoy some photos of the area and then send your **\$100 deposit to Mary** at mmarks canoe@gmail.com. Total cost for the trip should be very reasonable. (Without putting much thought into this as I write, I can't see why this \$100 is not going to be more than enough.) We have the trip about half prescribed before this newsletter goes out, so don't wait too long.

Looking forward to it.
Wahoo
~ *Tim*

trip milkshake, or pie, or hamburger could all be possible. I am not sure it will come with the same flair as the "Magic Bus" to the pub/restaurant of the first Tim Trip, but I am sure it could be as well received. The **return to Victoria should be a reasonable time on Saturday July 13.**

There is promise of a variety of wildlife sightings. I could almost guarantee large groups of **Sea Otters**, very likely **Bears**, and a good chance of seeing **wolves and**



January 2019

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

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 Positions

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 director1@vckc.ca
 Susan Logan

Executive Appointed Positions

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