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Hardy kicks off 60th anniversary celebrations

By Kathy O'Reilly

Port Hardy launched a summer of celebrations May 23 with a 60th anniversary incorporation party at the Civic Centre, marking six decades of civic history and community growth.

The celebration featured a sit-down lunch, where guests were invited to wear clothing from their favourite era over the past 60 years, followed by an event open to the general public, complete with birthday cake.

Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt highlighted key moments from Port Hardy's history while reflecting on the people who have shaped the community since incorporation.

Speaking to about 150 guests, Corbett-Labatt noted that coal mining played a major role in the area's early history, beginning with the construction of Fort Rupert in 1849 and ending when the mine was abandoned in 1852.

In 1898, Alec Lyon came to the North Island, and in 1904 he moved to Port Hardy, then located on the east side of Hardy Bay, where the population was seven people, all members of the Lyon family.

By 1948, the population had grown to 772 people. In 1952, the town moved to the west side of the bay.

While acknowledging the community's longer settlement history, she said this year's focus is on celebrating Port Hardy's milestone of 60 years as an incorporated municipality. She emphasized that Port Hardy's story has been shaped by generations of residents who have contributed through work, volunteering, learning, and community involvement.

On behalf of council and the District of Port Hardy, Corbett-Labatt thanked those attending, saying they represented the past, present, and future of the town.

She also reflected on her own connection to the community, joking that when she moved to Port Hardy in 1975, she had reddish-brown hair.

Port Hardy officially became an incorporated district municipality on May 5, 1966, when its population stood at 1,272. According to the 2021 Census, the community had 3,902 residents, with the 2026 Census now underway.

The first council was an interim one made up of John

Nicholson, Clarence Cadwallader, Charles Gordon, David Jackson, Ronald Evindson, Terrance O'Connor, and Carl Hostman. At that time, a reeve was selected from among them; afterward, every mayor and council was elected.

Since incorporation, Port Hardy has had 12 mayors: Clarence Cadwallader, David Landon, Brian Klaver, Brian Welchman, John Davis, Al Huddleston, Russ Hellberg, Harry Mose, Hank Bood, Bev Pamham, Dennis Dugas, and Pat Corbett-Labatt.

Corbett-Labatt said mayors and councillors served two-year terms before 1990, three-year terms from 1990 to 2014, and four-year terms since 2014.

The longest-serving mayors in Port Hardy were Russ Hellberg, at nine years, and Hank Bood, at seven.

The longest-serving councillor is John Tidbury, followed by Stan McLennan.

She also acknowledged the tradition of recognizing citizens whose service and contributions have helped shape the community. Freeman of the District awards have been presented to Pat Prestwich, Brian



Photo — Kathy O'Reilly

Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt cuts the cake at Port Hardy's 60th anniversary of incorporation party May 23.

Welchman, Les Storey, and John Tidbury.

In closing, Corbett-Labatt said Port Hardy's story is ultimately one of people, resilience, and perseverance - a community that has continued to evolve and adapt over the past 60 years while keeping its sense of identity intact.



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Street kitchen set to open in Port McNeill

By Kathy O'Reilly

You may not be able to climb Mount Everest, but you can soon get a taste of the Himalayas at Port McNeill's newest eatery.

Pemba Doma is preparing to open Pemba's Coastal Kitchen, a new food truck across from the PetroCanada

on Mine Road after being unable to find space for a sit-down restaurant.

This is a second location for the Alert Bay chef.

"A mobile kitchen lets us serve locals and visitors where they are while offering fast, casual food with restaurant-quality cook-

ing," Pemba said.

"Port McNeill has incredible energy, and the community support has been one of the warmest welcomes I've experienced," she said.

Pemba's Coastal Kitchen will focus on vibrant, comforting coastal cuisine inspired by both the Pacific

Northwest and Himalayan flavours.

Guests can expect dishes ranging from fresh local seafood and beer-battered halibut to chow mein, curries, momos (a type of steamed filled dumpling in Tibetan and Nepali cuisine), bao buns, and other globally inspired comfort foods.

Pemba will continue to operate her restaurant at the Nimpkish Hotel in Alert Bay.

Doma came to Canada in 2006 and has since launched several restaurants and food trucks, including Tibetan Kitchen in Victoria, Potstickers & Curry in Campbell River, and Pemba's Kitchen in Alert Bay.

Before moving to Canada, she worked for Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines for 12 years, and she has also been featured on Food Network Canada's 'You Gotta Eat Here'.



Photos — Submitted

Pemba Doma is opening Pemba's Coastal Kitchen, a new food truck across from the PetroCanada on Mine Road will officially open Monday, June 1st at 11:30 a.m. and will be serving until 8 p.m. Left, the interior features a complete commercial kitchen.



Summer air schedule to increase

By Kathy O'Reilly

Pacific Coastal Airlines was a topic of discussion at the

monthly Regional District of Mount Waddington board of directors meeting May 19.

Vancouver Island North Tourism Association (VINTA) Coordinator Natalie Stewart said a lack of planes is resulting in reduced flights and later departure and arrival times.

"As it does affect all North Island communities, I really wanted to sort of bring this to everybody's attention here," Stewart said.

She suggested forming a focus group involving all communities in the regional district to see if there's anything they can do to help support getting some more regular flights in and out of Port Hardy.

"Right now, a lot of them are sort of canceled or changed last minute. They're getting in later and later," she said.

"It does impact all of us great deal if that airport ever falls further off the map," said Chair Andrew Hory.


Pacific Coastal Airlines has 16 aircraft, 10 Beech 1900s and six Saab 340Bs, says the company's President Quentin Smith.

"From late Fall through to mid Spring, we plan 10 aircraft in service each day to support charters and the commercial schedule while the remaining are cycled for planned and unplanned maintenance events," Smith said.

"Late Spring to Fall we plan two additional aircraft in the daily schedule, for a total of 12," he continued.

"This past March we did face some operational challenges causing three Vancouver / Port Hardy flights to be cancelled. In the months of April and May there were no flight cancellations."

Travel is beginning to increase, as is common this period of the year, and June 1, Pacific Coastal is adding additional capacity with the Saab 340.



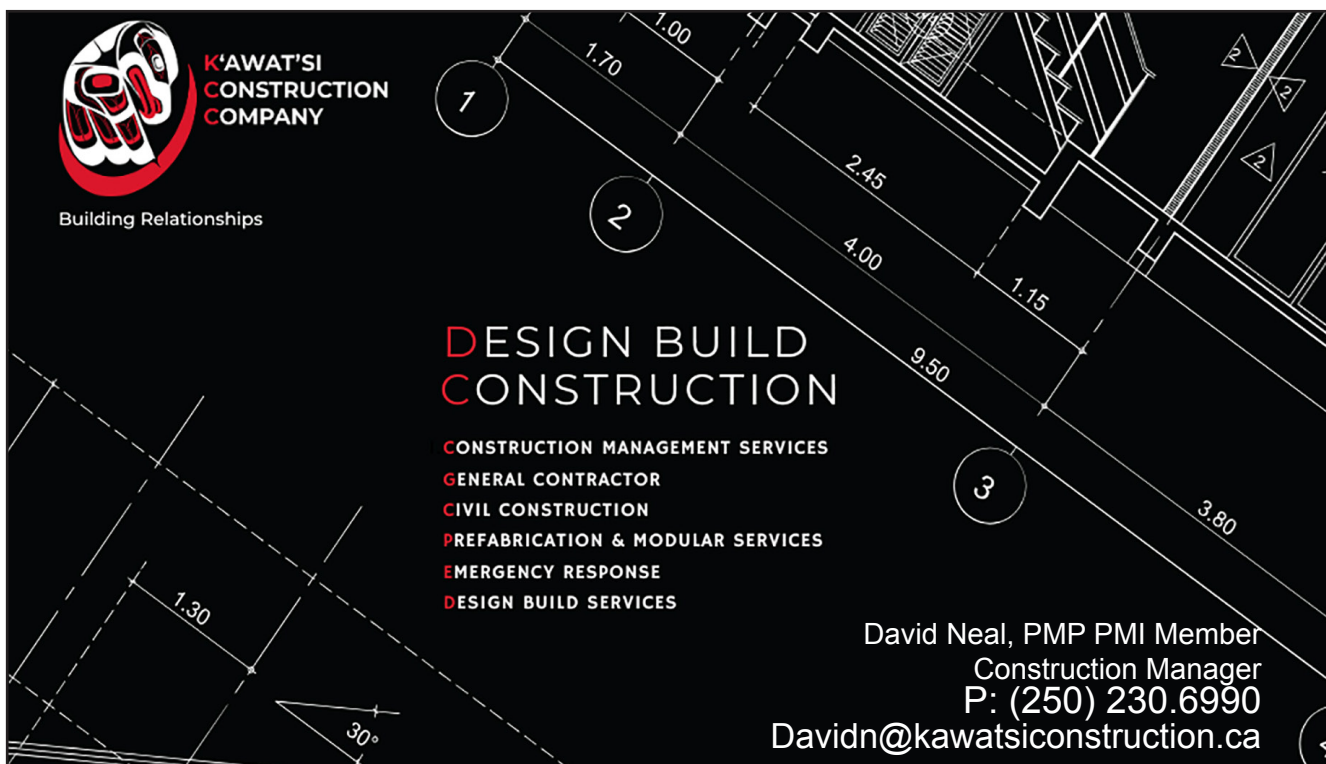
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Broughton House built

By Kathy O'Reilly

As part of the rebuild of Telegraph Cove, Cabin 25 - The Broughton House - is under construction at the end of the boardwalk.

The Broughton House will offer ocean-view accommodations for up to eight guests.

"We turned the building we had been using for a Tide Rip Tours office and staff accommodation into a deluxe rental unit," said Telegraph Cove Resort's Marilyn Graham who owns the resort with husband Gordie. A lot of North Island wood has been utilized in the structure.

"It has a beautiful location at the end of the dock overlooking the ocean, across from the Prince of Whales office," she said.

Originally the structure was the general store and post office for Telegraph Cove.

The inside of the cabin is al-



Photo — Marilyn Graham

The new Broughton House at Telegraph Cove, with an ocean view, will be up for rent beginning in July.

most complete. "We expect it to be finished in the next couple weeks. We're not renting it out until July."



Photo — Tom Gettings

Last Call Super Yacht

A Last Call 130 foot yacht from the Marshall Islands moored in Port McNeill recently. The yacht can be chartered starting from \$130,000 per week plus expenses and can accommodate 10 guests in five cabins.

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editorial



Photo — Robin Quirk, Robin's Eye Photography

A bee makes a stop at a flower.



The North Island
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 Celebrating 'True North Island' Life



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— Our beautiful First Nation's eagle (kwikw) courtesy Nakwaxda'xw artist Davis Henderson
 Cover eagle photo James O'Reilly
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Pride March

Photo — Kathy O'Reilly

The Tri-Port Pride Society recognized the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia with a march from Carrot Park to Oceanside Cantina. May 17, 1990 was the day the World Health Organization declassified homosexuality as a mental disorder.



Popular Plants

Photo — Kelsea Taylor

Vegetable starts were in high demand at the Port McNeill Farmers and Artisans Market held on the greenspace in front of IGA May 16. The next market is this Saturday, May 30.

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Let's Celebrate 60 Years of Port McNeill!



Photos — Submitted

On May 10, 2026, Canadian Ranger Paddy Hinton was awarded his 2nd Clasp (Bar) for the Canadian Forces' Decoration (CD) by Canadian Rangers Chuck Wong and Dick Sanborn. The Canadian Forces' Decoration is an award for long service and good conduct. The initial award CD is given after 12 years with subsequent Clasp (bars) awarded at 10-year intervals. Hinton receiving his 2nd Clasp (Bar) representing 32 years of distinguished service to Canada with the Canadian Rangers.



Food Truck Cluster approved

By Kathy O'Reilly

Port McNeill council has approved a Temporary Use Permit for a food truck cluster at 1748 Campbell Way, allowing the business to operate at the site for two years.

The proposal includes space for a year-round food truck, a food trailer, parking, and outdoor eating areas.

A modular ATCO unit is also planned at the rear of the property to provide storage, office space, a public washroom, and a food preparation area.

The property is zoned Commercial Two (C-2) and sits on the edge of Port McNeill's downtown, surrounded mainly by commercial and industrial properties. Residential land lies to the south, but it is separated from the site by other commercial and industrial lots.

While the proposal fits the principal regula-

tions of the town's zoning bylaw for the C-2 zone, a food truck cluster is not currently listed as a permitted use. That is why the project required a Temporary Use Permit.

The development is not intended to include permanent buildings or structures as part of the food truck cluster.

Under the proposal, a mobile food vendor is understood to be a non-permanent, movable operation selling food or beverages from a vehicle, trailer, or cart.

The semi-permanent ATCO unit would still have to comply with the BC Building Code and would require both a building permit and an occupancy permit from the town.

The Temporary Use Permit allows the food truck cluster to operate for two years and may be renewed once for up to an additional three years.



Photo — Kelsea Taylor

Port McNeill Logger Sports marked its 15th annual competition May 23 drawing a record field of competitors and featuring new events.

Logger Sports continues to grow

By Kathy O'Reilly

Port McNeill Logger Sports marked its 15th annual competition in 2026, drawing a record field of competitors and highlighting the event's continued growth.

"When we held our first competition in 2010, we had 22 competitors and 13 events. In 2026, we had 55 competitors and 27 events," said Dawn Briscoe. Competitors travelled from across British Columbia and Alberta, as well as from New Zealand. "We would like to give special acknowledgment to Roger Briscoe, Anita Jezowski, Dave MacLeod, Sarah Mooney and Nicholas Russell, who have never missed a Port McNeill competition," Briscoe said.

This year, PMLS hosted five Canadian championship events. The winners were:

- Novice 1 Board Springboard - Chase Gundersen
 - Intermediate Underhand - Thomas Symons
 - Open Jack & Jill - Stirling Hart and Allison Briscoe
 - Open 140cc - Dave MacLeod
 - Open Ladies Single Buck - Allison Briscoe
- Six records were broken or set this year.

Broken records:

Open Ladies Double Buck - Allison Briscoe and Dawn Briscoe 0:09.53, 46cm. Previous record Allison Briscoe and Dawn Briscoe (2025) 0:11.50, 46cm.

Intermediate Underhand - Thomas Symons, 0:31.22, 32 cm. Previous record: Luke Bischoff (2025), 0:33.09, 32 cm.

New records set:

Open Underhand - Stirling Hart 0:28.48, 35cm. "This was a new record for us because

it was the largest wood size PMLS has offered for this event," she said. New events this year included Open/Intermediate Standing Butcher Block, won by Nick Hall and Matt Little in 0:50.08 on 35 cm wood.

Intermediate Jack & Jill - Erinn Constantine and Brad Constantine, 0:13.52, 38 cm.

Intermediate Ladies Single Buck - Meghan Hall, 0:34.44, 40 cm.

The overall winners were:

Dan Knapp - Novice Overall
Stirling Hart - Open Overall
Allison Briscoe - Open Ladies Overall
All of the results and records can be found on the PMLS website, pmlloggersports.com

The competition concluded with a relay event for the first time.

"There were four teams made up of people who have attended PMLS for more than six years and/or supported the competition. In total, 28 competitors filled the field," Briscoe said.

The relay began with a stock saw, followed by an open ladies' single buck and an underhand butcher block chop. Once the block was severed, the Jack and Jill team took off. The relay ended with an axe throw, with teams allowed five throws or 15 points. The time stopped when the final thrower raised their hands and called time. "It was a close race, but the hometown team won the relay," she said. "Port McNeill Logger Sports Society would like to thank all the volunteers, sponsors, competitors and community members who made this event possible. Without your contributions, we would not have reached 15 years. We are deeply appreciative and look forward to next year."

Logger Sports 2026 edition



Kathy O'Reilly Photos

North Island Farmers & Artisans Market



2026 Market Schedule

Port McNeill - IGA Plaza

• May 30 • June 13 • June 27
• July 11 • July 25 • Aug. 8 • Aug. 22
• Sept. 5 • Sept. 19

Port Hardy - Carrot Park

• June 14 • June 28 • July 12 • July 26 • Aug. 9
• Aug. 23 • Sept. 20

Port McNeill Markets
Saturdays - 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Port Hardy Markets
Sundays - 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Historic sign replaced by descendant

By Kathy O'Reilly

Telegraph Cove has unveiled a new sign painted by Mary McFarland, a woman whose family has deep historical roots in the community.

The Telegraph Cove Broughton Lumber & Trading sign replaced one that was damaged in the Dec. 31, 2024, fire, which destroyed part of the historic boardwalk community, including the Whale Interpretive Centre. "We purchased and prepared the steel for painting," said Marilyn Graham, who owns Telegraph Cove Resort with her husband, Gordie, however Mary insisted on paying. The original sign was painted by Mary's mother, schoolteacher Margaret Fleming (Griffiths), who taught at the school in Telegraph Cove in the 1940s. When Mary heard about the fire, she contacted the Grahams and volunteered to paint the replacement sign. The new sign stands not only as a replacement, but also as a symbol of continuity in a community shaped by its history. The historic one-room schoolhouse from Telegraph Cove's logging and sawmill era, still exists and is preserved as part of the private heritage buildings. It is located on the left-hand side of the road as you drive into the village.

"It was the home of the Ziggotti family. After they left Gordie and I took it over," said Marilyn.

In 1922, Alfred Marmaduke "Duke" Wastell obtained property at the Cove and formed the Broughton Lumber and Trading Company and the Telegraph Cove Mills.



Photos — Marilyn Graham

Mary McFarland volunteered to repaint the Telegraph Cove Broughton Lumber & Trading sign originally painted by her mother, schoolteacher Margaret Fleming (Griffiths), who taught at the school in Telegraph Cove in the 1940s.



Hardy Hustle hits streets Sunday

By Kathy O'Reilly

Runners will lace up and hit the pavement for the Hardy Hustle this Sunday, May 31.

Participants can choose between a 10-kilometre race and a half marathon.

Registration fees include race swag: T-shirts for half marathon participants featuring an aerial photo of Hardy Bay, courtesy of Geoff Heith, and a Hardy Hustle-branded Nalgene water bottle for 10-kilometre runners. Participants will also receive post-run snacks and a finisher's medal.

"So far, we have 112 runners registered, up

from 108 last year," said Community Outreach Coordinator Sara Klatt.

"We have runners joining us from across Vancouver Island and the mainland, and one participant is even travelling from Kitimat, BC," Klatt said.

This year all runners are running the same route, with the 10 kilometre runners turning around at the bottom of Founders Street. The course starts outside the Civic Centre and offers a mix of hills and flat stretches. It finishes in Carrot Park. The run starts at 10 a.m.

This is the 4th year for the event.

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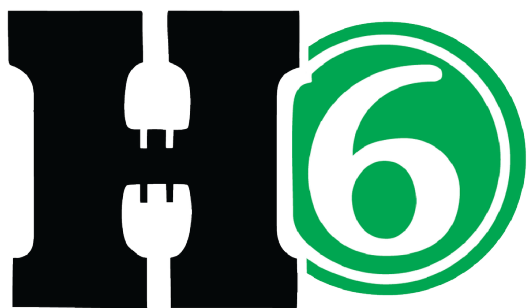
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- Port Hardy: June 26th, 27th & 28th - Storey Beach Park \$225 + GST (\$200 + GST - Early Bird)
- Campbell River: July 6th & 7th - Willow Point Park
- Duncan: July 9th & 10th - Evans Park
- Salt Spring: July 13th & 14th - Portlock Park
- Nanaimo: July 16th & 17th - Serauxmen Sports Fields
- Courtenay: July 20th & 21st - Lewis Park

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Eternal Fountain a magical stone monument

Hidden north of the Nimpkish Valley, deep within a Pacific coastal rainforest, the Eternal Fountain lies surrounded by maturing Western Hemlock trees. The conifers' top branches form a dense and intricate canopy overhead, casting a patchwork of shadows and light across the landscape. The remarkable limestone, water, and wilderness feature is nestled in the heart of North Vancouver Island midway along the winding Alice Lake Loop, a rugged 100 km stretch of gravel logging road that weaves between Port McNeill and Port Alice. The drive offers visitors a journey through wild and untamed terrain of breathtaking green scenery.

The three of us arrived at the Eternal Fountain Recreation Site on this overcast May morning to landscape covered in a carpet of emerald moss, broken branches, needles and felled evergreens. A pathway was clear, inviting quiet exploration. Delicate fungi, in hues ranging from pale ivory to russet brown, peek through a sparse undergrowth, while elaborate silver-green lichen cling to grey rocks and decomposing logs, forming intricate patterns adding to the richness of this woodland. Each breath was cool and moist, after an earlier rain, carrying an earthy aroma of damp soil, and the subtle spice of cedar and fir trees. Shafts of sun-



light pierced its way through clouds and canopy, reflecting off droplets of moisture and illuminating a drifting forest mist moving gently among the trees. It is a beautiful, tranquil place that soothes the spirit, offering a sense of peace and renewal to all who enter its verdant embrace.

The Recreation Site is not a regional district park; instead, it is a remote Provincial Recreation Site officially managed as the "Eternal Fountain Recreation Site" under the jurisdiction of Recreation Sites and Trails BC (RSTBC), an initiative of the provincial Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy.

The recent shower gave a lush vibrancy to the forest on the drive in, and the drumming of a Ruffed Grouse amid a raspy call of a raven welcomed us on arrival. Together, these sounds and sights emphasized the wonder of the Eternal Fountain, a marvel shaped by

the constant interplay of rain, wind, rock, and the living forest. It is a magical stone monument that draws writers, photographers, trekkers, and nature enthusiasts. As we looked upon the moss-laden surroundings, Chris and I were accompanied by our faithful companion Rosie, an energetic Australian Shepherd. Her tri-coloured coat easily distinguishable in a background of fallen trees, sword ferns, and salal, as she explored with unbridled joy the scents and mysteries of this forest habitat.

The Fountain emerges from a vertical rock outcrop sculpted by time: crystalline pure freshwater in a hydraulic process called "resurgence" bursts from the depths of underground limestone and dolomite formations called karsts. A karst is a distinctive type of geological phenomenon formed when soluble bedrock, commonly limestone, dolomite, or marble, is slowly



Photo — Christine Patterson

The Eternal Fountain Recreation Site is located on the Alice Lake Loop, a rugged 100 kilometre stretch of gravel logging road that weaves between Port McNeill and Port Alice.

dissolved to form cavities by slightly acidic water, a process taking millennia. Limestone and dolomite are sedimentary rocks primarily composed of calcium carbonate or calcium magnesium carbonate respectively. These minerals form over millions of years from shells, coral, and other marine life that accumulates on the ocean floor. The Fountain water flow is perpetual and mysterious giving one pause to

contemplate the subtle forces of Mother Nature still at work. The flow cascades into a caldera called a "swallet," a dark and foreboding hole entering unseen caverns below, echoing with the sounds of water and forest.

Over the past fifty years, we have returned to the Eternal Fountain countless times, each visit revealing subtle and profound changes in the surrounding forest. From forest

recovery following logging activity in the 1970s, to the gradual maturation of hemlock stands and shifting patterns of understory growth, we've witnessed firsthand how a rainforest responds to both natural cycles and human influence. The evolving beds of mosses, ferns, Fawn Lilies, and evergreens continues to fascinate, reminding Chris and I of a forest's tenacious will to regrow.

Continued on Page 12

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Features of Eternal Fountain are incredibly rare

Continued from Page 11

Today cedar stairs, guard rails, and interpretative trails facilitate the viewing pleasure and safety of those visiting this remarkable waterfall enigma.

The discovery of Vancouver Island's Eternal Fountain is a tale of curiosity and exploration. In the mid-20th century, as logging and recreational activities increased in the Alice Lake area, local residents, loggers, and hikers became aware of this unusual, perplexing water feature unlike typical springs with fluctuating flows. This Fountain gushes out its stone fissure year-round with unrelenting force, having no apparent water feed or above ground exiting stream.

The features of the Eternal Fountain are incredibly rare, requiring a highly specific geological topography. As such, geologists and scientists from the University of Victoria became interested and conducted expeditions in the 1970s to study the feature's behaviour. Their findings confirmed that the Fountain flow was not only persistent, but also part of a complex unique underground river system present on Northern Vancouver Island; owing its existence to the "karst geology" of the surrounding Alice Lake landscape. A network of underground caverns and rock corridors form gradually over millions of years by the dissolution of soluble rocks, creating voids sculpted by moving groundwater. As water percolates through the soil, it absorbs carbon dioxide, forming a weak carbonic acid. This weak acid solution slowly eats away at the limestone, creating

channels that increase over time into vast subterranean networks. The Eternal Fountain is a surface expression of these underground passages, where pressurized water finds an exit point and bursts forth to our joy.

The Eternal Fountain's water source is the Quatsino Limestone Karst Belt, a group of outcroppings and subterranean structures running in a discontinuous band stretching roughly 100 to 120 kilometres northwest across northern Vancouver Island; an expansive karst network fed by rainwater, snow melt, and sinking surface streams from the Vancouver Island mountain ranges. Along the way, water is filtered, cooled, and remarkably pure, with low turbidity and high oxygen content, qualities necessary in aquatic habitats. Arriving below the Eternal Fountain's rock outlet water exits, drops a few metres into the swallet, then continues an underground journey through limestone conduits of the Benson River Cave system, travelling a complex corridor underground before resurfacing to merge into the Benson River! The Benson then empties into Alice Lake which empties into the Marble River that surrenders its waters to the ruggedness of Neroutsos Inlet and ultimately the Pacific Ocean.

The volume of water flowing from the Eternal Fountain is impressive. Measurements taken over decades show a consistent discharge, ranging up to 250 litres per second, depending on rainfall and seasonal inputs. This translates to millions of litres per day as

calculated by environmental agencies. During dry summers the fountain's flow drops only slightly, while winter rains boost its output. Understanding the flow dynamics assist the management of land use, protect habitats, and anticipate the impacts of climate change on water tables and supply.

Seasonal changes in precipitation influence the volume, but the flow remains surprisingly stable over the past decades, even during droughts. Karst cavities are thought to act as a natural reservoir, storing and regulating water supply. This mechanism highlights the importance of protecting the region's forests and soils, which serve as the starting point for the Fountain's water elaborate journey.

The absence of pollutants and the presence of unique mineral signatures make the Fountain an ideal site for studying groundwater dynamics. Scientists continue to monitor the water's chemistry, searching for clues about the age, origin, and sustainability of the flow. The Fountain thus serves as a natural laboratory for environmental research.

The Eternal Fountain is more than a geological curiosity for tourists; it is a vital component of Vancouver Island's aquatic ecology. Some cold, clear karst water supports a range of fish species, which rely on unique surrounding habitat for spawning and feeding. Among the most prominent are Cutthroat and Rainbow trout, both native to the region. Researchers have documented small populations of salmon fry using inner karst waterways as a refuge during



Photo — Christine Patterson

A Karst sinkhole at the Eternal Fountain Recreational Site.

their early life stages. The abundance of oxygen and stable temperatures create ideal conditions for aquatic insects and crustaceans, which in turn support fish and bird populations. The Eternal Fountain's ecosystem is interconnected with Alice Lake, nearby streams, and even the Devil's Bath, forming a mosaic of habitats that sustain biodiversity. Unique amphibians and rare mollusks have been found in the Fountain's vicinity, emphasizing the ecological diversity of karst springs. They are not only a source of wonder, but also a reminder of the delicate balance between geology and life, and perhaps another topic for a future article.

Vancouver Island's Eternal Fountain is a window into the earth's history written in karst limestone layers of intrigue, rock formations formed over

millions of years, shaped by tectonic collisions and glacial activity. The Fountain's purity and flow offer clues about the region's climate and water cycle, while its biological diversity highlights evolutionary fish and amphibious adaptations to subterranean habitats. The Fountain is a wonderful symbol of Vancouver Island's natural heritage hosting immense biodiversity that should be protected.

Over the last half-century, Chris and I have found ourselves drawn back, time and time again to the Eternal Fountain. Each visit feels like greeting an old friend who always has something new to reveal. The forest, once harvested by logging in the seventies, has slowly reclaimed itself. Hemlock stands have matured, Fawn Lilies and mosses have spread their quiet comfort, and

the subtle shuffle of wildlife continues to surprise us.

At the end of the day, Vancouver Island's Eternal Fountain is a beacon of geological and ecological marvel. Its discovery, rooted in curiosity and deep appreciation of the natural world, set the stage for decades of exploration and scientific study. The karst formation, the source of the Fountain's pristine water, and the diverse aquatic life deep within, serves as a vivid reminder of the intricate connections between geology, hydrology, and an ecosystem's web of life.

For scientists, trekkers, and nature enthusiasts the Eternal Fountain is an amazing example of Vancouver Island's natural beauty, both above and below ground level. It is a Karst feature worth visiting.

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250-281-2281

LUND WC-14 boat c/w 9.9 Johnson motor, trailer, seats, oars, rod holders, NAV lights and more. Asking \$7,800.

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Your household classified ad here Free.

250-949-0337

3288 Bayliner, twin 4-cylinder diesels. \$25,000.

250-306-4417

Cars

Geo car, never used. Electric, MP3 player, custom seat in back. Paid \$11,000. Asking \$8,500.

250-902-9013

Fishing

Baby Big John downrigger has a 14-inch arm with a pulley on the end. Has a five-inch reel with handle and a brake and a mounting bracket. Very cute and would be good for a small boat in a lake. \$25.

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Long line or halibut block, cost \$500+ will sell for \$200.

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3 Hardy Silex Steelhead reels in mint condition, 1 new. Serious inquiries only.

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more purpose, and
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Thursday's at 7:00 PM
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Furniture

McLary antique wood and coal stove for sale \$1,200. Good condition.

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Landscaping

Husqvarna Reel Mower, used once. \$100.

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Mechanics

Super heavy duty 15-inch crescent wrench with a rubber grip. Cost \$75. Will sell for \$35.

250-949-0118

16, 3/4 inch Craftsman sockets, range from 1 inch to 2 inch, 3/4 inch 20-inch 5649 Proto ratchet and extensions, a 15 inch, a 7 inch, and a 4 inch. Cost over \$1,000, now \$350.

250-949-0118

Miscellaneous

Washing machine, GE commercial grade, with all original paperwork. In very good condition. \$350.

250-949-8655
leave message

Arrow canopy, from a Ford Ranger, fire red, 6 foot long, 2 feet high and four and a half feet wide. Excellent condition, no scratches. Asking \$600.

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Services

Local 3D printing in Port McNeill.

403-620-0033

Services

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Tools

Black and Decker 3-inch by 21-inch Dragster belt-sander. Never been used. Cost \$125. Sell for \$75.

250-949-0118


Terratek 18-volt cordless impact driver. Comes with two batteries and a charger. Hardly used. Cost over \$100. Will sell for \$25.

250-949-0118


Simonize 10-inch random orbit polisher/waxer, like new with carrying case. \$90 new will take \$30.

250-949-0118






SPRING




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A	F	L	Y	D	N	I	W	S	B	B	R	W	Q	M
R	X	S	F	C	O	V	O	L	U	L	J	W	U	S
E	T	I	K	D	J	S	U	O	T	N	O	K	F	E
Q	N	E	D	R	A	G	K	B	T	E	X	O	I	E
I	P	F	N	H	P	S	L	V	E	X	E	Z	M	D
D	C	C	U	I	H	M	Q	O	R	J	P	U	F	S
Y	E	U	X	K	H	T	P	S	F	E	S	L	L	X
E	J	S	U	G	U	S	P	V	L	O	O	M	A	V
B	R	E	V	C	L	N	N	S	T	Y	C	H	I	W
O	A	W	Y	A	M	P	J	U	E	T	P	T	E	Y
G	I	T	L	I	R	P	A	R	S	Z	Y	P	E	N
G	N	I	R	P	S	M	S	E	E	T	R	K	R	N
E	C	Z	M	R	A	W	N	E	B	E	F	A	X	U
V	T	T	P	N	O	B	X	H	J	H	G	U	M	B



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BUNNY
BUTTERFLY
FLOWERS



GARDEN
KITE
MAY
NEST
RAIN



SEEDS
SPRING
SUNSHINE
WARM
WINDY



Photo — Kelsea Taylor

Sunny Spring Singing

Sunny weather often brings out musicians such as Bill Joseph to places like Mugz 2.0 in Port McNeill.



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF MOUNT WADDINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The Position

Reporting to and working with the Chief Administrative Officer, the Economic Development Officer will be responsible for planning, organizing, directing, and controlling the RDMW's development activities with the intent of attracting new businesses, encouraging investment opportunities, increasing job opportunities, and identifying opportunities for sustainable regional growth by promoting and marketing the RDMW as great place to live, visit and do business.

Key Roles and Responsibilities:

- Work with the Chief Administrative Officer, senior advisors and stakeholders to develop and implement a strategic economic development plan.
- Create and maintain business relationships with government departments, businesses, and institutions, as well as with local and regional partners, while working closely with all municipalities.
- Identify potential opportunities in various industries and business sectors and promote these opportunities to the current sector practitioners and potential investors.
- Research to assess the region's economic development potential and opportunities, as well as market trends.
- Develop and implement support programs (financial and technical) and be on the lookout for any program or subsidy that can help project development and implementation.
- Represent the RDMW on different committees with organizations and attend events.
- Work with RDMW partners.
- Assist in the preparation of the annual budget of the department and ensure optimal management of the different budgets allotted.
- Develop and ensure the deployment of projects and funding grants that meet the economic needs of the community.
- Prepare and present monthly reports to the regional Board of Directors.

Knowledge, Skills, Technical Abilities, and Desired Qualities

- Hold a university degree in a field appropriate to the position and with a minimum of five (5) years of relevant experience in a related role; or an equivalent work experience of 10 years without a university degree; or any combination of education and professional experience with other experience may be considered.
- Have excellent communication and customer service skills.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office and SharePoint.
- Having knowledge of BC provincial programs, the local government sector and the relevant laws and regulations is an asset.
- Knowledge in recognized economic development approaches, methods and techniques as well as a knowledge of the economic issues is an asset.
- Experience in identifying business opportunities and marketing these initiatives to investors, and operating partners.
- Agile, proactive, action and transaction-focused mindset, i.e., ability to make cold calls.
- Good business sense and entrepreneurial mindset.
- Innovative and results-oriented strategies are essential for success.
- Ability to work collaboratively in teams and partnerships, both internally and externally.
- Ability to mobilize partners/investors/customers to achieve common goals.
- Ability to learn and integrate new information and to quickly understand complex and abstract situations.
- Project management and financial management skills.

Salary and Benefits

This is a permanent and full-time (35 hours per week), management-exempt position with excellent benefits, including health insurance, medical travel allowance, vacation pay, and Municipal Pension Plan. The position offers opportunities for professional development and advancement, in a supportive work environment that values diversity, inclusivity, and innovation.

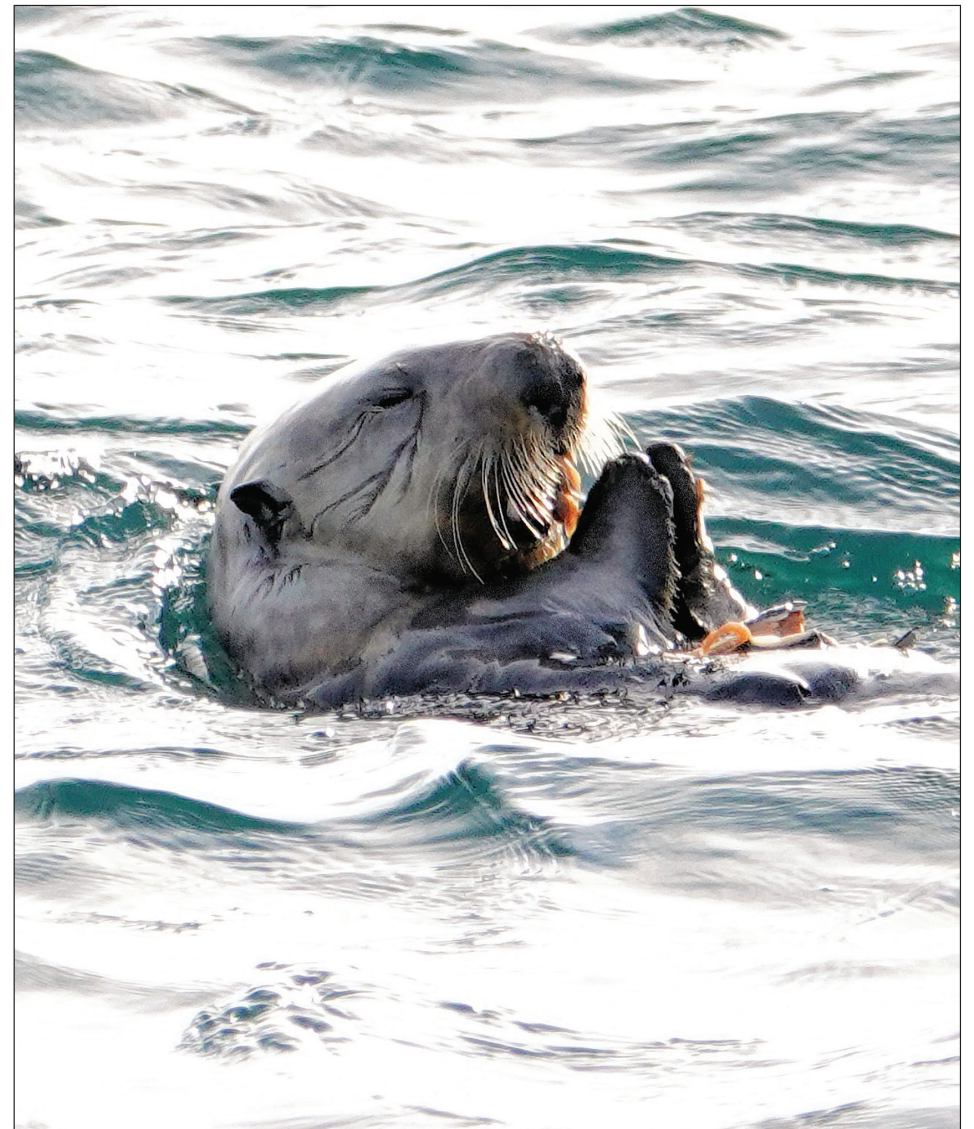
Competitive remuneration range: \$70,000 to \$90,000

To apply, please forward your cover letter and resume via email to procurement@rdmw.bc.ca.

Closing Date: June 2, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

The Regional District of Mount Waddington Administrative Office is located in the beautiful seaside community of Port McNeill, British Columbia. Phone: 250-956-3301
To learn more about our area, please visit www.rdmw.bc.ca

North Island Reflections



Sea Otters float on their back and use their chest as a table when they eat. Photo by Robin Quirk, Robin's Eye Photography. If you have a photo you would like to share with our readers please email publisher@northislandeagle.com.

This week's Reflection sponsored by ...

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FEATURE HOMES OF THE WEEK

314-7450 Rupert Street, Port Hardy \$199,900 MLS® # 1037922



This spacious, highly sought-after, 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom corner unit offers a functional layout with plenty of natural light. Recent updates include fresh paint, modern light fixtures, and a refreshed kitchen featuring crisp white cabinetry. Both bathrooms have been tastefully updated with clean, contemporary finishes. Large windows and a private balcony overlook lush greenery and seasonal views of Hardy Bay. The building has also seen improvements in recent years, including new siding, windows, sliding doors, balconies, and new elevator.



Ronnie (Veronica) Sam
 Cell: 250-527-0036



Johan Olsen
 Cell: 250-209-9667

7385 Market Street, Port Hardy \$499,000 MLS® # 1037988



Driftwood Cabin - as close to Waterfront as you can get without the high price! 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 3 level home in downtown Port Hardy. This 1945 home has plenty of charm. The main level offers a good sized entrance, bedroom, 4 piece bath, living room and eat in kitchen which leads to the oceanview sunroom. Upstairs has a bedroom on either end of the loft area. Downstairs is a walkout basement with workshop, storage room and laundry, ready for finishing. Outside is a nice sized yard and workshop/art studio with woodstove.



Melanie McRann
 Cell: 778-886-5219

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