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Replacement Pole Placed

Hereditary Chief Calvin Hunt and Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt share a laugh during a ceremony to raise a temporary Indigenous veterans memorial Pole in Carrot Park. For more on the story see Page 2.

Photo — Kathy O'Reilly

## Hardy Legion closes

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 237 doors are now closed. The news was posted on Facebook.

"Like many Legion branches, we are a volunteer-run organization, and we rely on community involvement. Over the past while, we have put out calls for volunteers and for Legion members willing to step into executive roles to help share the workload and keep things running," said the post. "Unfortunately, we haven't been able to put enough capacity in place to continue operating sustainably. In the coming weeks, the President will be meeting with Command to discuss next steps and the path forward. We're hopeful these discussions will help identify the best possible options moving forward, and we will share updates as they become available," they wrote.

"The Legion has been a staple in Port Hardy for a long time, and it has meant a great deal to so many - veterans, families, members, and neighbours. We want to say a sincere thank you to everyone who has supported the Legion over the years - whether you volunteered, attended events, donated, sponsored, or simply showed up." Attempts to reach the Legion by deadline were unsuccessful.

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# Replacement pole placed

By Kathy O'Reilly

A new memorial pole was



revealed at a ceremony at the cenotaph in Port Hardy's Carrot Park May 13 by the Hunt family.

The pole, featuring an Eagle crest with three coppers, "will hold the place of our Veterans pole until we are able to carve a new Veterans pole," explained Marie Hunt. The original memorial pole was carved in 1996 by Kwakiutl carver Chief Calvin Hunt, assisted by Mervyn Child, as a memorial for Port Hardy Indigenous people who served in the Canadian Armed Forces.

In 2016, the totem pole was taken to Hunt's shop for restoration. It was rededicated at the Battle of Britain Parade in September 2016 as part of a new Veterans memorial at Carrot Park worked on by 101 Squadron, the Port Hardy Legion, the District of Port Hardy and the Canadian Ranger Patrol. It was officially unveiled on Nov. 11, 2016. "In the bigger Canadian society, and our people, there is so much discourse, but it is stuff like this that helps bring us back together, not for us, but for our children," said Hereditary Chief Charles Willie. "I can honestly say none

of us are going anywhere, so how do we make it work for all of our kids, not just ours, but yours as well. So, today is a very important part of that work," Willie said.

"Chief Calvin Hunt's commitment to honouring veterans has been long standing. His work reminds us that Indigenous peoples fought alongside others in service to this country – and that we fought together so we remember together," said Mayor Pat Corbett-Labatt.

"When Chief Hunt first approached the district and said it was time to freshen up the memorial pole he had previously carved, we agreed immediately," Corbett-Labatt said. "Through that process, Calvin discovered the pole had reached the end of its natural life. We know that normally a pole is allowed to return to the earth, but this pole was unique. It carried the stories, sacrifices, and spirit of Indigenous veterans," she continued.

"Chief Hunt believed it deserved to be honoured through ceremonial burning." This ceremony was done on the beach at Fort Rupert.

# Veterans pole sent back to ancestors

The Kwakwaka'wakw Veterans pole that stood in Carrot Park was taken down and burned May 13, 2026.

According to the Hunt family "fire is our witness, and the smoke carries our words to the spirit world.

In the old ways, when the work was important - when it was meant to stand and speak for generations - we went higher into the mountains for our cedar, where the tree grows strong and the fibre holds tight. This pole failed sooner than we expected. The cedar used likely came from low, wet ground, and it did not have the strength that a pole of this purpose deserves. For that reason, we are sending it back to our ancestors.

Some people ask why we burn this pole, because they were taught that a pole is left where it falls. We hear those questions, and we answer them with respect. Each Nation carries its own teachings and its own ways. If this pole stood on the reserve amongst our people, a



Photo – Kimberley Kufas Photography


The Kwakwaka'wakw Veterans pole that stood in Carrot Park was taken down and burned May 13, 2026.

family might choose to let it fall and rest on the ground and return in its own time to Mother Earth.

This pole carries a different story. It stood in the heart of Port Hardy; it had a life there among the people, representing all Kwakwaka'wakw veterans.

Now it is time to bring it

home - back to the place of our teachings, back to the ancestors who walked before us. We gather, we witness and we give thanks as we let the fire carry it home. This is how and why we, the Calvin Hunt Family of the Kwakiutl, have chosen to carry out this important work."



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# Supremely big changes coming to convenience store

By Kathy O'Reilly

While Supreme Convenience will be gone as we know it, a new version is taking its place.

Supreme Convenience has announced that it will be closing its Market Street, Port Hardy, location May 25 for renovations.

"After 30 years, our convenience store will be closing on May 25 as we begin an exciting new chapter," said Sales and Marketing Manager Courtney Lawrence.

"We will be completing a full interior renovation in the current store space and are aiming to re-open in mid-June as Supreme Wholesale - a Costco re-sell store bringing those favourite Costco products up to Port Hardy," Lawrence said.

The Smoke Shop will be staying as is.

"We launched our first location, Island Foods Wholesale, in Powell River in October 2025 and it has been a great success. We are thrilled to bring the same concept to the North Island."

Although the Port Hardy location is smaller, "we plan to carry a similar selection of food, beverages, coffee, small appliances, seasonal items, and a core lineup of cooler and freezer products", said Lawrence.

"We will also offer weekly special orders for customers looking for specific Costco items that we do not regularly stock in-store," she said.

"We're opening Supreme Wholesale with over thirty years of experience and knowledge in this grocery retail industry, so we have a great foundation opening this new location. Our focus is on running a dependable store model that has already proven successful at our Powell River location," said Lawrence.

"What sets us apart is that we are a true one-stop operation. Through our other company, Island Foods & Freight, we manage our own logistics and transportation, allowing us to replenish and deliver product as needed. Our senior management is directly involved in ordering and product selection, and our in-house team oversees the logistics, from ordering products, purchasing items, managing product deals, and inventory management," she continued.

"We are excited to continue offering a stable, long-term retail option in the Port Hardy community, as we establish this new venture."



Photo — Submitted

Supreme Convenience is getting a huge makeover as it adds Costco products to its shelves and transforms its Port Hardy location into Supreme Wholesale.



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# editorial



Photo — Robin Quirk, Robin's Eye Photography

Similar to cats, minks make a purring sound when they are content.



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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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# Metal detectorists on hunt for Malcolm Island treasure

By Kathy O'Reilly

Two metal detectorists will be making their way around Malcolm Island on May 29-31, hoping to uncover lost treasures and a few local stories along the way.

BC coastal tugboat captain Jordan Tyers and his longtime friend Seth Lang recently posted a request on Facebook, hoping to connect with Malcolm Island property owners willing to let them detect on their land.

That post has already produced one intriguing lead. Jordan said a waterfront property owner reached out to say there is old folklore about buried treasure on her land, a prospect that immediately caught their attention.

"We sure hope we are able to uncover something really cool to share with the com-

munity," Jordan said.

He added that they will be bringing extra detectors, so any landowners, children, or family members who want to try the hobby alongside them are welcome to join in.

If they uncover anything of significant historical or sentimental value, they say those items would be turned over to the landowner or, where appropriate, to a local historical society.

When detecting on public land, they generally keep the interesting items they find.

Old coins are among their most common finds, with some dating back to the 1850s, but they also uncover a range of other relics and curiosities.

Metal detecting has not made the pair rich, but Jordan said they have found enough valuable items over

the years to more than cover the cost of their equipment.

It is a hobby they take seriously. Last year, they even travelled to North Carolina to attend a metal detecting convention, and Jordan said they always follow a strict "leave no trace" approach.

Seth got into the hobby first and eventually persuaded Jordan to buy a detector of his own.

Jordan said he enjoys both the excitement of finding something unexpected and the research that comes before a trip, including learning more about the history of the coast.

In addition to the thrill of the hunt, Jordan said he enjoys getting into coastal places where there is little visible trace of the past unless you have taken the time to research them.

Continued on Page 6



Photo — Submitted

Metal detectorists Jordan Tyers, right, and Seth Lang will be making their way around Malcolm Island on May 29-31, hoping to uncover lost treasures and a few local stories along the way.

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# YouTube channel documents detecting adventures

Continued from Page 5

For Seth, that fascination began in childhood on Read Island, between Quadra and Cortes islands.

He said that in 1979 his parents bought a large property with six other families that had recently been logged. The land had once been homesteaded in the early 1900s, and remnants of trails and collapsed buildings were still visible.

One day, he recalled, a neighbour was cleaning out the bottom of a well and piling the clay nearby. After the man left, Seth began poking through the clay himself.

There, he found a 1937 silver quarter, a discovery that con-

vinced him he probably needed a metal detector of his own.

Seth said he was about 11 years old, in 1985, when he bought his first metal detector — a Microconolta from Radio Shack in Campbell River — using nearly all of his life savings of \$79.99.

He said metal detecting demands complete focus on the tones in the headphones.

For Seth, the hobby can feel almost meditative, offering both mental clarity and the chance to uncover something interesting.

He said the hobby has always offered him a direct connection to history. As a child on Read Island, finding a toy

in an old homestead made him imagine the children and families who had lived there years before. Growing up on the coast also sparked Seth's interest in regional history, especially the Union Steamships that once served the coast.

He has built a collection of coastal history books and treasures including a 1911 travelling hardware salesman's map showing routes around the islands and north to Pemberton.

He said every pencilled route on that map suggests another place to explore, and that he also spends time in archives, old newspapers, and online sources to build a fuller picture of each site.

As Seth put it, every hole has a surprise at the bottom, and that uncertainty is part of what keeps detectorists coming back.

One memorable surprise

was a 1629 French Double Tournois, which Seth found on the shoreline in West Vancouver.

In 2014, Seth launched his YouTube channel, "Tyece Hunter: The History Beneath," to share the stories behind his finds and adventures.

He said the channel lets him relive his adventures through editing and gives him another creative outlet for telling stories.

He said he now saves new videos for special locations but hopes changing family and work demands will allow him to share more adventures again.

Jordan and Seth do not get out as often as they would like, but they try to take at least a few multi-day trips each year to explore new places — and Malcolm Island is next on that list.



Photos — Seth Lang

A sextant eye piece and doorknob from the Ned Frigon hotel on Drake Island (formerly Limestone) in Quatsino. The trip and subsequent discoveries were recorded on Seth Lang's Youtube channel - Tyece Hunter: The History Beneath. Left, a 1986 US silver dollar found on Tree Island.

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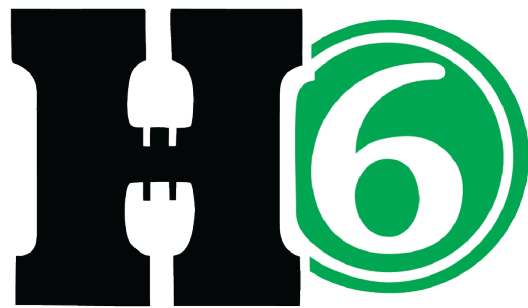
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- Duncan: July 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> - Evans Park
- Salt Spring: July 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> - Portlock Park
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# lifestyles & leisure

## Baker continues culinary journey on the coast

By Kathy O'Reilly

There's a new doctor in town. Doc's Co. Pastry and Delights, a home-based baker with a passion for creating fresh, homemade delights that bring people together, has opened for business.

Owner Daya Theoret studied Baking and Pastry Arts at SAIT in Calgary, Alberta where she is originally from.

"At the end of 2025, I moved to Port Hardy to start a new chapter and continue growing my baking journey on the coast," Daya said.

"The name Doc's Co. comes from my dad. Everyone called him 'Doc' because he was the 'doctor' of just about everything and could fix anything no matter what challenge came with it," she explained.

"Doc's Co. is my way of honouring him and the legacy he left me. The care, pride, and attention to detail he put into everything he did is something I carry into my baking every day."

For Daya, baking is about more than just food. It's about comfort, connection, and cre-

ating something meaningful to share.

From rustic breads and focaccia to muffins, cookies, and seasonal features, everything she makes is crafted in small batches with quality ingredients and a thoughtful, creative touch.

Daya decided to attend SAIT for Baking and Pastry Arts because she has always had a passion for the hospitality industry and has been surrounded by the restaurant world for most of her life.

"I wanted to continue advancing my skills, broaden my knowledge of food, and learn new techniques within baking and pastry arts. Creating products using quality, whole ingredients and making thoughtful ingredient choices has always been important to me," Daya continued.

"Baking has been part of my life for as long as I can remember — even before I could talk, I was in the kitchen. As a child, I would pretend to be sick just so I could stay home and bake cakes and desserts."

What she loves most about baking and pastry is the creativity and connection it brings.

"Baking allows me to combine artistry with technique while creating something that can bring comfort and happiness to people. I enjoy the process of learning new skills, experimenting with flavours, and

challenging myself creatively. There's something incredibly rewarding about turning simple ingredients into something meaningful that people can share and enjoy."

After school, Daya began working in the hospitality industry and eventually worked at Big Horn Café in Radium Hot Springs, where she truly got her start in the baking world.

"It was there that I was able to build my skills, challenge myself creatively, and grow my confidence as a baker."

Port Hardy represents a new beginning for Daya.

"After losing my dad in May of last year and later losing my home in a fire, I knew I needed a fresh start," she said.

"I had visited Port Hardy before and remembered how welcoming the community felt, along with how beautiful the scenery was. Moving here was a difficult decision, but ultimately it became an opportunity for a much-needed new beginning and a chance to rebuild both personally and professionally."

One of the biggest differences between Calgary and Port Hardy has been the sense of community.

"In Port Hardy, people genuinely support local businesses and care about helping the community grow. That level of connection and encouragement can be much harder to



Photos — Submitted

Daya Theoret has opened her home-based business Doc's Co. Pastry and Delights in Port Hardy. Left, one of Daya's creations.

find in a larger city. It's inspiring to see how much people value supporting one another and creating a welcoming environment for small businesses," she said.

Daya started Doc's Co. on May 3, 2026 after spending a great deal of time planning and preparing the vision she had for the business.

Currently, she sells her baked goods through Facebook, email, and phone orders while she continues working on launching her website to make ordering more accessible and convenient for customers.

The response has been overwhelmingly positive and supportive.

Continued on Page



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Photo — Submitted

The Alert Bay Chorus concert took place on Sunday, May 10, Mother's Day, at the Christ Church.

# Alert Bay Chorus uplifts community on Mother's Day

By Catherine Gilbert

An evening with the Alert Bay Chorus can be described with one word: Uplifting! The 19th concert took place on Sunday, May 10, Mother's Day at the lovely Christ Church on Front Street.

Once again, chorus director Jamie Guenter, who taught music for 35 years, lead enthusiastic singers with a repertoire of arrangements ranging from the Beatles' 'Yesterday', to Joni Mitchell's 'Both Sides Now', and rounding out the performance with Toto's 'Africa'. Enjoyable too are Guenter's comments about, and in-

roductions to, each song, in which he skillfully blends an explanation of the song with humour.

It is evident that a great deal of practise goes into each performance, as the sopranos, altos, tenors and bass singers must know their parts well in order to create the beautiful harmonies audiences enjoy. Also singing and working behind the scenes is Guenter's wife Flora Cook, who manages communication and comes up with timely and thoughtful suggestions for making each concert a success. Thank-you to Jamie, Flora and the chorus's dedicated performers.

## Building connections through food

Continued from Page 7

"Starting a new business always comes with challenges and uncertainty, but I've been incredibly grateful for the encouragement I've received

from both customers and other local business owners. The support, advice, and kindness from the community have made the experience very rewarding and have motivated

me to continue growing the business."

Daya really enjoys living in Port Hardy because "it feels like a place built on both adventure and community. Over the past several months, I've learned how important it is to build meaningful connections, support the people around you, and create experiences that bring people together through food and hospitality."

Outside of baking, Daya enjoys spending time outdoors paddle boarding or hiking and exploring the island.

"I love being around nature, trying new things, and finding inspiration in everyday experiences. A lot of my free time still revolves around food and creativity - whether that's testing new recipes, learning new techniques, or creating ideas for future menu items," she said. "I also really enjoy connecting with the community and supporting other local businesses whenever I can."

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• June 14 • June 28 • July 12 • July 26 • Aug. 9  
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**Port McNeill Old School**

## Furniture

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

250-702-2727

## Landscaping

Husqvarna Reel Mower, used once. \$100.

250-284-3365

Downsizing? Your classified ad here Free.

250-949-0337

## 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.

250-884-4286

## Services

Local 3D printing in Port McNeill.

403-620-0033

## Services

Electric yard art and landscaping services. Specializing in outdoor feature lighting, water ponds, custom garden fountains and waterfall features, underground sprinkler systems, drainage pipes, fencing repairs, raised garden beds, greenhouses, walkways, landscaping maintenance and waste removal. Consultations and design quotes are free.

236-255-2238

Red seal journeyman electrician looking for small, residential jobs. 30+ years experience. Reasonable rates. All quotes are free. Call Jesse.

236-255-2238

PALMISTRY, TAROT AND PSYCHIC READINGS with Roxanne. Clear and concise help in all areas of your life. Sessions available by phone or in person (Malcolm Island). Healing-Search.com

604-902-3881

## 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

## Find 10 Differences



*Winsome Wildflower*

Photo — Kathy O'Reilly

Aquilegia formosa, the crimson columbine, western columbine, or red columbine, is a common wildflower native to western North America. It grows to 20–80 centimetres in height.





## 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](mailto: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](http://www.rdmw.bc.ca)

## North Island Reflections



Unearthed fossils of Belted Kingfishers have been dated to two million years ago. 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](mailto:publisher@northislandeagle.com).

*This week's Reflection sponsored by ...*

**McWillkie's**  
HOURS & DAILY SPECIALS

<b>MONDAY:</b>	LIMITED MENU 4PM - 8PM	PITA SECTION
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	LIMITED MENU 4PM - 8PM	PITA SECTION
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	FULL MENU 4PM - 8PM	BURGERS 20% OFF
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	FULL MENU 12PM - 8PM	20% OFF FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	FULL MENU 12PM - 8PM	KIDS EAT FREE FRIDAY!
<b>SATURDAY:</b>	FULL MENU 12PM - 8PM	PITAS ARE 20% OFF
<b>SUNDAY:</b>	FULL MENU 12PM - 8PM	WRAPS ARE 20% OFF

2502099915 | [mcwilkies.ca](http://mcwilkies.ca)



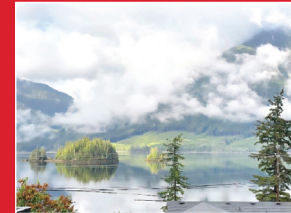
**Royal LePage Advance Realty**  
 4-7035 Market Street, Port Hardy, BC  
**250-949-7231**



**Sandra Masales**  
 Cell: 250-902-9271

## FEATURE PROPERTIES OF THE WEEK

**1112 Maquinna Avenue, Port Alice \$505,000 MLS® # 1021275**



Well maintained ocean view 3 bedroom plus 2 den, 2 bath home. Great view of the Frigon Islets. The kitchen is laid out with the view in mind. 3 bedrooms on the main level, main has a view and full bath beside. Downstairs is a den next to the laundry and 2 piece bathroom. Workshop, another den/office, and family room with connected wet bar. The yard is fully fenced with 2 sheds, perennials and 60 amp wiring available for a hot tub. Plenty of parking and potential access to the back yard from the village easement beyond the back fence.



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

**1111 Nigei Street, Port Alice \$659,000 MLS® # 1031021**



3 bedroom plus den, 2 bathroom 2 level home with beautiful custom woodwork throughout. Upstairs offers original hardwood, 3 bedrooms, family room and full bathroom. Laundry beside the family room. Living room has access to the back yard and is open to the dining area connected to the kitchen. Custom West Coast Alder cabinets. Updates within the last 6 years include a heat pump, new rails on back deck, new metal roof, and bathtub & surround upstairs. Outdoors offer 1/4 acre, 26x33 garage and woodshed. Garden beds.



**Johan Olsen**  
 Cell: 250-209-9667

## Are you thinking of selling? Now is the time!

If you are considering selling your home, now is the perfect time to make your move.

With a significant shortage of homes on the market, your property could be in high demand, potentially leading to a quicker sale and competitive offers.

Buyers are actively searching and with fewer homes available, your listing could stand out more than ever.

Take advantage of this opportunity to maximize your return and work with one of our Realtors® to navigate the process smoothly.

**Don't wait! The market is calling for homes like yours!**

**SOLD — 7710 Cedar Place, Port Hardy!**

To view all our listings go to [porthardyrealestate.net](http://porthardyrealestate.net)



**Melanie McRann**  
 Cell: 778-886-5219