



Elphinstone Community Association

elphinstonecommunity19@gmail.com

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Serving the Elphinstone Community since 1971

General Meeting October 18, 2023 – 7 PM Frank West Hall Minutes

Executive	Rod Moorcroft – President	Clint Budd – Vice President and Co-Secretary
	Trish Wray – Treasurer	Lucie McKiernan – Co-Secretary
	René Mandigo – Membership	Janet Oxley - Director
	Ben Foster - Director	David Weintraub – Director and Webmaster
Absent	Brian Thicke - Director	Tamara Hedden – Director and PAC Rep
Members	Total attendees present at the meeting	17

1. Call to Order	The President called the meeting to order at 7:02pm The land acknowledgement: I would like to acknowledge that we, as Area E residents, are meeting on the unceded lands of the Squamish First Nation and further acknowledge our closest neighbours the Sechelt First Nation. We appreciate their cooperative sharing and will continue to support working toward reconciliation.	Action by Rod
2. Agenda	The agenda was adopted as presented.	



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<p>3. Guest Speaker</p>	<p>Professor Emeritus Anthony Paré and his wife Dawn Allen made a presentation regarding the Sue Big Oil Movement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anthony introduced Dawn as the lead organizer of the Sunshine Coast Sue Big Oil Campaign. They have 40 plus volunteers.• Organized by West Coast Environmental Law – goal of campaign to transform conversation about fossil fuels – the damage and cost and to join all regional districts and local governments, etc into a class action suit.• Broader picture – around the world many legal cases being taken against governments – e.g. Montana group of youth recent win and work being done in California.• Petroleum companies have known for over 50 years – first research done was in the 50s. Geoff Dembicki Petroleum Papers – the oil companies did the science and then suppressed it.• Case underway against big oil in California comes almost entirely from the oil companies’ own information.• This isn’t just a question of policy – it’s a question of justice – injustice committed for all these years lying about affects of their products – response is to what is a massive social injustice.• The hidden documents will come out – going to courts gets it out there.• Also there has been previous success – e.g. tobacco success same arguments.• Costs we experience even locally – damage to our infrastructure, environment, are widespread. Sea level rise – Gibsons will pay \$20M to prepare for possible storm surges. Wildfires – over \$100M costs. SCR D – over \$500,000 due to drought. Reservoir cost will be astronomical.• Contrast the profits of the oil industry - \$3B/day since 1970 – 11B/day in profits today when we can’t afford to fix roads.• Solution – Sue Big Oil campaign – asking all local govts to set aside \$1 dollar of taxes (a one-time contribution) to be	
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<p>4. Director's report</p>	<p>Donna provided the following update:</p> <p>A Month in Elphinstone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonniebrook fire <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- went up extremely fast, fully engaged in a couple of minutes. -- 4 properties damaged including one with no insurance. -- 3 fire departments, 33 fire fighters, had to bring in excavator. -- traffic issues - people impeded firefighters (looky lous and neighbours). -- trucks didn't use the gate through Poplars as it is private property and too dangerous to take large equipment through. • 1908 Gower Point Road <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- MOTI and SCRD descended together and issued stop work order. -- development permit is expired. • Sunnyside Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- the official line is in my newsletter and on the ECA Facebook page. -- as part of original development was supposed to be transferred to SCRD as a park, but land transfer never went through. -- sewer system serves 11 properties, currently 8 users. -- septic field is under the swing sets. -- listing price is \$629,000; assessed value is \$7,300. <p>Other Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cliff Gilker Park closed due to rain. • UBCM this year was a Super Spreader event – long days and little if any mitigation plan against flu or covid. Legislative Reform Initiative Panel - well attended - I have slides - we also met with Premier Eby at AVICC luncheon. • Water (see her newsletter) <p>Rod: what's the plan? A: I asked Remko about updating our 2013 Comprehensive Reg Water Plan. He said: That plan is a bunch of engineering studies, but there's no strategy or priorities. So, if a project falls through or another project comes up, then what? What staff are working on now is a water STRATEGY that will guide our directions and decisions going forward. So that's next, early in the new year.</p> • Culvert under Gower Point is replaced!!! Just before rains. It was noted from the floor that they have only replaced the culvert – more repair work needed to the road and safety barrier on the ocean side. 	<p>Donna</p>
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5. Adoption of previous minutes	The minutes from the June 23, 2023 general meeting were accepted as per website.	
6. Correspondence	None.	
7. Reports		
1. President	No report.	Rod
2. Vice Pres.	No report.	Clint
3. Treasurer	Trish reported the following: Chequing account \$2,396.70; Savings account \$1,118.78; Share account \$138.53. Motion to send \$100 to the Royal Canadian Legion Gibsons for the poppy fund – Trish/Rene carried. Motion to accept the Treasurer’s report – Trish/George carried.	Trish
4. Secretary	No report.	Lucie
5. Membership	Rene reported ECA has 96 paid members.	René



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6. PAC	<p>Tamara was unable to attend the meeting and sent this report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cedar Grove is off to a great start with an eager PAC, who are all excited for the year ahead! • Classes were back as of Sept 5th but classes not designated until Friday Sept 8th (some students & parents upset with time it took). • Our gaming grant was approved & deposited. • Our hot lunch program is back as of October with service 5 days a week, and we are full of volunteers for hot lunch duties! • Breakfast table program is back as of Oct & the PAC is running a " Fill our Freezer" division contest to help with healthy, nut-free items to contribute to the breakfast table in October and January. • Popcorn was once again donated by a generous parent for every student for the year! We opted to go down to popcorn bi-weekly to reduce waste & cut product supplies down. 18 total popcorn days in school year. • Our alternative "Fun"draiser made over \$1200. • Welcome back BBQ was a success with a small profit of \$187.50 after paying \$197 in groceries. • Our principal Mrs. McInnes is offering Mindfulness Mornings at 7:50am each Thursday for students & parents, its refreshing!! • We are currently in Active Transportation week at SD46 & this morning Cedar Grove was selected for the ICBC Road Blitz where two students were randomly selected to hand out student made tickets! • We have an increase of subsidized students this year which the PAC will work with Robert's Creek Community Schools to provide bagged lunches & allow underprivileged students to receive hot lunches. • I've been asked to attend a few other SD46 PAC meetings and discuss our PAC's speeding prevention program & our fundraising success, apparently CGES is a well-known and well-off PAC. • I have several guest speakers lined up this year & a few really fun events planned which I can get into next general as we are scheduling the dates and picking the names in our Nov meeting. • Myself & our DPAC rep Simon are attending SD46's "How to Run a Successful PAC Meeting" with a guest speaker on November 2nd. 	Tamara
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7. APC	<p>APC report</p> <p>Anthony Paré recently volunteered to sit on the APC as Rod stepped down. Here is his report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisory Planning Commission – meets when SCRD asks usually to review issues of development and land use. • Block D is a development project, no action currently. • Topics – no development issues recently. • Regional Growth Framework – SCRD developing policy – and is sharing with APCs for ongoing discussion – Elphinstone is asking for various responses on this policy. • APC encouraging SCRD to develop infographics and plain language. • Sept meeting – BC Timber Sales Operating Plan – 240 page doc, outlines their plans for logging – George Vintner guest with Reid Road Forest Working Group including Suzanne Senger – long discussion re watershed protection, can crown land be designated to protect watersheds, lots of recommendations. Doesn't look at downstream effects – recommendations are for broader mandate to look at that kind of thing. • Encouraging the SCRD to put watershed protection as primary goal. • APC meetings are open to the public –APC minutes and agendas are on SCRD website. Suggestion from the floor to advertise – Rod will send out a notice. <p>Discussion:</p> <p>Q – Do they consider protection all the way down to the creek?</p> <p>A - MoTI – just doesn't care and want to go ahead pushing the road through. Lot D refers. Last letter send to David Eby explains the concern.</p> <p>Q - Could we go the political route through Nicolas Simons?</p> <p>A - Rod will provide an email address of someone who was involved.</p>	Anthony
Comm Reports		



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Chaster House / Park Standing Comm.	See Below – Committee Reports - Chaster House/Park Report	Brian
Website Standing Comm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David reported that he has added a custom map of all farm stands in Area E to the website. • He requested that members please share info from the website with their social network. • Suggestion from the floor to encourage young people to share information about ECA. 	David
Socials Standing Comm.	Clint reported that there will be a social event in January and he will be seeking suggestions at the November general meeting. In the meantime, if you have suggestions, please contact Clint.	Clint
Trails Standing Comm.	No report.	Brian
Area E Roads Standing Comm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poplars and Woodcreek have very similar concerns with regard to speed limits and crosswalks. ECA is willing to help and have tried in the past. We need specific input in writing. • We await the appointment of a replacement for Gundula. • New culvert on GPR – Rene has taken photos. • Rene asked again for residents to send in information about road problems and she emphasized that we want to work collaboratively with Capilano Roads and local residents to 	René
Neighbourhood Associations	No attendees present.	
8. Old Business	<p>Liability insurance</p> <p>Lucie has a phone call scheduled for October 24 with Jessica Huntington SCRCD to follow up on this issue. This took a back seat during the summer but is still being worked on.</p>	Lucie



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9. New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 15th general meeting guest speaker – Nancy Hughes emergency planning workshop. • Ideas for potential future topics and speakers. We need your thoughts with contact information. • Janet would like to get word out about our meetings – letters to Coast Reporter? It could go in the CR Event column regularly and the information can go on our website and people can share on Facebook etc. • Porta potty for Chaster 9.5House – deferred to the November board meeting. • Teijo’s notice – see below. 	<p>Lucie Floor</p> <p>Janet Janet</p>
10. Next meetings	<p>November 8 Board meeting 7pm via zoom</p> <p>November 15 General meeting 7pm at Frank West Hall with Nancy Hughes</p> <p>December – no meeting</p> <p>January – Social TBA</p>	
11. Adjournment	<p>Adjournment was called and Clint raised the idea of sending a letter of appreciation to Gayle and Ron for their contribution. This could be followed by others.</p> <p>Motion – for the board to authorize a letter of appreciation at Christmas to the people who have contributed to Elphinstone not just members of ECA – Clint/Trish - carried</p> <p>Clint would like suggestions for worthy people.</p> <p>Trish moved adjournment at 9:04pm.</p>	

Committee Reports

Chaster House/Park Report

Two developments over the summer.

Chaster House bridge has now got a consultant coming up with alternative bridge designs c/w costs for community and SCR D Board consideration. At the time of the meeting in early September there were three options being considered. All involved higher bridges. The options are shown on the attached map. The intention was to design a completely new bridge from well beyond the creek boundaries that didn’t infringe on any jurisdictions requiring lengthy studies for approvals. (I’m not sure that is possible.) The consultant was promoting Option 1 as his favourite at the time of the meeting. A report



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with preliminary designs and costs for a 4-foot-wide pedestrian bridge at each alternative location will be forthcoming. A 6-foot-wide bridge costs 50% more than a 4-foot-wide bridge. The community as a whole will have a chance to comment on the alternatives. The option of simply repairing the bridge foundation was not thought to be viable given the high overflowing flows being experienced nowadays. Removing old bridge abutments, widening the creek channel and repairing the retaining wall (all needed) were considered to be a second phase of the work to be done later, separately.

A community lead improvement project (CLIP) was submitted to SCRD Parks for hiring a Coastal Engineer to come up with ideas for protecting Chaster Park from erosion. SCRD Parks informed us that budget constraints were such that only urgent/emergency projects were going to be considered in next year's budget 2024. The cost is going to be roughly \$75k for the Coastal Engineer's study and probably another \$25k before there are any shovels in the ground for some (much?) cheaper physical work. It sounds like a lot of money but I reckon that is what oceanfront/riparian development is costing these days to get permits. Governments make the rules, now even they have to live by them. However, to realistically have SCRD staff budget that amount of money and SCRD board approve it there has to be a real community need. I think Chaster Park is a pretty heavily used park, it is eroding away when there are big storms from creek flow and ocean waves. We probably need a good letter outlining the community usage and park's deteriorating condition to go to SCRD Parks (again). Unfortunately, the SCRD Parks manager we have been working with has now left and I'm not sure where any of this stands.

See map following

Teijo's Notice

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Shaundeh Runka** <srunka@sfu.ca>

Date: Mon, Oct 16, 2023 at 8:23 PM

Subject: Firesmart Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Meeting Friday Oct 20 10:30am

To: Teijo & Nadine Sallinen <tsallinen@telus.net>

Neighbours,

The SCRD Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (Bill Higgs) will be coming to Bonniebrook to carry out a Neighbourhood Wildfire Hazard Assessment Friday October 20 at 10:30am-12:00pm. **Any neighbours interested in participating in the meeting can join in.** We will meet on the edge of Georgia Crest Park near the park 'sign' on Harry Road at 10:30am. You can read more about the assessment in the link below

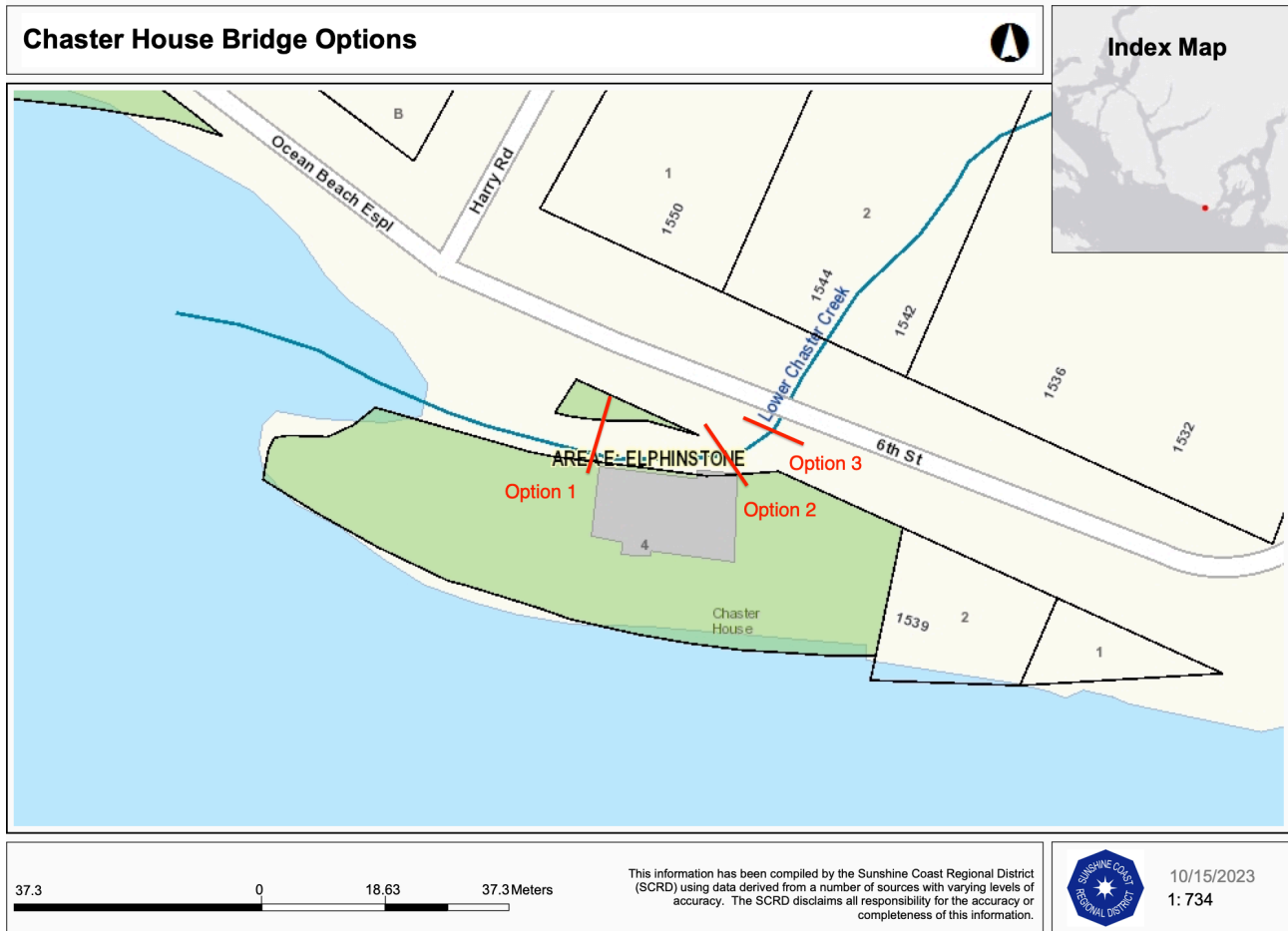


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https://firesmartbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/FireSmartNeighbourhoodWildfireHazardAssessment_2023_Fillable.pdf

And more about Firesmart for your own property and home here https://firesmartbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/05.30.23_BeginsatHomeGuide_Web.pdf

We requested this meeting and assessment based our concern about wildfires, fuel load in the park, the fact that Bonniebrook is bordered on two sides by vegetated ravines and our limited access for evacuation. This meeting is not about assessing individual properties. You can request a free assessment on the SCRD website for that if you are interested.

Meeting organizers,
Shaundehl Runka
Mike Mitchell