



Elphinstone Community Association

info@elphinstonecommunity.ca

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Serving the Elphinstone Community since 1971

General Meeting Minutes February 18, 2026 – 7 PM Frank West Hall

Executive	Rod Moorcroft – President	Brian Thicke – First Vice President
	David Weintraub – Webmaster & Second VP	McKiernan - Secretary
	Jonathan Weintraub - Membership	
	Tamara Hedden – DPAC & Roads	
Absent	Trish Wray - Treasurer	
Members	Estimated at general meeting	15

1. Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.	Action by Chair
2. Agenda	The agenda was adopted: Motion Lucie/Tamara carried.	
3. Director's report	<p>Donna gave the following report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oceanview Drive – signal light is now working. • Winter go by bike week this week. • Guerilla bridge repair at Cliff Gilker – volunteers made repairs and placed a sign “use at your own risk.” SCRDR had to reclose the bridge as they own it and would be liable for any injuries should it collapse. • Mountie budget – no final numbers yet. • Electoral Area Services Committee tomorrow – alternate will attend. Number of secondary suites – estimate of 3.5% was based on legal suites. It seems at least three quarters of suites are not legal. • SCRDR will sponsor a percentage of costs for a student to attend the AVIIC (Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities). Colin Smart local student. Great opportunity for a student. MLA Randene Neill will cover the balance of costs. • SCRDR launching engagements – OCP invites people to fill out the questionnaire which will include input on solid waste management. • Newsletter coming out next week. 	Donna



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- She's hearing concerns about invasive species. She suggests partnering with First Nations.
- Halfmoon Bay Community Forum – RVs and housing. People are living in RVs which raises many issues – e.g. building code, public health issues with waste systems. She'd like everyone to come to the table and hash out solutions that will work. Not going away. Lots of problems related to mobile home parks.
- Block D – no updates – she's waiting to hear from MOTT. She might ask for Randene's help.
- Town of Gibsons new storm water regulation bylaw. Deals with the Town only. They will go to public input. The current stormwater plan has stalled and there are a number of problems. This does affect Area E. She's checking with planning.
- Fire Commission – Langdale folks past YMCA road are not covered by emergency fire response. Gibsons mayor against expansion – Area E and F voted in favour of a boundary extension study which would include that area. The challenge is that there are no fire hydrants so would be very expensive to expand. Need an answer – insurance challenges and people are fearful.
- Ditches – 7th Elphinstone ditch cleanup. Upcoming March 7.
- Sunday March 1 Farmers Institute mtg at Grounded Acres.
- Mid-March initial reports on parks service review.
- One on One with CAO Friday.
- Quarterly mtg with MOTT.
- Women's Campaign School Feb 28 – pass on to anyone who might be interested. They don't have to be planning to run this year but maybe in the future.
- March 10-13 – various meetings and panels. Free speech for local electeds is one of her interests.
- Howe Sound mtg.
- April 22-26 UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) Annual conference in Victoria.
- Seniors Advocate visiting in June. Gibsons Seniors Society are involved in the planning so that people from Gibsons will



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	<p>be covered, either with a visit or planning transportation to the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial budget – no comment so far. • Mayor White sent letter to BC ferries re our route losing money – last week BC ferries put out report – why are we losing so much money- old ferry, crewing problems, cost of hotels, need for extra sailings expense, cost of HB terminal apportioned based on number of sailings – can’t win situation. Interesting report. <p>Q and A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern raised about speeders on Chaster past the school. Tamara addressed this personally with the member during the break. • Why can’t the bridges just get fixed in Cliff Gilker – Donna noted that it’s in the workplan this year, she’s not sure when. 	
4. Guest Speaker	Stephanie and Danni from Quality Garden – Chafer Beetle See below for the notes.	
	Social break – general only	
5. Adoption of previous minutes	The minutes for November 19, 2025 were adopted: Motion: Lucie/Tamara carried.	
6. Correspondence	None.	
7. Reports		
1. President	No report.	Rod
2. Vice Pres.	No report.	
3. Treasurer	Trish reported: Savings \$1,095.38; Chequing \$1,805.87, Streamkeepers on hold \$1,000.	Trish
4. Secretary	No report.	Lucie
5. Membership	2 new members.	Jonathan
6. DPAC	<p>Tamara is now the DPAC Chair for the District</p> <p>She provided the following report after the meeting:</p> <p>What is DPAC?</p> <p>District Parent Advisory Councils (DPACs) are the legislated parent voice at the school district level, representing the collective views of school parents’ advisory councils in a school district. DPACs</p>	Tamara



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advocate for family engagement in the education system and give input into the development of education policy and curricula.

The DPAC is an opportunity for parents, principals, senior administration and trustees to learn together about how we can support our schools right across the district to be as effective as possible. We have presentations on curriculum issues, operational issues (budget, staffing, facilities) and conversations about parent and guardian perspectives of where we should be focusing our efforts in our district.

Each PAC is encouraged to send a delegate or two (or more!) to the DPAC meeting. **All SD46 parents/caregivers are welcome to attend any of the meetings!**

Want to find out more about DPAC? Visit the website of the provincial PAC body, [BCCPAC](#) (BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils).

Other documents that will help you understand the DPAC's role:

- [Ministry of Education Manual of School Law](#) (go to Division 2 – Parents, once you download the School Act in the Manual of School Law).
- Sunshine Coast DPAC Constitution and Bylaws: [Revised Constitution and Bylaws \(2025\)](#)
- [\(D\)PAC 101: BCCPAC November 2019 PowerPoint Presentation](#)

What does DPAC do?

DPACs supports PACs and parents to engage with the school system by providing regular forums for the exchange of ideas to ensure that public education serves the best interest of all students.

In our School District there is 13 schools total

- 9 Elementary schools

- 4 Secondary schools

With a total of 3548 students District wide.

Our District's total student capacity is 3700 students.



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The SD46 amended annual budget was just released during a Feb 11th Board meeting. 2025/26 Budget is \$68, 475, 319.00.

If you'd like more details I've provided the budget link below.

https://sd46.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/25-26_amended_annual_budget_v14-5_web.pdf

If anyone would like a copy of February's District newsletter please don't hesitate to reach out to me at

Tamara Hedden

Chair, SD46 District Parent Advisory Council

sd46.bc.ca/families-and-students/dpac/

sd46dpac@gmail.com



DPAC

District Parent Advisory Council
Sunshine Coast School District 46

7. APC	No report.	
8. Directors at Large	No report.	
Comm Reports		
Chaster House / Park Standing Comm.	<p>Brian gave the latest from the SCRD and our February 9th. Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Met with SCRD - \$143,000 to build access around east end of Chaster House. Plan to make accessible. Brian and cohort feel that the bridge could be replaced with something simple like a gangplank. RD have asked for proposal – they are working on it. Could be cheaper than building pathway around east end. Save walking across the bridge. Could delay by a year while it is under review. Input – willing to wait for another year while they consider the proposal? Suggestion 	Brian



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	<p>was the bridge solution could be put in in the time it might take them to do the other repair.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cedar tree branch near the house has been removed. 	
Website Standing Comm.		David
Socials Standing Comm.	Rod attended and reported that attendance was small, about 14 or 15 attendees and it was a good Social.	Clint
Trails Standing Comm.	<p>1 Should we consider a new trail project.</p> <p>1.1 Circle routes</p> <p>1.2 Two suggestions – see 2 screen captures below. Rod – pushing the Pratt/Mahon/Kearton – proposal to put a trail through – Kearton connector. There is support for this. Trail builders are just anyone interested in trail building in Area E. They may or may not be members of ECA.</p>	Brian
Area E Roads Standing Comm.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cedar Grove speeding issue – Tamara is on the SD’s Active Transportation Committee lobbying for changes at the school on Chaster. • Also, complaints re the new 4-way stop – people speeding through without stopping. Tamara is still advocating for pedestrian controlled crosswalk there. Also, installation of an advance light that lets you know you’re speeding. 	Tamara
Neighbourhood Associations	No report.	
8. Old Business	None.	
9. New Business	<p>Mahon Trail update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water issues - flooding – managed to get SCR D to have a look. MOTT meeting will be discussing this. <p>Area E clean-up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 7 Lee’s cleanup <p>Letter from Angela updating the Smales/Whittaker Creek:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angela applied for a grant to check on flooding on Whittaker Creek. She will be providing a report. She will also make a donation to Gibsons Museum from the residual funds as they were very helpful with the research she needed. <p>Liaison with other CA’s:</p>	Rod Lee Angela Lucie Rod



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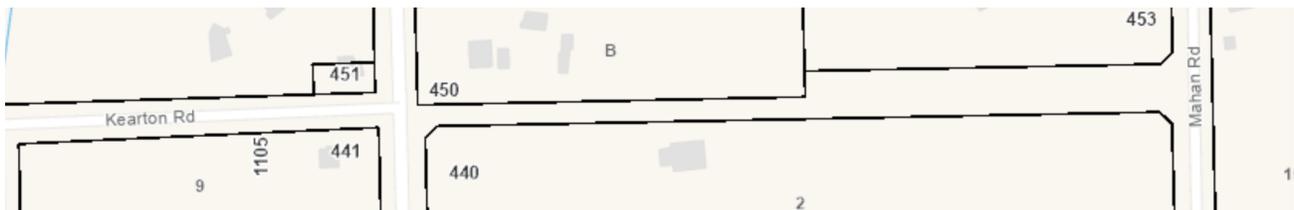
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are now keeping WHSCA and xRCCA informed of our monthly speakers. <p>Woodcreek Park Highway Light:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A celebration was held to celebrate the activation of this new light after many years of advocacy. <p>Side Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gayle Nielson and husband who both volunteered many years to ECA and now live in Port Moody were just visiting and said hello to everyone. 	
<p>10. Next meeting</p>	<p>March 11 Board Mtg via zoom March 18 General Mtg: Speaker Quality Garden – general gardening April 8 Board Mtg via zoom April 15 General Mtg: Speaker Banditry Cider May 13 Board Mtg via zoom May 20 General Mtg: Speaker SCR D Flood mapping June 10 Board Mtg via zoom: Rod is away June 17 General Mtg: Speaker SCR D Evacuation – still TBC July 19 Sunday Summer social August - No meetings September – No Meetings</p>	
<p>11. Adjournment</p>	<p>Lucie moved to adjourn at 8:53pm.</p>	

Committee Reports

Two screen captures below





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- Where did these beetles come from? Probably transported in somehow soil sod etc. they are from Europe, first case New West. Small brown beetle – grub is C-shape body and brown head. Mature grubs 25mm long. Native beetles don't cause as much damage.
- How can we manage it – winter grubs go deeper; best bet is to plan ahead. If we all get together and work on mitigation, all taking action together to reduce the population.
- Mid July to end Sept – apply nematodes – microscopic worm that goes after specific prey. There is one that focuses on these larvae. Another bacterium - BTG – another organic method. Timing critical re nematodes, temperature all is important for both these solutions and the application needs water.
- How many people are doing it in a given area – not a cheap solution but one of the best chances to get control over them. Chemical options toxic and not as effective, not an option. The nematodes need water so this can be a challenge in drought time – mode of application, knowing you can keep the area wet. If we have a drought be aware of lack of water and how effective these solutions will be. Local governments might not be OK with use of water.
- Prevention – maintain a healthy lawn – keep it to a small area. They have products.
- Plant something that isn't all grass – wildflower garden, mixed grasses, clover with grass seed, drought smart blend of grasses – plant something different. Pollinator friendly garden. They have a variety of products. Keep your grass moist and well fed leave it a bit longer – beetles prefer short grass and like it hot and dry.
- Japanese beetle trap – Japanese beetles will also attack lawns – currently being monitored.
- Nematodes and Grub be Gone are coming in. Sign up if you'd like them to call you.
- Native wildflowers – pollinator friendly mixes, creeping thyme, Woolley Thyme low growing plants, Kinnikinick not high maintenance, moss, Japanese style garden with mixture of shrubs and dry river.

Stephanie and Danni had several draw prizes and information handouts. Thank you to them for attending. They will be back next month to talk about general spring gardening info.