



The Echo

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**Office Hours –
 M-F 0900-1700H**

**SERVICE
 CONTACTS**

**Public Works &
 After Hours Emergencies**

250-974-7091

Animal Control

250-974-4188

Recycling

250-974-4216

Boat Harbour

250-974-5727

Community Hall

250-974-2649

Fire Hall

250-974-5332

Visitor Centre

250-974-5024

Campground

250-974-7028

EMERGENCY- 911



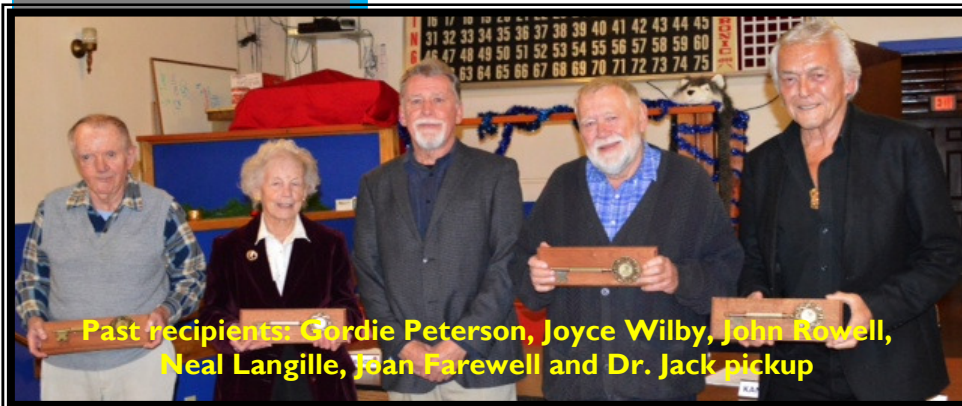
*Happy New Year from
 Village Council & Staff!*

Freedom of the Municipality

The Community Charter of the Province of British Columbia allows the duly-elected Council of the Corporation of the Village of Alert Bay, by unanimous vote, to award the distinction of Freedom of the Municipality to a person who has demonstrated outstanding service to the Community and, as a recipient of the award is (a), thereby deemed to be an elector of the Municipality and is eligible to be registered as such and to vote in an election for Mayor or Councillor and (b), as a Canadian citizen, is deemed to be qualified to be nominated, be elected and hold office on the Council of the Village of Alert Bay.

The award was given to William 'Bill' Cranmer on December 8th at the Legion, with past Freeman, outgoing Council, the newly elected Council, staff and attendees looking on, prior to the inaugural meeting of Council. Bill was recognized for his dedicated efforts towards the improvement of the Health, Socio-Economic and Cultural environment for the benefit of all Cormorant Island Citizens and has been a staunch supporter of, the Historic Alert Bay Accord, an instrument that promotes cooperation and collaboration between the 'Namgis First Nation and the Village of Alert Bay on matters related to an improved quality of life for all of the citizens of Cormorant Island.

Thank you to all that came out to celebrate this award and your continued service to our Island.



Past recipients: Gordie Peterson, Joyce Wilby, John Rowell, Neal Langille, Jean Farewell and Dr. Jack pickup

Look, Listen & be Seen: Safety tips for pedestrians

Look: make eye contact with drivers when crossing the street. Never assume the driver has seen you.

Listen: focus all of your attention on what's happening around you. Remove your headphones/ear buds, stay off your cell or other devices.

Be Seen: Wear bright, reflective clothing or gear to help drivers see you, especially at night & in poor weather conditions.

ICBC Pedestrian Safety Reflector

Get yours by dropping into the Village Office and say "Can you see me?" and we'll give you your very own reflector. 1 per person, quantities limited.



CORMORANT ISLAND *Tides of Change*



ECONOMIC PLANNING: NOT AS BORING AS YOU THOUGHT

Did you know almost 65 people came out on November 6th to talk about the local economy? With prizes, donuts, and a number of different activities, we thought the event was, dare we say, fun.

Along with the results from the economic survey (156 participants!), we now have a tonne of feedback from the community, and the plan is starting to take shape. Some common themes: harbour redevelopment, marine fuel, entrepreneurship support, local foods, and several others.

Check out the project website to read the full results from the event and the survey (cormorantisland.wix.com/cormorantisland). Or ask for paper copies at the Village or 'Namgis offices.

Podium

Every month, we'll be featuring someone from Alert Bay in this new section, Podium.

Know someone we should be proud of? Send us a picture and the details!

Thanks to Lois Matilpi for suggesting we do this!

This month's Podium puts the spotlight on the Alert Bay Chorus, led by 2014's Citizen of the Year, Jamie Guenther. This year, in addition to the Christmas concert, Candlelight service and Moonlight Madness, the choir travelled to Port McNeill to sing at the Baptist Church. What a talented and dedicated group!



Thanks to Robin Quirk for the photos

THRIFT STORE HOURS

The Thrift Store will reopen January 6.

WEATHER CAMERAS

NavCanada has installed two cameras at the airstrip to show the current airport weather & visibility conditions. There are over 100 cameras installed across Canada at uncontrolled airports. This allows pilots to make a decision whether to land or not when planning a trip. Alert Bay's cameras are now accessible at:

<http://www.metcam.navcanada.ca/dawc/lb/cameraSite.jsp?lang=e&id=183>

HELP THE ECHO!

Give us something to print! Send your photos, articles, comments and poems to apritchard@alertbay.ca.

Chronic Pain Self Management

Course being held in Port McNeill for all those interested in managing their chronic pain (arthritis, cancer pain, back pain, injuries...)

It runs for 6 consecutive Tuesdays starting January 13- February 17, 2015 at 1:30-4:00pm.

There are only 9 spots available. Call 1-866-902-3767 to register.

WINTER WATER TIPS

A sustained period of iciness and wintry conditions could mean that you are more likely to experience problems with your water pipes than in recent years.

Frozen and burst pipes are inconvenient, and leaks are often expensive to repair. Prepare yourself this winter and avoid the unnecessary waste of water and damage to your home that burst pipes can bring.

Act *now* to protect your property before the weather worsens. Read our tips and advice so that you can prepare for the worst.

Read on for some useful tips:

1. Even a low heat can help you to avoid problems, maintain low heat whilst you are out during the day, during the night and if you are away for a few days.
2. A dripping tap is a sign of a problem and should be fixed, even a gentle trickle of water could freeze and block the pipe.
3. If you have outside taps, insulate them, or even better, turn them off and drain them (leaving tap open to allow any ice to escape) at their stop tap during the winter period.
4. Check your home insurance to ensure you are covered for any emergency repairs.
5. Keep the number of a reputable plumber handy.
6. Protect your pipes
7. Locate and label your stop tap/s, these are usually found in the kitchen or utility room, or in a ground floor bathroom or garage - most likely wherever the water pipe enters the premises.
8. Leave your loft hatch slightly open to allow warm air to enter your roof space.

Leaving a tap running may seem like a good idea, but the wasted water is expensive! Check this website out to see how much water you are wasting. <http://www.awwa.org/awwa/waterwiser/dripcalc.cfm>



Do you have Questions about Accessing Health Services in Mount Waddington?

Call: 1-855-902-6048

Text: 250-230-6048

Serving all communities in Mount Waddington

Phone and texts are answered

Monday to Friday 8:30 am – 4:30pm

Afterhours, weekends and statutory holidays, you can leave a message and a person will call or text you back by the end of the next business day

The phone is answered by a real person who will:

Provide information as requested about non-acute health & wellness services offered by Island Health and our Community Partners

If appropriate, take initial information and create a referral to Island Health and or Community Partner programs or services



Coming Events

Hot tea month!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY! VILLAGE OFFICE & ICBC CLOSED!	2	3 LEARN YOUR NAME IN MORSE CODE DAY! A - . . . B - . . . C - . . . D - . . . E - . . . F - . . . G - . . . H - . . . I - . . . K - . . . L - . . . M - . . . N - . . . O - . . . P - . . . Q - . . . R - . . . S - . . . T - . . . U - . . . V - . . . W - . . . X - . . . Y - . . . Z - . . .
4 BRAILLE DAY! 	5 FORGET YOUR FAD DIET DAY!	6	7 DRESS UP (LIKE) YOUR PET DAY! 	8	9 CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP! LEAVE YOUR TREE AT THE CURB. Village of Alert Bay Only 	10 READ A POEM OUT LOUD DAY!
11 MARZIPAN DAY! 	12	13 ANSWER YOUR CAT'S QUESTIONS DAY! 	14	15 GET TO KNOW YOUR CUSTOMERS DAY!	16	17 SPLASH IN A PUDDLE DAY!
18 THESAURUS DAY WHAT'S ANOTHER WORD FOR THESAURUS? 	19 Shoprite Customer Appreciation Day 	20 PENGUIN AWARENESS DAY! 	21 	22 SQUIRREL APPRECIATION DAY WHAT A VERY FINE TAIL! 	23	24
25 	26 BUBBLE WRAP APPRECIATION DAY!	27 	28 KAZOO DAY 	29 Shoprite Seniors Day 	30 FUN AT WORK DAY! 	31

Karate at the Community Hall—
Drop in the Village office to find out more!

Call 974-5448 for Bowling !

Winter Driving Tips



Winter driving can sometimes be a daunting task, especially when conditions are snowy or icy. Follow these steps to keep yourself safe and collision free during the next few blustery winter months.

Step 1: Make sure that your vehicle is prepared for winter driving.

- Winter tires are a good option, as they will provide greater traction under snowy or icy conditions.
- Keep a snow brush/scraper in your car, along with possible emergency items such as a lightweight shovel, battery jumper cables, and a flashlight.
- Make sure that mirrors, all windows, and the top of your vehicle, are free of snow or frost before getting onto the road.

Step 2: Drive smoothly and slowly

- Don't make any abrupt turns or stops when driving. Doing so will often cause your vehicle to lose control and skid.
- Driving too quickly is the main cause of winter collisions. Be sure to drive slowly and carefully on snow and ice covered roads.

Step 3: Don't tailgate.

- Tailgating becomes much worse in winter weather. Stopping takes much longer on snowy and icy roads than on dry pavement, so be sure to leave enough room between your vehicle and the one in front of you.

Step 4: Brake before making turns.

- Brake slowly to reduce speed before entering turns. Once you have rounded the corner you can accelerate again.

Step 5: Learn how to control skids.

- When skidding, you actually need to go against your natural instincts and turn into the skid and accelerate. Doing so transfers your vehicle's weight from the front to the rear and often helps vehicles to regain control.

Step 6: Lights On.

- Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.

Step 7: No Cruise Control.

- Never use cruise control if conditions are snowy, icy, or wet, because if your car hydroplanes, your car will try to accelerate and you may lose control of your vehicle.

Step 8: Don't "pump" the brakes.

- If your vehicle is equipped with an anti-lock braking system (ABS), do not "pump" the brakes. Apply constant pressure and let the system do its work.

Step 9: Pay attention.

- Manoeuvres are more difficult to make in the snow. Be sure to anticipate what your next move is going to be to give yourself lots of room for turns and stopping.

Step 10: Be smart.

- If your vehicle is not winter ready, leave it at home. Your work, appointments or other activities are not worth the risk.
- If you are not a confident winter driver, find an alternate means of transportation. A friend or other public means of transportation.
- Winter weather is unpredictable. Although our Public Works department strives to make the roads useable over the winter months, it is up to you as a driver to make the right choices.

Thank you to Canada Safety Council for most of these tips!

How can I reduce litter?

As a homeowner or renter:

Have enough trash cans.
Keep lids tightly secured.
Bag trash to keep it from scattering.

As a pedestrian:

Keep litter until reaching a trash container.

As a business owner:

Keep your dumpster area free of debris.
Work with the recycling center to recycle your cardboard and office paper.

As a concerned citizen:

Encourage others to take pride in a clean Cormorant island.
Participate in the Great Canadian Shoreline Clean UP
-- an annual event to clean up our beaches.
Organize volunteer activities to clean up the community

Be a good example to your children and friends and
NEVER LITTER.

Want to start something? Need support helping out the community? Give us a call 250-974-5213



As a motorist or passenger:

Carry and use a litter bag in your automobile.
Recycle your plastic grocery bags. They work great.
Just use it, toss it, and replace it.

As a truck operator:

Secure and cover loads.
IT'S THE LAW.

Using garbage bins around town

The use of the garbage bins around town is not for your personal waste. Adding to these garbage bins only increases the amount of litter around the community. Get your garbage tags and place your extra garbage at the curb or take your refuse to the dump.

In addition to the extra garbage around the community the cost for this dumping is passed onto all of our customers on the Island and fees may have to be increased to compensate for this.

Please ensure that you pay for your garbage so that others don't have to.

If you have questions about how to get your extra garbage tags, give us a call at 250-974-5213

