



The FRIENDS OF CORTES ISLAND Newsletter

SUMMER 2017

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter! We are pleased to be announcing the line-up for our Summer Activities Program. Read on to get the scoop on our parks maintenance contract, our new LOVE THE LAKES initiative and how you can spot a SPECIES AT RISK. Also in this issue, you can find out about our NEW WEBSITE, become a member, and join our 25th Anniversary Appeal!

SUMMER ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

HAVE FUN, LEARN, DISCOVER!

We have a great selection of exciting activities coming up this summer – and some AWESOME presenters! Our program includes everything from the very popular low tide explorations at Manson's Lagoon with Lynne Jordan and nature photography workshop with Richard Trueman, to a brand new eco-poetry workshop with poet, Priya Huffman, and a nature walk through the Whaletown Commons with Oliver Kellhammer.

Add in a hike to Von Donop, green theatre performances, and Linnaea Farm Tours, and you've got a full roster of fabulous events. We hope you'll join us! Please visit our website friendsofcortes.org to find out more. Contact us at the FOCI office to make your bookings.

REGIONAL PARKS CONTRACT

We are very pleased to have awarded the 2017-2020 regional parks' maintenance contract for the following parks and trails: Kw'as Park, Carrington Bay Park, Whale's Rest Park, Siskin Forest Park and Trails, and the Gnat, Hayes, Moon, and Seascape beach accesses.

The work includes trails' maintenance, vegetation management, litter removal, and invasive species control, and is carried out by our awesome parks team – Ryan Harvey and Alex Bernier.

We will be endeavouring to keep these parks and trails well maintained and in great shape for everyone's enjoyment. Please contact the FOCI office if you spot any hazards while you are out on the trails, such as fallen trees, wasp nests, etc. and we will do our best to resolve them.

PARKS BROCHURES CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM OUR WEBSITE OR PICKED UP AT THE FOCI OFFICE.

LOVE THE LAKES!

A NEW INITIATIVE OF FOCI

Many people will remember the significant algal blooms that occurred on Hague and Gunflint lakes in 2014. FOCI has been monitoring them ever since to try to understand what's happening and what can be done to keep them healthy. On June 20 we will be launching a new report on the lakes, which reviews our findings, research, and historical data, and sets out recommendations for action.

We will also be launching our Love the Lakes initiative to encourage everyone to do what they can to help. Come along to our evening presentation at 7pm Manson's Hall to find out more.

Keep watch too for our **LOVE THE LAKES DAY ON 29 JULY**, and our beautiful new Love the Lakes T shirts that will be on sale this summer. Buy one to support our work and show you love the lakes!



Lake monitoring in action! We love our volunteers!

NEW WEBSITE

We have recently redesigned and updated our website at friendsofcortes.org – head on over and take a peek! Get information about our projects, keep up to date with news and events, look for volunteer opportunities, sign up for a FOCI Membership and donate online to our fundraising appeals!





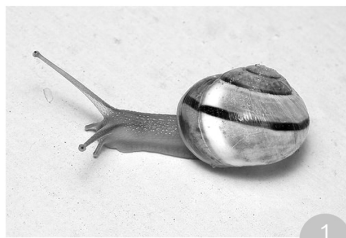
FRIENDS of CORTES ISLAND SOCIETY

LOVE CORTES? HELP US KEEP IT WILD AND BEAUTIFUL!

Last year, we launched our 25th Anniversary Appeal to raise \$25,000 to support our important environmental stewardship work, and help keep Cortes wild, beautiful, and sustainable. At this time, we've nearly reached the half-way point - \$10,000! Please consider contributing in whatever ways you can. To donate, please visit friendsofcortes.org or send us a cheque payable to Friends of Cortes Island Society. Donations of all sizes are welcome and very much appreciated!

We're getting closer... only \$15,000 to go!

25TH ANNIVERSARY GOAL



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HAVE YOU SEEN THESE CREATURES?

SPOT A SPECIES AT RISK — A NEW INITIATIVE OF FOCI

DID YOU KNOW that Cortes is home to a myriad of Species At Risk – including the 1. pacific sideband snail 2. western toad 3. blue dasher dragonfly and 4. barn swallow? We are launching a new Citizen Science project to record species at risk on Cortes! Keep watch for more information on our website, and look for posters that will be going up around the community.

REPORT your sightings to us at friendsofcortes@gmail.com.

BECOME A MEMBER

Just fill out and return the form below, or sign up online at friendsofcortes.org



FRIENDS of CORTES ISLAND SOCIETY

friendsofcortes.org
250-935-8598 | friendsofcortes@gmail.com
Box 278 Mansons Landing BC Canada V0P1K0

JOIN VOLUNTEER DONATE

BECOME A FRIEND OF CORTES

\$20/Individual Membership

\$25/Family Membership

FOCI can issue tax receipts for donations above the membership amount:

I'd like to donate an additional \$ _____

Yes, I'd like a tax receipt for my donation

Cash Cheque
Please make cheques payable to
Friends of Cortes Island Society

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Contact me about volunteering

Sign me up for FOCI e-news

WATERSHED SENTINEL

Your annual membership entitles you to a one-year subscription to Watershed Sentinel!

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Print (to my mailbox)

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