

TRAILS COMMITTEE REPORT FOR DIRA

April 2013

In the earlier part of the year the Committee was very busy assisting the CVRD with the Cross Island Trail project. In January a well-advertised meeting was held at the Community Hall to showcase the planning done so far on the trail. While a majority of attendees were in favour of the project there were a few that would like to see some changes and a few opposed. A summary as well as a compilation of all open house comment forms and emails received by the CVRD is posted at www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/crossislandtrail. At a February CVRD board meeting it was agreed that the village section of the trail be completed either in the Spring or Fall of this year. In 2014, funding amounting to \$180,000.00 in grant money has been set aside to complete the section of trail from the top of the Big Hill to Central Park. The CVRD has sent a formal letter to the Highways Department to request repairs and up-grades to both the Ferry Hill and Big Hill to allow for a trail along the shoulders. Should all this be successful the Cross Island Trail will be complete from Denman West to Central Park.

Since a meeting with Derek Moore of B.C. Parks earlier in the year it was agreed that if we up-grade several trails within the Boyle Point Park these trails can be designated official. To this end our group has been busy removing seven old bike jumps and remediating the debris in the surrounding bush; this is now complete. We have started construction of a small bridge over a creek on one of the trails and hope to have that project completed in the near future. Another on-going project is placing a barricade across a vehicle access into the new park area. The barricade is in place but we still need to install a lockable and removable post between two barricades to allow Fire Trucks entry in times of emergency. When the aforementioned projects are complete we will work on re-routing several trails away from steep cliffs and building a traversing trail down a steep section of trail. When this work is complete we hope to have Derek Moore declare the trails official.

The Trails committee is a small close knit group of Islanders that work well together and get things done. I would like to thank:

Anne Page, Derek Hood, Frank Frketich, Graeme Johnson, Michael Gorman and Ralph McCuiag for their work with the Trails Committee to make Denman Island a better place to live.

Sincerely, Allan Danks.