



John Horgan MLA Malahat-Juan de Fuca

Community Report JANUARY 2009

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Flooding Causes Havoc

While it may have been nice having a white Christmas, for people living throughout our constituency the melting snow and rain has caused havoc to homes and roads.

Flood waters have made their way into homes and businesses, blocked traffic and washed out roads. Estimates to repair the damage done in Sooke alone may be as much as \$500,000.

I have heard from many who are

dealing with the effects. I have been in contact with the Ministry of Transportation and Highways, ensuring all is done in the quickest possible time.

This isn't a new problem for people living in and around Sooke, many of whom commute to Victoria for work on a daily basis. Not only does the regional transit system need to be improved, but the roads themselves need more attention. With increased development

and without sufficient infrastructure, we will continue to have problems. The current government allows land to be developed without considering how we get around. People deserve transportation uninterrupted.

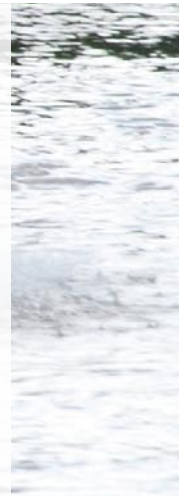
I am committed to bringing this issue, again, to the Transportation Minister's attention.



Disaster Financial Assistance for Flooding Victims in Sooke, Metchosin, Langford and Juan de Fuca Electoral Area.

British Columbia has a program to help those impacted by a disaster to cope with the cost of repairs and recovery from disaster-related property damage. Disaster Financial Assistance Program (DFA) claim forms, and information about the program, are available at <http://www.johnhorgan.com/> and <http://www.pep.bc.ca/> or by calling 1-888-257-4777.

Application deadline is April 8, 2009.



Community Offices

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Victoria, BC
T: 250 391-2801

SOUTH COWICHAN
By Appointment
17-1400
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Valleyview Centre
Cobble Hill, BC
T: 250 733-2521

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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Jan 23 City of Langford's Affordable Housing Program The City of Langford is accepting applications from qualified applicants wishing to purchase a single-family home built under the City's Affordable Housing Program. Deadline for submission of applications: Jan. 23rd, 2009, 4:30 pm. Late applications will be accepted for the next round. The price of the house is \$170,280 (including net GST). Restrictions will be placed on the resale of the house. Units are in South Langford. Application packages and info about the Program are on the internet at www.cityoflangford.ca/newsarticle.asp?TopicID=610 or at the City of Langford Planning Department, 2nd Floor, 877 Goldstream Ave., Langford, BC, 8:30am-4:30pm, Mon-Fri. City of Langford Planning Department phone: 250-474-6919.

Jan 25 Dora and Diego Go On an Adventure. Are you ready to explore SEAPARC by land and water with Dora and Diego? 1-3 pm. Regular admission applies. SEAPARC Recreation Centre, 2168 Phillips Road. Info 250-642-8000.

Feb 1 People, Plants and Places. We often take for granted how easy it is to obtain food, clothing and medicines. Learn how First Nations people have acquired these necessities for centuries. 1-2:30 pm for 9 years and older. Meet at the Witty's Lagoon Nature Centre off Metchosin Road. BC Transit #54 or #55.

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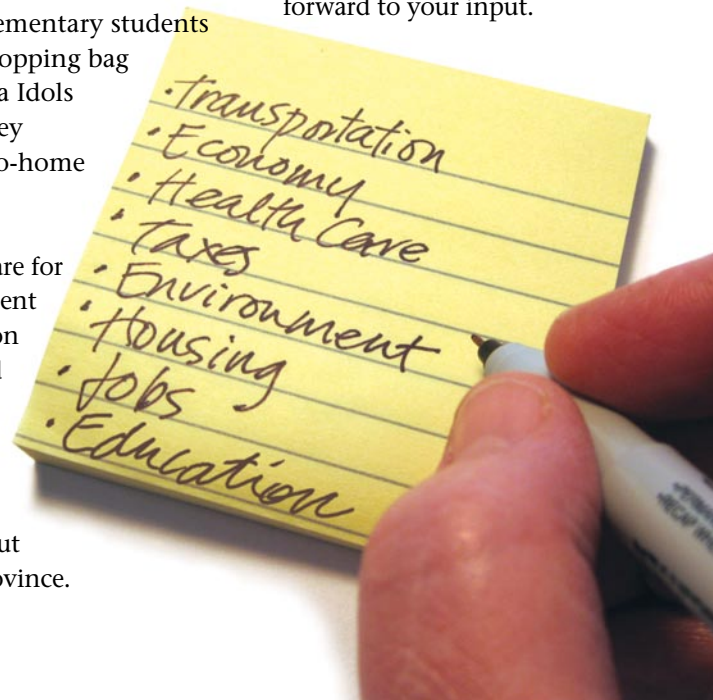
What do you think?

I've always felt that the most important job I can do is bring your concerns to the Legislature. Over the past four years, I've advocated for many things including improving safety on the Malahat, bringing in commuter rail, replacing Belmont Secondary School and opening additional long term care beds. I've also bragged about some of our heroes—Bench Elementary students and their cloth shopping bag campaign, Victoria Idols Spencer and Sydney Needham, and Eco-home builders Gord and Ann Baird.

As MLAs prepare for the recommencement of the Legislature on February 10th, and the introduction of the budget on February 17th, I'd like to know your thoughts about the state of our province.

- What do you think should be our number one focus?
- What questions would you like to hear me ask?
- What would be your priorities for the provincial budget?

I invite you to call, drop by my office or send me an e-mail and let me know what you think. I look forward to your input.



Hypocritical Campbell Pushes for Coastal Drilling

Gordon Campbell's continued push for coastal drilling of offshore oil and gas shows how out of touch he is with British Columbians' environmental priorities. In December, the government once again confirmed that they are committed to coastal drilling and will push for an end to the moratorium on offshore oil and gas drilling. In fact, Minister of Finance Colin Hansen went so far as to say that offshore drilling would fit nicely with the government's climate change goals.

Gordon Campbell likes to claim he cares about the



environment, but clearly he is putting the priorities of big oil ahead of sensitive marine ecosystems and the concerns of local communities. British Columbians are clear in their opposition to coastal drilling. We need a government that will focus on developing green jobs and alternative energy projects, instead of pushing for drilling off our coast.

Has your Hydro bill gone through the roof?

A new pricing policy means that consumers are paying more.

Let me know what's happening with your bill.

<http://www.johnhorgan.com/>

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Feb 1 Public Tour of Highland's Eco-Sense Home. North America's FIRST code-approved seismically engineered load bearing insulated cob house featuring: solar PV and wind power, grid intertie, solar thermal heating, rainwater harvesting from a living roof, composting toilet, grey water re-use, and passive solar design. 10–Noon, \$20, reservation required. Info: www.islandnet.com/~anngord/ or 250 478-2680

Feb 3 Nobody's Perfect. An education and support program to help parents recognize their strengths and find positive ways to raise healthy, happy children. For parents of children birth to 5 years. Feb 3 – Mar 10, every Tuesday 9–11 am. Transportation, snack and childminding provided. To register, contact Susanne at Capital Families at 250-391-4320, ext. 352.

Feb 14 Valentine's Day Skate. 2:15-3:45 pm. Bring your sweetheart for FREE at the Juan de Fuca Arena. 2 for 1 Admission.

Feb 19 Healthy Families. Feeding a family is both an art and science. Learn about label reading, meal planning and other tips for taking your family's nutrition to the next level. Free from 6:30–7:30 pm at SEAPARC Recreation Centre, 2168 Phillips Road in Sooke. Call 250-642-8000 for more info.