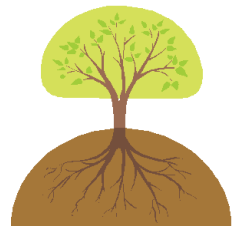


May 2018

Falaise Focus



2018 Events

- Garage Sale
May 26th 9:00 - 1:00
- Cycle of Life Fundraiser
May 26th 7 PM at
First Memorial. (See
falaise.ca/up-coming-events
for details.)
- Fair Vote Presentation
May 27th (See below.)
- Constitution Special
Meeting
Mid June
- Picnic in the Park
September 9th
- Annual General Meeting
November 3rd

Fair Vote

We have invited a representative of Fair Vote Canada to talk to us about proportional representation systems of voting so we can be prepared for this fall's referendum on how British Columbia's elect their government.

The talk will be held from 2-4 PM Sunday May 27 at McCall Garden, 4665 Falaise Drive. Feel free to invite your friends of voting age.

For more details about the presentation see our website: falaise.ca/up-coming-events.

Pat Bay Highway Noise Attenuation Petition

At our Falaise Community Association AGM last November a number of our members voiced their concerns with our guest speaker the Hon. Lana Popham Minister of Agriculture, regarding the increasing noise levels from the Pat Bay Highway and its impact on the residents along Falaise Drive and vicinity. The residents requested that a berm or barrier be installed adjacent to Falaise Drive to alleviate the noise concerns.

The Minister suggested that we start by getting the residents to sign a petition supporting the need for such a barrier, with this petition to be presented by the Falaise Community Association (FCA) to the Minister, who would then organize a Public Meeting with the Transportation Ministry in the New Year.

In January and February of this year, a group of volunteers visited all of the 176 addresses included in the Falaise area. Three of these addresses represent businesses while the rest are residences. We were able to speak with someone at 141 of these locations and obtained 243 signatures from individuals in favour of the petition. Of those contacted, 88% were in favour of the petition, indicating that highway noise is a significant concern for those represented by the FCA.

We have now delivered the petition to Minister Popham and she will be discussing it with her colleague from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. We will keep you posted as to future developments.

Falaise Park Restoration Work Parties

Work parties were held March 29th and May 10th to begin the process of pulling out the invasive plants that have been slowly taking over and displacing the native vegetation of Falaise Park. A crew of keen volunteers have made a good start clearing away the blackberry bushes, English ivy and periwinkle near the playground. The work is being carried out under the auspices of Saanich Parks volunteer Pulling Together Program. Parks has appointed local resident and FCA director Stuart Macpherson as the volunteer Park Steward. Stuart has prepared a Park Restoration Plan with the objective of stopping the spread of invasive plants and restoring the Park's vegetation to its natural state as a Garry Oak meadow ecosystem. Planting of native trees and shrubs is to follow as the invasive species are removed.

More work parties are being planned. If you want to see those wonderful camas lilies and chocolate lilies flowering in profusion again under the oak trees and are interested in helping out please contact Stuart at 250-479-4244.



Falaise Community Association Web Site

The Executive has been devoting some effort to establishing a web site for our Community Association. The site can be reached at "falaise.ca" and populating it with relevant material is an on-going activity. Our website will seek to provide an online resource for new and old newsletters, association documents (Constitution, meeting minutes, financial reports, etc.) and community history. The web site is hosted by Canadian Web Hosting, a company that maintains its data centres in Canada.

We welcome suggestions for how to improve or expand the web site. We are also interested in obtaining photos from the neighbourhood or from Association events. A few of these photos will be used as header images but we would also like to establish a gallery that would include photos along with a brief description.

Please direct any suggestions or contributions to Carl Ross at webmaster@falaise.ca.

New Logo Contest

The Falaise Community Association has had two different logos over the years. Some of our members have suggested that it is time to update our logo again; our current logo is "clip art" and so not truly ours.

We have asked for your ideas for a new logo in the past but not had any response. Maybe that means nobody really cares – or maybe it means we need to offer an incentive? So here is the incentive: Design us a new logo. We'll post all submissions on our website and display them at our neighbourhood picnic in September. Members will then be asked to vote for the one(s) they like best. If there is a clear winner we will adopt that logo and the designer will receive a cheque for \$200.

We know that designing a logo can be a lot of work, so don't worry about making it perfect to begin with. If you win, then we will ask that you fine tune it.

Please submit your logo designs by September 1 to Carl Ross at webmaster@falaise.ca.

Association Finances:

How Should We Spend Our Money?

The Falaise Community Association has a healthy bank balance of slightly more than \$5,000. We have earmarked some of this money to pay for tools and native plants as part of the park restoration project. We might also need to pay a consultant when developing a plan for the highway noise barrier. What other projects would you like to have the association fund?

Ideas that have been raised include providing nesting places for native bees (bee hotels) in the park (Saanich has approved this in principle but would need to approve plans and would require us to maintain the nest sites) and coordinating residents' development of pollinator gardens (perhaps hiring a consultant and/or paying for seeds).

What are your thoughts? How would you like to see our money spent? Email your thoughts to treasurer@falaise.ca.

Busy Street Parking During Funerals

Parking on Falaise Drive can be busy and dangerous during funerals. First Memorial said they would try to give us advance warning when they are expecting a large crowd. If you would like to be on an email list to receive advanced notice of large funerals, please send an email to info@falaise.ca.

Neighbourhood Garage Sale

We will be holding our annual neighbourhood garage sale Saturday May 26 from 9 AM to 1 PM. If you have stuff you'd like to get rid of, this is the ideal way to do it. We take care of the advertising and signs. All you need to do is organize your items. All Falaise Community Association members can participate in the sale for FREE. Please contact Kyla at 250 884 6084 or info@falaise.ca to let us know you will be participating.

Constitution Update

We are almost finished updating our constitution. The proposed new constitution has been posted on our website (falaise.ca/constitution). We will soon be holding a Special General Meeting to vote on accepting it. We will likely present two slightly different versions for you to vote on. One will allow only residents of the area to become members; the other will allow residents and businesses to join. Give some consideration to who you think should be members, watch for the notice of the Special General Meeting to be held in June and come out to vote.

Become a member

Currently 107 people are members of the Falaise Community Association. If you haven't renewed your membership for 2018, please support our community by becoming a member now. Membership is open to all residents, 18 years of age or older, living on Falaise Drive, Falaise Crescent and the various cul-de-sacs off those streets. The membership fee per member for 2018 is \$5. A membership form and instructions are available on our website (falaise.ca/get-involved). Feel free to contact any director if you require assistance.

Development of 855 Falaise Crescent

The new owner of 855 Falaise Crescent is applying to Saanich to rezone and subdivide the property. Plans call for removing the existing house, dividing the lot into two side-by-side lots and building two 3730 ft² houses, each with 5 bedrooms and 5 1/2 bathrooms. Four mature Garry oak trees would be removed to build the houses.

If you would like to be kept informed about this development or to receive public development plans, please contact Mac Nanton (mnanton@telus.net).



Meet Your Executive

Bob Lucy – Acting President/Treasurer

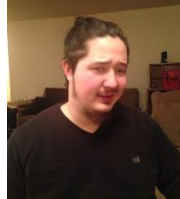


250-479-6184

president@falaise.ca

Bob and his wife Sue have lived in the neighborhood since 1985. For many years Bob owned a local pest control company. More recently he worked with the B.C. Ministry of Environment. Now retired, Bob is a beekeeper and is developing a food forest in his yard.

Daniel Conti – Secretary



250-216-8529

<mailto:secretary@falaise.ca>

Daniel has lived in Falaise for almost his entire life of 27 years. He has graduated recently from UVic with a bachelor in Software Engineering. In the past he has traveled to all parts of the world, including a road trip to St. John's, Newfoundland. Recently he has been performing IT security consulting and some website freelance work. He hopes to bring his skills and knowledge to benefit the community.

Mac Nanton – Director



250-686-3200

Mac Nanton served as Secretary for 2 years previously and is now a Director with the FCA. He is married with three children, and spent most of his life in engineering, and latterly in real estate from which he has just retired. Mac and his wife have been hosting international students for the past 25 years which has been very enjoyable

and memorable. This year my objective with the rest of our Association is to demonstrate to the government the crying need for noise attenuation measures adjacent to Falaise Drive, and which will lead to a significant improvement in the quality of life in our neighbourhood.

Carl Ross – Director



778-265-6102

webmaster@falaise.ca

Carl and his wife, Barbara, moved from Ottawa to Saanich in 2016 to escape the worst of the winter weather. Carl spent his career as a physicist working for the National Research Council. Since retiring in 2014, he continues to do some science on a contract basis and for fun. Carl and Barbara enjoy living in the Falaise area and have been warmly welcomed by the neighbours. Easy access to hiking trails has been an unexpected bonus. Carl joined the Executive of the Falaise Community Association in 2017 with the hope that something could be done about the traffic noise that impacts the community. In the meantime, he is devoting some effort to establishing a web site for the Association.

Kyla Shauer – Director



250-884-6084

info@falaise.ca

Kyla Shauer is the newest member and the only woman on the Executive Board of the Falaise Community Association. She's lived in Saanich most of her life and in the Falaise community since July 2013. She recently graduated from UVic with a

degree in Creative Writing and is writing her first novel. She loves coffee, thrift shopping, and her pets. She has a dog, LouLou, and a bunch of planted aquariums. She can be a bit shy (or lost in thought) so make sure to say "Hi"

Stuart Macpherson – Director



250-479-4244

Stuart joined the board winter 2018. He is a retired forestry and environmental consultant. He has worked across Canada and the USA providing environmental audit services to the forest sector. Stuart was also executive director of the Managed Forest Council BC for 7 years. Prior to moving to the Falaise neighbourhood in 2013 he raised his family in Gordon Head. For many years he was a leader at 5th Cedar Hill Scouts. He enjoys the variety of walking trails and cycling opportunities the Falaise neighbourhood presents. He has recently taken on the role of park steward for Falaise Park and is passionate about restoring the park's natural ecosystem. Stuart and Holly keep busy introducing their eleven grandchildren to the wonders of nature outdoors found in our local parks.

Note: Terri Birmingham was elected president and John Birmingham elected as a director at our last Annual General Meeting. Unfortunately both stepped down for personal reasons and are no longer on the board.

Falaise Community Association

Web site:

www.falaise.ca

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/saanich.fca