

### Upcoming Events

Because of COVID-19, we are not planning any social events at this time.

### Contact Us

[www.falaise.ca](http://www.falaise.ca) [info@falaise.ca](mailto:info@falaise.ca)  
[Facebook.com/saanich.fca](https://www.facebook.com/saanich.fca)

President: Stuart Macpherson  
[president@falaise.ca](mailto:president@falaise.ca), 250-415-1739

Vice President: Bob Lucy  
[vice-president@falaise.ca](mailto:vice-president@falaise.ca), 250-479-6184

Secretary: Holly Holt  
[secretary@falaise.ca](mailto:secretary@falaise.ca)

Treasurer: Carl Ross  
[treasurer@falaise.ca](mailto:treasurer@falaise.ca)

Registrar: Mac Nanton  
[registrar@falaise.ca](mailto:registrar@falaise.ca), 250-686-3200

Directors:

Cynthia Hawsworth  
[cynthiahawsworth@gmail.com](mailto:cynthiahawsworth@gmail.com)

Stew Vinnels  
[svinnels@telus.net](mailto:svinnels@telus.net)

Park Steward: Stuart Macpherson

Newsletter, website: Carl Ross

(A brief bio of each Director can be found at [www.falaise.ca/contacts](http://www.falaise.ca/contacts))

This newsletter is available at [www.falaise.ca](http://www.falaise.ca) where you can click on the links (blue text)

### Message from the President

As we move into the last quarter of 2021 we are looking forward to a better year in 2022. What a roller coaster it has been with the COVID situation in the province! Fortunately we have stayed relatively safe in our community but, unfortunately, we had to cancel our summer community picnic. A thank you to those residents who had volunteered to help out. We were hoping to put our new FCA-branded canopy to good use but at least we were able to go ahead with the garage sale. We hope to make up for these cancellations next year by holding some spring family events if restrictions are eliminated.

Your Board has continued working on its projects for 2021. We completed the crematorium review and although the outcome may not satisfy everyone at least we now have a fuller understanding of how they are operated. Some good news in that Royal Oak Burial Park is planning to update its facility with new state-of-the-art equipment.

We have continued to lobby Saanich on a number of road-related safety issues and the Pat Bay Highway noise wall initiative.

Some of you may have new neighbours this year. Please remember to take the time to reach out and welcome them to the Falaise community.

We really appreciate the feedback we have been getting from residents in response to the general emails we have been sending out. In case there is any confusion, when we receive a request from an advocacy group soliciting support for their initiative (or from Saanich Council) we forward it on to residents as a community service. This in no way indicates that the FCA Board endorses the initiative. As always, feel free to contact me at: [president@falaise.ca](mailto:president@falaise.ca).

### 2021 Annual General Meeting

Mark your calendars; the Falaise Community Association Annual General Meeting will be held November 17<sup>th</sup>. We are not sure yet whether it will be an in-person meeting or by Zoom.

Either way, please show your support for this important community meeting. Learn about what has been happening in the past year and give your input into what we will do in 2022. Please consider joining the Board for 2022; new faces bring new energy and new ideas. Your participation helps keep our community strong. Please call our president, Stuart Macpherson, 250-415-1739, or email at [president@falaise.ca](mailto:president@falaise.ca) to learn more. (even if you are only mildly interested!)



Our guest speaker this year will be Dr. Teale Phelps Bondaroff ([teale.ca](http://teale.ca)) with a talk entitled "Placemaking and Community Building". He is promoting a road mural on Falaise Cr. A more detailed announcement will be sent out in October.

## Summary of Crematorium Operating Reports

This summer the FCA reviewed the operation of the two crematoria located in the upper Falaise Dr. area. These facilities are operated by the Royal Oak Burial Park and First Memorial Funeral Services. We canvassed neighbours on Falaise Dr., Adeline Pl. and Royal Wood Pl. and Ct. last April to hear their concerns. Although residents' opinions varied, there were worries with public health impacts from the air emissions and some residents wanted to learn more about the operating protocols of the two crematoria. Separate reports on what we learned have been prepared for each. These reports are available on the FCA website: [falaise.ca](http://falaise.ca).

We learned that cremations are covered under the B.C. Cremation, Internment and Funerals Act. Consumer Protection B.C., a provincial agency, administers this act. However there is no specific regulation concerning air emissions from crematoria. The provincial government regards crematoria as relatively low emitters and does not consider the air emissions to be a public health hazard. That said, the regulation does ban certain potentially toxic materials as might be found in wooden coffins from going into a cremation. As a result, wooden coffins are rarely used as a cremation container and the majority are cardboard. Air emissions resulting from cremation are not monitored by the provincial government nor by the operators.

The Royal Oak Burial Park is a non-profit public agency. Its crematorium began operating in 1939, long before the Falaise residential subdivision was built. It currently has four cremation units; these were installed in the 1970s. The First Memorial crematorium began operating in 1996. Both run five days a week. Almost complete combustion is achieved but residual gases and dust residue are emitted into the air. Both operators told us they do their very best to limit the amount of emissions but acknowledge that deviations do happen. The First Memorial cremation chimney is fitted with two scrubbers designed to remove dust before the gases are emitted. Royal Oak Burial Park informed us that they are planning to install new cremation units in the next year that will be more energy efficient and with reduced air emissions.

The FCA intends to continue to monitor this situation and report back to residents on whether the anticipated upgrade at the Royal Oak Burial Park crematorium makes a noticeable reduction in periodic air emissions.

*This review was undertaken by Stuart Macpherson (President 2021 ) and Sandrine Lio (Board member 2019-20)*

## Falaise Cr. Road Mural

We have been exploring the idea of painting a road mural on Falaise Cr. opposite the playground entrance to the Park. It is intended to be an eye catcher for motorists to encourage them to slow down and obey the 30 km/h speed limit.

This idea is similar in concept to the bright yellow murals that have been painted recently to highlight the school zones of Lochside and other schools. This traffic calming measure has been catching on in other municipalities, such as Victoria and the Lower Mainland but would be a first in Saanich.

Based on our recent mail-out most residents seem to be in favour although a couple expressed some reservation. We are still in the early stages of assessing this as a community project. We still need to: obtain consent from residents on Falaise Cr. adjacent to the Park; prepare a conceptual mural design with an artist; obtain approval from Saanich Engineering; and secure funding from the CRD Traffic Safety Committee.



Unless external funding is obtained, the project will not move forward.

## All-Candidates Meeting, Federal Election 2021

On September 16<sup>th</sup> we hosted a virtual all candidates meeting with Saanich-Gulf Island candidates. This was a joint initiative with Broadmead Area Residents' Association and the Cordova Bay Association for Community Affairs. Questions were submitted by residents and these were put to all four candidates from the main parties on a random rotation basis. Although perhaps not the same as a live meeting this recorded video of the session on Zoom went off without any technical glitches. The process used for the Q & A went very well and gave us all a good look at the candidates. A link to the video is posted on [falaise.ca](http://falaise.ca).

## In the News

**FCA constitution and bylaws:** The present constitution and bylaws were adopted in 2018. We have noted a few areas where changes would be beneficial. Details are available on the FCA website at [falaire.ca/constitution](https://falaire.ca/constitution). These changes will be discussed and voted on at the November AGM.

**Community survey:** This spring, we carried out the first formal survey of our residents to better understand what they think should be the role of their community association. Of the 124 residents for whom we have email addresses, 45 people responded, for a response rate of 36%. In addition, several residents included interesting written comments in their responses. A detailed report of the survey is available at [falaire.ca/surveys](https://falaire.ca/surveys). If you would like to comment on the report, please send an email to [president@falaire.ca](mailto:president@falaire.ca).

**District of Saanich News:** The District of Saanich maintains a news page on their website that may contain articles of interest to residents of the Falaire community. It can be accessed using this link: <https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/news-events/latest-news.html>.

**Road safety:** We have had discussions with Saanich regarding safety issues near the corner of Falaire Dr. and Royal Wood Pl. There has been no resolution to concerns about off-street parking near the playground. We have no new information regarding overflow parking near the funeral homes.

**855 Falaire Cr.:** Saanich has not yet set a date for a public hearing related to the rezoning and subdivision of this lot.

## Meeting with Local MLAs

The Saanich Community Association Network (SCAN) has arranged a meeting with three local MLAs (Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture, Rob Fleming, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, and Murray Rankin, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation). The residents of Saanich were invited to submit questions. Mayor Haynes will chair the meeting on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at Goward House where a selection of the questions will be asked. If COVID regulations permit, the public will be invited to attend. Otherwise, two representatives from each community association will be invited.

## Picture Gallery



Admirers of the new FCA canopy purchased this summer



Great blue heron hunting wall lizards on Royal Wood Pl.



Collinson Rd. mural

## Apple Juicing

Two of our community members, Lye Fong and Dale Summers, volunteer picking fruit with [Lifecycles Fruit Tree Project](#). As volunteers, they get a portion of the fruit they pick and they wound up with boxes and boxes of apples. What were they to do with so many apples? They decided to juice them and invite friends and neighbours to share in the harvest.

An apple juicing day was held at Bob Lucy's house using his home-made apple grinder and juice press to produce about 70 L of the best-tasting juice ever made. It was a sweet, sticky mess and a lot of work but also a lot of fun.



Lye and Dale are pulping apples while Bob is pressing the pulp



Enjoying the fruits of their labours



## Help Wanted! History of the FCA

Did you know that the FCA was founded in 1957 and is one of the first community associations in Saanich? The face of our community is ever changing and the past five years have seen a number of new residents and families move in.

Stuart Macpherson thought it might be interesting for newcomers to learn something about how the community has grown and changed over the years. He is starting off from "ground zero" on this assignment and has a lot of digging to do to unearth interesting background. For example, when did the new subdivisions take place (e.g., Deventer Dr., Falaise Pl., Adeline Pl. and the Royal Woods), when was the Park expanded and the new play ground built, what were some of the community activities over the years?

So far, Stuart has managed to uncover a list of past presidents and board members from 2020 going back as far as 1993. Tracing before that is a challenge. He has found that the Falaise website was initially set up way back in 2011 by Richard Atwell. The community newsletter, Falaise Focus, also started up in 2010 and has been continuously published since then.

If you have any stories or interesting snippets or even photos to help fill in the blanks, Stuart would be happy to meet with you and jot them down. Please call Stuart at 250-415-1739 for a chat over coffee.

## Little Free Library

Nowadays, it is easy to find books online and read them on a computer or tablet. However, many people still prefer the feel of a real book as witnessed by the fact that the District of Saanich has over 500 little free libraries. These are small structures, typically on the edge of someone's lot, and maintained by the homeowner. Visitors are encouraged to take a book but, at some point, either return the borrowed book or replace it with a different one.

Lye Fong approached one of the FCA Board members regarding the possibility of establishing a little free library (LFL) that could serve the Falaise community. After discussion, it was decided that Falaise Park, near the playground, would be a good location for the LFL, if Saanich Parks would agree. Stew Vinnels produced a design for the library and Cynthia Hawksworth submitted an application to Saanich Parks. After a short time, it was approved and Saanich agreed to install a post in the Park to support the LFL. The FCA Board provided the funding for the materials to construct the library and Stew, with a little help from Carl Ross, built the LFL in his garage over several weekends.

As of mid-July, 2021 the little library was up and running. Lye Fong and Dale Summers have taken on the job of maintaining the book collection in the library.

The initial collection for the library has been greatly helped by donated books from the Russell Books store.

If you have books that you no longer need, please consider contributing them to the library. If there is no room on the shelves, contact Lye or Dale at [info@falaise.ca](mailto:info@falaise.ca) and they will store your books until there is space.



Staff from Saanich Parks installing the library



Lye and Dale at the official opening of the library

## Garage Sale

We held our community garage sale on September 11<sup>th</sup>. This usually annual event was cancelled last year and postponed this spring because of COVID-19 concerns. Fifteen households registered in advance to participate and a few more chose to join on the day. There was a lot of garage sale traffic; some people started picking up free items before 6 a.m. and many sales occurred before the advertised start time of 9 a.m. Most vendors were very happy with the turnout but disappointed that the rain put a damper (groan) on the day.