



## July 2020 Newsletter



**so proud to be Canadian!**



**thanks to all of the essential workers out there making sure we have everything we need to get through this pandemic. If you are working or volunteering your time, your contributions are helping us to make it through!**

**-thank you to everyone who supported our Canada Day Raffle to raise funds for our YouthNetwork program! Congratulations to our winners: Kris Ireland and Camellia Noel!**

**-thanks to our volunteers who go above and beyond, and who, thanks to all of our team, we have reopened our doors to serve our community**

## **"PORCH PHOTOS" FUNDRAISER**

**by Val's Photography**

We are honoured that Valerie Mumford (Val's Photography) is assisting with fundraising for Volunteer Nanaimo! Valerie has offered to take a "Porch Photo" of your family, children, "furbabies" or any combination therein at your home. She can also make arrangements to take pictures for parties or special occasions. Just call the office at 250-758-7121 and Valerie will contact you to make an appointment. The fee is \$25 for the "Porch Photo" with proceeds going to support services at Volunteer Nanaimo. Please check out our website: [www.volunteernanaimo.ca](http://www.volunteernanaimo.ca) for more information!

## Member of the Month



In November 2016, the Ecoforestry Institute Society (EIS) won a court decision to acquire Wildwood Ecoforest, a 77-acre working demonstration ecoforest. A registered charitable society, EIS is proud to serve as Trustee of this property, holding it on behalf of the people of British Columbia.

This forest contains important tracts of old-growth Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF), the most unique and at-risk ecosystem in British Columbia.

Wildwood was previously owned by Merv Wilkinson, who dedicated his life to developing the principles and practices of ecoforestry. He demonstrated that a single tree selection harvesting system could protect a forest ecosystem while still allowing a financial return. In 2001, he was awarded the Order of Canada and the Order of British Columbia for his pioneering work in ecoforestry. EIS continues Merv's legacy and our success to date is



entirely due to the power of volunteers. Members of the 7-person volunteer Board possess a multitude of talents and experience coupled with diverse skills and passions. They do

everything from teaching ethnobotany to leading forest tours, from construction work, interior design, strategic planning to digging trenches and planning events. They are ably assisted by a strong core of volunteers who help with a wide range of activities including planning educational programs, baking foraged goodies and counting Wildwood's flora and fauna. Thanks to them, Wildwood is on the path to success.

In the three years since acquiring Wildwood, EIS has carried out two tree harvests, restored the Homestead as an educational, event and accommodation facility and developed a full slate of educational programming. Wildwood is becoming recognized as a place for community, from pre-schoolers to academics, and a haven where people can fall in love with nature all over again.



Got an idea for a workshop or tour? Do you want to enjoy the serenity of the Homestead, lake and forest for a few nights? Maybe you have a large family wedding or reunion in the works? Or, better still, come join our volunteer community. There's always room for more, lots to do and fun to be had.

Learn more at <https://www.ecoforestry.ca/> or email [admin@ecoforestry.ca](mailto:admin@ecoforestry.ca) **Ecoforestry**

## Volunteer View

Vonda Croissant

Vonda was instrumental in helping us restore the Homestead at Wildwood. This was a 14 month, \$250,000 restoration project, during which we gutted the Homestead right back to the log walls. Vonda was amazing in sharing her creative talents and ingenuity over the hundreds of hours she put in. She refinished and repaired vintage furniture, created an arbutus branch chandelier, wallpapered the guest powder room, painted the kitchen kickboards, converted two vintage sewing machines - one into a bathroom vanity and the other into a plank desk. Always cheerful, she usually came armed with cookies. On top of it all, she donated bathroom towels, terry cloth robes, toiletries, lamps, a roll top desk and chair, a full service china set and numerous other items. She also loaned us Jane, her ever trusty pickup truck, to haul away garbage and recycling. We are so proud that the Homestead will forever bear her craftsmanship and reminders of her kind spirit.”



## Volunteer Nanaimo YouthCan 20/20



The Youth 20/20 Can Departure Bay Beach clean up on Saturday was a huge success! Thank you to Youth 20/20 Can members for making a difference, protecting the environment and supporting our community. You rock!

[#youth2020can](#) [#nanaimoyouth](#) [#volunteer nanaimo](#)

## Autism Library



Are you aware that Volunteer Nanaimo hosts the Autism Society of CVI's Autism Library? With summer holidays here, perhaps you could use a little

extra help with ideas for fun and coping. The public library may be closed for now, but we are doing our best to support this segment of our community. We have games, books and videos for all members of the family that deal with a special someone in your life. Drop by Monday through Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 pm (3148 Barons Road) or call 250-758-7121 to book an appointment to borrow some of the wonderful resources available outside our regular hours.. We practice all social distancing protocols and request the wearing of masks while meeting in our premises and only allow one person at a time to access our library.

### Vancouver Island Community Knitters Association

We continue to actively seek out knitters and crocheters to make 8" squares (which are sewn together to make blankets). We believe that the need continues to be great, and it is a terrific way to pass the time!

If you would like to contribute to VICKA and need some wool to get started, please phone Volunteer Nanaimo at 250.758.7121 or drop by between 9 a.m. & 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday (excluding holidays). If you have yarn to donate, that would be amazing!

Please check out our website:

[www.volunteernanaimo.ca](http://www.volunteernanaimo.ca) for more information about all of our amazing programs and services.

