
Update from Teale: Sea Cucumbers After Dark, Saanich Updates, Thank You Letter Campaign, and more!

1 message

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Sea Cucumber After Dark!

Friends,

The cherry blossoms are out and spring has arrived! I hope you are having a lovely weekend. I have another exciting update for you, so let's dive in.

Sea Cucumbers After Dark



This Friday, my [OceansAsia](#) colleague Felix Morrow and I will down at the Dock (#300 - 722 Cormorant St. Victoria) to share some of our ongoing research on sea cucumbers.

The talk will cover everything from what is a sea cucumber, their role in marine ecosystems, their portrayal in popular culture, art, and music, to a deep dive into the organized criminal syndicates that are exploiting these important invertebrates.

It will include a screening of the documentary 'Pirates of the Seabed', which explores my work on sea cucumber wildlife crime in India and Sri Lanka, along with sea cucumber music and poetry.

So join us Friday, March 31, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, at The Dock (#300 - 722 Cormorant St. Victoria) for '[Sea Cucumbers After Dark](#).'

It's the perfect evening for sea cucumber fans and folks just looking to learn something about our oceans alike. Tickets are by donation. Hope to see you there!

Get A Ticket!

Free Rx. Contraception - Coming Next Week!



After six years of hard campaigning, I am absolutely delighted that next Saturday, April 1st, prescription contraception in BC will be free!

The [AccessBC Campaign](#) will be releasing a statement and I will be celebrating with some of the team next weekend!

We will also be launching our final letter writing campaign - a thank you letter campaign! It's an opportunity to thank the provincial government for stepping up and supporting reproductive justice and a fantastic policy!

Please visit the AccessBC Campaign website, where it takes seconds

to send a thank you letter to the Premier, Minister of Health, and Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity.

Send a Thank You Letter!

Saanich Updates



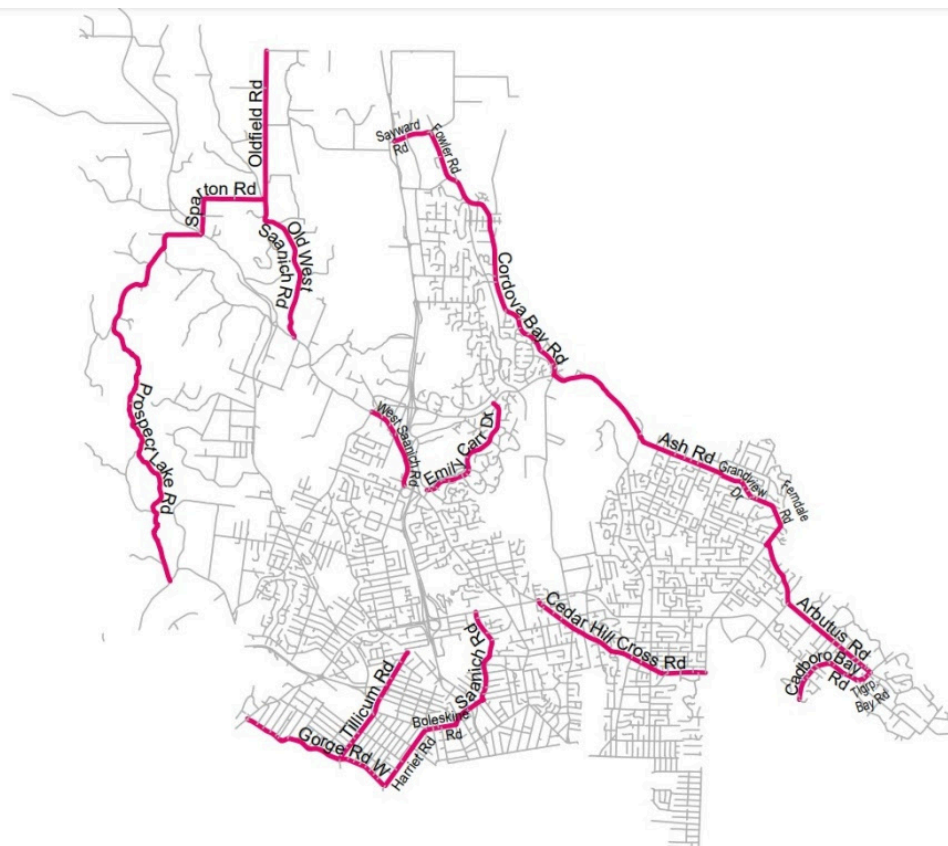
Saanich Council has been hard at work on a number of exciting policies. I'm particularly happy to be reviewing the update of the [Active Transportation Plan](#) at this Monday's meeting, among other important agenda items.

Speed limits will be dropping around Saanich. Council recently adopted a motion that will drop speed limits on a number of roads around the District (see map below). I am also very excited to see this policy implemented.

It is part of a broader suite of road safety measures, that include a Road Safety Action Plan, which should reach Council this fall! You can read more about the speed reduction policy [here](#) and [here](#).

We also [took a shot](#), albeit a long one, in asking for some of the provinces' surplus money to invest in housing and active transportation infrastructure in the District. Fingers crossed!

This past week, I chaired the last meeting of the Active Transportation Advisory Committee (ATAC). Moving forward I will be chairing the newly formed Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). A huge thank you to all of the amazing neighbours who volunteered their time and insight on ATAC.



Project Updates

Crisis Pregnancy Centres: Website

Walkthrough #1



Illustration by Jason Stout/Thinkstock

The [Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada](#) (ARCC) and the [BC Humanist Association](#) (BCHA) recently released a study exploring crisis pregnancy centres, and I am proud to have been one of the co-authors of [the report](#).

Crisis pregnancy centres (CPCs) are 'fake clinics' that rely on motivated counselling and employ a host of deceptive tactics as a means of dissuading people experiencing unplanned pregnancies from choosing abortions.

To illustrate some of the issues we uncovered, BCHA Acting Executive Director Olivia Jensen and I recently released a [walkthrough video](#), where we explore a CPC website and identify problematic features. It's great as a supplement to the report or for those who TLDR'd the report.

We will be releasing additional CPC website walkthroughs in the months to come!

Little Free Libraries



For the past while, I have been delivering [Moose Hide Campaign](#) cards and pins to little free libraries around the region. I've delivered around 2,800 pins and had numerous conversations about how we can end gender-based violence.

This weekend, I was honoured to have my work spotlighted in a [recent blog](#) by this fantastic Victoria-based organization.

Wishing you a fantastic start to spring,

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Teale Phelps Bondaroff', written in a cursive style.

Teale Phelps Bondaroff
Saanich Councillor

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