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## Update from Teale: Heading into the Field!

1 message

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**Teale** <hello@teale.ca>

18 April 2023 at 01:25

Reply-To: Teale <hello@teale.ca>

To: hello@teale.ca



## Heading Off Into the Field!

Friends,

The cherry blossoms are out and spring has arrived! I hope you had a lovely weekend. I wanted to share a quick update and an important announcement.

I spent the weekend up in Nanaimo for the Association of Vancouver

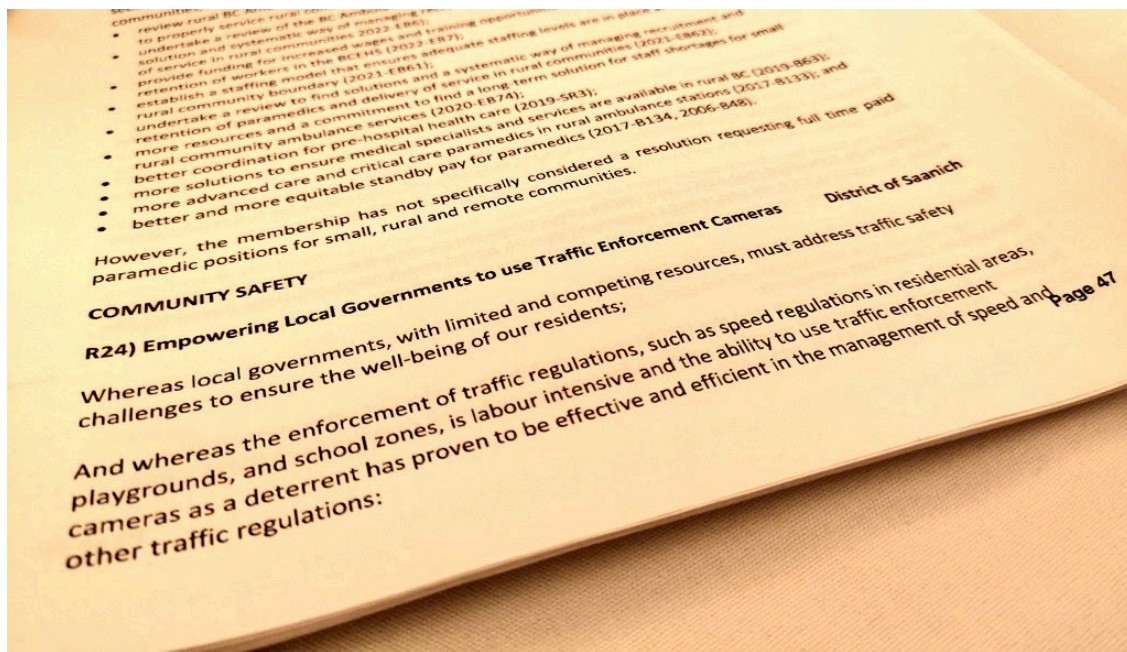
Island and Coastal Communities ([AVICC](#)) AGM and Annual Convention.

It was a very productive and informative weekend. I attended presentations and panels on subjects ranging from reconciliation, the importance of libraries, emergency preparedness and response, and more. It was an excellent opportunity to connect with councillors, mayors, and directors from across the region.



We also debated and passed a number of motions, including Saanich's motion on empowering local governments to use traffic enforcement cameras. This motion, along with [others on topics](#) ranging from housing, protecting water, access the paramedics, and others will be off to UBCM.

Not all of the motions were adopted. For example, only half of Metchosisin's motion on [protecting old growth forest](#) passed. I was happy to speak in favour of the original motion and am happy that an important portion was adopted.



I was very pleased that at this evenings Saanich Council meeting and Committee of the Whole (Monday, April 17th), we received two much anticipated reports: Our [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Report and Action Framework](#), and an update on our [Older Adult Strategy](#). Our staff has done an amazing job on both of these reports.

We of course have more work to do when it comes to diversity, equity, and inclusion, but the report provides a valuable baseline and highlights some things we are already doing right. I'm also very proud of Saanich's Older Adult Strategy, and the update shows just how important and impactful this strategy is and will be moving forward.

We are currently gathering public input on Cedar Hill X Rd. I know this road is a major concern for many, and I would encourage you to [complete Saanich's survey on Cedar Hill X Rd](#). and do please share any other thoughts you might have with me.

Finally, the motion at our March 27th meeting that proposed the creation of a lobbyist registry, which I was happy to second, did not pass. You can read more about the motion and vote in articles in the [Times Colonist](#) or [Saanich News](#).



# Back to Sea!



As you know, one of the areas of my academic study is the strategy of non-state actors in international relations, and much of my research over the past decade and a half has looked at the strategy of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society.

For the past couple of years, I have been working with an international team of researchers through the Fridtjof Nansen Institute in Norway. Our project, entitled [NGOs Securing Fisheries Environments](#), examines how Sea Shepherd collaborates with states in combating illegal fishing.



Last summer, I was off in Gabon, in West Africa, where my colleague and I interviewed government officials, military and law enforcement personnel, and activists. We also engaged in participant observation on board the *Bob Barker*, and had the privilege to observe operations and fisheries inspections up close.

I cannot say where I will be headed on this trip, for operational security reasons. But I am looking forward to giving you all an update when I'm back and able to share more. I should have a few salty sea tales at the very least.

Given the nature and location of my work, I will have limited internet connectivity, and I will not be able to attend a handful of Council meetings. As such, I requested, and was granted, leave from Saanich Council for the duration of my fieldwork.

I will officially be on leave from April 20 to May 17th. I will still be checking my [Saanich emails](#) whenever possible, and may also be able to make a meeting or two, internet connectivity and time zones permitting.

You can read a little more about my leave in a recent [Capital Daily](#) article, or tune into a longer [Radio Canada](#) interview I gave.

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## Project Updates

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### Reproductive Justice: AccessBC Campaign

I had no idea when I helped found the Access BC Campaign for free prescription contraception that our little grassroots initiative would have such an impact.

A movement for free prescription contraception has been growing across the country, inspired by BC's recent adoption of this policy. I'm excited to say that a couple of weeks ago, students in Saskatchewan launched [a campaign](#), and there are now grassroots campaigns in Manitoba, Ontario, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. You can find them all and [catch up on news here](#).

Not only that, but I recently stumbled across [a news article from Australia](#) that suggested that our campaign was inspiring calls to action in Australia!

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# Calls for Australia to make contraception free following similar moves by British Columbia, parts of Europe

ABC Radio Perth / By Alicia Bridges

Posted Wed 12 Apr 2023 at 2:39pm, updated Wed 12 Apr 2023 at 8:00pm



The AccessBC Campaign is currently running a letter writing campaign, where we are asking people to [send Thank You Letters](#) to the government, thanking them for making prescription contraception in BC free. If you haven't done so already, please take a few seconds to [send a letter here](#).

I also recently appeared on an [episode of the Sickboy Podcast](#), where I talked about the campaign alongside Sara Eftekhari, nurse and campaign volunteer.

Send a Thank You Letter!

## Reproductive Justice: Crisis Pregnancy Centres





*Illustration by Jason Stout/Thinkstock*

I've been continuing my ongoing work on crisis pregnancy centres (CPCs) with the [Abortion Rights Coalition of Canada](#) (ARCC) and the [BC Humanist Association](#) (BCHA).

Authors of our [recent report](#) examining CPC websites and I have been releasing CPC website walkthrough videos, where we explore some of the problematic elements of the websites of these 'fake clinics.' You can find these videos on the [BCHA YouTube Channel](#).

Look for new releases on a regular basis, and learn more about some of the deceptive and manipulative practices used by CPCs to dissuade people experiencing unplanned pregnancies from choosing abortions.

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A big thank you to everyone who came out to my 'Sea Cucumbers After Dark' event. It was sold out and I think folks enjoyed the wide ranging content. I'll be setting up additional talks about my research this summer, so stay tuned.



Wishing you a fantastic start to spring, and please keep in touch!

Warm regards,

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

***Dr. Teale Phelps Bondaroff***  
Saanich Councillor

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