

President's Report—2022 Annual General Meeting

Hello Fanny Bay Community Association Members.

I would like to respectfully acknowledge that the land we gather on today is on the Unceded traditional territory of the K'omoks First Nation, the traditional keepers of this land.

This is my second AGM as President of the FBCA. I thought my first year was a steep learning curve with a global pandemic, turnover in the executive, and a new playground to bring to fruition. Little did I know that was just a warm-up! In last year's report in September, I alluded to the end of the pandemic and how we were all looking forward to the installation of the new flooring in the kitchen, dining room, and hallway. I thought things were looking up. I was a tiny bit premature. In October, I learned I would need to find one more gear to make it up that steep learning curve!

As most of you know by now when we prepared the area for the new flooring, we discovered we had a very serious problem. Water had been entering the crawlspace undetected, probably for years. This resulted in a major restoration project and an enormous setback to our flooring plans. Not to be deterred, our flooring committee soldiered on and the '*kitchen remediation project*' was born.

There are so many people to thank I couldn't possibly name them all and I'd be afraid of forgetting someone if I tried. Everyone on the Board pitched in to help whether it was moving furniture, or meeting with contractors or setting up an on-line donation site. Every single one of us jumped in to help.

More importantly, all of you jumped in to help too. The generosity from this community was overwhelming. We set a goal of \$15,000 to pay for the remediation and we surpassed that goal. Thank you is not strong enough – we are so grateful; we would not have been able to open the doors again without the financial support this community gave to us.

Of course it's not over yet, not by a long shot. We must address the water issue and repair the damage that years of moisture have done to the structure of the building. We have approached the CVRD for some financial aid, but at the time of writing we have not heard if they can provide us with any help. Our last estimate from several months ago, to repair and correct the situation, is well over \$70,000 and we still need to raise money for the new floor in the main hall. To say we have our work cut out for us would be an understatement.

We have also had for the first time a boil water advisory in the hall. This was because of high turbidity due to the unprecedented rain water we have experienced this past winter. Thank you to Mike Mesford for steering us through that unexpected bump in the road.

Okay, that was the not so great news, now onto all the good things that have happened.

We held an outdoor kids' Christmas event complete with Santa driving by on the fire truck. With the lifting of most of the health restrictions, we have been able to return to full capacity for events such as concerts and fitness activities. We have some new and returning activities on the event calendar, including several varieties of Yoga, the Garden Clubs Plant Sale, community events, concerts, movie nights and more. It is so good to see so many smiling faces again.

In late November, the Board held a Strategic Planning session. As part of that process, we have divided the Board into two committees, one is the Governance Committee and the other as an Operations Committee. We are tweaking things as we go along. So it is still very much a 'learn as we grow' process. One of the exciting things that has come from our discussions was the need for a family liaison volunteer and we found someone who is taking on that role. I'd like to welcome Chrystal Evans-Andersson as our first official family liaison volunteer. We hope with Chrystal's input we can have more family events in the future.

Continually moving forward would not have been possible without the hard work and perseverance of the Board and the volunteers, all of whom have contributed their time and skills to improve and sustain our Association during this very trying time.

A couple of interesting notes, we currently have 149 members which is down from previous years but, it's early and we have not had too many 'in person' events'. For the year 2021, this Board contributed over 3,500 volunteer hours and members contributed 500 hours.

Financially, I am pleased to report a fairly solid financial picture and our Treasurer Bonnie Hoffart will go over in more detail our results, but I would like to say that Bonnie has provided invaluable fiscal oversight and perspective to us during her time on the board, and we're grateful for her work.

As the 2021–2022 year comes to a close, we are sad to say goodbye to our Treasurer, Bonnie Hoffart. Her input and guidance over the last few years has been incredible and we are really really going to miss her. Bonnie willingly supported every fundraising effort we had, and there were many. We are grateful for her active leadership and her sometimes asking us the hard questions. Not staying on as a board member was clearly a tough decision for her, and we respect her decision. The Ships Point Fire Department is very lucky to have her. I know I speak for all of us on the board when I say we will certainly miss working with Bonnie and wish her all the best in the future.

Speaking of loss, it saddened us to lose a long time member and past director Barry Fowlie, earlier this year. Barry was the partner of our Flyer editor Wendy Keating. Our sincere condolences to Wendy and Barry's family.

In conclusion, I want to thank you. You that are our members, for supporting the Fanny Bay Community Association. It has been a rough couple of years in the entire world, but you, all of you, have come through and shown your community spirit. We have rallied together to keep the doors open and keep delivering events and programs. WE have weathered the storms that COVID-19 has thrown at us and I am certain we will keep fighting to repair and renovate this old and tired but beautiful building so we can continue to do what we do best, serve this community.

Thank you,

Respectfully submitted by
Tammy Mercer-Gervais
President