



# March 2022

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## SPtCA Board Members

### **Acting President**

Betty-Jean Sachro

[president@swanseapoint.net](mailto:president@swanseapoint.net)

### **Secretary**

Carmen Hodges

[secretary@swanseapoint.net](mailto:secretary@swanseapoint.net)

### **Treasurer**

Barb Jorgensen

[treasurer@swanseapoint.net](mailto:treasurer@swanseapoint.net)

### **Directors:**

Susie Greco

Michelle Schurek

Mark Jones

Janice Richardson

**CSRD Contacts:** [www.csr.bc.ca](http://www.csr.bc.ca)

**Area (E) Rep.** Rhona Martin

[rmartin@csr.bc.ca](mailto:rmartin@csr.bc.ca)

**Janet Mcquhae**—NEPP

[j13mcquhae@cablelan.net](mailto:j13mcquhae@cablelan.net)

**Derek Sutherland**, Acting Fire Chief

[dsutherland@csr.bc.ca](mailto:dsutherland@csr.bc.ca)

**Sean Coubrough**, Acting Fire Chief

[coubrough@csr.bc.ca](mailto:coubrough@csr.bc.ca)

### **Tom Hansen**

Emergency Program Coordinator

Protective Services

[hansen@csr.bc.ca](mailto:hansen@csr.bc.ca)

**Fire Bans** 1-800-663-7867

[www.bcwildfire.ca](http://www.bcwildfire.ca)

**Fire Department** Call Out 911 Forest

Fire to Report 1-800-663-5555

**Bear Aware/Bear Report** 1-800-663-

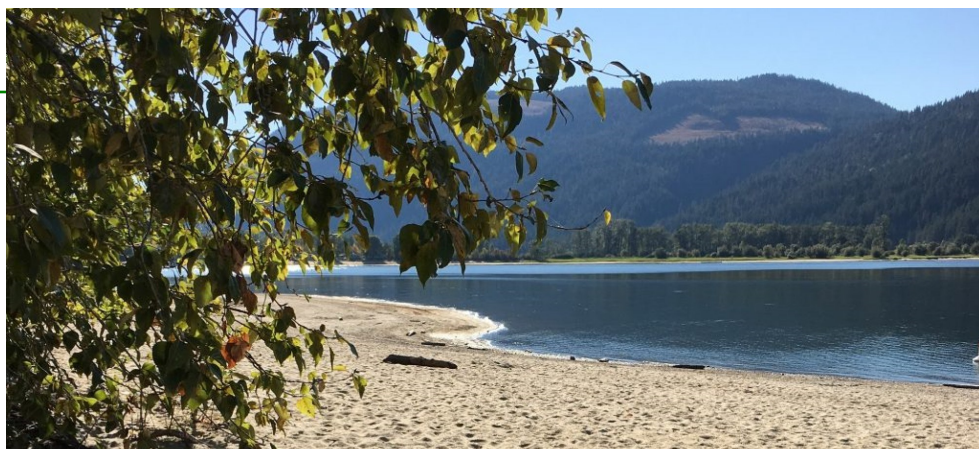
9453 [www.bearaware.bc.ca](http://www.bearaware.bc.ca)

**Fireworks Incidents** R.C.M.P. 911

Local Non Emerg # - 250-836-2878

## Presidents Report

Welcome everyone! I hope this finds you all well. My name is Betty-Jean Sachro. I have accepted a new role as director and currently Acting President. My husband Randy, myself and our family, have spent our summers for the last 4 years at Swansea Point and several years before that, at 2 mile beach. We are thrilled to be in this community and have met many nice people since moving here. This past year has certainly shown us the value of appropriate, expedient and effective communication. Now, more than ever, we need to ensure there are dedicated individuals within our community to ensure that our best interests and concerns are dealt with in a timely fashion in consultation with stakeholders and with the assistance of volunteers on our various committees. I look forward to working with all of you to address concerns and working towards completing initiatives previously started. I would ask that all questions or concerns be submitted in writing to the board at [president@swanseapoint.net](mailto:president@swanseapoint.net).



## Thank you for your services



On behalf of SPtCA and residences, we would like to congratulate David Schurek on his retirement from his leadership with SPtFD (Fire Department.) We would like to extend our thanks for the hard work and dedication you have given to our community since 2008. We were grateful to have had your lead our amazing fire crew to keep our community safe especially this past summer with the forest fire. We wish you all the best in future endeavours.

David, Lois and family have owned property since 1979, move here in 2010 to build their home. David rose to position of Chief in November of 2015. He felt SPtFD was the best equipped, best trained department in the CSRD! David was very proud of every member in the Swansea Point FD. The wall of certificates in the firehall speaks volumes to the dedication of training the firefighters made over the years.

Due to the vaccine mandate, David chose to stand with a few members who were put on Administrative Leave of Absence, on December 3rd he chose to retire. This decision did not come easy for David as Swansea Point is their home. David said he would continue to do whatever he can to serve and protect



Remember to be mindful of your speed limit in our community. You will notice new signs around all the beach locations. With families out for morning/evening walks with strollers, pets, kids on scooters, and bikes, please slow down for everyone's safety. Thank you

Are you **new** to Swansea Point? Or know someone new to our community?

Please email:

[secretary@swanseapoint.net](mailto:secretary@swanseapoint.net)

to add their name to our email list to stay connected and updated with community news and information.

## Volunteers Needed

Please see the NEPP volunteer descriptions attached.. If interested email

**Janet Mcquhae (lead)**

[j13mcquhae@cablelan.net](mailto:j13mcquhae@cablelan.net) or Susie Greco

[susie@springhetti.com](mailto:susie@springhetti.com)

Last year, summer of 2021, we as a community were faced with fire looming close by. Information, power and safety changed day to day. To evacuate or not to evacuate? What was truth? What was rumor? What does it mean to be on Evacuation Alert? How do I get help? So many questions.....

We have put together some info to help prepare in case this happens again.

1. Contact People and websites
2. NEP what is it and how can it help
3. NEP registration
4. How to stay current during emergencies
5. CSRD information Brochures
6. Lake level update from NEP

"The Lake has been going down with the cooler weather not putting any more water in. I check the River Forecast Center for the South Thompson lake levels and the RFC Map of snow basin Indices for what is up on the mountain. Also "Shuswap lake Watch" is a real good source of info. According to the official indicators we are at a 102% snow accumulation in our area. So we are just above last year's levels for the lake at this time. The snow pack is about the same as last year at this time, but it can snow on the mountains without us getting any here.

I think we should just remind everyone that, depending on the heat and the rain, we should keep an eye out to make sure all beach front home owners are aware that they may need sand bags. CSRD will be aware of the need and sand and bags will be delivered to a specific area, unknown at this time."

#### **7. Dec 2021 Two mile Community Meeting about the Post Fire Landslide Risks.**

**Two Mile Post-Wildfire Landslide risk ([Shuswap Emergency Program \(SEP\) | Columbia Shuswap Regional District \(csrd.bc.ca\)](#))**

"On December 13, 2021, the District of Sicamous and Shuswap Emergency Program hosted a Community Meeting at the Red Barn Arts Centre to discuss post-wildfire landslide risks in the Two Mile area. Matthias Jakob, Principal Geoscientist with BGC Engineering, provided a presentation to attendees who participated both in person and online. Along with Jakob, the meeting panelists included Engineering Geologist Hazel Wong, District of Sicamous Fire Chief Brett Ogino and Derek Sutherland with the Shuswap Emergency Program.

The meeting was hosted online via ZOOM and was recorded for those who were unable to attend. (See video below) The video is also available for public viewing on the [District of Sicamous website](#)."

#### **CONTACT PEOPLE/ WEBSITES**

**Fire and Emergency Services: 911**

**RCMP: (non emergency): 1-250-836-2878**

**SEP: [Shuswap Emergency Program \(SEP\) | Columbia Shuswap Regional District \(csrd.bc.ca\)](#)**

**Neighbourhood Emergency Program (NEP): Janet Mcquhae (lead)**

[j13mcquhae@cablelan.net](mailto:j13mcquhae@cablelan.net)

**CSRD: <https://www.csrd.bc.ca/services/emergency-management-program/shuswap-emergency-program/neighbourhood-emergency-programs>**

**<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management/preparedbc>**

**<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management>**

**Ministry of Transport: (MOT): [Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure - gov.bc.ca](#)**

**BC Hydro: [Outages & safety \(bchydro.com\)](#)**

## NEP: What is it?

On behalf of Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness (“NEP”), I am writing in response to matters raised during our discussion as well as the documentation that you provided. Firstly, it would help for you to understand how emergencies are properly responded to in this jurisdiction. In the event of an emergency, such as a wildfire or flood, the coordinating agency is our local government, the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (the “CSRD”). You will recall that Rhona Martin is the elected representative to the CSRD for Electoral District E, which is where your property is located. The responsible department in the CSRD’s is the Shuswap Emergency Program (“SEP”). They liaise and coordinate with the Provincial government in the event of an emergency. The Provincial government departments may be the Wildfire Service, Emergency Social Services, etc. SEP also directs the activities of the NEP in various communities throughout the Shuswap, including through providing mandatory training to the NEP volunteers. This training includes a course on protocol that must be followed in an emergency called the Incident Command System. The Incident Command System is a standard on site command and control system used to manage emergency incidents. At its core is the requirement that the chain of command be followed to prevent well-meaning but misguided interference from other channels. In the case of the Two Mile Fire, SEP determined that an Evacuation Alert must be issued and accordingly SEP established an Emergency Operations Centre at the Swansea Point Fire Hall. SEP contacted the local NEP coordinator and requested her assistance at the Emergency Operations Centre to provide local knowledge and direction to the Search and Rescue members to distribute the Evacuation Alert to the community of Swansea Point. In response to the request from SEP the local NEP coordinator assisted and directed Search and Rescue until 3:30 am when all residents had received Evacuation Alert Notices. Notably it took until 3:30 am because many of the residents understandably had questions and concerns which Search and Rescue were able to answer. Further, the local NEP Coordinator was able to provide specific local knowledge regarding out of sight residences such as a lot with recreational vehicles behind a grove of trees or those off the regular street services. As an aside, the Evacuation Alert included the specific instructions for residents under the heading “What You Should Do When an alert is in Effect.” For your ease of reference a copy of the Alert which you received on July 21st is attached. To be perfectly clear, the activities of NEP are assigned by SEP in an emergency and those are the only roles that NEP fulfils throughout the emergency. In the case of a flood or a chemical spill on the highway, NEP’s role would be responsive to the situation as directed by SEP and would differ from an Evacuation Alert for a wildfire. NEP is a program attached to the Swansea Point Community Association, for the purposes of applying for grants for preparedness materials and participating in community events such as the annual barbeque. At the annual barbeque, for many years, NEP has provided preparedness information handouts and encouraged community members to register. A copy of that registration form is attached for your information even though you have already filled one in. Unfortunately, many members of the community have declined to complete the registration form. The Community Association does not direct NEP in any way as NEP is operated under the authority of the Shuswap Emergency Program. All information regarding how to prepare is online and easy to find.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management/preparedbc>  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-management> In Swansea Point, as other communities, volunteers are hard to come by. NEP will be having a meeting in November, of which we will let you know time and date, to see just where we are at with regards to members and any new resources. There are 4 major areas that require volunteers for. First aid, Utilities, Fire Suppression (which is taken care of by the fire dept), Communication and Transportation, and Shelter and Caregiving. NEP is not in the community to serve everyday issues but emergency issues, when called upon. Such as when the 2 rivers flooded and people had to be evacuated via boat. SEP could not get into the community due to the road washouts so the residents got together and helped people get out on boats and houseboats. This was before NEP was formed. After that we got together and got the training, we needed to help us on the way to knowing what our role and responsibilities were in such an event. We work with SEP to update and learn what other communities are doing to help get the residents motivated to understand that it is their responsibility to be prepared in an emergency situation.

Hope this helped. Janet McQuhae, NEP Coordinator



## Stay Informed with Current Accurate Information

### In an emergency you want to be in the know.

The best ways to keep track of reliable, up-to-date information on emergencies is to:

Check the Columbia Shuswap Regional District website home page ([www.csr.bc.ca](http://www.csr.bc.ca)) or the Shuswap Emergency Program page ([www.shuswapemergency.ca](http://www.shuswapemergency.ca)).

Sign up for the [Alertable](#) notification system

Follow the Shuswap Emergency Program on Facebook or Twitter

Follow the CSRD on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

**Muster stations** will be put up in the community. This is where information updates, resources, volunteer requests and where people can ask for help if needed. We are working on locations Stay tuned

Follow local media sources

Share this information with your family, friends and neighbours. Check in on people who may not be connected to Internet sources.

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## NEWS FROM CSRD

Planned upgrades to the **Windsor Road Boat Launch**.

The **CSRD** will be closing the public launch effective **Monday, April 4, 2022** until further notice, however, we expect the closure to last for up to 6 weeks.

The CSRD will be replacing the concrete apron that leads from the road to the top of the boat launch and improving the concrete around the dry fire hydrant.

The CSRD has communicated this planned closure via CSRD website and social media and our membership are encouraged to look to that website and social media accounts for updates as they are available.

[Windsor Road Boat Launch | Columbia Shuswap Regional District \(csr.bc.ca\)](http://www.csr.bc.ca)

