

BEAVER TALES

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The Totally Worthy Newsletter of the Beaver Canoe Club

Celebrating 50 years 1976 to 2026!

July 2026



Happy Birthday, Canada!

Beaver Canoe Club Notice of General Meeting in Person!

Wednesday July 8, 2026, at 6:30 pm

This meeting is a little unusual, because it is an...

EVENING PADDLE / POLING – Little Cates Park

Wed, Jul 8 @ 6:30 pm -9:00 pm

Join us for an evening on the ocean. We will be following the shoreline, so you can either pole or paddle (we may have a couple of spare poles if someone needs to borrow one). It will be a leisurely 'out-and-back' trip northwards.

After the paddle the Club's 50th Anniversary Committee will serve a retro treat from the 70's and 80's on a golden platter in honour of our 50th anniversary. The treats are fresh, not leftovers from the 1980's! Feel free to bring your favorite retro snack to share if you wish (not required).

Meet up at 6:30pm at Little Cates Park, North Vancouver. Shell Lane.

On the water until ~8:30pm, then treats & social until ~9pm.

Parking is limited, so carpool would be best if you can.

Contact: Alastair_Dundas@hotmail.com / 604 720 7085

[https://beavercanoecub.org/event/evening-paddle-poling-little-cates-park/.](https://beavercanoecub.org/event/evening-paddle-poling-little-cates-park/)

https://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=Sea+Shell+Lane+North+Vancouver+BC+Canada.

Note that an alternative method of getting to the event is to launch at Cates Park and paddle the short distance to the meeting site. Cates Park has a boat launch site and a longer ramp located by the kayak rental building further east by the trails that go to the meeting site. See the google maps link above. editor

Join the Potluck Picnic & Paddle July 19th!



Enjoy a day socializing with your paddling friends, sharing a great potluck picnic lunch, having an easy paddle, and participating in special activities your social committees created. Everything except fun is optional! There will be retro themed prizes for the activities. The park is wheelchair friendly, dog friendly (with dog-off-leash areas), has easy trails to explore, places to relax in the shade or sun, drinking water, flush toilets, etc.

Place: Derby Reach Regional Park, Langley, BC – Marpole Picnic Shelter

<https://metrovancover.org/services/regional-parks/park/derby-reach-regional-park>

Time: Organizers will arrive at 9 a.m. Paddlers should arrive by 10 a.m. Lunch will be at noon of course. The early birds get the best parking. Stay as long as you like. The picnic shelter is ours all day! If you're paddling, first drop your canoe off by the water (a club member will guide you to the prearranged drop off area).

Please Bring: Something to share at the picnic (perhaps your favourite retro food), your own beverages, a lawn chair, a couple toonies, your throw rope, and a sense of humour.

Contact: Madeline.Waring@telus.net a head of time to help us with our preparations.



**JOIN BUDDYON
THE GOURMET LUNCH
PADDLE JULY 26TH
ON STAVE LAKE &
CARDINALIS CREEK
PADDLE! CHECK THE
RETRO CORNER FOR
IDEAS FROM THE
ORIGINAL GOURMET
LUNCH PADDLES! THIS
TRIP MAY ALSO
PROVIDE AN
OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE
A SWIM! SIGN UP WITH
BOB P.**



UBIQUITOUSB7@GMAIL.COM

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Greetings from Rivers Week

Well, we're halfway through Rivers Week in Princeton and we are mostly canoeing the Similkameen which has three sections.

The mid-section at Whipsaw Creek is my favourite. Paddle on the Similkameen; I never tire of it, even at the 25 cms level it's great. There are the Bromley Rock to camp, and the Camp to Hedley runs as well.

The weather is hot at 30 degrees, and the river is quite low. The Similkameen is only 25 cms, and the Tulameen is more like 12! Ellen came with my dog Bebe who managed to get sword grass in her ear which the local vet extracted for a lot of money!

I really don't think the club would function without Dave Westell and Rose who are constantly organizing, involving members, and keeping the show going.

There are lots of other people who are involved; the Trishes and Daves and a few other names are reliable and invaluable.

Thanks to my kayak crew Gordon, Sasha, Will, Gisela (she's ambidextrous) and Russ for helping us fish out swimmers and gear.

We had 40 people on the first weekend! So many that we had to split the camping between Pickard Creek, which is so beautiful but too full to accommodate all of us, and Stemwinder. So, we camped at both Pickard and Stemwinder.

Einar and Phil Bates decided to do the upper Tulameen on Monday, so Dan and Marlene and I redid it today to the Kiosk at very low water. The canyon was doable and had very beautiful rock gardens.

Jenny and Alastair have arranged a meet up with the famous Mike Yee from Ontario who is in Alberta mid rivers week to try Kamal's artificial white-water course. This opportunity took a few Beaver notables from Rivers Week including Owen Lee, Trish and Dave and others who have deserted us for Alberta.

Despite the separation, happy hour was celebrated (thanks to Rose and Madeline). Despite lowish water the Similkameen was great.

We had paddlers from the Alberta Bow River Club, and we hope to have more from their club in the future and maybe the Beaver Canoe Club should go to the Bow River.

Many people just came for the weekend and have left and a handful of hardcore, including me, are heading to the Cherryville Recreational Site on the Shuswap River to continue Rivers Week.

Don't forget the Beaver picnic on July 19 or the gourmet paddle on July 26 being organized by our social director Madeline.

Remember the Adams Labour Day weekend which is the last kick of the can for Beavers. Do plan to come.

There is a September 9 social at the Admiral Hotel in Burnaby to gossip about summer adventures so plan on coming.

OH, did I mention that Saturday November 28 is the 50-year Beaver Canoe Club anniversary dinner?

I am not going to take any excuses; if you have done anything Beaverish, you're required, not requested, to come to our anniversary. No excuses!

Kudos to all Beavers, all of you have made a club.

President Phil

BEAVER CANOE CLUB PHOTO CONTEST

Time to start snapping photos for the annual beaver canoe club photo contest! Each year our club has a photo contest with great prizes! The 5 photo categories in 2026 are: buddy, people, humor, action and scenic. Now is the time to start snapping pictures on all club trips, long trips and at all club activities! The 2026 photo contest happens at the 50 Anniversary gala on November 28, 2026.

WHAT TURNS A PARTY INTO A GALA? ¶

#4 A DRESS UP OCCASSION: ¶

It is a "**Golden**" Gala. Gold in decor and gold in dress: flash your bling, wear a gilded tie or add a glitzy shawl. Even gold-coloured underwear counts (as long as the flash is discrete!). And, yes, carrying a bitcoin or your grandfather's pocket watch counts. If it's gold, you're in and if not, we'll fancy up your name badge up with a golden ribbon. ¶



Join us! ¶
Saturday, 28 November. ¶
Celebrating 50 years of ¶
fun and friendship. ¶

UPCOMING TRIPS AND EVENTS

See the Web Site for the latest details or sudden changes.

TRIPS AND EVENTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST			
Sun	Jul 5,	Lower Coquitlam River: Lake Water & Gr 1-	A family friendly paddle through Port Coquitlam and Colony Farm Contact trips@beavercanoecub.org
Wed	Jul 8,	Cates Park Evening Paddle: Ocean	A family friendly paddle or pole along the shores of Burrard Inlet and Deep Cove Contact: Alastair D alastair_dundas@hotmail.com
Sat Jul 11 to Mon Jul 13		Granite Falls Canoe Camping Trip: Ocean	A nearby wilderness area a few hours from Deep Cove. Share a beautiful stretch of ocean with the seals, starfish, jellyfish, and once in a while, killer whales. Trip Leader needed! but for now, state your interest to the Trip Director: trips@beavercanoecub.org
Sun	Jul 19,	BCC Annual Picnic	Annual picnic for all BCC members, family, friends all and sundry. Bring your canoe or maybe just yourself. Come to Derby Reach Regional Park 21801 Allard Crescent Langley Twp. BC V1M 3W1 Contact Madeline W Madeline.Waring@telus.net
Sun	Jul 26,	Stave Lake and Cardinalis Creek Gourmet Paddle	A family-friendly paddle just north of Mission. Bring a gourmet lunch and swimming gear, and prepare to hang out a while to enjoy a mid summer afternoon. Contact: Bob P ubiquitousb7@gmail.com
Wed	Aug 12,	Evening Paddle TBD: Lake Water	For details, check BCC Web Page Calendar closer to the time
Sun	Aug 16,	Cheakamus River: Gr 2+ & 3	An exciting section near Squamish for intermediate and seasoned paddlers. Full outfitting required. For contact, check BCC Web Page Calendar closer to the time
Sun	Aug 16,	False Creek: Ocean	A family friendly paddle around Vancouver's downtown, with launch near Vanier Park and lunch near Granville Island. For contact, check the BCC Web Page Calendar closer to the time
Sun	Aug 23,	Lower Chilliwack River: Gr 2	A popular whitewater run for both seasoned paddlers and those still gaining skills and experience. Contact: trips@beavercanoecub.org
Sun	Aug 30,	Serpentine Estuary: Lake Water & Ocean	A family friendly traverse down one river to ocean, then up a second river, all in a few hours, in South Surrey. Contact: Simon W simonpwatkins@gmail.com
Fri Sep 4 to Mon Sep 7		Adams River Campout: Gr 3	Our Annual late summer trip to challenge the ominous Adams Canyon. Big waves and big fun! Contact Phil R frankierb@telus.net >;
Trips can change with weather, water levels, or trip leader availability. Please Check BCC Website Calendar for most up to date trip information. If you want to know about a trip and cannot find the trip leader or contact, you can email the Trip Director at trips@beavercanoecub.org			

A LOOK AHEAD TO GENERAL MEETING ENTERTAINMENT

Here is the line up for the coming months in 2026.

- July 8 Evening Paddle. See notice elsewhere
- September 9 Pub Night
- October 14 IN PERSON – Changed to in person now and we need a presenter!
- November 18 Zoom meeting - Juliane Bell – Canoe Trips on Vancouver Island

Please contact Trish at trishkinsey@gmail.com if you are interested in presenting something for the Oct 14th in-person meeting. Thanks!

RETRO CORNER

celebrating 50 years of fun and friendship

Beavers in Antiquity

At the beginning of time, fun-loving paddlers joined a new canoe club. With burgeoning interest in this recreational sport, a need was felt to bring knowledge, fun and safety to the forefront. And we did not wait for someone else to do it.

In our ignorance (bravado?) we planned a really big event at Burnaby Lake one summer day...and 1400 people showed up. Of course, it helps if your membership also includes spots on the Executive of the BC Recreational Canoeing Association. And it helps if, in our exuberance, we ignore the sentiment that major newspapers would not be interested in this small but growing form of recreation.

We were such an irrepressible crew back then. "Joust" celebrating our origins and the antics of days gone by.

Gerry Lamb



—Colin Price photo

Canoe punchers

A hockey uniform offers no protection for jousting Gerry Lamb as Keith Spain sends him flying into Burnaby Lake. The two paddlers are Dinty Moore and Betty Donaldson. Spain is not only a successful jouster, he is also chairman of the B.C. Recreational Canoeing Association, one

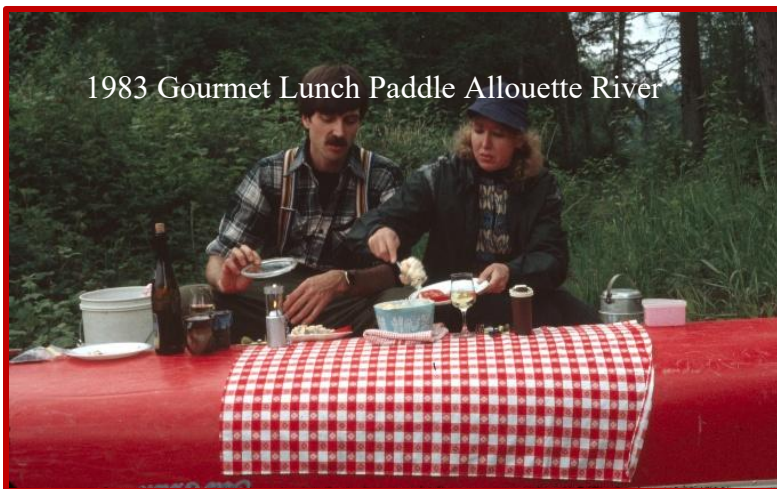
of the sponsors of Canoe Fest '81 — being held today, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Burnaby Lake Pavilion. The festival includes canoeing equipment displays, paddlers' skills course, free instruction and comedy acts.

Gourmet Lunch Paddles of Years Gone By:

“Mandarin oranges marinated in Drambuie and dipped in chocolate; well-brandied pêches flambées with French vanilla ice-cream” ... do I have your attention yet? This description of gustatory delights comes from the trip report of May 1985 Alouette River

Gourmet Luncheon (report by Doug Rogers). This was an annual (or, almost annual) event on the Beaver paddling schedule from 1980 to 1995, with locations varying between North Alouette, South Alouette, Stave Lake and Hayward Lake. For the first year, any step up from the usual sandwiches and gorp was considered “gourmet”, but in subsequent years the competition was on. Tablecloths, crystal stemware and elegant attire were the order of the day, along with

exotic lunch fare including sushi, freshly cooked crab, tropical fruit salad with whipped cream.....oh my!



This year, in remembrance of our 50 years as the Beaver Canoe Club, the Gourmet Paddle is on again. Mark your calendars now for **July 26 Stave Lake Gourmet Paddle.**

HOW IS YOUR RECALL?

Remember those juicy tidbits of gossip we read and shared in the past? Columnists fought over who got the best story first. (Some things haven't changed...)

This month's challenge is designed to jog your memory about New Year's Resolutions. Get this--and the previous and future quizzes--correct and your name will be entered in a GALA draw on November 28th!

The entire list of quizzes will be reprinted in early November. Submit your answers by the 15th to earn your right to win a \$50 Lee Valley gift Certificate. You can do this!

Quiz #5: Which gossip-columnist was under exclusive contract to BCC?

- a) Louella Parsons
- b) Walter Winchell
- c) Hedda (Rock) Hopper
- d) Rona Barrett

(Hint: answer to be found in the Retro Corner for June.)

The Monday after... Trip on the Tulameen (Rivers Week)

How does one plus one equal one? I dumped twice. Ed was in the same boat. He dumped once!

It all started as we paddled and bumped down the Tulameen the other week. Our first big drop was carefully studied, and most paddlers got their boats past that ugly centre channel rock. We decided to go river right at the last moment. We broached, rolled and Ed spun out onto a rock where he sat and watched me lose my paddle, dive under the canoe and retrieve it, then swung the boat broadside on two rocks where I caught my breath and found the rescue squad surrounding me for a retrieval. I rolled the canoe upside down to dry it out, and Claude, Alain, Chris and others got it righted. We signaled Ed to join us and the rest of the decent was effortless. A nice swim to cool off. But wait, the Mystery channel was yet to come.

As we arrived and eddied out above this infamous drop we could see certain cautious paddlers such as Julie and Marie walking. They foresaw grim outcomes. Ed and I studied the route, a zig and a zag before dropping out of sight down the "M" route. "What could possibly happen?" I asked myself. After all, I could see that Alain and Ann slipped down it, so did Dave Westell in his solo canoe. I motioned to Ed that I was ready. "Let's go!" We zigged and zagged and smoothly dropped down this incredible channel. Then we did a slow lean to port ... and all of a sudden Ed was paddling down to the next eddy solo. He had left me behind! What do you think of that? He dumps me, doesn't even know it, and keeps on going! Did his subconscious not like my paddling and figured it would be easier to solo from the bow?

We had to talk about this! What would he do next? Leave me to walk home?

Perhaps I was being punished by the water gods for playfully tipping Brian and Leigh out of his beautiful new Bell boat (beau bateau). Anyway we all survived a fun trip and when we drove back up to pickup the cars left at the put in, I noticed that the miners had started to erect their summer bridge across the river. They must have known we were coming and let us paddle by first.

David Middleton

August 2004

RIVER OF GOLDEN DREAMS JULY 8, 1979

'Twas cloudy and overcast with little blue,
When fifteen Beavers set out to cance,
The River of Gold Dreams,
Which was quite a bit higher this year it seems.

Despite rain and cloud busting overhead,
We put in at Alta Lake following Dale and Fred.
Paul trolled behind hoping for a trout,
But our laughter told him none were about.

The stream at first was slow as a snail
But higher water meant no portage by rail.
A tricky little ferry was handled by all
Despite buzzing by mosquitoes burly and tall.

Last year's dams were nowhere to be found,
They were safely cleared with nary a sound.
At one, however, Dale built a bridge of planks,
But the wet portagers all said, "No thanks!"

Lunch was held on a tall stone face
Those damned mosquitoes all 'round the place.
One last dam with a drop of four feet
Was shot by all as a real special treat.

Drenched and chilled with no help from the sun
All agreed the trip was still great fun.

(Thanks to Peter who drove up to Whistler and
helped out transporting drivers) DAN TAYLOR



COMMUNITY SERVICE 2004

For many years in the early 2000s Beaver members worked with Vancouver Parks & Rec to provide an on-the-water experience for the disabled. Some participants paddled, some sat, some played; all enjoyed.

STOLEN. 16 ft. orange Frontiersman. 2LJ06230 M751J
If you see this canoe, phone 525-3161 MAY 1978

July 1994

Stolen Canoe

Yes there has been another canoe stolen from a club member - this time from the car port of Nola Johnston. It is a red Team Edge Viper 12ft.

STOLEN BOAT NOTICE. 1998

On Tuesday, December 16, between 6:20 AM and 6:30 PM my whitewater canoe was stolen from the roof of my van. The van was parked in front of my apartment, at 5th and Maple, in Vancouver, Canada. ____

TO THE RESCUE:

HANDS OFF! & DataDots proven protection for your valuable canoe



From 2001 through 2014 Brian Otter and Karyn Lippincott ran the protection program. With the help of club members a canoe was marked, photographed, Surrey police paperwork filled out in triplicate with a copy provided for the owner and their insurer.

 **-BEAVER CANOE CLUB-**
-CANOE IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM-

OWNER'S NAME: _____
Date when check off membership turned in (if not within 10 days, check your name)

OWNER'S ADDRESS: _____
Get driver's license (this is needed for insurance)

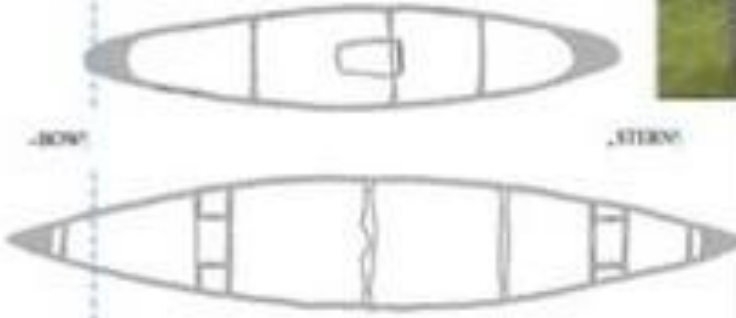
CANOE TYPE: _____ MAKE: _____ MODEL: _____
Is it a new canoe? (yes/no) _____ Has it ever been used before? (yes/no) _____

OWNER'S PHONE: _____
OWNER'S FAX: _____

DATE OF PURCHASE: _____
DATE OF SALE: _____

ALL INFORMATION GIVEN HEREON is true and correct.
I warrant that the above information is true and correct.
I warrant that the above information is true and correct.
I warrant that the above information is true and correct.

Signature of Owner (to be signed by owner only)



Signature of Owner (to be signed by owner only)

Signature of Owner (to be signed by owner only)

Signature of Owner (to be signed by owner only)



Although everyone is familiar with conventional methods of marking property, the DataDot is new. The size of a grain of sand, it has a unique security code embedded into it and that number is registered. The dot will show up under black light, and can't be easily chipped off, sanded away or painted over without affecting the surface of the material that they're on. Once applied on a dry canoe base (with a Q-Tip), your canoe is provided with another layer of theft-proofing.

THERE'S NO AUGUST ISSUE BUT HOW CAN WE SKIP THE MONTHLY QUIZ AND RETRO MEMORIES FROM THE MONTH?? ENJOY THIS SPECIAL TWO-PAGE INSERT:

QUIZ #6

You know the drill (if not reference Quiz#5, this issue):

Which food product was banned from Rivers Week Ultimate Happy Hour?

- a) nachos
- b) ice cream
- c) store-bought cookies
- d) timbits

(Hint: Rivers Week promo, pg 10, June issues)



CALL FOR GALA DONATIONS

50 years is a milestone! Help the celebrations to move from party status to a GALA event by donating something extraordinary to the draw tables. The BCC50 committee has already started gathering: a vintage (but new!) 25-year Beaver Club toque; an autographed copy of Chris Harris's Bowron Lakes book of photographs; gift certificates from Timmys and Lee Valley; a hand-painted tote bag by Victoria artist, Inga.

Think **UNIQUE, VINTAGE, 50 tie-ins, EXPERIENCE or SERVICE**. Gifts (with retail value) will be acknowledged at the 28 NOVEMBER event. Donations happily received by a member of the BCC50 committee: Madeline Waring, Marie Bremner, Janice Power, Pauline Mushens or Karyn Lippincott.

**MANNING PARK
Lightning Lakes Camping Weekend**

The days were hot and sunny and the nights were cool anddark. The group campsite at Lone Duck was home to 50 Beavers of all ages who paddled, splashed, swam, war-gamed, dumped, rescued, hiked, star-gazed, swapped stories and canoes, played ring toss/rumoli/I spy, tied up trees, admired the supply wagon, shared meals, put out fires, took pictures, watched a wedding, cheered 120-mile trail runners, sang to loons, snoozed in hammocks, re-rigged a tent, navigated the four-lake chain, and followed behind an antlered mule-tailed deer as he wandered through the campsite to join his three doe-ish friends on the beach.

Many thanks to organizer Heather
and support paddling instructors David and Brian.

2012-08



Join me at the
Beaver Canoe Club
**Potluck Picnic and
Paddle**

July 19th 2026
At Derby Reach
Regional Park
Check the Website & July
Newsletter for more
information

RCABC NEWS

RCABC LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS



The Recreational Canoeing Association of BC is proud to present our 2026 courses and events. We hope to see you at some of these!

1. September 12-13 Thompson River Rendezvous for big canoes at Savona. More info <https://www.facebook.com/events/1918945995495364>
2. September 25-28 Cariboo Rivers Weekend 2026. More info <https://www.facebook.com/events/1422993612741248>

WHAT TURNS A PARTY INTO A GOLDEN GALA celebrating 50 years of paddling?

#1 A GREAT VENUE: THE BURNABY LAKE PAVILION!

Floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the water.
Plenty of parking. Central location.
Guide Beaver doorman.
Multiple screens highlighting The Years That Were.
A place to chat, reminisce, dine, and dance (optional).



#2 BEAUTIFUL DECOR with FLASHES OF GOLD

including custom-made centrepieces:
A tandem canoe (Gemini-seating style...) stirring up phosphorescence as it bounces (upright) through frothy, curling waves. One of these \$50-valued displays can be yours if won in the evening's draw.

Bonus: Post-gala the assembly can re-purposed as 13" ceramic planter; two outdoor (waterproof) flameless, flickering candles; string of 30 LED fairy lights; golden charge plate; and about 40m of curl ribbon to decorate all your gifts throughout 2027!



#3 FOOD TO SAVOUR

Prepared by Burnaby's fine Riverway Clubhouse. Of course, lots of salads~sides~pasta~protein~desserts~drinks PLUS bubbles for toasting, a one-of-a-kind cake to mark the occasion (perhaps without the 50 candles...fire hazard) AND some pre-dinner retro snacks in memory of our 1976 beginnings (remember Fritos?)



MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

Saturday, 28 November

