BEAVER TALES

The Totally Worthy Newsletter of the Beaver Canoe Club



Celebrating 50 years 1976 to 2026!

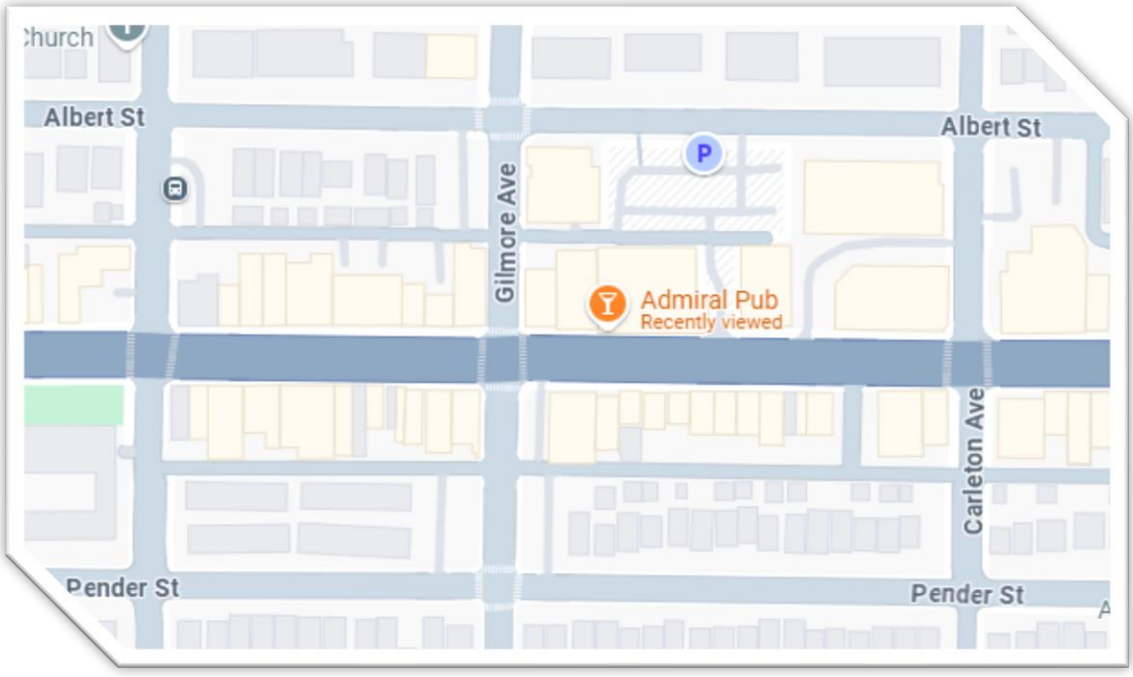
September 2026

PUB NIGHT SEPTEMBER 9

GENERAL MEETING

The club will have an in-person meeting in lieu of a Zoom session at the Admiral Pub on Wednesday, September 9.

- Admiral Pub
- 4125 East Hastings St., Burnaby
- 6:00 pm
- Pub food available
- If you come earlier, we have an area reserved under the name “Beaver Canoe Club”
- Good adventure telling, meet old friends and new ones, share your summer pictures, good beer and grub



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Summer may be winding down, but there is still lots happening with the Beavers! We have **Labour Day on the Adams River, September 4, a Pub Night on September 9, our October 14 Entertainment Meeting back in person, and—most importantly—our BIG 50th Anniversary celebration on November 28.** So, get the dates into your calendars!

🚣 ADAMS RIVER — LABOUR DAY WEEKEND

Friday, September 4 – Monday, September 7

The **Adams River Labour Day Weekend** is one of the great Beaver traditions and a wonderful way to finish off the summer paddling season. We'll once again be gathering in the Adams River area for a weekend of **paddling, camping and socializing**. The Adams offers excellent **Grade 2–3 whitewater**, including the famous canyon, and there may be opportunities for other nearby runs depending on water levels, interest and trip leaders.

🏕️ Camping

Our traditional camping location has been:
Jack & Gloria Lewis
2375 Squilax-Anglemont Road
Near the Adams River

Previous Beaver information lists grass camping, toilet/outhouse facilities and limited hookups. Whether you are coming to paddle hard, paddle easy, camp, socialize—or some combination of all four—the Adams weekend has always been as much about **the people as the river**.

Contact me if you require more information. prankin@telus.net.

🍺 BEAVER PUB NIGHT

Wednesday, September 9 | 6:00–9:00 PM

Admiral Pub

4125 E Hastings St., Burnaby

Only a couple of days after the Adams weekend, we have another chance to get together.Come out to the **Admiral Pub** for our September Beaver Pub Night. No agenda, no meeting, — just **food, drinks, paddling stories and a chance to catch up with other members.**

👥 OCTOBER ENTERTAINMENT MEETING — BACK IN PERSON!

Wednesday, October 14 | 7:45–9:30 PM

Burnaby Lake Sports Complex — Sports Room 1

3677 Kensington Avenue, Burnaby

A reminder of an important change: **our October 14 Beaver Entertainment Meeting will be IN PERSON**, rather than online. After all those online meetings, it will be great to see everyone in the same room again! Please plan on joining us for an evening of **Beaver stories, entertainment and catching up with fellow paddlers.**

🎉 BEAVER CANOE CLUB — THE BIG 50!

🥂 50th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

On **Saturday, November 28**, we will celebrate that history with our **50th Anniversary Dinner at the Burnaby Lake Rowing Pavilion**. **Saturday, November 28, 2026, Burnaby Lake Rowing Pavilion, 6871 Roberts Street, Burnaby**

Fifty years for the Beaver Canoe Club! For half a century, Beavers have been exploring BC rivers, developing paddlers, organizing trips, sharing campsites and occasionally discovering just how **cold BC river water really is!** This should be much more than another club dinner. It is a chance to bring together **present members, former members and old paddling friends** and celebrate the people, trips and adventures that have made the Beaver Canoe Club what it is.

🎟️ **Tickets will go on sale in September.**

Madeline Waring is coordinating the event, with **Janice Powers, Marie Bremmer and Karen Lippincott** working hard on the committee to make this a great evening. **Save November 28 now!** I hope we can fill the Pavilion with Beavers from **all five decades** of the club.

🌊 A FEW MORE PADDLING NOTES

There is still plenty of paddling season left!

Check the calendar, volunteer to lead or assist with a trip if you can and come out to some of our social events as well.

🚣 RCABC Cariboo Rivers Weekend — late September

The **RCABC Rivers Weekend** is coming up in late September. This is the RCABC's premier inter-club whitewater festival, with Grade 2–3 river **sections** led by certified RCABC leaders, guides or instructors. More information will follow as we get closer to the event.

SEE YOU ON THE RIVER! 🚣

There is still lots of summer left, so get out **there** and enjoy it! It should be great! **See you on the river—and at the 50th!**

Phil Rankin

President

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.

A LOOK AHEAD TO GENERAL MEETING ENTERTAINMENT

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

- 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!

UPCOMING TRIPS AND EVENTS

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

TRIPS AND EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026			
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**
Wed	**Sep 9,**	**BCC Meeting at Admirals Pub, North Burnaby! See this Newsletter for details.**	
Sun Sep 6 to Sun Sep 13		**Bowron Lakes Canoe Circuit: Lakewater & Gr 1**	The world-famous epic canoe trip. **Contact: trips@beavercanoeclub.org**
Sun Sep 13 to Sun Sep 20		**Bowron Lakes Canoe Circuit: Lakewater & Gr 1**	This second Bowron trip is now filled up.
Sat	**Sep 19,**	**Harrison River: Lakewater & Gr 1**	A family friendly paddle from Harrison townsite to Kilby Provincial Park. **Contact: trips@beavercanoeclub.org**
Sun	**Sep 27,**	**Chilliwack River: Gr 2 & 3**	This is the classic section from Slesse to Tamahi. Solid whitewater skills and full outfitting required. **Contact: Jenny W j.wakling@shaw.ca**
Sun	**Sep 27,**	**BC Rivers Day Cleanup: TBD**	A day of fun with friends on a local river near you. **Contact: trips@beavercanoeclub.org**

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@beavercanoeclub.org

TRIP REPORTS



<u>July 8th, 2026,</u> A Family Friendly Paddle Along the Shores to Deep Cove by Madeline

In honour of our 50th year, the social committee, resurrected the Beaver Canoe Club Summer Meetings of Years gone by! It was unlike any typical meeting beavers are used to; a social gathering of young and old, new and long-term members for an evening paddle, retro snacks and socializing. Alastair led our flotilla, along the fascinating shores from Cates Park to towards Deep Cove and back where we enjoyed retro snacks the social committee and paddlers provided. The old saying "a picture is worth a thousand words" plumps out this report with "thousands of words" about the delightful evening.



















EDDY'S TRIP REPORT

Diary of **The** beaver beaver.

June

Hi, my name is Eddy. I am part of the Buddy family. I think there are eight of us. The others are. Weir, Rapid, Boil, Surf, Current, Canyon and Dawn. OK, Golden Dawn.

On my first day, I made my first friend butterfly the Capybara! This was before I knew what was going to happen to me. I said bye to Butterfly and got into the car. When we got to the river, I was taken out of the car and strapped down! That was when I started to feel scared... No sane person should strap a Beaver into a flimsy little piece of... OK, I don't know what a canoe is made out of. But it didn't seem safe! Then after a very important meeting (I didn't listen.) We left land behind! We were greeted by waves, the height of mountains, and as if that is not enough, turns too! Now I have begun to see why you need a helmet. And you know what the worst part is! I GOT WET! It started with just my tail. But then a mountain wave fell on me! Unacceptable! But we did make it to lunch in one piece. (Even if it was barely.) I was so overjoyed that I was on land I jumped Out and went to go hug the restaurant... There was no restaurant! People had to bring cold food! I had been planning what I was going to get, and cold poutine would not do! 😡 But I still hadn't seen anything as we got back into the canoes. (Vessels of doom and despair). Everyone else was talking about my sister, Golden Dawn! Turns out my sister is named after a gargantuan set of rappers! I mean, it does match her personality... We got out of the canoes to scout and the other people in my boat were talking about taking the tongue! Which turned out to be a set of Big Rapids that went right down the middle! And they didn't listen when I said we should walk around! As we got back into the canoe, I felt that my heart would burst out of my chest from nerves! And then disaster struck... It was the biggest monstrosity of my life! One moment I was looking at the monster wave in front of me. Framed by blue sky. And next I had a face full of monster teeth! I came gasping out of the foamy white water to find that by some miracle I was at the shore! If I weren't a Beaver, I swear I would have been swallowed! Later I was telling all this to Butterfly, who asked if I would do it again. And after a lot of thought I had my answer.

YES!


esquif

RETRO CORNER

celebrating 50 years of fun and friendship

TWO POINTS OF VIEW:

Harrison River Trip Report, October 6th 1996

Either there were 34 boats and 17 paddlers or it was the other. Whatever, it was one crowded parking lot at the Sasquatch Inn and it didn't help that another canoe club was on the road as too, honking as they drove by, pretending to be Beavers, giving the leader the sinking feeling that this was going to be the shuttle from hell.

Harrison Hotsprings and then onto the lake, and around the bend, and past the sewage outflow, and no one even noticed that the trip leader and partner had forgotten to put on their life jackets. You can hide in a mob this big.

The size of the mob led to a more free form style of paddling: oh, there was the usual sweep boat and a "maternity" express lead boat - Monica and Shireen - but in the middle it was a Beaver social circle as clusters of boats would form and separate and reform in new groups, some times abreast, sometimes linear and occasionally on opposite sides of the river. Such was the social intensity that half the group paddled right past fossil beach and had to "about boat" and paddle back up stream against the mighty Harrison. Some had a better fossil search than others as it was hard to organize everyone onto the same beach and the trip leader was distracted trying to pry Bob Hoye away from his lunch and get back into his boat. Once Bob has the wax paper off the sandwiches, he gets very focused!

All 34 of us waded ashore at Hatchery Hill, Bob got out his lunch and afterward we hiked our way up the hill for the view ... of Rose Drozdowski and David Westell who only made it 1/32 of the way up before they laid down in the middle of the trail for a nap. Also in view were two Voyageur canoes run aground 100 feet off shore in the shallows, lured in by the sight of 17 canoes pulled up on the beach.

We woke Rose and Dave up and went off down the left channel to play shallow water tag through the sand bars and when the two channels merged there was a brief flurry of anticipation - maybe a dump?

It was not to be. The rest was downhill to the takeout and home.

There were too many participants to mention individually; but honourable mention goes to Ted Turner who brought along two wooden boats. Big deal you think? Well, one was 101 years old, originally built by Herald Bro. of Gores Landing, Ontario in a cold moulded plank construction technique and the second was a solo boat, rib construction, built in the 1940's. Both have been lovingly refinished by Ted and these are not car top queens; he paddles them, and even loaned one out.

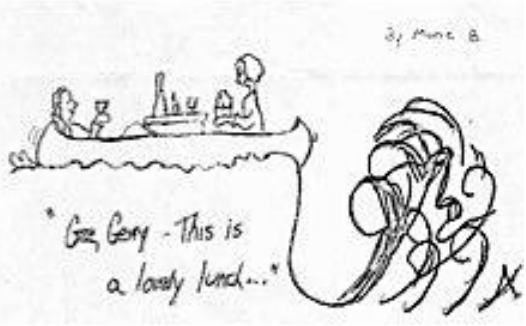
On the drive home, a few friends dropped by a local pub to get Bob Hoye something to eat.

Einar Harness

Einar's somewhat sensational report of the October Harrison trip requires perspective. If he hadn't forgotten his own lunch, he wouldn't have been so compulsive about mine and likely would have been more accurate in his account.

Of the 17 boats, 14 were made from unnatural chemicals, and 3, not 2, were older wooden canoes. Einar neglected to mention my Leader - the 18 footer of Chestnut's fast Cruiser series, that, from the 1920's to 1970's, was the downhill river racer. As for not searching for fossils, doesn't everyone know that rocks are for eddy turns or sticking canoes to?

Regards, Bob Hoye



UPPER TULAMEEN - Postscript

August 1993

We had been travelling far and the journey was starting to take its toll when we arrived at a small group of homesteads. We investigated this hamlet and decided to take a break at the local eatery. Peace reigned as we sunk into somnolent thoughts of rivers week so far; the sounds of summer poured gently on the window panes. Then, as we each downed a well deserved coffee and Danish, a tall, dark and somewhat forlorn looking gentlemen wandered into the room talking to anyone who would lend an ear. His right hand went to his brow as if to wipe away non-existent beads of perspiration. The words were melodramatic and difficult to catch but went something like this :-

Grade 2, or not Grade 2: that is the question:
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The slings and arrows of outrageous estimation,
Or to take paddles against a river of troubles,
And by paddling end them? To pry: to sweep;
Grade 4 ! and, by a sweep to say we end
The bouncing on the thousand natural rocks
Canoes are prone to, 'tis a stroke combination
Devoutly to be wish'd. To pry, to sweep;
To draw: perchance to surf: ay there's the dump ....

At this the tragic hero passed by (exit stage left) still mumbling to himself.

anonymous

ARE YOU A KNOW-IT-ALL?

Test your Beaver Canoe Club knowledge!

Win a chance for a $50 Lee Valley gift certificate!

(Directions for submitting your answers will appear in November.)

RETRO QUIZ #7:

What toys were enjoyed at Manning Park Family Campouts?

a) Pump squirt guns
b) Tossing rings
c) Star Wars action figures
d) Rubik's cube

(Clue: check back to July)





LCROSS mission data examined: water discovered on the moon

KLEENA DA KANAKA CREEK...AHH-H-H....

by Jim Slade Sep 2001

This past September closed on an upbeat note weatherwise. Susan, Cody, Lia and I left Vancouver September 30th in sun and blue sky and arrived at Kanaka Creek Regional Park, just east of Haney Bypass on the Lougheed, autumn mist still enshrouding the put-in by the rail-bridge. Dew as thick and clinging as the mud-bank was slippery and suctioning. Trips-planner Dave Westell rallied the Beavers, requested a trip-leader, and magnanimously accepted the acclamation himself, for this was no ordinary leisure-paddle, this was the annual waterways reclamation eco-challenge of detritus big or small.

Soon after having sluiced through the muck, and with all paddles poised, we ventured north around the first bend as the mist lifted and sun broke through. Shallows in places necessitated the ferrying of canoes mostly by bows persons but on occasion by stern types as well.

At the third bend, Don and Donna rassled with the first big catch of the day, which proved to be the business end of an ancient wringer washer. This was soon followed by Jennifer and Peter hauling out the first of almost a dozen car tires, one or two still on rims. Jim snagged a boot (steel toe, size 11), while Susan fished out several drink cans--none still full I regret to report. Young Cody, in the bow of Scott's canoe, kept a steady vigil for jetsam as well as a steady stream of questions directed at Scott.

A stone's throw or two past the foot-bridge a very BIG tire, from a dump- or mining-truck, demanded a team effort of paddle-digging, pole levers, and shoulder-heaves but, after a half-hour or more, the crew uprighted the beast and proceeded to roll it downstream to a gravel-bed below the footbridge, fearing during the transit for its 500 lb. weight to wobble, capsize, and crush one of the altruistic eco-warriors in our midst.

By now it was lunch. A few onlookers from the bridge gazed at our spoils and commented, "It's unreal what some people will toss in the river". On the return leg, as it turned out, we hauled out more than during the upstream course: shopping carts, a rural mailbox with the pop-up flag, two amber-lighted and hinged roadwork signs, a bicycle, a heavy metal tailgate, more tires, etc. etc.



David Westell reported later that when he informed the GVRD the following day of our catch they expressed surprise for they had predicted little would be recovered because they had checked out the area not long ago.

Rose and David generously invited us to their home not far away in Maple Ridge and, with BBQ'd food and drink, we watched the sun go down on a successful day of tidying a small section of Kanaka Creek.



T50

In 2007 a group of paddlers interested in class III solo play & practice joined forces. A race was organized independently by Beavers with the support from the Chilliwack Centre of Excellence club. Tamahi Five-0 was described as a "fun slalom race for open canoes. The Five-O stands for fifty, as in the 50 second penalty for missing a gate. Advanced whitewater paddling skills required; a sense of humour recommended."

The September event, held on the Tamahi Rapids of the Chilliwack River, ran from 2008 through 2016. Pat Y remembers "paddling the course in a 14' tandem playboat with Dave K. I'm sure the two of us together exceeded the boat's weight capacity before we swamped in the first wave. We didn't stand a chance against Dan B in his converted H2Pro." Annually it attracted about 40 participants and a larger number of cheerers.

Although no longer an event, spin-offs included a web forum for whitewater canoeing and the introduction of BCC's Mamquam weekend to give paddlers practice and exposure to river running.

INPUT BY PAT YARNELL





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

WANTED

The current editor of the Beaver Tales will be retiring from his position as editor and give somebody else the opportunity to apply some creative spark to this Newsletter. Please email me your interest to editor@beavercanoeclub.org. I am happy to answer any questions.

Peter Gutzmann

MORE REASONS TO celebrate BCC's 50 years with a GOLDEN GALA ...

#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?)





#4 AN OCCASION TO PLAY DRESS-UP
It's 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, a bitcoin or loonie or grandfather's watch tucked into your pocket works. If it's gold you're in and if not, we'll fancy up your name badge with a golden ribbon to get you passed our Guide Beaver doorman.



WHAT TURNS A PARTY INTO A GALA?



#5 ENGAGING ENTERTAINMENT

Door greetings by the Guide Beaver, shake-it-up tunes from Rock Paper Moon (back by popular demand!), a few cameo appearances including our renown seer--the Great Beaver. Add awards and a slew of friends with memories (truths and tales) from our past--all ingredients for a great evening!



Join us --
Saturday 28 November