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Are You Missing Two Kayaks?

For those of you who have departed to southern climes for the winter I would like to report weather conditions which rivalled many a winter storm, though thankfully much warmer. On Friday morning, September 30, the winds started to blow out of the north east at up to 70km per hour. These conditions lasted through Monday October 3 and resulted in fairly gigantic waves pounding the shore. At the height of the storm our neighbours and we noted two mostly submerged yellow kayaks passing by and on today's walk to town along the shoreline Anita and I found one yellow "Current Designs" kayak on the shoreline in front of 10 Dock Street (now renamed Bruin Street). This kayak had a small red pack attached to the bow. Further along we found another yellow kayak of the same make pulled up on the sandy beach in Lion's Head. I did not conduct a full inspection of either one but both appeared, at first glance, to be seaworthy, although the seat in the second one was damaged.

Now these may have come from far, far away but it is also possible they belong to somebody in the Isthmus Bay area. In the event you left yours high up on the shoreline thinking it would be safe you should know the waves reached levels not usually seen at this time of year. If you will be here for Thanksgiving weekend and you think they might be yours you can check them out for yourself. Otherwise, if they sound familiar let me know and I will pick them up and leave them at your place, or store them in my driveway for the winter.

Official Plan Review – Ferndale August 27

A majority of the IBPOA executive attended the above open house as a group and we must report we were somewhat disappointed with the start of this process. In fact, we went so far as to document our concerns to the planners, mayor and council, and the municipality's Chief Administrative Officer. This gathering was supposed to be the start of information gathering from the public but we fear the municipality is just going through the motions to comply with provincial standards. Hopefully planned future meetings will put "more meat on the bones."

I did manage to read one document of some interest - the Lion's Head Toolkit - and have attached it to this email. Once you get past the repetition and the basic information about the process there are a few interesting suggestions. If you don't feel like reading the whole thing just open the document and turn to page 28 to get a sense of some of the changes which could potentially occur in our area. If you are strongly for or against anything you read here or have other ideas please make your thoughts known to Bill Jones, CAO of the municipality and the mayor and council. You can find contact information for them on our website.

John Bainbridge Blog – Official Plan

If you are interested in one person's point of view on how things occur on the Bruce the following link is a must read. John is our deputy mayor and ran for office on openness and transparency in local government. You may not agree with everything he says but you will have to admit he is the first local politician in memory to attempt to communicate with the electorate and to try to get the municipality to live within its own rules.

The link is <http://johnbainbridge9.wordpress.com/2011/08/23/official-plan-review-submission/>

Land and Lake Newsletter

It appears the National Park is attempting to establish a newsletter on an irregular basis. I have attached the first one and plan to forward others if and when they occur.

Rumours

In a community this size it is fairly easy for rumours to quickly make the rounds. The executive has heard one recently concerning our organization that is so far from the truth we will not even share it with you. It is our policy to be open and transparent with our members concerning the issues we are involved with so if you hear something about the IBPOA that does not fit with this policy and has not been reported on at our AGM or in a newsletter please refrain from repeating it to others until you confirm it with any member of the executive.

Bob Cunningham