



THE PROFESSIONAL

ISSUES AND INFORMATION ON THE COMOX BIA

BUSINESS & PROFESSIONALS BY THE SEA

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY CHANTELLE MAILER—CAROSEL FASHIONS ON CONSIGNMENT

Another successful year has come and gone and now we look forward to the colours and smells of spring. The New Year brings reflection and anticipation; and with the hard work and commitment of the BIA Board and the Committee members to make things happen, we are seeing the fruits of their labours.

With the extension of the BIA borders to now include the Berwick and the Portside buildings, you can join me welcoming some of our newest members! Also Congratulations to the Holiday Decorating Contest winners of the “voters choice” Best Decorated awards to **Comox Quay Gifts** and **Comox Shoes**, winners of ad-

vertising sponsored by the **Comox Valley Record**. A Big thank you to all of the businesses who donated gifts for the gift basket, your generosity really helped to make the Holiday Decorating Contest a success!

The Marketing and Special Events committee are working hard to organize a Fresh Air Cinema (outdoor movie) event to be held in our own Marina Park this summer. Watch the papers for more news as it comes!

As well, the Events committee is ad-



Photo by McKinnon Photography

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chase more Snowflakes to help brighten up more of our streets and buildings during the dark days of November & December. They have also been working on new brackets for the seasonal banners to add even more color and character to our streets and buildings.

The BIA meets the second Wednesday of every month at the Comox legion, it's an open meeting and all are welcome to sit in. Hope to see you there!

chantelle

looking forward to working with the Pearl Ellis Gallery this year to make our 3rd annual Photo Fest, bigger and better than ever. A feather in the cap of all of the hard working committee members and our coordinator who make this happen as a Comox annual summer event.

The infrastructure committee will do a brilliant job decorating our streets with beautiful hanging baskets this summer, and they were able to pur-

Important message from the new
Town of Comox
**By-Law Inspector
Bill Smith**
See page 3!

NEW BOARD FOR BIA IN 2008

Comox BIA businesses, property owners and Comox residents came to the *Comox BIA Annual General Meeting* held at the Town of Comox' Counsel Chambers in November, to listen to year end reports from the various Committees, and the Treasurer and President reports.

Mailer—Carosel Fashions, **Treasurer: Terry Hills**—Coastal Community Credit Union, **Secretary: Liz Tribe**—Comox

sen—Martine's Bistro, **Trish Johnson**—Smitty's Restaurant, **David White**—Property Owner. **Tom Dandeno**—Comox Legion and **Ken Grant**—Comox Council continue as liaisons to the Comox BIA.

BIA Board.

BIA Board meetings are held the 1st Wednesday of each month, noon at the Royal Canadian Legion Comox branch. *All members are welcome to attend, and there are 3 spaces for Directors available at this time. We encourage you to participate in this dynamic group and help continue the work of the Comox Business in Action—Business and Professionals by the Sea.*



A new Board of Directors was formed and new Executive as follows:

President: Chantelle

Centre Mall, Directors at large: **Glenn Fidler**—Regenesis Holistic Resources, **Marcus Aart-**

The BIA would like to thank out going Directors **Sandra Sivers, Gary Patterson** and

Gillian Holmes for all the energy, dedication and time that they spent on the

TIME TO ORDER HANGING BASKETS

Congratulations to *Renaissance Greenhouses* who have been awarded the Comox BIA contract for hanging baskets for the second time this year. Beautiful baskets will go on most buildings in the BIA area, at no cost to you, to add colour and beauty to Comox by the Sea.

The Comox BIA has tendered the maintenance of the baskets; at this date we do not know who will be fertilizing and deadheading them throughout the months of June to the end of September.

All you have to do is agree upon who will water it. Baskets require watering every day in the summer.

This will be the last season that **Ed Valeri** will be managing the basket hanging and disposal at the end of the season, and will no longer be handling the Christmas decorations. A hearty thank-you to Ed from the BIA Board and members for doing such a wonderful job on these tasks over the years since the inception of these programs.

Many thanks to Amazon Gardeners who have done such a fantastic job of maintaining the baskets since the program's inception. They have decided against continuing with the contract due to other commitments.



If you would like to order additional baskets for your business, *at your own expense*, fill out the attached form *and return it no later than March 14th, 2008.* There is no need to fill out the form to receive the free basket.

A Message from the New By-Law Inspection Officer

I have been requested to urge all of you to renew your business licenses.

There were some businesses which were operating without a license in the past year and I don't see this as being fair to those who are abiding by the rules. As you might expect, I will be enforcing this bylaw in the coming year.

Sandwich boards is a topic that requires some discussion. To this point it has been left up to the business community to police themselves in this area, and in my opinion it can stay that way unless I receive direction to the contrary. However, the proliferation of sandwich boards in the downtown core seems to be getting out of hand. I urge you as a group to address the situation.

A community forum was held February 21st by the City of Courtenay which discussed the issue of graffiti. They looked for input from partners in the community. The purpose of the forum was to attempt to determine the reasons for the graffiti. Hopefully from this, a solution will emerge. Presentations were made by concerned groups, including those who are posting the graffiti and

their peers. Invitations were sent to schools and social groups seeking youth input and that is the intent of the forum.

In the meantime, the City of Courtenay and the Town of Comox have requested that all retailers who sell spray paint take steps to discourage youth from purchasing this item, such as placing the displays on higher shelves, or in locked cases. Spray paint has become the highest shoplifted item in the Comox Valley.



For more information on Town of Comox by-laws, check the website at <http://comox.ca>

Bill Smith
Town of Comox
Bylaw Enforcement Officer
339-2202

Need to find someone to paint out graffiti? There's a new company in the valley called **The Graffiti Guys** who offer environmentally friendly products and free estimates. Call Pat Pidosny at 792-3873 or email ipidosny@shaw.ca



Sidewalk sandwich boards require:

- a permit
- can't be on sidewalk/boulevard
- maximum 3.2x3.2
- one per business,
- flashing signs prohibited
- A copy of the sign bylaw is available at the Town of Comox website -

<http://comox.ca/town-hall/bylaws/Sign%20Bylaw%2C%20Consolidated%20197%2C%201995.pdf>

Holiday Decorating Contest Winners Winter 2007



Mae Cole was thrilled to win the Holiday Decorating Contest draw for the gift basket valued at over \$1,000 of goodies donated by generous Comox by the Sea businesses.

Congratulations to the winners of the best decorated businesses, sponsored by the Comox Valley Record:

1st Place—Comox Quay Gifts

2nd Place—Comox Shoes



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2008
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT

CHANTELLE MAILER 339-2092
Carosel Fashions

TREASURER

TERRY HILLS 703-7230
Coastal Community Credit Union

SECRETARY

LIZ TRIBE 339-7344
Comox Centre Mall

DIRECTORS

DAVE WHITE 339-7954
Property Owner

MARCUS AARTSEN 339-1199
Martine's Bistro

TRISH JOHNSON 339-3911
Property Owner

GLENN FIDLER 339-7788
Regenesis Holistic Resources

LIAISON DIRECTORS

TOM DANDENO 339-3849
Comox Legion

KEN GRANT 339-2202
Town of Comox

COORDINATOR

KIM STUBBLEFIELD 337-2096

Did you know - because your business or property is within the Comox BIA boundaries, you can get a FREE business listing on the Comox BIA's website? Check it out at www.comoxbythesea.com

If you are listed and would like a change, or if you are not listed and would like to be included—including a free hot link from the BIA site to yours, please email or phone the coordinator for a form and fax or email it back. Don't forget to forward your special events for listing on the website as well; you can use the form previously provided, or just email your press release to the BIA coordinator Kim Stubblefield— info@comoxbythesea.com

EVENTS IN DOWNTOWN COMOX BY THE SEA

Month/Date	Event	Action	Contact
April 29	Royal LePage Snow to Surf Race—finishing at Comox Harbour		898-0231 contact@snowtosurf.com www.snowtosurf.com
May 22—25	Hanging Baskets Delivered	Water them!	Kim Stubblefield Comox BIA Coordinator 337-2096
June	Van Isle 360 Yacht Race—Comox Harbour		
July 31	Outdoor Cinema in Comox Marina Park	Consider staying open until 9:00 pm	Kim Stubblefield Comox BIA Coordinator 337-2096
August Aug 1—4	Filberg Festival	Consider staffing needs	Sylvia Allan 334-9242
August Aug 1—4	Comox Nautical Days	Consider staffing needs	Bob McQuillan, 338-1120
August 6—10	Comox Photo Fest	Consider opening Sunday	Kim Stubblefield Comox BIA Coordinator 337-2096
August 9—10	Originals Only Art Show	Consider opening Sunday	Joe Smith joesmith@shaw.ca
October 31	Hallowe'en Parade	Dress Up! Hand out treats to the Kiddies	Mandy CRA - 334-2255
November	Comox BIA AGM	RSVP, attend and participate	Kim Stubblefield Comox BIA Coordinator 337-2096
November	Celebration of Lights	Participate, consider staying open until 8:00 pm, check staffing needs,	Kim Stubblefield Comox BIA Coordinator 337-2096

Please send us your email address so we can keep you updated on Comox BIA initiatives
info@comoxbythesea.com