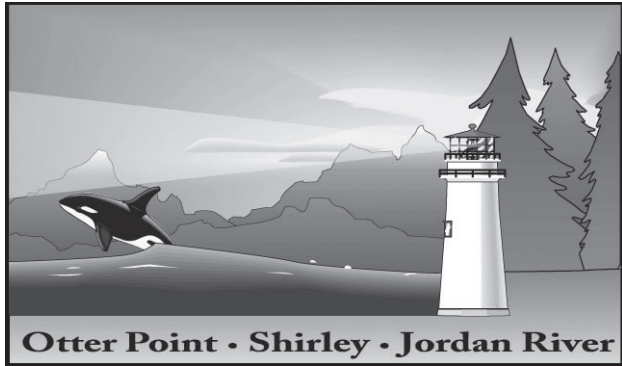


A Strategic Vision for Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River

*To: Residents of
Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River*



Often, decisions about this community are made by people who neither live in the community nor understand the future the community wants for itself.

The Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River Strategic Vision Project began in February 2007 to address this problem. With the assistance of a volunteer steering committee to provide planning and organizational services, many community residents have participated in public information forums and community workshops, and contributed to developing a strategic vision that identifies broad community goals, key strategies and suggested activities for achieving them.

The Strategic Vision for Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River is being presented to a range of government agencies, planners, community organizations and elected representatives. It provides perspective and gives the community a stronger voice as decisions are made about land use, economic development, governance, community services, transportation and environmental issues that affect our future.

The strategic vision will influence community decisions and decision makers over the next few years. Your active support of the Strategic Vision to influence decisions about our community's future is important.

Respectfully,

Members of the Developing a Strategic Vision Steering Committee:

Arnie Campbell	Wayne Fritz (chair)
John Charles	Cleo Gardener
Alanda Carver	Rosemary Jorna
Veronica Diment	Heather Phillips

September 08, 2008

*This condensed strategic vision is being widely distributed to residents of Otter Point, Shirley and Jordan River. The full Strategic Vision is available at www.jdffuture.org or www.opsrra.ca or A. Campbell, telephone 250-642-3113.

What Is Our Strategic Vision?

We are a growing community that values rural living, active lifestyles, and environmental conservation.

We support the development of a thriving, sustainable local economy built around home-based businesses, eco-tourism, arts and crafts, and environmentally friendly industry, agriculture, fisheries and forestry.

We value tolerance, diverse viewpoints, and the contributions of volunteers in our community.

We seek greater community self-determination and accountability in local governance.

We want our community to be a safe, healthy place where residents of all ages can live and work cooperatively with each other and in harmony with the natural environment for generations to come.

What Are Our Goals?

- Government that is elected, affordable and accountable to the local community
- Strong community identity and social ties
- Secure, sustainable water and environment for humans and wildlife
- More successful rural businesses
- Effective public transit and trail systems
- Sustainable rural land use

What Key Strategies and Activities Will Help Us Achieve Our Goals?

- Lobbying for a funded, comprehensive review of local governance options
- Local authorities to make the decisions about land use planning, subdivision approvals, and road locations and specifications
- Increased volunteerism to support community activities
- Establishment of a multi-purpose social and recreational center
- Acquisition of more public parks and development of a regional trail system
- Improvement of environmental mapping and planning to identify and protect significant ecosystems, aquifers, watersheds, streams and wildlife corridors
- Strengthened protection of community water sources from contamination
- Support for small businesses through
 - improvement of high-speed Internet and cell phone services
 - establishment of a local business directory
 - protection of green spaces and the environment for eco-tourism and recreation
 - review of zoning bylaws to facilitate home-based businesses

- Preservation and protection of forestlands for forestry, wildlife and non-timber forest products.
- Establishment of walking and cycling lanes along Highway 14 and other major roads
- Expanded public transit for Otter Point and Shirley
- Improved safety on public roads
- Establishment of a consistent process to include the community in the development of land use plans
- Amendment of zoning bylaws to facilitate a wider range of housing options

What Can Our Community Do to Implement the Strategic Vision?

- Inform ourselves about community planning issues and options
- Support community discussion and debate
- Participate in community activities and initiatives
- Advocate on behalf of the Strategic Vision
- Lobby government officials and elected politicians

What Do We Value?

The people

- respect for others
- acceptance of others' values and individuality
- independence and self-reliance
- community cooperation and cohesion

Rural living

- safety, peace and quiet
- privacy and "elbow room"
- local food sources
- healthy lifestyles
- access to green space

The environment

- natural beauty of the area
- preservation of green space
- wildlife
- good air and water

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Juan de Fuca Regional Director – \$1,000 grant

JdF Economic Development Commission – \$2,000 grant

Real Estate Foundation of BC – \$5, 000 grant

Otter Point Fire Department – meeting space

SEAPARC – meeting space

Sooke Region Museum – meeting space

CRD Planning and Regional Planning Services – information

John Horgan, MLA – provincial information access

Strategic Vision Advisory Committee Members – support and advice

OPSRRA – support and accounting services

Muir Creek Protection Society – website assistance

Roy Diment, Vivencia Resources Group – document design

Emma Taylor – steering committee member Feb/07-Sept/07

Tugwell Creek Honey Farm & Meadery – gifts for speakers

A Point-of-View B&B – speaker accommodations

Kemp Lake Waterworks District – information distribution

JdF Community Trails Society – information distribution