



Watch for Falling Ice!

# Island Highlights



Snow On Gabriola Island?—Wow they really do get the weather don't they. This picture appeared in the Gabriola Island Sounder in the January 23, 2012 Edition. The photo was taken by Sarah Holmes and she gave us her permission to share this with you in our newsletter. Thanks Sarah.

Excerpt from the Sounder:

*"Emcon Crews were out plowing and sanding the road constantly this past week as snow dumped down on Gabriola, while some unlucky drivers ended up in the ditch."*

Cumberland crews put up a very large three post sign on the Inland Island Highway for the Comox Valley Economic Development group. The crews installed two signs in the NB Lanes, and will be installing two more in the SB Lanes this month.

Crew-members shown are Paul Laughlin, Mark Robinson and Keith Williams.



EMCON SERVICES INC.

# The Link



Low Tech Snow Removal Going Green!

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### Special points of interest:

- **Pink Shirt Day—February 29, 2012**
- **A bucket of Roses for the Cortes Crew**
- **Safety Crossword Winners**



# February—Support for Heart & Stroke Month

## What did you do in support of Heart & Stroke Month?

At the Corporate Office we are putting together a Recipe Book to sell to raise funds for The Heart & Stroke Foundation. Recipes from anyone and everyone in the company are being put in a book to share.

The idea came to us when we had our last potluck— we are always asking each other for recipes—“Oh that is so good can I have the recipe”! So we decided to share the recipes and do some fundraising for a good cause at the same time.

The Corporate Office staff celebrated February 14th with a Heart Healthy Lunch. At first there was a lot of resistance—people thought a heart, healthy lunch would not be very tasty! In fact some of them threatened to be off that day, just so they wouldn't have to make something. Well in the end it was great and all were amazed that Heart Healthy recipes could taste so good. We wanted to share this food with you so all recipes are in the Recipe Book and pictured here so you could see just how good this buffet lunch was.



Lunch Plate with Bean & Corn Salsa, baked Pita & Tortilla chips, Turkey Meatball, Spanakopita Lasagna, Chicken, Corn & Tomato Salad.

When the Recipe Book comes out be prepared to get your copies, share them with your family, friends, give them for presents and support the cause.

Looking forward to it!!

Greek Layered Dip with Multigrain Pita



Bean & Corn Salsa & Heart Healthy Muffins!



Tuna Surprise



*“Angelic Berry Dessert”  
Filled with blueberries & raspberries!*

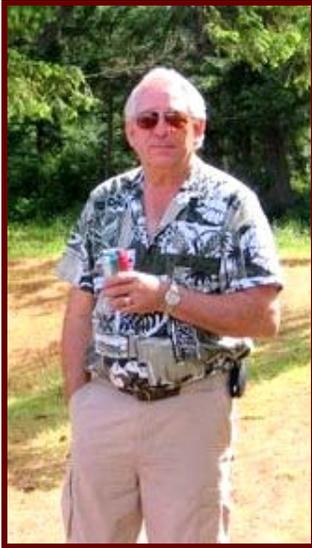


Pictured here from left to right are:  
Madalene Espenhain, Sally Sofonoff, Holly Borisenkoff, Caitlin Dobson, Joe Mottishaw  
Back Row:  
Rick Wright, Dale Nordstrom & Ken Lawson

This group is celebrating National Heart Month and Valentine's Day—all in red with Heart Healthy Cupcakes??

Please note that Rick Wright is wearing red.....but you just can't see it!!!

## Retirement—Changing Focus



Hans Van de Vosse has been a part of the Emcon team since 2004. He started his career with us here in Merritt and then transferred to the Island Division.

He took over the Cumberland Road Superintendent position which included the Mount Washington area as well.

Hans has spent the last 5 years sharing his many years of road maintenance experience with others. He has been training our operators on winter equipment, completing crew winter monitoring training and recording sessions, as well as excavator and grader training.



Hans also headed up emergency works and to date has completed several million dollars of projects up and down the North and Mid Island during that period.

Hans will be retiring in May and we wish him best of luck wherever his focus takes him for future years.

*If people concentrated on the really important things in life, there'd be a shortage of fishing poles. -- Doug Larson*



## Island People



Tara Burse has returned from her maternity leave and is now back full time as receptionist in the Cumberland office.

Welcome Back Tara!

Marlene Ricard, temporary fill in for Tara while she was off, is now working part time/full time filling in for Debbie Inman in Payroll and providing other office related tasks. Congratulations Marlene we look forward to continuing our working relationship.



Gary Robertson is the new mechanic apprentice filling the void in the Cumberland Mechanical Shop.

Welcome to our team Gary and we wish you success in your field.

## Wildlife in the Kootenays



Picture on the left:  
Jean Neigum got a call to go pickup a dead dog on the side of the road in Beaverdell. When she got there this “dog” was a “wolf” and a big one at that! Lucky for her it really was dead!



Above—Dave Boughton with a bald eagle that Garry Campbell, Grand Forks Sign Person, found out west near the Nursery area.

On the right is a picture of an Owl that Garry Campbell, from Grand Forks, found on the side of the road.



*“Grand Forks Mechanical Crew  
keeping our fleet running”*



Top Left: Dave Boughton  
Top Right: Walter Chernoff  
Bottom Left: Earl Hunt  
Bottom Right: John Tourcotte



## Our Nemesis—The Seasons



No matter what season we are in—there are always various activities associated with it.

Here Ray Wilson, Grand Forks, is winging back the snow on Hwy 3B, the Rossland/Trail Hwy S.

Beautiful picture—but spring will be welcomed!

## Beaver Saver!



On February 14, 2012, Oliver Watson was in Parksville and look what he found walking across the highway in downtown Parksville. The beaver wasn't hurt and Oliver doesn't know where the beaver came from. Oliver and a pedestrian managed to put it in a reusable grocery bag and a worker from the post office gave him a tote to transport it. Oliver took the Beaver to a swampy area and let it go inside the City limits.

Oliver you are our official Beaver Saver!

## February 29—Every day should be pink

Today is Pink Shirt Day in Canada. All across the country young people will don pink shirts to send a message to stop bullying. The time has come for all of us to redouble our efforts to stop bullying by getting involved. Here the Corporate Office supports the efforts to commit to a "Bully-Free Life".

*Edmund Burke once said, "All that is required for evil to triumph is for good people to do nothing." The converse is also true: All that is required to change things is for more of us — parents, teens and bystanders — to step up, speak up, and let our voices be heard. Excerpt— The Vancouver Sun*



## Thanks! Community Appreciation



This published in the Cortes Mar-  
keter on February 5, 2012:

***"A BUCKET OF ROSES to the boys at Emcon for the great job they do to get the roads clear and safe before most of us are out of bed. Great job! Happy Traveler"***

**Congrats** to that crew for making such a positive impression on the residents of Cortes Island!

A Thank You Card, along with a Fruit Basket was delivered to the Corporate Office in Merritt on Tuesday, February 13, 2012.

The Nicola Valley Health Care Auxiliary wanted to thank Frank and the Staff for their assistance in enabling the storage of items that will eventually be sent to Third World Countries.



**Community Support!**  
Jeff Smith, Cumberland RF, hands over a cheque in the amount of \$250 to the Courtenay Food Bank to help those families in need. We all have so much to be thankful for and it is wonderful to see that we support others not so fortunate as us!

## An Overview of WHMIS

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Contractor**

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.emconservices.org](http://www.emconservices.org)

The Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) provides information about many hazardous materials used in the workplace. WHMIS calls these hazardous materials **controlled products**. Under WHMIS, workers have the right to receive information about each controlled product they use---its identity, hazards, and safety precautions.

WHMIS has developed a classification system of six hazard classes. These classes are depicted by eight hazard symbols that identify the specific hazards of controlled products. After a controlled product has been classified, the following three WHMIS elements are used to communicate health and safety information:

- WHMIS labels
- Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs)
- WHMIS education and training programs

Look around your worksite and see what products you may have that could be hazardous. Are they labelled properly? Do they have one of these symbols displayed on them?

If so make sure you know how to handle them properly.



**D**o you want your very own copy of the **LINK** emailed to your home? If so submit your email address to: [jhall@emconservices.ca](mailto:jhall@emconservices.ca) and put "Link" in the subject line.

**Put safety into action - the wishbone will never replace the backbone**

## Safety Crossword Puzzle Winners



All of the entries that were received for the October Newsletter Safety Crossword Puzzle Contest were correct. Congratulations to all that participated and for taking the time to complete the crossword.

All entries were put into a bowl and a random draw was held in the Corporate Office on January 13, 2012.



The lucky winners were:  
Kevin Baxter, Corporate Office—received a \$100 Pre-paid Visa Card

2nd Place—April Schneider, Corporate Office received a Personal First Aid Kit and shown on the right is .....

3rd Place—Keith Jamieson, Cumberland Shop receiving his Personal First Aid Kit from Darrin Wasiliew.

