



WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23, 2009

# Shawnigan Parent News



Photos: International Week! For more photos and stories, go to <http://www.shawnigan.ca/now>

## SPA Update – Trish Letient, President

The Shawnigan Parents Association held its 2nd Annual General Meeting on November 4. The Association's Board of Directors were certainly justified in feeling satisfied to have reached this milestone. With the steadfast support of the School's Administration we resolved many of last year's challenges. We survived, we thrived and now we move forward.

The past year was a year of exploration. We began with an idea of how a Parent Association could contribute to each family's Shawnigan experience, then, as the year progressed more ideas surfaced, needs were identified and now we are busier than ever.

We are currently in the process of incorporating the Parent Association under the BC Societies Act. We presented a draft Constitution and Bylaws at the AGM and received valuable feedback from parents. That document is under review and will soon be submitted to the BC Registry for approval.

Special thanks go out to all families who contributed to our call for funding support. We received over \$900. This will help cover expenses incurred and fund future projects. Your support has been greatly appreciated.

A used uniform store will be operating in the new year in a space upstairs in the Main Building. There are a few details to work out before we can be fully operational, however, parents can expect to receive information on the store's operation very soon. The funds raised through used uniform sales will be targeted to a special project.

The November Open House provided the Parent Association's Board of Directors an opportunity to meet parents and students, to put faces to names, to share stories, and develop friendships. The positive feedback we have received from parents helps us know we are on the right track. It gives us encouragement and strengthens our commitment. Thank you for your support.

We encourage you to share your ideas. Please feel free to contact the Board at [spa@shawnigan.ca](mailto:spa@shawnigan.ca)

## Student Leadership – A Shawnigan Fundamental

Why did you choose Shawnigan? Was it the beautiful campus, the great sports programs, its distinguished academic reputation, or was it family tradition? These are some of the many reasons students and parents choose Shawnigan, but dig a little deeper and you'll find that we were further drawn here because of the poise and self-confidence Shawnigan students possess. It's evident from the moment we drive through the gates. A door held open, a firm handshake, a friendly smile are characteristic of Shawnigan students, not to mention their consistent achievements in the classroom, on stage, in the sports arena and in the School community. Have you ever wondered how it happens? Does the Headmaster have a magic wand that he waves over meals in the dining hall? It may seem magical but it's nothing so whimsical. As you would expect, Shawnigan cultivates this remarkable atmosphere with measured thought and care and student leadership is fundamental to its success.

What are the opportunities for student leadership at Shawnigan? How is leadership fostered in our students? Who is involved? For insight into this essential part of school life join the SLS Parent Association on **December 1, at 7:30pm in the Upper Dining Hall.** Jo-Anne Kingstone, Deputy Head, will give a presentation on "how leadership, service and character education are incorporated into each student's Shawnigan experience." – *Trish Letient*

## Upcoming Events:

- Dec. 1** SPA - Student Leadership (7:30pm Upper Dining Hall)
- Dec. 5-6** Leave Weekend - 5pm ferries to the mainland and 7pm ferries back to Shawnigan.
- Dec. 12** Snow Fest (Formal Dance)
- Dec. 13** House Outings
- Dec. 17** Christmas Dinner and Carol Service
- Dec. 18** Christmas Break begins at 9:00am

## Post Ski Week Travel Information

Friday, February 12, heralds the end of "Ski Week" and the beginning of our half-term break, which, this year, leads into the Olympic Holiday. We will be travelling back to the Lower Mainland from Manning Park, where, in the past, we have dropped students off in various locations and then continued on to Vancouver Island. This year, travel within Vancouver will be limited, as February 12 is also the Opening Ceremonies for the 2010 Olympic Games. While we are still unable to gauge the full impact this will have on our travel, we have been advised that there will be extensive delays and checkpoints throughout the city and at the Vancouver International Airport. As a result, we are scaling back the drop-off points in an attempt to avoid having the coach-line buses travel through the downtown area and over the bridges. Our plans to-date are as follows:

- You are welcome to pick your child/children up at Manning Park.
- If you reside (or plan to visit) the Interior, Greyhound bus transport can be arranged from Manning Park to these locations.
- For those students who will be flying, we recommend that, if possible, the flights be booked departing from the **Abbotsford Airport (YXX) after 2:00pm.**
- If flights are only available departing from the Vancouver International Airport (YVR), please ensure that the flight departure time is after 4:00pm. The Vancouver Airport Authority has recommended that we use the Canada Line to connect to the terminal building, therefore, those bound for YVR will be dropped off at the **Bridgeport Skytrain Station** and will be required to take the Skytrain into YVR (7 min. ride). For more information, or advice, about booking flights on Feb 12, please feel free to contact Cindy Jones at Hill Travel. **Email: [cindy-duncanhill@shaw.ca](mailto:cindy-duncanhill@shaw.ca)**  
**Phone: (250) 748-0391**
- For students staying or residing in Vancouver, they will have the option to be dropped off at the **King George Skytrain Station** in Surrey or the **Bridgeport Skytrain Station** in Richmond. From these points they will be able to access all other locations within the city and the North Shore via the Seabus.

**Please Note:** For those students who will need to travel on public transit and do not wish to carry winter sports equipment/gear with them, it can be brought back to Shawnigan and taken home at a later date.

Additionally, the buses will make a stop at **Grauer Park** in Tsawwassen (56<sup>th</sup> Street and 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue) prior to boarding either the Duke Point Ferry (destined for the Nanaimo Bus Station) or the Swartz Bay Ferry (destined for Victoria and Shawnigan Lake School).