

# DIRA AGM April 12, 2010 Minutes

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**Attendance:** 64 members

**Executive in Attendance:** Doug Wright, Liz Johnson, Max Campill, Patti Willis, Derek Hood, Moira Webster, Andrew Scruton

**Regrets:** Perri Gorrara

**Call to Order:** 7:30 p.m.

1. Doug Wright read the minutes of April 2009 AGM

**Motion** to accept minutes as read: *M/S/carried*

**Nominating Committee Report:** Patti Willis gave the report of the Nominating Committee. Patti noted that she and Perri Gorrara are stepping down. Moira Webster and Doug Wright agreed to stand for election as well as Nettie Cotter and Doug Ward. The candidates introduced themselves briefly (Patti read a letter from Nettie Cotter as she was unable to attend the meeting).

Doug Ward, Doug Wright, Moira Webster and Nettie Cotter were elected by acclamation.

**President's Report:** Liz read the President's report. (document attached)

**Treasurer's Report:** Derek Hood presented the Treasurer's report. (document attached). Derek will provide clarification on the line item "Administration" (funds received from the DIVFD and WMC's contribution for Director's liability insurance).

**Motion:** That the Treasurers report be accepted as read with the proviso that he will report back to the membership at the next meeting with clarification on the line item "administration" under revenues. *M/S/carried*

## **Committee Reports: Tax-supported:**

- **Bill Mee Park Committee** - John Wigle – (report attached). He indicated that the CVRD require the lower sections of the ramp be replaced this summer. (report attached)

**Motion:** to accept the Bill Mee Park financial report as presented. *M/S/carried*.

- **Waste Management Committee** – Bob French (report attached)

**Motion:** to accept the WMC financial report as presented. *M/S/carried*

- **DI Volunteer Fire Department: Chief Don Lockett:** (report attached and at denmanfire.ca website)

**Motion:** To accept the DIVFD financial report as presented. *M/S/carried*

- **DI Community Economic Enhancement Committee: Karl Goodwin, Co-chair.** Provided a recap of the history and evolution of the committee and current status of the work the committee is engaged in.

- Patricia Gagnon provided the financial report (report attached).

**Motion:** To accept the DICEEC financial report as presented. *M/S/carried* Bill Engleson opposed the approval of the motion.

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## Committee Reports: - Non-tax supported:

- **Old School Committee** – Gloria Michin – (report in DD Library) Actual income was over budget. Expenses included new well pump. Surplus of \$1,400 but did not contribute to the contingency fund this year (term deposit for roof fund). Loan receivable of \$2,000 is money lent to the WMC.

**Motion:** to accept financial report as presented. M/S/carried

- **Wildlife Advisory Committee:** No report.
- **Parks Committee** – Peter Karsten – (report attached) Provided an overview of the projects the Parks Committee is currently engaged in which include the Stanehill Park and the Point Park. Also thanked the Committee for their tremendous support.
- **Pesticide Free Committee** – Patti read the report on behalf of Peter Thomsen, Chair. (report attached) Of note were two Broom pulling parties on May 23 and Nov. 13 and plans for another in April or early May of this year. The committee encourages people to adopt a road or segment to keep it Broom Free. They continue to work on plans for the "Butterflies live here" sign.
- **Trails Committee:** Ralph McCuaig. – Since December the Committee has been restructuring. Continues to have ongoing contact with the Parks Committee to ensure good communication and share terms of reference for both groups. Next meeting May, 4, 2010. Planning an article and insert in the Grapevine on Trail Etiquette. The Committee has several look and assess hikes and mini hikes planned for locations such as: Morrison Marsh, Dusty Road and some of the beach access points around the Island. They will also re-visit the idea of a cross island multi-use trail. The Committee welcomes new members to join. (report in DD Library).
- **Dock Committee:** - John Johnston – Currently working on funding proposals. Don't anticipate doing any work on the site this summer. Have received the license to operate a raffle (either an e-bike or a scooter). Artist concept of the dock was provided.
- **Membership Committee:** Sharon Clarke – reported that the Committee has pulled together some order and the main activity was to go through the Society's Act and the Constitution and recommend changes to the constitution. Those changes have been made and will now recommend that the committee be dissolved. Liz thanked Sharon for all the work she has done.

**Adjournment.** 9:21 p.m.

President's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Bill Mee Park Report  
Waste Management Report  
DIVFD Report  
DICEEC Report  
Pesticide Free Report  
Parks Committee

## President's Report - Year in Review

I have been honoured to be a volunteer on the DIRA Executive Board over the past three years, and as acting Chair over the past 10 months. Although this past year got off to a difficult start with the resignation of two executive members last July, resulting in an October by-election, it has also been a very busy and productive year. A Special DIRA Meeting was held in October to address communication and governance concerns and from that meeting some excellent recommendations were put forward and I am confident that DIRA is now headed in a very positive direction.

The DIRA membership has increased dramatically with currently over 250 members. The increased amount of projects & undertakings by our committees has been quite amazing! It is these DIRA Committees that are truly the back-bone of DIRA and they deserve all the credit and appreciation for the amazing array of accomplishments and services to this community. On behalf of this association I would like to express sincere appreciation to all these generous and dedicated volunteers who contribute so much to this community. Rather than attempting to start listing all the varied committee undertaking, projects and accomplishments over the last year, I will let the committees reports speak for themselves.

I would also like to express sincere appreciation to my fellow executive members, for their hard work, personal support and team work. Not only has the organization expanded, but so too have the amount of meetings, correspondence and executive duties. I would also like to thank Cindy Critchley, who acted as the DIRA representative on the Old School Committee. I would also like to thank David Critchely, Doug Olstead and Morley McKeachie for much appreciated legal counsel. Many thanks also to our Regional Director, and all our CVRD and Islands Trust Representatives who are always willing to assist DIRA with projects and concerns.

### Executive Board Highlights:

- i. This year saw the launch of the DIRA Website. The DIRA Executive received \$1000 funding to get the website up and running last October. This has already proven to be an amazing tool to keep the community informed and updated on DIRA business. We also developed a DIRA email address to ensure that all 8 Executive board members are copied on correspondence. The photo contest was also a great success. Many thanks to Claire Sierra for a great hosting job.
- ii. Along with improved email and internet communications, a new membership database system was also developed by Executive member Moira Webster who has really cranked it up a notch. The executive also has started using the DICEEC community projector at meetings to cut down on wasted paper.
- iii. The Yearly Recreation Grant Committee was successfully steered by Executive member Andrew Scruton and over \$17,000 was awarded to numerous Denman Island community groups for recreation, sports and athletic endeavours. Andrew has continued on as Vice Chair this past year despite his own personal health problems and continues to be a valuable resource to this executive, and I would personally like to thank him for his generosity to DIRA and this community.

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- iv. Further to recommendations made by Tony Law who facilitated the DIRA 'Special Meeting' last October, the DIRA executive are coordinating a 'Communication Governance Workshop' for this upcoming June or early July for the DIRA Executive and Committee Chairs. The executive applied in January for a Grant- in-Aid to help fund this and other administrative initiatives. This executive has a very limited operating budget funded only from membership dues each year. I would like to thank our trusty Treasurer Derek Hood who manages to keep us on track financially, and is now going into his 4<sup>th</sup> year as DIRA Treasurer.
- v. The Executive has been working on long needed DIRA Constitutional changes for the past few years to clarify DIRA membership and voting rules. These changes were adopted by the membership in March and take effect tonight. The newly ratified Constitution is now available on the website. Many thanks to Sharon Clarke & the Membership Committee for the recommendations made to the Executive.
- vi. Further to a Meeting between the DIRA Executive and CVRD last December, the executive is continuing with the ongoing examination of DIRA administrative & fiduciary responsibilities & exploration of possible adoption of a 'Hornby Island' model of contractual relationship with the CVRD for our taxed based services. We are also in the process of completing & updating other DIRA Policy Bylaws. We would like to thank Patti Willis for her diligence and hard work as 'Lead Executive' on these initiatives. Her proficiency will be sorely missed by this executive, but she has agreed to continue in the role of 'Executive Consultant'.
- vii. Further to meetings with CVRD executive member Doug Wright undertook to prepare a forensic examination of Denman Island Property Taxes to try to help Denman Island Residents understand how our property taxes are levied & administrated, and who to contact with resident questions and concerns.
- viii. General insurance liability issues developed in 2009 with our DIRA policy and this may be one of the biggest DIRA challenges this year. DIRA is being tasked with accountability for each and every DIRA activity and must provide a 'Risk Management & Assessment Plan' for each Committee. We have been very lucky to have Max Campill Wedges on the Board this past year with his extensive experience in the insurance and liability business. He is also the volunteer who sets up the hall and gets the fire going before all our meetings.
- ix. Other Executive Involvement this year include :
  - New ESS Generator for the Community Emergency Center
  - DIRA representation at the Healthcare Providers Networking Meetings
  - Raven Coal Mines Project Protest
  - Support for Denman Island Memorial Society Project
  - Environmental Concerns raised by DI Marine Stewardship Committee
  - Community Announcement (Tsunami warning to the community)

In closing I would again like to thank all our DIRA volunteers, and welcome our new Executive Board Members. The Executive Boards function is to take direction from our members & committees by assisting them with their initiatives. We must at the same time provide accountability, transparency and inclusiveness to all DIRA members. In the spirit of goodwill we look forward to working with you towards the best interests and welfare of all Denman Island Residents.

Sincerely,

Liz Johnston  
DIRA Chair

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**Denman Island Residents Association**  
Statement of Revenues, Expenses & Surplus  
Period April 1,2009 to March 31,2010  
Prepared by Lloyd Neufeld

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
<u>Revenues</u>		
Memberships/Donations	\$ 1,219	\$ 2,608
Interest Earned	90	110
Grants - Wharf Committee	9,000	\$ 75,000
- Trails Committee	1,507	0
- Website,(CVRD)	0	1,000
Administration – Fire Dept	<u>500</u>	<u>520</u>
	\$12,316	\$ 79,238
<u>Expenses</u>		
Advertising & Notices	131	541
Office/Accounting	117	259
Hall Rental	390	555
Insurance	0	2,040
Wharf Committee	3,515	3,945
Pesticide Free Committee	1,412	224
Website	0	325
Gifts/Donations	<u>500</u>	<u>200</u>
	\$6,065	\$8,089
	_____	_____
Surplus for Year	\$ 6,251	\$ 71,149

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	_____	_____
Surplus forward	\$12,359	\$ 18,610
	_____	_____
Surplus, end of year	\$18,610	\$ 88,759
	=====	=====

### Bank Balances

Chequing	\$ 13,374	\$ 8,486
Segregated chequing		10,000
Shares Balances	2,977	2,977
Money Maximizer	0	65,031
Term # 8	534	535
Term # 9	534	535
Term # 10	543	545
Term # 11	<u>648</u>	<u>650</u>
	\$ 18,610	\$ 88,759

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<b>BILL MEE      PARK      2010 Budget</b>		
	<b>2009 Budget Item</b>	<b>Budget Amount for 2010</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Parking lot gravel &amp; grading</b>	<b>\$ 1,110.00</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Ramp pressure washing/cleaning</b>	<b>\$ 1,940.00</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Toilet maintenance, garbage removal</b>	<b>\$ 2,330.00</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Breakwater maintenance</b>	<b>\$ 1,290.00</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Picnic tables, benches</b>	<b>\$ 400.00</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>General Maintenance, Grass cut etc.</b>	<b>\$ 170.00</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Extend breakwater walls</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Repair/replace lower ramp sections</b>	<b>\$ 5,000.00</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Admin</b>	<b>\$ 260.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Operational</b>	<b>\$ 12,500.00</b>



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## WMC Financial Report—2010 D.I.R.A. AGM

Last year at about this time Waste Management realized we were going to be in a financial squeeze. As you may recall, at that time the recyclables market had collapsed, we were faced with significant tip fees for recyclables, and the fire at the IPI (now Emterra) plant in Cumberland meant we had to factor in transport of materials to Nanaimo, a much more expensive proposition than going to Cumberland. We did a revised estimate of our budget that suggested a net loss as high as \$5000 to \$6000. This was, to be sure, a worst-case scenario, but at the time there was great uncertainty in the markets and not much cause for optimism. However, as the year progressed we saw some amelioration of our worst-case projections and this allowed us to hold our losses to about 1/3 of the worst-case.

### KEY POINTS

Overall, revenue was about \$2000 below budget estimate. This is still an improvement of \$1000 over our worst-case revision. At about \$14,000, revenue from garbage tickets and commercial pickup was \$3000 below budget estimate and even \$1000 below the worst-case estimate. However, the saving grace on the revenue side was the generosity of islanders. Both the budget and worst-case revision anticipated about \$2000 from donations and sale of commodities. Thanks to several large, private donations and many, many smaller ones we realized nearly \$4700 income from those sources. That has kept our actual revenues within 4% of the budget estimates.

On the expense side the challenge was to contain costs where we could in order to minimize the net loss for the year. Several line items were significantly higher than budget. The cost of handling recyclables was a good deal higher—nearly \$1800—although as the year unfolded we caught some breaks—trips to Nanaimo ceased and tip fees for recyclables eased somewhat. Office expenses were up noticeably—about \$1100—because the bookkeeper position was not accounted for in the budget, and because we had some costs that only appear occasionally—legally required advertising for contract tenders as well as printing of garbage tickets.

Payroll came in as expected almost to the penny. Garbage collection costs were about \$1500 below estimates principally because our tipping fees at Pigeon Lake were less than anticipated. We deferred spending on construction, repairs, and maintenance wherever we could, and some maintenance was done free of charge. These actions, and lack of actions, reduced overall expenses by about \$1800. And CVRD did not extract from our operating budget the \$1000 contribution to the capital fund as they had in 2008.

Overall, in spite of the problems around recyclable materials, we were able to keep expenses about \$4000 below our worst-case scenario and about \$1000 below the 2009 budget estimate. We therefore show a net loss of just over \$1000. There is actually a further \$675 net loss not reflected in this bottom line. It derives from money taken in through sales of composters but not yet paid out to CVRD because they have lately stopped invoicing us for them.

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Waste Management Committee—DIRA

PROFIT & LOSS

January through December 2009 2009  
**Budget**

Ordinary Income/Expense

*Income*

			<b>3.31</b>
<i>Bank Interest &amp; Dividends</i>			
<i>3,000 (accum. surplus)</i>			
Composters Sold		1,260.00	
Donations			
Free Store		1,486.67	
Private/Other Donations		1,426.58	
Refundables (Bottles Donated Yr)		1,506.93	
		-----	
Total Donations		4,420.18	2,000
Garbage Collection			
Pickup Cash/Commercial Pickup		2,417.25	
Sale of Garbage Tickets		11,629.50	
		-----	
Total Garbage Collection		14,046.75	17,000
Regional District	30,722.00	30,722	
Sale of Commodities	277.35		
		-----	
Total Income	50,729.59	52,722	
Expense			

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Admin—DIRA Insurance	520.00	500
Bank Fees	0.00	
Composters Purchased	585.00	
Construction/Repairs	202.13	1,500
<b>Garbage Collection Costs</b>		
Pickup on Denman	17,759.16	(18,059)
Tipping Fee at C.V. Landfill	3,630.50	(5,000)
	-----	
<b>Total Garbage Collection Costs</b>	<b>21,389.66</b>	<b>23,059</b>
<b>Office Expenses</b>		
Advertising	365.40	1,000 (capital fund)
Bookkeeping	1,841.25	
Copying/Typing/Stationery	137.74	250 (traffic control)
Garbage Tix & Cheques Printed	419.97	
Subscriptions, Dues	293.75	
Telephone, Fax, Postage	48.49	
	-----	
<b>Total Office Expenses</b>	<b>3,106.60</b>	<b>2,000</b>
Other Miscellaneous Costs	190.00	
<b>Payroll</b>		
Benefits (Employer – CPP/EI)	523.67	
Wages (Employee – CPP/EI/Tax)	9,982.31	
WCB – Work Safe BC Premiums	57.68	
	-----	
<b>Total Payroll</b>	<b>10,563.66</b>	<b>10,565</b>
<b>Recycling</b>		
Equipment Rental	1,536.38	
Hauling Recyclables	6,239.87	

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Total Recycling	7,776.25	6,000
Rent	6,348.00	6,348
Supplies/Maintenance/Equipment	964.93	1,500
Workshops/Conferences	89.15	
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Total Expense	51,735.38	52,722
-----		
Net Ordinary Income	-1,005.79	
-----		

*Net Income*

-1,005.79

	Composters sold		\$ 1,260.00
Donations:			
	Free Store		\$ 1,486.67
	Private/Other donations:		\$ 1,426.58
	Refundables (bottles donated)		

## Denman Island Volunteer Fire Department

### Annual Report 2009

#### Fire Chief's Report – Year in Review

It is my pleasure to present the Denman Island Volunteer Fire Department Annual Report for 2009. After 17 years on the department, it was my first full year as Fire Chief and I can best describe it as a year that was dedicated to “Training for new heights in excellence”.

We started the year with an ambitious expansion of our training. Our goal was the completion of the Justice Institute accredited Basic Fire Fighting Certificate program for every member. The Basic Fire Fighting Certificate allows departments to demonstrate that their fire fighters possess the minimum fire fighting skills within NFPA 1001 identified by the Task Force to safely conduct fire ground operations. It was delivered through an in house training model under the more than capable guidance of our training officer, Bob Simons. Topics included Fire Fighter Safety, Personal Protection Equipment & Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, Rope and Knots, Ladders, Ventilation, Fire Hose, Fire Streams and Appliances, Water Supply and Fire Behaviour. To complete each module a practical test and written examination was required.

The Basic Fire Fighting Certificate also allows for direct laddering or bridging into NFPA 1001 Fire Fighter 1 certification by giving credit to Fire Fighter 1 subjects completed and evaluated through the Basic Certification process. The minimum delivery time for this program is 45 hours and from our experience that is somewhat optimistic. I am pleased to announce that the majority of the department has now completed this program and the remaining members are very close.

It was also a year that we introduced mandatory training guidelines for not only fire fighters but also officers. These guidelines and training schedules and the entire Annual Report for 2009 can be viewed on our website at [www.denmanfire.ca](http://www.denmanfire.ca)

We also continue to update and upgrade our compliance with the regulations outlined in part 31 of the WorkSafeBC regulations. In 2009 a number of areas were specifically addressed including but not limited to, managing and tracking firefighters at an emergency scene, managing stress arising from an emergency incident, providing for effective traffic control at emergency incidents, disaster planning and response, electrical emergencies, replacing and upgrading personal protective clothing and equipment, upgrading our respiratory protection program including the purchase of new NFPA compliant SCBA's, mandatory requirement for medical examination and firefighter entry into buildings.

Fund raising continues to be a key component for the fire department. From monies collected by boot drives and the auction, the department was able to raise over \$20,000 to assist the

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Health Clinic move to its new location. Proceeds from the annual pancake breakfast and burger sales allowed us to purchase station wear uniforms for the entire department.

At our annual awards and potluck dinner in December the following awards were presented:

John Ralston – George Ferry Memorial Award for Integrity and Excellence

Francis Duchesne – Junior Fire Fighter of the Year

Steve Ireland / Jeremy Cartier – Rookie Fire Fighter of the Year

Keith Walker – First Responder of the Year

Alan Friesen – Fire Fighter of the Year

Special Award of Merit (service above and beyond) – Bob Simons

Special Thank You for Years of Service – Neil Wilson

With attendance at a record number of call outs in 2009 and an intensive and extended training schedule, the members of the Denman Island Volunteer Fire Department contributed long hours to the community of Denman Island. With that in mind, I ask you to join me in thanking these dedicated men and women who volunteer and train for new heights in excellence to respond to emergencies on Denman Island unselfishly at any time of the day or night, 365 days a year.

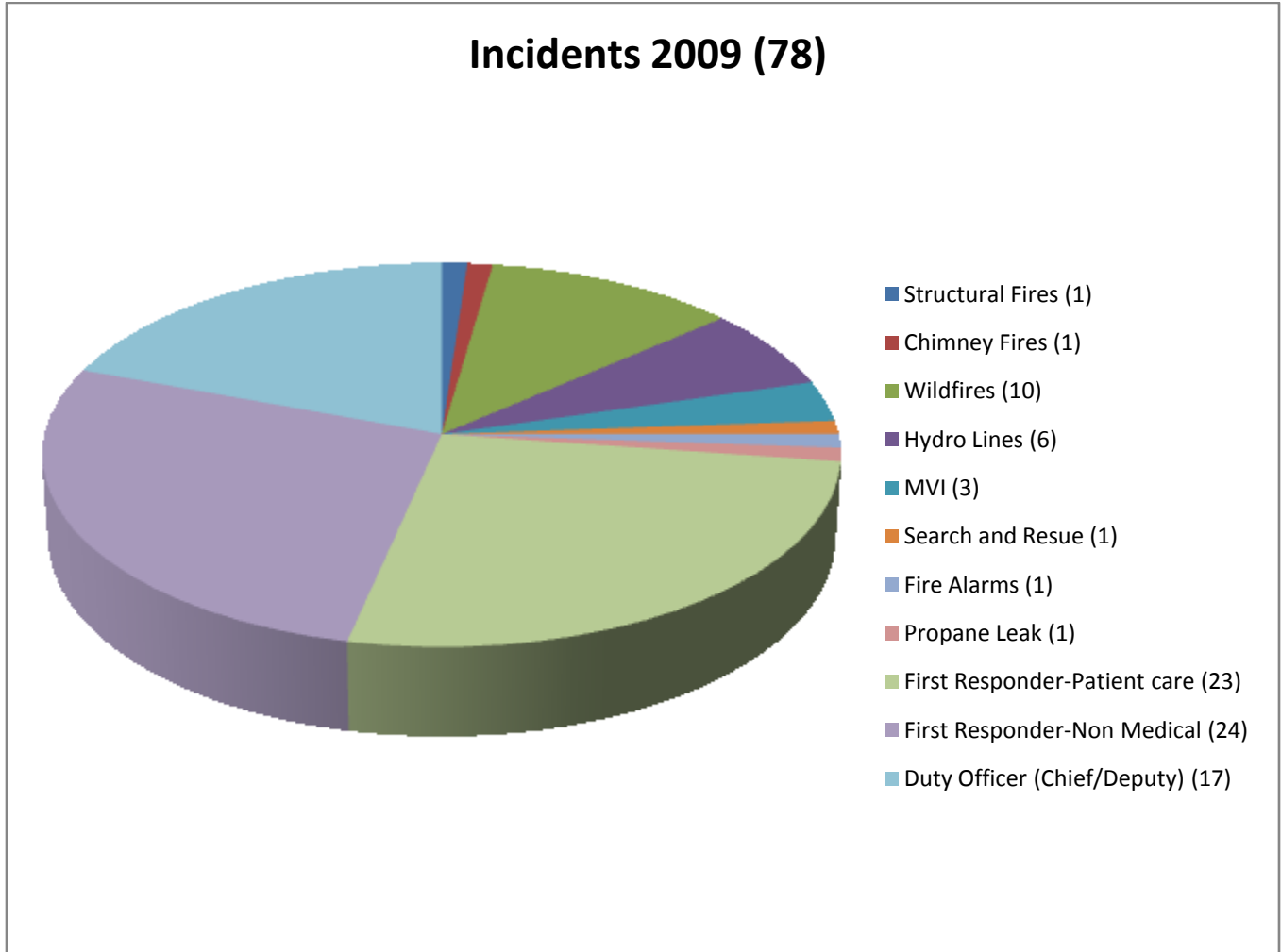
I would also like to thank our auxiliary fire fighters. We couldn't do it without them.

Respectfully,

Don Lockett  
Fire Chief  
DIVFD



**Emergency Response**



The frequency of call outs continues to increase, most notably the number of first responder calls. Chimney fires call outs are down significantly and we hope we can attribute this to our continuing education program to encourage people to clean their chimneys on a regular basis. There was only one structural fire during 2009. Duty officer pages are call outs directly to the Chief or Deputy and occur when Fire Dispatch determines that the entire department may not be needed to respond. The duty officer will investigate and if required, contact Fire Dispatch that a general page out is required. The number of wildfires continues to be a concern.

**Financial Report**

		<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Difference +/-</b>
<b>2009 Revenue</b>	Tax-based (CVRD)	104,350	100,000	4,350 -
	Rent	4800	4550	350 -
	GST rebate	2750	1895*	855 -
	Donations		842	
	Forestry Rebate		800	
	Adjustments	<u>          </u>	<u>734</u>	
		111,900	106,926	
<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>Part 1 (Managed by DIVFD)</b>				
	Operations	75,650	70,334	5,316 -
	Honoraria	<u>28,700</u>	<u>32,745</u>	4045 +
		104,350	103,079	
<b><u>Part 2 (Managed by CVRD)</u></b>				
	Capital Reserve Fund	35,000	30,000	5,000 -
	Fire Chief's Salary	<u>12,000</u>	<u>12,000</u>	
		47,000	42,000	



## Capital Works, Machinery and Equipment Reserve Fund

- It has traditionally been the DIVFD practice to accumulate a reserve fund for future major purchases such as fire trucks and self-contained breathing apparatus rather than using loans to finance the purchases.
- Funds are held and managed by Comox Valley Regional District
- Specific use of the accumulating funds must be specified (e.g.: rapid response vehicle in 2012)
- Purchases are managed by CVRD staff using their purchasing policy procedures

Activity	Amount	Fund Balance
2008 Balance forward		117,393
2009 Contribution	+ 30,000	147,393
2009 Purchase of SCBA	- 57,963	89,430
2010 Contribution	+ 40,000	129,430

- Requests for future annual contributions to the Reserve Fund are anticipated to be in the range of \$40,000 to \$50,000
- Forecasted future capital purchases:
  - 2011** - Rapid Response vehicle to replace Engine 53
  - 2015** - Tanker to replace Tanker 51
  - 2020** - Engine Company to replace Engine Company 55
  - 2024** - Self-contained Breathing Apparatus to replace SCBA purchased in 2009

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. DICEEC Report:

<b>Business Resource Centre &amp; Community Consultation</b>	
Business Resource Centre	6,500
Administration Assistant	10,000
Focus Groups Continuation	600
Rent	4,000
<b>Activities/Projects</b>	
* Marketing	7,250
* Branding	5,000
Hornby/Denman Partnership	1,000
* Asset Inventory Database	3,000
Formalization of Sector Associations	2,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$ 39,350</b>
Community Grant Funds	38,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 77,350</b>
* To Be Matched with Grant Dollars - Approximately \$20,000	

## 2009 Expenses for Denman

Public Consultation - Focus Groups & Workshop	\$ 4,098
Rent - Seniors Activity Centre	2,475
Local Advertising & Office Expenses	637
Capital Costs - Computer, Projector & Signs	2,440
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 9,650</b>
2009 Operational Budget	\$ 24,000
Carry forward to 2010	<b>\$ 14,350</b>
2009 \$25,000 + \$5,000 + \$3,000	\$ 33,000
2010 \$25,000 + \$5,000	\$ 30,000
<b>Total 2010 Budget</b>	<b>\$ 77,350</b>

### PESTICIDE FREE COMMITTEE

The Pesticide Free Committee continues its mandate to be an advocate for alternatives to pesticides. During the last 12 months we have regularly contributed articles to the Flagstone. We continue to monitor proposed legislation to ban cosmetic pesticides in all of BC. We have been in contact with the BC government regarding its Weed Control Plans for Vancouver Island and especially how that would affect Denman Island. To ensure that the govt. does not want to come here and use pesticides to get rid of invasive weeds and plants, we purchased two heavy duty Broom pullers for the use of Denman Islanders. We organized two Broom pulling parties on May 23 and Nov. 13. We hope to have another Broom party at the end of April or early May. We have encouraged people to adopt a road or segment of such to keep it Broom Free. We continue to work on our plans for the "Butterflies live here" sign. We have received approval from the D.I. Fire Dept to share the sign at the bottom of the ferry hill. Thanks for all of the support and encouragement to continue to make DI "pesticide-free".

Submitted by: Peter Thomsen, Chair

## **Parks Committee:**

The PC was created in January 2009. It has held 12 Committee Meetings since then. The committee has 12 members.

### **Regular Members:**

Jenny Balke (Liaison Denman Conservancy Association)  
Neil Bockman  
David Critchley (Liaison Crown Land Committee)  
Peter Karsten (Chair)  
Hamish Kimmins  
Ralph McCuaig (Liaison Trails Committee)  
Jackie Picket  
Charlie Tait  
Ted Trueman  
Janine Walton (Liaison Equine Group)  
Doug Ward (Adopt-a-Park program)

The terms of reference (TOR) were reviewed and confirmed by DIRA on June 8, 2009. Monthly activity reports are made to the DIRA membership. The main focus of the PC has been the development of a working relationship with the CVRD Parks Department to establish an adopt-a-park program for Denman Island. A community park concept for the Stanehill Park, was proposed to the CVRD and was approved in March 2010. The PC will assist in the development of other parks on Denman Island

### **Recent activities.**

#### **Stanehill Park:**

The Stanehill Park budget has been approved by the CVRD for implementation. Parks Planner Karin Albert and Park Technician Brian Allaert have made site visits to approve the trail system, and other proposed park features. The trails will be single file with least possible impact on the habitat. Three dangerous firs will be removed for firewood to be delivered to the Community hall (approved by CVRD). Fallen trees will be left for decay. A simple log bench is contemplated for a rest spot. A small frog pond with native aquatic plants will be established. A few bird and squirrel nest boxes will be placed. A sign with the name of the park and phone number of the CVRD Parks office will be placed along the trail at the intersection of the Stanehill and Greenhill. A volunteer list is in preparation to register volunteer park workers. Volunteers are provided with the Park Volunteer Safety Guidelines. The CVRD provided a Level 1 First Aid Kit. Work on the trail will commence in April. The PC is pursuing the placement of plant identification and trail guide literature.

### **The Point Park:**

The CVRD has resolved to transfer of the property into their inventory.

The CVRD parks staff made site visits and is developing plans for a parking area and trail network.

Dangerous trees are identified for removal.

The steep trail down the bluff (Rope Trail) will be closed off and a sign will direct visitors not to use the rope trail. This is an interim measure.

The CVRD is investigating the feasibility to construct a safe and convenient trail down to the beach.

The PC will assist the CVRD with the implementation of the Point Park plans.

The chair expresses sincere gratitude to the DIRA Executive and Membership, CVRD staff and the Committee members for the generous support to advance the PC's endeavours.

Submitted by Peter Karsten, Chair, DIPC

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