

Port Alberni:

The Iconic Place for Events



Running Swimming Kiteboarding Stand Up Paddleboarding Hockey Car Racing Car Shows Boat Racing Fishing
Fairs Waterfront Period Dress Dragon Boating Steam Trains Music Wakeboarding Butterflies Art Craft Fairs Canoeing
Motorcycles Cyclocross Aboriginal Celebrations Racing Trains Gravel Grinds Community Festivals Christmas Light-Ups



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Events You Will Enjoy In Port Alberni

Paper Chase 10km

ACDC

Dragon Boat Regatta

Port Day

Butterfly Effect

Father's Day at the Mill

McLean Mill

Solstice Arts Fest

Kiting For Kids

Sunset Market

Canada Day

Okee Dokee Slo-Pitch

Tri-Conic Challenge

Our Town

Jane Austen

Sproat Lake Regatta

Pride Fest

Music By The Sea

Sproat Lake Wake and Skate

Outrigger Race

Five Acre Shaker

Thunder in the Valley

Salmon Festival

Fall Fair

Alberni Valley Bulldogs

Toy Run

Port Alberni at 50

Fall and Winter at McLean Mill

Cyclocross Race

Blue Marlin Sail Past

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Alberni Valley News

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Messages



Mike Ruttan, Mayor, City of Port Alberni

The City of Port Alberni is proud to host numerous events throughout the year that celebrate and promote the rich and multi-faceted culture of our community. From fundraisers, concerts, parades, sporting events, and festivals to dynamic family-friendly events, there is always something to see and discover. Port Alberni's warm hospitality and first-class venues ensure each event is truly enjoyable and memorable, no matter what size.

With 2017 marking the 50th anniversary of amalgamation and the 150th anniversary of Confederation, I welcome you to participate in the many exciting events throughout the year!



Scott Fraser, MLA, Mid-Island Pacific Rim

Congratulations to the City of Port Alberni as they celebrate the 50th anniversary of amalgamation, along with the 150th anniversary of the Confederation of our great nation. The City of Port Alberni, along with the Nuu-Chah-Nulth communities in the area, have a rich history that we have the honour of celebrating. This guide provides both residents and visitors with great opportunities to be part of these special and exciting events, while giving people the chance to connect with members of our community. Many of these fantastic events are exclusive to this community and show how diverse and beautiful our community is. I look forward to seeing everybody at these events throughout the year!



Gord Johns, MP, Courtenay-Alberni

Congratulations to the City of Port Alberni for an outstanding lineup of exciting events for its residents and visitors in the 50th year since its amalgamation and the 150th anniversary of the Confederation of our nation. There is truly something for everybody in this amazing Events Guide with an emphasis on community participation. Be sure to come out with your kids, your friends, neighbours, and your visiting relatives for an outstanding program of family fun, excitement, and the wonder of discovery. As a proud citizen of Port Alberni, I look forward to seeing everybody at these great events!

Bill Collette, Executive Director, Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce



We hope you enjoy our Events Guide produced by the Alberni Valley Chamber of Commerce. Port Alberni has a community spirit that is unparalleled anywhere. You'll see that when you visit any or all of these events. Some of our events have been going on for decades, others are newer to the community but all are absolutely wonderful. Check out the Steam Train and McLean Mill events, our Tri-Conic Challenge featuring athletes vs. history, our Funtastic Ball Tournament featuring upwards of 80 teams, see hundreds of people in period costume at the Jane Austen Festival and much more. New this year that we're really excited about is Breakfast with Santa Claus which includes a train ride and of course....Breakfast with Santa out at the McLean Mill National Historic Site. You'll want to book early for that one! Welcome to Port Alberni - you'll want to stay longer.

Please see our Visitor's Page for information on local tourism opportunities and find some wonderful pictures of our local events too.

albernichamber.ca/visitor-info

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Paper Chase 10km

April 2

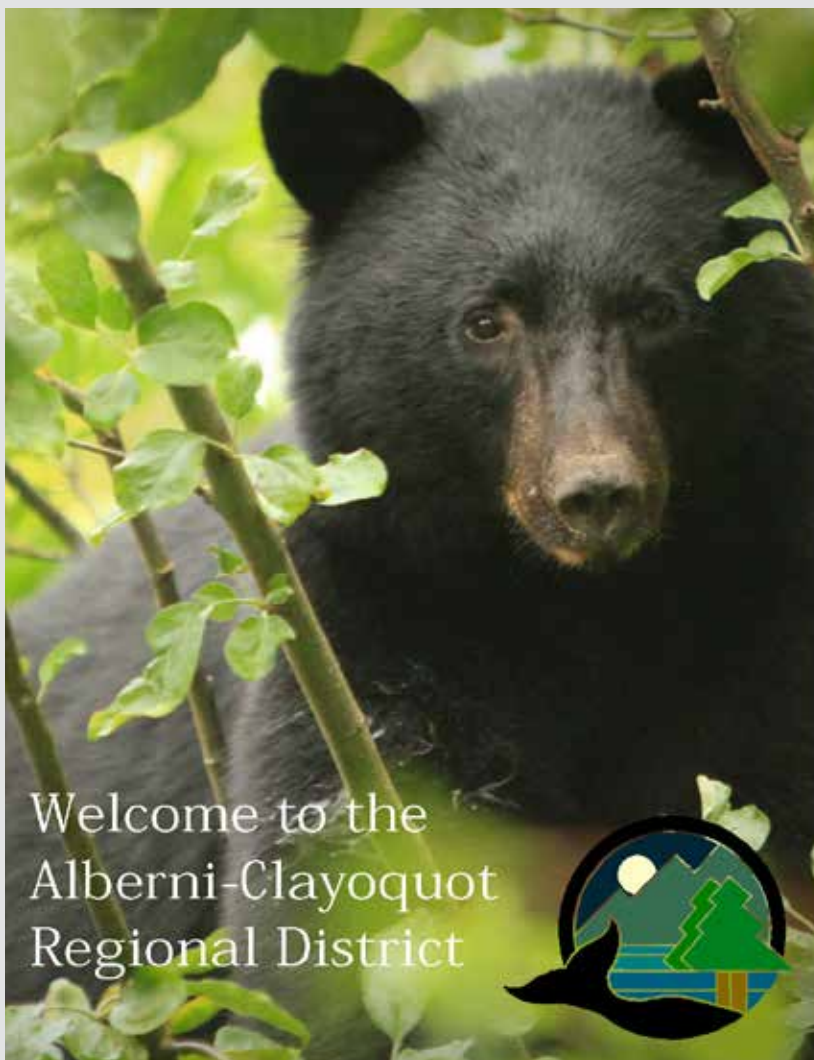


The Vancouver Island Runners' Association (VIRA) hosts a series of runs every year from early January to mid-April. The Island Series consists of 8 high quality certified runs measuring anywhere from 5 km to a half marathon. Port Alberni has not been involved in the series for some years but that changed for 2017 with the reincarnation of the once very successful 'Paper Chase'; a run that started even before the Island Series – way back in 1980. Back then the group that organized the run asked the Chamber of Commerce for support and of course they were pleased with the answer. The run itself was a 10 km certified route and it was named the Paper Chase as a means of celebrating 90 years of paper making in the Alberni Valley. In 2016, after a most successful No. 7 Challenge

hosted by the Chamber

of Commerce, we approached the group at VIRA about a return of the Paper Chase, and like the group in 1980, we were pleased with the answer.

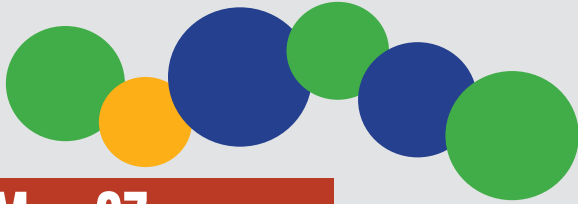
We then approached Catalyst Paper Mill here in Port Alberni to see if they would support us with the event and.....again we were pleased with the answer. The Chamber of Commerce is pleased to host this annual event and we invite anyone and everyone to participate. Watch for the Island Series at the VIRA website noted and register for our event or all events. We'd love to welcome you year after year.



Welcome to the
Alberni-Clayoquot
Regional District



islandseries.org



ACDC

May 27

The Alberni Canal Downwind Challenge (ACDC) is an annual Stand Up Paddleboard Event that attracts hundreds of spectators to Port Alberni's waterfront at Canal Beach. Competitive paddlers from around the province come to Port Alberni every year to race in this unique paddle challenge. The warm weather in the Alberni Valley brings in cool coastal air which provides a strong consistent thermal wind flow on most summer afternoons. This provides ideal conditions for this downwind challenge. The event is growing and evolving annually at Canal Beach with bands, plus beer garden sponsored by the "Young Professionals of the Alberni Valley".



@ACDC-Alberni-Canal-Downwind-Challenge



Dragon Boat Regatta

June 11

Since 1997, dragon boat teams have been paddling on the pristine waters of Sproat Lake under the leadership of the West Coast Dragon Boat Society.

The Society hosts two regattas each year on beautiful Sproat Lake. The race site is within the Provincial Park and is an excellent spot for family, friends, and paddlers to enjoy a fine day of racing. Each June they start the racing season with a ladies-only regatta and in September they end the season with one of the last races on Vancouver Island, which includes ladies and mixed teams. The regatta brings out 18 teams from all over Vancouver Island and is always a sell out. With 400 + paddlers, friends, and supporters, dragon boat participants are always guaranteed an exciting fun-filled day of racing.



@WestCoastDragonBoatSociety



Port Day

June 17

The Port Alberni Port Authority will, once again, be hosting Port Day to showcase our community's dynamic, mixed use waterfront and active harbour. Port Day is set for June 17, 2017 from 11am – 3pm and will kick off with opening ceremonies at Tyee Landing at 11am.

Port Day will feature tours of the shipping terminals; the Alberni Harbour aboard the Harbour Chieftain patrol and fire vessel; and other waterfront businesses such as Canadian Alberni Engineering boat building operation. Many groups will offer up food for sale for fundraising;

Bouchra Zouhou of Swept Away Inn, along with the Alberni Valley Z Team, will lead a Zumba class on Centennial Pier; and there will be arts and crafts for children and a new display at the Maritime Discovery Centre. The Alberni Valley Search and Rescue vessel will also be docked near the Maritime Lighthouse Gallery to offer tours aboard and provide information about the valuable work they do, as volunteers, to help keep people safe on our busy water ways of the Alberni Inlet. And, of course, the popular yellow Alberni Pacific Steam Train rail Speeder will offer rides by donation along Harbour Road between Tyee Landing and the Port again this year.

New to Port Day 2017 will be live music on stage at Tyee Landing. Featured performers are set to include: Alberni Teens Can Rock, Harbour City Big Band and Morgan Schoen. Tyee Landing will have other family fun such as a bouncy castle for children. Port Day 2017 is set to be bigger and better than last year!



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Butterfly Effect



June 17

The Alberni Valley Hospice Society and Ty Watson House invite the public to participate in the annual butterfly release fundraiser; the Butterfly Effect. The mass butterfly release takes place at Canal Beach. In 2016, 400 butterflies were released, celebrating the transformation from one stage of life to another, and paying symbolic tribute to loved ones lost. Each person who purchases a butterfly will receive an individually packed butterfly which is ready to break free and take flight. Those who participate in releasing a butterfly, or choose to attend the event, will be surrounded by countless butterflies fluttering around our beautiful venue. We will also have kids activities, music, food, and more! By participating in this event, you are helping us to continue to provide end-of-life care to our community.



albernihospice.ca



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June 18

Father's Day at the Mill

Calling all Dad's to the 2017 Father's Day Steam UP.

You are invited to treat your Dad to a day out-of-doors. This excursion begins at the E&N Train Station downtown in historic Alberni Valley. The train departs at 11:00am so be sure to arrive early. From there allow our Conductors to regale you with stories from the Valley Vault as we wind our way through the scenic countryside, over 3 trestles and through a second growth forest. As we arrive at the McLean Mill Historic Park platform it is time for you to choose your own adventure. The famous JJ Logging Show will begin at high noon, the Cookhouse Cafe is open for lunch and a special Father's Day menu will be ready to delight. Our interpreters will be roaming the site ready to engage with you and be sure to watch for Mike & Les at the Millwright shop, they will have their Farquhar Tractor Steamed up and ready to go.

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Choose your own adventure at McLean Mill Historic Park. Ride the rails with the historic Alberni Pacific Railway. Whether you are looking to experience history, hiking, or a home-cooked farm to table meal - we are the place for you. Join us aboard one of our locomotives and travel back in time to experience some of British Columbia's history, wind your way through lush second growth forests, take in the sights and sounds of nature, enjoy the restorative forest walk, and experience forest bathing. Explore Old Town and take in a steam demonstration or two. Find the piano and play. Bring your camping gear and spend the night under the stars. Don't be surprised to see Mrs. McLean wandering about.

Visit the Mill village and stop by the cafe for lunch. Enjoy our seasonal and ever-changing farm to table menu. Enjoy a coffee on our three-tier deck nestled right in the trees. If you forgot something at home, pop into the general store. We will be hosting weekly Music in the Park and Movies in the Park, plus site tours, family entertainment, birthday parties and private events.

All locomotives depart at 11am sharp! Be sure to check www.albernisteamtrain.ca for schedule details. See you soon as we ring in our historic summer - full steam ahead!"

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Solstice Arts Fest

June 16-18

The Solstice Arts Festival will once again take place in Port Alberni's Rotary Arts District and Harbour Quay with the addition of Tyee Landing over three days. The Solstice Arts Festival brings four Alberni Valley Festivals together under one umbrella for an unforgettable weekend of art, music, theatre, and street entertainment while celebrating our maritime history as one of the finest deep sea inland harbours in North America. The Community Arts Council of the Alberni Valley ("Days with the Arts"), Portal Players Dramatic Society, Art Matters Society ("Festival of Artistic Creative Expression" = F.A.C.E.) along with new partner, the Port Alberni Port Authority ("Port Day") are hosting this event, which promises to be fun for the entire family. Rollin Art Centre will host artisans and artists in the Rollin Gardens with entertainment at the Gazebo on Friday and Saturday.

The Capitol Theatre will host the Bongo Bar with

Spoken Word artist CR Avery on Friday evening. Saturday at the Capitol Theatre will host play readings, Andrew Wade, and Cougar Annie.

Tyee Landing will be the central hub of activities for the Port Alberni Port Authority's Port Day on Saturday. There are many activities already scheduled for the public to enjoy. The Art Matters Art Centre invites you to take a journey down the yellow brick road (the Creation Station) at their venue at Harbour Quay on Saturday and Sunday. Get a map of the festivities and collect stamps for all of your site visits to be eligible to win prizes.



@rollinart.centre



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Kiting for Kids

June - July



Kiting for Kids is three kiteboarding themed events with the purpose of fundraising for BC Children's Hospital and to showcase Port Alberni as a great destination for kiteboarding.

The events will be held at the South Port Kiteboarding launch site located at the Maritime museum and spectators can enjoy our antics from various locations along our waterfront.

On May 27th we held our Foil Challenge event. Participants raced an upwind/downwind course to see how many laps they could do between Centennial Pier and Polly's Point in a 2-hour circuit. This event started on schedule at 2pm to coincide with the wind and spectators enjoyed views from both Centennial Pier and Canal Beach. A BBQ will be held at Canal Beach in the afternoon with participants from the ACDC race. (Continued on next page)



Mobil 1

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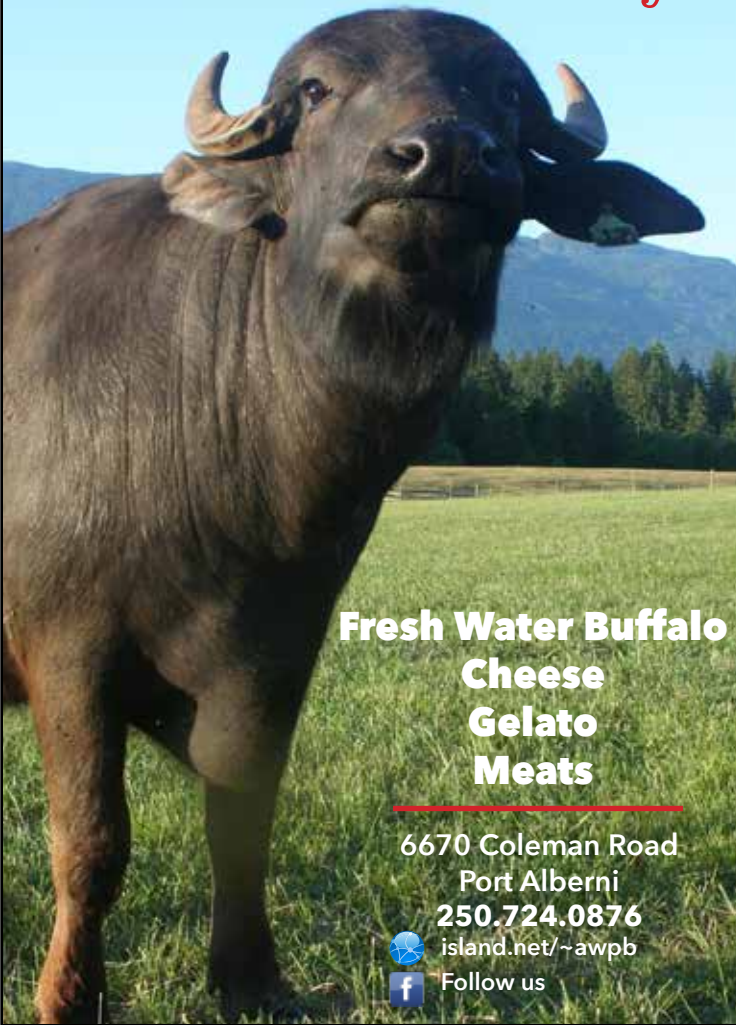
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(Kiting for Kids continued)

On June 17th is the Kiting in Costume event. We have timed this event to coincide with the Port Alberni Port Authority's Port Day and hope to entertain adults and children alike with colorful and fun costume antics on the water. This event is scheduled from 3pm until 6pm. A BBQ and trainer kite lessons by donation will be held at the South Port Kiteboarding launch pier.

July 1st is our Big Air and Freestyle event where riders will showcase their big jumps and aerial acrobatics for all to enjoy. This event is scheduled to start at 4pm and run till all heats are completed, right along with the Canada Day festivities.

southportkiteboarding.ca



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For more information please contact Cynthia Rayner: cynthia.r@huuayaht.org
[HTTPS://HUUAYAHT.ORG](https://HUUAYAHT.ORG)

June - August

The Sunset Market is Port Alberni's night market nestled within the beautiful waterfront setting at Victoria Quay. The season will kick off Wednesday June 21st, National Aboriginal Day. The market runs from 6-9pm June 21st to August 30th, closing at 8:30pm for the last few nights.

Our night market delivers amazing live music featuring artists from Vancouver Island, a kid's corner, a variety of creative businesses, food vendors, food trucks, and more. Did we mention that the Victoria Quay is the best place within any city location on Vancouver Island to consistently spot a black bear? Well, it is! They are often meandering along the opposite shoreline searching for salmon - this is especially common during our low tide events.



@Sunset Market at Victoria Quay



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Canada Day

Celebrate 150



July 1

Come celebrate Canada's 150th year right here in Port Alberni, BC! Canada Day will feature many

local events, including the weekend-long Funtastic Tournament with upwards of 80 ball teams converging on the Port Alberni area ball fields. In addition to that, the day will start off with a most unique triathlon commencing with a marathon at 8:00 am at the Train Station near our Harbour Quay. This event is part of the Tri-Conic Challenge; an experience sponsored in part by Canada 150. At 10:00 am, the steam whistle will sound as the 1929 Baldwin Steam Train spins its wheels on an epic journey to beat those embarking on either a half marathon or 10 km 'race the train adventure'.

At the same time, the 40th annual Canada Day Parade, hosted by Port Alberni Folkfest Multicultural Society will start about 1.5 km away and shortly thereafter they'll all pass each other, creating quite the site for the many spectators lining Third Avenue.

The parade will end at the Harbour Quay which will be abuzz with activities for the entire day.

(Continued on next page)





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(Canada Day continued)

There will be many vendors on site, a kiteboarding show, music performances, and the Tri-Conic Day One awards.

As a special feature, the nearby Harbour Quay Marina will be hosting the Canadian Navy's HMCS Edmonton and public tours will be available.

Don't forget to stay for the evening fireworks over the water capping off our biggest Canada Day bash ever.

Music By The Sea will also take part in Port Alberni's Canada Day 150 celebrations by "playing" O Canada on

boat horns in the harbour just before the fireworks!

We are inviting all to participate so if you wish to enter the parade please contact Folkfest at: canadadayparade@gmail.com. Volunteers are encouraged to contact the Echo Center at 250.723.2181 and those wishing to sign up or assist with the Tri-Conic Challenge, go to:

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July 1-2

Okee Dokee



Port Alberni Funtastic Sports Society is holding its 29th Annual Okee Dokee Slo-Pitch Tournament & Funtastic Music Festival on the Echo Park ball fields. This year, we will be making the move from Echo Minor #1 field to Bob Dailey Stadium...and it's something we are really excited about. It opens up one more field which allows us to host 10 more teams! 80 have signed up for 2017.

The first pitch will be thrown July 1st at 8:30 am, and the games go in 90-minute cycles with 12 fields in play all day. The last games of the day are played at 5:30pm, and the playoffs are all day Monday.




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On July 1st and 2nd, Bob Dailey Stadium will be the center of attention with four bands playing each night. July 1st we have Lazy Mike & The Rocking Recliners, From The Hip, The County Line, and headliner, Darkhorse, featuring Paul



Laine. Sunday night we have SirReal, The Rangers, Baby Jane, and our headliner is THE ODDS. We are planning on having LIVE games broadcast from Minor #2 onto big screen TV's in the beverage gardens.

Some of the top teams from Vancouver Island will be on hand, as well as teams that are here just for fun. Wristbands are being sold at Slammers Gym for \$25.00 for both nights. Hope to see you there.

funtasticalberni.com



Tri-Conic Challenge



July 1-3

Message from the Race Director:

Welcome to the Tri-Conic Challenge a feature event supported by Canada 150 as a means of celebrating all things Canada! Our event ties in the unique and awe-inspiring history of the Alberni Valley alongside today's keen interest in challenging the human spirit. The team at www.triconic.ca is thrilled to welcome visitors to the Alberni Valley in this creative and exciting event aimed at showcasing many of Port Alberni's features. Our athletes will be treated to an opening night Spaghetti Feast courtesy of Triconic Level Sponsor Boston Pizza. Your registration packages will be picked up at the new Thunderbird Building home of the Uchuckleshaht Tribe and within those will be many cool items populated through the courtesy of many local sponsors including Walk the Coast, Home Hardware, and Boutique Belles Amies each of whom have specific items within the packages. There are also coupons from many other local organizations. Make sure to stop in to see them!

Thank you to our many sponsors who have helped make this inaugural event possible. Be sure to pay each a visit!

triconic.ca

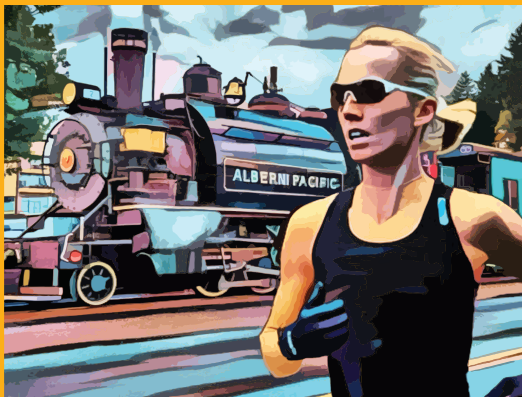


CANADA 150

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.

Nous reconnaissons l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.

Run The Train



Day one of the event will showcase our four run distances, all of which are tied to the 1929 Baldwin Steam Train that operates seasonally in Port Alberni. Our train is a number one tourism activity on Vancouver Island and you'll see why as you, or she, puffs along the scenic route to the National Historic Site known as McLean Mill (and back for those doing longer runs). And to make your experience even more memorable, both the Sprint/Challenge runs will start at 10:00am alongside the No. 7 Steam Train with both heading north toward the McLean Mill. At the same time the Canada Day Parade will start 1.5 km away- also at 10:00am and it will head South along the same route, thus our runners will pass by the many floats in the

parade. Best of all those people watching from the sidelines will be treated to something pretty spectacular with a train, people running, and a parade all at the same time. Make sure to include the festivities for later that day at Harbour Quay and then feel free to include the music festival that evening at our Bob Dailey Stadium as part of the plans for the Funtastic Ball Tournament happening all weekend.

Bike The Boat



On day two, July 2nd, our event moves over to the 'Bike the Boat' which is sure to be a favourite, albeit very challenging bike ride to the beautiful quaint community of Bamfield near the head of the world renowned West Coast Trail. The ride will take you to some breathtaking areas along the Bamfield Road which, by the way, is gravel. Potholes, rocks, and dust will be everywhere. So, feel free to call it the Alberni Gravel Grind because that's what it is. It's a grind, a tough grind that will feature a beautiful end spot at the Bamfield Marine Station followed by a Salmon Feast provided by our Iconic Level Supporters - Huu-ay-aht First Nation as they take you and the Frances Barkley passengers to the beaches at Pachena Bay. Our

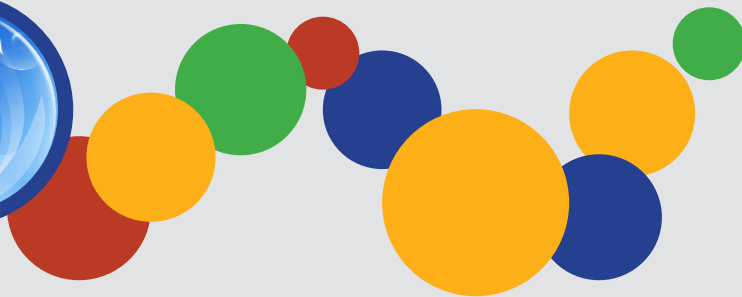
Challenge level riders will then jump on board the Frances Barkley for the 60 km ride back down the Alberni Inlet while enjoying some relaxing time and incredible scenery. Those choosing the Sprint 16 km ride will end their trek at China Creek Marina and Campground, which is also an Iconic Level Supporter of the event. Athletes ending there will be provided with either bus or water transportation back to town.

Swim The Plane



Our event closes off on Monday, July 3rd with a swim in one of the most stunning lakes this side of Europe - Sproat Lake. The water is warm, clear, deep, and typically nice and calm during the morning hours. Our spectators and your families will have access to many shoreline areas to watch and encourage you while marveling at the backdrop that should feature the Hawaii Mars - The Martin Mars Water Bomber. It is the last of its kind and the biggest in the world, right here in Port Alberni. This event could not happen without the generous support of Canada 150, along with our many corporate supporters and numerous volunteers.

Our Town



July - August

July 11: 6-8pm - Country Fair @ Blair Park

Enjoy a night of carnival games, face painting, crafts, and playground activities. Have fun visiting our animal friends and taking a horse ride at our petting farm. There will be hay rides, giant bubbles, ring tosses, duck races, bean bag tosses, an obstacle course challenge, lasso the pony game, spray park fun and more!



July 25: 6-8pm - Magic Wizardry @ McLean Mill

Take a free ride on the Mayor's Train to McLean Mill where wizards and witches are hard at work. There will be games, ring tosses, duck races, a bean bag toss, balloon animals, crafts, music, bubble wands, face painting, and more. Families will also enjoy story telling, theatre production, historical buildings, heritage vehicles, nature walks, and a magical evening.



Aug. 9: 7-9pm - Hawaiian Luau @ Bob Dailey

This will be a great night for palm trees, tropical flowers, rainbows, and the summer sun. Come out and enjoy parachute games, face painting, an obstacle course, giant bubbles, and a treasure hunt for prizes. Children will be able to make a rainbow windsock, a flower lei, and a colourful Hawaiian hair flower. There will be hotdogs just in time for the outdoor movie.



Aug. 22: 6-8pm - Canada 150 @ Harbour Quay

Canada is 150 and a time to celebrate with high flying kites, bean bag tosses, a hockey shoot, face painting, and much more. There will be entertainment including Elite Dance Academy, Stage West Dance Studio, and Marim Bam Buzz. Participants can play a floating hockey game on the pier against the Alberni Valley Bulldogs, then cool down with refreshments.

portalberni.ca



Jane Austen Festival

July 14-16

Afternoon Teas - July 12-16

Afternoon Teas will take place at the Starboard Grille where Chef DeClercq has designed an historical and well-researched menu that Miss Austen would find to be most satisfactory.

The Middleton Country Ball - July 14, 6-8pm

This ball is for all ages, but especially families who would like to dance together with their children or other family members. Regency attire is preferred but not required. Dances will be chosen with families in mind ~ easy to learn and fun to do.

Guinness World Record Count - July 15, 10am

Participants will gather at Glenwood Centre, dressed to the nines in anticipation for the count starting at noon. They will be dressed as described in the Guinness World Record Guidelines.

Readings and Scenes from Jane Austen's Works - July 15, 3-4:30pm

Guest Austenesque authors include Suzan Lauder and Helena Korin, who will be reading from their latest works, as well as offering book signing opportunities. It all takes place at the Capitol Theatre.

Grande Masquerade Regency Candlelit

Ball - July 15, 8pm to midnight

This will be an unforgettable elegant evening reminiscent of days gone by. Come incognito wearing your dancing mask. Regency attire required.

Family Picnic - July 16, noon

Held at Roger's Creek Park, this is for the whole family and the final event. There will be children's activities and refreshments. Bring your picnic basket!

centennialbelles.ca

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Sproat Lake Regatta

"Get your engines running!" Don't miss this year's 4th annual Alberni Valley Regatta Association speed boat races, July 15 and 16, at Sproat Lake Provincial Park.

Bring the family to this free entry special event where the fast and the furious take on the waters at one of the most beautiful lakes on Vancouver Island.

There will be F1 Hydro races where speeds of up to 140mph are obtained. There will be jet boats competing once again and flat bottom boats, inboard and outboards, bathtub boats and jet skis. Just a variety of machines in all colors and sizes with paint styles and complicated engines to stun any mechanical enthusiast.

This non-profit association was formed to promote water safety and encourage boating in all forms, as well to provide a fun water sport event for the community. It's a family event and this sport is good for people of all ages.

Almost 50 boats will be on site. There will be concession stands, 50/50 draws, and you can come and view the machines in the pits and meet the racers from across the provinces and the states - some of whom have been risking their hides for decades.

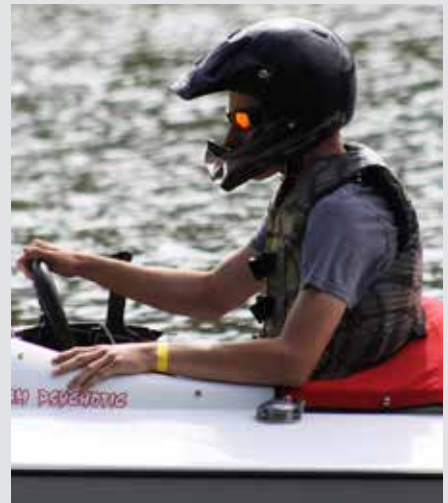
View some of the boats at the Blue Marlin

Inn on Johnston road, in Port Alberni, on Friday, July 14, between 4 and 8 pm at their Show & Shine. There

will be food, music and a chance to meet some of the racers. Again, this is a free event so don't miss out.

It's one of the few water activities where you can bring the family, watch the races, have a picnic, go for a swim, and enjoy the beautiful Sproat Lake. For more information, you can e-mail Robin at robin-mearns9@gmail.com.

July 14-16



avraracing.com

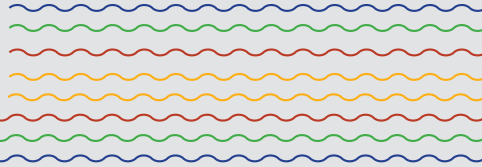



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Pride Fest

July 22-23



This year the Alberni Valley Pride Society is bringing PRIDE to Port Alberni through two stellar events!

Drag Show and Dance at Cherry Creek Hall (19+)
July 22nd – from 8pm until 1am
BC's best Drag Queen: The "Unstoppable" Conni Smudge and performances by Victoria's Persi Flage and Lola Maneata
Come shake your booty with DJ Apex Dub and enjoy local craft draft from Twin City Brewing

PRIDE Fest – Gyro Recreation Park (all ages)
July 23rd from noon until 4pm
BBQ picnic with plenty of fun for the whole family. There will be games, face-painting, live performers, music, and more.
This event is made possible through support from the City of Port Alberni

The Alberni Valley Pride Society serves and empowers LGBTTTQQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, two-spirit, queer, questioning, plus) of the Alberni Valley. The society was registered in 2016 and aims to build community through inclusive programs and events.



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Music By The Sea

July 22-30

One of the best kept secrets of the Alberni Clayoquot Region, is the amazing festival that takes place in Bamfield in July known as *Music by the Sea* (MBTS).

We create a “company” of artists from across the country and around the globe, both jazz and classical, who then collaborate to create the programme. The 11 concerts over 9 days each contain a variety of artists, in a variety of collaborations, both jazz and classical music!

What makes this so stunning is that these artists are of the very highest international level. At each concert audiences hear such a variety of jazz and classical music that it takes their breath away — all while sitting in the magnificent Rix Centre at the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre, which features a scallop-shell shaped roof, perfect acoustics, and a curving three-story glass wall facing Barkley Sound. The combination of the sunset behind the artists in front of the glass, the beauty of the venue, and the amazing music is simply too much for some people to take! One concert-goer said, “You have ruined it for me to go to any other concerts anywhere else!”

MBTS will also take part in Port Alberni’s Canada Day 150 celebrations by “playing” O Canada on boat horns in the harbour just before the evening fireworks!



musicbythesea.ca

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Sproat Lake

Wake & Skate

July 29-30

Every year, wakeboard, wake skate and slider competitors of all ages and skill levels descend on local waters to showcase their talents. The Club was established in 1973 by the Sproat Lake Water Sports Association. The annual water sports competition began as a way of highlighting the association, bringing like-minded youth and adults together, and hosting an event that would bring communities from all over British Columbia to spend the weekend at beautiful Sproat



Lake.

That vision has been successful since the days when

water skiing was the main event. Since then, the weekend has evolved as more boarders and wake skaters came out to show off their unreal skills. This year, the weekend will welcome approximately 60 athletes from BC to compete in the following categories: Jr. Boys, Boys, Boys Advance, Jr. Novice, Novice, Jr. Men, Girls, Men's, Masters, Open Wakeskate Amateur, and Wakeskate Pro, as well as Sliders events.

Live, Work, Play in the Alberni Valley



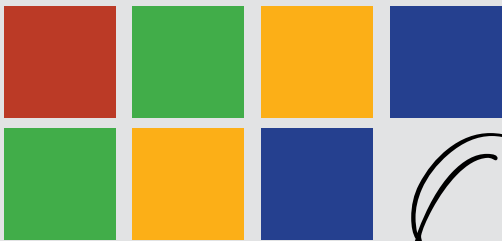
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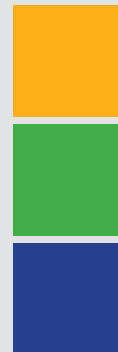
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August 6

Outrigger Race



Paddling is a group of disciplines related to water sports which involves boats powered entirely by human energy. A Change Race has become a very popular choice for outrigger paddlers. A change race is made up of so many different parts and involves either a 9 or 10 person crew. A paddler paddles at a sprint rate. Paddlers also jump out of and climb into the canoe anywhere from 20 kms to 100 kms every 15 to 30 minutes, depending on where

they are sitting in the boat. When paddlers are not in the canoe they are in an escort boat, refueling and resting for the next time they are in the canoe.

The Vancouver Island Changes Race takes place at Sproat Lake Provincial Park with short course (22 km) and long course (44 km).

Our club encourages a healthy and outdoor lifestyle and is administered by an active group of volunteers.

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Five Acre Shaker

August 10-13



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fiveacre.ca



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Thunder in the Valley

August 12-13



“Thunder in the Valley” event on August 12 and 13, 2017. For the second time due to construction at the airport, we will be hosting this event on the city street – Stamp Avenue. With the cooperation of Catalyst Mill, the City, sponsorship from many businesses and numerous Volunteers, we are able to set up Stamp Avenue to make it an 1/8-mile-long drag strip. Racer’s come from all over the Island and from the mainland to partake in this event. They come to have fun and (Continued on next page)



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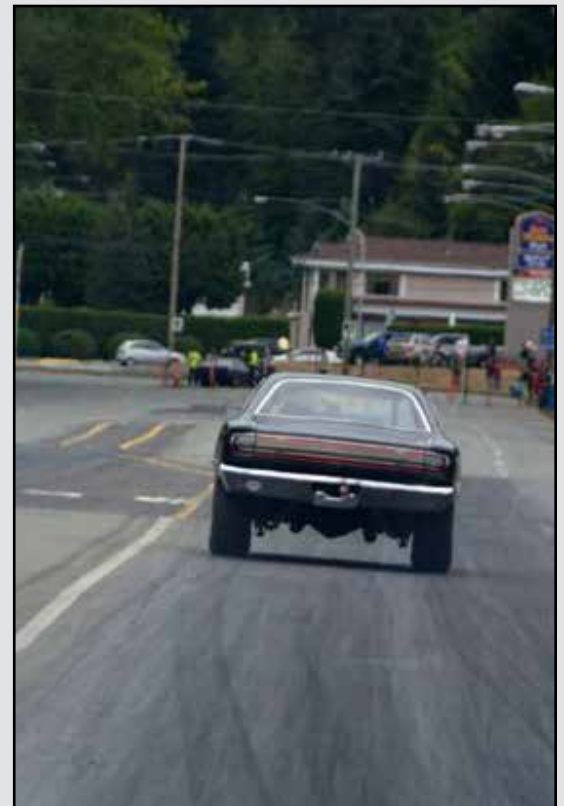
(Thunder in the Valley continued)

hopefully put on a great show for the spectators. The pits are open to everyone, and there are also vendors on site.




This year, sponsored by Pacific West Home Solutions, United Floors, Bowerman Excavating Ltd, Bowmark Concrete Ltd and Alberni Towing – The 1st Annual Burn-Out Competition. It will be held on Friday night, August 11, 2017 from 8pm – 10 pm following the car show at Harbour Quay.

The competition will be held in the Pacific West Home Solutions & United Floors parking lot. This event will be open to the public. To find out more information and to register you need to go to www.pacificwesthomesolutions.ca.

We look forward to seeing everyone, so come on out and have some fun with us!



albernidracing.com



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1st Annual Burnout Competition

Thunder in the Valley Venue

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Find your 1st annual BURN-OUT Competition registration at www.albernidracing.com



Salmon Festival

September 1-4

Every Labour Day weekend, fishing enthusiasts and landlubbers alike gather to enjoy food, festivities, and fun at the annual Salmon Festival - an event that proves Port Alberni is, in fact, the Salmon Capital of the World!

This 46th year will see the festival move to a brand new location at Tyee Landing. On the grounds there will be entertainment for all ages, fireworks on Friday night, and a beer garden. A number of local service groups will be set up with fundraising raffles and food booths. Don't forget to get a taste of the "world famous" Kiwanis salmon barbeque...your nose will lead you to the grill where volunteers will be flipping fish all weekend.

On Sunday morning, children will take part in the Bullhead Derby and compete for a number of prizes.

There will be more than \$55,000 in cash and prizes given away. Come down to the water to see if last year's winning fish of 53.2 lbs. will be beaten.



salmonfestival.ca

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Fall Fair

September 7-10



The theme of this year's annual Alberni District Fall Fair is *"Hat's Off to 150 Years"*.

All of the regular attractions, including the midway, livestock show, home and business show, agriculture education building, home arts displays, and live entertainment draw families to the fair grounds every year.

Two stages will feature local entertainers, as well as the Heart Tribute band on Saturday evening. Roving jugglers, balloon magic, and Dan The One Man Band will be walking about all weekend.

There will be a two-day horse show and a special attraction featuring a Global FMX Motorcross show at the tractor pull area.

And don't forget the parade on Saturday morning.

albernifair.com

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\$721,555	Returned in 2015
\$846,517	Returned in 2014
\$963,644	Returned in 2013
\$843,120	Returned in 2012
\$737,688	Returned in 2011
\$621,598	Returned in 2010
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Alberni Valley Bulldogs

September-March



While in the Alberni Valley we highly recommend an excursion over to the AV Multiplex to enjoy some wonderful hockey courtesy of the Bulldogs, a Junior A Hockey Franchise that plays in front of upwards of 1200 enthusiastic fans some 30 times per year. The team is owned and operated by the Community itself under the guide of the Port Alberni Junior Hockey Society. Games start in early September and continue through the fall/winter seasons.

The Bulldogs are an envy, not only of Vancouver Island, but the entire BCHL which often looks to the Alberni Valley in amazement as we generally lead the pack in attendance and fan support. We place a great product on the ice led by a team of coaches who believe in a high tempo style of hockey that keeps fans engaged and passionate. Don't be surprised if you end up going to a multitude of games becoming a fan of YOUR ABLERNI VALLEY BULLDOGS!

If you're visiting the area and you want to enjoy a game (or two), please contact the Visitor Center for potential courtesy tickets or shop on line with the Bulldogs.

albernivalleybulldogs.ca



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Toy Run



September 16-17

The 33rd Annual Port Alberni Toy Run blasts into the Alberni Valley the weekend of September 16-17, bringing thousands of toys for needy children at Christmas, and tens of thousands of dollars for children's programs and family events throughout the year.

More than a thousand motorcycles of every make and model are expected to gather at Little Qualicum Falls on Saturday, September 16.

After a ceremony to remember fallen riders, the Alberni Black Powder Club will fire its cannon at noon to start Vancouver Island's largest motorcycle event.

Motorcycles will travel westbound along Highway 4, past Cameron Lake and through Cathedral Grove into Port Alberni, ending at Glenwood Centre around 1 p.m.

"What makes this Toy Run unique are the thousands of people who line the route to cheer the riders, holding up signs thanking them for helping the children in the Alberni Valley and west coast communities," said Port Alberni Toy Run Chairman David Wiwchar. "Since 1985, the Toy Run has raised almost two million dollars for local children's charities, and the people of Port Alberni really appreciate that."

Inside Glenwood Centre, toys are stacked high while children and families enjoy games and entertainment. Outside, there are bike games, a show and shine, beer garden, a pig roast, and vendors. There's also a licensed dance on Saturday night and a breakfast, poker run, and beer garden on Sunday.



portalbernitoyrun.ca

Planning an event? Let us know!

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Port Alberni at 50!

October 28

Celebrating Port Alberni at 50



Five decades ago the former communities of Port Alberni and Alberni amalgamated to form a single city known then and now as Port Alberni. The amalgamation occurred after the challenges that both communities faced with the Tsunami of 1964 that caused widespread damage. Fortunately there was no loss of life. Still, the leaders of both communities recognized that their combined strength would be much better than going it alone. The new city prospered for many years with a strong local economy, led of course by the forestry industry. Through those early years the city developed many facilities including the Echo Centre, which opened in conjunction with the amalgamation. Following that were new schools, sports fields, a stadium, multiplex, and much more. Today Port Alberni is recognized as a leader on Vancouver Island for its commitment to sports and health through wide range of facilities in which we pride ourselves.

Top 50 over 50



Port Alberni would not be what it is today without the support and commitment of hundreds and thousands of people. We pride ourselves in the knowledge that we can do anything simply because we know that we'll have the volunteer support to pull it off. We're unique! This event is designed to acknowledge some of those people who we've come to know and respect over the years. On October 28, 2017, we will honour 50 people who call Port Alberni home. The criteria for the honour is that they must be at least 50 years of age, they must have a 'brand' that is widely known in many circles of Port Alberni, and they must be a current resident of the area. They've been known to step up and help out anywhere and everywhere, they may be a business owner, an employee, a retiree; they could be you. Watch for information locally on how to nominate.

At the time of this publication plans for this once in 50 year celebration are still in the works. The event will be held at Echo Center but beyond that we're still creating plans.

Next 50 under 50



Port Alberni is going to be here for a long time! Our current leaders are not only those over 50 but in fact we're seeing many younger people step up to take the lead. We invite you to provide us with nominations for people who are already showing all of us why they need to be encouraged to stay the course. Like the former group, we expect to see a number of names cross our desks for this award. The criteria is the same except that these people are all younger than 50, thus are considered the Next 50 Under 50. Again, please watch for information on this as the date nears. We'll place these 50 names in a box to opened 50 years from now to see who of these fine folk are still in the area doing their thing!



December 3

Cyclocross Race



For several years, local bike enthusiasts have been heading to Farmer Bill's for the annual Cattle Cross Cyclocross Race as a part of the Cross on the Rock Series. Port Alberni's course is always one of the most anticipated by participants who come from all over Vancouver Island to compete, challenge themselves, and, of course, get muddy. Unlike some of the other courses on the Island, the one at Farmer Bill's is a lot more technical with tight twists and turns and is designed for an off-road challenge.

Unique to the many other races, this one takes place on a farm with a barn to ride through.

This year, organizers are handing over the reigns to Parksville to host the late-Fall event and instead will hold a winter race for all ages and skill levels. Depending on the weather, volunteers will set up a course with a ramp, tight corners through grassy sections, and some downhill on gravel road. There will even be a few bails of hay for added obstacles. Cyclocross is a sport that attracts all ages and abilities. Appealing to both mountain bikers and road cyclists,



cyclocross combines a mix of both disciplines and ranges from three to seven laps of a short loop. The sport is increasingly attracting more females, from under 13 through to the over-50 age group. Spectators and racers alike are invited to attend this free race, complete with refreshments and a bonfire to warm up with after. Check out Ozzie's Cycle on Facebook.



@Ozzies.Cycle



Fall & Winter September-December at the Mill



Wine Not? Sept. 17

Wine Not spend a beautiful afternoon wandering the grounds of McLean Mill Historic Park, wine glass in hand taking in the vivid fall foliage as we celebrate the changing of the seasons.

We will be spending the afternoon mixing three of our favorite things, locally sourced cheeses and charcuterie, sipping deliciously paired wines and enjoying our breathing taking grounds in fall. Our recommendation to experience this event fully, wear walking

shoes and bring your camera. There will be several stops along the way on this one of a kind wine tour. This event begins at the E&N Train Station and includes your rail passage.



Jeepers Creepers Oct. 27-29

Jeepers creepers, where'd ya get those peepers?

Step back in time with a staged event you won't soon forget for some 30s style, Shhhhhh! prohibition era fun! Enter the world of murder mystery dinner theater, rail line gangster hold -ups, finally speak-easy community dance where you never know who is friend or foe.

Set in an immersive environment, audience members can dance, mingle and play with the sordid characters of the 1930s underworld.



Heritage Christmas Village Dec. 14-20

Step back in time and join us with your whole family for our McLean Mill Heritage Christmas Market. We will be hosting Santa for photographs in a natural vintage woodland setting. There will be a light maze, hot cocoa, cider, pretzels and other goodies from our cafe. We will be hosting caroling, a sing along chorus, reindeer games, live art, the reading of a beloved Christmas tale, gingerbread cookie decorating, Christmas train display, and so much more. This is sure to become a family tradition. Experience

the magic of Christmas past as some of our historical family homes open their doors to share their Yuletide traditions.

albernisteamtrain.ca

The Blue Marlin Inn Presents...

July 14: Sproat Lake Regatta Show 'n Shine



October 31: Halloween Party, 7-8pm



July 22: Tsunami Motorbike Show 'n Shine



November 19: Christmas Light-Up, 6:30-9pm



The Annual Great Christmas Sail Past

December 3 @ Harbour Quay

- Firepits • Hotdogs • Chili & Buns
- Hot Cocoa • Live Music

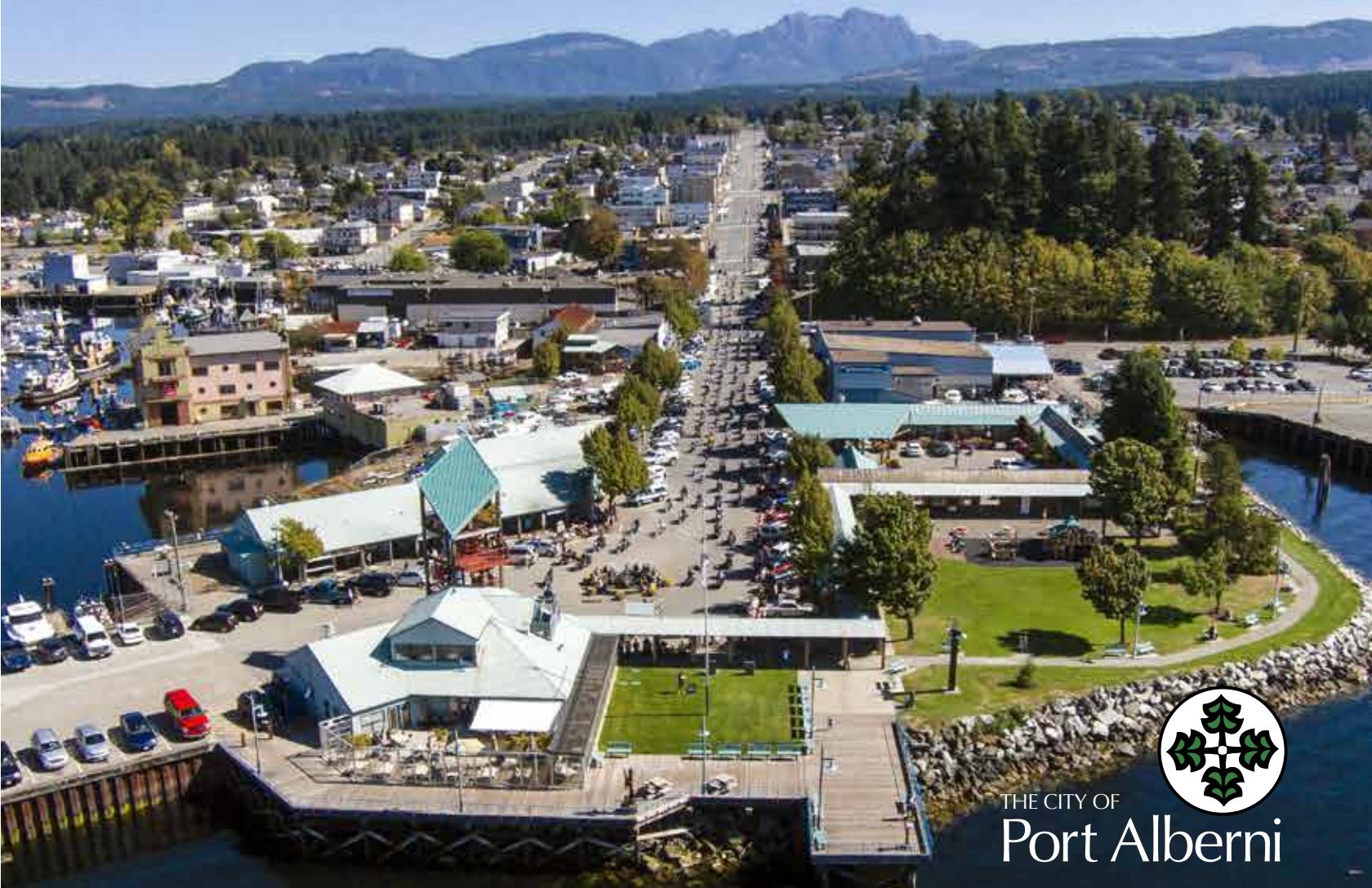
1st Prize: \$1000 • 2nd Prize: \$500 • 3rd Prize: \$250

Sailpast begins at 5:30 with fireworks to follow.
Prizes to be given out at the Blue Marlin Pub at 9pm
All boaters are to register at the pub.

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