

## MAYOR'S 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTERLY REPORT



March, 2024

After a lengthy hiatus, Lake Days Celebrations will be returning in June 2024, thanks to a dedicated volunteer group who have stepped forward to plan the celebration. We wish to acknowledge the efforts of the committee in restarting this important Community Event.

Budget discussions have started for the Town of Lake Cowichan with the mandate to approve the budget by the end of April. The next budget session will occur on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 pm and will focus on Capital considerations for 2024. With the economic climate as volatile as it is, we are aware of the pressures most are facing with increasing costs and interest rates, and the need to balance needs and wants in the Community while still looking to improve the liveability of our Community.

The recent funding announcements for the Sewer Treatment Project and the replacement of the Weir to allow for more storage of water during the dry summer months, have shown that finally The Cowichan River under its heritage designation, is receiving the appropriate funding necessary for the protection of its environmental, cultural, and habitat ecosystems. Many thanks to Councillor Sandhu for her participation and dedication to The Cowichan Watershed Board, and to senior levels of government for the financial support.

We continue to look for opportunities to provide attainable, affordable housing with the tools we have at our disposal. We will continue to lobby the Provincial Government under the new housing ministry to ensure success. Some exciting new ideas will be coming forward in the ensuing months.

Finally, to the many volunteers and service clubs who are working hard to make our community better, we wish to extend a sincere thank you. Without a dedicated volunteer base, many events, and programs currently provided, would not occur.

Tim McGonigle Mayor Lake Cowichan



Art work displayed at the Municipal Office

39 South Shore Road