

ATHERTON



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INTRODUCTION

Who is this guy?

How is he different from all the other candidates?

Why should I vote for him?

Perhaps my career experience and community involvement will help you decide!

I moved here in 1989 with Kathy and our four children looking for a rural lifestyle. I started my professional forestry career in 1976 doing forest inventory for a major logging company. I joined the Canadian Forestry Service in 1982 where I progressed to managing multimillion dollar forest improvement programs for First Nations and small-scale forest land owners. I moved to the BC Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs in 1994 to manage treaty consultation, transferred into treaty negotiations in 2000, and retired in 2008. As a result, I have experience with industry, negotiations, working with First Nations, and navigating different levels of government and bureaucracy.

My first volunteer contribution in Metchosin began with helping build our grandstand at the riding ring. When I was appointed parks and trails coordinator in 2004, I started by reviewing all municipally owned property to evaluate them for park and trail opportunities. Many of the “orphan parks and trails” were developed into valuable community infrastructure while others were deferred for future consideration. My work resulted in being awarded “Volunteer of the Year” in 2010 and elected Chair in 2017 of our parks and trails advisory committee.



I was an editor of the 2009 Metchosin Community Trail Network Master Plan which is now part of our Official Community Plan. Our current emphasis is developing roadside trails to provide safe options for people to get around our community on foot or horseback. Volunteers, with funding from Council and infrastructure grants, have constructed roadside trails on Rocky Point, Kangaroo, Pears, Happy Valley, Metchosin and William Head roads. Our topography limits options but we continue to seek more opportunities. Tell Council if you see areas for more improvement.

COMMITMENT

Metchosin was incorporated in 1984, and eleven years later an Official Community Plan (OCP) was approved. The OCP has endured while our community has grown and evolved. The commitment to rural values has been constant, and we are grateful to the citizens that built our community and the Councils that have guided it.

I'm not a candidate that will state a commitment to “support this” or “protect that” as a means to win community support. It's not necessary as our OCP and bylaws state the principles for governing our community. Citizens expect Council to follow our guiding documents and I will do so.





Horse-mounting block at Mac Page Bridge over Bilston Creek manufactured by Atherton with donated materials

My approach to citizen engagement and Council deliberations is:

- ✓ Focus on what we can control and influence – Stick to local government issues
- ✓ Think Win-Win – consider a range of options to identify the best outcome
- ✓ Prioritize goals – don't allow non-urgent matters to distract from what's important
- ✓ Seek to understand people's needs and perspectives before contributing my influence to the outcome

What you should expect:

- ✓ I will read agenda material to be prepared to discuss issues and I will expect other members of Council to do so as well
- ✓ I will make thoughtful contributions to the discussion
- ✓ I will be respectful of diverse points of view and will be prepared to make adjustments to my own
- ✓ I will be receptive to public contributions and concerns while seeking to determine broader community support
- ✓ I will seek to balance services provided with community expectations of fiscal responsibility
- ✓ I don't intend to engage on social media but am always ready for a personal conversation

2010 Volunteer of the Year

*Editor — 2009 Metchosin
Community Trail Network Master Plan*



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