



forward together



green  
PARTY OF CANADA

CORE VALUES  
NON-VIOLENCE  
SOCIAL JUSTICE  
SUSTAINABILITY  
ECOLOGICAL WISDOM  
DEMOCRATIC TRACY  
RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY

# The New NIPR Newsletter

Volume I | Issue 2 | July 2022 | North Island-Powell River Greens

## We Are Here!

Your North Island-Powell River Greens are excited to reconnect with the people who make us so strong and resilient – you!

We need connection. We need cooperation. *We need Community.*

We hope that, in these pages, you find stories that challenge, motivate, and inspire. And we want you to know that we are here, we are working, and we are listening.

We acknowledge that we are based on stolen land on the traditional, ancestral territories of many different First Nations, including the We Wai Kai, Wei Wai Kum, Homalco, K'ómoks, Tla'amin, Kwakuitl, and Gwa'sala'Nakwaxda'xw Namgis.

~ Carol, Edward, Jay, Jessica, Larry, Linda, Mark, & Susan

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## Connecting on Canada Day

This month we celebrated Canada's birthday. However, for many thousands of years, there were Indigenous Nations who lived here taking care of the land, the rivers and oceans. We owe them a debt of gratitude for their care over the millennia and their generosity as we continue to learn from them, about their rich culture and history and especially their wisdom in caring for the earth. In this time of reconciliation, let us each find ways to connect, to learn from each other, and move forward as one human race.

With this in mind, some of the volunteers from Powell River and qathet region participated in the Canada Day event at Willingdon Beach. Many thanks to Anne Thompson, Larry and Sheryl McCumsey, Jim and Heather Armstrong, Jan Slakov, Steve and Susan Short, and our tent neighbours with Climate Action. The beach was filled with people strolling by the 35+ tents. The children were letting loose in the bouncy castle and slides. We enjoyed speaking with people who dropped by; great to see friends we haven't seen in a long time. The weather cooperated and the fireworks at the end of the day were spectacular! Thanks to Quality Foods for ending the day with a bang, actually many bangs!!

There are so many things that need to be addressed in our world these days, but it was good to connect with people and appreciate all those who make our community a safe and caring home. We are grateful.

(Story by Susan Short)



## What We're Reading

- \* **Jay:** The Hidden Life of Trees, Peter Wohlleben; Finding the Mother Tree, Susan Simard
- \* **Jessica:** Ways of Being, James Bridle; Les Miserables, Victor Hugo
- \* **Larry:** Braiding Sweetgrass, Robin Wall Kimmerer; Not on My Watch, Alexandra Morton; Bright Green Lies, Derrick Jensen, Lierre Keith, & Max Wilbert
- \* **Linda:** Red Notice and Freezing Order, Bill Browder; Fight Night, Miriam Toews
- \* **Mark:** Indian in the Cabinet, Jody Wilson-Raybould; The Overstory, Richard Powers
- \* **Susan:** Value(s), Mark Carney; Here & Hereafter, Tyler Henry; The Chancellor: The Remarkable Odyssey of Angela Merkel, Kati Marton

## Random Meditations from Interim Leader Amita Kuttner

In late April, Amita Kuttner visited towns throughout NIPR as part of their Reconnection Tour. I was fortunate to be able to attend their Townhalls in both Courtenay and Campbell River. I'm writing this now nearly three months later, but I can still recall the sense of hope and forward movement that Amita brought to the meetings.

As Amita spoke, I emailed myself some of their key messages that really resonated with me, and maybe they'll strike a chord with you, too:

**(On a vote for Green being a wasted vote):**  
**"The rest are wasted votes because they serve a system that will never free us."**

**"Sustainability is about letting go of the urgency."**

**"The daring act of caring. The radical act of love."**

**"No one can resist joy."**

*(cont'd next page)*

## ***Random Meditations from Interim Leader Amita Kuttner (cont'd)***

**"I have never been more hopeful."**

**"This sense that everyone has that there's something wrong gives me hope."**

**"We have forgotten what it feels like to be cared for as people."**

**"We are an intrinsic piece of the universe."**

**"Are we satisfied with what we collectively have done with our chance on earth? And if not, what do we want instead?"**

**"We are the ones who dare to love when we're told we're not supposed to."**

**"Community is the key to everything we need."**

(Submitted by Jessica Wegg)



**Jessica Wegg and Amita Kuttner at the Courtenay Town Hall**

## **Volunteer With Us!**

### **VOLUNTEERING WITH THE NORTH ISLAND-POWELL RIVER GREENS**

Between elections is a crucial time to get election-ready, and we can't do it alone. We have opportunities for Volunteers to do some very important work *now*.

We have many different Volunteer opportunities. A wide range of skills and abilities are needed.

In this issue, we are highlighting the following open volunteer positions:

- **Events Director** – this is a key position for scheduling events so the candidate of the Green Party of Canada can become known throughout the Electoral District.
- **Fundraising Director** – this is an opportunity to act in a leadership role with the NIPR Greens. It is a key position for increasing the financial resources of the EDA for its purposes.

Join our friendly, hard-working NIPR Greens. You'll be very glad you did.

If you'd like to find out more, please check out our [Website](#) or [Email Us](#).

***HUGE SHOUT OUT to Anne Thompson, who joined our EDA, stepped up to fill the critical position of Volunteer Director, and took on the immense job of drafting our volunteer job descriptions and laying the groundwork for our volunteer infrastructure. Anne has decided to step back from our team for health reasons, but we just wanted to take a moment here to thank her for her hard work.***

***We wish you all the best, Anne!***

# How is the Green Party of Canada different?

The Green Party of Canada was founded on redefining politics to ensure the long-term health of both its citizens and the environment.

- Greens develop policies through engagement with our members across Canada. It is bottom-up, grassroots.
- The Green Party is founded on a set of 6 core Guiding Principles, which drive how we think and all that we do:
  - \* Non-Violence
  - \* Sustainability
  - \* Social Justice
  - \* Ecological Wisdom
  - \* Participatory Democracy
  - \* Respect for Diversity
- Elected Greens vote freely, based on constituents' needs rather than party orders. We don't "whip" our MPs.
- Instead of power-politics, Greens believe in collaboration, and seek to work across party lines to create good policies and decisions.
- We don't care who gets the credit for a good idea – no matter its source, if it's good we'll embrace it.
- Greens believe dignity and respect should be the norm in Parliament.
- To avoid union or corporate influence, we take donations only from individuals.
- Greens believe in voting with your values. Strategic voting never gets you what you want.
- Green campaigns rely on volunteers for all our canvassing and election activities.

- The Green Party is science and reason based, with heart. Our policies and platforms are not driven by the 4-year election cycle, but are concerned with what today's decisions mean for coming generations and the long-term health of people and the planet.
- We work towards finding consensus, a large and lengthy process that can be messy, but produces more durable and equitable results than leaving things to a hand-picked brain trust.
- We respect your privacy and only collect information you wish to share.

The Green Party of Canada's policy book, called [Vision Green](#), addresses economic, environmental and social challenges, and offers practical, result-driven solutions, leading the way to:

- \* A fair, healthy, and diverse society
- \* A productive, post-fossil fuel economy
- \* Comprehensive and progressive health care
- \* Honest and ethical government
- \* Real action on climate change

We are part of the Global Greens community. Through the Global Greens Charter, we share the same six Guiding Principles. We collaborate with Greens internationally, learning from one another and addressing challenges globally.

With so many of the big issues of our times being global in nature (think climate change), this positions Canadian Greens to think and act globally, something unknown to other parties.

Above all, Greens seek to work fearlessly together as a community, with respect, passion, determination, and fun on the largest project mankind has ever faced: saving the planet and saving ourselves.

(Submitted by Mark de Bruijn)

## **RECIPE: Greek Salad & Dressing**

### SALAD INGREDIENTS

- 1 red pepper, chopped to bite-size
- 1 green pepper, chopped to bite-size
- $\frac{1}{2}$  red onion, chopped into smallish pieces
- 1 cucumber, chopped to bite-size
- 2-3 ripe, but firm, tomatoes chopped
- 1 cup Kalamata olives (or to taste, I slice  $\frac{1}{2}$  of them in half)
- $\frac{3}{4}$  cup Feta cheese, crumbled

### SALAD DRESSING INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup olive oil (can reduce to  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup)
- Juice of 1 extra large lemon (can use 2 lemons), make certain the lemon is at room temp before squeezing
- 2 – 4 tsp dried oregano (I use 3 tsp)
- 3 tsp fresh minced garlic (2-3 medium cloves)
- 1.5 – 2 tsp dried basil
- 2 tbsp red wine vinegar
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp salt (or to taste)
- $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp fresh ground pepper (or to taste)

### INSTRUCTIONS

Put all salad dressing ingredients into a sealed pint jar and shake vigorously. Chop all veggies into a medium/large bowl. Dress salad with prepared dressing. (You may want to let dressed salad sit, unrefrigerated, for approximately 20 minutes before serving). Serves 6-8.

(Submitted by Carol Thatcher)



[Join the Green Party of Canada!](#)



[Check Out the Green Party Platform](#)  
(Election 2021)



[Donate to the NIPR Greens](#)



[Shop Green Party Swag](#)

## **Support Your Local Farmers and Artisans**

[Comox Valley Farmer's Market](#) – Saturdays from 9-1 at the Exhibition Grounds.

[Campbell River Farms Market & Arts Faire](#) – Sundays from 10-2 at Spirit Square

[Port McNeill Farmers' and Artisans' Market](#)

[Powell River Farmer's Market](#) – Sundays 12:30-2:30 at the Exhibition Grounds; also Saturdays from 10:30-12:30, starting in May.

*(Did we miss you? Let us know!)*

### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

General Inquiries or Comments and Newsletter Submissions: [northislandgreens@gmail.com](mailto:northislandgreens@gmail.com)

Volunteer Opportunities and Volunteering:  
[northislandgreens@greenparty.ca](mailto:northislandgreens@greenparty.ca)

Donation Questions: [susaneshort20@gmail.com](mailto:susaneshort20@gmail.com)

### NIPR Greens Executive

<b>Mark de Bruijn</b>	<b>Larry McCumsey</b>
<i>CEO</i>	<i>Secretary</i>

<b>Susan Short</b>	<b>Carol Thatcher</b>
<i>Financial Agent</i>	<i>Membership Director</i>

<b>Edward Mackenzie</b>	<b>Jay Van Oostdam</b>
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	<i>Directors at Large</i>