



# The New NIPR Newsletter

Volume II | Issue 3 | December 2023 | North Island-Powell River Greens

## *December already?!*

Hi Friends! It's hard to believe that it's December already, but here we are – another year is almost over, and we are looking forward to the possibilities and opportunities a new year brings.

This edition will be shorter than some of our previous ones – extra family and work commitments and COVID and whatever seems to be going around all took their toll on our small, but mighty, team. But we're back up and running full force and will have more updates for you in our next edition.

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, Kwakwiltl, and Gwa'sala'Nakwaxda'xw Namgis.

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

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## ***‘Breaking Together’ – or – so, what if we cannot fix this?***

The signs that all is not well with humanity and the living planet are all around. The past 12 months has shattered heat records around the globe for extremes of heat, an off-the-charts wildfire season has hit us in Canada, and disastrous extreme weather events are continuing unabated worldwide. Beyond the incalculable loss of human and other life, it is estimated that these losses add up to about \$16M/hr over the last 20 years, and 0.6% of GDP worldwide for 2023. In addition, inflation is persistent, authoritarianism and conflict are rising and deteriorating mental health in the face of a questionable future is the new epidemic.

What if, as well as doing what we can in the present, we look squarely in the face of what we have been collectively denying and avoiding - and come to accept that we are living in an era of collapse?

Following from the work of Jem Bendell and others, this series of conversations is intended to provide a place to develop our understanding of where we are, and to look at the individual and collective choices we have of how to respond in full possession of the truth of our dire predicament.

Coach and Facilitator Dr. Don Goodeve is hosting these conversations which are intended to provide a forum and support as we investigate ways of responding and being together, without avoiding the highly inconvenient truth that our current way of being in the world is in very serious trouble.

The book is available free online [HERE](#). Please join us for our bi-monthly Zoom salons, which are open to everyone. They are every other Wednesday, 5 to 6:30. Our next one is January 3rd. Zoom link [HERE](#).

(Submitted by Don Goodeve)

## ***40 and Forward: BC Greens Legacy Gala***

This year marked the 40th birthday of both the BC Greens (and the Green Party of Canada!) To celebrate, the BC Greens had a gala event in Victoria, with special music by John Kidder and a Dutch auction co-hosted by Elizabeth May. I had a wonderful time representing NIPR and connecting with Elizabeth, our Deputy Leader Jonathan Pedneault, and some of the other federal Greens on the Island. I met some great people when I was there, and I was honoured when Elizabeth made a point to introduce me from the podium as the first official GPC candidate in Canada. ~Jessica Wegg

This issue’s cover photo (and the one below) were taken at the gala photo booth and shows the federal crew in attendance (minus Elizabeth). (L-R): Bridget Burns (Western Organizer), Deraek Menard (BC Rep on Federal Council), Jonathan Pedneault (Dep. Leader), Jessica Wegg (NIPR Candidate), Kevin Dunbar (GPC Executive Director), Stuart Hunter (Co-Chair of Young Greens)



## ***We can't do this without you!***

The end of the year is often a time when people make their decisions about donations. This year it seems there are many more people, organizations, and businesses that are looking at their bottom line and wondering how they are going to make it to the end of the month. The people in our communities bring a wide range of backgrounds, experiences and circumstances; I don't often know their stories but I can meet them with kindness and compassion. We are neighbours, after all.

Your friends at the Green Party in North Island – Powell River are preparing over the next two years for the next federal election. We have our candidate, Jessica Wegg, her campaign manager, Don Goodeve, and we have a group of volunteers. We are hoping to raise funds, welcome more volunteers, and meet the majority – and possibly all! – the constituents of this riding. We are so thankful for the support that we've received in the past and we are looking for your support again. **Please donate by clicking the Donate button below.** We're excited about the days ahead and looking forward to working with you to elect Jessica as the first Green MP from North Island – Powell River. Thank you.



The chart on the right shows the tax credit (if you pay taxes) to show the impact it can have on your tax return bottom line.

(Submitted by Susan Short)

***Your 2023 tax credit for Political Donations (if you pay taxes) decreases your tax bill by the amount highlighted in yellow below.***

<b>Your Donation</b>	<b>Your Tax Credit</b>	<b>Your Actual Cost</b>	<b>Tax credit as a % of donation</b>
\$1,700	\$650	\$1,050	38.24%
\$1,500	\$650	\$850	43.33%
\$1,275	\$650	\$625	50.98%
\$1,000	\$557.50	\$442.50	55.75%
\$750	\$475	\$275	63.30%
\$500	\$350	\$150	70%
\$400	\$300	\$100	75%
\$200	\$150	\$50	75%
\$100	\$75	\$25	75%
\$50	\$37.50	\$12.50	75%
\$20	\$15	\$5	75%

### **NOTE**

A maximum of \$1,700 can be donated to the Green Party of Canada.

**and**

A maximum of \$1,700 can be donated in total to all the registered associations, nomination contestants, and candidates of each registered party.

## ***Congratulations, Arzeena Hamir!***

On November 17th, hundreds of Comox Valley voters came to celebrate the campaign launch of Arzeena Hamir in Courtenay-Comox for the BC Greens. Arzeena was welcomed at this event by K'omoks elder Barb Whyte who spoke of working with her on food accessibility issues in the Comox Valley. "I want to see Comox Valley realize its tremendous potential to be sustainable, healthy and productive community and economy," she said. BC Green Party leader Sonia Furstenu, mayors, and councillors from all three Comox Valley communities spoke about the three main themes of Hamir's campaign: healthcare, housing and real climate action. For more information and to become involved in this campaign see [www.bcgreens.ca/arzeena\\_hamir](http://www.bcgreens.ca/arzeena_hamir).

***And congratulations, Arzeena!  
We wish you all the  
best!***



(Submitted by Jay Van Oostdam)

(L-R) Dr. Jonathan Kerr (Comox councillor), Nicole Minions (Comox Mayor), Arzeena Hamir, Sonia Furstenu (BC Green Leader), Jesse Ketler (Cumberland councillor), Evan Jolicoeur (Courtenay councillor)

Photo from The Comox Valley Record:  
<https://www.comoxvalleyrecord.com/news/hamir-kicks-off-green-party-campaign-with-meet-and-greet-in-courtenay-7110400>.

## ***SOFT-CV Marches and Wins Award in the Courtenay Christmas Parade!***

The Save Our Forests Team - Comox Valley (SOFT-CV), most of whom are strong Green Party supporters, made a second appearance at the Courtenay Christmas parade. Parade entries allow SOFT-CV to provide continuing education for the public on green forestry issues. More than 20 supporters had banners and signs for sustaining old growth forests and a shift to sustainable forestry. Great ideas all our Green Party candidates can support. Many of the hundreds of parade viewers applauded and gave a big thumbs up to the SOFT-CV team. The judges also appreciated SOFT-CV's parade entry, as they were given a prize as the best NGO.

***Thank you, SOFT-CV, for your great advocacy.  
Congratulations!***



(Submitted by Jay Van Oostdam)

## Old Growth Logging Continues on East Coast of Vancouver Island

This is just a reminder that Mosaic Forest Management is continuing to log high elevation old growth forests (250 to 500 year old) on the east coast of Vancouver Island from Victoria to just north of Campbell River. This land is actually owned by two pension plans the BC Pension Management Corporation (BCi) and the federal Public Service Pension Investment Board (PSP) and Mosaic only manages the forests. Mosaic's forestry mis-management is negatively impacting the biodiversity of these lands and our watersheds are drying up every summer. The Save Our Forests Team – Comox Valley (SOFT-CV) is continuing to pressure the pension plans to change their approach to forestry management and live up to their corporate Green Plans. If you are a pensioner, a resident of Vancouver Island or a concerned citizen you can help put pressure by writing letters to the pension plans or participating in a rally in Victoria planned for late January / early February. If you would like example letters or more information on the rally please write to SOFT-CV ([saveourforeststeamcomoxvalley@gmail.com](mailto:saveourforeststeamcomoxvalley@gmail.com)).

(Submitted by Jay Van Oostdam)



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## Strategic Planning Retreat Set for NIPR Executive

This year went by quickly, and we don't think 2024 will be any different. Though 2025 might seem a long way off now, it'll be here in only twelve short months, and with it, the next Federal Election. And of course, that's assuming a snap election isn't called before then! We have a lot of work to do if we want to get more Greens, including Jessica, into Parliament. That's why, on February 5, the NIPR Executive will be meeting in Comox for a strategic planning retreat to prioritize and plan the next two years. If you have ideas we should discuss, please let us know!

### Our Shirts Make Great Gifts!!

Need a gift for a special person in your life? Do they love supporting Vancouver Island companies? Do they love organic cotton or bamboo? Do they wear shirts? Contact Carol or Susan to get them custom NIPR swag! (Guess what my parents are getting! 😊)



### 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

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**Jessica Wegg**  
*Director at Large*

**Jay Van Oostdam**  
**Linda Ash**  
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