

# The NIPR Newsletter

**GREEN PARTY**  
North Island - Powell River



Volume IV | Issue 1 | March 2025 | North Island-Powell River Greens

## Welcome to our quarterly newsletter

Hello fellow Greens! The Coldest Night of the Year Comox Valley Green Team graces the cover page this issue. This is just one of the many things that we have been up to but of course the election dominates our thinking right now. Check out "Inside This Issue" (to the right) to see what else we have for you. As always we hope to be informative and interesting. Please feel free to engage with us through our website ([NIPR Greens](http://NIPR Greens)) or via email ([northislandgreens@gmail.com](mailto:northislandgreens@gmail.com)).

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.

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

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## Townhall Zoom Gathering

You are invited to join **Jessica Wegg**, our North Island-Powell River federal candidate, for a conversation on the topic of: **WHY GREEN IS THE STRATEGIC VOTE IN THE 2025 ELECTION**

With this election cycle looking as though it may be complete before many of us get into our gardens, this is an opportunity to engage with Jessica directly and ask her your questions. Come and hear her clear and passionate plan to be your MP in Ottawa!

The Greens have created an exciting, strong and forward-looking platform that personifies our long-held values. Jessica's combination of experience and vision is exactly what is needed in our government now.

**When:** Friday, March 28, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

**Where:** Zoom; You must [REGISTER](#) to receive the meeting link.

**Our Zoom call is only an hour long. We want to cover as many of your questions as possible. To facilitate this please submit your questions to us by email to [carol.mccuaig@greenparty.ca](mailto:carol.mccuaig@greenparty.ca) no later than 5:00pm, March 27th.**



## April 4<sup>th</sup> Reception/Fundraiser

The North Island-Powell River Greens are hosting a reception and Dutch-auction fundraiser to support Jessica Wegg, our candidate in the upcoming Federal election. She will be joined by Elizabeth May, co-leader of the Green

Party of Canada. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome and there is no cost to attend the reception.

We would love to have you join us for this reception and fundraiser with Jessica and Elizabeth as we prepare for the coming federal election. Please RSVP here:

### RSVP

**WHO:** The North Island-Powell River Federal Green Party; with candidate JESSICA WEGG and the Party's Co-Leader ELIZABETH MAY

**WHAT:** A reception and Dutch-auction Fundraiser in support of Jessica Wegg's upcoming election campaign

**WHEN:** Friday, April 4, 2025, 7:00pm

**WHERE:** Comox United Church, 250 Beach Drive, Comox, BC (lower level)

**WHY:** Because Jessica is the strong and passionate GREEN representative we need in Parliament!

**Please [RSVP](#) by Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. Thank you!**

**VOLUNTEERS:** If you'd like to volunteer in support of this event, please contact: [carolmt@telus.net](mailto:carolmt@telus.net)

## Shadow Cabinet Retreat - Jessica Wegg

I'm writing this on March 22, 2025 – the seasons are changing. Spring is technically here (even though it doesn't quite feel like it yet). Hockey season is ending. And, in a very gradual surprise twist, election season is upon us. By the time you read this the writ period will be well underway. So, while I still have the time and



energy to write this, I wanted to take a moment to thank the EDA and you, our amazing members and donors, for helping to give me the opportunity to travel to Ottawa back in January for an in-person Green Party Canada (GPC) Shadow Cabinet retreat; Elizabeth May also asked me to extend her thanks as well. (In case you didn't know, the EDA paid for my airfare.)

It began as most meetings typically do – settling in, drinking your entire cup of coffee before the meeting starts and getting up to refill it, introducing yourself to people you've only ever seen on Zoom, wondering who is going to sit next to you, technical issues, and wishing everyone felt as strongly about punctuality as you do. We were finally underway when yet another latecomer opened the door at the back of the chilly church hall and I turned around to give a disapproving look to the offender. When I registered who it was all annoyance fell away – Jonathan Pedneault was back! The meeting immediately shifted. We were energized and excited by the bold and brave ideas he brought with him, and he kept us focused and forward-looking.

Laurie MacMillan, the GPC's Policy Strategist, guided our discussions over the weekend to compile our thoughts and ideas for the 2025 Platform. We accomplished a lot during our time together, and hopefully by now the Platform is out and you will be able to see the fruits of our labour for yourself. But just as important as the work we did was the feeling we came away with. It was so energizing and fulfilling to all be there together, working towards our common goals. Even though we didn't always all agree with each other on every issue, we listened to each other. We heard each other.

While the retreat was going on, rumours were flying in the media about the press conference the Green Party of Canada had scheduled for Monday morning. I had a good chuckle on Saturday night while I was skating on the Rideau Canal with my cousin and got an email from a reporter who had "heard" that I was going to be named leader and did I want to comment!? I did not. But at the end of the second day, we did have to decide who among us would speak along with Elizabeth and Jonathan at the press conference, and I was unanimously chosen by my peers. It was quite an honour, and I told them that it was a very nice consolation prize for *not* being made leader.

The Monday [press conference](#) took place in the foyer outside of the House of Commons. Afterwards we were escorted into the House itself, which was a very special and cool experience. The architecture is really something to see, and while we all took turns sitting in the Speaker's chair, I spent most of my time just admiring the space. Afterwards, two new friends (Dave Hamelin-Schuilenburg (candidate for Vaudreuil) and Simon Guthrie (Waterloo)) and I took some snaps in front of Parliament before heading our separate ways. When I stepped into a coffee shop to get out of the cold, I ran into Mike Morrice, and we had a great chat!

So once again, thank you for making this great experience possible. It was the best possible way to start the run-up to this election.

--Jessica Wegg

## NIPR Greens Environmental Movie Night

The image shows the title 'YINTAH' in large, white, block letters against a dark, textured background.

The NIPR EDA sponsored the premier of the feature documentary Yintah at the Campbell River Community Center on February 20th. The film follows the Wet'suwet'en land defender's ten year struggle to keep gas companies from building a pipeline through their territory. [Cortes Currents interviewed the event organizers](#), Annie Smith and Don Goodeve, about the film and some of the deeper issues within the local community. Don and Annie see the Environmental Movie Nights as an opportunity to engage with each other and

discuss our concerns and responsibility to protect fragile ecosystems locally. How can we learn from each other and environmental groups in the community? What actions can we take and how can we support each other? We can't let tariff issues temporarily trump the concerns of climate change action which override everything.

Don and Annie are following this up with a second Movie Night, focused this time on family content, at the Community Centre during Spring Break on March 27. There will be pizza, animated films and feature documentary Return of the Great Bear with special guest Natasha Wehn, the Project Director for Pacific Wild. For more information and to register (so we know how much pizza to order!) please call Annie Smith at 250-926-9336.

The image shows the title 'RETURN OF THE GREAT BEAR' in white, serif font, centered over a background of a mountain range and forest.

You'll note that Return of the Great Bear recently debuted at the [Vancouver International Mountain Film Festival](#). For more information, [check out the trailer](#).

# Green Party Candidate Jessica Wegg talks about the coming election

In case you missed it, check out the [interview](#) that Jessica did with Roy Hales of Cortes Currents in January.

## Coldest Night of the Year – Feb 22



Federal and provincial Greens came together to fundraise for the Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY) in the Comox Valley (CV) on February 22, 2025, led by team captain Jay Van Oostdam. Sixteen Green Team members walked 5 kms on a beautiful sunny evening, with heavy rain before and after the event, to raise \$7,855 for CNOY. These funds highlight how Greens support local social action. The funds will go to support Dawn to Dawn Action on Homelessness and the Comox Valley Transition Society. Dawn to Dawn works to avoid the cycle of homelessness through case management, peer support and life skills development. The CV Transitions Society runs the local shelter plus provides rental supplements and manages 172 units of subsidized housing.

This is the first year we had a CNOY team in Campbell River. The Campbell River Green team was led by Don Goodeve and they raised funds for the Campbell River Transition Society (housing, counselling and support).

It was great to see the local communities supporting Greens in this endeavour.

# Upcoming Events

It's a busy time! Here's a guide to help you find out when you can connect with Jessica in your community in the next few weeks.

- **Campbell River, March 27:** Family Film Night, with pizza, animated films, and short film "Return of the Great Bear", 5:30 - 8:00 at the CR Community Centre. Suitable for all ages. By donation. Meet Jessica.
- **Zoom Town Hall March 28:** call with Jessica 5:00 - 6:00 pm (did you receive our email? You will need to [REGISTER](#) to receive the Zoom link).
- **Port Alice, March 29:** Meet Jessica, 12:00 noon at Foggy Mountain Café
- **Port McNeill, March 29:** Meet Jessica - at Devil's Bath Brewing Co. 3:00 pm
- **Sointula, March 30:** Meet Jessica at Coho Joe's, 11:00 am
- **Comox, April 4:** NIPR Reception/Fundraiser with Elizabeth May and Jessica in support of Jessica's campaign, 7:00 pm; Please [RSVP](#) by March 31.
- **Fort Rupert, April 8:** Meet Jessica (venue TBA) Noon
- **Alert Bay, April 13:** All Candidates Meeting, Alert Bay Council Hall 1:00 pm; All Candidate's Forum

## For more information:

We will provide updates via Facebook at [North Island – Powell River Greens](#).



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## 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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