



# WORDS OF THE WHALERS

Principal: Mr. Don Boyd  
Vice Principals: Mr. Don Bold, Ms. Lori Wheldon

February 8, 2010 - #10  
Website: <http://bss.sd69.bc.ca>

## Message from the Principal – Young Drivers

Yes, you may have heard these words echo throughout your household, “I am 16 and I can get my learners license!” These few words have brought some parents to their knees and for others it has generated a host of questions such as:

“How can I best prepare my child for the challenges of driving?”, “How safe will he/she be driving with their ‘L’?”, “Do we get lessons for them?”, “What are the laws that govern them while driving with an ‘N’?”

At our most recent PAC meeting on February 2<sup>nd</sup> Janelle Goulet, Supervisor for the Nanaimo Driver Licensing Center, made a presentation answering these questions and many more. Please find listed below some additional information that may assist you and your child in becoming better prepared for their driving experience.

### General Guidelines:

- First and foremost is that students need to study the Learn and Drive Smart book. Some students make the mistake of just doing the practice test on the website ([www.icbc.com](http://www.icbc.com)). This is just a tool to get used to the format of the test and not an actual study guide.
- When you arrive for your actual test you will require the following items:
  - ◇ Custodial parent (if you are under 19), please note that most step-parents are not custodial parents
  - ◇ Primary and secondary ID documents (includes your birth certificate and another piece of ID), they must be the originals and not photocopies
  - ◇ The charge for the test is \$15.00 and a \$10.00 charge for the license once you qualify on the test
  - ◇ The test takes approximately 20 minutes
  - ◇ You will be required to do a vision test after the written test
  - ◇ Please note that if you have difficulties reading you can request an oral exam. They will provide you with headphones and the computer will read the questions for you. You can also ask the staff for assistance if you don't understand the question
- Upon qualification you will be given an interim license that is valid for 60 days. You will receive a photo card in the mail. The “L” license is valid for 2 years and you are able to do your testing for the “N” any time after 360 days. If your license expires and you have not done your test then you will have to do the testing over again.
- The restrictions on your learner's license are:
  - ◇ 0 blood alcohol content – this means some medicines
  - ◇ Supervising adult (someone over 25 with a valid class 5 or higher license)
  - ◇ Passenger limit (supervisor plus 1 other person, family members are NOT exempt)
  - ◇ No driving between midnight and 5 am
  - ◇ No electronic devices
  - ◇ Must display your “L” on the back of the vehicle (must be the full sign not cut or hand drawn)
- To book a road test to obtain your “N” you will need to call in as there are no internet bookings. If you are booking for a summer month or a holiday season please call ahead about 2 months to avoid disappointment. When you arrive for the test you will need:
  - ◇ Photo license plus another piece of secondary ID
  - ◇ A safe insured vehicle
  - ◇ The road test costs \$35.00 and then you need another \$75.00 when you qualify
  - ◇ Arrive 15 minutes prior to check in also bring in your vehicle plate number in when you arrive.
- The test take about 45 minutes, the examiner will explain everything at the beginning of the test. Everything you need to know about the test is in the “Tuning up for Drivers” manual that you received with your “L” package.
- When you qualify you will receive a class 7 (N) license valid for 5 years. Anytime after 2 years you are eligible to do your last road tests. Again there are restrictions on this license including:
  - ◇ 0 blood alcohol content
  - ◇ 1 passenger (now family members are exempt), if you have a supervisor (age 25+ with a valid license) then you can have as many passengers as your vehicle will legally fit.
  - ◇ Must display your unaltered “N” sign at the rear of the vehicle
  - ◇ No electronic devices
- If you do not qualify the examiner will go over the results with you and provide you with the areas that you need to work on. There is a 2 week wait before you can be tested again.
- To get rid of the “N” you will have to do a second road test. This test will be \$50.00 and then you pay \$17.00 for a duplicate license. If you are within 6 months of your expiry date then you will pay \$50.00 for the road test and \$75.00 for the license.

*Continued....*

- If you do not qualify on this test there is a one week wait before you can try it again, if you do not qualify the second time there is a two week wait in between tries.

Please find listed below the top 10 violations of young drivers:

- Drive contrary to restriction (too many passengers, use of electronic device while driving) sec. 25 (15) MVA – fines range \$109.00/\$168.00
- Operate contrary to class (driving on your own when you only have a class 7 “L” not “N” – sec. 24 (1) – fine \$138.00
- Fail to display “L” or “N” sign (unaltered) sec.30.13 MVAR – fine \$109.00
- Drive without Due Care and Attention sec. 144 (1) (a) MVA – fine \$368.00
- Fail to wear seatbelt sec. 220 (4) MVA – fine \$167.00
- Permit Passenger without seatbelt (driver charged) sec.220(6) MVA – fine \$167.00
- Unnecessary Noise (loud muffler, squealing tires ...) sec. 7A.01 – fine \$109.00
- Speeding – sec. 220 MVA – fine \$138.00 - \$483.00 (depending on how fast)
- 12 and 234 hour suspensions (drivers license taken away for the amount of time vehicle gets towed)

The final say comes down to the Superintendent of the motor vehicle branch. Depending on the fines received the “N” driver may lose their license and have to start their probationary period over again, once the license is returned. Hopefully this will be helpful in assisting you with your child’s driving experiences. If you wish more information please feel free to visit the ICBC website at [www.icbc.com](http://www.icbc.com).

Don Boyd  
Principal

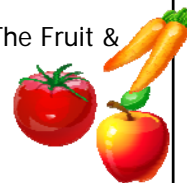
### FEED YOUR KIDS ALL YEAR!!



Volunteer 1 or 2 mornings in the school year and see your children benefit all year long. The Fruit & Veggie program needs you; otherwise the program will be cancelled.

**Give a little.....get a lot!!!!**

Contact the school office if you can help at 250-248-5721



Ballenas students Brad Sherlaw and Morgan Farrell both earned medals January 11, 2010 competing in the Vancouver Island Cadet Biathlon competition. Morgan placed 1st and earned a gold medal as a Senior female. Brad placed 3rd and earned a Bronze medal as a Senior male. They have both progressed to the provincial competition February 6th. Morgan has also been selected to compete in the BC Winter Games this March. Way to go!!



### Ballenas 2010 Fashion Show

**February 10/2010**

**Time – Doors open at 6:30. show starts at 7 PM.**

Fashions by A to Zebra, Disco Lemonade, Mercedes Lane, Prom fashions by the SOS, Olympic fashions by the Bay and our own Grade 12 fashion designer Michelle Larsen will be showcasing her original designs as well. Tickets are \$8.00/adult; \$5.00/student and are available at the local businesses participating in the fashion show or by calling Jen @ 250-954-7324. If you need anything further, please call either Jen or me (her Mom) at my office at 752-0707 or at home at 248-4885. Thanks so much for your help...Shelley Sallows



DISTRICT 69 MINOR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION WILL BE HOLDING REGISTRATION AT OCEANSIDE PLACE ON FEBRUARY 27TH AND FEBRUARY 28TH FROM 11:00 AM TO 2:00 PM EACH DAY. REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 15TH, 2010. YOU CAN ALSO PICK UP REGISTRATION FORMS AND DROP OFF COMPLETED FORMS AT OCEANSIDE PLACE. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO COME AND REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CALL CATHY WEBB AT 250-248-6373 OR EMAIL ME AT [ccwebb@shaw.ca](mailto:ccwebb@shaw.ca).



**RDN Recreation and Parks Programs.** Register online and view program details at [www.rdn.bc.ca](http://www.rdn.bc.ca) or call 250-248-3252 or 250-752-5014

**Pro-D Day Skate Sessions**

Regular Admission

Fri Feb 19 and Mon Feb 22, 1:30-3:00pm

**Spirit of BC Skate - Skate with the Olympic Torchbearers**

Sat Feb 13, 2:00-3:30pm, Regular Admission

**Teen Glow Skate**

Glow bracelets, disco lights and pizza after, these skating sessions are growing in popularity

Sat Feb 20, 6:45-7:45pm, Regular Admission

**Co-ed adult Basketball**

Sunday nights at Oceanside Middle, ongoing registration.



**Ballenas Student of the Week—February 8-12**

**Aoife Collins.** Aoife was nominated for her top notch work in the drama program this year including her exemplary work in Alice. Mr. Campbell said “she leads by example, is a great actor, a great student, and a great person.”

Aoife is also involved in the leadership program where she is instrumental in organizing the ME to WE t-shirt campaign. Aoife is a natural leader who helps to make Ballenas a better place.

**Aoife you rock!**



**Whalebone Theatre Presents...**



Coming in February – “I Believe in a Thing Called Love” the Musical Revue.

Feb. 17, 18, 19, 24, 25. Ten of the

best songs from the most popular musicals within a story written by one of our own students, Michelle Stefani. A singing, dancing extravaganza! Only \$8 for students and opening night is 2 for 1 if you bring a date! 7:30 start in the auditorium. All tickets at the door.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Feb 12 Report cards issued
- Feb 16 Ballenas open house—Gr. 9-12  
Gr. 8 orientation evening
- Feb 17-19 Whalebone Theatre presents “I Believe in a Thing Called Love”
- Feb 22 District Pro D  
*School not in session*
- Feb 24-25 Whalebone Theatre presents “I Believe in a Thing Called Love”
- Mar 2 PAC meeting-7pm-Library  
Interims to all students
- March 8-19 Spring Break



**GRADS and GRAD PARENTS!!**

Remember to visit the Grad website at [www.bssgrad.ca](http://www.bssgrad.ca) to obtain all the important information concerning Prom/Dry Grad which takes place on May 15th at Ballenas.



**Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre**

Canada’s premier coastal marine facility for teaching and research. Celebrate and Protect Our ocean! Explore coastal species diversity, beaches and rainforests of the west coast through field trips, labs, and workshops. You’ll work closely with marine biologists while gaining valuable skills and work experience hours. Grade 11 & 12 students are encouraged to apply. Enrollment is Limited—applications Due: Feb. 22nd



Program Cost \$500 (does not include transportation to and from BMSC. For application details go to our website at [www.bms.bc.ca/pubed/k12/youth\\_forums.html](http://www.bms.bc.ca/pubed/k12/youth_forums.html)

## FROM THE COUNSELLING OFFICE:

**The BC Government and Service Employees' Union** continues to offer scholarships to students who are related to BCGEU members and who are entering recognized programs in post secondary institutions in 2010. Further information and application forms are available at [www.bcgeu.ca](http://www.bcgeu.ca). Applications must be received by Friday, February 26, 2010.

**Grad Planner 2009/10 Now Available On-line:** To support our commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, the Ministry will no longer be printing and distributing the Grad Planner. A printable version of the 2009/10 Grad Planner is now available on the Ministry website at: [http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation/grad-transitions/grad\\_planner.pdf](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation/grad-transitions/grad_planner.pdf).

**Simon Fraser University (Surrey Campus):** Important Dates: Annual Open House will be held Thursday, March 4, 2010 from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm ([www.surrey.sfu.ca/Openhouse](http://www.surrey.sfu.ca/Openhouse)). Information Session will be held Wednesday, April 21, 2010 from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm ([www.surrey.sfu.ca/infosession](http://www.surrey.sfu.ca/infosession)). Drop-in Advising is available Mondays or Thursdays from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Campus Tours are offered Thurs at 4:00 pm.

**Simon Fraser University (Surrey Campus):** SFU Surrey Entrance Award. Step 1: Students should go to <http://pas.bc.ca> before February 28, 2010 and apply for admission to SFU Surrey. For information on how to apply or to get help with your application, visit <http://students.surrey.sfu.ca/undergraduate/admission>. Step 2: Self-report your grades and pay the application fee to be considered for admission. Step 3: Submit Entrance Award application form and supporting documents to SFU no later than March 1, 2010.

**Vancouver Island University:** The Program Information Sessions for 2009-2010 are posted in the Counselling Office. The information is also available at [viu.ca/info\\_sessions](http://viu.ca/info_sessions). Parents' Night is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23, 2010 in Building 300, Royal Arbutus Room at the Nanaimo Campus beginning at 7:30 pm. It will consist of an overview highlighting Admissions, Programming, Financial Aid and Scholarships at VIU, followed by refreshments and an opportunity to meet faculty, staff and current students.

**University of Alberta:** Various scholarship information. Further information is available at [www.beartracks.ualberta.ca](http://www.beartracks.ualberta.ca) under the "Learn More" link. To apply, students must log in as a Guest and complete the required Bio/Demo fields. An ID and password will then be emailed to you. Once you log in using your new ID, go to the "Apply for Awards Page" link. Another link for information is [www.ualberta.ca/awards](http://www.ualberta.ca/awards).

- a) Scholarship Distinction Scholarship Competition: Application deadline is March 1, 2010.
- b) Entrance Leadership Scholarship Competition: Application deadline is March 15, 2010.
- c) Eldon Foote Scholarship Competition: Application deadline is June 30, 2010.

**University of the Fraser Valley:** Applications for September 2010 start begin October 1, 2009 with a deadline of January 31, 2010. Admission information available at [www.ufv.ca/ar](http://www.ufv.ca/ar). Online application available at [www.pas.bc.ca](http://www.pas.bc.ca). Residence applications begin January 15, 2010. Residence information is available at [www.ufv.ca/residences](http://www.ufv.ca/residences). Entrance Awards deadline is April 2010. Further information is available at [www.ufv.ca/fineaid](http://www.ufv.ca/fineaid).

### Student Awards:

Visit [studentawards.com](http://studentawards.com/report) as a scholarship resource. Visit [www.studentawards.com/report](http://www.studentawards.com/report) to download the Studentawards Report, a compilation of ideas from a series of "Scholarship 101" presentations to high schools.

**Ethel Boyce Award:** The award is administered by Softball Canada. It is expected that the award winners will have exhibited leadership traits and skills in softball. More information available at [www.softball.ca](http://www.softball.ca). The application deadline is March 15, 2010.

**Colonel Douglas H. Gunter Award:** More information available at [www.warmuseum.ca/cwm/education/school-programs/the-colonel-douglas-h-gunter-award](http://www.warmuseum.ca/cwm/education/school-programs/the-colonel-douglas-h-gunter-award). The application deadline is March 15, 2010.