

SAANICH NEWS

Little Britain in all of us

UVic prof studies whether people born and raised in Victoria are more British than the actual British.

News, Page A3



Sand Master

Victoria resident crowned world champion sand sculptor.

Community, Page A8



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Black Press Wednesday, December 7, 2011

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Christian J. Stewart photo

Race goes to the Swift

Mason Swift, right, and the Mount Douglas Rams came from 21 points down to win the provincial high school football championship 42-35 Saturday against Abbotsford's W.J. Mouat Hawks. See sports, Page A23 for the full story.

A better neighbour

UVic hires consultant after public backlash over proposed parkade

Kyle Slavin
News staff

The University of Victoria has hired a consulting firm to help quell neighbours' concerns over a planned sports complex and seven-level parkade.

H.B. Lanarc will meet with community associations to discuss the role they want to play in the next round of public consultations on the Centre for Athletics, Recreation and Special Abilities.

"It'll be focused around process and good process and what that would look like," said Neil Connelly, UVic's director of campus planning and sustainability. "We heard feedback (from council) that we need to undertake additional meaningful consultation.

This will be more (discussion) around what does that entail, what does that look like (as opposed to) the specific issues (people have with the proposed centre)."

In October the university unsuccessfully tried to get council's support to approve variances necessary to build the new facility and parkade.

"My definition of consultation is providing an opportunity to meaningfully change the outcome when appropriate. UVic confused that with an information session and telling people what they're going to do," Coun. Vic Derman said at that meeting. He was referring to an open house held by UVic where most who attended felt their concerns were being ignored.

PLEASE SEE:

UVic rethinks public outreach, Page A4

May calls out Harper on Kyoto

Discussions 'going very badly': Green leader tells followers

Elizabeth May says a call for a "period of reflection" on the Kyoto accord makes little sense in the wake of ongoing climate change.

"This is like the crew of the Titanic having a senior officer argue that, rather than breakout the lifeboats, passengers should pause for a yoga class," the Green Party leader posted on her Facebook page.

"We do not have time for planned procrastination."

The Saanich-Gulf Islands MP left for Durban, South Africa, on Saturday, where she joined the delegation from Papua, New Guinea at the international climate change conference.

"My sense, as week two of (the 17th conference of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change) begins, is that things are going very badly," May wrote.

While she criticized the U.S. in its call for a period of reflection, she said Canada's actions also haven't helped.

The Kyoto Protocol expires in 2012. Canada's Environment Minister Peter Kent announced Monday that Canada will not renew its commitments to Kyoto.

Kent's statement came despite a reports that "China may commit to cutting its greenhouse gas emissions starting in 2020."

Canada joined 190 countries at the convention, which ends Dec. 9.

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