

PeaceArch news

VOICE OF WHITE ROCK AND SOUTH SURREY

www.peacearchnews.com

Black Press
COMMUNITY NEWS MEDIA

Tuesday

September 17, 2013 (Vol. 38 No. 75)

Spreading her wings:

After seven years with the White Rock RCMP, Const. Janelle Shoihet is trading her role as the public face and voice of the detachment for an opportunity at 'E' division headquarters to investigate organized crime.

> see page A11



Moderate risk to reoffend: court-ordered psychological report

Nine months jail for child pornography

Tracy Holmes

Staff Reporter

A South Surrey man who pleaded guilty to possessing child pornography has been sentenced to nine months in jail.

Douglas Wayne Bowers learned his fate Monday in Surrey Provincial Court.

The penalty was imposed more than four years after his arrest, which followed an extensive investigation by the RCMP's Integrated Child Exploitation

Team into a man police described as "a prolific distributor of child sex-abuse images and video online."

In his reasons for sentence, Judge Michael Hicks said he considered Bowers' lack of insight and understanding into the offences, in addition to hundreds of videos and photographs found in Bowers' home. Hicks noted he assessed Crown counsel's assertion that the 64-year-old has "been manipulative

through the court proceedings."

The case faced several delays over the years, for reasons including Bower's cited health issues and changes in lawyers, as well as his application to change his plea to not guilty in March 2012 – a request he withdrew five weeks later.

Hicks outlined each delay in detail, noting he wanted to ensure the reasons the case took so long are on the record.

Bowers was arrested in June 2009, after

a search warrant uncovered child pornography on two laptop computers and a USB drive, along with printed materials detailing child sexual abuse, in his rented home in the 16200-block of 40 Avenue.

A collage Bowers admitted to making – using images of a teenager he had befriended through Facebook, superimposed on photographs of other women's bodies – was also found.



Doug Bowers

> see page A10



Boaz Joseph photo

Down river An eight-rower team cuts through the waters of the Nicomekl River during the first race of the Head of the River Regatta Saturday afternoon in South Surrey. More than 70 sculls – including singles, doubles, quads and eight-person teams – competed in the one-day event, which was hosted by the Nicomekl Rowing Club. See page 31.

Single mother files human-rights complaints

Legal system 'broken, failing families'



Alex Browne

Staff Reporter

A Crescent Beach single mother is taking on the Canadian family court system, alleging discrimination – and contraventions of the Human Rights Code – against women, against those who represent themselves in court and against litigants who are disabled.

"I represent all three categories," Alison MacLean, 53, said Monday, discuss-

ing her announcement in Vancouver this morning (Tuesday) that she is filing federal and provincial human-rights complaints on behalf of those she feels have been unfairly treated by the court system. "The system is completely failing families – it's broken."

Respondents in the complaints are federal Attorney General and Justice Minister Peter MacKay, federal Industry Minister James Moore (responsible for bank-

ruptcies and insolvencies), B.C. Attorney General and Minister of Justice Suzanne Anton and their respective ministries.

MacLean, a freelance videographer who has worked as a combat camerawoman in Afghanistan – she reported some of her experiences there in the *Peace Arch News* last October – has been a self-represented litigant since 2008, following her divorce.

> see page A2

No covers on trains

Reduce coal dust: Port Metro

Jeff Nagel

Black Press

Port Metro Vancouver will require Fraser Surrey Docks to undertake more research and commit to further steps to keep coal dust from escaping from trains and barges before its proposed new coal-export terminal in Surrey will be considered.

Port officials aren't calling for covered train cars but said they expect the terminal proponent to require BNSF Railway to re-spray coal trainloads with a dust-control topping agent as CN and CP do on trains coming here from B.C. mines.

Fraser Surrey Docks must also eliminate its plan for a contingency coal-storage pile at the terminal – which New Westminster residents feared might send clouds of dust floating their way.

And a dust-control agent must also be applied when coal is loaded onto barges that will run down the river and across the Strait of Georgia to Texada Island.

The biggest setback for the year-old \$15-million project is Port Metro Vancouver's insistence that an environmental-impact assessment be undertaken to assess human health and ecological risks from the project.

> see page A4

NATIONAL BANK
FINANCIAL
WEALTH MANAGEMENT



GREAT PUMPKIN
RUN WALK 5K 1K

REGISTER ONLINE
www.pahfoundation.ca
604.535.4520

Sunday OCTOBER 20 2013
+ Support your ER one step at a time

Bulbs...
Bulbs...
Bulbs!

See our flyer in
today's paper

Potter's
32nd Ave. & 152nd St.
2124 - 128th Street, Ocean Park
12530 - 72nd Ave.
192nd St. at 48th Ave.
www.pottersonline.ca