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January 8 - March 31, 2021
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VANCOUVER ISLAND - LOWER MAINLAND			
SWARTZ BAY - TSAWWASSEN			
LEAVE SWARTZ BAY			
7:00 am	1:00 pm	7:00 am	
9:00 am	3:00 pm		9:00 am
11:00 am	5:00 pm		
LEAVE TSAWWASSEN			
7:00 am	1:00 pm	7:00 pm	
9:00 am	3:00 pm		9:00 pm
11:00 am	5:00 pm		
NANAIMO (DUKE POINT) - TSAWWASSEN			
LEAVE DUKE POINT			
5:15 am	12:45 pm	8:15 pm	
7:45 am	3:15 pm		10:45 pm
10:15 am	5:45 pm		
LEAVE TSAWWASSEN			
5:15 am	12:45 pm	8:15 pm	
7:45 am	3:15 pm		10:45 pm
10:15 am	5:45 pm		
♦ Except Sun. ♦ Except Sat. ♦ Mon-Sat & Jan 10. ♦ Sun-Fri & Jan 9.			
NANAIMO (38-PRINCE-ROSE) - HORSESHOE BAY			
LEAVE DEPARTURE BAY			
6:15 am	1:00 pm	8:45 pm	
8:25 am	3:20 pm		
10:40 am	5:55 pm		
LEAVE HORSESHOE BAY			
6:15 am	1:00 pm	10:10 pm	
8:25 am	3:45 pm		
10:40 am	6:35 pm		
HORNBY WOOD BAY - MILL BAY			
LEAVE BRENTWOOD BAY			
7:30 am	11:00 am	3:35 pm	
8:40 am	12:15 pm		7:45 pm
9:50 am	2:25 pm		5:35 pm
LEAVE MILL BAY			
8:05 am	11:35 am	6:10 pm	
9:15 am	1:40 pm		5:20 pm
10:25 am	3:00 pm		6:30 pm
♦ Except Sun.			

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No ongoing danger to wildlife at Thetis Lake: CRD Parks

There's no ongoing danger to wildlife at Thetis Lake, despite the discovery of four dead animals in the lake in a two-week period, CRD Parks said Thursday.

The animals were discovered by Noel Frayne, a retired massage therapist, who came across three dead deer in the lower lake and a dead beaver in the upper lake between Dec. 28 and Jan. 10.

Frayne sent photos of the animals and screen shots of their locations to the Capital Regional District's parks department. He was concerned the animals might have been poisoned by toxic blue-green algae in the lake.

In an email, the CRD said recent water samples do not indicate the presence of toxic blue-green algae in the water. "There are many natural ways animals can end up in water, for example, being chased by predators."

The B.C. Conservation Officer Service intended to perform necropsies on the animals to determine their cause of death. However, due to the animals' state of decomposition, that did not take place.

The CRD said it will continue to monitor Thetis Lake Regional Park and its wildlife closely.

—Times Colonist



Timothy Ross went kayaking on Sunday, Jan. 10, 2021, but failed to return. VIA SOOKE RCMP

Search for missing kayaker near Sooke suspended

The search for missing kayaker Timothy Ross has been suspended.

The 38-year-old Langford man went missing Sunday after failing to return from a kayak trip that started about noon. A search began about 7 p.m. using a Cormorant helicopter and a Buffalo aircraft.

A kayak believed to be his was found Wednesday near McMillan Road in Sooke, near where he is thought to have set out.

Vickie Weber, senior search-and-rescue manager for Juan de Fuca Search and Rescue, said searchers returned to the area near where the kayak was found and went over it again.

They also searched farther afield assuming the kayak had reached the area from the west, she said. "If we find some other clue or some other evidence, we can reopen the case."

It remains an active missing-person file for the Sooke RCMP. —Times Colonist

'We are not by any means out of the woods,' Henry says

> FROM A1: VARIANT

Henry said: "If you can find them and catch them early, we can prevent that variant from spreading."

"But it is, of course, a concern, and we're continuing to monitor. It is a challenging thing to look for those."

The U.K. variant is 50 to 70 per cent more transmissible than earlier strains, studies suggest. Mutations to the virus have made it easier to attach to human cells.

There's no evidence right

now that the variant stays on surfaces longer or spreads better outdoors.

Similarly, the South African variant is more infectious than the original COVID-19 virus. It has quickly become dominant in that country's coastal areas.

Officials reported 536 new infections and seven new deaths on Thursday, bringing the total number of cases in B.C. to 59,608 and fatalities to 1,038. Twenty-one of the new cases were in the Island Health region, which has 197 known active cases.

Two new outbreaks at health care facilities were reported on the mainland, while another two were declared over — includ-

ing at the Ts'ts'uwarul' Lelum assisted living facility in Duncan, where one staff member had tested positive.

So far, 52,605 people have recovered from the virus and 69,746 COVID-19 vaccinations have been administered.

There is a "bit of a race" right now between how much vaccine the province has and how much virus transmission is in the community, especially given the new strains, Henry said.

She said she doesn't believe that either of those variants are causing "a lot" of spread of illness in the community — yet.

"But we are not by any means out of the woods."

—With a file from the Times Colonist

'No meaningful effort:' Alberta premier kicks out backbencher

EDMONTON — Alberta Premier Jason Kenney has kicked Lesser Slave Lake backbencher Pat Rehn out of the United Conservative caucus, saying the member of the legislature failed to represent his constituents.

"He has made no meaningful effort to work in his constituency. He has ignored calls from me, UCP caucus leadership, and his constituents to do so," Kenney said Thursday in a statement posted to Twitter.

Rehn is to sit as an Independent MLA and will not be allowed to run for the party again, Kenney said.

Slave Lake Mayor Tyler Warman said in an interview that Rehn spent too little time in the region north of Edmonton and that he was often a no-show to meetings. And when he was present, he was unprepared, Warman said. "To say that that's frustrating and disappointing is an understatement."

Rehn was one of several UCP members who left Canada over Christmas to vacation in sunny hot spots, despite the government urging Albertans to stay home to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

—The Canadian Press

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