

# I'm Rod Nichol... and here's my story.

**I am a long-time resident of the Comox Valley.** I am seeking re-election on the Regional Board for Area B because I wish to represent the concerns and needs of Area B residents. I believe strongly in accountability and transparency in government and as a former Director of Area C, I have experience in local government and public service. I am willing to ask the tough questions and work hard to get the answers that you, the taxpayers, deserve. **Some of my main areas of concern are:**

- **The importance of following the approved Regional Growth Strategy plan to maintain our rural lands and sensitive habitat, and Regional District Budgets.**
- **The high cost of planning compared to other jurisdictions.**
- **The inequality in water costs for Regional District residents.**
- **The antiquated handling of waste within the regional District.**

**I am a retired decorated member of the RCMP,** having joined the course when I turned 20 years old. My early career took me throughout BC and into Alberta, Québec, and Ontario. As a Detachment Commander, I quickly learned that I preferred to work in smaller, more isolated, communities because I was attracted to the unique diversity that existed in each of them and the willingness of the people to work together for their mutual benefit. Based on the many conversations I've had with Area B residents, I have also come to understand that Area B consists of a number of diverse micro-communities with concerns unique to each area.

**I have proven ability in working** with this kind of diversity with respect and understanding. During my tenure with the RCMP I was decorated for my work with the First Nations communities, or apprehending an armed suspect without incident, and for 25 years of meritorious service.

**My first introduction to the Comox Valley was in 1978** when I was transferred here as a dog handler with the RCMP. I was newly married to my wife, Lynn. We quickly fell in love with the area and knew that we want to make it are permanent home. So, although we enjoyed adventures in Northern BC, Yukon, and Tahsis, we maintain property in the Comox Valley with the intention of returning here. That dream was fulfilled in 1993 when we returned to the Valley to raise our two young sons, Dustin and Spencer.

**Fair. Honest. Trustworthy. Rod Nichol**

**Vote on October...  
10, 17  
or on Election Day...  
October 20th!**

**On October 20th Vote for  
Rod Nichol**

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**During the 36 years that Lynn and I have been married,** our interests have ranged from skiing, scuba diving, and rock climbing and repelling, to birdwatching, beach walks, kayaking, raising Mason bees, and gardening. Our home near Seal Bay Part in Area B is ideal for such pursuits.

**In the late 1970s and early 1980s,** as the only dog handler for the North Island, I often worked very closely with Search and Rescue organizations. After a personal friend was caught in an avalanche, I up wide to attend specialized training in Alberta with my dog, Lance, to provide avalanche rescue services. When the trainers heard that I'd only skied once in my life, they laughed at my application. Undaunted, I worked hard to become a proficient enough's year by the following season to be accepted into the program. Lance and I became the first avalanche rescue team of its kind on Vancouver Island.

**In 1997, my life changed dramatically** when I suffered a brain haemorrhage and was subsequently diagnosed with a mid--brain tumour. After surgery and extensive treatment and rehabilitation, I returned home to spend several years recovering. So be obstacles I need to overcome include acute double vision, a noticeable palsy, and the loss of heat and cold sensation in my body. I was told that I would never golf again. I wore a patch over one eye to help with the double vision, learn to play guitar to help overcome the palsy, forced myself to experience the pain I felt instead of heat and cold, and learn humility on the golf course. Gradually, over a number of years, things began to improve and I was able to reclaim my life. I am so grateful today that I can once again live a normal, energetic and all life where I can fully contribute to my family and community.

I share these last two stories with you as proof that I am not afraid to work hard, often against the odds, in order to achieve a worthy goal.

In addition to political activities, over the years, I have turned my hand farming (we owned 63 acres in Maryville), carpentry (I don't to homes), home renovations, safety and first aid, and landscaping. My volunteer activities include two terms as a director for the Comox Golf Club, as well as work with Raters Football, Comox Golf Club Juniors Program, Solum River Restoration Society, and the Comox Lyons Club. I was also a founding member of the Comox Valley Airport Commission.

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