

Notes Transition Sooke Monthly Meeting

Jan 14 2026

In attendance: Lily, Sinclair, Jo, Carol, David, Susan B

Following a short catch-up go round among participants, Lily called the meeting to order, passed around the newly printed TS Information card and gave a strong territorial acknowledgement that made a commitment to “moving beyond words-- to listening, learning, and taking meaningful action toward reconciliation and decolonization”.

1) Honouring Moki (Michael Tacon)

Meeting participants shared memories of Moki, one of Transition Sooke’s founders. Moki was born near Whitney, in Oxfordshire, England in 1940. He came to Canada with his family in 1957. While at first pursuing a career in land survey, he later obtained his degree in Psychology and worked for many years as a therapist and counsellor, running a men’s group and more recently climate anxiety groups. He married the love of his life, Bev England, in 1995 and together they helped found Harbourside Cohousing here in Sooke. A celebration of his life will be held in the spring.

Lily noted that a \$500 donation was made to Transition Sooke in his honour and reported that the steering committee is wondering whether to create a “Moki” climate fund for future donations in Moki’s name. The would be separate from the “Alan Dolan Climate Fund”, Susan Clarke is still considering how she would like the “Alan” fund to be directed. We decided the \$500 donation would go into Transition Sooke’s general funds

2) Agenda Review

Three items were added to the agenda: the online OCP decision details, the new Info Card, changing the name for our Food Security group

3) Approval of Minutes from Nov. 11.2025

It was noted that the minutes include a copy of the letter sent Oct. 22, 2025, to District of Sooke in favour of revised OCP. The online vote was conducted by Susan and Jo and received 13 replies, supporting the sending of the letter. There were no replies opposing the letter.

Moved: David Second: Susan B CARRIED

4) Acceptance of Treasurer’s Report (Lily)

Lily explained that the Treasurer’s Report covers two months, as there was no formal December meeting; It is attached to these minutes.

Moved: Susan B Second David CARRIED

5) **Actions Arising from previous meetings** NONE

6) **New Business**

a) **Bike Lockers** Transition Sooke has two bike lockers for rent located in the park and ride across from EMCS. These lockers rent on an occasional basis. They need a new custodian to keep the key and arrange rentals with people wanting to rent them. They also need some TLC. The inside is clean and Paula recently scrubbed the outside. The painted design on the outside is flaking and the sign with rental information has been removed.

i) Keith has agreed to hold the key and conduct rentals for now.

ii) Susan suggested that there be a photo-op recording the refurbishment for the TS News, Sooke News Mirror and social media, along with a “before” shot. These can be used to promote the lockers.

Action Item Carol will ask her daughter and grand daughter if they can design and paint signage for the lockers.

b) **Monthly meeting date and time, place** The next two meeting dates have been booked at the library for Feb 11 from 4-6 and March 11 from 4:45-6:45 in hopes that we can settle on a regular preferred time. Discussion included: trying to find times suitable for younger, working members with kids, providing babysitting for meetings, insurance and location issues.

i) Susan B suggested that a doodle poll be sent out to active members to determine the best regular meeting time

Action Item Susan to send out a Doodle poll asking active members to choose their preferred meeting times for Transition Sooke meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Suggested times: 11-1, 4-6, 5-6:45, 7-8:30.

(Noted that if the 7-8:30 time slot is preferred, TS will need a new location)

c) **Facilitation Roster** While there is currently a good list of available facilitators, more are always welcome.

d) **Transition Sooke AGM** After much discussion it was decided that the TS AGM will be an internally focussed event added to the regular monthly meeting on March 11 4:45 to 6:45 at the Sooke Library. The main focus of the event will be electing members to the steering committee which meets on an “as needed” basis; key roles include Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer, Communications Officer.

Action Item publicize in newsletter, with short piece on steering committee roles.

e) **Transition Sooke booth at Seedy Saturday (Feb. 28)** TS has applied for a table at the Seedy Saturday event, and will hear back by Feb 17, depending on available space. If approved our table will showcase Zero Waste, Food sovereignty, and the TS umbrella.

f) **Priority activities for 2026** The following items have been curated from a larger list developed during previous discussions and a session during the Dec. 11 social event:

i) **Municipal Election** This will be held October 17. TS has traditionally sponsored a “meet your candidates” event in which attendees visit the tables of each candidate to hear their platform and ask them questions. It was suggested that this time, the event could begin with an opportunity for each candidate to outline their platform from the stage, then start the private table discussions. After discussion, Saturday October 3 was chosen as the date. An organizing group is needed for this event. Lily will lead.

Action Item Newsletter to carry a request for committee members

ii) **Bike Tour** A rough outline was created for a bike tour in the Sooke area that will visit special Sooke places including: places of historical and cultural significance for the T-T’Sou-ke and Scia’new First Nations, homes showing best environmental practices, locations showing environmental damage, locations to be best preserved. It was also suggested that the event include a bike fair and focus on EV bikes. Tentative date for this event May 2026 (could we do events like this quarterly?)

Action Item Newsletter to carry a request for people to help organize

iii) **Film Nights** Jo, Lily and Beth Lange to discuss further

iv) **Work with Patrick Gauley Gale and students at EMCS** Lily will invite Patrick to our monthly meeting

Action Item Invite Patrick to February meeting.

7) Action Group Reports

a) **Zero Waste Sooke** In addition to the upcoming Jan 18 repair café and the March 8 sewing supplies swap, Zero Waste has been busy ironing out details concerning their website, and working with the Museum to start the development of a “re-skilling” program whereby people can learn skills that have fallen into disuse. Skills such as darning socks, making jams and pickles, making your own soaps, cleaning and personal care products, basic carpentry, etc.

b) **Sustainable Food Security and Agriculture** Next Meeting is Jan. 15. The CASA garden has plots available; and the Sooke Region Food Security Network is continuing its work to build needed infrastructure to support farming and food distribution and processing in the region.

- c) *606 Water* 606 reports that the CRD rainwater tank rebate they worked on has been so successful that it is oversubscribed and so no further rebates are available. They hope that this project will receive funding annually.

8) Reports from Climate Action Networks that TS belongs to:

- a) *SI-CAN* The last SICAN meeting featured a presentation from David Quigg of the Sierra Club showcasing the new “Climate Ready Community Toolkit”, a comprehensive guide that outlines 13 best practices to enhance green infrastructure and build climate-ready communities. Topics include Urban Forest Canopy, Weed Control, Biodiversity Restoration, Land Acquisition, Advocacy, Working with Indigenous Partners. The kit comes with many resources.
- b) *WE-CAN* has been engaged in several activities and events:
- i) A three-member team (Dr. Riker from CAPE, Guy Dauncey and Tracy Saxby met with 24 NDP and 2 Green MLAs recently to discuss LNG and climate/ People are encouraged to write in support of Clean BC.
 - ii) We-Can invited 20 BC groups to a first meeting of the BC Transit Alliance
 - iii) We-Can Together is a project to support progressive candidacy across the province. One BC and other regressive parties have been organizing strongly since the last election and are forming voter’s associations to support right leaning candidates for municipal council and school districts several groups WE-CAN is hoping to create a BC-wide network to help groups in local areas with information, and support for recruiting and endorsing candidates. The project launch will be a webinar, opened to all, set for January 29 at 3 pm. To register: <https://westcoastclimateaction.ca/we-can-together-2026-kick-off/>
- c) *Transition Sooke Information Card* It was pointed that perhaps in future editions of this card, the term “food security” should be replaced with “food sovereignty” because that term emphasizes local farms, markets and processing.

9) Next Meeting: Wednesday Feb. 11, 2026. 4-6 pm. Facilitator TBA