



British Columbia Community Profile...

Port Alice

Overview

Port Alice is located on beautiful Neroutsos Inlet in the northern region of Vancouver Island. Known as British Columbia's "instant municipality", the village relocated here in 1965, only seven kilometers from its original site. As a planned community, Port Alice is proudly maintained with lovely gardens and tall trees. Commercial fishing, a pulp mill and salmon hatcheries form the economic base for the community which boasts a fully-equipped recreational complex including a weight room, hockey and curling rinks and an indoor swimming pool. Other recreational activities in the area include boating, fishing, hiking, kayaking and golf. The Port Alice Golf and Country Club offers one of the oldest and most challenging 9-hole courses on the island.

Accessibility

Port Alice is accessible by highway and commercial bus service. The nearest airport with regular service to Vancouver and other major centres is in Port Hardy, approximately 50 km (1 1/2 hours) to the northeast. The nearest major centre is Campbell River, 250 km (4 hours) to the south. Victoria, the capital of British Columbia, is 512 km (8 hours) to the south.

History

Port Alice is named after Alice Whalen, whose family operated three pulp mills here in the 1920's. First established in 1917, it was completely rebuilt in 1965, 7 km away from the original site. It is known as British Columbia's first "instant municipality".





British Columbia Community Profile...

Port Alice

Economy

Forestry drives the economy in Port Alice and is expected to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. Salmon hatcheries and commercial fishing also play a role.

Population Profile

There are approximately 821 people living in the Port Alice area. The median age of the population is 39.3 compared to 38.4 for the province as a whole.

Climate

Port Alice experiences a typical coastal climate, with moderate temperatures and a significant amount of rain. The average summer temperature here is 14 degrees Celsius, while the average winter temperature is 4 degrees. Each year, Port Alice receives an average of 3,299 mm of rainfall and 38 cm of snowfall.

Housing

Port Alice is situated on the side of a mountain and is said to afford everyone a 'million dollar view'. The average cost of a single-family home in Port Alice is \$150,000-\$200,000. A two-bedroom apartment averages a rent of \$650 per month, in limited supply.

Education/Daycare

There is one school in Port Alice, which offers Kindergarten to Grade 10 classes. Grades 11-12 students are bused to nearby Port McNeill, 30 km away.



British Columbia Community Profile...

Port Alice

Recreation

Recreational facilities in Port Alice include an ice arena, a curling rink, a seasonal swimming pool, a weight room, a gymnasium, a golf course, mountain bike trails, campsites, and a lake for swimming. Programs are offered through the local community centre and a variety of clubs and special interest organizations are active here.

Located on beautiful Neroutsos Inlet and known as the place “Where Eagles Soar”, Port Alice is one of Vancouver Island’s wilderness gateways. Both fresh and saltwater activities are enjoyed here including fishing, water-skiing, diving, kayaking and boating. Residents also enjoy hiking, mountain climbing, camping and golf.

Culture

The planned community of Port Alice is proudly maintained, with lovely gardens and tall trees. The new orchid hybrid “Port Alice” has been officially listed at London England in the Royal Horticultural Society’s “Book of Registered Orchid Hybrids”. This new genetic line is completely unique and its development in Port Alice puts the town’s name into “Orchid History”.

Services & Amenities

There are a variety of shops and services available in Port Alice, including a grocery store, a hardware store, a bank, restaurants, a library and postal services. High speed Internet service is available here.

Places of worship serve the Pentecostal, Catholic, Anglican, United, and Seventh-day Adventist faiths.

Health Authority

Port Alice is part of the North Island health service delivery area of Vancouver Island Health. Vancouver Island Health provides a full range of healthcare services to over 700,000 people living on the Vancouver Island, the Northern and Southern Gulf Islands, and some of the remote coastal communities on BC’s mainland. Its services include hospital, community, home, environmental, and public health services, including education and prevention.



British Columbia Community Profile...

Port Alice

Health Authority Continued...

The North Island health service delivery area encompasses 16 communities. Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) provides healthcare services that include acute care facilities, mental health & addictions, environmental and public health, home, and community care. For comprehensive information on Vancouver Island Health Authority, visit their website (see Internet References below).

Internet References

BritishColumbia.com

<http://www.britishcolumbia.com/regions/>

Village of Port Alice

<http://www.portalice.ca>

Statistics Canada (Community demographic information)

<http://www.statcan.ca>

Vancouver Island Health Authority

<http://www.viha.ca>

© Health Match BC