

## LOOKING BACK HOW TIMBERTOP BECAME TIMBERTOP.

By Merle and René Graf

In the summer of 1973, the extension of Mountain Drive (from Bayview Road) with the addition of a cul-de-sac at it's end, was constructed. Along with this were two new cul-de-sacs, branching off to higher elevations close to the end of Mountain Drive. There was a trailer sales office at the road side, crudely placed in the middle of nowhere. A pleasant lady named Fay Dunaway oversaw this office.

On the 26th of September 1973, we purchased the property as Lot 28 (now known as 440 Timbertop) from Dawson Development. Cost: CD \$17,900. The properties around that cul-de-sac, ranged in price from \$17,900 to \$19,800. The road was still gravel-top. There was no hydro power, but the water infrastructure was in place. We built the house ourselves, like most people in the immediate neighbourhood (1 km or more away).

On October 9th 1973, Eileen Fairfield, the then office clerk, issued the first building permit in this new Lions Bay development, on what then was known as 'the new road" or Alberta Street. An alternative consideration was Brunswick Street. Merle did not find the names ALBERTA nor BRUNSWICK conducive to the area. There was not much of an ocean view, but instead, lots of trees and tree tops could be seen. Eileen Fairfield declined Merle's suggestion and countered that the closest available would be 'Timber View Place' or 'View Place'. 440 View Place was entered. There was no bargaining with Eileen!

In November 1973, the gravel road was paved with asphalt from Bayview Road all the way to the top, as it is today. That Christmas was a quiet one at 440 Timbertop, — uhhhh — I mean 440 View Place.

On March 1st, 1974, we moved into our unfinished house (a bit earlier than officially proclaimed!), which we had built with power from a diesel generator. On the 30th of July, 1974 we requested power with BC HYDRO, with an affidavit from our closest neighbours at that time, (Jill and Stanley Eby of 230 Mountain Drive). The affidavit stated that we had in fact moved in and lived there permanently since May 25th 1974.

The generator was not too reliable, although more often than not, it started after umpteen pulls. Also, it was somewhat unconventional to run it at night time. Definitely no disturbances noted by anyone due to noise.

Another effort was made that year with a request is sued to the Lions Bay Village Office, that 'View Place' is to

The Seagull

be named Timbertop. We partitioned then councillor Bob DeWolf. It was discussed at the Council Meeting, still chaired by Curly Stewart, and accepted.

Henceforth: TIMBERTOP. We are still not sure today, whether its referred to as Road, Place or simply Timbertop. Either way, our 30 years of Lions Bay have been unsurpassed and no regrets.

Total NET Tax paid to the Village of Lions Bay

for a full year: 1974 \$ 31.34 1975 \$ 243.71 1976 \$ 391.45 1977 \$ 421.16

1978 \$ 386.81 (Tax reduction implemented by then Mayor Curly Stewart)

1979 \$ 326.74 1980 \$ 420.86



An early glimpse of Timbertop.