

CLOGGING REPORT FOR BD FED

Clogging is alive & well in BC still. All groups are back to dancing in-person & enjoying the fact that we can once again be in a room with other people!

Some of the groups will be ending their season in May & spending the summer doing other activities. I can't imagine doing anything else! LOL My groups here in Nanaimo will dance all year unless we have another heat dome! Then it is just too hot to dance.

I (Barb) seem to be the only one travelling this year, but I know there are others who are making plans to travel to Nashville, TN for our annual Convention there over the American Thanksgiving weekend. I attended the Northwest Clogging Assoc annual workshop in Sept '22 in Vancouver, WA, the CLOG Ntl Convention in Austin TX in Nov, & Possum Trot workshop in Oxnard, CA in March. Plans are now under way for several of us to meet in Kelowna the first weekend in June for the Clogover Vine workshop sponsored by Barb Bizovie & her amazing group.

This was the last year for our Clogging workshop here on Vancouver Island. After 30 years of hosting, we made the very difficult decision to retire the Sealion. A number of factors contributed to that decision – the changing weather that make travel in BC in November difficult, the ferry cancellations that affect many people coming & going from the Island, rising costs of everything from rooms to ferries & food, & a lack of support from Island Cloggers. In fact, we were not sure until a month before the event if we would even have enough people to make expenses. It is bittersweet knowing we will not be having another Sealion Stomp on the Island, but there are a lot of other workshops to attend.

We did have a little discussion about hosting a BC Clogging Festival but so far it has not made it off the ground. With the June workshop in Kelowna, it is just too hard to find another date that doesn't conflict with timing. It's not fair to anyone to have another event too close to that one.

Everyone's numbers are down this year, but we all hope to be able to increase them with a little work. There will be an intro to Clogging at the workshop in Kelowna in June for anyone interested. That will be held on Saturday. Contact Barb Bizovie if you are interested.

Respectfully submitted by Barb Guenette
Vancouver Island Clogging Instructors Association