

## Island Life

Written by  
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Vancouver Island is a unique place and though the geographical location is different, we find the pace to be very "Caribbean". By that I mean that there is a relaxed atmosphere here that requires some adjusting to. No one is in a hurry here and if the speed limit is at 60km, it's rare to find someone actually travelling that fast. When we decided to purchase the new car, the salespeople were so casual. There was no pressure at all, in fact they suggested that we go home and think about it first. It was difficult to convince them that we wanted to make a deal and accept our deposit. When we shop, it is easy to find parking spots and in plazas there are lots of spots near the entrances.

Yesterday, while we were at the Show N' Shine in Qualicum Beach, there was an announcer informing the viewers of various facts, highlights etc. He was helping people locate each other and four times announced the recovery of purses, large quantities of money, bank cards and raffle tickets which had been turned in by honest citizens. It was very heart-warming to witness such honesty in a crowd of thousands and it is so common here.

It is an island that offers beautiful salt-water beaches with ocean views, fresh water lakes, mountains and thick forests. It has a bevy of recreational activities for all levels; surfing, waterskiing, hiking, bicycling, rock climbing, swimming, whale watching, fishing, snow skiing and kayaking are just a few. The weather is moderate and when it is rainy, it is short lived. It is nice to experience all of this beauty knowing that we are in Canada and it is times like this that I am especially proud to be a Canadian!