

SVIMS

South Vancouver Island Mycological Society

Meeting and Presentation

When: Thursday, Apr 4, 2019,
7:00 pm

Where: Pacific Forestry Centre
506 W. Burnside Road
Saanich, BC

What: A talk on



"Fungi that grow on dung"

A look at the so-called "coprophilous fungi," mushrooms that grow on animal feces. This talk will survey the taxonomy, ecology, and pharmaceutical importance of these fungi, and, interestingly, their use in tracking extinct megafauna.

Who: Adolf Ceska (with the help of Oluna)

Adolf and Oluna Ceska left their native Czechoslovakia and arrived in Canada for a temporary stay in 1969. After a period of study at the University of Victoria, the Ceskas, unable to return to their previous lives in Europe, settled down in Victoria. Adolf became curator of vascular plants at the Royal BC Museum. Oluna took a plant-related research job. In the 1990s, she returned to her original academic discipline of mycology. Adolf, after his retirement, began to work more closely with Oluna on her mycological studies.

Adolf and Oluna were part of the group that founded SVIMS. Oluna has been involved in a multitude of research efforts in chemistry and mycology over the years. She has contributed to the discovery of several new fungal species, including some that were found or documented on Observatory Hill. *Cortinarius ceskae* is named in Oluna's honour and UBC offers the annual Oluna and Adolf Ceska Award in Mycology to a graduate student in mycology.