MP Richard Cannings hosts Town Hall on electoral reform

by Art Joyce

The NDP party and MP Richard Cannings hosted a Town Hall meeting on electoral reform the evening of September 1 at the Fireside Inn in Castlegar. Attendance was disappointing but the discussions were lively.

Cannings opened by saying that the NDP “ran on a strong platform of electoral reform in the 2015 election,” and the Town Halls they are hosting across the country are a reflection of their commitment to reform. “The House of Commons set up the electoral reform committee in June and thanks to Nathan Cullen’s motion we got it set up as a proportional representative committee so the Liberals didn’t have a majority there.” The motion also ensured that both the Green party and Bloc Quebecois had a voice in the process.

Cannings outlined the timetable.

Following public consultation, the committee has until December 1 to report back to the House. The Trudeau government has promised to present their plan for electoral reform by April 2017. Elections Canada has until June 2017 to prepare a referendum if necessary, although only the Conservative party is pressing for one. Fall 2017 is deadline for Elections Canada to implement electoral reform and it must begin educating Canadians about the chosen system by May 2019, in time for the October 2019 federal election.

Cannings then provided an overview of the various electoral systems used around the world. Among the principles of effective government mentioned were effectiveness and legitimacy – does the electoral system adopted ensure that the link between voter intention and election of representatives will be strengthened and that the distortion of the popular vote will be reduced? This has been a major problem with our current first-past-the-post system, Cannings explained, creating ‘majority’ governments with a minimum of the popular vote.

Accessibility and inclusiveness is another principle: Does it support access for all eligible voters regardless of physical or social condition? Can it be implemented fairly and with a minimum of complexity? And finally, does it ensure local representation?

The pros and cons of various electoral systems were outlined. With plurality systems, including our current Parliamentary system, the tendency to create majority governments is seen by proponents as a plus – you can get more done. On the other hand, as with the Harper government, this can also mean ‘getting things done’ that go against the majority of Canadian values. The various types of proportional representation (PR), including Single Transferable Vote (STV), Mixed Member Proportional (MMP), or hybrids thereof, generally do a better job of ensuring the proportion of MPs elected is equal to the popular vote they receive. PR systems around the world also tend to elect more women and minority representatives and tend to increase voter participation by 5–7 percent. Globally they are also the most common, used in 83 countries, most notably Spain, Scandinavia and New Zealand. Non-proportional systems such as first-past-the-post are the second most common at 58 countries, including including Canada, the UK, USA and India.

“If we had pro-rep for the last election,” Cannings explained, “the Liberals would lose 45 seats, Conservatives gain 7, Greens would have 10 more seats, the NDP 22, and the Bloc would gain 5 seats.”

MMP systems, in which voters choose both a local and a party representative, tend to create larger ridings. Cannings said, but our current boundaries for both east and west Kootenay ridings would be large enough. MMP is the chosen option of the federal NDP party.

STV is known as a semi-proportional system, and uses a system in which voters rank candidates in order of preference and losing candidates have their votes transferred to winning candidates. This is seen by many as too complex and this card was heavily played by the BC government in the last provincial referendum on reform, which failed. Ireland and Malta use STV. It “works for the Irish and I don’t think they’re that much smarter than we are,” said Cannings. “But I think it would be more useful in electing a city council.”

The preferential or ‘alternative’ ballot system advocated by Prime Minister Trudeau is simpler but also tends to create false majorities, although useful in party elections. Candidates must get 50-plus percent of votes, based on declining scale of choice by voters.

Other issues raised for discussion were lowering the voting age to 16, compulsory voting, and online (digital) voting. Audience members were given two minutes each to state their preference and why. Many expressed serious reservations about online voting due to the potential for hacking, although one young woman said it might increase the youth vote. Unfortunately, the median age of the crowd was 50 so there wasn’t a representative sample of younger people to discuss lowering the voting age. This audience seemed split on the question, although one woman made the point that we should at least be educating our youth about the electoral process. Many present could recall civics classes and mock parlaments in their high school days, something that appears to have mostly disappeared from the curriculum.

The audience was equally split on the urgency for reform; some felt 2019 isn’t nearly enough time to properly educate the public on all the options. Others felt there’s no time to lose. All were agreed, however, that the current first-past-the-post system is in need of reform. One woman, a Green voter, spoke of being “sick and tired of being told I have to vote strategically instead of on my principles or I’ll split the vote.”

Regional Search & Rescue launch training exercises, fundraising

Volunteers also focused on swift water rescue and tracking.

At a Saturday night dinner Andrea Miller and Chris Ryan presented Gord and Barb of the Castlegar Society for Search and Rescue (CSAR) a cheque, some prizes and equipment for the weekend training. Endless Adventures also arranged a Slocan River Adventure for the family members of volunteers attending the training weekend. Along with the fundraising efforts, a photo contest that featured recreation safety awareness had an amazing response. Prize sponsors such as Kokanee Mountain Zipline showcased their safety features.

“Volunteers that do search and rescue provide this region with a much needed service and if there is anything we can do to encourage, inspire and help we are there,” says Ryan.

SAR volunteers in BC are unpaid and make many sacrifices of their time to ensure their skills and abilities are effective when needed. The training weekend was sponsored by FortisBC and the Regional District of Central Kootenay as well as local businesses, including Endless Adventure, Playmor and one young woman said it might increase the youth vote. Unfortunately, the median age of the crowd was 50 so there wasn’t a representative sample of younger people to discuss lowering the voting age. This audience seemed split on the question, although one woman made the point that we should at least be educating our youth about the electoral process. Many present could recall civics classes and mock parlaments in their high school days, something that appears to have mostly disappeared from the curriculum.

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Nearby 100 volunteers converged on Slocan Park for a weekend of real-time exercises testing their skills, including two helicopters performing rescues.
Degroot case still being probed by Independent Investigations Office

by Art Joyce

After nearly two years, the Independent Investigations Office (IIO) of BC is still investigating the police shooting of Peter Degroot in Stocan. It currently stands as the IIO’s longest-running investigation, with the police shooting of Yahk resident Waylon Edey on January 28, 2015 in Castlegar now its sixth longest. Shortly after the October 13, 2014 death of Degroot, sister Danna Degroot issued a public statement that in her opinion he had been “executed” by police. The investigation is currently listed on the IIO website at about 85 percent complete.

A CBC News report dated May 13, 2016 cited the Vancouver-based Pivot Legal Society as expressing concern that some IIO cases are taking 18 months to investigate and are still ongoing. The society is an advocacy group that was formed in the Downtown Eastside with a mandate of fighting poverty and social injustice. “There is a limitation period of two years to start an action in most cases now,” explained Pivot’s Police Accountability campaigner Douglas King, “and people who are directly involved in these incidents, and families who have been affected, that’s often the deadline where they have to decide if they’re going to take action against a police department.”

However, according to the IIO’s Director of Public Engagement and Policy Marten Youssef, some delays are simply beyond their control despite an in-house effort to expedite matters. And he makes a critical distinction: “Just to be clear, the two-year limit is in the case of civil investigations. Our focus is on criminal offenses that may have been committed. Of course, we fully understand that when you’re filing a civil suit, you’d want to have the IIO report; but these are two separate and independent processes that aren’t impacted by the other.”

A victim’s family can still file a civil suit within the two-year deadline and submit reports that come in later, Youssef explained.

Still, as King told the CBC’s Gloria Macarenko, “It’s absolutely brutal, especially for the families of people killed by police, and for the officers themselves, to have to wait that long,” Youssef is sympathetic, and says the IIO is conducting an internal audit of its procedures to see where things can be streamlined.

The agency continues to actively recruit new investigative staff. Current staffing levels are at about 50 and include expertise in legal, investigation or forensics, typically “mature practitioners with a diverse amount of experience.” About half of these are former police officers.

The Degroot investigation continues to be held up by a third-party report whose source Youssef is not at liberty to disclose.

“A lot of the time it’s not just a matter of resources; a number of things impact our reports,” explains Youssef. “One of them is the third party report; another one is our caseload, and of course you can’t predict those. But I do want to make it clear we’re not just accepting that narrative, we’re talking to the external laboratories and the third party reports trying to get them to expedite things.”

Youssef was unable to comment on when the Degroot and Edey reports might be completed, but assures the public that, “An officer-involved fatality is equivalent to a homicide in the level of rigour that’s required.”

Danna Degroot issued the following statement on the first anniversary of her brother’s death:

“We would like to thank every person that gave their love and support over the course of this most traumatic and difficult year. We would like to remember our brother today for the honourable person that he was and we hope that he rests with the knowledge that he was dearly loved.”

Private healthcare lawsuit goes to trial in BC

The lawsuit against Canadian medicare began September 6 at the BC Supreme Court. The plaintiffs – led by Dr. Brian Day, co-owner of the private, for-profit Cambie Corporation – are seeking changes to Canada’s health care system that would mean doctors could charge patients unlimited amounts for all procedures and services, from routine check-ups to hip surgeries.

If successful, the lawsuit would also create an American-style system with parallel private care and insurance (putting private insurance companies in the position to deny patients health care coverage for basic services like visits to the emergency room or cancer treatment). Research shows the new system would mean many Canadians would not be able to afford health care.

The BC Health Coalition (BCHC) and Canadian Doctors for Medicare are intervenors in the case. We will bring key evidence before the courts in defence of Canadians’ access to health care based on need, not ability to pay.

The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) has also issued a statement reaffirming its commitment for a publicly funded, not-for-profit health system for all Canadians. It cites numerous studies concluding that private health insurance leads to longer wait times and increased costs. It anticipated the trial will last at least 24 weeks.
Ministry of Health back-to-school vaccination campaign controversial

by Art Joyce

As part of its back-to-school messaging for September, the BC Ministry of Health is targeting non-vaccinated children not only in households across the province but in the workplace as well. A media release issued by Doctors of BC noted: “After rigorous debate on the need to balance personal freedom and the ability to protect vulnerable children and adults, 58 percent of the 600 physicians in the room voted in favour of BC’s motion...”

According to Vaccine Choice Canada, an emerging body of evidence indicates that vaccines can damage a child’s developing immune system and brain, leading to life-threatening or debilitating disorders like autism, ADHD, asthma, peanut allergy, juvenile diabetes, or SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, also known as ‘crib death’). West says there have yet to be any long-term studies comparing the health of vaccinated with non-vaccinated populations, due to the medical profession’s position that “vaccines are safe and effective” and therefore suspending vaccinations for a control group is unethical.

Often advocates like West are stigmatized as dangerous “anti-vaxxers,” yet many are simply parents whose children have had severe, lifelong or debilitating reactions to vaccines. Even as Canadian vaccine schedules have more than doubled since 1980, children’s health is worse than ever. Today, 10 percent of Canadian children have life-threatening afflictions, with exponential increases in a wide range of childhood diseases. Although causal connections remain scientifically disputed, autism has soared, from 1 in 2,000 in the 1970s and 80s to 1 in 64 according to the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC). One in six children are now considered learning disabled.

Moreover, for those who do choose to vaccinate their children, Dr. Henry says that by kindergarten or Grade 1, “children should have received booster shots that protect against measles, polio, chicken pox, whooping cough and more, and kids in grades 6 and 9 should receive follow-up vaccinations. These immunizations are all part of BC’s free immunization program.”

Dr. Henry says nurses at local public health units can check records for any missing immunizations, administer routine shots and provide vaccination records for parents to provide to schools. Starting this year, students in Grade 9 will be vaccinated against more types of meningitis with a new quadrivalent vaccine booster to prevent meningococcal infection caused by strains A, C, Y, and W-135. However, just as with antibiotics, West cautions, the use of meningococcal vaccines has caused other new strains to emerge.

You can download the Ministry of Health immunization app at: http://www.immunizebc.ca).

Keeping our democracy healthy

submitted by Wayne Siekstra, NDP MP for Kootenay-Columbia

This summer you do not have to look hard or far to find examples of struggles within democratic systems. Whether it is the push and pull of opposing views in Turkey, the deep divisions caused by Brexit or the rise of Donald Trump, democratic systems are suffering.

It is easy for us, as Canadians, to pat ourselves on the back, and say that our democracy is healthy. Yet it is important to remember that what keeps our democracy strong is our ability to have free and open conversations about what matters most to all Canadians. We must also be able to explore where we can improve.

The federal government has committed to making 2015 the last federal election under first-past-the-post election. The existing system has produced false majorities in Canada since before the invention of the automobile. The government created a special parliamentary committee to conduct a study of viable alternate voting systems and recommend changes to how we vote. My NDP colleague Nathan Cullen was able to pressure the Government to change the committee’s structure so that it has injecting the first dose of Hepatitis B vaccine at birth. BC at this time does not have mandatory vaccination laws so the current back-to-school immunization campaign is not compulsory.

However, some public health advocates like Edda West, a director with Vaccine Choice Canada, see this as a direct attack on fundamental human rights. West points out that the CMA resolution contravenes article 24 of its own code of medical ethics: “Respect for the right of a competent patient to accept or reject any medical care recommended.”

“All of the human rights treaties around the world are in favor of informed consent for medical risk taking,” says West. “All vaccines are complex biochemical drugs and parents need to understand that when you inject these combinations of vaccines, you’re always at risk, just as you are with any other pharmaceutical drug, and everybody should know the risks. You can’t make a good decision without being fully informed.”

New York University law professor Mary Holland, in her recent speech at the United Nations 25th International Health and Environment Conference on Vaccination Policies and Human Rights, cited the UNESCO declaration on bioethics and human rights. “Following the medical precautionary principle, the default adult 55+ position for vaccination must be recommendations, not compulsion... (which) not only undermines trust, but limits the fundamental rights to life, liberty, bodily integrity, informed consent, privacy and to parental decision making.”

To ensure the views of Kootenay-Columbia residents are heard, they have a strong voice in Ottawa. I hit the road in August on a ‘Democratic Reform Tour’. I hosted discussions in 14 communities about what type of changes can be made to help improve our voting system. I was joined by citizens of all political stripes, and conversations ranged from mandatory voting, to lowering the voting age, to electronic voting, to discussing the advantages and nuances of different proportional systems. The overall sentiments were virtually unanimous – Canada needs an electoral system that is more fair, representative and engaging.

In addition to the tour, I have also mailed a survey to every household across the riding that can be sent back, postage free, with your thoughts. As always, feel free to contact my offices if you have questions or feedback to add. We have an historic opportunity to improve our unfair voting system. It is important that any changes represent the interest of all Canadians, not just that of those from the party in power. Your voice can help make the difference!
Incongruous Jumbo

My government contact person in the Mountain Resorts Branch tells me there are lengthy high-level discussions going on between government and the proponent of the Jumbo Glacier Resort proposal—that reference to go away by acclamation says the situation presently existing is that the government says since the ‘substantial start’ was not achieved all the licenses and tenures are invalidated too.

Not so, insists the proponent, who asserts these licenses and tenures should apply to the new scaled-down resort plan to build, and it will not be subject to an environmental assessment as it will be less than 2,000 bed units. However, this far, no new plan has been submitted.

Incongruous as it seems, the Master Development Agreement (MDA) of the resort—that was not substantially started is still in place. As is the municipality, which put in a new bridge across Jumbo Creek to the ‘resort side’... go figure, eh?

Rowena Elinie
West Kootenay Coalition for Jumbo Wild

Who would you hire to run the climate?

When we collectively elect a particular party to run the affairs of the province, we are in fact hiring a management company with a CEO. The current contract with the Liberal Party will soon be up for renewal.

The current contract with the Liberal management company with a CEO. The current contract with the Liberal management company with a CEO. The current contract with the Liberal management company with a CEO.

We will not publish anonymous letters or letters signed with pseudonyms, except in extraordinary circumstances. We will not knowingly publish any letter that is defamatory or libelous.

Your address and daytime phone number for verification purposes.

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The Valley Voice
Box 70, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0
Phone: 250-358-7218 Fax: 250-358-7793 E-Mail: valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca Website: www.valleyvoice.ca

Published and printed in British Columbia, Canada

The Valley Voice is distributed throughout the Slocan and Arrow Lake Valleys from South Slocan/Playmor Junction to Edgewood and Kaslo on Kootenay Lake.

Circulation is 7,600 papers, providing the most complete news and advertising coverage of any single newspaper serving this area.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: CANADA $54.60, USA $84.00, OVERSEAS $126.00. E-Mail Subscription $22.40 (Prices include GST)

Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement #40021919
Smart meters: where’s smoke there’s fire

After years of sending information about fires associated with smart meters, and evidence that many had failed, and having witnessed the failure of BCUC that their hands were tied by the Clean Energy Act, I lodged a formal complaint on July 18, 2015 in which I accused BCUC of failing to do its job as mandated by the BC Utilities Act. Under this Act one of BCUC’s prime duties is to ensure that service is provided to the public in a safe and efficient manner. I provided six examples (the many that I have gathered over the years) to support my assertion that smart meters have caused fires, asking that an independent investigation be undertaken by experts in electrical engineering to determine if these devices were safe.

BCUC eventually agreed to review the information I provided, and in February 2016 sent me a draft report, asking for my comments by early March. The draft, while incomplete, was damning. I identified shortcomings and dissatisfied with my charges. The entire draft report with my responses can be found at http://www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/bcuc-staff-report-on-the-customer-complaint-smart-meter-fire-

July-2016.pdf.

On July 28, 2016 BCUC wrote to tell me that no final report would be forthcoming because, and I quote: “At this time your complaint is closed as the evidence reviewed does not demonstrate an increased fire safety risk related to smart meters. However the Commission has determined that there are gaps in reporting of fire incidents where smart meters are involved.”

Despite being many infractions of laws and regulations, BC Hydro and Fortis remove meters from the scenes of fire incidents before an investigation has been completed. The Office of the Fire Commission (OFC) does not receive fire reports in a timely manner and consistently, and fire departments do not call BC Safety Authority to inspect the fire scene whenever the cause of the fire is believed to have been electrical in nature.

There was nothing being tracked of fires, BC Hydro does not track smart meter incidents after installation. The OFC does not have a code for smart meters and merely codes them as “electrical.” Fire departments, in many instances, if not reporting fires with the OFC or are doing so inconsistently or late. Annual reports are therefore incomplete and unaccountable.

Another BCUC’s deficiency when one considers smart meter installations, BCUC does not track fires that have been investigated for the largest communities in BC. Maple Ridge, Burnaby, North Vancouver (City and District), Surrey, Vancouver, Victoria, West Vancouver.

Despite being evidence from electrical engineers and admissions by central office staff that the meters have design flaws that could pose fire hazards, BCUC has decided that there is no reason for concern and that it is up to the complainant – me – to provide sufficient additional evidence to persuade BCUC to do their job. Their formal response to me and my rebuttal can be found at http://www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/BC-HydroFortisBC-

Customer-Complaint-Smart-Meter-Fire-


It’s high time that someone with authority take this matter seriously. Lives are at risk for no reason.

Sharon Noble

Victoria

Time to get serious about carbon taxes

With the recent announcement of Premier Christy Clark’s completely ineffective climate plan, all eyes are now on the federal plan currently being developed. This month we should be hearing recommendations from the four working groups who are exploring different aspects of the climate plan, including carbon pricing. The new federal plan better than these meters are safe. FortisBC’s current targets for cutting emissions are woefully inadequate. Clark has opted not to increase the BC carbon tax, which is fundamental for it to remain effective. Instead, Environment Minister Mary Polak stated that they support “the adoption of BC’s price on carbon continues to be a game changer.” Increasing that price together in an effective and affordable way, once others catch up.

In other words, they are asking for federal leadership.

Frankly, the climate crisis is a lot more urgent than current political discussions in Canada would suggest. This year is expected to be the warmest year on record – beating out 2015 as the previous record holder. Fifteen of the 16 warmest years on record have occurred since 2000. Headlines jump out at us almost every day. The Earth’s average temperature is currently at 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, and it’s on track to exceed 2°C by 2040. Arctic sea ice and Greenland’s ice sheet are melting faster than anyone thought possible. Temperatures recorded in Antarctica have increased by 3°C in the last decade, and sea levels are rising by about 3mm per year.

This is a situation where one bad apple can make the whole bunch bad. If we don’t stop these trends, our world as we know it will become unrecognizable. The science is settled and it’s time to act.

Experts from all camps tell us that: “To avoid climate change, the single most important action we can take is to phase out fossil fuels.”

The lack of responsibility taken by others and are acting in a bear-smart manner but are not desperate… they are simply smart and know that they have the best food in the game. Please do not be bears attracted into our villages, putting our citizens at risk of injury and the bears at risk of bear slaughter this fall. Let’s do our part to make our mark on history, and they will not help you. #4: Manage attractants we humans lay out for them. The bears are in town because they are looking for a food source. Will the discharge was for her to stop her charge. She took a look at me and thanked me to do that towards the highway. Shaken, we left the forest as soon as possible. Once home, I realized that the bear spray I was carrying had expired in 2015. I had practiced with it the week before, but had not replaced it. Then, I also learned that bear spray is not meant to be sprayed on more than one event – i.e., practicing with it and then depending on it in an attack, as doing so breaks the seal and renders it much less effective.

The motility of our mouths are #1: bear spray works. Make sure your bear spray is not expired and that you wear it on your person when out in bear country. Get training and practice using bear spray with a licensed officer. DO NOT run your dog off leash in bear country, even if you think your dog is a “good dog.” #2: Smart bears are not desperate… they are simply smart and know that they have the best food in the game. Please do not be bears attracted into our villages, putting our citizens at risk of injury and the bears at risk of bear slaughter this fall. Let’s do our part to make our mark on history, and they will not help you. #4: Manage attractants we humans lay out for them. The bears are in town because they are looking for a food source. Will the discharge was for her to stop her charge. She took a look at me and thanked me to do that towards the highway. Shaken, we left the forest as soon as possible. Once home, I realized that the bear spray I was carrying had expired in 2015. I had practiced with it the week before, but had not replaced it. Then, I also learned that bear spray is not meant to be sprayed on more than one event – i.e., practicing with it and then depending on it in an attack, as doing so breaks the seal and renders it much less effective.

The politicians who can lead Canada towards a clean energy economy of tomorrow will make their mark on history. All good. Now, let’s get serious about bear safety.

Laura Sacks

Nelson

Fruit = Bears: fundamental changes needed

Much progress has been made in the past few years toward reducing bear attractants in our villages and human settlements. In general, there seems to be an increased awareness of the impact of our actions. Although the bear spray I was carrying had expired in 2015. I had practiced with it the week before, but had not replaced it. Then, I also learned that bear spray is not meant to be sprayed on more than one event – i.e., practicing with it and then depending on it in an attack, as doing so breaks the seal and renders it much less effective.

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Hike or Bike for Housing brings in the all stars

by Rita Moir

It’s really an incredible group of people breaking in their runners, tuning up their bikes, and gathering pledges for the September 30 – October 2 Hike or Bike for Housing, a fundraiser for the seniors’ housing project in Slocan. There’s veteran hiker 91-year-old Lydia Kania, 82-year-old track star Don Currie, 68-year-old farmer and former MLA Corky Evans, and former housing society president Don Munro. Coming from Oliver for the hike will be Susan Harder, recovering from recent heart surgery and in training on her new bicycle.

Why are they doing it? For Lydia Kania, it’s about staying fit and pitching in. She raised almost $8,000 when she hiked the entire 236-kilometre Silvery Slocan route in 1998 at age 73 to raise funds to build Passmore Lodge. “Eighteen years later, at 91, I am doing it again to help build housing in Slocan. There is a great need for low income housing for seniors!” Kania’s gone door-to-door, had great visits with people, and raised more than $5,000 a month before the hike begins. She’s the society’s top fundraiser.

“We see Lydia coming and they take out their chequebooks,” said Slocan Valley Seniors’ Housing Society president Rita Moir. “Of course they want to see housing for seniors in Slocan, but they support Lydia’s incredible drive and will give her anything she asks for. One supporter called her a bionic.”

Don Currie of Slocan, a housing society board member alongside Kania, is a track star in the BC Seniors’ Games. “He’s in the Master Class participating in track and field competitions as a member of the Trail Track and Field Club and Zone 6 BC Seniors Games Society. A long-time peace and justice activist, Currie believes “good affordable housing is a basic need of all: a decent safe place to live brings dignity and worth to one’s life. The project helps fill a growing social need.”

A fact that many seniors people appear in the housing society’s Need and Demand Study: of the 5,000 residents of the Slocan Valley, 48 percent are 50 or older, but there are only 20 units of dedicated seniors’ housing in the Valley, 10 at Passmore and 10 at Bourge Lodge. Also the median income for individuals in Area H is $22,632, lower than the average in the rest of the RDCK, and much lower than the BC median of $28,765.

“We have to plan not only for housing in Slocan, but even more down the road,” says Moir. “These bikers and bikers, old or young, and all the people donating funds, really are investing in the long-term health of our community. We need a multi-aged community, and it’s so great to see that kids from local schools and daycare are coming out to hike as well as these seniors.”

Farmer and former MLA Corky Evans says on his fundraising page: “I am 68. We built a house here a long time ago to raise kids in. Then we built a cemetery so we would have a place to go when this part is done. The missing link is where to spend the time between the active years and the cemetery years. This is the comraderie of our times for my generation. Walk with us or pay us to walk for you. We will all, sooner or later, need a roof among friends.”

Susan Harder, 77, is biking with her grandson. Earlier this year, she underwent open heart surgery to replace her aortic valve. “As daily exercise is a very important ingredient of the recovery process, I decided to enter this fundraiser to prove to myself that I could do it. I will be accompanied on this bike hike by my very supportive grandson, Liam, aged 15. I think, as an aging senior, that this is a very worthy project and I myself can envision living in the lovely Village of Slocan when I can no longer manage my home in Passmore.”

Don Munro was Area H director for several terms and served as board president during fundraising and construction of Passmore Lodge. “I’m coming back from Oliver for this because I’m anxious to see all the people I met during the great 20 years in Vallican and because I remember how successful the original hike was.” Munro, 78, was recently inducted into the Wall of Fame for athletics at the University of Alberta, where he played basketball and football in the 1990s.

And last (but not least), special guest Betty Windsor is assembling her travelling wardrobe of British tweeds, brogues, white gloves, signature clasp purse and crown. Wears her royal personage: “It gives us such great pleasure to be part of such a jolly good effort. We are so looking forward to promoting and helping with this lovely project. After all, we do believe one’s home is one’s castle.”

The Hike or Bike for Housing gets underway Friday, September 30th at the Crescent Valley Rail Trailhead, and runs for three days, with daily celebrations at community halls en route: Passmore Hall the first day, Applede Hall the second day, with the grand finale at the Legion in Slocan at 1 pm Sunday, October 2nd.

For details, brochures, pledge packages or to volunteer call Rita Moir at 250-226-7759 or donate or register online at www.svhousing.ca. All ages are welcome to participate, but for the safety of all involved, please leave your pooches at home. Please look for our information table at the Fall Fair at Winlaw Hall Sept. 11, and come to our AGM at Passmore Lodge at 6 pm on September 13.

Don Currie, 82, a Seniors Games track and field star, will lend his energy to raising funds for Slocan Valley seniors housing.
Lightning storms spark West Kootenay wildfires

by Art Joyce

BC Wildfire Service firefighters the past week were busy responding to 23 lightning-caused wildfires in the Southeast Fire Centre, including both the Arrow and the Cranbrook fire zones rated ‘extreme.’

The three separate fires burning in the Arrow, Kootenay Lake and Cranbrook fire zones rated ‘extreme.’

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COMMUNITY

GLOWS enjoys successful summer of science

submitted

Many young people around the region will head back to school with an enhanced knowledge of science after taking part in Selkirk College summer camps. GLOWS (Growing Learning Opportunities With Science) camps took place in six different communities and more than 100 kids had fun with science during the summer break.

“This summer’s science camps were very successful, as GLOWS received a tremendous amount of positive feedback from campers and parents,” says Beth Corven, GLOWS Program Coordinator.

Camp coordinators traveled to Kaslo, Nakusp, New Denver, Crawford Bay, Trail and Castlegar to teach the various camps. The biology camp involved learning about bacteria, DNA and the human body, with fun activities and lab experiments. In the engineering and physics camps, kids learned teamwork, problem solving and participated in exciting construction projects. Coding camps taught students how to code Lego Mindstorm and Arduino software in order to make functional robots.

GLOWS was founded in 2007 by the Kootenay Association of Science and Technology (KAST). This year, GLOWS began to run under the Community Education and Workplace Training (CEWT) department of Selkirk College in order to reach out and enhance sustainability. This partnership was also beneficial since GLOWS was able to use Selkirk College facilities and resources in the communities, which enhanced learning opportunities.

With the successful summer now in the books, GLOWS will be organizing after-school programs for youth between the ages of six and 13 with a particular focus on girls in engineering. GLOWS anticipates at least one girls-after-school club in engineering, as well as additional physics/engineering clubs for ages six to nine and 10 to 13. Students will take part in teamwork challenges, construction projects, basic coding and learning about the basic principles of science, all with the goal of having fun.

GLOWS plans to return next summer with more exciting camps and experiments, ready to inspire young scientists.

For more information on GLOWS please visit http://glowsonline.ca.

GLOWS is a partnership between the Kootenay Science Centre, including both the Arrow and the Cranbrook fire zones rated ‘extreme.’

COMMUNITY

Feast and Fundraise: Pig Roast set for September 10

submitted

The sixth bi-annual Slocan Valley Community Radio Show is scheduled to go Saturday, September 10 at Slocan Park Hall. Only 100 tickets have been printed and, in addition to the fine dinner, there will be refreshments served.

Every other year, the Kootenay-Slocan Lions organize the popular full course dinner to raise funds for use in valley communities. The pig is supplied by Legendary Meats; Ben and Victoria Carson do the honours with the pig, while Lions members prepare the other foods. Roasting the pig is an all-day event and is a sight and experience in itself.

In past years, the funds generated by the event have gone toward the purchase of first responder equipment for local fire departments, scholarships at Mt. Sentinel High School, and for local school programs as well as reconstruction of the food bank at W.E. Graham in Slocan.

The festivities will start at 4 pm with dinner at 5 pm. Tickets are $20 for adults, $12 for youth under 12 and free for children under six. Tickets are available from any Kootenay-Slocan Lion member. For more information call 226-7476 or 226-6999.

Byron Bell

It quickly spread to 20 hectares but with a night of rain and quick action by crews it was soon contained. Although generating plenty of smoke, it was not threatening any homes or businesses. “We were trying to keep the highway clear up by Koch siding, things were getting a little jammed up there,” said Gord Ihlen, Fire Chief with the Passmore Volunteer Fire Department.

Kaslo residents driving home from Nelson were confronted with smoke in the Coffee Creek area. Two small wildfires were burning about five kilometres north of Queens Bay but are now 100 percent contained.

The separate fires burning about 12 kilometres south of Boswell on the east shore of Kootenay Lake are either in the mop-up or patrol stages, with the exception of the wildfire burning closest to Sanca Creek. As of press time, air tankers, a helicopter and 16 ground crews were working on this 2.2-hectare fire.

Crews were also dispatched to fight fires near Ymir and Salmo. The fire danger rating in most of the Southeast Fire Centre is currently ‘high,’ with some areas in the Arrow, Kootenay Lake and Cranbrook fire zones rated extreme.’

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Kaslo Community Garden will be active into the fall

submitted

The Kaslo Community Garden (KCCG) is an active organization with 30 current members, 20 of whom work. 13 plots growing a variety of crops. Some of the plots are raised beds, but most remain ground level: there are two ‘help yourself’ plots which appear to be largely ignored at the current time. However, crops are harvested from these allotments for the Food Hub, a member that also grows food in the garden.

The garden plays host to a variety of fruit trees and shrubs – blueberries, raspberries, strawberries, grapes, apples, plums and pears – although some of the trees are young and have yet to produce a large amount of fruit. This year the blueberry and raspberry crops were magnificent.

The garden has a shed which holds a variety of tools for members’ use. Last fall the gardeners had a ‘shed-raising’ which included replacing some rotting boards at the base. There is a wash station and watering posts, with seepage hoses and timers, are located at the base. There is a raising which included replacing some boards at the base. There is a wash station and watering posts, with seepage hoses and timers, are located throughout the garden.

A school program is part of the garden’s routine. In the spring, two classes went to the garden weekly to do planting, maintenance and rock-picking. It has been a successful program and during the hot summer months the Food Hub received some crops from the school garden. When school resumes students will return to the gardens and help with maintenance jobs and harvest. There will be a large harvest (hopefully) of beans and squash.

One interesting experiment that took place in the garden this year was the use of sheep’s wool as a mulch on a potato crop. It appeared to work effectively and a marvelous haul of red potatoes was harvested.

The garden participated in this summer’s Edible Garden Tour with a workshop on Building Healthy Soils presented by Tammara Schwartzmeifer.

Kaslo renames street to honour the Higashis

They were involved in many community activities. Aya had a great sense of service to her community. She was an ambitious community and always interested and proud of what became of her former students; they, in turn, invited her to their weddings and special events. She retired in 1984 after more than 40 years of teaching.

She and Buck were active in the community where they enjoyed golf, curling, square dancing and many other social activities. Buck had been an accomplished baseball player and Aya had taught baseball to many students at her schools. Buck was also an accomplished golfer and won a number of golf tournaments and some of his trophies are on display at the Kaslo Golf Club. Over his career he scored several holes in one including two in one week! Buck and Aya loved to travel, especially in their RV, crossing Canada about 30 times. Together they took a memorable trip to Japan to visit family.

Celebrate volunteers and development of the garden

The Community Fund of North Kootenay Lake Society (CFNKLS) hosts a celebration of North Kootenay Lake non-profits to be held on Saturday, September 24 at the Kaslo Legion from 3:15 to 5 pm. The first session took place in June and helped participants learn how to conduct ‘sensing’ interviews, to help get a sense of the potential needs of the community. Cooper developed her interviews in the North Kootenay Lake area by the end of July.

At the second lab in August, participants designed prototype projects from ideas that grew out of their interviews. Cooper developed her project from her idea of a celebration day where there will be one more Learning Lab in October to bring participants together to share the results of their prototype projects.

Cooper says she has felt much enthusiasm and gratitude for the entire experience as it has enabled her to explore the society’s vision of thriving and resilient rural communities of North Kootenay Lake, and increasing CFNKLS visibility in these communities. Its mission is to build permanent endowment funds and distribute the income to empower the communities of North Kootenay Lake.

Kaslo Concert Society announces new season

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New Denver vault toilet controversy persists

by Art Joyce

Something doesn’t smell so sweet in New Denver these days. With Village council going ahead with the installation of vault toilets as part of its trail upgrade project, many residents and business owners aren’t happy with the plan. Council has so far received a petition with 23 signatures from New Denver business owners – almost the entire business community – opposing to the toilets. Resident Jill Parry says another petition has been signed by approximately 140 people, both residents and visitors. To these citizens, council’s determination to press ahead with the plan despite substantial opposition represents a failure of local democracy.

“I’m frustrated and disillusioned with the entire process,” says Parry. “I feel the mayor and council have had their own agenda from the beginning.”

“When you’re applying for a CBT grant you’re supposed to have done some public outreach and consensus building but that wasn’t done,” agrees Dave Harley, co-owner of Sweet Dreams B&B.

Laurie Langford, co-owner of Sweet Dreams B&B and a veteran of tourism planning in the Kootenays, says downtown businesses were not consulted on the plan. A structural assessment of the Bosun Hall is due this month and many in the community see it as a logical place for a public washroom. Council agrees but doesn’t see that happening anytime soon. The Silvery Slocan Museum was also rejected by Village administration as a solution to the problem due to concerns about its aging septic system. But the Village felt it needed to act. “Our crew picks up feces on a regular basis from the vault toilets,” adds Mayor Ann Bunka, “we’re getting contacted by the same number who are thankful for it, but they’re just quieter about it.” She says that because this was the third time the Village has applied for the trail upgrade project with no objections voiced in the past, council didn’t anticipate any time this year. “In the ‘lessons learned’ department,” admits Mayor Bunka, “probably we should have had an earlier public meeting.”

Although some would like to see some intervention from the CBT, Recreation Infrastructure program head Rick All says it’s not their role to manage projects once the application has been approved. Applicants are asked to submit letters that demonstrate “broad community support,” and such letters were submitted with the Village’s application. “Our job is to provide the due diligence up front,” explains Delphi Hoodikoff, CBT Director of Communications. “Unless there’s a significant deviation in the scope or scale of the project, we don’t get involved.”

That said, both Allen and Hoodikoff agreed that if conditions change significantly during the planning or delivery of the project, there’s the flexibility for project proponents to make adjustments to the plan as originally submitted. “But generally we refer opponents to the proponent in hopes that they can work out a collaborative solution,” says Allen.

Vault toilets or outhouses aren’t actually legislated so Interior Health does not require permits for them. Some opponents are concerned about the potential health risks they present from airborne faecal matter. But Courtney Hesketh, Manager of Environmental Health at IH, doesn’t see a major risk. “For bacteria and viruses to become airborne they have to become aerosolized, so with a vault privy that’s not a concern because it’s going into an underground tank.” However, she said regular maintenance is key to managing risk. Hesketh consulted with the Village and says they went the extra mile by installing charcoal filters on the vent stacks to manage odours. But Harley isn’t reassured by IH’s statement. He’s prepared to hire specialists who can set up monitoring equipment for ground pollution and airborne effluent. “If people have concerns,” says Hesketh, “they can always contact Interior Health and we can send an inspector.”

Langford says some cycle tour operators are already diverting to Kaslo due to the better services available there. Local cycle tour operators Jorg and Ulli Becker have hosted cycling tours internationally and say in thirty years of experience most cyclists prefer full washroom facilities. “You’re sweaty when you’re cycle touring, so you want facilities with running water so you can wash,” says Ulli. “It feels welcoming to have that.”

Langford cites numerous tourism studies that confirm proper public facilities are a vital element in attracting and maintaining visitor traffic. “First impressions do count and this doesn’t give a very good impression of New Denver,” says Langford. “If you meet visitors and give them the highest level of service, you give them a better connection to the community.”

at the Valley Voice, 250-226-6712, Fax: 250-226-7351

COMPUTER

With Village council going ahead with the installation of six vault toilets in New Denver as part of its trail upgrade project, many residents and business owners aren’t happy with the plan. Council has so far received a petition with 23 signatures from New Denver business owners – almost the entire business community – opposing to the toilets.

September 7, 2016

While Interior Health monitors the conditions of the vault toilets, New Denver is facing opposition to the plan from many residents.

What does Sweet Dreams B&B offer in terms of washroom facilities?

Sweet Dreams B&B offers modern washroom facilities, including running water and proper ventilation systems. This makes it highly attractive to tourists and provides a better experience compared to the vault toilets proposed by the Village.

How does the Village address the concerns raised by the community members?

The Village acknowledges the concerns raised by the community members and is looking for alternative solutions. They have already rejected the Silvery Slocan Museum as a location for a public washroom. However, the Village feels it is necessary to proceed with the plan due to tourism planning in the Kootenays.

What are the concerns raised by the local cycle tour operators Jorg and Ulli Becker?

Jorg and Ulli Becker, operators of the local cycle tour services, have made a point of visiting Kaslo due to the better washroom facilities available there. They prefer full washroom facilities as they ensure a better experience for the cyclists. They believe that modern washroom facilities are essential for maintaining tourist traffic.

What is the stance of Interior Health on the vault toilets proposal?

Interior Health monitors the conditions of the vault toilets to ensure that they meet safety requirements. However, they are concerned about the potential health risks presented by airborne faecal matter. They advise regular maintenance as a key to managing these risks.
The real-life inspiration for Lucid Interval is a temporary improvement in a patient’s condition after a traumatic brain injury, after which the condition deteriorates. Usually indicative of an epidural hematoma, it’s also known as ‘talk and die’ syndrome because some patients suddenly become lucid just prior to death. Tina was sent home the first evening from hospital with two garbage bags of her husband’s clothes, since he was not expected to survive. It was that first harrowing 24-hour period that gave rise to the emotional roller coaster depicted in her performance. Fernando spent a week in hospital recovering and eventually had to be readmitted for a serious blood clot that had developed in his leg. The couple have two preschool-age children, Pascal and Sebastian. Now fully recovered, he says the aftermath of his brain injury has left him with a permanently altered sense of smell.

A ‘lucid interval’ is a temporary improvement in a patient’s condition after a traumatic brain injury, after which the condition deteriorates. Usually indicative of an epidural hematoma, it’s also known as ‘talk and die’ syndrome because some patients suddenly become lucid just prior to death. Tina was sent home the first evening from hospital with two garbage bags of her husband’s clothes, since he was not expected to survive. It was that first harrowing 24-hour period that gave rise to the emotional roller coaster depicted in her performance. Fernando spent a week in hospital recovering and eventually had to be readmitted for a serious blood clot that had developed in his leg. The couple have two preschool-age children, Pascal and Sebastian. Now fully recovered, he says the aftermath of his brain injury has left him with a permanently altered sense of smell.

The real-life inspiration for Lucid Interval arose from a head injury suffered by Fernando two years ago while the couple were in a small community near Zagreb. The Knox Hall in New Denver was filled with a rapt audience means the show can change from one performance to the next. In Hofman’s case the result is a visceral embodiment of the tortuous emotions experienced in the immediate surge of grief following the loss of a loved one. Early on she relates an old Croatian proverb (also found in the Bible): “Don’t let the sun go down on your anger.” It’s especially poignant as the mind churns up repetitive, self-accusing thoughts about the last things we said to a loved one before death. We’ve all experienced those thoughts that just won’t let go and Tina embodies this with rapid-fire, machine-like repetitions that stutter like a stuck CD. By the end of the show it’s as if she’s turned herself inside out, leaving both herself and her audience raw and exhausted. It’s rare that we get to see this type of unconventional theatre, although local performers Paul Gibbons and Tsuneko ‘Koko’ Kokubo are veterans of the avant-garde theatre scene in Vancouver. Kokubo recently employed physical theatre to accompany Regeneration, the Touchstones Nelson exhibition of her artwork. She partnered in the dance with Nelson architect and dancer Thomas Loh, another local veteran of avant-garde theatre.

“When there are potentially ambiguous elements in theatre people tend to create their own meanings,” says Gibbons. “That to me is the most interesting form of theatre, because it may not always work, but when it works it’s incredible.”

The couple have toured Fringe Festivals across Canada and alternate living between Birmingham and Zagreb. In years past they have produced plays in the Silverton Gallery and maintain close friendships here, although it’s been 11 years since their last visit. “We definitely felt the country was not as welcoming under Stephen Harper,” says Fernando. “And then two years ago as we were preparing to return, I had my accident.” They hope to return next year for a visit. For more information visit www.facebook.com/lucidintervaltheatre/
RDCK Household Hazardous Waste Round-Up

submitted

Time again to clean out your garden, garage and under the kitchen sink to safely get rid of toxic chemicals such as pesticides, oils, cleaners, and unknown liquids. The Regional District of Central Kootenay is holding six Household Hazardous Waste Round-up events. These community events offer free disposal for RDCK residents. No industrial or commercial hazardous waste will be accepted.

New for this year, the RDCK is partnering with local food banks and will accept non-perishable food donations at all events.

“This has been a valuable and extremely well received program for our folks and the feedback has been all positive,” says RDCK Joint Resource Recovery Committee Chair Ann Banks. “We are pleased to continue this important service across the region.” Residents may especially be interested in using this opportunity to safely dispose of their motor oil products if they do not already have a receiving depot nearby.

Nakusp arena, October 1, 11 am – 2 pm; Silverton Public Works yard, October 2, 11 am – 2 pm.

Check the RDCK website www.rdck.ca for updates and a complete list of acceptable waste. For information on BC’s product stewardship programs, including depot locations, visit www.ecbc.ca; call 1-800-667-4321.

COMMUNITY

VSSM dedicates grand piano to Holly Heuther Wiseman

by Art Joyce

An appreciative audience filled Silverton Memorial Hall the evening of September 3rd for the dedication of the Valhalla Summer School of Music concert grand piano to the memory of Holly Heuther Wiseman. Holly died in a car crash in 2004. Fittingly, the dedication was accompanied by a concert of classical music featuring her daughter Maeghan Wiseman on harp and Heather Heuther on cello.

Judith Maltz was featured on piano for some pieces. The music was accompanied by interludes of poetry read by Roger Lewis and slides of beautiful images from around the world. Tyler Wiseman produced the images and played cello in the second half. The musical program offered a varied selection of classics that included pieces by Fauré, Bach, Brahms, Debussy, Massenet and others. One listener described the music as “like a religious experience.”

Kirsten Sumrall introduced the evening with a brief overview of VSSM’s history and its founding by Heather Heuther in 1999. The germ of the idea began in 1995 and according to Sumrall, “she wanted it to be in Silverton and she wanted it to enhance the community, bring commerce to the area but most importantly she wanted to make music education accessible to everyone.” Sumrall recalled seeing cello students practicing everywhere in the community, in the Silverton Gallery, the basement of the hardware store, and even peoples’ garages and living rooms. Classes were also held at Lacemere school in New Denver thanks to a shuttle van. In addition to piano and cello, instruction was offered in violin and viola.

“The whole family was involved,” said Sumrall. “Ruth, Heather, Holly, Tim and the kids. During every camp there was a celebration dinner that was either on the lawn at the day park or the Gallery lawn.”

In the wake of the tragedy of Holly’s death it was decided a fitting way to honour her memory would be to raise funds for a Yamaha Concert Grand Piano. Sumrall credited instructors Jamie Syer and Arne Sahlen as major players in the fundraising campaign. “Arne got us to purchase keys and had every crazy idea you could think of to help us raise the money.” Sadly Sahlen was unable to attend the event due to illness but sent a statement saying that he was honoured to have been part of it.

Jamie Syer introduced the concert program by reminiscing about the early days of the Valhalla Summer School of Music, recalling times when the Memorial Hall was a shadow of its present self. Before money was raised for the Holly Heuther Wiseman Memorial piano, he recalls VSSM having to truck pianos into the community, which were often sold off at discount rates once the summer school was finished. “And as the fame of VSSM grew, it drew students from the Okanagan and even further afield. But what made it special was that the school was based here in Silverton.”

Heather Heuther now resides in Walla Walla, Washington but is still a regular at VSSM, now known as Valhalla Fine Arts (VFA). Sumrall said she is an inspirational and well-loved cello instructor. “The programs have changed, grown and in some ways shrunk,” she said. “But the underlying joy and the heart of VFA come from the wonderful beginning it had. The heart and soul that inspired Holly to make music for everyone still continues.”

5545 Slocan River Road

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bill@billlander.ca

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Real Estate

Slocan Valley Historical Society had a float in the parade at Slocan’s first Family Fair Day, September 3.
Dementia workshops this month in the region

submitted

The Alzheimer Society of BC will be presenting dementia education in the upcoming months. For more information, please call 250-365-6769 or 1-855-301-6742.

Some highlights include:
- Understanding Dementia: Basic dementia and their care partners to learn about dementia, explore strategies for coping with changes and maximizing quality of life, and review information on planning for the future. Cost: $5 per person, per session. Registration is required. To register, call 250-365-6769 or 1-855-301-6742 or e-mail: j.leffelaar@alzheimerbc.org.
- Five Wednesdays: Oct. 12, 19, 26, Nov. 9 & 16, 1–3 pm, Covenant Church at the Junction, 2840 Eden Road, South Slocan.

Understanding Behaviour & Communication

Changes in the brain due to Alzheimer’s disease or another form of dementia often appear as changes in the person’s behaviour. Caregivers will learn how to understand and explore strategies for determining what the patient might be trying to communicate, and finding ways to decrease the occurrence of unwanted behaviours. No cost, but donations are welcome. To register, call 1-855-301-6742 or e-mail: j.leffelaar@alzheimerbc.org.

Disability bus pass clawback takes effect

Meanwhile, although it didn’t comment on the bus pass issue, the Ministry of Children and Social Innovation says that legislation that makes it easier for some people with disabilities to receive disability assistance is now in effect.

People in the following provincial or federal programs will complete a much simpler Persons with Disabilities (PWD) application process for determination of eligibility. People with disabilities and their families, and will reduce red tape for people with disabilities, and their families, and will also cut paperwork for doctors and other health-care professionals.

Disability Employment Month in BC

This September, British Columbia will celebrate inclusive employers and the contributions of people with disabilities in the workplace with the third-annual Disability Employment Month.

This recognition of meaningful employment for people with disabilities is an integral part of Accessibility 2024, the 10-year action plan to make BC the most progressive province in Canada for people with disabilities.

WorkBC Employment Services Centres will host open houses, job fairs and workshops to highlight the range of services and supports available to help job seekers with disabilities, as well as resources for employers who want to hire people with disabilities and build inclusive workforces.

Job seekers and employers can contact their local WorkBC Employment Services Centre to learn more about inclusive hiring resources and services and supports to help people with disabilities obtain employment.
### Nakusp Council August 22

**Chicken bylaw passed, but no roosters allowed**

- Nakusp Council passed a bylaw requiring chickens to be kept only for personal use, not for the sale of meat or eggs.
- The bylaw prohibits the keeping of backyard hens, except in the case of eggs and chickens that are kept for personal consumption.
- The bylaw was approved unanimously by the council members.

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### Boil Water Notice issued for Burton Water System

**Rules of the road: Resource roads regularly**

- The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) has issued a Boil Water Notice for Burton Water System.
- The boil water notice is due to the presence of low levels of E. coli bacteria and turbidity in the water supply.
- Owners and users of resource roads must boil water for one minute before use.
- The boil water notice is in effect until further notice.

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### Safety information for drivers on resource roads

- When driving on resource roads, drivers should:
  - Slow down when approaching curves or dips.
  - Maintain a safe following distance from other vehicles.
  - Use extreme caution when driving up or down steep grades.
  - Be aware of wildlife and other hazards.

---

### Toadlets get helping hands by the bucketful

- Volunteers have been helping to move the toadlets across the road at Summit Lake by using buckets.
- The toadlets are moved in groups of 300 to 500, and downed vehicles are stopped to allow the toadlets to pass.
- The volunteers have observed that the toadlets are moving up to six miles per hour.
- The toadlets are also being monitored by cameras to track their movements.

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### Presentation on mid-elevation Arrow Lakes Reservoir scenarios

- A presentation on mid-elevation Arrow Lakes Reservoir scenarios was given to the Public Information Office (PIO) of the Columbia River Treaty.
- The presentation covered the impacts of increased water levels on the Arrow Lakes reservoir.
- The presentation was well-received and the attendees were satisfied with the information provided.

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### KITTENS! KITTENS! MORE KITTENS! Cute, cuddly, playful kittens, curious and active, ready to go to your home!

- Phone PALS at 250-265-3782 for more information.
- Reserve your table at the Nakusp & The Arrow Lakes to erect a 6’ x 2’ black metal silhouette sign was approved.

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### Weekly Sponsor: Water Kirke Realtys

- Weekly Sponsor: Water Kirke Realtys
- Phone: 250-265-3635
- Website: www.waterkirke.com

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### Brittney Taylor's Report

- Brittney Taylor's report was submitted, covering topics such as the budget, the purchase of a new computer, and the purchase of a new printer.
- The report was approved by the council members.

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### Nakusp & The Arrow Lakes

- The Valley Voice is a community newspaper in Nakusp.
- The newspaper covers local news, events, and other community-related topics.
- The newspaper is published weekly.

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### Hands Craft Fair

- The Hands Craft Fair is an annual event in Nakusp.
- The fair features a wide variety of handmade goods and crafts.
- The fair is held in the community hall.

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### Arrow Lakes Reservoir

- The Arrow Lakes Reservoir is a major water storage facility.
- The reservoir is used for hydroelectric power generation.
- The reservoir is located in the Columbia River Valley.

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### Columbia River Treaty

- The Columbia River Treaty is a bilateral treaty between Canada and the United States.
- The treaty governs the management of the Columbia River and its tributaries.
- The treaty was signed in 1964 and entered into force in 1974.

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### Columbia River Valley

- The Columbia River Valley is a region in British Columbia, Canada.
- The valley is known for its agriculture, recreation, and tourism.
- The valley is located between the Rocky Mountains and the Selkirk Mountains.

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### British Columbia

- British Columbia is a province of Canada.
- The province has a population of approximately 5 million.
- The province is known for its beautiful landscapes, diverse wildlife, and rich history.

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### Under the Rural Dividend Grant program

- The Rural Dividend Grant program is a federal program that provides financial assistance to rural communities.
- The program is designed to help communities invest in local economic development.
- The program is administered by the federal government.

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### Marketing and Tourism Action Development Plan

- The Marketing and Tourism Action Development Plan is a strategic plan for the development of the tourism and marketing sectors in British Columbia.
- The plan is designed to increase the number of visitors to the province and to improve the quality of the visitor experience.
- The plan is administered by the provincial government.

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### BC Hydro

- BC Hydro is the provincial government's crown corporation responsible for the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity in British Columbia.
- The corporation was established in 1957.
- The corporation is headquartered in Vancouver, British Columbia.
New school year, new curriculum, tax credits

submitted

“We have a lot to be proud of here in British Columbia,” says Minister of Education Mike Bernier. “Student outcomes continue to improve. Today, 15 per cent more students are graduating than in 2001.”

The ministry’s new curriculum has been phased in over the last year for K-9, and a draft curriculum for grades 10-12 is ready this year for optional use and feedback. A new core skill is coming into the schools – computer coding. Bernier calls it “a way of teaching critical thinking and logic skills.” Six million dollars will go to teacher training and technology purchases, he says.

Students in grades 10 to 12 will write provincial exams in two core subjects – literacy and math. These are the courses universities and colleges look at during admissions. Science and social studies will get “rigorous classroom-based exams assessments, tests and projects to measure student progress.”

Bernier also trusted the BC Training and Education Savings Grant, which offers $1,200 to kick-start savings for post-secondary education of kids born in 2006 or later.

For further details visit: New Curriculum: www.curriculum.gov.bc.ca BC Training and Education Savings Grant: www.gov.bc.ca/ bcic/ Tax Credits: www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/home/ featured-services/services/ parent-tax-credits

BC Liberals “starving” education, NDP says

submitted

While the BC Minister of Education says there is a lot to be proud of in the school system, the NDP decries it.

As Christy Clark continues to starve school budgets, parents and teachers are being forced to pay for the basics,” says New Democrat leader John Horgan.

“Across the province, parents and teachers are being forced to pay pocket – not for extras, but for the basics.”

He cites playground equipment and materials for physical and music classes as costs parents are expected to pay.

“When the BC Liberals announced a school coding program, some schools had to go to parents just to buy functional computers… The increasing education costs being passed to parents and teachers reveal the gaping holes the BC Liberals have deliberately created in our public education system.

Horgan says that since 2001, the Liberals “have dragged public education to the point of ruin.”

School’s back – keep kids safe!

Drivers: Every school day, unless otherwise posted, a 30 km/h speed limit is in effect in school zones from 8 am to 5 pm. Watch for dropping off your children in school zones, allow them to exit the car on the safe side, keep traffic back.

If a vehicle’s stopped in front of you or in the lane next to you, they may be yielding to a pedestrian, so proceed with caution and be prepared to stop. Watch for school buses. Vehicles approaching from both directions must stop for school buses when their lights are flashing.

Before getting into your vehicle, walk around it to make sure no small children are hidden from your view. Always look for pedestrians when you’re backing up.

Single Parent Employment Initiative reaches milestone

Thousands of British Columbia parents are building a brighter future for their children, thanks to the Single Parent Employment Initiative (SPEI), a unique government program that was launched one year ago by the Ministry of Social Development and Social Innovation.

Since September 2015, the Single Parent Employment Initiative has served nearly 3,400 single parents. About 400 people are currently in training programs, nearly 500 people are in job placement programs, nearly 500 are in job training programs, nearly 500 are working with a case manager to best determine their future career path. Dozens of people are joining the program every week.

The Single Parent Employment Initiative removes barriers that single parents on income assistance can face when returning to the workforce through up to 12 months of funded training for in-demand jobs or work experience placements, child care costs, transportation assistance and employment readiness workshops. Participants are able to remain on income or disability assistance while enrolled in the program.

The Single Parent Employment Initiative improves coverage. Participants have already found employment and others are working with a case manager to best determine their future career path. Dozens of people are joining the program every week.

The Single Parent Employment Initiative is a priority within the Province’s B.C. Skills for Jobs Blueprint. For more information and profiles of successful SPEI participants visit: www2.gov.bc.ca/SingleParentEmploymentInitiative
A Wanderer’s Paradise. Where the journey is the destination.

Golf Courses

Slocan Lake Golf Course - New Denver
Phone: 250-358-2408 www.slgc.ca gothehills.com
9 HOLE GOLF COURSE - NO LIFEGUARD NECESSARY
Greens fees: $39/hole or $153/18 holes.
Rental clubs, golf carts and pull carts available
Ladies’ Night - Tuesday 4-00 pm - Guests welcome.
Men’s Night - Wednesday 4-00 pm - Guests welcome.
Tournaments: Bunkers/Hole Crowns /Tournaments - Sat. or Sun. RESTAURANT open Tues-Sun 11am-9pm

Kaslo Golf Course - Kaslo
Phone (250) 353-2262 www.kaslogolf.org
9-HOLE GOLF COURSE - NO LIFEGUARD NECESSARY
Greens fees: $29.95/hole, $159/18 holes, $228 twilight rate
Powers Cart: $61.95/hole, $110/18 holes, $192/9 holes
Restaurant & Bar and patios available (free club rentals for motorists)
RESTAURANT open 8am - 8pm
Please join us in any of the following regular events and get to know the members:
Men’s Night - Thursday 6-30 pm, Ladies’ Day - Tuesday 6-30 pm
Senior Men - Wednesday 9-3pm

Museums

Nkiiel Internmement Memorial Centre
National Historic Site - New Denver
(250) 358-7288
nkwendenner.ca/nkiiel 360 Josephine St, New Denver, BC.
Open: Tues- Fri 10am-5pm. Closed: Jan 1, 2nd Wed, Dec 25.
The only historic site in Canada dedicated to telling the story of the WWI internment of Japanese Canadians in the West Kootenay. Interactive displays, original internment artifacts and period artifacts offer visitor’s an immersive experience in this extraordinary period in Canadian history.

Slocan Valley Museum - New Denver
(250) 358-2205 TheoldbuildingofMuseumbuildingatthefrontNew-Denver’s main street, remote to circa 1900. Special tour welcome. 250-358-2201 or 250-358-2565 for further information. Hope to see you!

Sandon Museum & Visitors’ Centre - Sandon
(250) 358-7920 sandonmuseum.com
Open 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Located 13 km east of New Denver on Hwy 61A in historic silver mining ghost town. Collections of mining photographs and fascinating artifacts. Admission (Cash only): 18 & over: $5.00, 12-17 yrs and Seniors $3.00, Children under 12 and Members Free. Family $20.00.

S.S. Moyie National Historic Site - Kaslo
Ph/Fax: (250) 353-3255 klhs.bc.ca
324 Front Street, Kaslo, BC. Visit the world’s oldest distinct passenger shipwreck in Kaslo. A historic gem located on the shores of Kootenay Lake! A 19th century shipwreck, beautifully restored! Free access from anywhere in the Kootenays. Open daily.

The Langham Cultural Centre - Kaslo
(250) 353-2661 thelangham.ca
447 Avenue, Kaslo. Built in 1896, the Langham is a national historic site and the centre for art and culture in Kaslo. Art exhibitions in our two galleries, live performances in our theatre. During WWII, Japanese Canadians were interned here - whom the interpretive exhibits at our Japanese Canadian Museum. Museum open Tuesday - Sunday 10-4 pm. Gallery hours Thurs to Sun 1-4 pm. Office open Wed to Fri 10-4 pm.

LarutheValley Historical Society Museum - Meadow Creek Museum
ewise@gmail.com (214) Highway 51 (1163 from Longman/Kelley Valley) property Meadow Creek. BC. Visit the UMVC Museum in scenic Meadow Creek and learn the history of the “Laruthe.” Located in the historic Trout Creek Hatchery residence, the museum collection immerses you in the rich and colourful past of people and places of north Kootenay Lake and the Laruthe and Duncan Ranch valleys. Open weekends mid-June to September.

VISITOR INFORMATION

WEST-KOOTENAY ROUTE

Hot Springs

Halcyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa - 250-538-0560 or 1-888-266-4699
250-265-3554 Fax (250) 265-3887 halcyon-hotspings.com
info@halcyon-hotspings.com
Halcyon Hot Springs Village and Spa lakeside Resort is a true oasis in winter. Brightening your winter, soothing the body, and soul. Pamper yourself in our Spa. Relax in our cozy cabanas or luxurious chalets. Riv hook-ups available. Enjoy gourmet food and beautiful views from the English Restaurant.
Nakusp Hot Springs, Chalets & Campground
(250) 265-4232 1-866-999-4528
Relax, Refresh, Return. Enjoy our pristine natural sunny Mineral springs pool, nestled in a beautiful mountain setting. Relax in our rejuvenating waters and mountain air. Stay in our comfortable Chalets or Camp at the serene riverview. Short drive from shops, restaurants, and amenities and the beautiful Arrow Lake. Open your round.
Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort
www.ainsworthsairways.com
1-900-968-1571 (250) 225-4232
Visit First Nations-owned Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort. Experience our unique mineral hot springs and pools. Spend fabulous time in our dining room and then enjoy the comfort of one of our air-conditioned guest rooms. Wireless internet available.

Restaurants & Accommodations

Arrow Lake Motel - Kaslo
(250) 353-2093 Fax (250) 353-2091
1 Oak St Available.
The Arrow Lake Motel is newly renovated and now open. Owner/in.

The Paddy Shack - Nakusp
(250) 265-3255 The Paddy Shack, located on Highway 6, Nakusp. A great little spot with great food, service, and, of course, a pint of stout. Choose a homemade burger, hotdog, wrap, donut, or another menu item from our own menu. Top off meal with their Irish Shale or our famous sundae. Come enjoy great food in the great outdoors.

Murphy’s Landing
(250) 353-2272 caskielakeside@msn.com
Murphywilsonm.ca
10 Beaver Street, Kaslo, BC.
The Paddy Shack is the only full service hotel in downtown Nakusp. We are only 6 minutes from our door to the public golf course. We have a full menu and are pet and family friendly. On site liquor, wine and cold beer. 7 days a week. Restaurant, outdoor patio and Arrow Lake and River sports bar.

Cottage in Hills - New Denver
(250) 358-2722 cottageninhhills@plornet.com
thecottageninhhills.com
Rustic vein at stylish vacation cottage in Hills near Slocan Lake. Sleeps 8 guests, mountain view from covered front porch, full kitchen, dining room, BBQ, outdoor fireplace, lots of seating and fun. 4-night minimum stay / Sept. to Aug. 2-night minimum / Sept. & Oct. 2 nights / and get your 7th night free! Rates vary please visit our website at www.thecottageninhhills.com.

Rory’s on Main - New Denver
(250) 358-2488 rorysonmain.com
6th Avenue (main st hub)
Open Thursday to Sunday 5-9 pm. Reservations recommended - call 250 358 2485. Enjoy fine dining at a relaxed pace, in a unique environment nestled in the heart of the West Kootenay, Located on New Denver’s main street.

Valhalla Inn - New Denver
www.valhallainn.com info@valhallainn.com
1250 Enterprise St New Denver, BC 250-358-2321 Valhalla Inn is a nostalgic character inn with a variety of rooms, family restaurant and licensed outdoor patio. Open 7 days a week starting Friday May 13. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Entertainment Specials and our in-house Chinese Food! Located on Hwy 9 & Slocan Avenue. Dogs & F.df/Sales open 7 days a week. Free WiFi.

William Hunter Cabins - New Denver
(250) 358-2647 williamhuntercabins.ca
39 Lake Ave, Silverton. - We have two lovely log cabins divided into studio/two rooms. All modern: furniture: queenastered, spacious living room with comfortable sofa, bathroom with shower/ tub and a kitchenette complete with a 2 burner cook top, mini fridge, microwave, toaster, coffee maker, cooking utensils.

The Cup and Saucer Cafe - Silverton
(250) 358-7271 thecupandsaucercafe.ca
206 Lake Ave, Silverton. Have a bite at the Cup and Saucer Cafe. Fresh, lively, and local, we serve a full breakfast and lunch menu and have plenty of homemade, both regular and gluten free. Make your way to the Cup to be in Silverton, B.C. - Hours Tuesday to Sunday 8-2, Friday 8-4.

Karihu Park Cottages & Campground - Winlaw
(250) 618-453-7418 karihopark.com
Our picturesque property is just off highway 61 in Winlaw, next to the Trail and Slocan River. We have 7 fully equipped cottages, comfort cabins and 33 tent sites in a forest setting, 12privileged and water hookups, the rest are back in, Recreation area, gardens, spa, spa and a winery.

Mama Sita’s Cafe - Winlaw
(250) 224-0707 - Downtown Winlaw in the heart of the Slocan Valley, Mama Sita’s has fabulous food, great service and great & free garbudi! Fresh, lively and local, we serve a full breakfast and lunch menu daily and have plenty of homemade, both regular and gluten free. Delicious homemade. Every open day 7am-9pm, longer on live music nights.

Woodbury Resort & JB’s Restaurant/Pub - Kaslo

An Inn For Two – Kaslo
(250) 265-7134 forntow.com
bookings@forntow.com
Peaceful, private, romantic, exceptionally cozy for couples. Enjoy relaxing views of the Monashee Mountains and Arrow Lake from the privacy of your cottage deck, snuggle up in front of the gas fireplace or soak your cares away in the double wood tub. Two gorgeous fully self-contained cottages to choose from.
The Valley Voice   September 7, 2016

ARTICLES TO ENTER: The Valley Voice is accepting applications for its 2017 season. Please apply to: Exhibitions, THE HIDDEN GARDEN GALLERY Nakusp@futures.bc.ca.

Self Employment program in the Arrow Community Futures offers business loans, training, and instruction included. $40,000 250-358-2350

WE ARE VICTIMS
HAIR BY TETH on medical leave August 250-353-2282.

DO YOU LOVE TO SING? The Vallican
Union of $1,101. A big thanks to everyone
donation of $1,000, also New Denver Credit
School.

STONE CARVING WORKSHOP OFFERED IN NEW DENVER: We are hosting two stone carving workshops with Frank Bitonti (www.onepennyrocksculpting.com) at 6575 Hwy 6, New Denver on September 18th at 4:00 pm. Friendly folks, varied repertoire, no experience needed. $20 per session. For more information or to sign up for either workshop, please contact Roni at 250-358-7723 or email at roni@ronidesign.com.

PLEASE APPLY: Exhibitions, THE HIDDEN GARDEN GALLERY, Box 201, New Denver, BC, V0G 1S0, by October 14, 2016. Along with a brief description of your work, its size, the number of pieces and medium used, include a few photographs and/or a CD of your work.

Nelson Public Library has a STONE CARVING WORKSHOP at 6575 Hwy 6, New Denver on September 18th at 4:00 pm. Friendly folks, varied repertoire, no experience needed. $20 per session. For more information or to sign up for either workshop, please contact Roni at 250-358-7723 or email at roni@ronidesign.com.

ARGENTINE TANGO MUSIC – LIVE: Alejandro Ziegler returns to the Kootenays. Tuesday, September 27th, Silverton Memorial Hall, 8 p.m. $25 advance, $30 at door, concert/dance. Contact franwallis@franwallis.ca for etransfer or paypal.

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COMMUNITY

Paint the Stars offers science and spirituality

New Denver’s St. Stephen’s Church (Valhalla Anglican Parish) is hosting “Painting the Stars” Join others for this weekend of innovative study and discussion, which provides opportunities to ask questions, listen and evolve in thought and practice. Presented by the Valhalla Anglican Parish, which welcomes all visitors, you will not only learn science and spirituality, but will have the opportunity to bring your questions and comments. We will put our knowledge to work for you!

The weekend session starts Friday evening, October 21 from 6 to 9 pm to 9 pm and continues Saturday, October 22, from 10 am – 4 pm and Sunday, October 23 from noon to 4 pm. St. Stephen’s Anglican Church, corner of Union St. and 7th Ave, New Denver.

The cost is $30, payable at the first session and bursaries are available. Materials will be emailed to participants by October 21. For an additional cost of $5 a hard copy will be available at the first session please include this request at the time of registration. Contact Joan Alexander at alexander,joan@gmail.com or 250-608-1277. Provide the following information when registering: your name, email, phone and request for hard copy of materials, if required.

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Councillor Henning von Krogh said specify what their concerns were.

about having a place to stay.

to council the application would
to council the application would

variance permit application for Chad

policy was “to avoid becoming

opposed the installation of vault

meeting, but staff are already working

$2.3 billion annual cost to the BC

impact that toxic tobacco litter had

with a PowerPoint presentation on

Society appeared as a delegation

New Denver Council August 23: Anti-smoking bylaw?

by Katrine Campbell

• Trish Hill from Interior Health

‘cross-border dumping’ because of the
difference. Staff were directed to issue

should have it on the radar for next year.
The program allows arts and
culture organizations to apply for up to
$50,000 for small capital projects,
such as the Bosun Hall renovations.

Mayor Ann Bunka reported on
RDCK meetings. At a Joint Resource
Recovery meeting August 17 they

discussed increasing tipping fees; this

was referred to the sub-committees for
each area. RDCK fees are S25 less
than Kootenay Boundary and there is
‘cross-border dumping’ because of the
difference. Staff were directed to issue

request for proposal for a three-year
wood grading contract.

At the August 18 regular board
meeting: Columbia Basin Trust holds
its AGM September 23-24 in Kaslo; there
is an open public meeting at 4 pm
September 23.

AKBLG has set aside October 13
for a session on agriculture.

There will be a workshop on the
framework for Recreation and Parks

Services to discuss collaborative
implementation of the R&P master
plans.

Village of
New Denver

PUBLIC NOTICES
NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The following described property and improvements thereon shall be offered for
“Sale by Public Auction” at the Village of New Denver Municipal Office, 115 Slocan
Ave, on Monday, September 26, 2016 at 10:00 am unless the delinquent
taxes and interest thereon are sooner paid.

722 U Avenue

Parcel B (being a consolidation of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 See LB259114) Block 47,
District Lot 549 Kootenay District Plan 557

508 E Avenue

Lot 21, Block 46, District Lot 549 Kootenay District Plan 557

Lot 22, Block 46, District Lot 549 Kootenay District Plan 557

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CANCELLATION OF COUNCIL MEETING

Residents of the Village of New Denver are hereby advised that the Regular Council
Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 27, 2016 has been
cancelled as the majority of Council members will be attending the annual
convention of the Union of BC Municipalities.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Section 612 of the Local Government Act, a public hearing will be
held to consider the Bosun Hall Heritage Designation Bylaw No. 701, 2016,
a bylaw to designate the Bosun Hall (710 Bellevue Street, New Denver, BC)
as a municipal heritage site.

WHEN: 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 27, 2016

WHERE: Council Chambers – 115 Slocan Avenue, New Denver, BC

A copy of Bosun Hall Heritage Designation Bylaw No. 701, 2016 may be
inspected at the Village of New Denver Municipal Office (115 Slocan Avenue,
New Denver, BC) between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on weekdays
except statutory holidays.

USE OF MUNICIPAL ROADS AND PARKS

Everyone is reminded that groups or individuals wishing to use Village
property such as streets, boulevards, alleys or parks (Green Park, Centennial
Park including the Kahan Garden) for events, workshops, displays, etc. must
contact the Village Office well in advance of the proposed event or activity.

SPRINKLING RESTRICTIONS

As the hot days of summer arrive, residents of the Village of New Denver
are asked to comply with the following rules regarding the use of sprinklers
within the Village boundaries

Level 1 Sprinkling Restrictions: No sprinkling between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm

GARBAGE COLLECTION REMINDER

In accordance with the Village Solid Waste Management Bylaw residents placing
garbage curbside for collection are required to place bagged and
bagged waste material in a garbage can or other suitable kitted containers
in order to prevent access by animals. Residential collection occurs every
Tuesday, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Please DO NOT put your garbage out
before pickup day.

Compost Workshop with Mario Lantheri from CropHealth Advising and Research

Location: Meet at the Knox Hall in New Denver (521 6th Ave)

Time: 9 am – 4 pm Saturday September 17th

Topics will include: steps in preparing good compost, testing of finished
product, and use of composts in gardens, fields and landscape settings.

We will also review recent advances in soil biology and the prepara-
tion of high-quality compost that provide natural suppression of plant
diseases. This intensive 1-day seminar will be of interest to organic
growers, landscapers and gardeners with basic knowledge in horticult-
ure. The morning sessions will be indoors. Part of the afternoon will
be outdoors. Sliding scale 30-505, to register call 250-354-8120, or
e-mail newdenver@wildsafebc.com

Electric Fencing Workshop with Gillian Sanders

Meet at the Knox Hall in New Denver (521 6th Ave)

Time: 10am noon Sunday September 18th

Workshop leader Gillian Sanders has helped to install more than 100 electric
fences to successfully protect livestock and/or fruit trees from both large and
small predators. Correctly installed and maintained electric fencing provides a cost-effective and easy solution to prevent or stop
bear conflicts. This workshop will discuss different electric fencing designs for permanent and temporary fences that can be adapted to your particular needs. Free event! To register call 250-354-8120 or email newdenver@wildsafebc.com

Upcoming workshops hosted by WildSafeBC and Harvest Share

N A K U S P
Notice of road closure/traffic/deflect

There will be traffic deflections on Nakusp Hot Springs Road on Sunday between 3 pm and 10 pm between 3 am and 6 am or for up to 2 hours at any time

The event is the Rocky Mountain Mototouring featuring a time lapse up Hot Springs Road with small vintage motorcycles. The event is run by the Canadian Vintage Motor Group, Rocky Mountain Section.

AKBLG has set aside October 13 for a session on agriculture.

There will be a workshop on the framework for Recreation and Parks Services to discuss collaborative implementation of the R&P master plans.

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Meet at the Knox Hall in New Denver (521 6th Ave)

Time: 10am noon Sunday September 18th

Workshop leader Gillian Sanders has helped to install more than 100 electric
cfences to successfully protect livestock and/or fruit trees from both large and
small predators. Correctly installed and maintained electric fencing provides a cost-effective and easy solution to prevent or stop
bear conflicts. This workshop will discuss different electric fencing designs for permanent and temporary fences that can be adapted to your particular needs. Free event! To register call 250-354-8120 or email newdenver@wildsafebc.com
Thank you to all of our sponsors that made the West Kootenay SAREX 2016 the best ever!

**PLATINUM SPONSORS**
- Columbia Basin Trust
- Fortis BC
- Regional District of Central Kootenay (Area H, I, G, B)

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- Columbia Power Corporation
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- Heritage Credit Union
- City of Castlegar
- And the countless businesses in the Slocan Valley, Castlegar, Rossland and Nelson areas that supported our event through donations and services!

Also, a huge thank you to the community members of the Slocan Valley!

THANK YOU!

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**35th Annual Rosebery Regatta: Moss Perry is the new commodore**

**Winlaw Elementary**

Winlaw School welcomes you to the 2016-2017 school year! We welcome you to drop by the school for a tour and to hear about some of our amazing learning opportunities for kids.

Over the summer, we were the recipients of two exciting new grants for the upcoming school year.

An Artstart grant will provide a music and dance performance program of “Natural Expressions” this fall.

A Farm to School grant will connect our students with local farms and promote locally grown food for a salad bar at our Wednesday Hot Lunches.

Winlaw Elementary School is now accepting new registrations. Please call at 250-226-7217.

Our Winlaw Code: Be kind, cooperative, safe, honest and ready to learn.

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**Kootenay sufferfest rides again – details next edition**

PHOTO CREDIT: CLAIRE PARADIS

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Zoe Larson from Revelstoke, BC was one of the participants of all ages to participate in the 12K Trail Run.

Kids line up for the start of the 2K bike ride on the first day of Kootenay Sufferfest in Kaslo.

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**EXTRA**

**BACK YARD SALE**

1. **CEDAR LATTICE FRAMED 4’X8’**
   - **SALE $25.00 EA (2 ONLY)**
   - **2’X8’ SALE $15.00 (2 ONLY)**

2. **ALL LAMINATOR PLUS CLEANING/SURFACE Acing Products**

3. **SLIGHTLY DAMAGED GYPROC 5/8’ 4’X8’**
   - **SALE $7.50**

4. **ALL ECO-COAT RECYCLED PAINT **SALE 50% OFF**

5. **ALL ORBIT RECYCLED PAINT **SALE 25% OFF**

6. **ALL CONCRETE STONE COATINGS “STONE EFFECTS”**
   - **SALE 75% OFF**

7. **MISC. OSB 4 X 8**
   - **SALE $5.00 SHEET**

8. **PAVER JOINT SAND 80 LB BAG**
   - **SALE $11.50 EA**

9. **FACING BRICK 2” X 4” X 8” BROWN**
   - **SALE $0.65 EA**

10. **590 lineal feet 1 x 6 strapping grey**
    - **SALE $100.00 OBO**

11. **1 x 4 x 14 foot Rangey strapping $ .16/lineal feet**
    - **$2.24 ea**

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