Police shooting of Peter de Groot justified, IIO report concludes

by Jan McMurtry

No charges were recommended by the Independent Investigations Office of BC (IIO) in connection with the police shooting of Peter de Groot in Slocan. The IIO report was finally issued on March 29, almost three and a half years after the October 13, 2014 incident.

The investigation found that de Groot was pointing his gun at the officer at the time of the shooting, so the officer was justifiably protecting himself from death or grievous bodily harm.

The shooting took place in a remote cabin, where de Groot was located after a four-day manhunt. De Groot had fled into the backcountry on foot on October 9, after he allegedly exchanged gunfire with a police officer. Three RCMP officers had come to his home, investigating an allegation that he had assaulted his neighbour.

The IIO report says the manhunt was winding down on October 13 when two police officers returned to the cabin, which had been searched before. They noticed an open window, according to evidence given by the police officer eyewitness, so they stood on either side of the door and pushed it open. The eyewitness said he saw a rifle come up, but couldn’t see de Groot. Then he heard the fatal shot fired by his fellow officer.

The investigation became complicated almost right away because the pathologist was of the opinion that de Groot was shot in the back, contrary to the evidence of the police officer eyewitness.

After a re-examination of the cabin, a report from a bullet impact damage expert, a report from a biomechanical engineer, and reports from two more pathologists, including the de Groot family’s pathologist, it was determined that de Groot was shot from the front, and he raised and pointed his gun at the officer when the cabin door was opened.

On the day the IIO report was released, RCMP Deputy Commissioner Brenda Butterworth-Carr held a media conference and had some strong words about the length of time this investigation took.

“This was a dynamic and dramatic series of events that has forever changed the police officers involved, a community and a family which lost a loved one. The techniques used and the resulting time delays in determining the circumstances compounded the trauma and severely limited the ability of many to move forward,” she said.

However, she also stated she has much greater confidence in the IIO now that it is under new leadership.

Ron MacDonald, the new chief civilian director of IIOBC (since October 2017), was very candid in an interview with the Valley Voice. He acknowledged that the investigation of this file was “unacceptably long” and said, “We regret the fact the delays occurred.”

However, he also wanted to stress that “part of the delay was because of the search for the most truthful and complete explanation of events as possible.”

Another part of the delay, MacDonald said, was that during the time of this investigation, the IIO “was experiencing some internal issues and external issues that involved investigator turnover in particular, which led to investigators being overburdened with files.”

De Groot’s sister, Danna, filed a lawsuit in October 2016, accusing the RCMP of negligence that the disproportionate use of lethal force on a person with a cognitive disability or mental illness discriminate treatment.

When asked why de Groot’s cognitive disability is not mentioned in the IIO report, MacDonald explained that the IIO’s job was to investigate the circumstances around the shooting death, which were “a fairly confined set of circumstances. When the police opened the door, one of the officers was facing a man who was pointing a gun at him. In response, he fired to protect his own life, which he is entitled to do. In those circumstances, mental illness issues don’t really have an opportunity to arise.”

However, MacDonald said he understands the family may have issues with de Groot’s previous interaction with police four days earlier, “and that was not a focus of our investigation.”

When asked to comment on the fact that IIO investigations rarely result in charges, MacDonald replied, “The success of the IIO should not be measured by the number of charges that were laid; it should be measured by the objectivity, independence, and thoroughness of our investigations. It is very important to remember that our job is to investigate any incident that arises from actions by the police that result in serious injury or death. We get called because there was a serious injury or death, not because someone said someone did something wrong.”

The IIO report is posted on the website (iiobc.ca) under ‘Publications.’
Healthy Community Society gets funding for composting project

Columbia Basin Trust is supporting 12 climate action projects with $540,000, the first year of its three-year Climate Action Program.

In New Denver—Silverton, the Healthy Community Society of the North Slocan Valley will receive $43,840 towards its project to divert organics from the waste stream into community composting. The money will be used to “perform communications and outreach activities that will provide up-to-date local climate change information, and bring people around the region together to collaborate on climate action priorities. Find these resources at ourtrust.org/climateaction.”

To date, the Trust has met with 15 Basin communities – more than 300 community leaders representing 225 Basin organizations. During these meetings, leaders have learned how their local climates are changing, explored the range of projected impacts, and identified opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change. The program provides funding, technical resources, and information to help communities take local action.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan meetings this month

The CWPP will provide the community with a high-level overview of wildfire risks in the region, and a set of recommendations that can guide future activities in the valley when it comes to wildfire protection. The CWPPs will also become guiding documents for any proposed wildfire risk mitigation or prevention efforts in the future.

The CWPPs will also include areas outside of SIFCo’s 2016 Plan and future activities in the region, and a set of recommendations that can guide future activities in the valley when it comes to wildfire protection. The CWPPs will also become guiding documents for any proposed wildfire risk mitigation or prevention efforts in the future.

Slocan Legion Hall broken into, liquor stolen

The Slocan Legion Hall was broken into and $350 worth of liquor was stolen sometime between the night of Monday, March 19 and the morning of Wednesday, March 21.

Legion board members Carol Barclay and John Gates walked into the hall on Wednesday morning and were shocked to see the evidence of the break-in. The window next to the bar was smashed, and there was broken glass inside and out. The door to the liquor storage room had been forced open. Every lock in the building had been broken.

“They went through the entire building and broke every lock in the place, but nothing was missing except the liquor. I think they were looking for money,” said Barclay in an interview.

Barclay and Gates had been at the Legion Monday night for a meeting, and nothing was scheduled in the hall on Tuesday, “so it must have happened Monday night or Tuesday night,” Barclay said.

The RCMP was called in right away and are investigating.

The Kaslo Legion was broken into last September, and money and liquor were stolen. The police investigation of the Kaslo incident continues.

Barclay says the Village will be responsible for replacing the window and the door to the liquor storage room, while the Legion will replace the broken locks. They are now considering an alarm system.
Columbia River Treaty renegotiations discussed at the Whole

by Jan McMurray

Both Canada and the US are preparing for Columbia River Treaty (CRT) renegotiations, and a half full of people at the Vallican Whole had the chance to learn about it from MLA Katrine Conroy, who is the minister responsible for the CRT; former MLA Corby Evans; and Nelson hydrologist Martin Carver on March 25.

Treaty renegotiation issues highlighted at the meeting were: ensuring benefits on both sides of the border, enhancing ecosystems, reintroducing salmon, and managing for climate change.

Ensuring benefits on both sides of the border came up in discussion of the flood control provision in the treaty, and of the ‘Canadian entitlement.’

Conroy explained that the Columbia River Treaty itself has no expiry date, but the flood control provision expires into September 2024. If the two countries don’t renegotiate flood control, ‘called upon flood control’ will take effect. This means that the US would have to empty their reservoirs before they could call upon Canada.

“We believe the losses to the US [due to called upon flood control] could be greater, but we’re still focusing on benefits for both countries. We’re not looking at it as win-lose. We need to understand each other’s interests and we need to use flexibility to look for solutions.”

Conroy said the Americans don’t come to Canada much and “they don’t understand what happened up here.”

She was very happy to announce that an American diplomat from the consulate in Vancouver was in the audience.

Charles Park, foreign service officer, political and economic affairs, US State Department, introduced himself, “I am here to listen to what you have to say and take note of your concerns. We have a strong relationship in this region. We agree with how spectacular the Columbia Basin is and we are working to take account of all the benefits that accrue to the basin and figure out how to share them.”

The BC government receives the ‘Canadian entitlement’ from the US, which is about $120 million per year – paid in electricity, to either use domestically or sell to the US, Conroy said.

This represents half of the extra electricity produced in the US as a result of the CRT.

When someone asked if we might see more money from the treaty coming into the basin rather than into government coffers, or perhaps more money coming through the Columbia Basin Trust, Evans responded, “You guys should want nothing. If we have a personal interest, then we’re like everybody 60 years ago. The only way to have a voice is to have a voice about the well-being of everybody. I think we lose the strength of any argument if we think there is something in it for us. That part is done.”

Martin Carver, hydrologist and conservation planner from Nelson, is interested in having the environment as a third principle in the treaty, in addition to power and flood control. To do this successfully, he feels there will need to be a governance mechanism that specifically recognizes ecosystem function. “If we leave it to the engineers, we’re going to get hydropower and flood control,” he said.

Carver would like to see the management of the system mimic nature as much as possible. “It doesn’t take that much of a concession with flow regimes to get a big return,” he said. “We have to give up just a small percent, and there is an unwillingness to give that up.”

Carver said that the Site C experience shows that “there is an attitude of status quo and putting political decisions ahead of the ecosystem.”

“I think the BC government is on the wrong side of history approving Site C and I hope the Columbia is not going to be the same,” Carver said.

Conroy said the BC government supports the reintroduction of salmon into the Columbia, but the costs will have to be borne by the federal government.

After it all, it was the federal government who gave the nod to the US to build the Grand Coulee dam and block the salmon, as there was no commercial fishery in the Columbia. The native fishery wasn’t taken into account.

Both Conroy and Evans stressed that one huge difference between the negotiations this time around and the negotiations leading up to 1964, when the treaty was ratified, is that local communities and First Nations are being consulted this time.

The CRT Review Team held 30 consultations throughout the region in 2012-13, with online opportunities to provide feedback, and has been in ongoing consultations with the Ktunaxa, Okanagan Nation Alliance, and Shuswap since 2012, Conroy said.

As for the Sinixt, Conroy reported the BC Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation has been meeting with the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) to discuss a number of issues, including the treaty. “This is the first time ever that the BC government has been in discussion with the Sinixt,” said Conroy.

When people asked about the Sinixt in Canada, both Conroy and Evans explained that the Sinixt in Canada and the Sinixt in the US are all part of the same nation.

Conroy reported that the federal government is the lead in the negotiations, and has been “in a very collaborative relationship with the BC government.” Sylvain Fabi has been appointed negotiator for Canada and Jill Small negotiator for the US.

The event was part of the Whole Perspective Series. Visit www.vallicanwhole.com for more about what goes on at the Whole.

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3NEWS

We have scheduled a planned outage for work related to the Nakusp Transmission Line Project on:

Date: Sunday April 8, 2018
Time: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.

All customers on the Nakusp transmission line from Burton to Nakusp and from Nakusp to Silvertown will be affected.

If you were not notified of this outage via our mail-out, phone call, or email, make sure we have your current contact information so we can notify you of future planned outages. Visit bchydro.com and click ‘sign up’ to create your MyHydro profile and update your contact information.

This April, we will be starting work to restore and repair the 100 km long transmission line that serves 3,000 customers in the Kaslo area. The Nakusp Transmission Line Project will improve safety and ensure continued reliability for our customers in Nakusp, New Denver, Brousse, Burton, East Arrow Park, Glenbank, Hills, Makinson, Roseberry, Silverton and Summit Lake. We expect we will need to schedule planned outages when live line methods cannot safely be used.
USA

The USA is profoundly interesting. What other country would waste trillions bombing and strafing the warlord corruption of outrageously poor Afghanistan while allowing Second Amendment insanity to emphatically ease its children?

Christian Torbik
Whitehorse, YT

“Oh, Donald!”

Melania’s in the bedroom having a real good cry. “Perjury or obstruction - either way, he’ll fry.”

But then she applied her lipstick and re-arranged her hair
And thought of Stormy Daniels and suddenly didn’t care.

Kristen Jacks
South Slocan

Thank you, Rick Valentine

Your letter in the Valley Voice was excellent. You nailed it on the head – that slope [Argentina Johnson’s Landing Face] is infected with its root rot and has been for over 20 years. Logging it properly will help curtail the rot and afford fire protection for that area. I see New Denver and Silverton are having their own problems with logging. I would rather look at a few up-to-40-hectare logging shows than hundreds of bum hectares of scarred mountain. In fact, you could share your intelligence, for a small fee, to all of the communities in the Kootenays.

Phil Trotter
Kaslo

Nelson chestnut tree gone

In Nelson, up on Hall Street, there was a sweet chestnut tree that was dropping its edible nuts over the fence onto the sidewalk area. I used to go there in the spring to pick sprouting chestnuts out of the leaf litter. This was a specimen tree, more than rare, healthy, and an innocent bystander. I went there a few days ago. The tree was cut down for a new building. This is gentrification. No Nelsonite would have reduced such a beautiful tree to a stump. I am dismayed and very saddened. Someone planted that tree more than 50 years ago. And to have a healthy tree cut down, when on the whole continent entire chestnut forests have been wiped out by blight, seems to me all the more rude.

Angelica Herlhy
Grand Forks

Balfour ferry decision unwise

Please allow me to tip my hat to Tom Lymberry for his well expressed comments about the impending Balfour ferry changes. Finally we have some editorial balance in the Valley Voice to the often one-sided, left-leaning sentiments regularly published in this newspaper. Thank you, Mr. Lymberry, for putting pen to paper on this very contentious issue.

In my opinion, leaving the terminal at Balfour will prove to be a tragically unwise, politically shameless, and short-sighted decision. By choosing the status quo location, we’ll fail at our original objective entirely. We’ll lose the opportunity to save valuable ferry time and many millions of dollars in unnecessary on-going dredging expense. And some common sense shows us that the never-ending, large-scale dredging program will seriously degrade the lake ecosystem and its natural flow pattern. This is not only environmentally dangerous, but it also seems downright foolish to me given all the circumstances.

Could it be in the 1970s dollars be better spent locally on care expansion for seniors, and general affordable housing, expansion of Kaslo’s formerly promised ten bed long-term care facility for seniors, and general improvements to our healthcare system?

Gary Weintz
Kaslo

Apologies

The queen is more powerful than the pope. How do I know? Well it’s like this.

A couple of days ago, our prime minister apologized to six Native leaders who, after being invited to take part in peace talks by the British colonial government of the day, were subsequently taken into custody and hung. Canada didn’t hang them... Canada didn’t even exist at the time. It’s England that led them into a very despicable trap and its natural flow pattern. This is not only environmentally dangerous, but it also seems downright foolish to me given all the circumstances.

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New Denver council, March 27: three bylaws passed to improve public communications

by Katrine Campbell

• Council gave final adoption to Council Procedures Bylaw #713, 2018 to replace the 2004 version. Staff reported that the new bylaw addresses some of the perceived gaps that have been identified and attempts to better meet the needs of council and the public. Some of the changes include changing the time of regular meetings from 11 am to 10 pm, offering an opportunity for public comment before council decides on an issue, changing the time of the public hearing to 6 pm, but allowing for extensions to be granted, and removing the three-delegation limit.

• An updated Communications Strategy was adopted by council. The updated policy now includes a statement of purpose and the scope has been expanded to cover public events other than just the Friday Market. There were also changes made to the stated frequency of communications.

• Council adopted, for the first time, a Public Engagement Strategy. The proposed policy, which was suggested by the provincial Ombudsperson, outlines the steps the Village will take to provide opportunities for public participation in municipal decision making. The draft policy states the Village is committed to providing opportunities for public engagement on issues that significantly impact the community; that the engagement should be appropriate to the decision or issue at hand and within the Village’s capacity; the objective of participation should be clarified at the beginning of the process; and the Village will report back to citizens on how their views have been considered in the decision-making process.

• Mayor Ann Conroy reported on her activities since the March 13 council meeting, which included attending a meeting with the youth committee re: the skateboard park. They are looking at building a small park at the school for now, but may come back to council in the future to find a bigger area.

• Conroy attended the TV Society AGM March 15; the setup needs updates which were estimated at $25,000 but members found a workaround which will cut costs to less than $8,000.

• March 19 was the Heritage Advisory Commission meeting. To comply with governing legislation, Village staff will prepare a bylaw to replace the bylaw authorizing the commission, and to replace it, draft terms of reference for a Select Committee of Council. The money from the sale of the Japanese United Church will be transferred to a statutory trust, to be spent only on capital projects. Applications for Canada Summer Jobs and Young Canada Works funding have been made, and the Silvery Slocan Historical Society is working with the Chamber of Commerce to coordinate summer student work.

• Bunka met with MLA Katrine Conroy and staff March 21 and asked for help in reaching Health Minister Adrian Dix re: health care issues. She also asked about government oversight of the Community Leaders’ Survey which insurance companies use to set rates, and was told there is no oversight. Conroy gave the mayor information about money available for emergency response plan and water quality monitoring summaries; and testing and system maintenance information.

Silverton Gallery to re-open July 1; Gallery Society reorganizes

by Jan McMurray

The Silverton Gallery is scheduled to re-open July 1, with a new fire suppression system, a new mechanical heating and cooling system, and a new set of fire exit stairs on the west side of the building. The facility has been closed to the public since June 1, 2014 due to fire and safety code deficiencies. The Village and the Slocan Lake Gallery Society have worked hard to address these, and are very happy to be re-opening the building to the public.

“We’re planning a whole bunch of events for the grand opening July 1 – an art show, a dance in the evening, an open house, ribbon cutting, and of course the dog show,” says Birgit Schinke, president of the Slocan Lake Gallery Society.

Our work parties to clean and paint inside the building are scheduled over three months (April-June), and Schinke says community volunteers have “addressed the south (front) wall, Schinke said. Interior renovations will come in a later phase.

Schnike has been spending time in the area since 1976 when she bought a cabin on Mountain Road, and moved to New Denver full-time in 2016. “I was recruited to the society board immediately,” she says. She became the president in August 2017 and was voted in as president at the November 2017 AGM.

Schnike is a clinical counsellor, but has “huge background” in arts administration and project development. She has led the board through a reorganization, which will be presented at this year’s AGM on May 27.

“With the building re-opening, I saw that the structure of the organization had to change to embrace the building. So I consulted with local arts administrators and came up with a reorganization that will embrace the building and opportunities it presents.”

The society will have six stand-alone programs: Performance, Art Gallery, Family Programming, Artist Mentoring, Art Education, and the building. “We’re inviting community members to sit on the program committees, so you don’t have to be on the board to be involved with the programs,” she said. Each program will have a lead, who will sit on the board.

Schnike hopes the society's membership will approve the new society name that will be proposed at the AGM: Slocan Lake Arts Council.

“Feedback from the community told us they wanted to see the arts council be foremost an arts council, and that’s hidden in our current name.”

Finally, the society is looking for an Arts Administrator. Schnike has applied for a grant for office equipment, to set up the office in the gallery building. She says the society can afford to hire a part-time administrator with funds from all the revenue streams the society has – memberships, grant writing administration fees, Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance’s BC Arts Council, providing publicity for guest artists, and building rentals.

Schnike invites everyone to the May 27 AGM at the Memorial Hall at 1 pm to learn more about the changes.
by Art Joyce

Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services has expanded its services to include a men’s outreach coordinator, Cameron Gordon. He’s a well-qualified life coach, with training in neuro-linguistic programming. Gordon also has an extensive background as a customer relations management (CRM) expert who has advised many high-profile clients from the private to the government sector. The part-time position was created in response to local men noting that while there are many women’s services here, men were not as well served. In part, that’s down to the differences between men and women. While women tend to more readily reach out for help, men are often stoic and find it difficult to communicate about private matters. “Men have a stigma about reaching out for help,” Gordon says. “I’m not a clinical therapist but individuals can come to me in a confidential way. It’s an opportunity to reach out to men in the community, which could mean everything from doing crib tournaments to business advice as a mentor and consultant.”

Gordon has long-standing ties to Nakusp that date back to the mid-70s when he was a high school student. It’s where he met his sweetheart and married young, though he is now divorced. His parents once owned the old Coates farm on the highway heading to Revelstoke. He’s returned almost every year since he left and is excited that his part-time position with ASLCS will help him stay here by combining it with his existing client base.

He’s also an award-winning actor, producer and director who has appeared in the series Heartland and recently screened his own film, Devil 2.0, at Cannes. From the time he was a child he had a love of acting but realized that to make his mark in the field he’d have to work in Vancouver or Calgary. Gordon enjoys both film and stage work. He sees his business skills as complementary to his acting and directing skills and hopes to offer local classes for aspiring actors or directors.

“I’ve been teaching acting for as long as I’ve been in the corporate world. I learned that I could teach through storytelling. As a ‘change catalyst’ I help people get from where they are to where they want to be.”

With the recent ‘MeToo’ movement asserting women’s rights to be heard, society finds itself in a position of redefining masculinity – what’s acceptable and what isn’t, Gordon says. At the same time, many men are feeling under attack and need to understand how they fit into this new world. How does one walk the fine line between appropriate respect and political correctness? It’s just this kind of quandary he’s prepared to discuss with male clients on a confidential basis, free of judgment or stigma. “Right now we’re at a very, very interesting place in history. Change is never comfortable. Being able to have a conversation with someone who gets it can help us adjust. All judgment and ego is left at the door.”

Gordon will be working with Carlee Hughes, the women’s services coordinator, and youth services coordinator Robin Hildebrand, not limiting his men’s outreach to adults. He has access to high-profile speakers and programs he hopes to add to his roster of men’s services. “One of the first things I want to do is to gather men in the region at a roundtable to find out what services they think they need. My role is not just to put on events for men but to be out there so that men know I’m available to them to discuss issues that are complex.”

It’s all, because ASLCS has obtained funding for Gordon’s position, his services are free to the community. Although part-time, he says he can be reached at any time to arrange an appointment. Contact him at ASLCS by phone at 250-265-3674, extension 226 or via email at Cameron.gordon@aslcs.com. Gordon sees it as just part of Nakusp’s tradition of collaborating for the common good.

“T’m available on an as-needs basis,” he says. “I’ve lived a lot of life; there’s not a lot that can throw me. It’s nice to be able to come into my office and have a non-judgmental conversation.”

‘All Over the Rainbow’ at the Vallican Whole

submitted

On Friday, April 20 at 7 p.m., the Vallican Whole Community Centre will present what may be its most colourful presentation ever. Part of the Whole Perspective series, ‘All Over the Rainbow: Understanding Gender Diversity’ promises to be a mind-expanding event.

Kori Doty, the Slocan Valley’s well-known non-binary educator and activist, will involve participants in a conversation about this current and important topic.

Doty was recently in the news when they succeeded in having their baby receive a ‘U’ (presumably for ‘unspecified’) classification on their BC Health Card.

“This way, Sea can tell us what gender they are when they are old enough to know,” says Doty. They are involved in group human rights challenge to have gender removed from birth certificates.

Doty, whose personable style makes their presentations both fascinating and non-threatening, has been teaching courses on transgender awareness and related topics for several years.

“Took a course from Kori,” says organizer Moe Lyons. “They’re just great at doing this, because they never make you feel stupid or in the wrong when you have difficult or what you might be afraid questions.”

But wait, say many people, aren’t there just two genders? Well, no, that’s not how it works, according to ‘Gender Spectrum,’ a website dedicated to this discussion. They have a pretty succinct description of how to view this topic.

“We know that our bodies have a different experience of our own body, how society genders bodies, and how others interact with us based on our body.”

Three dimensions: our deeply held, internal sense of self as male, female, a blend of both, or neither; who we internally know ourselves to be.

The Whole will also be presenting the understanding gender diversity at the Vallican Whole on Friday, April 20 at 7pm. In this photo, Doty is at last year’s ‘Human Library’ event at the Nelson Public Library.
by Jan McMurray

Canada has never been known as a prime mover in the pop art world, but a company called Low Art believes that is about to change.

“Focusing on fridge magnets, stickers and posters, Low Art groovy souvenirs have uniquely Canadian themes,” said Low Art owner Michael Chesney. “From Tim Horton’s to BC Hydro to Reefer Madness, our line of ‘graphic novelties’ are already selling well in Toronto and Vancouver and are now about to hit the Kootenays.”

The company is currently working with Nelson artists Bryn Stevenson and Buck D. They have designed a ‘Nelson Soup’ poster and magnet collection that will be for sale throughout the Kootenays this summer.

“Utilizing vintage graphics and adding a local twist, we are introducing our line to the western interior,” says Chesney.

Low Art graphic novelties come to the Kootenays
submitted

The annual Yard & Yardage event will happen on Sunday, April 29 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Slocan Valley Threads Guild. This is your chance to celebrate spring with those who share a passion for community and fibre arts.

Would buying a new perennial or two help you look forward to gardening? Is your fabric stash depleted after this rather long winter? During this event, the yard at the Threads Guild is filled with reasonably-priced plants, and the interior of the renovated schoolhouse features tables laden with fabric, patterns, magazines, zippers, thread, yarn and unexpected surprises, all at bargain prices.

Friendly Guild members will be happy to discuss your crafting and gardening questions. Members’ work displayed on the walls is sure to inspire you, while in the tea room section you’ll find savouries, sweets, coffee and tea plus crock pots full of soups and chili. There is likely to be some equipment for sale under cover outdoors along with the popular boxes of items available for a small donation.

Yard & Yardage is an incredible local celebration of fibre, food, community sharing and growing things. For $10 you can join the Guild, or renew your membership, good to June 2019. The Threads Guild is located five minutes north of Winlaw, where Highway 6 intersects Perry’s Siding Bridge Road. Admission is free and proceeds support the guild. No dogs please.

In May, Low Art will be staging an art/graffiti show at Spirit Bar in Nelson that will feature local as well as some international talent. Other events are being planned, too, including a screening of Reefer Madness. Stay tuned.

This ad is worth one free OSO coffee
Expires: May 31, 2018

“LOW ARTIST OF THE YEAR”

by Jan McMurray

Canada has never been known as a prime mover in the pop art world, but a company called Low Art believes that is about to change.

“Focusing on fridge magnets, stickers and posters, Low Art groovy souvenirs have uniquely Canadian themes,” said Low Art owner Michael Chesney. “From Tim Horton’s to BC Hydro to Reefer Madness, our line of ‘graphic novelties’ are already selling well in Toronto and Vancouver and are now about to hit the Kootenays.”

The company is currently working with Nelson artists Bryn Stevenson and Buck D. They have designed a ‘Nelson Soup’ poster and magnet collection that will be for sale throughout the Kootenays this summer.

“Utilizing vintage graphics and adding a local twist, we are introducing our line to the western interior,” says Chesney.

Low Art graphic novelties come to the Kootenays
submitted

The annual Yard & Yardage event will happen on Sunday, April 29 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Slocan Valley Threads Guild. This is your chance to celebrate spring with those who share a passion for community and fibre arts.

Would buying a new perennial or two help you look forward to gardening? Is your fabric stash depleted after this rather long winter? During this event, the yard at the Threads Guild is filled with reasonably-priced plants, and the interior of the renovated schoolhouse features tables laden with fabric, patterns, magazines, zippers, thread, yarn and unexpected surprises, all at bargain prices.

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Two featured speakers at the fifth annual Convergence Writers’ Weekend

A former chair of the David Suzuki Foundation and a long-time Nelson city councillor will be the two featured speakers at the fifth annual Convergence Writers’ Weekend in Silverton June 15 and 16. The theme of this year’s Convergence weekend is ‘Keeping a Civil Tongue’. Presentations will focus on how speakers and writers on all sides of controversial issues increasingly regard those who disagree with them as not only wrong-headed but evil. All events take place at Silverton’s Memorial Hall, 203 Lake Ave. (Hwy 6).

Speaking at 7 pm June 15, at an event open to the public as well as registrants, will be James Hoggan. Besides his work for the Suzuki Foundation, Hoggan chaired Al Gore’s Climate Project Canada. His most recent book is I’m Right and You’re an Idiot: The Toxic State of Public Discourse and How to Clean It Up. Hoggan notes that the demonizing of opponents hampers a community’s ability to solve common problems. His book identifies some approaches to counter this trend.

Also presenting at the June 15 event will be Donna Macdonald, a Nelson city councillor for 19 years before retiring in 2014. Her memoir of life as a civic politician, Surviving City Hall, stresses the importance of local government while emphasizing the need for truthfulness, kindness and civility in public life.

Registrants for Convergence can attend one of two writing workshops offered during the day on June 16, as well as attending an arts performance and discussion that evening. Writing workshop leaders are Macdonald and New Denver journalist, historian, novelist, poet and performer Sean Arthur Joyce. Saturday evening includes performances by Joyce, New Denver musician Noel Fudge, and Silverton dancer Koko, as well as a discussion of the weekend’s theme by participants.

Registration is now open, at a cost of $45 plus GST. Non-registrants are welcome to attend the Friday night event with admission by donation. More information, including how to register, is available at http://widespot.ca/convergence-writers-weekend/.

Deadline for registration is June 1. Deadline for persons wishing feedback on their writing from Joyce in his workshop is May 19. Convergence is partially supported by the ProVision fund of the United Church’s BC Conference, the Columbia Basin Trust, and the Regional District of Central Kootenay’s Area I director, Walter Popoff.

Pat Henman and Michael Graham played the feuding Fonsia and Weller in D.L. Coburn’s Pulitzer Prize-winning play The Gin Game. Well-acted, funny, and on a wonderful set, the play ran March 22-24 at the Capitol Theatre in Nelson.

Sparky and Sylvester bid a loving farewell to veterinarians Dr. Laurie Page and Dr. Bill Sones at their retirement tea on Sunday, March 18 at the Emergency Services Building in Nakusp.

The Slocan Community Health Centre Auxiliary has generously donated $1,000 to the Slocan District Chamber of Commerce Health Committee, for ongoing support of the health centre. Health Committee members Colin Moss and Leonard Caley accept the cheque from Auxiliary members Janice Found, Peggy Brown, Chris Hildebrand, Barb Lahner, and Amy Mori.

The local Freemasons of Star of the West Lodge No. 61 make a donation to the Arrow Lakes Hospital Foundation to go towards medical equipment for the soon-to-be-renovated emergency room at the Arrow Lakes Hospital. Chester Taje, committee chair, presents a cheque to Bob Rutenberg, co-chair of the Arrow Lakes Hospital Foundation, with George Bonacci, Master of Star of the West Lodge.
Vandalism in the Village of New Denver

by Jan McMurray

Some incidents of vandalism occurred in New Denver on Friday night, March 23. A few vehicles were rifled through, and there was some damage to private property. The property owner was very upset and hurt by the incident. "I have been kind to everybody. Steve, your partner, and I are an asset to this community. We have done nothing to deserve to be targeted like that." She vowed to leave the painting until the culprit(s) comes forward. "People think it’s just a joke but would they feel if somebody did it to them?"

Linnie says she hopes to be able to talk to the culprit(s). "This can be a learning moment for the people. We can have a talk about how this affects others. People need to know there are consequences to bad behaviour. How would they feel if somebody did it to them?"

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by Jan McMurray

The Valley Voice April 5, 2018

Kaslo Legacy Park project awarded funding, will start soon

The Legacy Park beside Kaslo City Hall is expected to be ready for its grand opening on August 12, as part of the Kasl0 125 celebrations. Funding of $45,440 has recently been awarded to the project from the federal Building Communities through Arts and Heritage program, so park development will get underway soon.

“We’re so pleased to have received this funding in our 125th anniversary year,” says Mayor Hewat. “The park will be yet another attraction during the celebratory anniversaries, and a lasting legacy for the community.”

Mayor Hewat said the Village will contribute financially and in-kind to help match the federal funding, which is a matching grant.

The first step will be to build a wall around the park perimeter, with a low cement wall (two feet high), concrete pillars, and metal rails. David Jackson, chair of the Kaslo Public Art Select Advisory Committee (KPASAC), said the wall will “echo the design of the fence at the Kambell building, stressing that it will not be a copy of the Kambell fence. It will have four openings at each corner, with no gates. The Village will then put out a Request for Proposals for the wall project.”

While the Village is managing the construction of the wall, Jackson says the KPASAC will concentrate on producing a design for the Red Creek elements. Some of the design ideas include pathways, two plinths for rotting pieces of public art, trees, shrubs, flower beds, and a performance space. Electrical wiring will be built into the wall so there will be access to power for the performers.

There will also be 12 historical panels on the wall, JV Humphries grad student Jessalyn Tremblay has been going through the Kootenay Lake Historical Society archives with the help of Elizabeth Vellacott, and has chosen 13 historical topics with photos. An online survey will be available to the community, via the Village website, to choose the 12 topics for the park.

Tremblay will write the text to go along with the photos.

Funding is one of the committee’s tasks, and one of the ideas to be built a brick pathway, giving community members the opportunity to have their names engraved on the bricks.

“It’s great to see this project going ahead, and we’re grateful to everybody who has given us their support,” said Jackson.

The idea for a park adjacent to City Hall came out of an informal online survey by the Village, asking community members what they’d like to see in the empty space beside City Hall, left when the old fire hall was torn down. A park was the number one choice, so the Village issued a Request for Proposals for a park design. Laurie Moss submitted the initial design in 2015. Further design work has been done by Kaslo residents Dana Gallinger and Karel Peters. Most of the fundraising has been done by Deb Borsos, Pamela Griffin, and Gillian Fros. Councillor Holland has been involved as the Village liaison on the committee.

Kaslo council, March 13: City Hall funding approved

Mayor Hewat reported on his attendance at the Kaslo and District Public Library AGM and the long recognition service given out to all the volunteers. He announced that the RDCK, with the help of the federal government, will be holding a Request for Proposals for a park design. Laurie Moss submitted the initial design in 2015. Further design work has been done by Kaslo residents Dana Gallinger and Karel Peters. Most of the fundraising has been done by Deb Borsos, Pamela Griffin, and Gillian Fros. Councillor Holland has been involved as the Village liaison on the committee.

Kaslo & Up the Lake Youth Network celebrates five years

Kaslo & Up the Lake Youth Network celebrates five years workshops, one time events, on-going presentation of this powerful new book! KULYN would love to support a skateboard competition at May Days and is looking for someone with experience to assist with planning and coordinating. If you’re not there and want to make this or something else happen, feel free to contact Shannon Isaac, at 250-353-7780 or email Shannon Isaac at wolfawarenessinc.org.

KULYN has a Facebook page: Kaslo & Up the Lake Youth Network. More will improve efforts to promote events, programs and activities for youth living in Kaslo and surrounding areas.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Megan Chadwick at 250-365-4560 or megan.chadwick@hchdco.com.

Join the authors at the Langham theatre for Sinixt storytelling and the presentation of this powerful new book! A Café Langham presentation. $10 donation at the door. www.the-langham.ca.

Let’s Talk Wolf: Behind the Smokescreen

The next event in the Friends of the Landlarks Spring Speaker Series is “Let’s Talk Wolf: Behind the Smokescreen.” On April 11, 7 pm at Argenta Hall, listen to Sadie Parr, executive director of Wolf Awareness, discuss her organization’s concerns surrounding the provincial wolf kill program underway.

Partial work is centred on wolf and large carnivore conservation through scientific research, education, and informed advocacy. Parr is active in campaigns in Western Canada to end lethal reduction experiments, alternatively promoting compassionate conservation and wildlife management based upon a foundation of ethics, ecological responsibility, and social prosperity. For more information, go to http://wolfawarenessinc.org. Become informed. Become involved.

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Nakusp council, March 26: Residents asked to weigh in on cannabis

by Claire Paradis

Residents of Nakusp received a survey from the Village last week asking where they’d prefer to see recreational cannabis shops set up in town, if at all. The survey asks Nakupians how far from schools, seniors homes, and other cannabis outlets the shops should be allowed. As well as asking about when and when marijuana should be sold, the survey also asks where it should be permitted to be grown and smoked.

“Forty-two years ago when I started with municipalities, if somebody had told me I’d be writing a report about legalizing cannabis, I would have thought they were crazy,” said CAO Laurie Taylor. “But here we are.”

The Community

The Canadian government has said legalization of marijuana for recreational and medicinal purposes will be coming this summer. The Cannabis Act, Bill C-45, will make it legal to grow, sell, and possess cannabis for recreational purposes.

The marina will still be accessible from the first gate, and the work should only take a couple of days, Nakusp Launch Club Society President Ken France told the Valley Voice. The club has already obtained permission for the project from the Ministry of Environment, but the issue now is getting the right people for the job.

“We’re trying to use local contractors,” said France, explaining that this makes more like bridge construction than typical marina repair work. At the moment, most of the local contractors who can do the work also do the parking-lot lugging, and will be until spring breakup.

The costs of keeping the marina going are rising as it ages. The club spent $104,000 last year replacing the walers, which connect the floats. And the cables in the breakwater need replacing five or six times a year, France said.

“We’re trying to use local contractors,” said France. “We’d love to see the whole thing replaced.” But with the $25,000 they collect annually, that won’t be happening anytime soon.

Over the years, Village representatives have approached BC Hydro about building a breakwater for boats that would protect the marina from taking the brunt of bad weather. BC Hydro has refused to take responsibility for the marina, and has said there is no need for a breakwater because the marina itself serves as one. While this is true, incoming storms can quickly wreak massive destruction on the marina as it shelters the boat launch access point. And it’s difficult to find money to pay for repairs.

“We don’t have a lot of population to pay for it,” France said. “It’s a tricky balance trying to charge enough to maintain the marina, but not so much that it becomes unaffordable for locals. Because the club doesn’t own any land at the marina, it’s also not possible to offer the kind of care for boats that a landowner can offer, for those who can afford it.

“We’re most concerned about locals who just want to go fishing.”

by Katrine Campbell

News that approximately $500,000 has been granted by the BC Rural Dividend Fund and Columbia Basin Trust has Janis Neufeld “cautiously excited.” She is the project manager for the Nakusp and Area Bike Society, which will “cannily be 50 km of non-motorized trails.

“We’ve been incredibly successful in fundraising,” she said. “I am a little surprised, as I wasn’t expecting to get that much. We’re very appreciative and very cautious: it’s a lot of money and we have to be good stewards of the funding.”

Neufeld attributes some of the success to cooperation and collaboration, not competition, with other trail projects in the region. The trails complement each other and will help make the West Kootenay a world-class destination for mountain bikers.

The management team is in place and set to do maintenance on the existing trail. Although it seems like a lot of work, some of the trails already “fully-fledged, on-the-go green light” work on the rest of the trail will start April 30 and has the potential to take multiple years. The support under the walkway that Nakusp Launch Club Society is fixing will be coming this summer. The supports are part of the loading dock for the marina and the club is trying to keep it legal to grow, sell, and possess cannabis for recreational purposes.

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The Valley Voice   April 5, 2018

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ANNOUNCEMENTS
BUDDY’S PIZZA, KASLO: Award winning, hand-stretched artisan pizza. 250-355-2289
THINK SPRING! Egg-Cotera Feed now taking orders. 250-226-7034

CHILDREN’S WORKSHOP: HUMAN BODY & CHEMISTRY (ages 5-12) - March 31 to April 4. Tuesdays to Saturdays in the Silverton School Community Hall. Cost $4. For more info: 250-354-7596 or call Bonny at 250-354-7596.

SLOAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE: FREE CLINIC: The third Thursday of every month, 6-7:30 pm. Open to anyone. For more info: 250-352-5135

SLOCAN MASONIC LODGE: Ladies Night is Thursday, April 19, 7-10 pm. For more info: 250-358-2689.


OFFICE: Jackie & Stu’s Office - 250-226-7007

BRENNER’S socia: Chiropractic, Concussion Management, Cold Laser Therapy, & Family Practice. 250-355-2484

COMING EVENTS

SLOCAN V ALLEY RECREATION & PARKS: 2018 Spring Downtown Bottle Drive: Saturday, April 21. Bottles收集ed from 10 am to 4 pm, withCan'ts accepted in the bottle drive. 250-358-7218 for details.

SLOCAN MASONIC LODGE: A meeting will take place on Friday, April 13, beginning at 7 pm. 250-358-2689.


SLOCAN MASONIC LODGE: Lodge Meeting: Thursday, April 19, 7-10 pm. For more info: 250-358-2689.


SLOCAN V ALLEY RECREATION & PARKS: Slocan Weather Station: A Workshop for the Whole Family: Sunday 11 am to 1:30 pm, April 22. For more info: 250-358-7218.

SLOCAN MASONIC LODGE: An Open House will take place on Friday, April 27. 250-358-2689.

RECYCLING

BIBLICAL WISDOM SERVICE: 2016-2017: The theme for this year is: GROWING IN WISDOM. www.dawndevlin.ca

JEWELRY

JO’S JEWELRY: CUSTOM WORK AND REPAIR IN SILVER AND GOLD. 250-358-7218

RECYCLING

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RECYCLING

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A SPECIAL MEETING and AGM of the Carpenter Creek Last Wishes Society will be at Koa Hall on 7 pm Thursday, May 3, 2018.

SADIE PARR, executive director of Wolf Awareness, presents concerns about the BC wolf kill program at the Argenta Hall Wednesday, April 11, 7 pm. Hosted by Friends of the Langleys.

LIVE THEATRE PERFORMANCE - An Unconventional Life - Fri, Sat, Apr 20 & 21, 7:30 pm. Sun & 22, 4 pm. Based on the movie Yentl. Lynn van Deussen and Noemi Kiss perform this musical drama about a young Jewish woman who challenged tradition. Langham Theatre Kaslo. Tickets $15 Willow & Sunnyside.

KOHAN GARDEN SPRING CLEAN-UP: Please join us for the Kohan Garden Clean-up, scheduled this year on April 7 & 8. Join family and friends, any time between 9 am and 4 pm. Help spruce up the garden for another beautiful summer season. Bring a rake and gloves. Kohan Garden Society will provide a fine lunch and beverages. Door prizes.

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Food for Thought: Managing Conflict

Deborah Sword presents ‘Managing Conflict Better’. If you’ve had a problem with someone, have you asked yourself, ‘What could I have done differently?’ or ‘Why do I keep making mistakes that get me into conflict?’ or ‘When will I learn the lessons I need to deal with conflicts?’

Everyone offends someone sometime, often unintentionally. While conflicts will happen, managing them better is a goal within reach. In this interactive session participants will examine what Goldilocks and the Three Bears demonstrate about what limits our conflict strategies, and how to overcome those limits to be more conflict competent.

Most of Sword’s career has been in conflict management and she still loves the work. She started with a master’s degree in Environmental Dispute Resolution (let’s get this resolved). From there, she moved to Conflict Management, (let’s be more conflict competent now and in the future). For her doctorate, she studied Conflict Analysis, (let’s ask better questions about the heart of conflict, analyze earlier, and delve deeper).

Sword has convened thousands of innovative conflict management processes, locally and internationally, has taught conflict studies at universities and privately, and trained Boards of Directors in...
Submitted

Many organizations in the New Denver area work together to support year-round arts programming for local youth. Music, art, theatre, and dance education is available and accessible thanks to the Valhalla Fine Arts Society (VFAS), Slocan Lake Gallery Society, New Denver Youth Centre, Silverton Recreation Commission #6, School District #10, and Lucerne School. Combining their efforts, these organizations contribute bursaries and facilitate breakout sessions to participate in a variety of arts education opportunities.

This past fall and winter, many children participated in dance classes under the direction of Nicole Nicholson-Chodat. Music lessons took place at Lucerne School (piano), Anglican Church (voice), and in the local studios of Noel Fudge (guitar) and Martine denBok (violin). Over the spring break holiday, small groups met with local artists Sue Mistretta, Louise Ducharme, and Ellie Schoepens to learn new techniques while others enjoyed musical theatre with Lynette Lightfoot.

For the past three years, VFAS has coordinated bursaries for local music students pursuing lessons on string instruments, guitar, and voice with additional financial contributions from the Gallery Society and Recreation Commission #6. Funding has also supported travel costs for piano teacher Nancy Bertria to come to New Denver.

Silvertone from Nakusp to teach students aiming to meet criteria for conservatory examinations. Accomplished musicians Kelly Coubrough and Rebecca Fudge offer voice and piano lessons, and Kelly directs a Lucerne School choir as a volunteer. She is also directing a teen choir at the Outlet Youth Centre, made possible through funding from the New Denver Youth Centre Society. Valhalla Fine Arts is excited to announce a new summer choral program led by Coubrough that will include intensive vocal technique instruction in the mornings as well as choir in the afternoons.

In May, VFAS will work with Lucerne School staff to bring percussion education to all of the students in the school. Darren Salyon from Edmonton will bring his Big Band instruments and give school music classes over two weeks, ending with a performance on May 17. The performance evening will be a fundraiser for music and art education for local youth. This special opportunity is made possible through a generous donation to VFAS from the Anderson Family Trust for fine arts education for local youth.

The summer season kicks off with the annual “Your Town Raffle.” Your purchase of a $10 ticket supports the summer programs and gives you the opportunity to win a prize of $1,000, $500 or $250 cash value to be spent at local businesses. The raffle supports not only VFA programs, but also local businesses!

The summer brings exciting programs for participants of all ages: Music Explorers for 4-6 year olds (July 9-13); Experience and Peak Dance and ViSTA theatre (July 9-13 and July 16-20); Suzuki Valhalla Institute (August 6-10); Valhalla Summer School of Music (August 13-17); Vox Valhalla choral program by Kelly Coubrough (August 13-17); SOAR adult music retreat for adults who want to improve their string playing (August 13-17); and a Cello School for advanced cellists (August 19-26). A variety of public performances and concerts will take place throughout July and August.

Details and registration information are available on the website, www.valhallafinearts.org.

Valhalla Fine Arts Society offers accessible programming for local youth

And the name is...Slocan City Suites!

Submitted

The seniors’ affordable housing project in Slocan has a great new name.

“We considered many good possibilities, but when board member Lynnda Moore suggested Slocan City Suites, well, we thought about it and it put a smile on our faces,” said Rita Moir, president of the Slocan Valley Seniors’ Housing Society.

“There are a lot of names with Slocan in them all up and down the Valley, north and south, but there’s no confusion about where Slocan City is,” said Moir. “Slocan City Suites is a tip of the hat to Slocan’s historic name and is just plain fun to say.”

With spring finally here, the foundation is being poured for the Slocan City Suites second quadruplex at 709 Hume St (behind the library and wellness centre). The first quadruplex, with two one-bedroom units, was built and indoor drywall will be up. The society is hopeful funding for a third building will come through soon, and that the suites will be ready for occupancy late this fall.

The society will look at the first round of applications starting May 15. Anyone interested in applying for Slocan Valley Seniors’ Affordable Housing Project in Slocan City Suites can find information and application forms at www.svhousing.ca, at the Slocan Village Office, or by calling 250-226-7115 or writing to coordinator@svhousing.ca.

Prevention of Elder Abuse update released

Submitted

The Nelson & Area Elder Abuse Prevention Program (EAPP) has announced the release of the updated Prevention of Elder Abuse: A Nelson & Area Resource Manual. Financial support for this update came from the Nelson Seniors’ Coordinating Society and the BC Association of Community Response Networks.

The manual is available in binder format from 30 Nelson and rural community partners (e.g. service providers, churches, library, seniors associations, Community Services etc.). The manual is also available on line at nelsonelderabuseprevention.ca.

Elder abuse affects people of all races, religions and socio-economic status. Increased education, awareness and early intervention are the cornerstones to reducing the incidents and impact of elder abuse.


Correction

In Underwater archaeology follows steamship wrecks in the Kootenays, in our March 8 issue, we reported that the remains of the Kuskonook are on Nelson’s North Shore when in fact it’s the remains of the Nauskoon that are on Nelson’s North Shore.

City Suites can find information and application forms at www.svhousing.ca, at the Slocan Village Office, or by calling 250-226-7115 or writing to coordinator@svhousing.ca.

Community

Lillian Sheila Aylwin (nee McLennan)
February 9, 1939 – March 3, 2018

Slocan Valley staff and family were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Lillian Aylwin, who passed away on March 3, 2018.

Lillian Sheila Aylwin (nee McLennan) was born on February 9, 1939, the daughter of Pauline and Richard McLennan. She completed her early education in Nakusp and Nelson.

She married Terrence Aylwin in 1959 and they were blessed with six children. They raised their family in Nelson and managed a theatre and a music store. Lillian was well known for her tireless volunteer work for many local and national health charities, including the Canadian Cancer Society, the Heart and Stroke Foundation, and the Canadian Diabetes Association.

Lillian was a tremendous reader and loved going to the local library and enjoying books of all genres. She was a valued member of the Nelson Community Foundation and was an active volunteer at the Nelson Public Library. Lillian was a dedicated wife, mother, sister, and grandmother who will be deeply missed by her family.

She is survived by her husband, Terry, and their four children: Sarah, Mark, Elizabeth, and Amy, as well as 13 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Lillian is also survived by her sisters, Jane (Bill) and Joanne (Peter).

A celebration of Lillian’s life will be held on Saturday, March 10, at 1:00 p.m. in the Community Room at the Nelson Public Library. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the charity of your choice. Arrangements are under the direction of Valley Funeral Home. Online condolences may be viewed at www.valleyfh.ca.
An Unconventional Life

submitted

When local soprano Noémi Kiss decided she wanted to sing all the songs from the movie *Yentl* starring Barbra Streisand, she asked Kaslo thespian Lynn van Deursen if she could “write something theatrical” to link the songs together and create a performance piece.

Kiss then asked Nelson pianist Judy Runions if she’d be willing to transpose the orchestral score and accompany her.

Through the guise of a graduation speech, they tell the tale of an unconventional young woman and her passionate pursuit of an education.

At the Langham Theatre on Friday April 20 and Saturday 21 at 7:30 pm and Sunday April 22 at 4 pm. Tickets are $15, available at Sunnyside Naturals & Willow Home Gallery in Kaslo.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Nakusp Hot Springs Chalets & Campground will be CLOSED April 16-22 2018 inclusively for our Spring Maintenance.
Join us on April 23rd 2018 when we Re-Open!

$10 donation at the door. www.thelangham.ca.

submitted

FibreFeelia Fest comes back for 2018

submitted

A Kootenay Fibre Arts Event
When: weekend of June 30 & July 1, 2018
Where: New Denver, BC
• Workshops & Classes
• Demonstrations
• Displays
• Market Place
• Website: fibrefeeliafest.ca

submitted

SUBMITTED
Mark your calendars now for a delightful and friendly gathering of all things fibre in the Village of New Denver the weekend of June 30/July 1.

Even if you’ve only dabbled in the fibre arts or want to be inspired to something new, FibreFeelia is the place to go! Organizers are offering LOTS of workshops to tempt your artistic itch. Here are just a few to get the creative juices flowing: knitting—brioche, colour work, mosaic colour work; crocheting; needle felting; felt painting; felted slippers; dyeing; spinning; fibre blending; shibori and quilting.

In addition to sharing ideas and inspiration, our event wouldn’t be complete without vendors from the fibre community. Join the vendors in the gymnasium at the Lucerne School, 604 – 7th Ave, New Denver from 10 am – 5 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday. Admission is FREE with door prizes and draws.

Check the website fibrefeeliafest.ca for more information.

submitted

by: Slocan Waterfront Restoration & Development Society

邀 you to explore the Watershed Planning Team Model developed, successfully used and presented by Gerry Nelles of the Salmo Watershed Streamkeepers Society.

Join us to find out about this collaborative approach to shaping a multi-stakeholder restoration & development vision for our Slocan watershed.

WHEN April 12, 6-9pm
WHERE Slocan Legion, 502 Harold St.
coffee & dessert served

BY DONATION

submitted

A deep-rooted talk by Rossland farmer and agro-ecologist Andrew Bennet explores the complexity and beauty of the world beneath our feet. At the Langham Saturday, April 14, 3 pm Bennet will dig into the dirt and bring together a “big picture” view of agro-ecosystems, and how thriving soils are at the core of feeding ourselves.

Bennet is a peri-urban farmer and writer, who alongside his wife Caley and their two young sons runs Moon Gravity Farm. They raise and sell goat, lamb, chicken, eggs, vegetables, and a variety of plants for gardens and ecological restoration projects.

He will talk about how beauty itself is not just an aesthetic value, but a functional one that leads us to good ideas and efficient, well-functioning systems. He will also explore how serious soil-building on a global scale can solve climate change.

A Café Langham presentation, $10 donation at the door. www.thelangham.ca.

submitted

Lynn van Deursen and Noémi Kiss collaborated on An Unconventional Life.