Heli-Skiing, was at the meeting. People expressed appreciation that he was there and that he was approachable. He encouraged people to contact him, saying the company can adjust flight paths and has ideas on how to mitigate noise, as well.

Remple said the company has no plans for more flights, more helicopters, or more staging areas. The company has two helicopters that can carry six people – four guests in the back with the pilot and guide in the front. Stellar flies out of the Kaslo Airport and has a fuel cache at Schroeder Creek.

Residents told Remple they were concerned about the impacts of the heli-ski operation on the area’s peace and quiet and on wildlife. One resident pointed out that although Stellar is locally owned now, it may not be in the future – CMH and Retallack both used to be locally owned. Area D Director Aimee Watson suggested people include this concern in their comments on the website. "Ask if there is a way to put a covenant on the tenure regarding local ownership," she said.

Remple extended an invitation to the June 19 meeting at 7 pm at the Stellar hangar at the Kaslo Airport.

Retallack/Lower Kootenay Band is proposing a 45-year permit for a 700-square-kilometre tenure in the South Purcell for year-round helicopter-based recreation – heli-skiing, heli-biking, and heli-hiking. The proposal includes 161 kilometres of mountain bike trails.

"This would dramatically alter the South Purcell," Petryshen said. "This area is one of the last non-heavy-tenured areas in the Columbia Mountains."

Petryshen said the proposal would bring large scale trail building from mountainbou to valley floor in sensitive plant communities and in core habitat areas for goats, grizzlies, and mountain caribou.

"These large tenures affect wildlife," he said. Petryshen said there are many studies showing the impact of helicopter disturbance on wildlife. Helicopters cause stress in animals, he said, and where there is heavy use, animals abandon that habitat.

Petryshen pointed out that wildlife populations are declining. There are four caribou left in the South Purcell herd, and three in the South Selkirk herd. In the Central Selkirk, there are 31-33 caribou. "This is nothing like the historical numbers," he said.

Petryshen also spoke about the Cranbrook West Recreation Strategy, which covers the area in the Retallack/Lower Kootenay Band proposal. It was developed over more than two years by a diverse group of recreationalists. "It says we don't want helicopter use or public use. We want wildlife populations," Petryshen said. During the lively discussion after the presentation, several people spoke about their desire to live in peace and quiet, without a lot of helicopter traffic.

The inadequate consultation process was another point made. "You should be having a public town hall meeting with the proponent and the province," Director Watson said.

Some people said they feel there is a lack of attention to cumulative effects when the government assesses applications like these. "The piece that's missing is the cumulative effects management framework," said one resident. "Until that's part of the assessment process, the province puts us in the situation where we're holding individual proponents responsible, and they don't have clear guidelines."

It was clarified that the public can use tenure areas. Tenures are not exclusive; however, if two companies want tenure over the same area, there has to be a joint use agreement.

One resident underlined the importance of public comments. "Most of the applications that have been denied recently in the West Kootenay were because of public comment," she said. Petryshen concurred. "They seem to care about the people who vote, so they when they hear a lot of public outcry, they take that into account."

To comment on the applications, go to the arfd website (www.arfd.gov.bc.ca) and do an ‘advanced search’ using the file number #4405893 for the Retallack/Lower Kootenay Band proposal and #4404298 for the Stellar proposal.
Two families to make their escape to Kaslo this summer

by Claire Paradis

Out of hundreds of entries, two families have won a four-day total immersion experience of Kaslo, thanks to the BC Rural Centre’s Escape the City contest.

It was a tough decision, reports Randy Morse, Communications Director for the BC Rural Centre, who said that sifting through the entries was deeply moving.

“I appreciate that I get to live in a place like Kaslo. Places like this become increasingly important when we look forward to the lives of our kids and grandkids who will live on this planet,” Morse said.

So what made the winners the winners?

“These two families were almost L-O-L for their enthusiasm directed to this little village,” Morse said.

“Rochelle [Longval] said between sobs of happiness ‘this is the most wonderful thing that has happened to us in our lives.’

The Stobers were raised in small town BC, and were not only familiar with the lifestyle but also anxious to raise their kids in a rural environment. And Morse said a lot of entries came from people saying that even if they didn’t win, they intend to visit Kaslo.

It was BC Rural Centre’s Executive Director Gordon Borgstrom that originally came up with the idea for a contest as an idea to recruit people from the city. Morse immediately jumped on board and volunteered Kaslo to be the destination.

“It is fun, and catchy. It’s a contest, after all. They could win something,” said Morse about the contest’s huge response.

But it also led to some soul-searching to identify the “compelling assets” that make Kaslo unique and desirable.

“It has to be more than a beautiful environment, or the SS Moyie,” Morse argued. “It has to be the people that live in the place.”

And how did Kaslo respond to the announcement of the contest?

“Amazingly positive,” answered Morse, for the most part. Some people were concerned that the contest was focusing on attracting youngish, creative people who would bring their work with them, or have the wherewithal to start a business that’s place appropriate.

“Ideally, the contestants had been in the place before,” said Morse, who added that “the worst thing people can do is come in and ignore a place’s history and start bossing people around. We tried to ensure they were people who have a good chance of sticking around and who the locals will get along with.”

It was no cakewalk for the finalists who were asked what they were prepared to contribute to the community in live interviews with a panel of Kaslo citizens. Emphasis was put on choosing people who were already engaged in the community where they live. And the winners aren’t winning days on the beach; they’ll be immersed in the local scene starting June 29, added Morse.

The winning Longvals and Stobers will be staying at the Kaslo Hotel for four nights and touring the town’s beautiful K-12 school, and checking out real estate options in the area. Their immersion will include visiting with business owners and non-profit leaders, hanging out with locals who share their interests, as well as boating, hiking, kayaking, swimming, mountain biking, and sampling local cuisine and craft brews.

If all goes well, the BC Rural Centre will be looking at helping other communities connect with people who are a good match for their town and want to make the move out of the city. All it takes is people willing to make it happen, says Morse.

“Every morning we have a choice: choose to get up and stumble through our day, knowing something is going to change, and certain we’re not going to like it. Or, get up and say ‘I’m going to see if I can change something.’ Are you going to let change happen to you, or are you going to shape it?”

Jean-Michel and Rochelle Longval are coming to Kaslo this summer as winners of BC Rural Centre’s ‘Escape the City contest, designed to attract young people to move to rural areas. They will have a four-day immersion in Kaslo this summer to size it up as their potential new home.

Marcus and Heather Stober-English and their daughters were one of two families who won the BC Rural Centre’s ‘Escape the City’ contest, designed to attract young people to move to rural areas.
Report on healthy aging in New Denver presented to the public

by Katrine Campbell

After a year-long study financed by Interior Health, three researchers from the University of Victoria Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health presented a report on healthy aging in New Denver to an audience of about 25 at the Knox Hall last month.

Dr. Denise Cloutier, Karen Kobayashi and Kyla Fitzgerald studied community strengths and capacities to support healthy aging in the village and the surrounding communities. Although Cloutier said New Denver was the original focus of the study, as they gathered information from locals, they started to think of the broader community. They used an asset-based (what is already here) rather than a needs-based approach, and came up with recommendations to help seniors stay healthy and happy. The team had partners from local government and an advisory committee of municipal leaders, seniors’ advocates, business owners, health care professionals and others.

Access to information was high on the list of recommendations. Suggestions included a seniors’ planning council and a central source of information on resources and services, possibly using Columbia Basin Trust funding to hire a coordinator. This need had come up in focus groups and in individual interviews, Fitzgerald said. Newcomers to the area had told her they didn’t know who to talk to, or where to volunteer.

Two juvenile cougars trapped and killed in Nakusp

by Jan McMurray

The Kootenay Herb Conference was held in Winlaw School June 1–3—the first time the conference has been held in the Slocan Valley.

Held every other year, the conference originated in Creston in 2014, organized by Rachel Beck. It was held in Creston in 2016 and 2018, and then Beck passed it on to the West Kootenay Permaculture Council. “We do own it in the Slocan Valley while keeping the essence of the conference that Rachel created— to bring together herbalists who are working in their communities and share knowledge and connect people together through plant medicine,” said Colleen Emery, one of the key organizers. Emery says this year’s conference went extremely well. “We are absolutely thrilled with the outcome,” she said. “We are excited about the next conference and we already have begun outlining our offering for June of 2020.”

There were about 200 people at the Winlaw event this year, including 115 participants, 30 instructors with 30 assistants, and 25 volunteers. There were also 20 vendors in the marketplace on the school grounds.

Emery says 60% of the attendees came from the West Kootenay, and the rest came from all over, including Vernon, Kelowna, Vancouver, Vancouver Island, Northern BC, Calgary, Edmonton, southern Alberta, Manitoba, Minnesota, Montana, Idaho, and Washington.

This year’s theme was ‘herbalism in community.’ On June 2, a panel discussion was held to generate ideas for how herbalists can reach out to the community. Panelists suggested working with schoolchildren (an after school herb club, for example), offering classes, leading herb walks, speaking at your community library, offering your services at no charge too while, connecting with other health practitioners to encourage referrals, and joining the various associations such as the “Weed Herbalist Association of BC,” which provide resources and support.

“IT’s the people’s medicine,” said one of the panelists, Yarrow Willard. Tony Beck pointed out that there is a lot of information about herbalism available at no charge, on YouTube channels, for example.

“The energy on site throughout the weekend was so supportive and wonderful,” said Emery. “Folks left with a real infusion of plant medicine to take with them into their work.”

Kootenay Herb Conference brings 200 people to Winlaw

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Who’s afraid of electoral reform

I just read through the seven-page executive summary and recommendations from the attorney general’s report on the electoral reform referendum. The four guiding principles seem easy to accept: local representation, proportionality, simplicity, and no significant change in the size of the legislature.

What I found interesting is that all three PR systems offer local representation and proportionality. Even more interesting is that some features of our current system are used to achieve local representation, but cannot deal with proportionality.

If accepted, I understand that an all-party committee of the legislative assembly, election administrators, and the public will work out specific systems, eligibility to vote, it will still be you, me, and our neighbours casting our votes— I’m not sure where the extremist groups will come from?

So where is the fear factor?

Ron Robinson

Opportunity to dialogue with Marilyn James

As a longtime resident in Sinixt territory, I have found the recent developments of ‘other’ tribal claims to Sinixt lands and resources extremely confusing and sad. I have been aware of the Sinixt situation and their work to reverse their declared extinction by the Canadian Government since the 1980s. I remain supportive of that Sinixt position and do not understand why other tribal groups are demonstrating support for Sinixt recognition.

All the claims and information I have heard seem convoluted, conflicting, and confusing. I have bad conversations with many others who feel the same way. In my heart, I think so many of us want to understand and to do the right thing, and feel that we need to have access to information from someone willing to dialogue with us and to help us to gain a clearer understanding.

I understand that Marilyn James is coming to Nakusp for her book launch on June 20 so I asked if she would be willing to give interested Nakusp community members an opportunity to dialogue with her. Her book launch will be from 7 to 9 pm at the library and all who are interested are invited to attend a question and answer following the formal talk.

Bring your questions or just come and listen to the Sinixt perspective from Marilyn and others travelling with her.

Walter Pasieka

Open letter to PM Trudeau:

For Libya style intervention in Gaza

During events in May, the Israeli army opened fire on unarmed protesters in Gaza, killing 110 and wounding over 3,500 by live ammunition fire. This was the first time Israel attacked Gaza. Wars in 2008, 2012, and 2014 left 3,800 dead and 3,500 by live ammunition fire. This was not the first time Israel attacked Gaza. Wars in 2008, 2012, and 2014 left 3,800 dead and 15,000 wounded. The United Nations organized a military intervention in Libya in 2011, which Canada took part in, to prevent the Qaddafi led government from killing its people during suppression of riots there. It is time for a similar intervention in Gaza.

The next attack could happen anytime.

Gaza is very densely populated with over 5,000 people per square kilometre. 1.4 million of its 2 million population are descendants of refugees driven out of what is now Israel. The place is run like a prison with Israel restricting movement in and out. Food imports are restricted to the minimum caloric intake. The water supply is polluted. The people of Gaza get only two to four hours of electricity a day. The giant Leviathan natural gas field lies offshore. All its benefits go to Israel.

More than military intervention is needed. UN reports say Gaza will become uninhabitable by 2020. The blockade of Gaza needs to be lifted so it can rebuild. If action is not taken now, the events of last May will replay on a larger scale.

A good source of information about the events of last May will replay on a larger scale. A good source of information about life in the occupied territories is: english.

Opinions expressed in published letters are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Valley Voice.

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The Valley Voice welcomes letters to the editor and community news articles from our readers.

Letters and articles should be no longer than 500 words and may be edited. We reserve the right to reject any submitted material. Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your address and daytime phone number for verification purposes. We will not knowingly publish any letter that is defamatory or libellous. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters signed with pseudonyms, except in extraordinary circumstances.

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The next attack could happen anytime.

The Valley Voice

Waste heat for greenhouses

In 1970, the engineering club from Stanley Humphries Senior Secondary in Castlegar attended a supper in Trail. The guest speaker was from Romania. He explained that in Romania, they used the waste heat from thermo-electric plants to heat greenhouses and supply all of Europe with winter produce. Waste heat from electric plants is just like the waste heat from your car: neither can operate without wasting heat.

So why not, in the case of electric plants, use this heat in Canada to grow winter produce rather than burn millions upon millions of litres of fossil fuels to import produce to Canada? This adds to global warming and greenhouse gases while we waste heat from electric plants.

Using waste heat for greenhouses provides a much more economical growing operation. Canada is legalizing ‘pot.’ Greenhouses that once produced food are going to ‘pot’ as presented by news broadcasts. When you interpret the news, you see that the legalization of ‘pot’ was done to make a select group of Canadians very rich.

Debate over pipelines has politicians talking about doing good things for Canada and Canadians. They talk the talk; now let us see if they can walk the walk. It should be legislated that in order to grow ‘pot’ the grower must produce a food crop of equal value to that of the ‘pot’ crop, the value of the food crop to be assessed at 2015 market prices. The last thing Canadians need is a $35 tomato.

Canadians cannot live by ‘pot’ alone. They need to eat. (Four million Canadians do not know where their next meal is coming from.) So, to make growing food a condition of growing ‘pot,’ Canadians will be fed, a good thing for Canadians. If in doing this we eliminate the carbon footprint of millions of millions of litres of fossil fuels being used to transport food to Canada, then this is a good thing for Mother Earth and the environment we live in. Greenhouse gases and hence effects on global warming are eliminated.

Ed Varney

Vallican
The Métis
Prayer reveals
spiritual beauty
May I walk in beauty.
Since time immemorial, poets and philosophers have been inspired to express beauty. Here are examples:

"Tiger, tiger, burning bright in the forests of the night, What immortal hand or eye could frame thy fearful symmetry?" (William Blake)

"In the beauty of creation, we are witnessing absolute moral bankruptcy in Gaza. A genocide is happening. This is a modern-day David and Goliath story - stone throwers against one of the major nuclear powers of the world. Unarmed protesters including pregnant women and children are not spared when soldiers with sniper rifles find them in their scopes. Teenage male protesters are shot in the genitals and their screams are enjoyed with a sadistic glee by the snipers. Gaza is the biggest open air prison in the world. Apartheid is practiced upon an occupation that has no power. Half a million children are forced to live in poverty and the water is contaminated. International laws are broken on a regular basis in Gaza.

De Norman Finlayson, a few and a true humanitarian, has condemned the virulent, lunatic State of Israel for its atrocities committed against a defenseless people. He has said numerous times how he feels about the Palestinians. Beauty cries out for the liberation of Palestine!

Manor, Manitou

Jacques Savard

Jens Derksen

Nelson

Our public commons under threat
New applications for commercial tenure on Crown land are now pending. Despite a moratorium on winter adventure tourism applications in the Slocan region of the West Kootenay, one was accepted by the government from Stellar Heli-skiing, who want to add 38,000 ha to their existing tenure of 70,000 ha. This has serious implications for Kootenay Lake residents. Directly affected would be recreational hill skiers, slalomers, users of backcountry trails and society-run, host groups, friends, and family, who, of course, wildland, dispersed over an area near our Trout Lake and Jumbo Pass in the north to Kokanee Glacier Park in the south, this application would take in almost all remaining non-tenured ski touring areas currently used. Many of the blocks are close to Kalo, where people can ski without having to drive far. Only about one-fifth of the Kootenays go high enough to enable self-propelled access to ski terrain. Highway 31A around Fish Lake/Retallack sees a lot of use in winter. Many backcountry users in the Kootenays go high enough to be feasible to share terrain with helicopters, due to the danger of triggering avalanches from groups above. The noise of loud machines is not part of what we want in a backcountry environment.

Another application, a proposal from Retallack and the Lower Kootenay Band, gave a lot of worry to them. Are they asking for 70,000 ha in areas of the Purcells that are still relatively untouched and wild. This would include summer hiking, fishing, and mountain biking, as well as winter skiing. This region is home to endangered and at-risk species, such as the mountain wolverine, birds, plants, fungi, and others. These animals can abandon traditional feeding grounds due to human presence and loud noise from machines. For example, many of the proposed mountain bike trails would pass through prime huckleberry patches, increasing the chance of bear-biker conflicts. Mountain goats are declining in alpine areas, especially vulnerable in winter when stress from helicopter traffic can make them expend valuable energy to leave preferred habitat. Retallack is proposing several flight paths across Kootenay Lake, which would impact residents from Kalo to Crawford Bay. Many of us choose to live in the West Kootenay for the beauty, quiet, and wilderness of the landscape. Even people who do not participate in adrenaline sports appreciate that we still have wild lands that are undisturbed, tenured, and that support populations of wild animals. Does every piece of Crown land have to be controlled or developed in these ways? Please voice your opposition to these applications. Stellar Heli-skiing at:

https://arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationViewing/viewpoint.jsp?PostID=54966
Retallack at: https://arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationViewing/viewpoint.jsp?PostID=54966

Kim Walker and Tom Duchastel

Kalo

Truth doesn't mean much to the new NDP government
Our Slocan Valley communities have just experienced a shocking betrayal by the Interior Health Authority (IH). IH has led us on for over a year, claiming to be seeking for an additional physician for the Slocan Community Health Centre. IH was given a film made by ICandy Films to advertise the benefits of our communities.

After a year, IH claimed the search had failed, and it would therefore have to reduce our emergency room hours (by 72%). We were led to believe our community was not sufficiently inviting to doctors, but it turned out that IH had never used the film.

Once residents distributed the film, almost immediately it attracted a physician who put in a bid on a house and prepared to move to our community here. To our collective dismay, an IH representative sabotaged this by warning the physician that the continuation of the Emergency Health Centre (SCHC) is dubious. Whereas an emergency room closure has not discouraged the new doctor from seeking the position, the SCHC Health Centre itself would be shut down might well be considered fatal to her and our prospects. What a revelation! Now we know why IH couldn't find a doctor – it didn’t want to find one.

IH claims this proposed step is based on acute lack of funding and other mbumo jumbo, but the agenda is directly a result of the BC government’s spending priorities. Among other things, billions of our tax dollars are being extravagant on Site C, the mega-dam project, which this very NDP government was livelyly against it took office.

For over 35 years the NDP opposed Site C construction, and Horgan campaigned on the promise of shutting down the dam project and supporting renewable energy. Once in office, Horgan and the NDP reversed their position – one which Andrew Weaver, a Green Party MLA and co-partner in forming the present government, denounced as “pure politics.”

Consider John Horgan’s capacity for double-talk when on the radio in 2015 (CBC Daybreak North) the commissioneer said that “it is the potential for Site C in the future in this province?” Horgan replied: “Well there are very few energy experts that would suggest that today you put nine or ten or eleven billion dollars into 1950s technology... it strikes me that a better course of action, over the long term, based on the environmental assessment that was done about Site C, that rather than lose money over the next number of years by producing more energy than we can absorb, let’s incrementally improve our demand side that means public buildings, schools, hospitals... to improve our efficiency which will reduce the need. We also create jobs in every corner of the province.”

Horgan went on to say: “We’ve got more power than we need. This was identified in the environmental assessment of Site C. I expect we’re heading toward 11, 12 billion and that comes out of your pockets for power we don’t need.” And isn’t that what we’ve seen in cutbacks in health care, social services, education, and not to mention the prospective loss of employment involved in closing our health care facility?

A UCBC report (2017) states that Site C would not be completed until 2036 and that “Losses from exporting Site C electricity (which must be sold below cost due to enlargement of alternative power, solar especially) will amount to another $2 billion by 2036.” Cancellation of the project would have saved billions. The former CEO of BC Hydro, Marc Elise, states: “There never was a business case to start construction of Site C.”

During the 53 years I’ve lived in the New Denver area, I voted NDP, but now, at age 86, with the NDP’s callous aim at cutting rural hospital services and then their existence, it is threatening my life and the lives and safety of every man, woman and child that lives in this area. They’ve said they’ve cut the budget, but they’ve lost my respect and with it has come a complete distrust of Interior Health, which is the façade for the Ministry of Health’s cut-backs and shut-down agenda.

The NDP is using misrepresentation and shocking double-talk to obscure its hidden agenda, while throwing billions into Site C. IH’s deceptions regarding our Health Centre mirror Horgan’s deceptions on Site C, and suggest that truth doesn’t matter much to this new government.

Now that the NDP has gained office, Horgan evidently thinks that a complete reversal of policy aims in getting elected means nothing to the public – they won’t remember it for very long – but he’s wrong.

We now know that, according to medical research in California, heart attack victims have a 30% higher 90-day mortality rate due to emergency room closures that prolong the travel time to the nearest ER by 30 minutes or more. And that’s just one kind of emergency that can happen. IH’s aim at cutting back our ER hours, much less its now evident agenda of eventually shutting down our health care facility, itself, is an unconscionable indifference which increases risk to the lives of every person, and must be actively resisted.

Richard Caniell

Silverton

Retallack & Lower Kootenay Band backcountry proposal
I would like to respond to this proposal for recreational use of a large area of wilderness, south of the Purcell Wilderness Area. The impacts of this proposal need to be carefully considered. Our Crown land is a public trust that requires care and respect for all living things in general, not just wildlife.

This proposal would see extreme mountain bikers transported with their bikes to mountaintops, so they can tear through the alpine terrain on their way down, and be helicoptered back again. A helicopter pad in Crawford Bay would see, and hear, many flights to a backcountry lodge and cabin, winter and summer. All of this activity would only benefit those who can afford to pay and play for their thrills and adrenaline rushes.

All our relations, such as grizzly bear, mountain goat, caribou, wolverine, birds, plants, fungi, and local people, are asked to take a back seat to the interest of a few. I don’t call this a wise use of our public trust. Some of the flora and fauna of our unique interior wetbelt are already endangered. Our region is fragile. Both need enough wilderness to regenerate and survive, and we are the only ones who can grant them that access.

Please check Wildsight.ca for more information, and let your government know your thoughts.

Linnea Morris

Creston
**LETTERS**

The Valley Voice  
June 14, 2018

**Why is the BC government risking people’s lives by closing health care services in rural communities?**

by Anne Woods

The BC governments of our time have a high degree of uncritical trust that they are doing so for our health care system. They call it “regionalization.” What it really means is that they are closing health care facilities from smaller hospitals, so that health care funding and services are concentrated in the largest hospitals of a region. But concentration of health care in fewer locations works a hardship on growing numbers of British Columbians and can even endanger their lives.

The current threat to reduce the emergency room hours of the Sicamous Community Hospital is only one step in “regionalization” that has been going on in BC since the 1990s; it is also happening in other provinces and has been rampant in the US.

In closing or threatening to close local emergency rooms, the BC government is forcing residents who need better treatment at “alternate sites.” But that is deceitful spin doctoring. Better emergency care is both intervention for serious conditions such as heart attack, stroke, trauma, breathing difficulties and other life-threatening crises as well as an extra one- or two-hour driving time to an emergency room can kill you.

**Increased patient death rates linked to emergency room closures**

- A study at the University of California has linked emergency room closures with increased death rates at nearby hospitals that receive the extra patients. There is increased mortality for patients with or more had had a significant decrease in mortality.

- Those who increased their driving time to the nearest emergency room of 30 minutes or more had a 30% higher 90-day mortality and 21% higher 1-year mortality.

- Thus the longer driving time lowers one’s chance of survival after leaving the hospital and as much as a year later.

- People from areas with ED closures needed more intravenous treatment and suffered poorer health outcomes, so that the extra 30 minutes in an ambulance can have long-term effects on the lives of those who do survive.

- The researchers say that, due to ED closures, people may delay seeking help, and die at home or erate. Such deaths were not included in the California studies, so the statistics they calculated were not describing what was happening.

The Hidden Agenda

Some years ago the Interior Health Au- thority (IH) issued a report. One government wanted to shut down the helicopter port at the Sicamous Health Care Centre, claiming that it was not needed. But 6,000 residents wanted to upgrade it. But when, due to community protest, the upgrade was finally achieved, it cost a tiny fraction of IHAs’ projections. This, among other things, has raised serious questions about the IHA’s cost accounting when it is used to justify removing health care services or facilities.

A number of hospitals in BC have had emergency room closures or threatened closures — Kaslo, Princeton, Kamloops, etc. Where is the plan or policy behind this? The BC government has never given us a provincialwide accounting for this. What are they planning for smaller towns and rural areas. How many emergency room closures or other with draws have occurred over the years and planned? What health care facility is next in line? Or does the IHA simply pick off one area by one area (there isn’t enough money, or they can’t find enough doctors)?

Recently the IHA told residents of the Sicamous Health Care Centre that it could not find a doctor to help staff the emergency room, thus the cutback in hours was unavoidable. The doctors themselves had found a doctor, the IHA told her it might close the whole facility down in the future, and that she would have a high overhead setting up a practice. The IHA’s hidden agenda to defund and close down our health care centre stood revealed.

The Nelson Case Study

Many doctors are very concerned about the increasing deficiencies in access to rural health care because of regionalization. BC has already experienced cuts to beds, staff and services at many hospitals. Closing an emergency room decreases the patient load at regional hospitals. If hospital beds are simultaneously cut, emergency room staffing levels and patient overtime cannot be transferred quickly enough into a bed, so the emergency room becomes clogged with patients.

The fact is that the withdrawal of services from Nelson Hospital 16 years ago has become a case study in medical circles for how regionalization has harmed health care. (5) The only information comes from an article by several physicians who practiced at Nelson hospital (Kootenay Lake Hospital) after regionalization (Fleet, et al., Journal of Rural Medicine, 2013):

- Do you know that the Nelson hospital served 30,000 municipal and rural residents, in 2002 the BC government eliminated the general surgical program, intensive care unit (ICU) and inpatient mental health unit; radiography and laboratory services were reduced. The emergency room was closed to all medical services 1 hour and 15 minutes away. The article tells the story of a woman who needed an emergency surgery but no surgeon was available to do it, but instead she died in the ambulance on the way to Trail.

- From 2006 through 2009 there were between 1,100 and 1,500 ambulance transfers from Nelson to Trail every year.

- Doctors notified the Health Authority that patient transfers were increasingly critical. By delayed, there wasn’t enough staff to care for critically ill patients in the extended periods, and there were close calls where patients could have died.

- Nothing was done, so the doctors began a vigorous campaign and got press release, rally, and discussions with Interior Health, politicians, media, and patient advocacy groups. The journal article states that the IHA pressured physicians not to speak out and “instilled fear in fellow physicians.”

- Over a 1-year period following the media events, 5 full-time Emergency Department (ED) physicians who were internists resigned. In total, 4 physicians left BC for other provinces. For a period of one year, none of the ED staff was about half of the time by locals.

- The physicians did succeed in gaining IHA to fund a fund raising CT scan. Once it was purchased, the IHA allowed it to be used only during business hours on weekdays for people with a stroke who lost functions or died on the way to Trail for a CT scan. The IHA wasn’t going to pay for CT scans after hours in Nelson.

- As a result of the Nelson case study, by 2013 five Canadian universities were partnering in research projects to study the problems of access to rural emergency care.

- For instance, their research has shown that rural hospitals in Canada have a higher mortality rate for stroke than urban hospitals. The authors believe this may be related to far fewer FT scans and ICUs in rural hospitals.

The fact is that our health care has already deteriorated under regionalization. Every government representative lectured disgruntled rural residents that they just can’t have the same degree of health care in big cities. Who, is asking for that? Rural residents know that there are technological limitations at smaller health care centres, but that doesn’t mean that for an existing CT scan for which the government refuses to provide operational funds, it does not excuse refusing to adequately fund the Sicamous Health Care Centre, which already exists and has been supported by previous governments for years.

In New Denver/Silverton and surrounding rural area, waiting times to see a doctor for routine problems, even for two weeks, so the emergency room provides treatment for many cases in which patients are in acute distress and should be at least assessed quickly. The planned emergency room closure in New Denver that for 73% of the year, one will either have to wait weeks to get Nakusp, Nelson or Trail, or call an ambulance. The reality is that in many cases, attempts to actually get service won’t work, and their condition is bad enough that they have no choice.

Where are our tax dollars going?

Firstly, regionalization shifted untold amounts of funding from patient care into hospital management with a restructure of six different Health Authorities with six different boards and other positions.

Secondly, BC has suffered for years under successive governments that squeezed social, environmental and health services to cater to Big Business.

Our new government has laudably sought to rectify this imbalance by increasing funding for a number of social services. However, mega-project developments such as the Site C dam ($10 billion and rising), and a new subsidy to Liquified Natural Gas corporations ($6 billion per year), continue to tower over the $1 billion per year for three decades dedicated to expansion and upgrading of medical facilities and the increase by $1.5 billion of healthcare operational spending.

As long as regionalization marches on, much of the new health care expenditure may be outfitting hospitals for additional patient loads due to closure of services elsewhere. The result is increasing inequality in access to health care. In the US, it has been documented that services are being selectively withdrawn from poorer communities, whereas in BC, it’s the smaller towns and rural residents that are bearing the brunt of the increased health risks of more distant health care.

When boasting of new funds for hospitals, the government should be up front about how much the hospitals have or will be experiencing closures. It should disclose the province wide figure for all the ambulances transferred to closed hospitals or emergency services to another, and the cost of all the air evacuations. It should keep in mind in research projects to study the problems of access to distant hospitals. In an era where we desperately need to cut the use of fossil fuels, it would make much sense to expand and upgrade an equitable distribution of health care services.

Increased costs for medical care, brought about by an increasing population, and particularly by an aging population, require governments to return from their love affair with Big Business corporations, to the service of the public interest. The emergency care crisis in BC shows that our current government, while it started out in the right direction, is shockingly far from making that transition.


6. Fleet, R., Bussieres, S., Tuijnman, F., Tur- cotte, S., Légare F., Plant et al., “Nelson: Regionalized emergency medical care is in the wrong direction, is shockingly far from making that transition.”

This article has been paid for by the author.
Columbia River Treaty community meeting in Nakusp

submitted

On May 29, negotiations began between Canada and the US to renew the Columbia River Treaty, a series of community meetings to gather public input started June 11. The Nakusp meeting is on June 21 at the community complex.

The construction of dams on the Columbia River transformed a wild waterway into a controlled system of reservoirs managed by the CRT, the largest international flood control and power generation agreement.

WildSafeBC hosts free electric fence workshop

We are now into late spring and with this comes the emergence of an array of wildlife and the season’s beginning of the WildSafeBC program. This provincial program promotes awareness of ways to live in harmony with wildlife through education, innovation, and cooperation.

To kick off the season, a free electric fence workshop is being held in Nakusp, June 27 from 6:30 to 8 pm at the Seniors’ Hall, 210 8th Ave. Correctly installed and maintained electric fencing provides a cost-effective and easy solution to prevent wildlife conflicts. This workshop will discuss different fence designs for permanent and temporary fences that can be adapted to your particular needs. Please register ahead by calling WildSafeBC Community Coordinator Bree Lillies at 250-354-8120 or email newdenver@wildsafebc.com.

WildSafeBC offers residents the knowledge and tools to be proactive with their attractant management. Its motto is “Keeping wildlife wild and communities safe” which underscores the belief that if we can keep wildlife unhabituated we can, in turn, make our communities safer for us and keep wildlife from coming to harm. For more information, contact Lillies, check out www.wildsafebc.com and follow at facebook.com/wildsafebc/newdenver-nakusp.

WildSafeBC New Denver-Nakusp is made possible through the support from the Ministry of Environment, the BC Conservation Foundation, the RDCK, CBT and the Village of New Denver.

One of the people at the meeting was James Madden, a certified mountain guide and climber, who offered his services as an instructor. NSS principal Peter Gajda said later that a meeting had been scheduled for this week and it looked as though there were enough people to form a society. “The kids have downloaded example bylaws, and have space at Nakusp council to request [MIA] association membership for the society.”

According to Living Lakes Canada Executive Director Kat Hartwig, it’s time “to look beyond just past the river.” Hartwig attended a special one-day symposium on the future of the CRT on May 28 in Victoria as part of the Canadian Water Resources Association national conference. Out of the symposium came pressing recommendations for the CRT negotiations. These were to restore wild stock salmon (in support of the transboundary First Nations and Tribes calling for the return of salmon to the Upper Columbia); to re-establish a more natural river system through ecosystem-based management that includes local community leaders, First Nations/Tribes, and other key stakeholders; to commit to an independent review of the Columbia River as if no borders existed; to address climate change through developing more resiliency for aquatic and riparian communities; and to create a bi-national science panel to oversee comprehensive water quality and ecosystem based monitoring programs and scientific investigations.

“The negotiations are seen as an opportunity to modernize the CRT, and that greater emphasis should be placed on watershed-based ecosystem function and health,” she said. “Living Lakes Canada (LLC) is interested in the monitoring and health of the tributaries and high elevation lakes that feed into the Columbia River. Climate-related increased glacial melt will impact the amount and timing of water contributing to the river, which is both relevant to the CRT dialogue, as well as the understanding of the health of the watershed as a whole.”

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“Living Lakes Canada is encouraging people to attend the CRT Community Meetings in June to get a better understanding why community-based water monitoring is important if a modernized treaty is going to take ecosystem health into account,” said Hartwig.

The Columbia River Treaty Community Meetings are hosted by the provincial government and will provide an update on negotiations, and host discussions on important community interests that should be considered during the negotiations.

WildSafeBC hosts free electric fence workshop

NSS climbing wall project moving steadily ahead

by Katrine Campbell

The students behind the ambitious NSS climbing wall project are busy adapting their project to build a large climbing wall – or two – at Nakusp Secondary are working on their next challenge: forming a society so the community can be involved.

At a public meeting May 29, student spokespeople Kiley Waterfield, Cameron Mackintosh and Taylor Poilinyi introduced their concept and brought the students up to date on their progress. Participants were asked if they were interested in the project, which has been put on hold while the students research and develop their concept and bring an appropriate number of people to form a society. “The kids have downloaded example bylaws, and have space at Nakusp council to request [MIA] associate membership for the society.”

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VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER
PUBLIC NOTICES

Watering Restrictions
No use of sprinklers between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm on any day

Property Taxes
Property owners of the Village of New Denver are reminded that 2018 Property Taxes have been mailed out. Property Tax Payments are due on or before Monday, July 16, 2018. Please contact the office if you have not received your notice.

Wildlife Attractant Bylaw
Council will be considering adoption of the following amendments to the Village’s Waste Management Bylaw 581, 2004 at the Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday June 26th. If you have any questions please contact CAO Bruce McKenzie.

Wildlife Attractant Bylaw

**Village of Slocan Valley**

Whole School kids spring clean Passmore Lodge

Every year Whole School students volunteer their time and energy towards a specific social issue, brainstorming causes they could contribute to, and then voting on them. This year the students decided that they wanted to help the elders in their community. The Whole School connected with Ruth Hacker, a volunteer with the Slocan Valley Seniors Group, and Lyndza Moore, a volunteer on the Passmore Lodge Garden Committee. With their support and enthusiasm, the students had a great day cleaning up the yard and gardens at the lodge by pruning, weeding and moving rocks.

The lodge does not have a gardener this year so volunteers from the Passmore Garden Committee worked to keep the gardens and grounds looking beautiful. There is a lot to be done and the students made a big dent through their generosity. “This was a wonderful experience for all of us,” says Hackett. “We got the kids involved in removing unwanted rocks, cutting back dead brush and weeding. They did more than we expected!”

Gardening, food systems and outdoor education have been significant themes for the students throughout this school year. In addition to their outdoor Fridays (outdoor leadership program), students have been involved with the Bee Awareness observation “hives in-school” program, continuing to slowly build their own Whole School permaculture garden, creative writing in the outdoors, and, this spring, helping at Passmore Lodge.

Last year Whole School students raised funds for the Valhalla Wilderness Society Western Toad Project by having a baked goods sale. Their interest in the toads grew from noticing press about this endangered species and a desire to have an impact locally with their generosity project. This year’s project similarly encroached engagement with a local issue.

The school strives to create a nurturing and safe environment and has chosen to block all WiFi and cellfree phone signals at the school. The Whole School is now accepting applications for Kindergartener and elementary level students. Financial help is available.

For more information contact the school at wholeschool@gmail.com or call (250) 226-7737.

Whole School students had a great day cleaning up the yard and gardens at the lodge by pruning, weeding and moving rocks.

VILLAGE OF SILVERTON AND THE HEALTHY COMMUNITY SOCIETY OF THE NORTH SLOCAN VALLEY

JOB POSTING - WASTE AMBASSADOR FOR ORGANICS DIVERSION PILOT PROJECT

We are seeking an individual who is:

- Passionate about environmental stewardship with good communications and marketing skills.
- Holds a Class 5 Drivers License and has access to a car and trailer or a truck.
- Has computer skills in Excel and Word.
- Self-motivated and self-directed.
- Experienced working with children and community.

Duties include:
- Educate and facilitate school and community composting.
- Engage in public consultation (door to door and Friday market) for neighbourhood composters.
- Actively promote and facilitate organics diversion advice and assistance to local households, groups/committees, businesses and institutions.
- Set-up and host public displays to distribute composting project information and advertise the community composting assessments.
- Weekly maintenance of bear resistant community composters.
- Collect and record data daily of organic waste and keeps a record log.

July through October: 15 hours/week
November through June: 4.5 hours/week
Total hours 400 hours/year, with a stipend for travel and office expenses.

Please forward your resume and a cover letter or request for further information to greenlaw@netidea.com by June 22, 2018.
Return of Surplus, an ethic that builds communities

Submitted

Upon observing nature, we see that any surplus is continually recycled back into the Earth and its systems. This fundamental process of the biosphere is also a guiding ethic of permaculture. As its founders describe, the ‘Fair Share or Return of Surplus’ ethic is ‘a self-regulated balance between consumption and redistribution of surplus’.

We all have needs and wants that can be derived from people and planet. By contributing our fair share back to nature and the greater community, we become part of a perpetual cycle of give-and-take that, when functioning well, has the capacity to sustain all life.

This example explains the impacts of the concept.

Farmer Prunella just doesn’t have the time or need to harvest her prolific plum tree this year. By registering with Kootenay Food, she receives a team of volunteers on her farm to harvest the perfectly ripe fruit. The fruit then goes back to a certified commercial kitchen where another ‘workbee’ team is ready to process it into chutney.

All volunteers – and Farmer Prunella – receive a share of the fruit or chutney. Volunteers also leave with knowledge, experience, and new-found connections to their community. Farmer Prunella further benefits from seeing her abundant harvest go to good use rather than rotting on the ground and attracting unwelcome wildlife.

Kootenay Food will often donate a substantial share of the chutney back to the community; for example, it would be served at community meals and events, or used to stock up pantries at the local food bank.

Kootenay Food will eventually sell the remaining 1/3 of chutney to support its operating budget for future projects like this.

One fruit tree has the potential to feed more than one household, and in more ways than just food. By choosing to transform her burden into a community asset, Farmer Prunella provoked a ripple of benefits that came back around to helping her in return.

Setting limits to our personal consumption and giving back to our community can be challenging sacrifices in an increasingly populated world that can often feel isolating. Yet the decision to engage in this reciprocal cycle provides inclusion, fulfillment and assurance in an intermediary system of collaboration that sits between our personal home lives and the larger governing bodies. We can only do so much, and so can rest assured that the strengths of others will bolster our shortcomings. By focusing on our assets – what we can do, what we have – then we retain the vital energy and resources necessary to support those around us.

The West Kootenay Permaculture Co-op is a non-profit community organization working to build a healthy and resilient region through collaboration, education, media and net-positive initiatives. This year WKPCo-op is working with a number of regional harvest rescue groups and emergency food providers to make it easy for community members to share their garden excess.

As a non-profit organization, WKPCo-op certainly requires a stream of surplus in monetary form, but money is not the only way to solve it. Every asset or resource we can contribute a resource or asset? Go to KootenayFood.com/share to fill in a form. The closest harvest rescue group will contact you to make arrangements to receive, collect or pick food and start the process of sharing with community. Let us know if you’d like to get involved or take a look at our proposition.

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Your privacy is of utmost importance to us. We have a semi-private pick-up counter plus a completely private counselling room to protect your confidentiality without compromise.

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403 Front Street, Kaslo

Don’t forget this month’s great postcard deal! Aloma Arct-ich Cream, Givral, Systane
Dry Eye Relief, Pepto-Bismal, Benadryl Allergy Tablets, TYLENOL Extra Strength Rapid Release Gelcaps, Senokot Natural Source Laxative Tablets, One a Day Multivitamins

WANTED TO BUY: CEDAR AND PINE POLES
Brian Major
- 250-938-3900

Contact: Gormans Pole Division
250-547-9296

Grid-tied Solar Homes Tour
June 24th (Sun.), 11am -2:30pm

Tour will visit 4 grid connected solar electric systems from Beasley to Glade. Learn about Net Metered solar. Meet at Beasley Fire Hall, 11 AM.

Grid-tied Solar is simple and affordable! OsoSolar.com 250-398-2660 RSVP.

Columbia River Treaty Community Meetings

Get Treaty Negotiations Updates | Discuss Key Community Interests

Join us from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at a community meeting near you. A light meal will be available at 6 p.m.

For more information, visit engage.gov.bc.ca/ColumbiaRiver/Treaty or follow the Columbia River Treaty Review on Facebook and Twitter.

COMMUNITY
Wildfire and Climate Change conference happening just in time

submitted
BC has already experienced extreme floods throughout May and in the current fiscal year, 241 fires have been recorded provincially, totaling 34,370 ha (84,930 acres) of forest burnt. These extreme events make the Wildfire and Climate Change Conference, taking place in Nelson from June 26-28, 2018, very timely.

The conference is being organized by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development and the Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative (SIFCo). Conference attendees will learn about local, national and international initiatives to address the growing challenges associated with climate change and wildfire behaviour, and the importance of creating fire-resilient ecosystems. Presenters are coming from as far away as Oregon and New Mexico.

The organizers are encouraging locals to register under the individual or non-profit rate to help mitigate wildfire risks.

Canada Post helps Slocan library buy children’s books

submitted
There’s a lot of excitement at the Slocan Community Library these days. A $1,500 grant from the Canada Post Foundation for Children has allowed the library to greatly improve its children’s book collection.

The library’s Children’s Committee divided the money among six categories: books requested by patrons; books which are lent to WE Graham Community School; graphic novels of interest to pre-teens and teens; non-fiction suggested by former children’s librarian (and current co-chair) Barbara Mack; books that would appeal to children who have some difficulty reading; and books for the youth reading club.

“The Canada Post grant enabled us to fulfill the wishes of our young patrons who recently had requested some great titles,” said children’s book buyer Lois Lawrence. “There are such exciting series we’ve been able to discover.”

The library has bought books in the IQ series, the Ranger’s Apprentice series, and the Moomeintroll series. The library partners with WE Graham School to provide students with books on subjects that the students are studying or might be interested in.

Di Lindal and non-fiction buyer Liz Newman had an extra $500 to improve the selection and bought books on local history, geology and natural history, among other subjects.

The grant has also allowed the library to expand its selection of graphic novels. Although these books are popular with all ages and all reading levels, they are an especially good way to encourage children with visual brains. Books bought for younger children include graphic novel versions of classics and popular new selections.

For teens there are a selection of books and graphic novels on topics ranging from the Holocaust to the Japanese-Canadian internment to childhood in Tehran, well as more lightweight topics. The library wants to appeal to more diverse readers. Young children who need a simpler vocabulary will now have three series of non-fiction phonics-based books on exciting topics: sports, fascinating cities, and collections of magazine articles on nature and other topics.

Five graphic novels written with a simpler vocabulary have also been ordered. Lastly, the Children’s Committee decided to put aside money to buy sets of books for the Picnic Book Club, a club for children who are reading at the juvenile and young adult level. Already four children have signed up for the club and there are only two spaces left.

Silverton’s Leah Main elected vice-chair of BC Caucus of FCM board

by Jan Murray
At this year’s Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) convention, Silverton Councillor Leah Main was re-elected to the board by acclamation, and was elected vice-chair of the BC Caucus. The convention was held May 30-June 3 in Halifax.

“I am thrilled to be representing BC for a fourth term on the FCM board,” Main says. “It is also an honour to have been selected by my colleagues as vice-chair of the BC Caucus, giving me an additional opportunity to articulate the needs of rural communities.”

The FCM board consists of 72 directors from five regions: Atlantic, Quebec, Ontario, Prairies & Territories, and BC. There are nine directors from BC on the board.

Main, a passionate advocate for rural communities, reports that “the urban-rural divide” was one of the discussion topics at the convention. The board passed a resolution calling on the federal government to develop a “rural lens” to ensure that federal policies and programs respond to the needs of rural communities, and enhance rural socio-economic development. The resolution follows the release of an FCM report, ‘Rural Challenges, National Opportunity.’

“This federal government has done better than others in recognizing the specific challenges rural communities face, but there is still lots of work to be done,” Main commented.

In March, Main initiated a resolution calling for a national strategy on rural passenger bus service, in response to the reductions announced by Greyhound. The FCM executive passed this resolution in March, and has contacted Minister Marc Garneau to begin advocating for the strategy.

Slocan postmaster Linda Hicks, library co-chair Barbara Mack, Children’s Programming facilitator Di Lindal (back row) and Picnic Book Club members Timur Reynolds, Keshet Hager, and Luzia Schiltschiling display some of the great children’s books bought with a grant from Canada Post.

Temple of Light Grand Opening & Strawberry Social

Saturday, June 23, 2018

This will be a joyful time as we celebrate this beautiful space dedicated to bringing people together in peace, love and joy.

Please bring your family & friends for this free event.

507 Willow’s Landing Road
5 min from Kootenay Bay Ferry

Schedule:
1-5 pm
Strawberry Social with kids’ activities & book sale

2:30-3:30 pm
Celebration at the Temple, ribbon cutting & Slave Dance Performance

Come celebrate with friends & neighbours!

www.younsharaasbram.com

Leah Main, Silverton councilor and RDCK representative, was re-elected to the FCM board and was elected vice-chair of the BC Caucus.
COMMUNITY

Columbia Basin Trust says ‘thanks’ to Laurie Page

submitted

Columbia Basin Trust is expressing its thanks to Laurie Page for her years of service on its Board of Directors and welcoming Carol Andrews as a new director.

“It’s always hard saying goodbye to a director, especially one like Laurie who has dedicated so much time and effort to the Trust, our region and her own community,” said Rick Jensen, Board Chair. “We wish her the best of luck on her new endeavours.”

Page joined the board in January 2012 and served as vice-chair from 2013/14 and 2016/17. She and husband Bill Sones operated the Nakusp Veterinary Clinic from 1990 until this spring, and she has volunteered and led many community organizations and projects focused on economic development, affordable housing, seniors services, youth empowerment and mental health.

Shon’s Bike & Ski licence for electric bike sales and service

submitted

Technology continues to advance one of mankind’s most noble inventions – the bicycle. Harnessing the power of electricity to assist the rider, the electric bike is the next phase in the evolution of this mode of transportation.

Shon’s Bike & Ski in Nakusp is licensed for e-bike sales and service. Trained e-bike specialists, Shon and Brent want to help people understand the benefits of e-bikes for commuting and vehicle substitution.

“Electric bikes are for riders looking to commute, travel the local rail system, and explore mixed surfaces and terrain with ease,” says Brent.

Shon’s has a selection of sizes and styles of e-bikes in stock. “To decide which e-bike is right for you means understanding your needs and ensuring a proper bike fitting. We are happy to assist!” Brent says.

Shon and Brent can help people understand e-bikes – the costs, battery life, maintenance, and charging expense. The models on offer at Shon’s have up to 125 km of range and cost approximately $0.05 per charge. “With this level of efficiency, it doesn’t take long to start saving money that you would otherwise be spending on vehicle maintenance and fuel, not to mention reducing your carbon footprint,” says Brent.

Shon encourages everyone interested in learning more about electric bikes to drop by and take one for a test ride.

We are celebrating our 7th Anniversary on June 22.

Enter your name in the draw to win a BBQ!!!

We will be bbqing hotdogs and burgers, with donations going to the Community Health Committee from 11-2.

Join us for anniversary cake.

518 6th Ave, New Denver, BC • 250-358-2270

Professional Forester and works as an instructor in the School of Environment and Geomatics at Selkirk College in Castlegar. She is a strong supporter of rural self-reliance and has a deep interest in higher education and its role in empowering residents.

“Laurie Page has been an amazing contributor and advocate for Columbia Basin Trust, her community of Nakusp and the whole Kootenay region,” said MLA Katrine Conroy, Minister responsible for Columbia Basin Trust. “She is a skilled advocate and has always given so much of herself to her profession, her community and her volunteerism. We will miss Laurie and her passion for making the world a better place.”

The Trust’s Board consists of 12 individuals: the Province appoints six, and six more are nominated by the Basin’s five regional districts and the Ktunaxa Nation Council. All directors must live in the Basin.

For director biographies and terms, and to read highlights and minutes from Board meetings, visit ourtrust.org/board.

It’s BC Family Fishing Weekend, and fishing is free for everyone June 15–17. On Father’s Day, join guide Talbot Peyton for the Slocan Lake Fishing School, a free and fun event for all ages. Meet at the gazebo in New Denver’s Centennial Park at 3:30 pm June 16 to learn how to tie on your tackle and take casting lessons with a fly reel and spin caster. Peyton will answer all questions on anything fishing. If you have any fish stories or advice, you are welcome to share them. Event will take place rain or shine. Plus – there will be a draw for a rod and tackle, courtesy of The 358-Exchange.
Nakusp Secondary School graduation ceremony 2018

by Jan McMurtry

The Nakusp Secondary School graduation ceremony took place June 9, with principal Peter Gajda as Master of Ceremonies. The grads invited Constable Lee Bellamy to take part in the procession, to acknowledge the Nakusp RCMP detachment and the positive relationship the grads have with the officers. Constable Bellamy escorted Olivia Mang, the first student in the procession, and then stationed himself with Lazlo DeCourcy, the grade 11 student collecting toonies from the grads. Bellamy congratulated each graduate as they were called to the stage.

Quotes chosen by each grad to inspire their classmates were read out from the grads. Bellamy congratulated each graduate as they were introduced. Some of the words of wisdom: “Throw kindness around like it’s confetti.” “The pessimist sees the challenge in the opportunity; the optimist sees the opportunity in the challenge.” “Don’t worry about failure; think about what you’ll miss if you don’t even try.” “Don’t tell me the sky is the limit when there are footprints on the moon.”

O Canada was led by graduates Olivia Mang, and Brody Herridge on guitar.

SD 10 Board of Education Chairperson Lora Lee Brekke congratulated the class of 2018, the first class of those born in the 2000s. “Believe in your dreams, believe in yourself, and the world will be yours,” she said.

Superintendent/Secretary Treasurer Terry Taylor told the students that although they may think they know what their future will be, “it’s not until years later that the dots connect and you realize that your life path makes sense.” She spoke of her dreams to be a lawyer or TV journalist when she was 18, and how her experiences as a waitress and a care aide changed her life path. “I would never have believed it if you told me I would be a teacher or a fierce champion of small, rural schools, and school districts,” she said. “We all look forward to learning how you connect the dots to change the world.”

Mayor Karen Hamling said she was proud to bring congratulations from Village council and staff. She gave each grad a domino, and drew parallels between dominion and life. The domino has two sides, just like every issue has two sides. No two dominos are alike, just as no two people are exactly alike. You can’t play dominos until you put them all together, just as you can’t accomplish everything all on your own – you need support from others. Mayor Hamling asked the grads to go out into the world and learn, and then to come back to Nakusp and “help us grow.”

Principal Peter Gajda, in his message, counselled the students to set goals “because they are necessary for motivation,” and to have the courage to take chances. “The only way to learn to chop down a tree is to chop down a tree, so I challenge you to grab an axe and chop wood,” he said.

Diplomas were presented by Dr. Lorna Newman, Director of Learning; Superintendent Terry Taylor; Andrea Coates, NSS secretary; and Gajda. Ninety-nine scholarships worth $76,900 were presented. Ernie Knecht, Nakusp Scholarship Society, thanked the community for their generous support of the graduates. Jaycee Gustafson and Andrew Harper, elected by their class to be the Valedictorians, delivered their address.

After closing words from Gajda, the students did the Grand March and tossed their caps.

Congratulations to the Nakusp Secondary Class of 2018!

Scholarships and bursaries


Nakusp Secondary School
Valedictorian speech
by Jaycee Gustafson and Andrew Harper

This year, our class has really shown their true colours with each other and for this we will always have a bond. Today, Andrew and I would like to share with you some of our favourite memories from throughout the years. But, before we do, we would like to thank our amazing elementary and secondary school teachers and staff for always helping us achieve what we have wanted.

From playing with cars in the sand to being part of the fabled ‘Dog Squad’ (you know who you are). Or avoiding playing ‘math games’ on Fridays by playing a made-up version of poker known as ‘Watuki’ that honestly didn’t really make much sense. Even driving under the speed limit and definitely feeling safe in Kennedy’s car has been incredibly memorable. Especially that one time she was driving super slow, and a deer took it upon itself to just run into her car.

The countless ‘Harry Potter’ talks that always resulted in belly laughs. And, of course Julia, who fun fact is one of four cousins in our grade. Constantly swearing under her breath at the most inappropriate of times, she always reminds those around her that “If it’s too loud, you’re too old.” To which, I agree.

Lastly, our grade 7 camping trip that sometimes being sassy is how you get the job done. A month ago, I was at a dinner and the woman sitting next to me told a story about how her husband had passed, and she was told a week afterwards that “All that you can get from looking back is a sore neck.” I found this really important because as we go through this milestone of changing from kids into adults, looking back isn’t really an option. Thinking about what could have happened or what you should have done will not help us to look forward to our bright futures to come. I wish the best of luck to all my supportive classmates and I will truly miss hanging out with you all every day, the conversations and laughs. It’s hard to imagine not being with you all next year.

I have had the honour of growing up alongside some of the best classmates I could have ever asked for. We may not see each other much after graduation, but luckily, we are a unique age group, and definitely feeling safe in Kennedy’s car has been incredibly memorable. And because most of us have grown up with some form of social media from a young age and will be able to easily look back on all of the amazing memories we have created together over the years. We look forward to continuing seeing photos of your pets, food, adventures, embarrassing old posts and photos, and of course, your favourite memes.

We are honoured to be your Valedictorians and on behalf of the 2018 Nakusp Secondary graduating class, we would like to say a final thank you to all of those who have helped us get here today. We wouldn’t have made it without you. Thank you for your time listening to us talk almost non-stop and for joining us to celebrate our special day.
United Church in BC to investigate Interior Health incident with physician recruitment in New Denver

by Jan McMurray

Did Interior Health unjustly interfere with the community’s search for a physician for the Slocan Community Health Centre in New Denver?

The BC Conference of the United Church of Canada has voted to set up a commission to answer this question, and to make recommendations for ways to address any injustice. The commission will also look at broader policy issues regarding rural health care as part of its investigation.

United Church Ministers George Meier and Therese DesCamp live in New Denver and were outraged along with the rest of the community when an Interior Health representative reportedly discouraged a physician from applying for one of the two vacant positions at the Slocan Community Health Centre (SCHC). The ministers took their idea for an investigation of the incident to the Kootenay Presbytery, which includes all United Churches of Canada.

The BC Conference of the United Church of Canada voted to support a commission to investigate whether Interior Health unjustly interfered with New Denver’s physician recruitment efforts.

New Denver students share a biodiversity banquet at Snk’mp Marsh

Two classes from Lucerne School enjoyed a ‘banquet of biodiversity’ at Snk’mp Marsh Sanctuary, a new conservation area at the north end of Slocan Lake. Signy Frederickson’s Grade 7/8/9 class teamed up with Katrina Sumnall’s Grade 4/5/6 for the Know Your Watershed program.

During this hands-on field study, the students cycled through five biodiversity stations in the wetland complex, each led by a local expert. Aboriginal Elder Eloise Meier and ecologist Marcy Mahr led a station serving up taxonomy, ecology and Indigenous peoples’ use of native wetland plants. There was a station dedicated to resident and migratory birds led by Gary Davidson, a bat station led by Elodie Kuhnert from the Kootenay Community Bat Project, a bug station led by Daniel Heffley and an invasive plants station, culminating in a knapweed pull, led by Laurie Frankcom from the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society.

“This highlight of the field study for the students, other than the homemade banquet, was the opportunity to feast on a special kind of knowledge – the knowledge that comes from meaningful hands-on learning from local experts in a special place,” says Know Your Watershed educator Mahr. “It’s so great to see students making all kinds of observations, up-close ones like watching insects burrowing in bark and examining the pattern of sapsucker holes, to thinking big about how these wetlands filter all of the meltwater rushing down our mountainsides.”

Jacqueline Mary Penner

May 20, 1928 – June 7, 2018

It is with deep sadness we announce that Jacqueline (Jackie) passed away peacefully at Poison Residential Care in Vernon, BC on June 7th, 2018 with her daughter by her side.

Jacqueline was born in Cranbrook, BC on May 20th, 1928 to Elizabeth and Geoffrey Spence. She grew up in the Kootenays and after graduation worked as a telephone operator in Trail, BC. She met and married her husband, Don Penner and then moved to Edgewood, BC where they raised five children.

Jacqueline had a passion for horses and shared her love with her children and grandchildren at home and at many gymkhanas. She also enjoyed sewing, knitting and music.

Jackie is survived by her brother, Terry (Carol) Frame of Armstrong; three daughters: Brenda Penner of Edgewood, Cheryl (David) Buhman of Kaslo and Laurie (Bill) Meier of New Denver; four sons: Ken Penner and brothers, Richard and Donald Spence; eight grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

The community has been working very hard to recruit physicians and other health care professionals to New Denver. The Slocan District Chamber of Commerce Committee of the United Church of Canada has voted to support the Kootenay Presbytery’s proposal for a commission to investigate whether Interior Health unjustly interfered with New Denver’s physician recruitment efforts.

The community is working with the BC government to facilitate access to this unique program.

The valley voice
Love of home place, dedication, and good works were on display at the Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society (SVCLS) AGM May 29.

Chairman Alex Berland explained that the SVCLS has demonstrated a broad fund development program, and as of March, the endowment Slocan Valley Legacy Fund balance was $202,344. This sum reflects major increases through raising $10,000 on Giving Tuesday from generous individuals, an $8,000 gift from the Zion United Church, and an $8,000 gift from the Mount Sentinel School 2016 and 2017 graduating classes. Once again, the Society is grateful for generous contributions from the Kootenay Savings Community Foundation and CBT.

A highlight of the AGM was the reporting by the 2017 grant recipients. The audience enjoyed learning about the WildDays field trips sponsored by the Hills Recreation Society in partnership with the Slocan Lake Stewardship Society, community food events sponsored by the Healthy Community Society of the North Slocan Valley in partnership with the Zion United Church, the successful repair of the Vallican Whole Community Centre’s basement by the Rural Alternatives Research & Training Society, and the improvements to the very well-used computer lab at the W.E. Graham Community Learning Centre, sponsored by the W.E. Graham Community Services Society.

The 2018 grant recipients once again demonstrated good geographical representation and covered health, culture, recreation and environment. The six successful grant applicants include the New Denver Hospice Society for its new palliative care unit, the Slocan Lake and the Hidden Garden Gallery societies’ partnership to create a new Hidden Garden Gallery space, RARTS for the Vallican Whole Art Gallery Project, the W.E Graham CSS for the successful Intergenerational Cooking Program, the Sandon Historical Society for wheelchair access to the Mori Trail performing as expected, CAO says by Katrine Campbell

Damage to the Mori Trail on New Denver’s lakeside perimeter is normal and expected, says Village CAO Bruce Woodbury. The Valley Voice contacted the Village office after finding out that portions of the trail were underwater and possibly washed out.

“We have had high water, and I heard [that] small areas of the trail washed out, but I’m not aware of any significant failures,” Woodbury said. “It happened last year, too.”

The waves wash over the trail and the backwash takes out some of the fill around the rock wall, he said. The crew will repair any damaged areas and clear woody debris left on the trail.

Asking if the Village would rebuild the trail to make it more secure, the CAO said that was “almost impossible.” In many areas there is little to no foreshore left, he said, and to build a trail completely above the high water mark would mean cutting into the steep banks.

“It would be detrimental to the slope to cut trails into it, and very expensive. We’re very aware of the high water problems. That’s why we built the rock walls last year, but that doesn’t solve all the problems.

“If anyone notices problems with the trail, please report them to us.”

COMMUNITY

Slocan Valley Legacy Society (SVCLS) AGM displays a love of good works submitted

THINGS TO DO

CHOCOLATE SHOPS
Jennifer Chocolates, Nakusp
Jennifer.chocolates.com (250) 265-1799
91, 4th Ave. Our local artisan chocolatier makes everything by hand! Goodie boxes filled with our favorite treats, pop corn in your mouth caramel. Go visit the summer in one of our famous Drumett, a chocolate dipped waffles cone filled with caramel and homemade waffles ice cream. Come and experience the art of gourmet chocolate, we’re just off main street, walk north on 4th Ave!

SPORTS/OUTDOOR SHOPS
Shon’s Bike & Ski, Nakusp
Shon.ca info@shon.ca
(250) 265-9322 409 Broadway Ave. New for 2016, Hostel Accommodations, Parts, Service, Rentals, Bike Museum and a Coffee Bar. Open 7 days a week (June-August).

Valhalla Pure Outfitters – New Denver
Valhalla Pure (250) 358-7755 vpo.ca Outdoor Clothing, Hunting, Fishing, Hiking, Camping, Paddling (Boat & Boards). Open 7 days a week, 10 am to 6 pm (May-Nov). Located on the corner of Hwy 6 and New Denver Main Street.

HOUSEBOAT RENTALS
The Kaslo Boat Company, Kaslo
(250) 353-2686 1-800-554-1657 kasloboattrip.ca Cruise, fish, and explore sensational waterways from the comfort of a houseboat. Enjoy the quiet, hidden coves, sandy beaches, and super fresh/water/oyster tasting. Choose from four custom-built, seaworthy cruise vessels, each fully furnished with a spacious wheelhouse, full galley, full bathroom, and complete sleeping facilities for four, six, or eight people.

KAYAK RENTALS
Kootenay Kayak Shop, New Denver
(250) 551-7282 thekootenayshop.vpo.ca and BOAT Your RESERVATIONS TODAY!

GALLERY

Studio Connexion Gallery - Fine Art - Nakusp
(250) 265-3586 301 Fifth Ave. NW, Nakusp.
Art exhibition from May 18 to October 17 this gallery quarter, 2018 artists: Denise Marshall, Karen Cross, Maureen Howland, Timon Popovski, Audrey Jenner, Isabelle Holt, Holly Wood, 40 artists and Event Opening: 11 am-4 pm or by appointment for your Eyes and Ears…

Hidden Garden Gallery – New Denver
Hiddengardengallery.ca NEW LOCATION: on Slocan Avenue behind Sweet Dreams Guest House by Slocan Lake. Specializing in local and regional artists, hosting 10-15 artists, Opening Hours: 11 am-4 pm or by appointment for your Eyes and Ears…

Kootenay Lake
Nautical: Notice to Vessel Operators
discontinuous the Procrustean Ranges light L 8.00 and LL 9.00. A new structure with lights is now at approximately 49° 18’ 18.6” N (NAD 83), 156° 50’ 27.3” W (NAD 83). The Procrustus sector light L 8.00 now has the following characteristics: Flashing 4 seconds (Red) 213° 5’ 214° 4’ 214° 5’ 215° 6’ 215° 4’ 216° 6’ Fixed Red (FR) bearing 215° 6’ 216° 5’ Fixed White (W) bearing 216° 5’ 217° 5’ Fixed Green (G) bearing 217° 5’ 218° 5’ 219° 5’ and Flashing 4 Green bearing 219° 5’ and Flashing 4 Green bearing 220° 5’. Comments on this action are solicited from mariners and related parties, and is effective to the Canadian Coast Guard before July 1, 2018. Any objections raised must be based on information facts that they are based and including support information, comments and public benefit.

Contact : Superintendent, Aids to Navigation & Waterways Canadian Coast Guard
25 Hunor Village, Victoria, BC V8V 4V9 Telephone: 250-480-2602 DFO.CC.G-C.Waterways@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Lac Kootenay
Aides à la navigation : Avis aux exploitants de bateau
La Garde côtière canadienne a définitivement mis hors service les feux d’alignement Procter LF 8.00 et LF 9.00. Une nouvelle structure équipée de feux se trouve approximative- ment à 49° 37’ 18.6” N (NAD 83), 115° 56’ 50.0” O (NAD 83).
Le feu à secteurs Procter LF 8.5 possède maintenant les caractéristiques suivantes : Révèlement rouge clicant de 4 secondes (s) de 213° 5’ à 214° 5’, révèlement rouge rapide de 1 de s 214° 5’ à 215° 6’, révèlement rouge rapide fixe de 215° 5’ à 216° 5’, révèlement blanc fixe de 216° 5’ à 217° 5’, révèlement vert fixe de 217° 5’ à 218° 5’, révèlement vert rapide de 1 de s 218° 5’ à 219° 5’, et révèlement clicant de 4 de s 219° 5’ à 220° 5’.
Nous sollicitons les commentaires des navigateurs et d’autres parties intéressées à cet égard. Les commentaires doivent être adressés à la Garde côtière canadienne ci-contre le 1er juillet 2018.
Toute objection doit présenter les faits sur lesquels elle est fondée et elle devrait comprendre des renseignements à l’appui sur la sécurité, les aspects commerciaux et les avantages pour le public.

Personne - ressource :
Surintendant, Aides à la navigation et voies navigables Garde côtière canadienne
25, Hunor, Victoria (C.-B.) V8V 4V9
Tel. : 250-480-2602 DFO.CC.G-C.Waterways@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Consider Community Service? Consider Nakusp Rotary Call Mayumi for Details: 250-265-0002

The Valley Voice June 14, 2018

16COMMUNITY

Considering Community Service? Consider Nakusp Rotary
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 Visitor Information

GALLERIES

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The Langham Cultural Centre – Kaslo
(250) 353-2661 thelangham.ca
207 A Avenue, Kaslo. Listed as one of the 12 best buildings in BC, the Langham is a national historic site for fine art in Kaslo. Art exhibitions in two of our galleries; live performances in our theatre. During Watz, Japanese Canadians were interned here – visit the interpretive exhibit at our Japanese Canadian Museum. Museum open Tues to Sun 1-4 pm (or when door is unlocked - unlocked), Gallery open Thurs to Sun 1-4 pm. Office open Tues-Thurs 10-5 pm (Closed 1-2 pm for lunch).
A Wanderer’s Paradise. Where the journey is the destination.

HOT Springs
Halcyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa
1-888-689-4699 (250) 255-5554
Fax (250) 265-1887 halcyon-hotsprings.com
Located at the intersection of two rivers, the valley is surrounded by mountains and forests with a hot spring. Enjoy a relaxing stay in our spa.

Nakusp Hot Springs Chalets & Campground
www.nakusp-hot springs.com
1-888-999-4528 info@nakus hotsprings.com
Located at the foot of the mountains, our chalets and tents provide a comfortable stay.

Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort & Spa
www.ainsworthhot springs.com
1-800-668-1171 (250) 229-4212
Ideal place for a relaxing and rejuvenating weekend.

Museums
Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre
National Historic Site
(250) 358-7288 new democracy.ca nikkei 360 Johnson St., 5 Mile St. 30, 10am-5pm daily. Admission: $8.00 adults, $7.00 students or seniors. Monthly fee: $5.00

Sandon Museum & Visitors’ Centre
(250) 358-7920 sandonmuseum.ca
Open 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Located 13 km east of New Denver on Hwy 3A in historic silver mining ghost town. Features various artifacts and exhibits, including a historic house, a museum of local history, and a gift shop.

S. Moye National Historic Site
Ph/Fax: (250) 353-2525 khs.bc.ca
Located 26 km west of New Denver, the historic site includes a museum and gift shop, as well as a historical marker and a salmon hatchery.

The Langham Cultural Centre - Kalamalka
(250) 353-2611 thalanga.m.ca
The museum is located in the historic Langham building and features exhibits on local history, culture, and arts.

VISITOR INFORMATION
Nakusp Municipal Campground - Nakusp (250) 255-1061 nakusp.com nakusp Campground
Nakusp Campground is located at the confluence of the Nakusp and Slocan Rivers, with full-service RV sites and tent sites. The campground is open from May 15 to October 15, and sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

KBR Municipal Campground - Kaslo (250) 358-2412 kbrmunicipal.com kbrmunicipal@kaslo.bc.ca
KBR Municipal Campground is located on the west side of Kaslo, with full-service RV sites and tent sites. The campground is open from May 15 to October 15, and sites are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Silverton Municipal Campground - Silverton (250) 358-2472 silverton.ca
Located on the west side of Silverton, the campground is open from May 15 to October 15, with full-service RV sites and tent sites.

Spring Creek RV Park & Campground - Silverton (250) 355-2266 springelites.ca
Located on the west side of Silverton, the campground is open from May 15 to October 15, with full-service RV sites and tent sites.

Lemon Creek Lodge & Campground - Lemon Creek (250) 353-2403 1-877-970-8090 lemoncreeklodge.com
Located on the west side of Lemon Creek, the campground is open from May 15 to October 15, with full-service RV sites and tent sites.

Woodbury Resort and Marina - Kaslo (250) 353-7717 woodburyresortandsports.com
Located on the west side of Kaslo, the resort offers full-service RV sites, tent sites, and marina services.

Kaslo Municipal Campground - Kaslo (250) 353-2662 kaslo@kaslo.bc.ca
Located on the west side of Kaslo, the campground is open from May 15 to October 15, with full-service RV sites and tent sites.

Kaslo RV Park - Kaslo
Located on the west side of Kaslo, the RV park offers full-service RV sites and tent sites.

VISITOR INFORMATION CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE
New protections in place to support wildlife species

The provincial government has issued an order to make sure nests, dens, salt licks and other important wildlife habitat features are protected when forestry and range activities are carried out.

The goal is to help specific wildlife species in the Kootenay Boundary region survive and thrive. "With so many of these species at risk and will have a much better chance for survival if these important habitat features are protected," said George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy. "While we prepare comprehensive species-at-risk legislation, we want to ensure these special habitat features are identified, and protect and isolate these ecosystems day-to-day forestry and range operations.

"Wildlife species are dependent on undisturbed nests, burrows and other natural features for shelter, breeding and to raise their young," said Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. "These extra measures will help keep these unique habitat features safe."

Forestry operators and range tenure holders will be offered training to help them identify and take the necessary steps to protect these unique wildlife features.

Government adds pharmacists into primary and community care

The Ministry of Health is adding 50 new clinical pharmacists as part of primary-care network teams around the province.

The pharmacists will focus on working directly with patients with complex conditions, to reduce and manage medication-related problems such as drug interactions, adverse medication side effects, duplicate medications, and to help eliminate unneeded medications. The ministry is supporting this new developmental program with $23 million over three years and is working with UBC’s faculty of pharmacological sciences to manage the program.

"Embedding a clinical pharmacist in a patient’s primary-care team reduces the risk of adverse drug reactions, which rises with the complexity of the condition, a patient’s frailty, age and the number of medications prescribed. According to recent figures, over 600,000 British Columbians have a chronic medical condition of medium or high complexity, and 20% of those over 70 take at least five more medications a day," added Dix.

Through one-on-one patient care, these pharmacists will use their specialized knowledge to optimize their patients’ drug treatments through education and drug regimen adjustments with prescribers, so patients can receive better health outcomes and higher quality of life.

Japanese cultural celebration at the Langham

The Langham hosts a Japanese Canadian cultural celebration June 15 with a sushi feast and performances by Tasai Collective and music by Freya. The feast starts at 6 pm with performances starting at 7:30.

Tasai is a Vancouver artist collective exploring Pacific Rim registered writers will be asked to multi-media performances blend movement, poetry, drama and comedy with digital projection to create Dustin Pay attributes of this year’s workshop. You may have seen their past collaborations with Joy Kogawa at the Langham.

Freya is the New Denver musical duo of guitar virtuoso Noel Fudge and concertmaster violinist Martin Deneke, who last year introduced lush, intricate soundscapes. They will perform several original compositions commemorating the Japanese Canadian internment experience. This year marks the official unveiling ceremony of new internment signage at 2 pm on the south side of the Hwy 31 bridge, featuring local and dignitaries and members of the Nikkei National Museum.

Evening events are by donation at the door, thelangham.ca.

Susan Musgrave offers critique sessions at Elephant Mountain

Nelson’s Elephant Mountain Literary Festival (EMLF) is offering the opportunity for 12 local writers to receive one-on-one feedback on their work from a noted Canadian author.

Multi-disciplinary, award-winning, and unforgettable author Susan Musgrave is this year’s writer-in-residence for the Holly Rubinsky Blue Pencil Sessions, named for the late Kaslo author and mentor. The sessions will be held at the Nelson Public Library, July 12 and 13.

Registration opens June 2 at 2 pm.

EMLF places will be awarded on a first come, first served basis.

In addition to the Blue Pencil Sessions, Musgrave will give a public talk on the writing craft on Thursday, July 12 at 7 pm at the Nelson Public Library. Admission is by donation ($5 suggested).

Musgrave, a recipient of the Matt Cohen Award in recognition of a lifetime of distinguished work by a Canadian writer, has enjoyed a career of more than 50 years during which she has produced 27 works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry and children’s literature. She has edited many manuscripts and anthologies and mentored writers through a score of workshops and festivals across Canada, directly affecting Range Act agreement holders and local indigenous communities.

To learn more, go to govc.ca/ Kootenay-Boundary-Wildlife-Habitat-Features-Order.

BC Hydro provides update in Meadow Creek and Nakusp

BC Hydro held its annual operations update meetings in Meadow Creek June 4 and Nakusp June 6.

This year’s above average snowpack melted quickly in the hot May weather. ‘There’s very little snow left,’ BC Hydro Engineer Gillian Kong said. ‘It will all be gone a month earlier than usual.’

Kong explained that the early May thaw raised concerns of flooding on Kootenay Lake. Levels were forecast to reach 1755 feet, but the lake peaked at 1752.2 feet, and is now receding. Duncan Dam discharge was reduced in late May to reduce peak levels on Kootenay Lake.

At the end of May, to-date precipitation on Kootenay Lake was 106.6% of normal, and the Arrow 110%. Inflows are now quickly receding to below average.

The Arrow Lakes Reservoir is expected to reach its level, 1442 feet, on June 29 and draft to 1400-1435 feet in August. Arrow flows were re-shaped for trout protection downstream of Hugh Keenleyside in April, May, and June under the Non Power Uses Agreement.

The Duncan is forecast to reach its maximum level this year, 1890.9 feet, on July 26. The Duncan saw unprecedented low inflows in March and April, unprecedented high inflows in May. Inflows were too low in March and April to meet fish flow targets at the Duncan and Lardeau confluence.

With the upcoming opening of the Duncan Reservoir Water Use Plan studies, BC Hydro is currently developing an operations strategy to minimize fish disturbance.

In the Arrow, BC Hydro is removing debris from recreation areas. Since 2007, over 2,250 logging truckloads of woody debris have been removed from the reservoir’s shoreline. The log boom at the Kootenay Canal and Generating Station, which protects the canal and power intakes from floating debris, was replaced with a steel box. The project was completed this spring.

Security gates at Hugh Keenleyside are being upgraded. From June 11 to early July, BC Hydro expects the navigation local viewing area to be closed. There will be two alternate viewing areas off Broadwater Road. The project will cause no restrictions to boat traffic through the lock.

Regulation. This helps minimize the amount of smoke generated.

To report a wildfire, an unattended campfire or open burning violation, call 1-800-663-5555 toll-free, or **5555 on a cellphone.

For the latest information on current wildfire activity, burning restrictions, road closures and air quality advisories, visit bcwildfire.ca.

Energy Tips...

Today’s homes have increasing amounts of electronic gear, including controls on many appliances. These devices may be damaged by power surges, which are a particular risk in our area, due to long dead-ended powerlines. "Whole house surge protectors," installed in circuit breaker panels, can provide good protection.

Scarlett’s Electric (20)353-2503
Jeezed Woodland (20)355-4316

• Fresh Meat Daily
• Fresh & Frozen Seafood
• Fresh & Frozen Sausages
• Smoked Salmon
• Awesome Beef Jerky
• Custom Cutting
• Weekly Instore Specials

KASLO & DISTRICT

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An amendment to the Business Licence Bylaw allows only one cannabis retail sales facility at a time in the Village, with hours restricted to 10:30 am-6 pm Monday to Saturday. A business licence for a cannabis retail facility will cost $150 plus $10 per 93 square metres.

An amendment to the Fees & Charges Bylaw adds a $25 charge for the Village to assess applications for a licence to sell cannabis. Provincial law requires the Province to consult with the Village before issuing a licence.

• An amendment to the zoning bylaw around possible locations for a cannabis retailer will be reworked and brought back to council. The amendment presented to council required a 500-metre setback from schools, parks, beaches, playgrounds. As Councillor Mueller pointed out, this would leave only a small circle of commercial spots along the highway as viable locations in Nakusp.

Once the zoning bylaw amendment is given two readings, there will be a public hearing, likely this summer.

• Twenty-three Nakusp single-family dwellings with R-3 zoning sit on lots that don’t meet the minimum parcel size. This is a problem because a “legal non-conforming” buildings ever sustain more than 75% damage –by a ‘legal non-conforming’ buildings ever be allowed to be rebuilt. The Village is pitching in with in-kind support. The amendment currently has a cap on permissive tax exemptions of 2.5% of its total municipal taxation. CAO Taylor said that if all three organizations agree to the 2.5% cap, it is possible that the 2.5% cap could be exceeded. She said council may proportionally grant exemptions to keep the total under the 2.5% cap. Taylor provided tax exemption data from other area municipalities for comparison, and Kaslo was the only one that currently gives more exemptions than Nakusp – a total of 3.2% of their municipal taxation.

• The Society for Nakusp and Community Events will be putting on another July 1 celebration, and the Village is pitching in with in-kind services, assistance with insurance coverage, approval of the beer garden and food vendors, and a 50% fee waivers. Another food vendor will be bringing its ‘Eats n Beats’ mobile stand to the Nakusp beach this summer.

Columbia Wireless internet service expands into Nakusp and area

by Andi Gabb

It’s good news for internet users in the Nakusp area who are frustrated with dial-up service. Box Lake Lumber has committed to supplying wood chips for the boiler. Several bylaws and bylaw amendments were introduced to incorporate regulations around cannabis. As per provincial regulations, tobacco and cannabis smoking and vaping is prohibited in school, school and health board properties, and within six meters of doorways, windows or air intakes. Cannabis smoking and vaping is further prohibited at playgrounds, sports fields, skateparks, and anywhere that children gather.

Columbia Wireless internet service promises: “We are full steam ahead working on two large areas in Nakusp and area. Following a presentation in Nakusp last fall, Ben Leslie, Columbia Wireless CEO, committed to expand to Nakusp and area if a sufficient level of support could be demonstrated. We are working on the design and plans for the area already. We will be contacting all property owners in the area to advise when we plan to begin work.”

Columbia Wireless provides high-speed internet throughout the Central Kootenay. Family owned and operated, the company provides line-of-sight service to residents and businesses across the region. Columbia Wireless offers a wireless internet service with download speeds of up to 1.5 Mbps, enough to support video streaming of movies and face-to-face calling. For more information about Columbia Wireless visit http://columbiawireless.ca

Slocan, Silverton, New Denver, Burton, Faquier, Edgewood, Revelstoke, Trail, and Nelson.

Welsh proffered kudos to Dave Madden and his crew who installed the new pergola at the Spencer Garden on the way.

The Nakusp Hot Springs (NHS) continues to bring in increased revenues despite reduced visitor numbers to the pools, thanks to higher occupancy rates at the Cedar Chalets. The front counter and coffee bar renovations in the hot springs lobby have been completed, as have campground counter and sink replacements. The work was conducted by Counter Intelligence and has resulted in a significant upgrade to the lobby areas,” Welsh writes in his report.

• Fire Chief Terry Warren gave his year-to-date report, and commented that the bush was very dry. “Just like last year, we went right from flood into fires,” commented Mayor Karen Hamilton.

The Nakusp Fire Hall addition has been completed, providing adequate space and separate entrances for the pump house and water tender. The addition is the right size in this photo. An automated ventilation system, emergency lighting, and new Hard/Plank siding were also part of the $90,000 project.

Fauquier, Edgewood, Revelstoke, Trail, and Nelson.

By Claude Paradis

• Larch Landscape Architecture will prepare the final drawings and tender documents for the Downtown Revitalization Project for $7,000.

• Council received the Green Door Community Society Operational Business Plan. A request for a letter of support for the project will return to council in June, as both Mayor Karen Hamling and Councillor Ulli Mueller said they’d like more information. The proposed new building for the Green Door property includes a swimming pool, aquaponic greenhouse, youth centre, and a biomass boiler that will provide heat to the pool, building, greenhouse, and Nakusp Secondary School. It would provide a venue for swimming lessons, a permanent home for the youth centre, and production of vegetable and flower service to residents and businesses. As a result, Leslie agreed to collect, representing over 100 homes posted at the end of October and by November could be demonstrated. A petition was submitted by Andi Gabb Columbia Wireless internet service continues to bring in increased revenues.

The Valley Voice

Nakusp council, May 28: Green Door business plan received

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The Nakusp Fire Hall addition has been completed, providing adequate space and separate entrances for the pump house and water tender. The addition is the right size in this photo. An automated ventilation system, emergency lighting, and new Hard/Plank siding were also part of the $90,000 project.

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Kaslo EDC.
Langham, Kaslo. 250-353-8363. Funding Thursday 9-12 or by appointment.
#23 The Office

KASLO HOUSING SOCIETY

Thank you for your support!

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Serving the Slocan Valley
24-Hour Towing & Recovery
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250-359-2647

www.williamhuntercabins.ca

HEALTH • WELL-BEING • FITNESS

Hand & Soul Wellness Centre
202 Lake Avenue, Silverton

CHIROPRACTOR: Dr. Larry Zaleski
Open Tuesdays 11 am to 4 pm January 7th to March 31st
Closed: Friday afternoon - Winter & a few other dates
Closed: 1st, 2nd and 4th Thursday in Winter

COUNSELLOR: Sue Mestrete, M.A.
Open Mondays 3-5 pm, 7-9 pm.

Your ad could be here for only
$11.00 + GST

Pig Roast & Dance
Saturday, June 23 at the Slocan Valley Legion, S01 Harold St., Slocan. Dinner served 6-8 pm, Dance 8-10 pm. Tickets at Mountain Valley Station or phone 250-355-2972 to reserve. Tickets $20 ea. Legion members $15 ea. Dance only $10 ea. Music by Diamond Willow & Two for Tipping. The Legion welcomes members & guests.

The spirit of Slocan COMMITTEE is preparing for our 3rd annual FAMILY FAIR DAY to be held on Sunday, September 2 in Slocan City and we welcome all artisans and vendors. For registration information please contact us at: spiritofslocan@gmail.com

Hand & Soul also offers editing & commentary for thesis and final papers; Statistics and math; and much more! We also offer guidance for college admissions and finding the right course to apply to. Reach us at interdisciplined@gmail.com and let us know how we can help!

BECOME A YOUTH COUNSELLOR

Do you want to make a difference in a child’s life?

Coordinator, assisting residents of Kaslo

YOUTH

SINGLE PARENT HOMESCHOOLING

250-353-2282.

BUDDY’S PIZZA, KASLO:
Award winning, hand-stretched artisan pizza.

THE FRIDAY MARKET

Sunday, June 16, 3:30 pm, Centennial Park, New Denver. Rain or Shine. A free, all ages event. Local guide Talbot Peyton will answer all your fishing questions. Draw for tackle and tackle ‘n free prize. Dances 3-5 pm then potluck then Dances 7-9 pm. Taghum Hall. Everyone welcome. Admission $20 (no one turned away for lack of funds) 250-359-6600 more info.

JAPANESE CANADIAN SUSHI FEAST & Cultural Celebration at the Langham June Friday, 16 June 5, 6 pm, Following commemorative sign unveiling ceremony at 2 pm, sushi and sake. Admission $20, Hens beer with performances by TASSAI Casual and music by FREYA starting at 7:30 pm. www.thelangham.ca

VENDORS WANTED: Silverton/Canada Day POPUP Market. Saturday, June 30, 10 am – 4 pm. 222 Lake Ave (the old Bigwye). Table reservations $25 – Bring Your own table $15. Contact 250-551-0287.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

You are invited to start your own business! If so, call Community Futures to learn about the free Business Plan workshop open to anyone!

and traditionally

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS

We would like to express much gratitude to our employees, families, customers, friends and the community for sharing their time and their skills. All students shared their time and their skills. All students came away feeling like they learned a lot and were happy to have spent time on our local golf course. Many thanks to all of you!

CLASSIFIED ADS

45/6 BOTTLE DRIVE was a success! Thanks for sharing your recycling with us.

The students hope to use the funds collected to go to SkyTrick in Revelstoke. As always, if we missed picking up your bottles and you need us to help collect them don’t hesitate to call 250-359-2294.

COMING EVENTS

CHUCKLEBERRY FARM Gardening Workshop – Grow squash in straw while generating soil. Producer higher yields; Successfully transplant large healthy starts without shocking; Grow vertically; Biokasda speedly composting. Year-round microgreens; Interactive garden tour; Lunch and Garden Starts included. Grow your best garden ever! Call 250-359-6669. Chuckleberrycommunity.ca

THE FRIDAY MARKET happens every Friday 10 am to 2 pm June through September, in downtown New Denver. Come to this beautiful market under shady maple trees for fresh organic local produce, flowers, delicious prepared food and local artisans’ wares. For info: 250-358-2774 or email Nakuspsupports@rogers.com

SLOCAN LAKE FISHING SCHOOL – Saturday, June 16, 3:30 pm, Centennial Park, New Denver. Rain or Shine. All ages event. Local guide Talbot Peyton will answer all your fishing questions. Draw for tackle and tackle ‘n free prize. Dances 3-5 pm then potluck then Dances 7-9 pm. Taghum Hall. Everyone welcome. Admission $20 (no one turned away for lack of funds) 250-359-6600 more info.

NELSON DANCES OF UNIVERSAL PEACE circle celebrates 50th Anniversary of the Dances. Sunday June 24th. Dances 3-5 pm then potluck then Dances 7-9 pm. Taghum Hall. Everyone welcome. Admission $20 (no one turned away for lack of funds) 250-359-6600 more info.

Please contact us at: spiritofslocan@gmail.com

Your ad could be here for only
$11.00 + GST

Advertising

ADVERTISING

The Valley Voice June 14, 2018

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Buddy’s Pizza, Kaslo: award winning, hand-stretched artisan pizza. 250-353-2282.

School Parent Home schooling: YOUTH for medical reasons not able to seek employment. Your refundable bottles and cans will help! Call 250-352-9916 Tues., Thurs. Noon-4 pm to arrange for pickup. Thank you for your support!

EAST KASLO SOCIETY HOUSING Coordinator, assisting residents of Kaslo

and Area D with affordable housing. Office hours: Tuesday 1-3, Wednesday & Thursday 9-12 or by appointment. #23 The Langham, Kaslo. 250-353-8363. Funding for this position thanks to CIT and ROCK Kaslo EDC.

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Advertising

ADVERTISING
Kootenay Fair

Voters applaud clear referendum question

submitted

Local Kootenayites for proportional representation are feeling optimistic with Attorney-General David Eby’s announcement of the referendum question.

“It’s great to have a clear and fair question for the referendum now. We can get to work on reaching as many voters as possible in our community over the next six months,” says Ann Remnant, Fair Vote Canada Kootenay leader.

The huge response to the online consultation – at 91,000 it’s the biggest in BC history – shows that BC voters care deeply about this issue. Both the proposed question and legislation are based on public feedback the ministry received. Ph. 250-388-2235.

* * *

SIX PERSON TENT. Never used. $160. $31.25. Call 250-365-6887.

Nakusp or New Denver, $22 each, Pick-up 226-398. Hand CEDAR POSTS 250-358-2440.

SIX PERSON TENT. Never used. $160.

Redpointchimney.com 250-354-3489.

- Now booking! Last year’s SWEEPS


Preschool-Level

K pent 250-226-7636.

Wine label produced by one of the world’s oldest wineries. Call 250-365-6887.

Alcohol or other drugs to attune oneself with the presence of God.

http://eckankarblog.org/sound-of-soul/ to attune oneself with the presence of God.


INWARD JOURNEY: Monday and Wednesday evenings at the fire hall in Silverton. Only 5 minutes from New Denver. Open to all levels. Come and share mindfulness and the exaltation of inner flow.

RED KAYAK and iPHONE in Life Proof send your resume/personal information to tests, enter data, prepare media - part time 226-2170. Accommodation available. Call 250-353-226-2170.

** * *

PETS

90 DAYS TO A BETTER DOG: Build focus for you, have fun. Learn more at www.proudofmydog.ca

** * *

SLOCAN VALLEY RECREATION

Green Lake Swim Centre: Adult lanes open Mon-Fri, Mid-July to Mid-Aug. $4.50. Children under 12. $3.50. Dine-in and take out. Call 250-358-2220.

** * *

SPRING SPECIAL CHIMNEY SWEEPS - Now booking! Last year’s WERT. Certified. Call or email to find out which are coming to your area. Redpointchimney.com 250-354-3489.
Dances of Universal Peace 50th anniversary celebration Sunday June 24

Sam was inspired by his encounters with and teachings from modern dance pioneer Ruth St. Denis and Sufi Master Hazrat Inayat Khan and visions of these dances started to come to him. On June 24, 1968 – 50 years ago – Sam led the first Dance gathering. Since then, the dances have multiplied and spread all over the world.

The Dances of Universal Peace have been active in the Slocan Valley and Nelson area since the early 1980s. On Sunday June 24, the Nelson Dances of Universal Peace circle is holding a special event to commemorate this 50th anniversary of the Dances at Taghum Hall starting at 3 pm. There will be a potluck dinner with dances before and after. The dances run from 3:50 pm and 7:50 pm. Admission $20, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. The dance leaders’ hope is to reach all those in the area whose lives have been touched by the dances and for whom they hold special memories and to encourage newcomers of all ages as well.

Everyone is welcome on June 24 to eat, dance and pray together to honor this auspicious occasion. More than 110 DUP circles globally will be holding similar celebrations. For more information call 250-359-6600 or email nelondances@gmail.com.

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Canada Day in Silverton: Gallery re-opens

submitted

July 1 will finally see the re-opening of the historic Silverton Gallery, a much-loved venue that has been closed for the past four years and sorely missed. A pro-active village council and the Slocan Lake Arts Council secured funding to meet fire standards and bring the grand old girl back to life.

$400,000 has been spent thus far on heating, cooling and venting systems plus fire suppression systems throughout the two-story building, so once again the doors will be open for the business of art, culture, art education and entertainment.

The Silverton Gallery has served for the past 37 years as a cultural hub for the Slocan Lake area, featuring dances, theatre performances, musical entertainment and art exhibitions, as well as many hands-on educational opportunities in the Kootenay Co-op Radio looking for support

submitted

Kootenay Co-op Radio has begun its annual fundraising and membership drive. For the entire month of June, KCR is asking listeners and supporters to step up and show that they value the work the co-op does in the community.

It is vital that people recognize the importance of truly local media — media that is not controlled by corporations or advertising dollars but is beholden to community members. Kootenay Co-op Radio works under the Seven Co-op Principles and each of these principles influences how decisions are made at the station. Everything from equipment purchases to the number of staff hours is influenced by this drive. KCR strives to give listeners some of the most eclectic, high-quality radio you can’t find anywhere and is continually validated with awards from the National Campus and Community Radio Association. The co-op is proud to offer some of the best community radio in the country and plans to continue this for many years to come.

Please consider renewing or becoming a member of Kootenay Co-op Radio. If you’re already a member, consider becoming a monthly member. If you’re already a monthly member, consider increasing your monthly contribution or simply make a donation. Visit kootenaycoopradio.com for details.

Community

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submitted

The 12th annual fishing derby hosted by Slocan’s Fire Department, Rescue Society, and First Responders was held on June 2. By all counts it was a resounding success. The weather was perfect and, as always, the derby was heavily supported by merchants and individuals from New Denver to Crescent Valley, and from Nelson and Castlegar. Folks from far and wide enjoy Slocan Lake and are very willing to support the men and women who are working to ensure the safety of everyone using it.

Along with the cash prizes for the largest fish, there were a plethora of draw prizes and a silent auction. As a fundraising event, it matched the previous best year for dollars raised. As a popular event, it exceeded all other fishing derbies held by the three organizations. There were 200 tickets sold and more than 60 anglers registered to fish that day.

The winning fish, brought in by Gene Hird, was a bull trout measuring 65 cm and weighing 6.83 lbs. Second place was a 5.7 lb rainbow trout landed by Bonnie Lister. Third place was another rainbow caught by Delaine Hird. There were also some honourable-mention fish brought in by young people. Austin Popoff brought in a 2.24 lb fish and Aleah Larson a 0.48 lb rainbow. They both received prizes for their accomplishments.

The winning ticket in the Rescue Society’s canoe raffle was held by Goody Niosi of Silverton, who took home a beautiful 17-foot Clipper Prospector canoe with two paddles and life jackets.

The event included a food concession, and music from a 20-piece Revelstoke band.

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