BC Small Cannabis Producers & Processors Co-op consultation coming to Nakusp and Nelson

by Jan McMurray

A province-wide co-op for small cannabis producers and processors is forming, and the movers and shakers behind it are coming to Nakusp on Saturday, March 16 (6-8:30, Seniors Hall) and to Nelson on Monday, March 18 (5:30-8, Front Room). They want to hear from small cannabis producers, processors and retailers as they prepare to incorporate the co-op.

“We’re creating the organization for them, so we want to know what they want the organization to do. We want to find out what they need, what the challenges are,” says David Hurford of Grow Tech Labs out of Vancouver. The meetings will be co-hosted by Grow Tech Labs and the Cascadia Agricultural Co-op. Grow Tech Labs was created in October to support cannabis entrepreneurs.

“BC has the most to lose if small producers get left behind in this new environment of legalization,” says Hurford. “Wouldn’t it be wonderful to have 1,000 or so legal small BC producers? Think of the job creation! Small BC producers have been doing it for years and they do it better than anybody else. This could be a big part of BC’s economic success. That’s the opportunity.”

Hurford says they’ve been working with the BC Co-op Association since December, and have been working with the same co-op developer who has been assisting the Kootenay Outdoor Producer Co-op (KOPS). “The co-op model was kind of a no-brainer. It has its origins in agriculture – small producers getting together to compete with the larger companies – and that’s the situation we’re in now.”

Hurford says they are very supportive of the Kootenay Outdoor Producer Co-op (KOPS). “A provincial co-op would work alongside local co-ops and businesses, and strengthen them,” he explained. “The co-op movement has co-operation built into its DNA, in contrast to the corporate structure. This is all about collaboration, not competition – and that’s consistent with the ethic of the small producer and cannabis consumers, as well.”

They have developed a vision and mission statement, and launched the province-wide consultation in February. They have held five meetings on Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast, and are now travelling to the Kootenays, the Okanagan and the north. The consultation will be complete by the end of March.

“The feedback we’ve gotten so far suggests that a provincial co-op could do the big things like advocacy, legal services, municipal engagement in terms of zoning issues, help with federal applications, and pooling of purchasing power – so instead of every grower buying their own soil and lights, we could buy it in bulk. We’re looking forward to what the people in Nakusp and Nelson tell us.”

For more information: https://www.bcscpp.com/
New Denver’s Fischer family burned out of their Denver Siding home

by Jan McMurray

Since Denver Siding residents Doug and Shay Fischer lost their home and belongings to a fire on Saturday, March 2, they are taking “one day at a time – one hour at a time,” Doug says.

“Everybody is okay – that’s the main thing,” he said. Shay and their two dogs and one cat were in the house at the time it caught fire, and all got out safely.

“She did what I’ve been preaching to her – ‘don’t grab anything, just get the dogs and the cat and leave. Don’t try to be a hero.’”

The couple and their pets are living at Shay’s godmother’s house in New Denver. The house is furnished and equipped with all the necessary household items. The community responded right away with donations of clothing, etc. “We are set up,” Doug said with a tear in his eye.

“Thank you to the fire department and to everyone in this community!”

Doug owns Glacier View Service in New Denver, and was at work on Saturday morning when Shay called him. He could tell she was distraught, but wasn’t sure exactly what the problem was. “I went home, thinking I was going to be dealing with a cougar or a coyote, but I came around the corner and all I saw was smoke and flames coming out of the roof.”

Leonard Casley from the New Denver and Area Volunteer Fire Department says the department responded sometime after 8 am and remained on site until 3 or 4 pm. He said the fire was hard to put out because of the strong wind that day and because it was difficult to access the attic, where the fire started. The crew couldn’t get onto the tin roof in the winter conditions. “We just had to keep at it,” he said.

Casley, also the Local Assistant to the Fire Commissioner, says the origin of the fire was around the chimney area in the attic. Doug and Shay’s insurance company is now investigating the cause of the fire, but Casley says the cause is often never determined.

Doug, who has been an active member of the fire department for years, guesses that it was caused by a strong downdraft. “There were 50+ mile per hour winds that day,” he said.

Doug tried to help fight the fire, “but they chased me away, so I sat down on the fire truck and had a beer,” he says.

Doug says the insurance company hasn’t decided yet whether the house is salvageable, but “it sounds like a total loss.” Casley said there was extensive structural, smoke and water damage.

The insurance adjuster estimates that it will be at least 14 months before the family is back in their own home, whether it’s repaired or replaced, Doug reports.

The fire department has set up an account at the KSCU in New Denver for those who would like to make a donation: Masterplan #1625037. Cheques can be made out to Fischer Family Fundraiser.

Grassroots Grammas will transform the Valley Whole Community Centre on the evening of Saturday, March 30 from 7 to 10 pm. Café Chocolat promises to be an elegant event featuring entertainment, refreshments, sweets, savouries and a silent auction. Advance tickets ($10) include admission and entertainment – vocals, violins, piano, guitar, a wind ensemble and a dramatic performance by Marya & Martina. During the event, cash or cheques will buy spirits, hot drinks, chocolate sodas, charcuterie, bonbons by Belicious and desserts baked with fair trade no slave cocoa. Grammas members have donated items from their own collections for the silent auction.

A limited number of tickets for this fundraiser are available from members of the Slocan Valley group, or call Linda at 226-7304. Come out to visit with friends and be pampered a little. All proceeds will go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation’s Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign. Slocan Valley Grassroots Grammas stand in solidarity with African grandmothers through the campaign, a Canadian grassroots response to the HIV/AIDS crisis faced by African grandmothers.
March 14, 2019   The Valley Voice

New WorkBC program to launch April 1

by Jan McMurray

The Kootenay Career Development Society (KCDS) has won the contract to deliver WorkBC services throughout a very large area, including the Boundary, West Kootenay and Central Kootenay.

“In the most recent round of bidding, there was a significant reduction of catchment areas in the province—from 75 to 45,” explained Jocelyn Carver, Executive Director of KCDS, in an interview. “So a number of those catchment areas got larger than they had been over the last seven years, including both catchment areas in which we were the successful contractor.”

KCDS was sub-contracting with seven organizations that have been delivering the WorkBC program in these areas. “This is the heart and soul of what our winning proposal was,” Carver said. “We basically said we have been working alongside these community organizations who were the prime contractors themselves and we know the exceptional service they have been providing, and we’re committed to having them continue.”

As a result, people using the WorkBC service in our area won’t notice much of a difference, Carver said. Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services will continue operating the full-time centre in Nakusp with outreach to New Denver once a week. KCDS will continue serving remote communities in the Boundary and Slocan, and Kaslo will now get weekly rather than biweekly service.

Carver is excited about the new WorkBC program and the people “will feel our presence more” as a result of the changes. “We see a lot of clients one on one, but we’ll expand into more group-based employment services,” Carver said. “And of course I will continue to develop solution-based forestry approaches for our children and the rest of the world regardless of what our current legislation dictates what is ‘right’ or ‘wrong.’”

New Denver Fire Chief Passes the Torch

I would like to take this opportunity to share with everyone the changes that have been made at the New Denver Fire / Rescue Department over the last few months.

Leonard Casley our chief, leader, and teammate has now stepped down to accept the title of Mayor of New Denver. Long-term fire department member Derek Hicks, a captain in the department for many years, has stepped forward to become the new chief. He has the respect of our team and is well known by the community. We are fortunate to have him as our new chief for the years to come.

To Len, it is hard to put into words how much time and effort you have given to this department over the last 25 plus years. From a single fire engine in the original fire hall of New Denver, to our current status of vehicles, equipment and a new area fire engine you have grown this department to where it is today.

I honestly can’t count and it’s hard to remember, the amount of emergency calls Len and I have done together. The people we have helped, the people we have saved and sadly, the ones we have lost – in snow storms, rain storms and fire storms, at all hours of the day and times of the year. The department has been a substantial part of our lives, and has had a great impact on both our families and the loved ones who stand by us and behind us. There is much thanks needed to be spread around there.

I hope you will join me in thanking Len for the time and effort he has put into both our Fire Department and community. As a department member Derek Hicks, a captain in the department for the last few months.

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I hope you will join me in thanking Len for the time and effort he has put into both our Fire Department and community. As a department member myself, I believe his contributions are above and beyond the call of duty of a volunteer. I am proud to have served beside Len all these years. I was happy to call him chief, still call him friend and I wish him well in his new position as mayor. Luckily for our department and village, he is still wearing a helmet as assistant chief, sharing his knowledge with new and current members and heading out to help those in need.

With highest regards,

Leonard Casley

New Denver Fire Chief
Effects of the independent power projects

There are many things that I could criticize about Michelle Mungall’s performance as an MLA, and a Cabinet Minister. Site C would be at the top of the list, although I don’t think she had the power to change that bad decision. I do resent her recent assertion that she has no regrets about it. In my opinion, she should have some. I am also a little disturbed that ex mines minister Bill Bennett thinks she is doing a good job, but perhaps he is just playing reverse politics.

The last thing she should be criticized for is her study of the effects of the independent power projects handed out to Liberal friends and feathered by guaranteed profits paid by BC Hydro. Jeff Shecter’s letter in the February 28 edition of the Nelson Star points out that a lot of money was spent on those projects, and a lot of people made out pretty well building them. That is the problem – some short-term jobs are created, and some money is made building the projects, but once built, they provide very little employment, and those private operators continue to milk our common resources for private profit, forever. Basically, we are paying for an excuse for him to mount his soapbox and give us a detailed, one-sided write-up of the alleged harmful effects of exposure to EMF. I say this is not serving Art’s interest and concern with our environment. I believe we should always be diligent and watch closely what is happening around us. But there is a big difference between diligence and jumping on a bandwagon that sows unnecessary fear and confusion where there is little basis in fact.

Give him a column

I would like to express my annoyance with Art Joyce’s recent ‘news article’ titled ‘Coming 5G rollout protested by international medical communities expressed re-concern to stop the rollout of 5G. Wow. 240 “scientists” from “more than 40 countries” said they would not change the world, single-handed, in a year years ago that I could not change our lives?’

To read the above mentioned ‘news’ article, one is led to believe that a large number of articles from our readers.

Herbicides in watersheds

55 years ago, BC Hydro crews had begun spraying 4, A-D along their powerline right of way, which runs along Mineral Ridge about 300 metres above our clearing. We had not been previously notified and went and stopped them right there, just like Art, by the Public Health nurse. We then got an agreement with BC Hydro that our area, over about three kilometres, would be exempted from spraying under the condition that we would cut new growth ourselves with the help of our goats and sheep. They even paid us one year about $300, if I remember right. We have since been notified of any spraying in our area and received assurance that manual cutting would be done in our area, although our goats and sheep have long since gone.

Quite a few years later, people in the Barton area woke up to their morning coffee having a horrible acrid taste. It turned out that the powerline along their ridge and watershed had been sprayed a few days earlier. They also had not been notified in advance.

In another incident of spraying in the Needle’s Edgewood area, which advance notice had been given, the spraying crew’s trucks that morning wouldn’t start. It took a while before the drivers realized that their distributor caps had disappeared. There certainly was no spraying that day. I do not recall the outcome, but I think Art Hydro smarmed up and hired manual labour for the job. In crucial cases, we have to act when authorities don’t!

Some simple climate actions

Not a day goes by that I don’t hear, see, or read about climate change and the impending catastrophes that entails. It’s depressing. I realized years ago that I could not change the world, single-handed, in a year or ten years. And time is running out. But if 2+2+50 make a million, maybe we CAN make a difference!

Elige de Boer

Points to ponder, part II

People that have served in our military are veterans. These people have actually served this country and receive a pension. Politicians say they serve our country. Should not all politicians and veterans receive the same pension?

There are three essential to life on Earth: air, water and food. Stephen Harper took away protection for air and water in a financial budget. Then he legislated (regulated) small farmers out of business from coast to coast without justification. Now the three essentials of life are in the hands of the corporations. Is this so that corporations absolutely control our lives?

Brian Mulroney recently bragged on TV that he lowered... continued on page 5
Slocan cell signal

I am writing today to speak to the Village of Slocan about the Telus cell tower that recently came into use within the heart of the village. I was at the council meetings where the tower was discussed, and I heard council say that based on the information provided by Telus, the signal/radiation from the tower would only reach as far as Gravel Pit Road (about 3 km radius from the tower site). I am writing to say this is not the case.

Our yurt (an eight-minute drive down Slocan West from the Village of Slocan) is now also encompassed within the cell tower’s signal. The signal reaches up the Forest Service Road switchbacks of Perry’s Ridge headed for the Little Slocan Valley.

Why this matters is that only those living within the boundaries of the Village (who would be within the said radiation) had a voice that was given weight. It is unjust and out of sync with the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the electromagnetic radiation (EMR) is affecting more people and these people did not have an say in the matter. There are individuals who experience EMR sensitivity who were given word that they would not be affected by the level or range of the}

Ed Varney

Vallican

Slocan to do what is needed to protect the EMR/cell signal into the boundary that was stated.

Ricole Cabodyna
Slocan

Open letter to BC Health Minister Adrian Dix

As a longtime NDP voter, first of all, I want to congratulate you on your efforts to reform the elitist, antisocial legacy of the former Liberal government in BC. I note in your ministerial mandate that: “It has never been more important for new leadership that works for ordinary people, not just those at the top.” If that’s so, then your work is cut out for you. Despite repeated promises from Interior Health officials that a full complement of physicians would be hired to staff the Slocan Community Health Centre, this has not yet happened.

In fact, Interior Health has become the very antithesis of your mandate to “work for ordinary people,” with top executives earning in excess of $300,000 per year plus bonuses. For example, in the 2017 report on IH executive compensation, it notes that former CEO Chris Mazurkewich received a $15,125 bonus “for achieving performance objectives for the period October 26th 2015 to March 31st, 2016.”

What will the Village do to ensure that the health care money raised by lotteries and fundraisers is being spent in the Slocan Valley? We now have a lady gracing the Village of Slocan about her financial resources are being used to build a $1.5 million-dollar motorhome would be hired to staff the Slocan Community Health Centre, this has not yet happened.

In fact, Interior Health has become the very antithesis of your mandate to “work for ordinary people,” with top executives earning in excess of $300,000 per year plus bonuses. For example, in the 2017 report on IH executive compensation, it notes that former CEO Chris Mazurkewich received a $15,125 bonus “for achieving performance objectives for the period October 26th 2015 to March 31st, 2016.”

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VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER PUBLIC NOTICES

NEW OFFICE HOURS
Please note that the Village of New Denver municipal office will now be open weekdays except statutory holidays from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS
The Village of New Denver is seeking local residents to sit on the Village of New Denver’s Local Selection Committee to guide the allocation of funding from the CBT Community Initiatives Program. The meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 and interested individuals can contact the Village Office for more information. The deadline for expressions of interest is 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 20, 2019.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
The Nkíkem Internment Memorial Centre is hiring for the 2019 season. There are grant dependent student positions available, as well as non-student positions to be filled. Interested individuals can contact the Village Office for more information. The deadline for non-student positions is April 1st, and applications for the grant dependent student positions is April 15, 2019.

CAMPGROUND ATTENDANT
The Village of New Denver is currently accepting applications for a Campground Attendant for the 2019 season. Information about the position and a large end table from the Village Office. The closing date for applications is 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 21, 2019.

Slocan council, February 25: Potential site for affordable housing identified by Barbara Curry MacKay

Slocan council had another short meeting (35 minutes), with no major budget decisions, because again only three members attended. This time, Councillor Raly Vorstman was in Kimberley attending the AKBLG Elected Officials Seminar and the BC Municipal Climate Leadership Workshop, Councillor Madeleine Pennington was away on a trip to the site.
• Councillor Joel Pelletier reported that the Slocan Affordable Housing Commission had not been able to find a large enough Village-owned lot in Slocan to build affordable housing. However, he said RDCK land owned by the Arena Society between the former Home Hardware and the Fortis electrical sub-station would “be such a nice south-facing lot” and it would have access to Village water. The SAHC wanted council to look into the possibility of using this land. Councillor Ezra Buller pointed out that area residents were “hoping to have an area” but Mayor Lutsen reassured him that any discussions would be “explorations.” Council directed staff to contact the Arena Society to find out their plans for the property.
• Jason Jones of Larch Landscape Architecture, collaborating with Patrick Taylor, a structural engineer, and Tapis Ponds, an irrigation designer, submitted a proposal to create a detailed design for the Slocan Waterfront Development at a cost of $14,826.40. The fee would cover the creation of landscape and irrigation construction documents and drawings for a guardrail design and a structural review. Issued for Tender documents with specifications would be created and construction administered, too. Council discussed this proposal at the March 11 council meeting.
• A Selkirk Planning & Design and Larch Architecture project to develop, with the help of stakeholder consultation, a cohesive plan to establish the Wellness Centre area as a community public space also will be discussed at the March council meeting. Council sought the proposal because Wellness Centre stakeholders have expressed differing visions for the area. Slocan City Suites, the cenotaph and its landscaping, the electric charging station, and parking on Harold Street have all changed the area. In addition, the ramp access to the centre divides the property and does not meet safety and building codes. The budget for the proposed Wellness Centre Concept plan is approximately $12,000-$14,000.
• Council decided to allow the Slocan Valley Seniors Housing Society to place a 10’ x 10’ non-permanent storage shed on the southeast corner of the Wellness Centre land staff. Ward will prepare a Licence to Occupy Agreement for the SVSHS. The SVSHS had requested permission to put the shed in the laneaway between the Wellness Centre and the SCS but council did not want to be perceived as setting a precedent for laneaway use.

Slocan Valley economic development submitted by Ron LeBlanc, Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator

Valley residents often ask me about my new role as Slocan Valley Economic Development Coordinator. What does it mean? What is it I do, exactly? Good questions! I usually reply, “A bit of everything” with a smile. From my perspective, everything is economic development, and economic development affects pretty much everything in valley life.

Small towns and rural areas often get hung up on attracting big industry or tons of tourists that will create jobs and provide taxes to support local governments. It can be like trying to summon the hero to save the day or hoping the genie will appear out of the bottle. Sometimes magic happens and sometimes it also has consequences. Frankly, times have changed, and so have we. Many of us today operate in the gig economy of contract work, home-based businesses and the wearing of many hats.

We’ve learned lessons along the way. Many resource-based regions like the Slocan Valley have experienced the legacy left behind after the big company packs up and leaves. We’ve seen what too much or inappropriate tourism can do to the charm of a place. These days, when we talk about economic development we keep in mind phrases like “appropriate development” or “market-based approach” when describing it. We first consult with a community and together explore how to best invest resources and build a thriving and thriving self. We think in terms of people’s livelihood and quality of life, not just jobs. It’s a nudge, not a shove.

We are in a curious position here in the valley where the underground cannabis economy has for decades directly or indirectly supported the way of life for much of the community. The industry is changing now and I know that can feel pretty uncomfortable for some of the people affected. There’s no standing still and no going back from here. The best approach might be to see the opportunity that this budding industry represents. It’s a good time for people to stretch, rise to the challenge that legalization represents and find a path within it, or discover new ways to explore one’s passion and express it in work.

There are fine people out there working on ways to best support the valley during this transition. These things take time, though, and we’re all just trying to figure it out as the situation evolves.

There are some pretty exciting initiatives coming down the pike in tourism, technology, agriculture, affordable housing and with businesses and the Slocan District Chamber of Commerce, the RDCK, our mayors, councils and Village staff of Slocan, Silverton and New Denver, as well as their counterparts in RDCK Area H are all ”capacity building” and looking at a variety of exciting projects. In fact, economic development is one of their shared projects, and my role as coordinator exists because of that.”
Conservation projects provide benefits to residents of Kootenay Lake

submitted

Nine important conservation projects were recently approved to receive funding from the Kootenay Lake Local Conservation Fund (KLLCF) by the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK). These projects support fish and wildlife and their habitats, water management, and landscape connectivity.

“On behalf of the RDCK Board of Directors, I’d like to congratulate the organizations taking the lead on this year’s successful projects,” said board chair Aimee Watson. “The KLLCF plays a key role in facilitating conservation efforts around Kootenay Lake, and we are proud to support these important initiatives.”

Projects in 2019 include conservation of species such as western painted turtles (BC Conservation Foundation), western toads (Valhalla Wilderness Society), grizzly bears (Grizzly Coexistence Solutions), and bats (Kootenay Bat Project). Several restoration projects were also supported this year, including increasing wildflowers for pollinators (Kootenay Native Plant Society), restoring Kokanee spawning habitat (Friends of Kootenay Lake Stewardship Society), and preparing for wetland restoration at Crawford Bay (Eastshore Freshwater Habitat Society). The fund is also supporting water monitoring on north Kootenay Lake by the Kootenay Centre for Forestry Alternatives to inform water management in preparation for climate change.

The largest contribution from the KLLCF this year is towards the purchase of Next Creek by the Nature Conservancy of Canada, which expands the Darkwoods Conservation Area on the west side of the lake. This property is the last missing piece in a vast conservation landscape puzzle that extends over 1,000 km².

“Other applications such as these show that the KLLCF is a much-needed resource for helping preserve and steward the healthy functioning ecosystems.”

The fund was established by the BC government in 2014 by referendum. Property owners in Electoral Areas A, D and E pay a parcel tax of $15 per parcel per year towards this dedicated fund, which each year provides financial support to local projects that help conserve and restore the area’s prized natural surroundings.

Everything you want to know about Gerrard trout

submitted

The legendary Gerrard rainbow trout, renowned for their massive size and tail walking acrobatics, are believed to originate from just one short 300-metro-long spawning stretch of the Lardeau River.

Friends of the Lardeau River (FLR) hosts provincial rivers biologist Greg Andrusak March 18 as he unravels some of the mysteries surrounding the genetically unique fish. The presentation will be at the Lardeo Valley Community Hall in Meadow Creek at 6:30 pm; admission is by donation. Andrusak will talk about two decades of research on the Gerrard’s biology. The Lardeo and Duncan rivers combined are the only place in the region that support the unique life history of these large piscivorous (fish-eating) trout that reside in Kootenay Lake. This research has been highlighted as a priority given the recent collapse of kokanee on Kootenay Lake and will be used to assess recovery timelines, develop conservation and management thresholds.

The research has been primarily funded Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation with additional support from Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program and Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC.

The research goals are to assess mechanisms that regulate the Gerrard population across its entire life history and to develop a management framework that will provide key conservation and management targets to maintain the Gerrard population in future. This event is supported by funds from RDCK and Columbia Basin Trust. FLR continues to foster community understanding of and engagement with issues affecting the well-being of sensitive ecosystems in the area.

Mushroom workshop offered in Mirror Lake

submitted

Mushroom and garden enthusiasts may be interested in checking out an upcoming workshop being offered in Mirror Lake. Local mushroom grower Robin Mercy and permaculture teacher Tamara SunXong will be offering an Introduction to MycoPermaculture workshop at the Sentinel Retreat on April 6-7. Participants will learn simple techniques for incorporating delicious mushrooms into their landscapes, using permaculture principles to discover how species like king stropharia, reishi, and oyster mushrooms can help enrich and transform our home gardens ecosystems.

The workshop will include an exploration of mushroom life cycles, their place in human cultures past and present, and the fundamentals of permaculture design, as well as hands-on projects like guild planting, log and stump inoculation, and bringing mushroom companions into our garden paths and beds. All participants will leave with an inoculated mushroom log and the skills to get started on a mycorepermaculture design of their own.

Mercy will offer an introductory evening talk on April 5, titled ‘Seven Remarkable Mushrooms: how local friendly fungi enhance our ecosystems and our lives.’ For more information go to mmercyfungishrooms.com, or sentinelbc.ca.

Enjoy the sun on Kaslo Nordic Trails

submitted

Have you skied the cross-country ski trails near Kaslo? Twelve km of double and single groomed track-set trails are waiting for you, plus opportunities for sking non-groomed trails. Just 6.6 km west of Kaslo on Hwy 31A, look for the blue X-country ski trail and the cleared area for parking. A map at the trailhead kiosk shows the location, difficulty rating and length of the trails, as well as the location of the warming hut, outhouse and parking. A map at the trailhead parking, which is also supported this year, including: 12 km of double and single country ski trails near Kaslo?

KASLO & DISTRICT

Mushroom workshop offered in Mirror Lake

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For more information on the KLLCF, please visit kootenayconservation.ca/ conservation-funds/kllcf/. For phone or email inquiries, please contact Craig at 250-352-2260 or juliet@kootenayconservation.ca.
By Claire Paradis

A motion was made to give approval in principle for the milk wagon currently residing on the lawn of the Centennial Building to be moved to another location in Nakusp. The Centennial Building Committee, made up of delegates from the library, archives, museum and visitor centre, needs approval in principle in order to pursue funding from Columbia Basin Trust for the structure that will house the artifact, wherever its final resting place may be.

A letter outlining Columbia Basin Trust’s Community Outdoor Revitalization Grant Program was received. The grant can be used toward costs of outdoor furniture, landscaping and the like, so CAO Taylor recommended applying for funding for Phase 2 of the Downtown Revitalization Project. Councillor McLaren-Caux said a matching grant could be pursued by local businesses, and Taylor agreed the grants could be done in conjunction.

The Nakusp Public Library sent a letter requesting an annual 3% increase to its grant from the Village and the RDCK, as the library’s operating costs, including wages, are rising every year. The grant is funded by taxation; a 3% increase would translate to $1.40 for the owner of a $249,000 home this year. Councillor Joseph Hughes recommended denying the request this year but researching how it could be possible to make it happen for 2020. He noted that the RDCK requisition this year is already high, with the new museum and archives services and the restructuring of the RDCK’s emergency planning service. Hughes said he would be looking into whether some of the administration done by the RDCK could be done by the Village. The letter from the library was received for information.

Fire Chief Terry Warren reported that his position as Emergency Program Coordinator for Nakusp and Area K and Slocan and Area H will be over on December 31, 2019. This is due to the RDCK’s new District Fire Chief model. The District Fire Chiefs will be taking over the Emergency Coordinator positions.

A request for proposal will be issued for another piece of public art to be installed in town. There is $5,850 left over from a $20,000 Columbia Basin Trust Public Art grant for a local artist who has an appropriate piece of art to install for the public’s enjoyment. Details will become available from the Public Art Committee this spring, said Mayor Zeleznik. Kate Tupper’s ‘Moments Later’ was the first piece purchased with the grant money for $12,000 plus taxes.

Councillor Janis Neufeld reported that Recreation Commission #4 will hire a Rec Coordinator for a four-month pilot period to try to increase the recreation opportunities and use of facilities in the Village and area. The wages for the position come from leftover Rec Commission funding.

Pickleball courts are in the works for Nakusp, said Recreation and Parks representatives Codie Jones and Richard Cann.

Columbia Basin Trust Public Art Manager Bart Chenuz absent, Mayor Zeleznik gave a report about the compressor failure during a recent hockey game. Businesses would have been able to run with one compressor, which was sufficient to ensure safe ice for the players. The broken compressor is now able to run, but a report will be submitted by Startec Refrigeration stating what needs to be done, and the compressor which failed will need to be replaced.

Mayor Tom Zeleznik’s report gave information about the Arrow Reservoir debris cleanup conducted by BC Hydro. Zeleznik said that roughly 55 logging truckloads of debris are collected between MacDonald Creek and Galena Bay.

Food truck designs for Tasty Times and Eats and Beats were approved by council, so they’ll be back by the beach again this summer.

Home Grown Market’s application for the set-back behind the grocery store to be relaxed from 9.8 to 5 feet was granted, and the requirement for a building permit for the addition was waived because it was considered a minor alteration.

The Beaton Arm Crossing Association’s Earl Frerichs invited mayor and council to a presentation about the association’s latest proposal for a fixed link option of a bridge over the Arrow Lakes. Frerichs said he would also be inviting the Chamber of Commerce.

Kokanee spawning improvements in Edgewood’s Eagle Creek

By Jan McMurray

The Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) is working on a project to help kokanee reach their spawning habitat in Eagle Creek in Edgewood.

“We’re very excited to see the Eagle Creek project going ahead,” said Evan Smith, biologist with the ONA Fisheries Department out of the Castlegar office.

Smith says some local Edgewood residents and Kevin Schiller from Nakusp brought the Eagle Creek project to the attention of the ONA.

“When the reservoir level goes down, sometimes the water [where Eagle Creek flows into Arrow Reservoir] becomes so shallow that the kokanee can’t get up into the creek,” Smith explained.

To exacerbate the problem, the central channel of the creek has changed location several times. “This last channel formation brought a lot of sand, gravel and material down,” said Smith. “So much gravel causes the creek to braided and fan out, making passage to spawning habitat even more challenging for the kokanee.”

According to Ministry of Environment data, right across the street, Smith says there have been zero kokanee in Eagle Creek in quite a few of the past ten years. He adds that a BC Hydro report identified Eagle Creek as having migration barriers for the spawning kokanee because of the large drawdown zone (the area between the high and low water marks).

To solve the problem, the ONA-led team has installed habitat structures made of logs and rocks in the creek. “The habitat structures will centralize the channel and make the channel deeper, allowing the kokanee to swim up to their spawning habitat in the creek,” Smith said.

Smith was involved in a similar project at Deer Creek near Castlegar in 2015 and 2016, and the project was successful. “The kokanee are spawning in the structures there — so we decided to replicate the project at Eagle Creek, even though Eagle Creek presents a more significant barrier to kokanee than Deer Creek.”

The Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) is working on a project to help kokanee reach their spawning habitat in Eagle Creek in Edgewood. To solve the problem, the ONA-led team has installed habitat structures made of logs and rocks in the creek.

Nakusp council, February 25: Relocation of historic milk wagon approved in principle

Nakusp council, February 25: Relocation of historic milk wagon approved in principle
Preliminary operating budget presented at Nakusp council meeting

by Claire Paradis and Jen McMurray

School District 10 Arrow Lakes has received over $1.2 million in provincial funding for upgrades at schools throughout the district. The funds will also cover the cost of an 80-passenger wheelchair-accessible bus.

“The school facility upgrades are much needed and will greatly improve school buildings, energy efficiency, and safety,” says Superintendent Terry Taylor in her report to the board of education.

The funds will be used for building envelope upgrades at Nakusp Elementary, Nakusp Secondary ($140,850), flooring upgrades at Lucerne, NES and NSS ($378,495) and security system upgrades at Burton, Edgewood, Lucerne, NES and NSS ($550,000).

Tenant also reminded everyone that municipal taxes were only 46% of total taxes collected last year. A 1% increase in the tax rate translates to an increase of $19.16 per household, which brings in $13,373 in tax revenue per tenant.

The average household paid $916 in municipal taxes, and a total of approximately $2,000 for all taxes combined.

Village revenues come in the form of property taxes and payments in lieu of taxes (26%), fees and charges for things like water and sewage (29%), hot springs revenues (20%), grants (19%), and RDCK transfers (12%).

Expenditures are comprised of transfers to reserves, hot springs (which is funded by hot springs revenues), and general expenses.

Last year, the average household paid $916 in municipal taxes, and a total of approximately $2,000 for all taxes combined.

The “dark window” phenomenon in Nakusp is well-documented, with the usual preamble about the necessity of a balanced budget, and that there must be a cut in services, a cut in taxes, there must be a cut in service.

The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) seeks quotes for upgrades to the Edgewood, Burton and Roxbury transfer stations.

Detailed scope of work and specifications can be found on the RDCK’s website.

Quotes will be accepted until 2:00 pm, Wednesday, March 20, 2019.

Megan Deas
Resource Recovery Operations Supervisor
Phone: (250) 352-8194
Email: MDeas@rdck.bc.ca / Web: www.rdck.ca

This Month’s Super Savings

at Kaslo & New Denver Community Pharmacy

March 14 – April 11

Votaren Emugel Joint Pain Regular Strength 120 g
Reg. Price $24.89 Super Savings Price $ 17.89
Ibgard 12 caps
Reg. Price $16.89 Super Savings Price $ 10.89
Herbacin Hand Cream
Laxaday 238 g
Kaslo
New Denver
250-353-2224          250-358-2500
403 Front Street  809 6th Avenue
Registration opens for Convergence Writers’ Weekend

We’re very excited to feature Joy Kogawa at this year’s event,” says co-ordinator Claire Paradis. “She is a national figure whose writing has explored this year’s theme in considerable depth over decades. And she has a strong connection to the Kootenays.”

Kogawa will speak at 7 pm on June 7 at an event open to the public. Author of the 1981 Canadian classic novel Obasan, based on the author’s internment at Slocan during World War II, Kogawa is a member of both the Order of Canada and the Order of British Columbia. In 2010 she received the Japanese-Canadian history. Kogawa’s most recent novel is a 2016 memoir called Gently to Nagasaki. The Vancouver Sun’s Douglas Todd called the book “a mature work of history and spirituality, bravely detailing the intersection between mass global evils and those perpetrated intimately by members of one’s own family.”

“Kogawa’s memoir deeply explores how denial works in regards to racism, paedophilia, nuclear power, Canadian internment camps and Japanese war atrocities,” Todd said. The Toronto Globe and Mail praised Gently to Nagasaki for “breaking the us/them dichotomy of victimization.”

Convergence registrants have the choice to attend one of two writing workshops offered during the day on June 8. A Saturday evening integration session lets participants discuss their response to the weekend. The 2016 debut short fiction collection by workshop leader Liggett’s book “effortlessly – or so it seems – grabs the reader’s attention and doesn’t let go, revealing the comedy, cruelty, tenderness and shame native to every human relationship.”

Workshop leader Liggett’s writing has appeared in major ski journals and more than 75 newspapers. He has published an award-winning cookbook, two collections of poems, and, in 2015, The Fernie Originals, a series of profiles of Fernie businesses and essays about the town.

This year’s Convergence is co-sponsored by Selkirk College’s Mir Centre for Peace. Other support to date has come from Regional District of Central Kootenay’s Area A director Paul Petersen.

Interactive augmented reality app tells internment story

East of the Rockies’ AR narrative follows 17-year-old Yuki as her family adjusts to life in an internment camp during WWII. The story takes inspiration from Kogawa’s novels Obasan and Itsuka, which chronicle the persecution of Japanese-Canadian citizens in Canada during the war. After activating the AR mode, app users can interact with Yuki’s story by tapping, inspecting and zooming in on key elements inside the Slocan Internment Camp.

Each of these elements activates a scripted narrative spoken by Yuki, illuminating different aspects of the camp. East of the Rockies is a fully animated and voiced narrative, with Kogawa’s granddaughter Anne Canute providing the voice of Yuki.

“I’m grateful that this little story in Canada is not going to be lost,” says Joy Kogawa. “There are so many stories that are lost that ought not to be, so it’s a wonderful thing to see it happening here in this way. It’s a very exciting thing to be at the beginning of this kind of thing – how lucky is that?”

The AR features leverage Apple’s ARKit framework. The experience is exclusive to iPhone and iPad running iOS 12, including iPhone 6s and newer iPads (5th generation) and all iPad Pro models. East of the Rockies is now available on the App Store.

The National Film Board of Canada (NFB) is one of the world’s leading digital content hubs, creating groundbreaking interactive documentaries and animation, mobile content, installations and participatory experiences. To access acclaimed NFB content, visit NFB.ca or download its apps for mobile devices.
Ashram’s Temple of Light wins major architectural award

by Art Joyce

The Yasodhara Ashram’s Temple of Light on Kootenay Lake’s east shore has won a major architectural award for its innovative use of wood. The temple was one of four buildings in BC awarded the Wood Design Award for “inspired architecture and innovative structural engineering using wood in a remarkable diversity of building types, sizes and purposes.” The award is sponsored by WoodWORKS BC, an industry association.

Patkau Architects of Vancouver were responsible for the design and association. The diversity of building types, sizes and innovative structural engineering using wood is a remarkable achievement. The temple of Light on Kootenay Lake’s east shore has won a major architectural award for its innovative use of wood. The temple was one of four buildings in BC awarded the Wood Design Award for “inspired architecture and innovative structural engineering using wood in a remarkable diversity of building types, sizes and purposes.” The award is sponsored by WoodWORKS BC, an industry association.

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Nelson University Women celebrate federation centennial

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the National Canadian Federation of University Women, the Nelson & District chapter of the CFUW will host its second SIP Talks: Stories Inspire Passion on Saturday, March 30 at the Prestige Lakeside Resort. This event is a fundraiser for the club’s scholarship fund, which supports women in the community to further their educational goals.

Come celebrate the 100th anniversary, the Power of Women Working Together. Hear seven stories from seven dynamic local women!

One of the raffle prizes that is up for grabs is an opportunity to have a local culinary legend spend an evening preparing appetizers with you and three friends. We call it ‘Mix It Up’, with chef and author Shelley Adams of Whiteknot Books cookbook fame, who will join you and three friends either at your home or at an alternate kitchen provided by CFUW Nelson. Adams will bring her famous appetizer recipes and prepare with you the appetizers, and join in great conversation over a glass of wine.

The CFUW Club will assist with ingredient-shopping, preparation and clean up work, and a ride. The Kootenay Co-op Country Store is sponsoring this prize with a donation of all the ingredients for the appetizers.

This is sure to be an evening you won’t easily forget. The winning ticket will be drawn during the SIP Talks event. Tickets are only $10 each or three for $20, with a limited number printed. Tickets will be available from all the local CFUW members. Please contact the CFUW - Nelson & District Facebook page if you have any questions or to find more details on the SIP Talk event. The CFUW thanks Shelley Adams and the Kootenay Co-op Country Store for supporting this very special prize and the fundraising efforts of the club.

Nelson & District Facebook page if you have any questions or to find more details on the SIP Talk event. The CFUW thanks Shelley Adams and the Kootenay Co-op Country Store for supporting this very special prize and the fundraising efforts of the club.
Patient access to emergency health services needs improvement


Overall, the office found that the British Columbia Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) is effectively managing access to ambulance and emergency health services in some areas. However, performance against key targets for patient care is in need of improvement, and coordination of access to emergency health services with fire departments needs to be strengthened.

For example, BCEHS sometimes takes longer than it would like to reaching patients requiring time-critical care. This increases the risk that some patients do not receive the care they need, when they need it.

Improvements to fire departments are needed to better match its resources to patient needs, said auditor general Carol Bellringer. It is increasing the number of paramedics and ambulances, and introducing a new dispatch approach to shorten response times for patients who need care the most.

Also, BCEHS is pursuing alternatives to traditional emergency response for patients who do not require transport to a hospital. This includes options such as providing medical advice over the phone, transporting patients to a health clinic or having paramedics provide treatment in private homes or the community.

The goal of BCEHS is to ensure that patients receive timely and appropriate access to emergency care in every community throughout the province.

BCEHS works with fire departments in a number of ways to improve patient care and to accommodate a $1 million contribution to the provincial emergency health services province-wide. While the APBC believes that BCEHS has implemented some positive changes, it is calling for BCEHS to improve coordination between BCEHS and fire department first responders throughout the province.

The Ambulance Paramedics of BC (APBC) are reviewing the recommendations. They agree there are improvements that need to be made to improve timely access to ambulance and emergency health services province-wide. The APBC believes that BCEHS has implemented some positive changes, including the Clinical Response Model that prioritizes the appropriate resources to the appropriate patients, the data presented in the OAG’s report indicates there is still more work that needs to be done.

Regional Hospital District contributes $18.5 million to health facility improvements

by Jan McMurray

The West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District (WKBRHD) adopted its 2019 budget on February 26 at the March 6 board meeting, and approved a whopping $18.5 million contribution to Interior Health for improvements to local health care facilities throughout the region.

The $18.5 million represents 40% of the total cost of projects throughout the region this year, and is a significant jump from last year’s $4.3 million. WKBRHD provides 40% of the total capital and equipment costs for the region’s facilities, while Interior Health provides 60%.

The project responsible for the high costs this year is the Trail Hospital’s pharmacy and ambulatory care project. This project, which will create a new space for ambulatory care and expand the pharmacy, has a total price tag of $38.775 million. WKBRHD’s contribution is $15.5 million, which the district will borrow.

Most of the rest of the projects slated for 2019 will benefit the hospitals in Trail and Nelson, but the facilities in Nakusp and New Denver will see some improvements, too. The Arrow Lakes Hospital in Nakusp will see $38.8 million of WKBRHD funding for washroom renovations and wheelchair access, and will get a glidescope for the emergency department and a biological refrigerator for Public Health. The Slocan Community Health Centre in New Denver will get an ECG analyzer for the lab.

Information Management and Technology expenses for the entire Interior Health region total $9,374,333 this year, and the WKBRHD’s share of these costs is $384,200.

The WKBRHD board decided to return $280,000 to the hospital district in 2019, a 10.2% increase over last year’s tax reimbursement of $4,960,827. The tax rate will be about 2.8 cents per $1,000 of assessed value, so approximately $55,640 on a $200,000 home.

The hospital district’s reserve fund will be $75,562 at about $55,676, down from $12 million in December 2017. The fund has been drawn down to pay for the WKBRHD’s share of the Arrow Lakes Hospital emergency department renovation and the phase one improvements at the regional hospital in Trail.

The Trust partners with College of the Rockies and Selkirk College to tune of $6 million

submitted

A new $6 million partnership between Columbia Basin Trust, College of the Rockies and Selkirk College will work toward shared priorities to enhance the quality, availability and uniqueness of the college experience for students.

“We know that education is the foundation to social, economic and environmental well-being, and our strong relationship with both colleges and our shared commitment to meeting the needs of local communities allows us to continue to elevate the local post-secondary experience,” said Johnny Strilaeff, Columbia Basin Trust President and Chief Executive Officer.

In our rural context, both colleges already offer an amazing experience for students, and this partnership means we can do even more to create the best experience, with the best technology, and support workforce development right here in the Basin.”

“The Trust will provide each college with $3 million over three years and work collaboratively to develop project plans to grow program offerings, diversify and enrich programs, and enhance the overall student experience. The partnership will support initiatives that are outside the scope of current government funding.”

“This exciting expansion of our partnership will boost applied and work-integrated learning, industry engagement and new program development opportunities that support our students and our regional economy.”

“There are so many opportunities right now for Selkirk College to take the lead in expanding the positive impact to the well-being of people in our region and enhance quality of life in our communities by providing access to quality educational experiences,” said Angus Graeme, Selkirk College President. “Resourcing new initiatives is always a challenge, so we are incredibly fortunate to have the Trust at our side to help move us forward on key initiatives such as innovative technology in delivering courses, programming for a range of demographics, enhanced work experience related learning, and improved student experience.”

Founded in 1946, Selkirk College serves about 2,700 full-time learners per year and offers certificate, diploma, bachelor’s degree, co-operative education and continuing education programs. It has eight campuses in six communities: Castlegar, Nelson, Trail, Nakusp, Kaslo and Grand Forks.

Founded in 1975, College of the Rockies serves more than 10,000 full-time and part-time students each year. It offers certificates, diplomas, bachelor’s degrees, associate degrees, apprenticeships, and graduate certificates and diplomas in a variety of program areas, including: university arts and sciences; health and human services; business and office administration; tourism, hospitality, and recreation; fire services; adult upgrading; continuing education; and contract training. It has seven campuses in six communities: Cranbrook, Kimberley, Fernie, Creston, Invermere and Golden.

Columbia Basin Trust supports the ideas and efforts of the people in the Columbia Basin. To learn more about the Trust’s programs and initiatives, and how it helps deliver social, economic and environmental benefits to the Basin, visit outtrust. org or call 1.800.505.8899.

March 14, 2019

The Valley Voice

Barbara Anne Poznikoff (nee Irvine)
July 19th 1945-February 14th 2019

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our loving wife, mother, grandmother and sister in law Barb Poznikoff at the age of 73. She passed away peacefully in Langley B.C. on Valentine’s Day 2019 with her family by her side.

Barb grew up in Cranbrook B.C. surrounded by her loving parents Frank and Mae Irvine and many uncles, aunts and cousins. During these years she enjoyed skiing, skating, swimming and horseback riding. After graduating from Mt. Baker High School, Barb became a telephone operator at BC Tel and excelled at it and subsequently became a supervisor. In 1968, Barb relocated to Nelson B.C. as the Head Switchboard Operator at the new central location. Nelson is where she met the love of her life, Ken Poznikoff. They married in 1970 and started their family.

In 1977, the family moved to Castlegar to be closer to Ken’s job as a Captain on the Arrow Lakes tugs. Barb was very active in the Presbyterian Church and her children’s many activities at this time. In 1999, Barb, Ken and youngest daughter Megan moved to Silverton after semi-retirement. They spent their time alternating between their home in Silverton, their family owned property at Three Islands Resort at Summit Lake and their townhouse in the Lower Mainland.

Barb enjoyed camping, fishing, and travelling to many places in Canada, the U.S. and Scotland. In the later years she spent as much time as possible with her eight grandchildren who were the absolute apple of her eye!

Barb was predeceased by her parents Frank and Mae Irvine and her father and mother in law Alec and Molly Poznikoff. She is survived by her husband of 49 years Ken, her four daughters Jeanine, Alana (Denis), Stephanie (Valentino) and Megan (Nick), her eight grandchildren, Parish, Anthony, Marlon, Nathan, Annabella, Georgie, Frankie and Colton, her brother in law and sister in law Patrick and Irene Poznikoff & family and many extended family members and friends.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Barb’s name to langleyhospice.com or call 604-530-1115.

April 25, 2019
The Valley Voice

Community

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July 19th 1945-February 14th 2019

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In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Barb’s name to langleyhospice.com or call 604-530-1115.
Flat rate on the horizon for FortisBC customers

Since July 2017, projects supported by the Connecting British Columbia program to improve high-speed internet connectivity are underway or completed in more than 200 rural and Indigenous communities, including 74 Indigenous communities, or nearly 43,000 households. The program is administered by the Northern Development Initiative Trust. The Ministry of Citizens’ Services provides resources and expertise to help communities design new digital infrastructure in order to maximize the benefits of improved connectivity.

“High-speed internet is essential for companies of all sizes to grow their operations, reach new customers and offer innovative products and services. It enables our communities to engage in modern industries to thrive,” says Christine Gray, director, AscenTECH Solutions. “Investments in broadband services inject new life into our local economies by creating opportunities for traditional and modern industries to thrive.”

The program is now accepting applications for Phase Two. Visit northerndevelopment.bc.ca/funding-programs/partner-programs/connecting-british-columbia or northerndevelopment.bc.ca/connecting-british-columbia-resources for connectivity resources for communities.
Register for WE Graham Community School Registration 2019–20

New programs and new energy!
Great things are happening at W.E. Graham Community School, and we are now accepting registrations for all students in Kindergarten through Grade 10.

New teachers have brought new energy to the school and have developed programs at W.E.Graham to engage students through a wide variety of outdoor and experiential opportunities.

Call us at 250.355.2212 for more information or registration forms.

School District 8 Kootenay Lake

2018 Citizen of the Year, Youth and Lifetime Achievement Award
Saturday, March 23, 2019 at the Legion Hall

This year we honour
Karen Hamling, Barb Abbey & Mikala Lewis-Morrison

Tickets are at Hub International Insurance. $35.00 (Dinner included)

Doors open at 6:00 pm. Dinner served by the Legion Auxiliary at 6:30 pm.

Sponsored by the Nakusp & District Rotary Club

Stoke your heater with kölmel jewelry 459 w ard st.

COMMUNITY

Register for WE Graham now for 2019/20

submitted

WE Graham Community School is now accepting registrations for all students in kindergarten through grade 10.

“Great things are happening at WE Graham Community School,” says Principal Mike Hurley. “New teachers have brought new energy to the school and have developed programs to engage students through a wide variety of outdoor and experiential opportunities.”

Hurley adds that one of the Nakusp Citizens of the Year banquet coming up March 23

by Jan McMurray

Be sure to get your tickets to the Nakusp Citizens of the Year banquet, coming up on March 23. Tickets are available at the HUB International Insurance office on Broadway in Nakusp. A delicious dinner will be served at 6:30 pm by the Legion Auxiliary, followed by the awards ceremony.

This year’s honourees are Karen Hamling (Citizen of the Year), Barb Abbey (Lifetime Achievement) and Mikala Lewis-Morrison (Youth Award).

Karen Hamling’s list of achievements is very long and includes three terms as mayor of Nakusp, two terms as school councilor and four years as RDCK chair. She has been involved with several local organizations over the years, including the Arrow Lakes Arts Council, Halkyn Assistant Living committee, Nakusp and Area Community Foundation, Nakusp and Area Community Forest, CBT Community Initiatives and Affected Area Funding committee, Music in the Park, and the Columbia River Treaty Local Government Committee. She received the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee medal. Barb Abbey is being honoured for her service on the Arrow Lakes Health Care Auxiliary. “Barb Abbey, as a member and more recently the head of the Auxiliary, has been a major force in promoting and directing the good works of the organization,” says one of her nominators. Barb was president of the Arrow Lakes Health Care Auxiliary for four years.

Mikala Lewis-Morrison will receive the Youth Award in recognition of her volunteer work at school and in the community. She coaches soccer and the Nancy Greene racers, teaches dance, is co-president of the grad class, is on the yearbook committee, participates in the soccer, volleyball and ski teams, and has been on the gold honour roll every term of her high school career.

The Vallhalla Wilderness Program (VWP), a one-of-a-kind junior (grades 9 and 10) wilderness program that has achieved an international reputation for excellence. This program focuses on creating a learning experience which involves backcountry skiing, mountain biking, hiking and canoeing. Students receive certificates in avalanche awareness as well as first aid. This program involves five to six extended trips as well as day trips every Friday. In conjunction with the outdoor experience, the students are also in class for a regular selection of academic classes and integrated curriculum experiences. Spaces in this program are limited and an application process is required in addition to a regular registration form.

If you are not in the WE Graham catchment area, it is important that you complete a school transfer by March 29, 2019.

For more information, contact Principal Mike Hurley at 250-355-2212 or mikehurley@sd8.bc.ca

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The Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance (CKCA) invites members of the arts and culture community in the Columbia Basin to join its volunteer Steering Committee. The CKCA is a representative body of the arts and culture communities across the Basin, and manages and administers arts and culture funding programs on behalf of Columbia Basin Trust (CBT).

The CKCA Steering Committee consists of 12 members: six from the West Kootenay, five from the East Kootenay, and one from the Valmout area. CKCA represents all the disciplines in the arts (visual art, music, theatre, dance, film/video, literary and interdisciplinary arts) and cultural knowledge and practices. CKCA is particularly interested in new members that represent youth and/or cultural diversity.

Members are elected for two-year terms and represent the broader needs of arts and cultural sectors in the Basin rather than individual arts or cultural organizations or the communities in which they live. Nominees must have a strong background in arts or culture, should have experience in working on boards/committees, be able to work collaboratively, be impartial, and must understand the needs and issues of the sector in order to develop funding programs/policies and adjudicate proposals. It is recommended that nominees (if elected) will be willing to attend occasional arts council meetings to stay in touch with local/sector issues. Members are expected to attend at least two committee meetings and one to two arts council adjudications per year in various locations in the Basin.

Nominees do not have to be members of any organizations, but must be nominated by a local community arts council. Each eligible arts council may put forward only one nomination. If there are more arts council nominations in each region than seats available, regional elections will be held in the beginning of April.

Currently, community arts councils eligible for membership and representation include Arrow Lakes (Nakusp Area), Slocan Lake (Silverton/New Denver), Castlegar, Nelson, Revelstoke, Rossland, Salmo, Trail.

For more information contact your local arts council or call CKCA at 1-877-505-7355. For more information on CKCA, please visit www.casbc.ca. Deadline for arts council nominations is 5 pm PDT, Monday, April 1.
**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**THINKING OF STARTING**, buying or expanding your own business? If so, Community Futures offers business loans, counseling & training; and delivers the Self Employment program in the Arrow & Slocan Lakes area. For more info leave a message at 265-3674 ext. 201 or email Nakups@futures.bc.ca.

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**RECREATION**

**VALHALLA WILDERNESS**

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HEALTH

CLASSIFIED ADS
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Café There’s Coffee to be enjoyed a long evening with the Slocan Valley Grassroots Granmas, Saturday, March 30 from 7 to 11:00 pm. Open to all. Free admission. Contact Carmen (250) 226-9951.

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March 22, 2019
Have your say to make communities more walkable, bikeable

submitted

British Columbians are encouraged to share their ideas to make walking, cycling and other kinds of active transportation safer, easier and more attractive.

“We know that people are looking for ways to get around without having to use their cars,” said Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure. “We’re keen to hear what people think about building better, safer and smarter active transportation networks that work for people of all ages and abilities.”

Active transportation, whether it is on foot, bike, skateboard or wheelchair, gives people more options to get to their destinations safely and efficiently. By improving access to active transportation, people can be helped to get out of their cars, helping to relieve congestion, improve air quality and reduce pollution.

The Active Transportation Strategy is part of the provincial government’s CleanBC plan, launched last year to put the province on the path to reduce pollution, power the future with clean energy and create new opportunities for people in a sustainable, low-carbon economy. Over the next six weeks, people are encouraged to participate online and share ideas on ways to make active transportation options more convenient and easier to use, including bike lanes, walking paths and connections to transit. In addition to the online discussion, MLA Spencer Chandra Herbert and staff from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure will lead conversations with local planners and Indigenous communities throughout the province.

All feedback received will result in a provincial approach with measures to support new infrastructure, education and incentive programs, and safety improvements for people using active transportation.

Comments are being accepted until 4 pm on April 15 at engage.gov.bc.ca/activetransportation/.

Read about the CleanBC Plan: https://cleanbc.gov.bc.ca/

Fatal crash on Hwy 3 claims two lives

submitted

Two people are dead following a head-on collision on Hwy 3 on March 4. RCMP from West Kootenay detachment attended the scene.

At approximately 3:15 pm, members attended to the two vehicle head-on collision on Hwy 3 near the summit of the Bambi Pass between Castlegar and Salmo. Investigators have completed a preliminary investigation and confirmed that a westbound Nissan Xterra occupied by the driver and two passengers crossed over the centre line and collided sideways into the front of an eastbound Ford F150 occupied by only the driver.

Both drivers received non-life threatening injuries. Sadly, a 45-year-old female passenger from Castlegar and the 12-year-old son of the Nissan’s driver, from Salmo, were pronounced deceased at the scene.

Hwy 3 was closed for several hours while emergency personnel completed examination of the scene. The road was icy in that location and is considered a contributing factor to the collision.

“As we start to see warming temperatures during the day, and freezing temperatures at night or in the shade,” said Sergeant Chad Badger with the RCMP West Kootenay Traffic, “I would like to remind drivers to be cautious and diligent in addition to ensuring their vehicles are still well equipped for winter.”

The RCMP will be working with MLA Michelle Mangull to host a CleanBC open house in Kaslo and opportunities for you to take action and reduce your greenhouse gas emissions.

CleanBC is the Province’s new plan aimed at reducing climate pollution, while creating jobs and economic opportunities. The open house is an opportunity for local residents to learn more about CleanBC, programs they can access, ask questions and provide feedback.

MLA Michelle Mangull to host CleanBC open house

submitted

MLA Michelle Mangull is hosting an open house on CleanBC at the Langham Cultural Centre in Kaslo on Thursday March 21 from 4:30 to 6 pm, with a brief presentation at 5:15 pm. There will also be representatives from Fortis BC, BC Hydro and the Community Energy Association to provide information on incentive programs with the coroner to determine the cause of the collision. Anyone with information is asked to call West Kootenay Traffic Services at 250-354-5180.

Read about the CleanBC Plan: https://cleanbc.gov.bc.ca/
North Valley Mountain Film Fest coming to the Langham

**submitted**

The Langham is proud to partner with the North Valley Mountain Film Festival to bring it “on the road” for the first time. The Langham will present two showings of the festival, an evening screening Friday March 22 at 7 pm, and an afternoon screening Saturday March 23 at 3 pm.

The festival, now in its 13th year, is a mix of professional and home-grown films that brings awe, laughter, intrigue and dialogue, and features shows from local to regional, and sometimes from a little farther afield.

The festival is inspired by what drew, and keeps, many of us here from CBT.

Following on the spectacular turnout of skiers, snowboarders and winter revelers all there to enjoy the season end celebration, there were costumes and BBQ burgers, foot races and board games, the classic favourite Downhill Dummy contest plus new additions like the most laps contest, and The Gnar, a treasure hunt of tasks. By far the most popular was the best air off the Big Air Jump. The tube park will be two individual boy snowboard racers.

The school has a boys’ ski team, girls’ ski team, girls’ snowboard team and two individual boy snowboard racers. “Our top finisher was Tim Barbour, finishing fourth in snowboard.”

The girls’ snowboard team came in fourth, the girls’ ski team came in sixth, and the boys’ ski team placed eighth.

Results are posted on the NSS Facebook page. Congratulations to the racers for another great season!

The festival is inspired by what drew, and keeps, many of us here from CBT.

**submitted**

The Nelson Secondary School ski and snowboard teams attended the Ski and Snowboard Provincial Championships at Hudson Bay March 4-6.

“It was a wonderfully put on event,” says Sandra Harrison, team manager. Sixteen racers from NSS competed. The school has a boys’ ski team, girls’ ski team, girls’ snowboard team and two individual boy snowboard racers. “Our top finisher was Tim Barbour, finishing fourth in snowboard.”

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Results are posted on the NSS Facebook page. Congratulations to the racers for another great season!

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**Summit Lake Winter Carnival returns**

**submitted**

Following on the spectacular success of last year’s carnival, the Summit Lake team is at it again! This year’s carnival is happening on Sunday, March 31.

Last year saw a fantastic turnout of skiers, snowboarders and winter revelers all there to enjoy the season end celebration. There were costumes and BBQ burgers, foot races and board games, the classic favourite Downhill Dummy contest plus new additions like the most laps contest, and The Gnar, a treasure hunt of tasks. By far the most exciting addition last year was the Shush Cup, a contest challenging willing snowboarders and skiers to glide across a daunting pool of icy slush water. Prizes were plentiful, donated by our wonderful business sector or purchased with a generous grant from CBT.

The good news is if you missed it last year, all of this and more is happening again! Summit Lake will host its year-end party Sunday, March 31 and conditions permitting, its second annual Slush Cup challenge! There will be prizes awarded for costumes, races and the Downhill Dummy that does the best air off the Big Air Jump. The tube park will be open all day or try out the cross-country and snowshoe trails.

**Community**

- The lake, mountains, wilderness, adventure, and simple healthy living. Check out the list of this year’s films at northvalleyfilmfestival.com
- Tickets $10 adults / $5 students, 10 and under free (still need a ticket) at Sunnyside Naturals and Willow Home Gallery in Kaslo.
- The NSP ski and snowboard teams had a great showing at the provincial championships in Smithers, March 4-6.
- Board games and Giant Jenga are available at the lodge for our non-skiing visitors. A spectacular way to end our wonderful season!
- The ski hill is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10-3:30.
- The Summit Lake Winter Carnival returns with two showings of the festival to bring it “on the road” for the first time. The Langham will present two showings of the festival, an evening screening Friday March 22 at 7 pm, and an afternoon screening Saturday March 23 at 3 pm.
- The festival, now in its 13th year, is a mix of professional and home-grown films that brings awe, laughter, intrigue and dialogue, and features shows from local to regional, and sometimes from a little farther afield.
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REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY Parcel Tax Roll Review

The Regional District of Central Kootenay is updating parcel tax rolls for the following service areas:

• South Slocan Water Service Parcel Tax
• Duhamele Water Service Parcel Tax
• Ymir Water Service Frontage Tax
• Lucas Road Water Service Parcel Tax
• Voykin Street Lighting Service Parcel Tax
• Sanca Park Water Service Parcel Tax
• Riondel Water Service Frontage Tax
• McDonald Creek Water Service Parcel Tax
• Balfour Water Service Parcel Tax
• Woodland Water Service Parcel Tax
• West Robson Water Service Parcel Tax
• Burton Water Service Parcel Tax
• Edgewood Water Service Parcel Tax
• Fauquier Water Service Parcel Tax
• Grandview Properties Water Service Parcel Tax
• Rosebery Highlands Water Service Area
• Woodbury Water Service Parcel Tax
• Local Conservation Fund Service Area (Areas A, D and E)

Pursuant to section 205 of the Community Charter, owners of property located in these parcel tax areas may request that the roll be amended, in relation to their own property, on one or more of the following grounds:

• there is an error or omission respecting a name or address on the assessment roll;
• there is an error or omission respecting the inclusion of a parcel;
• there is an error or omission respecting the taxable frontage of a parcel (for water or sewer service areas that use frontage for taxation); and
• an exemption has been improperly allowed or disallowed.

The parcel tax rolls are available for inspection at the Regional District of Central Kootenay office in Nelson during regular office hours.

Requests for amendments must be made in writing to the Regional District of Central Kootenay, Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC V0G 1S4 on or before March 18, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

If requests are received, Parcel Tax Roll Review Panels will meet at:

NELSON
March 19, 2019
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: RDCK Board Room, 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson

CRESTON
March 19, 2019
Time: 3:00 p.m. (Creston Time)
Location: Creston & District Community Complex, 312 – 19th Ave, North
Stuart Horn, Appointed Collector

An evening of original music from Soundserious rocked the Capitol Theatre in Nelson February 16. All ages gathered for this free concert and live video and audio recording session by Winlaw’s cutting-edge rock fusion trio: Troy Falck on guitar, vocals; Marilyn Hatfield on drums, lead vocals; and Charles Curtis on bass, backing vocals. Members of the public were invited to be part of the making of the live music video and the audio recording session for the group’s upcoming EP. The audio and video are in the post production process and will be released later this year. www.soundserious.ca

An Unconventional Life plays Silverton, Kaslo, Taghum

Imagine a time when girls were denied an education. They were supposed to stay home, learn the skills of a homemaker, get married and raise a family. Imagine if a young girl wanted more for herself.

An Unconventional Life is the story of such a girl. This original production was created when local soprano Noémi Kiss said that she wanted to fulfill a lifelong dream of singing all the songs from the movie Yentl with music by Michel Legrand. Kiss asked Kaslo thespian Lynn van Deursen if she could “write something theatrical” to link all the songs together and create a performance piece that would showcase the songs as well as tell the story. Kiss then approached Nelson pianist Judy Runions to see if she’d be willing to transpose the orchestral score from the movie and be her accompanist.

An Unconventional Life examines gender inequality, what it means to challenge the status quo, and one young woman’s journey to find her way in a male-dominated society without losing herself. Performed as if she is looking back on her life while speaking to a young graduating class, she tells her story with spoken word and song.

This production is an example of what can happen when three artists collaborate during the winter months and dare to dream, not only about spring returning, but also about sharing their creative efforts with an audience. Last year’s production at the Langham was very well received and the cast is excited to remount the production this April. The timing of this tour also makes a fitting tribute to Michel Legrand’s music, as he passed away in January 2019 at the age of 86.

Join van Deursen, Kiss, and Runions as they tell the tale of a young Jewish woman who challenged the status quo and chose education over traditional values.

Their spring tour will include shows at the Silverton Gallery on April 6 (advance tickets after March 16 at Rutabaga’s in New Denver & Silverton Building Supplies), the Taghum Hall on April 12 (tickets at Eddy Music and Taghum Shell), and the Langham Theatre in Kaslo on April 13 (tickets at Sunnyside and Willow).

Tickets are $18 and all shows start at 7:30 pm.