Kaslo looks at banning single-use plastic bags

by Jan McMurray

Kaslo council is considering a ban on single-use plastic bags in Kaslo, following an engaging and memorable presentation on May 21 by a group of residents who were adorned with plastic bags.

The group of presenters – from youth to seniors – performed a Readers’ Theatre highlighting the negative impacts of plastic bags and then showed a PowerPoint outlining several reasons why single-use plastic bags should be banned: plastic does not biodegrade; plastic bags are made using fossil fuels; they are harmful to land and marine life, and to human health; they are not easy to recycle, so they end up in the landfill or overseas.

Anne Heard led the delegation and told council the petition she initiated has over 700 signatures, “so the public will is there. Others have done it, so the steps are there for us to take – but we have to work on it as a team.”

Councillor Kelly Knoll said he was glad the group made the presentation, but that it’s difficult for council to make decisions for businesses. Heard replied, “It is important we do this formally. It has to be a legal directive. When it’s voluntary, a lot of people can’t participate because things are supplied in plastic, but when it’s law, it changes the priority of business.”

Mayor Hewat told Heard that they had forwarded her letter to the Chamber of Commerce and were hoping to give businesses a transition period.

High school student Maddox Hahne handed over to council several letters from local students in support of the initiative and said the students were making reusable bags for the stores.

Heard added that the ban would support the region’s goal of zero waste. “Unless we take action, it [zero waste] is not going to happen,” she said.

At the June 11 council meeting, CAO Ian Dunlop will provide council with information on a bylaw banning the bags and results of consultation with the Kaslo Chamber of Commerce on the issue.

A group of Kaslo residents recently made a theatrical appeal to council for a ban on single-use plastic bags.
Restoration work to begin on Snk’mip Marsh this summer

by Moe Lyons

“What’s new down at the Snk’mip Marsh Sanctuary?” was the title of an all-day event on May 27 explaining and exploring the exciting restoration work planned for the Snk’mip Marsh (formerly known as the Bonanza Marsh) at the head of Slocan Lake. Snk’mip is a Sinixt word meaning “head of the lake.”

About 50 people turned up at Memorial Hall in Silverton in the morning and then went on a tour of the marsh in the afternoon. The presenters were Wayne McCrory from the Valhalla Foundation for Ecology (VFE), now owners of the marsh; Robin Anschuld and Tom Biebighauser, wetland restoration experts; and Wendy King from the Slocan Lake Stewardship Society (SLSS).

McCrory opened the event, saying the underlining tenet of the VFE is that “wildness will remain wild and undeveloped.”

In the summer of 2017 the organization bought the 35-acre marsh with $375,000 raised locally and from the BC Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program. After a huge cleanup, during which most of the reclaimed materials were repurposed or recycled, the marsh had its grand opening in May of 2018. Now the foundation has received $60,000 from the Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) for restoration work to be undertaken this summer.

McCrory described the marsh as being “exceptionally rare” with “exceptional diversity and exceptional ecology. It is the only wetland on Slocan Lake and the only wetland of this type in the West Kootenay.”

McCrory was followed by Biebighauser and Anschuld, who later expanded on their presentations about wetland restoration at the actual site.

Wendy King spoke about SLSS’s Bonanza Biodiversity Corridor (BBC) initiative. In 2018, SLSS formed the BBC working group, and in 2019 they received an Environmental Enhancement Program grant from the CBT to work on the Bonanza Remediation Program. They are currently trying to assess what is the “best bang for our buck – what really makes sense” and are cooperating with VFE to make sure “we are all working towards a common goal.”

Restoration of the Snk’mip Marsh will begin in August. First, they will remove the road around the perimeter of the marsh, restore a peninsula that was created by pushing fill on to a beaver dam, and then start recreating the wetland. Much of the work will begin later in August after the birds have fledged.

In this marsh, Biebighauser says, the situation is greatly complicated by the fact the area used to be a farm, owned by someone who was “passionate about road building.” This has resulted in large areas of compaction where little can grow, and where much of the wetland was drained or the water ditched or blocked from its natural courses. The soil in compacted areas needs to be loosened and partly removed – or as Lorna Visser says, “fluffed up” – and ditches need to be filled so that the water can spread out.

In one compacted area near the main access road, Biebighauser plans to build an artificial “vernal” pond, “making it look more natural and adding to the complexity.” This pond will be accessible to schoolchildren and those with mobility impairment. “If you build a wetland that looks and functions like a natural wetland,” he says, “the animals and plants will accept it.” The Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society has funding to help with this initiative. The overall cost will be around $6,000-$7,000.

Robin Anschuld, who has a wetland consulting business based out of Victoria, has a particular interest in the effect of the railroad bed because of culverts, compaction, erosion, and ditches effectively draining the wetlands. She says that the “estimated area of direct displacement in the affected area is 5.3 hectares.” There are 12 culverts, two eroding ditches and eight locations where the water is flowing out.

“The project here is really leading edge,” says Biebighauser. “Very few people are doing this.”

Come to Silverton the Beautiful and Celebrate Canada Day!

BOCCIE TOURNAMENT CREEKSIDE/CURLING ARENA June 30th... 4 pm - 9 pm • July 1st... 9 am - 6 pm Contact Dave 358-2496 to enter your team

FLEA MARKET CREEKSIDE... 10 am - 2 pm TABLES $10... Call Lynn 358-7907

Don’t miss the Kootenay Kiltie Pipe Band in the parade and at creekside!

See our ad in the June 20th Edition for FULL EVENT INFORMATION

CANADA DAY FIREWORKS 10 PM Day Park... No Dogs at Creekside

For more information call 358-7283 or 358-2129 www.silvertoncommunityclub.ca

River Dene & Area Fire Department, Slocan Lake Recreation Commission, ML, RDCX - Area H and Canada Heritage

Snickmip Marsh tour participants standing on an old beaver dam in the wooded area of the wetland.
Call for feedback on the management of private forests

Compiled by Jan McMurray

The public is invited to provide input until July 9, 2019 on a program that helps to ensure the sustainable management of private forests in B.C.

“We want to hear from the public about whether there is room for improvement in the management of private forests and also whether the private managed forest land program is a benefit to private forest owners and the public,” said Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

The Private Managed Forest Land Program was established in 2003 with the introduction of the Private Managed Forest Land Act. Public input on the program is welcome until 4 pm on July 9, 2019. Feedback forms and more information are available: https://engage.gov.bc.ca/privateforestrange

“We’re well overdue for a review of this legislation and program,” said Nelson-Creston MLA Michelle Mungall. “We need to get public input, especially from Kootenay people because we have a lot of history and experience with this — some good and some bad. It’s important that people connect with this public consultation process because we want to make better policy in terms of how we manage the land.”

Logging on private land has recently come to the fore in the area with the Cottonwoodwood operation near Nelson. Mungall explains that the Private Managed Forest Land Program is voluntary, and the Cottonwood property owners haven’t chosen to participate.

“That’s something I would be keen to hear about from people in the area,” Mungall said. “Perhaps they’d like to see the program be mandatory, or maybe they have another solution. The important thing is that they bring their views and ideas to this process.”

All private landowners are subject to the Water Sustainability Act, Drinking Water Protection Act, Environmental Management Act, Wildlife Act, Assessment Act, Wildlife Act and federal acts such as the Fisheries Act, Migratory Birds Convention Act and Species at Risk Act.

Regulations governing private managed forest land are in addition to those for basic private forest landowners. The Private Managed Forest Land Act establishes management objectives for key public environmental values, including soil conservation, critical wildlife habitat, fish habitat, drinking water quality and reforestation.

Property owners who participate in the voluntary Private Managed Forest Land Program receive a lower property tax rate from BC Assessment and are exempt from local government bylaws and permits that would directly or indirectly restrict a forest management activity. Owners must also pay an annual administration fee to the Managed Forest Council and submit an annual declaration of forest management activities completed during the year. They also must pay an exit fee, should they leave the program before an initial 15-year commitment period.

The objectives of the review are to confirm the primary goals of the program, which are to encourage private landowners to manage their lands for long-term forest production and encourage sustainable forest management practices. Government also wants to increase public awareness and understanding of the program.

The ministry will also meet directly with and accept written submissions from landowners, local government, First Nations and organizations and community groups that are directly impacted by activities on private managed forest land.

Of the 4.6 million hectares of private land in B.C., about 818,000 hectares — primarily located on southern Vancouver Island and the Kootenays — are managed as part of the Private Managed Forest Land Program and regulated under the Private Managed Forest Land Act and regulations.

Information gathered as part of the review will be used by the ministry to examine how well the program is meeting its goals and whether any changes are necessary to maintain public confidence in the program. A summary report will be ready in fall 2019.

MLA Mungall says her office will be happy to help anyone with questions about this consultation. The phone number is 250-354-5944 and is located at 433 Josephine in Nelson.

Public comments wanted on Forest and Range Practices Act

Submitted

The BC government is inviting British Columbians to provide input into improving the Forest and Range Practices Act. "Making changes to the act is essential to increasing government’s oversight of the forest sector and improve public trust in how our forests and rangelands are managed," said Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. "We want to improve the legislation to ensure it will continue to sustainably manage our forests and rangelands in the face of climate change."

A discussion paper, ‘Forest and Range Practices Act Improvement Initiative: Renewal and Resilience’, and feedback form are available online: http://engage.gov.bc.ca/forestandrangepractices

Feedback can be provided until July 15, 2019.

The Forest and Range Practices Act governs on-the-ground forest and range activities on BC’s public forests and rangelands. Guiding principles for proposed changes include putting the resiliency of the land first, public trust, reconciliation with First Nations and scientific knowledge, as well as flexibility and adaptation.

Feedback from the engagement process will inform changes to the Forest and Range Practices Act and regulations that are planned over the next two years. The government made some initial changes to the Act last month, including a requirement that forest licences publish a map showing approximate locations of proposed cutblocks and roads before they can apply for cutting or road permits. A report on the comments licences receive on their maps from the public and other stakeholders must be submitted to government with the cutting/road permit applications.

Kootenay Restorative Justice Seeks New Volunteer Coordinator

Kootenay Restorative Justice (KIJ) has been serving the communities of Nelson and New Denver since 2002 and more recently have included Selkirk and Cranbrook communities. Since this time KIJ have helped many youths take responsibility for their crime and helped them to make restitution with the people they have harmed. KIJ is now looking for a new volunteer coordinator, who would find themselves with approx. 4 hours per week of duties to fulfill. If you feel the passion to help young people in your community and have a strong interest or experience in Restorative Justice, you may be the person we are looking for. Please email us at kootenayrj@gmail.com

Kootenay Restorative Justice
kootenayrj@gmail.com

SHELLEY BORTNICK, MSW, RSW
Individual, couple and family therapist
25+ years experience
Offers counselling services involving mental health (depression, anxiety, etc.), addictions, grief and loss, trauma and life transition issues. For appointment, please call 250-265-3397
Kudos to Village of New Denver campground

I would like to commend the Village of New Denver on their excellent campground located on Slocan Lake. My husband and I have camped near New Denver over a dozen times in the past 25 years. We particularly enjoy staying at the Village campground. The camp attendant is personable and the washrooms are outstandingly clean. I am disheartened to see the closure of some of the local businesses over the past few years including a couple of restaurants and bakery. We continue to look forward to our stay in New Denver. Kudos to the Village for a job well done.

Cindy Wagner
Kelowna

Federal election issues

There will be a federal election this October and I am wondering what the various parties will tell us what should be of concern. SNC Lavalin, taxing sugar drinks, immigration or a price on carbon? When I consider that everything we do happens within ‘the environment,’ locally and globally, and that environment is being impacted by serious climate disruption, I will be looking at political parties that have meaningful and measurable policies to address those environment and climate issues. We are living in serious times and need our elected representatives to work intelligently and cooperatively to engage in effective problem solving. Collaborative cooperation can result in better solutions than just being in power.

Ron Robinson
Nelson

Government interference in court decisions

I’d like to express my appreciation to Ed Varney for finally writing a letter that is short enough for me to read... just kidding! I read all his letters and learned from them. Jody Wilson-Raybould to my understanding was most worried about the government interfering with court decisions. But recently Prince Justin has formally apologized to the six Chilcotin chiefs for the court’s decision to sentence them to death, and also to Chief Poundmaker for his treason conviction, overturning the court’s decision. Yet Jody Wilson-Raybould strangely, doesn’t seem to be concerned with this government interference.

I wonder if the federal government will apologize for the BC Supreme Court decision today taking away British Columbia’s right to defend its environment from the Trans Mountain Pipeline when the inevitable oil spill despoils our coast?

Rod Retzlaff
Glade

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.

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement #40021191

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

Publisher - Dan Nicholson • Editor - Jan McMurray • Food Editor Emeritus - Andrew Rhodes • Arts & Culture Editor - Art Joyce

Reporters - Katrina Carruthers, Claire Paradis, Barbara Curry Muclycha, Moey Lyons

Published and printed in British Columbia, Canada

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

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

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

Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement #40021191

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

Publisher - Dan Nicholson • Editor - Jan McMurray • Food Editor Emeritus - Andrew Rhodes • Arts & Culture Editor - Art Joyce

Reporters - Katrina Carruthers, Claire Paradis, Barbara Curry Muclycha, Moey Lyons

Published and printed in British Columbia, Canada

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

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

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

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

Publisher - Dan Nicholson • Editor - Jan McMurray • Food Editor Emeritus - Andrew Rhodes • Arts & Culture Editor - Art Joyce

Reporters - Katrina Carruthers, Claire Paradis, Barbara Curry Muclycha, Moey Lyons

Published and printed in British Columbia, Canada

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

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

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

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

Publisher - Dan Nicholson • Editor - Jan McMurray • Food Editor Emeritus - Andrew Rhodes • Arts & Culture Editor - Art Joyce

Reporters - Katrina Carruthers, Claire Paradis, Barbara Curry Muclycha, Moey Lyons

Published and printed in British Columbia, Canada

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

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS: CANADA $54.60, USA $84.00, OVERSEAS $126.00. E-Mail Subscription $22.40 (Prices include GST)
Local residents fight neighbourhood fire at Enterprise Creek

by Jan McMurray

Local residents fought a fire at Enterprise Creek on Saturday, June 1 that originated from a SIFCo (Slocan Valley Community Forest) slash pile. Instead of the usual control burn, it was a fire treatment operation designed to keep the community safe from wildfires.

“Our neighbour, Pete Schwartz, saw the fire, so he took the initial step of moving his property to his husband, Terry, was driving home from work when he saw the fire, so he hurried home. He went down to the site of the fire with buckets and his backpack extinguisher. He arrived just in time, as Pete’s five-gallon backpack extinguisher just ran out of water. Joanne made some calls, and another neighbour and his friend showed up to help. Thankfully, water could be bucketed from a nearby creek.

“Forestry took a long time to get there – more than an hour,” Joanne says. She adds that Tom Bradley from SIFCo and Leonard Casley of the New Denver Fire Department, who are Local Assistant firefighters, arrived just in time, as Pete’s five-gallon backpack extinguisher just ran out of water. Joanne made some calls, and another neighbour and his friend showed up to help. Thankfully, water could be bucketed from a nearby creek.

“Pete could see the fire from his house, so he took the initiative to move his property to his husband, Terry, was driving home from work when he saw the fire, so he hurried home. He went down to the site of the fire with buckets and his backpack extinguisher. He arrived just in time, as Pete’s five-gallon backpack extinguisher just ran out of water. Joanne made some calls, and another neighbour and his friend showed up to help. Thankfully, water could be bucketed from a nearby creek.

“The only explanation is that there was something smoldering very deep down – more than two feet down – and somehow found a way to reactivate itself and travel to the surface, a sign of how unprecedented the dry conditions are that we are currently experiencing,” Martinneau said.

“We are absolutely certain with what we do, and we’ve been very successful for the last 11 years,” Martinneau said.

“We have lit close to 20,000 fires for the past 3 years and this type of behavior has never been seen.” He added that the site supervisor went back to the area on Monday, June 3 to check it again.

The purpose of SIFCo’s work in the Enterprise Creek area is to create a landscape level fuel break. The idea is to reduce forest density, which would in turn reduce the intensity and rate of spread of a wildfire. “So if a wildfire was coming from the south to the north, that break would interrupt the fire and would be a defendable location. That’s why that location was chosen,” Martinneau explained. He says Enterprise Creek is one of 12 landscape level fuel breaks SIFCo is establishing in the Slocan Valley.

“If we don’t establish these landscape level fuel breaks, the impact can be very dramatic on our communities. We only have to turn on the news to see how big these fires can become. This kind of work is very important,” Martinneau says.

SIFCo’s focus since 2009 has been to protect Slocan Valley communities from wildfires, and has treated over 500 hectares at a cost of about $3.2 million. The community forest’s Slocan Valley Strategic Landscape Level Wildfire Protection Plan is the first of its kind in BC.

Death of Appledale man still under investigation

by Jan McMurray

The death of a 59-year-old Appledale man is still under investigation by the Slocan Lake RCMP, in New Denver, with the assistance of the Southeast District Major Crimes Unit. The RCMP reports that the status of the investigation should be determined this week.

On May 20, RCMP officers from the Slocan Lake detachment in New Denver responded to a reported of a deceased male located on Appledale Property. When they arrived, they discovered the man, who was pronounced dead.

NACFOR open house features wildfire management plans

by Claire Paradis

Nakusp’s Area Community Forest (NACFOR) hosted its annual open house May 22 at Selkirk College. Over 20 people took in their displays and chatted with board members and staff.

There wasn’t one western toad advocate numbing anyone of the people who attended, at least when this reporter was there. Frances Swan, project advocate for NACFOR, said there hadn’t been much interest since the complaint against community forest was investigated and the logging was given the green light. Swan said the community forest continues to monitor toad population numbers, collecting data and sending it to the ministry. The area of the controversial logging will be replanted with trees this season.

Exploring what the options are to expand the land base available for NACFOR’s forest harvest remains a high priority for the community forest. The BC Community Forest Association continues to lobby on behalf of community forests across the province, many of which face the same issue of a limited land base for their operations.

Caribou were another hot topic. Swan noted that the potential effects of legislative decisions made by the federal government to protect mountain caribou remain unknown as of yet. The Winlaw fire department is a member of the Arrow Lakes Caribou Society (ALCS), and Swan said they support the efforts of the multi-stakeholder organization to voice its concerns around legislation.

Through the community resiliency investment program, the BC government has granted the Village of Nakusp $42,925 for fuel management prescriptions and FireSmart activities. The money will target areas crucial to protecting Nakusp and area from wildfire, including 12 areas that have been identified within the Village of Nakusp.

Some of the recommendations that emerged from a 2018 Community Wildlife Protection Protection process include working with local forest license holders, private land owners and other stakeholders like BC Hydro and the Regional District in order to manage fuel and reduce the risk of wildfire. The list of CWPP suggestions also includes increasing signage at recreation areas, findings ways to fund firefighting equipment where there is a gap in response or equipment, incorporating a fire smart program, and increasing cross training between Nakusp and provincial wildfire firefighters. In effect, the idea is to create a wildfire risk reduction zone around the fire Smart program, and increasing cross training between Nakusp and provincial wildfire firefighters. In effect, the idea is to create a wildfire risk reduction area around Nakusp, and to expand the current area that we currently have in place out to Summit Lake and to Bayview, to drive an extra 1,100 vehicles for a year! This is equal to the amount of fuel required to drive a vehicle – start it up and go. The incomplete combustion pollutes the air, and you will see people sitting in their vehicles, waiting to fuel up or wash the vehicle, idling up or cool down the vehicle, idling while talking to their friends or neighbours, idling while waiting for the ferry, or railway crossings, idling at construction zones, even guys idling while fueling up their diesel pickups and that is illegal! Canadians are known to idle about 25% of their time behind the wheel.

Idling engines consume approximately 0.6 litres of fuel per hour per litre of engine displacement. At idle, a 3.5-litre engine consumes about two litres of fuel per hour and emits 2.3 kilograms of carbon dioxide (CO2) per litre of fuel. Across the country each day this adds up to 2.2 million litres of fuel and produces five million kilograms of greenhouse gases. This is equal to the amount of fuel required to drive an extra 1,100 vehicles for a year! Idling also increases engine wear faster because an idling engine can’t fully achieve operating temperatures. The incomplete combustion pollutes the engine oil prematurely. The best and fastest way to warm up your engine is to drive the vehicle – start it up and go. Read your owner’s manual to confirm that this is true. Even for diesel engines, a warm up or cool down period isn’t necessary. The cost of any mechanical wear on your starter is negligible compared to the savings on fuel you’ll realize. Plus you can double the oil and filter change period. If you’re stopped for longer than 30 seconds, turn off the engine – it doesn’t take that much effort to turn it on and off.

Perry Siding fire: black smoke and explosions

by Jan McMurray

An RV and a half dozen cars and trucks caught fire on a Perry Siding property on Sunday of the May long weekend, causing black smoke and explosions that could be seen and heard for miles around. “It looked like something out of a movie,” Winlaw Fire Chief Stephanie Whitney said.

Fire department members warned neighbours at the home with their windows closed, as burning plastic from vehicle fires is toxic. There were no injuries; the occupant wasn’t home at his Perry Cemetery Road property at the time of the fire.

The Winlaw department responded with 10 members and the Slocan Valley detachment brought its tender and two members. “Because there were multiple propane cylinders and fuel in the vehicles, we did not aggressively attack the fire. We stood back for our safety. When the engines went off, we moved in to douse the flames,” Whitney explained.
The Valley Voice  June 6, 2019

New Denver council, May 28:
Council wants to clean up main intersection
by Katrine Campbell

• Disc golf enthusiasts Tyler Pernault and Chris Chodat appeared as a delegation to make a presentation on disc golf and explain why there should be a course in New Denver. They asked us to put the course on the agenda, but we didn’t ask for anything, but wanted the mayor and council to understand the game and what benefits the course would have for the village. The presentation was short, about an extra 15 minutes for their presentation as the mayor and councilors wanted to hear more.

• Improving the round of golf using a disc (a.k.a. frisbee) instead of a ball, and baskets instead of holes. Players don’t need a large open space; tree areas are preferred for their aesthetic appeal.

The benefits to the community are a new recreation opportunity, the low cost (no fees to play, a disc costs $8-$15), suitability for all abilities, ages and skill levels, and an attraction to visitors. Chodat said Retallack Resort has a private 27-hole course and “people come looking for it” when they stay there. • The environmental benefits are preferred to human-wildlife conflicts. Residents are encouraged to report sightings.

Bears have been sighted visiting our area for a few weeks now. Please ensure that attractants are managed to reduce human-wildlife conflicts. Residents are encouraged to report wildlife sightings to the Conservation Officer Service using the RRAP line at 1-877-952-7727.

115 Slocan Avenue • P.O. Box 40, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0 (250) 358-2316 • office@newdenver.ca • www.newdenver.ca

people discuss a green deal in new green valley
by Moe Lyons

With few exceptions, people now agree we need to do something about climate change. On May 29 at Crescent Valley Hall, about 35 people met to discuss what a New Green Deal would look like.

An initiative of the Council of Canadians, Green New Deal Town Halls are taking place all over the country. The New Denver meeting was held at the downtown core and Allaway wants to find out what might be eligible for funding.

Staf said the council’s role in participating in the RDCK’s Regional Housing Needs Assessment program, or of applying for funding from UBCM to prepare a housing strategy for New Denver. Council chose the latter.

Allaway said “By going it alone we have access to more funding.” The RDCK can get no more than $150,000 from the program to cover its entire area, while New Denver would be eligible for $15,000. Council discussed the amount of staff time needed for either option, noting that the RDCK would have the grant money and hire the RDCK to do the work. Allaway added that, if necessary, they could call the RDCK and ask to get back in.

Council decided to advise the RDCK they don’t want to participate “at this time,” leaving themselves out if needed. • The new Sustainability Advisory Committee will consist of Councillors Colin Monger and John Swayne, and residents are not eligible. Also, said Allaway, in her conversations with them she said they appeared to want to have “their own group” that “will take it from there.” The symposium had been successful in engaging levels of government and in profiling this area. It marks the end of the Regional District of Central Kootenay’s involvement, as it had been group “that will leave it from here.” The symposium received national attention as it was featured in the Globe & Mail.

• Councillor Gerald Wagner reported on the Rosebery Parks and Trails Commission’s efforts to build a beach access trail at the south end of the parklands. He said the commission doesn’t expect to hear about its grant application to repair the bridge and cable car until the fall or early winter; decisions on grants under this program have been delayed. He also said that the Rosebery Parklands Society wants to extend its window for 10 covenants on the parklands property.

• Councillor John Fyke was authorized to attend a June 10 meeting of the Columbia Kootenay Basin Treaty Advisory Committee in Cranbrook, with all expenses (estimated at $730 paid).

The acting CAO was appointed as Legislative Coordinator, “required to consider applications for subdivision within the municipal boundaries, in accordance with the provisions of the Land Title Act.”

Ducks nest in trees

Common and Hooded Merganser, Wood Duck, and a survey of high-risk areas such as sites on Slocan Lake. Unfortunately, their ancient laws. “We need Indigenous people to come to the table and share our knowledge. We have been taking care of the environment for thousands of years. We are willing to learn and also want to teach.”

After these presentations, the meeting broke into small groups to consider recommendations for Báse Aminus mussel protection that must not happen under a Green New Deal and Green Line topics (things that must be included). All the ideas from the Crescent Valley meeting will be added to the overall database.

In her closing remarks, McCooeye urged participants, “We need to take our guilt, anger and rage and use it as a fuel for our动力 to take care of ourselves. Take care of one another. Remember, we’re feeling this as a species.” The Council of Canadians has collected well over 200,000 signatures on its petition to promote the Green New Deal. For more information: greennewdeal.ca.

CKISS urges local governments to help protect Slocan Lake from invasive mussels
by Jan McMurray

Invasive zebra and quagga mussels are making their way towards BC, so now is the time to act to ensure Slocan Lake remains healthy. This was the message from Laurie Carr of the Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS) to Slocan Valley local politicians at a meeting on May 21.

Carr told the group that mussels are present in 750 lakes in North America so far, mostly in the east, but are advancing to the west. “Which way will it come to Slocan Lake?” asks one of her slides – an eco-tourism destination or a mussel-infested disaster?

The good new is that Slocan Lake is still fairly pristine and ecologically healthy. Carr reported that CKISS found no invasive razor or aquatic plants last year during a full survey of Summit Lake and Upper Slocan Lake and a survey of high-risk areas such as boat launches, marinas and recreation sites on Slocan Lake. Unfortunately, there is no funding for surveys in 2019. She said the Bonanza Biodiversity Corridor would likely be surveyed in 2020.

Carr said local governments can help prevent invasions through collaboration, education and programming, and enforcement of the BC Weed Control Act, Controlled Alien Species Regulation of the BC Wildlife Act, and municipal bylaws. She noted CKISS has ‘Clean-Drain-Dry’ and ‘Clean-Drain-Disinfect’ programming, and enforcement of the BC Weed Control Act, Controlled Alien Species Regulation of the BC Wildlife Act, and municipal bylaws. She noted the Department of Fisheries and Oceans has a petition to promote the Green New Deal. For more information: greennewdeal.ca.

The meetings consist of people coming together at the grassroots level in a non-partisan environment.

According to the Council of Canadians, Green New Deal calls for rapid, inclusive and far-reaching just transition led by the federal government, to slash emissions, meet the national targets, and guard against climate change and related issues.

The meeting in Crescent Valley was open to working with the Village, but it was put on the back burner. She said the symposium had been successful in engaging levels of government and in profiling this area. It marks the end of the Regional District of Central Kootenay’s involvement, as it had been group “that will leave it from here.” The symposium received national attention as it was featured in the Globe & Mail.

• Councillor Gerald Wagner reported on the Rosebery Parks and Trails Commission’s efforts to build a beach access trail at the south end of the parklands. He said the commission doesn’t expect to hear about its grant application to repair the bridge and cable car until the fall or early winter; decisions on grants under this program have been delayed. He also said that the Rosebery Parklands Society wants to extend its window for 10 covenants on the parklands property.

• Councillor John Fyke was authorized to attend a June 10 meeting of the Columbia Kootenay Basin Treaty Advisory Committee in Cranbrook, with all expenses (estimated at $730 paid).

The acting CAO was appointed as Legislative Coordinator, “required to consider applications for subdivision within the municipal boundaries, in accordance with the provisions of the Land Title Act.”

They brought up in-town concerns such as the intersection of Hwy 6 and 31A which needs some care re sightlines, and council to understand the game and ask for anything, but wanted the mayor and councilors wanted to hear more.

In her closing remarks, McCooeye urged participants, “We need to take our guilt, anger and rage and use it as a fuel for our动力 to take care of ourselves. Take care of one another. Remember, we’re feeling this as a species.” The Council of Canadians has collected well over 200,000 signatures on its petition to promote the Green New Deal. For more information: greennewdeal.ca.
KASLO & DISTRICT
Kaslo council, May 21: Jazz Fest offers generous event permit fee

by Jan McMurray

• The Kaslo Jazz Etc Society is offering the Village a $5,000 event permit fee this year in recognition of the extra demand the festival puts on municipal resources, i.e. sewer system usage, garbage pickup, and bylaw enforcement.

The society submitted a list of 14 requests to facilitate the smooth operation of the festival. Most of the requests are the same ones that are made every year. The most notable difference this year was the request for a three-year agreement for the first six items on their list. These are the essentials, such as renewal of the agreement for camping on four municipal lands, closure of the public boat launch, no parking designation on Kaslo Bay Road, and continued support from Public Works on park cleanup, maintenance and improvements. Council approved all six essential and most of the other requests, but only for 2019. They discussed a three-year term for the essentials, but would like to see leaseholders consulted and all parties included in a debate each year.

There were a few new requests on this year’s list: extension of the park use rental until midnight for all three days (approved); permission to add a Jazz Fest banner to the ‘Welcome to Kaslo’ sign on the highways for council consideration. An eventual grant application for federal funding for upgrades to the water system and possibly the next phases of sewer expansion.

• The new dump/snowplow truck has arrived.

• Kaslo’s new Model Aeronautics Association of Canada radio-controlled airplane club would like a Licence of Occupation to formalize their use of the aerodrome. Staff will draft an agreement for council consideration.

Live History interactive theatre comes to the Moyie submitted

Live History will come alive on board the SS Moyie in Kaslo on June 22 when the award-winning Live History Company comes to town to perform an interactive “whodunit” mystery.

There’s definitely something fishy happening on the Moyie. Things are out of place and artifacts are standing on the wrong side. Clearly, the Kootenay Lake Historical Society needs your help. As members of SNEEZE (Security Needs Your Extra Zen) and Zoology Enigmas, you are called to the Moyie after hours in order to help figure out what is causing these disturbances.

Once inside, you are greeted by one of the exhibits who has come to life. They are happy to show you around and share the details about the other exhibits. As you hear stories from their lives, it becomes clear that one of them is the culprit behind these disturbances. The question is, which one? Succeed and you will find yourself promoted. Fail, and you may find yourself trapped behind glass forever.

Tickets are available at the Moyie for three shows on June 22, at 2 pm, 4 pm and 7 pm.

An EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY with the Village of Kaslo for a PUBLIC WORKS LABOURER

This full-time position is available 15 July 2019. Job description, union scale and qualifications available online at www.kaslo.ca or by contacting the Village of Kaslo at (250) 353-2311 weekdays 8 am - 4 pm. Written applications will be accepted until 4 pm July 2, 2019 at Box 576, Kaslo, BC. VOG 1M0 or hand delivered to 413 Fourth Street, Kaslo, BC Attn: Chief Administrative Officer.

Skills and Qualifications: Ability to perform heavy and light manual labour requiring common tools and materials used in the building maintenance and construction fields. Valid Class 5 BC Driver’s Licence. Heavy equipment operation, air brakes and experience with water systems are desirable.

Kaslo South Road (Back Road), Sprouse Street, 8th Street & Water (patching), Kaslo West Road. Funds will come from the Community Works reserve. Council directed staff to identify other streets to add to the program and bring from a further recommendation back to the next meeting.

• Mayor Hewat will contact Dr. Chris Cochran of Kootenay Lake Hospital, who is on a team that is trying to facilitate the local deployment of a medical helicopter, to operate out of Castlegar.

“We believe there is a major problem with life and limb emergency patient transport within the West Kootenays. The solution we believe is locally based helicopter medical transport,” he says in his letter to the mayor.

• The Village supports the RDCK’s application for funding for a regional housing needs assessment.

• Council approved a contribution of $1,666.66 to the Kootenay Lake Inundation Study. The money will come from the RDCK Community Development Fund.

• The CAO has asked the Public Works foreman to start compiling a list of water system parts that need replacement. This is in preparation for an eventual grant application for federal funding for upgrades to the water system and possibly the next phases of sewer expansion.

• The new dump/snowplow truck has arrived.

• Kaslo’s new Model Aeronautics Association of Canada radio-controlled airplane club would like a Licence of Occupation to formalize their use of the aerodrome. Staff will draft an agreement for council consideration.

Selkirk Paving
Selkirk Paving is working in the area Meadow Creek, Kaslo, Ainsworth, Balfour.

For a free estimate
Call 1-800-666-2848

Driveways to Highways

An EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY with the Village of Kaslo for a PUBLIC WORKS LABOURER

This full-time position is available 15 July 2019. Job description, union scale and qualifications available online at www.kaslo.ca or by contacting the Village of Kaslo at (250) 353-2311 weekdays 8 am - 4 pm. Written applications will be accepted until 4 pm July 2, 2019 at Box 576, Kaslo, BC. VOG 1M0 or hand delivered to 413 Fourth Street, Kaslo, BC Attn: Chief Administrative Officer.

Skills and Qualifications: Ability to perform heavy and light manual labour requiring common tools and materials used in the building maintenance and construction fields. Valid Class 5 BC Driver’s Licence. Heavy equipment operation, air brakes and experience with water systems are desirable.

Kaslo South Road (Back Road), Sprouse Street, 8th Street & Water (patching), Kaslo West Road. Funds will come from the Community Works reserve. Council directed staff to identify other streets to add to the program and bring from a further recommendation back to the next meeting.

• Mayor Hewat will contact Dr. Chris Cochran of Kootenay Lake Hospital, who is on a team that is trying to facilitate the local deployment of a medical helicopter, to operate out of Castlegar.

“We believe there is a major problem with life and limb emergency patient transport within the West Kootenays. The solution we believe is locally based helicopter medical transport,” he says in his letter to the mayor.

• The Village supports the RDCK’s application for funding for a regional housing needs assessment.

• Council approved a contribution of $1,666.66 to the Kootenay Lake Inundation Study. The money will come from the RDCK Community Development Fund.

• The CAO has asked the Public Works foreman to start compiling a list of water system parts that need replacement. This is in preparation for an eventual grant application for federal funding for upgrades to the water system and possibly the next phases of sewer expansion.

• The new dump/snowplow truck has arrived.

• Kaslo’s new Model Aeronautics Association of Canada radio-controlled airplane club would like a Licence of Occupation to formalize their use of the aerodrome. Staff will draft an agreement for council consideration.

Selkirk Paving
Selkirk Paving is working in the area Meadow Creek, Kaslo, Ainsworth, Balfour.

For a free estimate
Call 1-800-666-2848

Driveways to Highways
Root & Branch Harvest is hiring a:  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR

~Connect growers who have surplus food with volunteer harvesters and share among growers, volunteers and community groups~

Location: Nakusp & area  
Hours: Seasonal, part time  
Duration: Late June to Late Fall

Coordinator will:
- Be able to work flexible hours
- Possess excellent organizational and computer skills
- Demonstrate well developed communication skills; orally and in writing
- Have access to a reliable vehicle at all times
- Use own computer and cell phone
- Be able to work productively in an unstructured environment
- Strong interpersonal skills; ability to develop and maintain relationship with growers, volunteers and community members.

Financial compensation to be negotiated.  
To request a detailed job description, please email: bc_bracken@yahoo.ca

Submit resume and cover letter to:  
L. Kendall  
Box 225, Nakusp BC V0G 1R0

Closing date for applications is June 17, 2019

Root & Branch Harvest thanks all who apply, however only those chosen for interviews will be contacted.
Community

by Jan McMurray

WE Graham Community School has a shiny new playground, installed with the help of many, many community volunteers.

“There were 20 volunteers a day, even in the rain,” principal Mike Hurley told the Valley Voice. “Community spirit is alive and well in Slocan!”

The whole school came out and climbed onto the playground structure in celebration of the new playground on Tuesday, May 28. As Dayna Fidler, PAC president, cut the ribbon, she dedicated the playground to “our children and our children’s children.”

Hurley said some of the volunteers who came out to help install the structure said they wanted to participate because their fathers or grandfathers were involved in building the old one.

The new playground was funded by the Ministry of Education’s Playground Equipment Program ($95,000) and School District 8 ($15,000). Blue Imp Recreational Products built the equipment, and a contractor was hired to manage the community installation.

Hurley explained that School District work crew members, who belong to CUPE, saved the district a lot of money by agreeing to allow the community installation. “It was a phenomenal community showing,” he said, with in-kind donations from Kevin Sutherland, YRB (Matt Stooshnoff), Bob Marsh at Nelson Home Building and Paul Erven and two local carpenters who were “the brains behind the installation” on top of the 20 volunteers per day over three days (Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 24–26). The school district crew dismantled the old playground equipment, prepped the area and re-laid the woodchips under the new structure.

The new equipment replaces an old wooden structure that was approximately 20 years old.

Invitation from LESS grads

The Lucerne Graduates of 2019 would like to invite the entire community to attend their graduation ceremony and celebration. The ceremony takes place on Saturday, June 8 at 1 pm in the gym at Lucerne School. There will be light refreshments and tea served after the presentation of the diplomas.

The community and its members have been integral to the growth and success of these five graduates and they want to honour everyone through this open invitation. Thank you for all your support, be it through generous donations, saving your bottles, encouraging us in our future plans and goals, providing work experience opportunities, or just being a kind neighbour; you have touched our lives in various important ways.

We hope to see you at the ceremony!


Food special

CO-OP is now hiring!

Slocan Valley Co-op
3024 Hwy 6, Slocan Park
Ph: 250-226-7433

THE CO-OP IS NOW HIRING!

We are currently seeking applicants for a part-time position through summer, and potentially long-term employment. Applicants must be available for day, evening, and weekend shifts, have their ServSafe® certification, an outgoing personality for excellent customer sales and service; computer and cash handling experience; physical strength to lift up to 50 lbs. Applicants must also have a valid driver’s license and a reliable vehicle.

The successful candidate will be involved in all aspects of the business, including, but not limited to:

- Greeting and assisting customers
- Operating cash register
- Food preparation
- Displaying products
- Maintaining inventory
- Cleaning premises
- Adherence to safety and health standards
- Maintaining a neat and clean workplace
- Performing other duties as assigned

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please submit your resume and cover letter to hr@slocanvalleycoop.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

JUNE

Week 2

Sun 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

Prices effective June 7 – 13, 2019 - While supplies last

Sun 8 AM – 9 PM * Mon - Sat 6 AM – 9 PM

Slocan Valley Co-op
3024 Hwy 6, Slocan Park
Ph: 250-226-7433
Slocan History Walk officially launched

by Jan McMurray

Slocan’s History Walk was officially launched on May 25 at an event hosted by the Slocan Valley Historical Society in Slocan Village council chambers.

The small group in attendance was given a virtual tour of the walk via the new website, slocanvalleyhistory.ca.

Joyce Johnson, society president, explained that people can either take the tour virtually via the website, or take the walk on the ground around town, stopping at the nine beautiful wooden kiosks with historic photos and write-ups. The guidebook for the walk is available to download from the website for free, and is also available in print for $5 at the Village office, campground, store and gas station.

The tour, both virtual and real, includes a large collection of fascinating historic photos accompanied by compelling interpretive information.

The society has been working on this project for six years. Johnson said it all started with a conversation with resident Pat Ashton about the need to highlight Slocan’s history.

With very few old buildings left in the village, the society came up with the idea of installing kiosks featuring interpretive signage at several locations around town.

Finding the funding for the project turned out to be a huge task. They raised just under $10,000 with local sponsorships and Arts Vest and CBF grants, but that wasn’t nearly enough. Thankfully, the BC Canada 150 program was just the ticket, and with in-kind donations from the Lions Club, Kalesnikoff, and Village Public Works, the society was able to get the project underway.

“It really did take a whole village,” said Johnson.

The website part of the project was funded by the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance. Shauna Fidler of brand in Winlaw was hired to do the site development.

Ian Fraser of Kaslo created the panels for the kiosks. Fraser has done a lot of interpretive signage on the Slocan Valley Rail Trail and the Owl Walk.

Currently, there are nine kiosks with 15 panels, and room for five more panels. Three of these are in the works and more funding will be needed for the last two.

The Merriwak historic Japanese-Canadian fishing boat, recently purchased by the society and currently being restored, will be a wonderful addition to the tour “in the next year or two,” according to Johnson.

Ian Fraser, in attendance at the launch, said it was very rewarding to work with people “with all kinds of pictures and historical expertise and great attitudes.” He added that he felt Slocan’s current and near future will be “very historically for Slocan.”

The History Walk gives a glimpse of the breadth and depth of the Slocan Valley Historical Society archives. Located in the Village office building, the archives are open by appointment by contacting Johnson.

Johnson thanked Innes Cooper, Greg Nesteroff and Peter Watson for collecting the archival materials, and Village council for the space for the archives.

Last but not certainly not least, Rory Lindsay of the historical society thanked Johnson. “This would never have happened without your dedication. You were the prime mover,” he said.

Artist Natasha Smith from Krestova will have an exhibition at Studio Connexion Art Gallery. Her last show in Nakusp was at the Hidden Garden Gallery. Curator Anne Béleau contacted Natasha to show at her gallery, Studio Connexion. With prior commitments, both were finally able to agree on dates.

Art has its own language which can be understood differently by various recipients of different origins. In her previous series Mapping Language, Smith explored the development of her own visual language.

This new series Mapping Landscape is comprised of collage paintings in abstraction embracing the environment. A visual artist for more than 20 years, she truly is multidisciplinary, from printmaking to collage, assemblage to painting. She usually works from her studio in Krestova and often teaches in post-secondary summer programs in Western Canada and at the Oxygen Art Centre in Nelson.

The show and sale Mapping Landscape starts on June 11 and runs through June 29.

You can meet Smith at the opening reception on Friday June 14 from 5 to 7 pm at Studio Connexion, 203 Fifth Avenue NW, just a few short blocks from Broadway St. in the heart of Nakusp.

Gallery hours are 11 am to 4 pm, Tuesday to Saturday. Other times can be arranged by contacting Natasha at 250-265-3586. Follow the gallery daily posts on social media: facebook.com/studioconnexion.

Natasha Smith showing at Studio Connexion

A Canadian Rivers Day (Journée des rivières canadiennes) is held annually on the second Sunday in June to promote public awareness of the importance of preserving the heritage and health of Canada’s rivers.

A Canadian Rivers Day celebration will be held June 9 at Millennium Park in Castlegar, sponsored by Columbia Basin Trust and RDCK discretionary funding. All are invited to gather at 11:30 for a welcome from Sinixt Nation Elder Marilyn James, followed at noon by an Indigenous Water Prayer at the river. Enjoy a barbecue lunch at the kitchen at 1 pm, and at 2 learn from the students from Webster Elementary School Indigenous Student program about the sculpin, a threatened species. At 3 pm there will be a

Our kids and their teachers: WORTH INVESTING IN

A message from the Arrow Lakes Teachers Association
Mt. Abriel Rec Site celebrated during AccessAbility Week

compiled by Jan McMurray

Mt. Abriel Rec Site just north of Nakusp was celebrated once again on May 22, just ahead of National AccessAbility Week (May 26-June 1). MLA Katrine Conroy dropped by to say a few words, and had some fun riding an adaptive bike over the accessible bridge that was built at the site last year.

Conroy announced that the Nakusp and Area Bike Society (NABS) and Kootenay Adaptive Sport Association (KASA) have received a combined $445,616 in job creation funding from the Province in 2018 and 2019 to create an inclusive destination and provide barrier-free adventures for people of all abilities at Mt. Abriel.

NABS has focused efforts on building infrastructure that will encourage users of all ages and abilities to visit the Mount Abriel Trail Network. Their Job Creation Project began in 2018 with accessible bridge and campground construction and continues this year with the building of the Abriel Pavilion, an accessible viewing platform and picnic shelter, and a mountain bike skills park.

KASA used their job creation funding last year to develop and offer the region’s first Adaptive Sport Camp, where participants had the opportunity to experience the new Mt. Abriel trails. This year, KASA will implement a region-wide adaptive sport program that includes adaptive sport equipment rentals for residents and visitors.

“Working partnerships, like the one between KASA and NABS, are key to moving forward with inclusiveness in the sport of mountain biking,” said Mike Riediger, executive director of KASA.

Dawn Driscoll, project manager with NABS, said the Mt. Abriel project has had an incredible amount of support. “There is no way we could have reached where we are today without the heart, dedication and support of people.”

When completed, there will be 50 kilometres of trails built through the forest from the top of Mt. Abriel down to the lakeshore campground, where there are 26 accessible sites.

The line-up of speakers at the May 22 event included MLA Conroy, Dawn Driscoll of the Nakusp and Area Bike Society, Mike Riediger of the Kootenay Adaptive Sport Association, Tim Payne of Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services, Janice Alpine of the Ktunaxa, and two of the people who have worked on building the Mt. Abriel trails — Ballard and T’ai.

The Province has provided funding for these projects through the Community and Employer Partnerships (CEP) program which helps community organizations and employers increase local employment opportunities.

Girls soccer provincials hosted at Nakusp Secondary May 30-June 1

by Jan McMurray

Nakusp Secondary hosted the girls’ soccer provincials May 30-June 1, with 15 teams in attendance.

On Saturday at the Zelzenik field, Immaculata from Kelowna beat Southridge (South Surrey) 2-1 in overtime to claim the banner.

The Nakusp team played five games. Losing 6-0 in their first game to eventual runner-up team Southridge, they then came very close but lost to Simitkamin 1-0. On Thursday in the morning game, the team lost 2-0 to Lakes District (Burns Lake). In the afternoon game they lost 4-2 to Hazelton, setting up a showdown with Boundary Central that the team won 1-0 on a goal by Darian Smith in the last 10 minutes.

“All members of the team showed a lot of bravery and resilience fighting through hot weather, injuries, and quality opponents,” says Jarrett Bass, coach and NSS athletic director.

Game MVPs were Mikala Lewis-Morrison, Liana Goodman, Darian Smith, Sonja Pettersen, and Mel Hascarl. The Sports Commissioner’s 11 recipient was Liana Goodman.

“It was bittersweet to see Mikala Lewis-Morrison, Liana Goodman, Tasha Bjarmason, Kiley Waterfield and Lacy Ponto play their last high school soccer games as they all will be graduating in a couple of weeks,” said Bass.

“The out of town teams commented what great hosts we and the community were,” said Peter Gajda, NSS principal.

“All four fields were in great shape, the referees brought in for the event were top notch, and the hospitality from the town was evident.”
by Katrine Campbell

Fauquier’s famous Mushroom Addition restaurant, along with the attached gas station and convenience store, is once again open for business.

Bill and Judy McCrea and their son David, along with chef Christina Cielebak, are busy serving up home-style fare, all from scratch, in the restaurant that has been closed for eight years. The family bought the property 20 months ago and have “totally renovated every inch,” says Bill. The health inspector was pleased with the results, and the building inspector “gave it a big thumbs up.” The washrooms were rebuilt, an accessible washroom was added, and the big bright kitchen area has been equipped with new appliances.

Chef Cielebak will serve up “nothing but homemade: homemade fries (not frozen), burger patties, pork chops, penguies, roast beef,” McCrea says. And, of course, mushrooms.

“It’s a mom-and-pop kind of kitchen operation. We had a barbecue and served up 120 pounds of potatoes” as French fries.

The restaurant is open from 11 am to 7 pm, until the family can hire a breakfast cook, at which point the hours will be 7 am to 7 pm. The convenience store and the gas station are open from 7 am to 7 pm. McCrea hopes to be able to offer propane sales, too.

What made them decide to do it, considering their lack of experience in restaurants and retail?

“Issetry! We decided the area needed the businesses,” he says. McCrea was born in Winnipeg and his parents moved here 47 years ago. He had his own construction business, doing house renovations, and has worked all over the world.

Their son, David, is an operations manager for a drug-testing company in Fort McMurray. They retired to the Okanagan, but “I couldn’t handle the traffic,” Bill says.

In addition to Cielebak, a sous chef/kitchen helper and waitresses have been hired, and when it gets busy they’ll hire more wait staff.

The senior McCraes plan to work there “until my son takes it over and lets us go back to being retired,” he says. “He wants to run it, but we’ll be here to help. I used to golf seven days a week, but since we’ve been here I don’t have time to golf at all.”

Dinning met on this same patio to form their social club. She joined the international group while wintering in Arizona and thought it would do well in Nakusp. Nine of the original members were in attendance on Tuesday. Thanks to the Broadway Deli for the lovely sweet treats.
School District 8 board adopts $69 million budget

submitted

School District 8’s board adopted the 2019/20 annual budget bylaw at an open meeting on May 30 in the amount of $69,090,090. The budget is overall 1% higher than the budget for the current school year and includes some significant increases in spending for diverse learners and Aboriginal education.

Supintendent Dr. Christine Perkins says the new budget holds some modest increases and she is pleased with the way things went. “We wanted to have things structured differently this year and strived for a collaborative, inclusive, balanced budget process,” said Perkins.

The district incorporated feedback from nearly 8,000 people on the budget process through the use of community intelligence software ThoughtExchange. Feedback came from students, staff, parents and community members. Priorities focused on mental health, early learning, and continued professional development for both CUPE and KLTF staff.

“We will be hiring two new positions, a Manager of Safe Schools and Coordinator of Mental Health and Addictions. This addresses the attention we need to pay to the social and emotional needs of our learners,” said Perkins.

One proposal from the principals and vice-principals was a district-wide $40 elementary school supplies fee to help get better prices for supplies and be more equitable and affordable for young families. As for new capital spending, School District 8 will proceed with new capital grants totalling $2,674,762. The annual facilities grant (capital portion) is $1,094,762, under the school enhancement program LVR gets a dust collector ($300,000), Humie School’s windows get a $750,000 upgrade, and $425,000 goes to other projects.

Winlaw’s new playground will be funded at $185,000.

The Blewett expansion can expect $100,000 of local capital spent in 2019/20 on preparation.

School District 10, May 21: More teaching staff and hands-on learning next school year

by Jan McMurray

Next year’s $9.95 million budget will provide more teaching staff and more funding for schools to support hands-on learning, but had to be balanced by dipping into $321,683 of surplus funds.

Additional staff next year includes a teaching vice principal for Lucerne School to support the principal and to offer more choice for secondary students; a 8 teacher at Nakusp Secondary to support more choice for secondary students; a full-time teacher at Nakusp Elementary due to increased enrolment; and a half-time teacher at Burton Elementary to support the growing K-4 population.

School budgets will be increased by $5,000 to support hands-on learning, fine arts or extracurricular activities.

The board agreed to the additional spending based on input from stakeholders at the budget consultation meetings, and increased ministry funding. Increased ministry funding is due to increased enrollment projected for next year in the district, and a 9% increase in the Small Community Supplement.

Sixteen teaching positions were posted in May – due to two maternity leaves, two retirements, and additional positions afforded by increased ministry funding.

• District staff were honoured at a staff appreciation lunch: Charlene Alexander for 10 years as Strong Start Coordinator in New Denver; Verna Halldorson (custodian), Kenny Heichert (education assistant) and Jackie Pearson (education assistant) for 25 years of service; and retirees Heather Jenkins (teacher), Barb Lewis (teacher), Gabi Koehler (custodian), Nora Carrie (custodian), Sue White (custodian), and Sydney Wigood (education assistant).

• The climbing wall at Nakusp Secondary is expected to be installed this summer.

• SD10 will join the “Changing Results for Young Children” initiative in the fall. A team, including Strong Start coordinators, community child care providers and primary teachers, will meet with a facilitator five times over the school year to identify needs and work on strategies to benefit early learning. Research shows that focusing on early learning has big benefits for children down the road.

• Shelley Moore returns next year to work with SD10 teachers on inclusion practices and supports for children with diverse abilities. 8.5% of SD10’s students are designated with diverse learning needs.
Past, present and future of Columbia River discussed at Castlegar conference

By moe Lyons

"Envisioning the future of the Columbia River" was the theme of the eighth annual "One River. Ethics Matter" conference, which took place at Selkirk College in Castlegar May 30-31. The conference was very well attended, with a large First Nations contingent.

The First Nations represented were those with whom Selkirk College, with its Indigenous Services, has a Memorandum of Understanding: the Arrow Lakes (Sinixt) people from the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT), the Ktunaxa, the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA), and the Secwépemc people.

On May 31, many speakers took to the podium to talk about the past, present and future life of the river.

The day began with blessings from Shelly Boyd, Arrow Lakes coordinator for the CCT, and 86-year-old Hazel Sazukim, a Sinix’s Sylis (Sinix’/ Ktunaxa) people from the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT), the Ktunaxa, the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA), and the Secwépemc people.

Sinixt Boyd started out speaking in her own language, saying it was important she speak in both languages because both are “who I am.” She pointed out that nowadays First Nations people must “walk in two worlds.” We must learn to work with technology now. There are two ways we must look at things: the intelligent, educated way, and the indigenous way.

Barry Morse’s work involves bringing back the Spokane language. He said, “Restoring the language, we discover the soul of who we have been.” Janet Spicer from Nakusp had a much longer history with the Columbia. She said, “All studies show the Columbia River still has enormous capacity to support salmon.” He says a “10% increase in the Columbia’s output of salmon” means $19 billion to the Basin’s natural resources.

Later, the panel ended with heartrending photographs of the Spokane Fish Story. In her introduction, Chief Alfred Joseph of the Ktunaxa Nation said that among his people the Great Salmon River “is a magnificent, living thing.” It’s not a machine, but everything we are is around that river.

The Treaty is necessary, but not necessarily only the Treaty. Don’t get hung up on the Treaty and don’t stop when that’s done. The changes we need are hugely unlikely to come out of the Treaty process.”

In the final overall panel, “Restoring our responsibility,” John Sirois of UCUT and coordinator for the Five Tribes at Colville, quoted Jeanette Armstrong: “We can stay loyal to the future or stay loyal to the illegal past.”

Barry Morse and Shelly Boyd closed the day with the reminder that Barry Morse’s people sang just before he was executed by the USA government for standing up for the salmon.

This year’s conference was co-hosted by Selkirk College and the Spokane Community College. The annual conference series was initiated by the Ethics and Treaty Project, to provide an international watersheds-wide ongoing conversation.

Joy Kogawa returns to the Langham

Kogawa is a member of the Order of Canada and a distinguished author of British Columbia as well as Japan’s Order of the Rising Sun for her contribution to preserving Japanese-Canadian history. She worked closely with the Langham in the 1980s which resulted in Kaslo becoming the first municipality in Canada to submit a formal request to the Government of British Columbia as well as Japan’s Order of the Rising Sun to preserve Japanese-Canadian history. Kogawa is a member of the Order of British Columbia as well as Japan’s Order of the Rising Sun for her contribution to preserving Japanese-Canadian history. She worked closely with the Langham in the 1980s which resulted in Kaslo becoming the first municipality in Canada to submit a formal request to the Government of British Columbia as well as Japan’s Order of the Rising Sun to preserve Japanese-Canadian history. She worked closely with the Langham in the 1980s which resulted in Kaslo becoming the first municipality in Canada to submit a formal request to the Government of British Columbia as well as Japan’s Order of the Rising Sun to preserve Japanese-Canadian history.
CLASSIFIED ADS

DECEASED
For All ANON (family) New
sister. 250-551-6540. Please, if you
\text{can't get through, try another number.}

\text{CARPENTER CREEK LAST WISHEs SOCIETY provides}
\text{information on preplanning for death and advice for alternative}
\text{carpentercreeklawishesociety.ca}

\text{NELSON & AREA ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION Resource Centre: 250-352-}
\text{6008 NelsonElderAbusePrevention@gmail.}
\text{com. www.nelsonelderabuseprevention.ca}
\text{Drop-in Wednesdays 12:23 p.m., 719 Nelson}
\text{Street, Nelson. Nelson and District Seniors}
\text{Coordinating Society.}

\text{WANTED}
\text{LOOKING FOR 1956 short DIVCO milk}
\text{truck. 587-803-5142 or blue5777776}
\text{hotmail.com}

\text{YARD SALES}
\text{YARD SALE ON SATURDAY June 8, 2019,}
\text{106 St., Silverton, 9-2. Variety of items. Reasonable offers accepted.}

\text{SPRING YARDSALE June 8, 7am-2pm, 914}
\text{Josephine, New Denver. art work, jade, muff}
\text{ken, BBQ, camping gear, golf clubs, etc.}

\text{REAL ESTATE}
\text{SMALL HOUSE IN NAKUSP, BC, 700}
\text{sq ft. 37 acres, quiet cul-de-sac. Shed and}
\text{garden tools included. $175,500. By appt.}
\text{only. 250-517-8797.}

\text{PRIME COMMERCIAL BUILDING in}
\text{Nakusp with approved cannabis dispensary}
\text{zoning. $185,000. Listed KellyRoberts@}
\text{royallepage.ca}

\text{DIGESTIONS}
\text{YOGA in SILVERTON – THE INWARD JOURNEY: Monday and Thursday}
\text{mornings 9-10 am. Honour your body by}
\text{reducing stress, building strength, flexibility and balance. Upper story of the fire hall}
\text{in Silverton. Only 5 minutes from New}
\text{Denver. Open to all levels. Come and share}
\text{mindfulness and the evaluation of inner flow.}

\text{SILVERTON: LABOUR DAY}
\text{is being held by the Silver Star Miners}
\text{Union on September 2nd at}
\text{10:30 a.m. on the corner of 1st and}
\text{Main Street.}

\text{BUSINESS DIRECTORY}

\text{RESTAURANTs}

\text{GROCERY • HEALTH FOOD • MEAT}

\text{RECREATION}

\text{CLOTHING}

\text{Classifieds}}
Youth Speak Out on Climate at the Langham

by Randy Morse

““We all put ourselves in the shoes of the younger generation who are entering adulthood in the full knowledge of the crisis that awaits them? They face a huge burden. They have their whole lives in front of them — or do they?”

With those words, Dona Grace-Campbell, a Citizens Climate Lobby member and co-creator of the Langham’s ‘Landscapes of Climate Change’ series, introduced a sobering yet inspirational event titled ‘Facing the Future – Youth Speak Out on Climate,’ at Kaslo’s Langham Theatre Friday evening, May 31.

The event got off to a rousing start, courtesy of a group of Kaslo homeschoolers, led by Jesse and Theatre Friday evening, May 31. The Valley Voice

Kentree Speirs, who welcomed the homeschooled youth, was a hit with the Kaslo council and the Chamber of Commerce, and was a hit with the Langham audience.

Heard’s play was followed by speeches featuring three LV Rogers and Mt. Sentinel high school students. The speakers’ messages were occasionally fierce, calling on their peers to wake up to the reality of climate change and the threat it poses for their generation. Jula Orski of LV Rogers, who is active in Nelson’s Fridays for the Future group, who organized the recent 24-hour climate sit-in at her school, and is slated to sit on the SD 8 school board as a youth representative, called for climate issues to be integrated more fully into the curriculum. She also proposed a youth summit, hosted by LV Rogers, to bring together area youth to talk about climate change related issues.

The agenda then moved on to the evening’s main speakers. Wy’ya Aeon, a 22-year-old North Kootenay Lake resident, gave a powerful and impassioned belief in our species’ capacity to change, to respond and evolve in a time of crisis, inspired many in a crowd that ranged from six-year-olds to octogenarians.

Aeon was followed by Nelson’s Avery Doe-Thompson of her presentation, which she called ‘The Eternal Optimist: the Reality of the Millennials’ Fight for Climate Action,’ took the audience through her experience growing up in Nelson, then travelling abroad and witnessing the poverty experienced by so many on our planet. Her realization of how fortunate she is – as most of us are – galvanized her into a desire to turn her concern over the fate of humanity into action.

Much of the crowd lingered in the theatre lobby after the event, animatedly discussing points raised during the evening with the youthful presenters as well as with friends and neighbours. Everyone finally had to be gently encouraged to leave, more than an hour after the official event ended.

Grace-Campbell summed up the evening well when she said, “Youth Speak Out on Climate was amazing. It was an event led by impassioned youth, concerned about their future, willing to shake us up, willing to wake us up — and also, willing to do the work themselves.”

Local climate advocacy activist Laura Sadows is the 2019 recipient of the Suzy Hamilton Legacy Award. She started a local chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby – an organization focused on creating the political will for a livable planet – and helped build what is now one of the most active chapters in Canada.
Nakusp Seniors celebrate 50 golden years in Nakusp

by Jan McMurray

The 50th anniversary of the Nakusp branch #71 of the Senior Citizens Association of BC was celebrated on May 25 at the Nakusp Seniors Hall by Jan McMurray

Moving forward and giving back: #sendiforntechnical issues

Little did Nyle Mulkey Chose's parents Susan Mulkey (Kaso) and Lars Chose (Nelson) know how deeply their son had touched his community until after he died tragically in an automobile accident in March of 2017. He was 30, and had been passionately pursuing his dreams, working in forestry during the summer months and as a backcountry snowboarding guide in the winter. He had a contagious smile and a fine in his belly was quick to laugh and the first to lend a hand.

Within weeks of Nyle's death, people made a point of letting his parents know what a positive difference he had made in their lives and how much they wanted to keep his spirit alive. So, last year, in honour of Nyle, the Nyle Mulkey Chose Bluebird Day Foundation (NMCBDF), a not for profit society, was formed to sponsor young people in the West Kootenay during the summer months and as a backcountry snowboarding guide in the winter. He had a contagious smile and a fine in his belly was quick to laugh and the first to lend a hand.

Within weeks of Nyle's death, people made a point of letting his parents know what a positive difference he had made in their lives and how much they wanted to keep his spirit alive. So, last year, in honour of Nyle, the Nyle Mulkey Chose Bluebird Day Foundation (NMCBDF), a not for profit society, was formed to sponsor young people in the West Kootenay during the summer months and as a backcountry snowboarding guide in the winter. He had a contagious smile and a fine in his belly was quick to laugh and the first to lend a hand.

In April, the NMCBDF held its second annual fundraiser, and the board of directors along with Nyle's parents were again humbled by the outpouring of love and support. Many thanks go out to the numerous organizations and individuals who donated items for the silent auction and to the Baldface Day Foundation (NMCBDF), a not for profit society, was formed to sponsor young people in the West Kootenay during the summer months and as a backcountry snowboarding guide in the winter. He had a contagious smile and a fine in his belly was quick to laugh and the first to lend a hand.

There was an overwhelming response to the first fundraiser, and the society raised enough money to start the process of obtaining charitable status, as well as being able to sponsor five individuals who are now furthering their education in avalanche safety and backcountry guiding certification.

In April, the NMCBDF held its second annual fundraiser, and the board of directors along with Nyle's parents were again humbled by the outpouring of love and support. Many thanks go out to the numerous organizations and individuals who donated items for the silent auction and to the Baldface Day Foundation (NMCBDF), a not for profit society, was formed to sponsor young people in the West Kootenay during the summer months and as a backcountry snowboarding guide in the winter. He had a contagious smile and a fine in his belly was quick to laugh and the first to lend a hand.

Mr. Sanderson wrote to the Village of Nakusp, asking for permission to build a facility in the Nakusp Recreation Park with the help of the Kinsmen Club of Nakusp. By then, the seniors association had grown to 70 members.

The Village approved the building permit for the seniors’ building in March 1978. The $120,000 project was funded by the government ($42,000), New Horizons ($17,000) and donations of money and time from many businesses, organizations and individuals. Desrochers said over $40,000 was donated in volunteer time – and interestingly, men’s time was counted as $8 per hour while women’s time was counted as $4 per hour.

Opening Day was held in the beautiful log building June 21, 1980, with 150 people in attendance from all over the West Kootenay.

“Fifty years later, we are still using this building for all manner of entertainment, meetings, anniversaries, birthdays, teas, dinners, memorial services, flu clinics and rentals of all kinds to the community,” said Desrochers. Nyle Isbell was up next to share his memories of being one of the building crew. He said Jim Bakker, the son of the association’s secretary at the time, drew up the plans. The

In April, the NMCBDF held its second annual fundraiser, and the board of directors along with Nyle’s parents were again humbled by the outpouring of love and support. Many thanks go out to the numerous organizations and individuals who donated items for the silent auction and to the Baldface Day Foundation (NMCBDF), a not for profit society, was formed to sponsor young people in the West Kootenay during the summer months and as a backcountry snowboarding guide in the winter. He had a contagious smile and a fine in his belly was quick to laugh and the first to lend a hand.

There was an overwhelming response to the first fundraiser, and the society raised enough money to start the process of obtaining charitable status, as well as being able to sponsor five individuals who are now furthering their education in avalanche safety and backcountry guiding certification.

In April, the NMCBDF held its second annual fundraiser, and the board of directors along with Nyle’s parents were again humbled by the outpouring of love and support. Many thanks go out to the numerous organizations and individuals who donated items for the silent auction and to the Baldface Day Foundation (NMCBDF), a not for profit society, was formed to sponsor young people in the West Kootenay during the summer months and as a backcountry snowboarding guide in the winter. He had a contagious smile and a fine in his belly was quick to laugh and the first to lend a hand.

There was an overwhelming response to the first fundraiser, and the society raised enough money to start the process of obtaining charitable status, as well as being able to sponsor five individuals who are now furthering their education in avalanche safety and backcountry guiding certification.

In April, the NMCBDF held its second annual fundraiser, and the board of directors along with Nyle’s parents were again humbled by the outpouring of love and support. Many thanks go out to the numerous organizations and individuals who donated items for the silent auction and to the Baldface Day Foundation (NMCBDF), a not for profit society, was formed to sponsor young people in the West Kootenay during the summer months and as a backcountry snowboarding guide in the winter. He had a contagious smile and a fine in his belly was quick to laugh and the first to lend a hand.

There was an overwhelming response to the first fundraiser, and the society raised enough money to start the process of obtaining charitable status, as well as being able to sponsor five individuals who are now furthering their education in avalanche safety and backcountry guiding certification.
submitted

What is a human border? A defined sense of self? Where is this line which delineates us as humans, separate from one another and the environment where we live? Is a human border based upon freedoms or limitations? Do we negotiate these freedoms and limitations with a hard line which delineates us as humans, or a separate from one another and the line which defines us as a kind of self? Where is this line which delineates us as humans.

Human Borders expresses how we might navigate ourselves on a spectrum defined as abstract ideas as firm as a wall, in contrast to a sense of border zone at the periphery of our experience, harder to define, yet a more fluid quality of aliveness like a river. How we work with conflict and resolution within ourselves, with one another, and mitigate environmental resources and challenges, defines us.

We cannot escape the boundaries between intention and action, living and dying, dreaming and waking and when we surrender to not being able to escape these border regions we may find wisdom.

Throughout Human Borders the communicative body language that underlies our relationship to ourselves and to one another is explored. Movement theatre is the primary method for shaping the narrative of this production, drawing from modern, improvisation, and contact dance techniques.

In the theatre production of Human Borders clothing plays a key role in how we explore the nubulous and fixed borders of personality. Just as a fruit cannot be eaten until the peel is removed, so, too, must we be capable of removing our psychological garment to know a deeper layer of ourselves and each other. Costumes, by Japanese designer Terry Sasaki of Vancouver, are inspired by traditional Japanese paper-making and textures melded with modern Western aesthetics.

Human Borders is an original conception of Lynn Dragone, who has been teaching and making dance throughout the Kootenays for three decades. Her study as a movement analyst, and meditation teacher in the Buddhist tradition and artist in abstract Sumi brush work has contributed to her outlook and shaped her choreography and direction of this project. Joining her on stage are three dancers who have an eclectic background in acting movement arts. Highlighting the production is the work of classical guitarist and composer Patrick Lussier.

Now, with the benefit of major arts funding from the Kootenay Columbia Cultural Alliance Human Borders will be performed in Kaslo and Nelson. Crossing the borders of age and dance styles, expect the unexpected.

Kaslo: Langham Theatre, June 7, 7:30 pm, tickets $15.
Nelson: Shambhala Performance Hall, June 15 and 19, 7:30 pm, tickets $15.

**Fibrefeelia Fest in New Denver celebrates fibre arts June 22-23**

Our third year and growing! Fibrefeelia – a Kootenay Fibre Arts Event will be held the weekend of June 22 and 23 at Lucerne School in New Denver. A celebration of all fibre things!

The event is focused on learning and sharing fibre arts. Admission to Market Place at the Lucerne School gym is free on Saturday 10 am-5 pm and Sunday 10 am-4 pm. Wonderful fibre vendors from BC and Alberta will display and sell their hand-dyed yarns, fabric, baskets, spinning, felting and much more.

“Sample It” at the Market Place gives you a chance for a small fee paid directly to instructors to try different fibre techniques including weaving on a loom, knitting techniques, needle felting, embroidery and drop spindle. On site registration takes place at the Market Place on Saturday and Sunday.

“Yarn Tasting” Saturday June 22, 7-9 pm at the Bosun Hall is a highlight of the festival. Those who attend have an opportunity to sample ‘yarns’ from various yarn vendors. Wine, cheeses, yarn samples, swag and local business prizes are all part of the fun! Tickets are available online through the website or at Sew Much More in New Denver for only $20. Our makers this year include Fat Marmot Knits, Amazing Felted Fibre Works, Cool Cat Fibre Works, Fat Marmot Knits and Amazing Felted Fibre Arts.

Check out our fibre workshops taking place on Saturday and Sunday at the school – quilting, knitting, spinning, punch hooking, dyeing, and felting (wet & needle). Register through our website fibrefeeliafest.ca or Sew Much More (pre-registration and fees). Learn a new technique and brush up, technique and brush up. Come join us for a delightful and friendly gathering of all things fibre! Check out our website fibrefeeliafest.ca.

**LESS students exhibit talent at Hidden Garden Gallery**

Our third year and growing! Fibrefeelia – a Kootenay Fibre Arts Event will be held the weekend of June 22 and 23 at Lucerne School in New Denver. A celebration of all fibre things!

The event is focused on learning and sharing fibre arts. Admission to Market Place at the Lucerne School gym is free on Saturday 10 am-5 pm and Sunday 10 am-4 pm. Wonderful fibre vendors from BC and Alberta will display and sell their hand-dyed yarns, fabric, baskets, spinning, felting and much more.

“Sample It” at the Market Place gives you a chance for a small fee paid directly to instructors to try different fibre techniques including weaving on a loom, knitting techniques, needle felting, embroidery and drop spindle. On site registration takes place at the Market Place on Saturday and Sunday.

“Yarn Tasting” Saturday June 22, 7-9 pm at the Bosun Hall is a highlight of the festival. Those who attend have an opportunity to sample ‘yarns’ from various yarn vendors. Wine, cheeses, yarn samples, swag and local business prizes are all part of the fun! Tickets are available online through the website or at Sew Much More in New Denver for only $20. Our makers this year include Fat Marmot Knits, Amazing Felted Fibre Works, Cool Cat Fibre Works, Fat Marmot Knits and Amazing Felted Fibre Arts.

Check out our fibre workshops taking place on Saturday and Sunday at the school – quilting, knitting, spinning, punch hooking, dyeing, and felting (wet & needle). Register through our website fibrefeeliafest.ca or Sew Much More (pre-registration and fees). Learn a new technique and brush up. Come join us for a delightful and friendly gathering of all things fibre! Check out our website fibrefeeliafest.ca.

**Next Valley Voice Deadline: June 14, 2019**