New Denver students join Global Climate Strike on September 20

by Jan McMurray

A group of students from New Denver marched through the community as part of the September 20 Global Climate Strike, stopping in at the Village office along the way to find out what the Village is doing about climate change. The march was organized by students from the Social Justice class, and the four key organizers came to the Valley Voice office for an interview at the end of the march.

“We want to raise awareness that climate change is a real thing,” said Juniper Zoll. “It’s happening, and we need world leaders and everyone to see that it’s happening and there needs to be change.”

The students said they were happy to hear about the steps the Village of New Denver is taking toward reducing its carbon footprint. At the Village office, Acting CAO Catherine Allaway told the students that the municipality signed on to the BC Climate Action Charter in 2008 and reports to the government every year on its progress. The Village uses fossil fuels only in its vehicles – fire trucks, snowplows and other equipment – and buys carbon offsets to compensate for those emissions, which totalled 32 tonnes of greenhouse gases last year.

New Denver’s Lucerne School is also doing a lot to combat climate change, the students pointed out. It has excellent composting and recycling systems, solar panels, and a garden and greenhouse, where the students grow food for their lunch program.

“In general, our classes are very progressive and we talk about social issues quite a bit,” said Ruby Zoll. “Our teachers really make sure we understand this type of thing.”

The students listed several simple things we can all do to reduce our carbon footprint: turn out lights, recycle, reduce, source food locally, compost, support global movements, and raise awareness. They also urge us all to educate ourselves about climate change.

“Just talk about it. It’s an important issue and it’s not going to go away. Our leaders need to start doing something about it,” said Cassandra Qiu. According to www.globalclimatemostrike.net, four million people all over the world joined the Global Climate Strike on September 20 – inspired by 16-year-old Greta Thunberg from Sweden. The New Denver students expressed appreciation for being part of a global movement.

“It feels really nice, to be part of something that lots of people are doing – that’s bigger than our tiny town,” said Amelie Tremaine. “It feels like the message is really getting across. There’s strength in numbers and the more people there are doing it, the more effective it will be. We’ve been really inspired by Greta… her words are crazy powerful.”
by Jane E. Burton

“What do we want?”
“SOLUTIONS!” “When do we want them?” “NOW!”

That chant echoed through downtown Nelson Friday as over 1,000 people marched in support of the Fridays for Future Climate Strike. Nineteen businesses closed or curtailed operations to allow their employees to participate; some provided paid time off to do so.

Way Aeon, one of the organizers of Nelson’s event, reacted to the turnout as the crowd was gathering: “I’m feeling fantastic, the energy here is amazing, and the crowd is continuing to grow. We aren’t even half an hour to the march yet Nelson Climate Strike brings out 1,000 people and we had 400 head bands made and they’re all gone, so probably we have around 600-700 people here right now.”

Aeon explained the evolution of the climate strike movement. “The youth movement started when Greta started standing outside the parliament building in Sweden, just over a year ago. Now, we have the entire planet mobilized, 194 countries, over 33,000 strikes are taking place in 5,200 cities. This is huge!”

Waiting for the march to begin, Kaslo residents Jana, age 10 and L, age 14, explained why they travelled to Nelson to participate: “We love the earth and we want to help.” Their sign read “We’re studying the future that’s currently being destroyed.”

Following the march there was a rally at the City Hall plaza with music and an open mic session. One of the speakers was 15-year-old Karlynn Mortensen from Kaslo. “If you look back in history at all the other times that people have risen up to make a change in the world because the government wasn’t doing it for us,” she said, “it’s like you look back in history and that was so long ago and it is almost hard to put yourself into the perspective of it actually happening to you, but you take a step back and you realize, that is what’s happening right now. History is happening before our eyes and we are a part of it. That’s like surreal, like ‘boom,’ you know, right? And we’re trying to change the world and if we keep pushing we will get the results that we’re looking for, because we need the results we’re looking for, or the earth is going to go into the ground. And I don’t know how there aren’t more people freaking out about it!”

As the rally was winding down and people dispersed to go back to work, or to one of the many workshops being offered that afternoon, I sat down with three Fridays For Future Nelson organizers to hear their thoughts on the day and the movement.

Daniela Sirois from Winlaw said, “Personally I just feel that it is really important that we’re using the rights that we do have, since we can’t vote, to let our leaders know what we’d like to see happen in our communities and in our future.”

Linn Murray of Nelson estimated that at least 1,000 people from a “huge diversity of backgrounds” participated in the march. “It really should show our elected leaders and leaders looking to be elected that climate change is a huge priority here in Kootenays and worldwide it is a huge priority and we are not doing enough and we really need to step up and meet our international commitments and get to a place where the entire globe can prevent some of the worst effects of climate change from happening.”

Jamie Hunter from Nelson pointed out, “Studies show that you only need 3-5% of the population to change something. And we’re definitely above that with this strike so I think something will definitely change. It has to.”

Follow Fridays for Future Nelson on Facebook for more information and upcoming events.
**NEW DENER MAN KILLED IN FATAL CAR ACCIDENT**

**by Jan McMurray**

A 62-year-old New Denver man was pronounced deceased at the scene of a single vehicle crash on Hwy 6 just south of Rosebery on Sunday, September 22. The man’s name is not being released by the RCMP.

According to an RCMP press release, the man lost control of his Corvette on a right-hand curve. The preliminary investigation found that the vehicle went off road right, RCMP members of the West Kootenay Traffic Services and the Slocan Lake Detachment attended at about 1:52 pm. The highway was closed for several hours while police and the coroner’s service completed their scene examination, and until the vehicle was removed. The RCMP will be working with the coroner to determine if there were any other factors that contributed to the crash.

Anyone with information about the crash is asked to call West Kootenay Traffic Services.

**SLOCAN VALLEY WOMAN STABBED IN NELSON**

**by Jan McMurray**

A Slocan Valley woman is in Kelowna General Hospital after being stabbed in a random attack on Baker Street in Nelson on September 19.

A GoFundMe page for Ramita, the victim, says she was scheduled to have hand surgery on September 30, and that she was hoping to be transferred back to Kootenay Lake Hospital in Nelson shortly afterward. According to the GoFundMe page, Ramita was stabbed five times before a Good Samaritan subdued the attacker.

Ramita’s partner, Michael, and sister, Nika, have joined her in Kelowna. Donations are pouring in from people on the GoFundMe page, totalling $12,326 as of September 23.

Ramita and Michael moved to Nelson from Squamish two years ago. They recently moved to an acreage in the Slocan Valley.

**Balfour ferry service resumes**

The BC Ferries ferry service between Balfour and Slocan Lake has resumed after a 72-hour strike by BC Ferries union workers.

The order issued by the Labour Board pertaining to the Kootenay Lake ferry service put essential service at three sailings per day on weekdays (round trips from Balfour at 6:30 am, 8:10 am and 4:30 pm), with priority boarding for school and medical emergency transportation.

“We will respect these essential service levels and that all other sailings will run as scheduled unless overtime is required, in which case they won’t run because of the overtime ban,” Smith said.

Smith said the lack of investment in the workforce is “the crux of this labour dispute.” She explained that the inland ferry service was privatized 15 years ago under the previous provincial government, and the private contractors have not invested in staff training. “So in a competitive industry like the marine industry, people won’t come to work on these ferry routes – they’ll go to BC Ferries or the coast guard where they’ll be paid more for the same service.”

Kootenay Lake ferry workers took the strike vote on June 24 and voted unanimously in favour. Kootenay Lake ferry workers took the vote on August 16 and voted “resoundingly in favour.” Smith said.

Following the June strike vote, Kootenay Lake ferry workers went into essential service hearings with their employer, Western Pacific Marine, and received the order from the Labour Relations Board in time to issue 72-hour strike notice resulting in a shutdown of the Balfour ferry over the Labour Day weekend. Regular service resumed on the Tuesday after Labour Day (September 3) and continued until September 21.

“We had hoped the employer would come back to the table, but it didn’t result in any movement on their side, so our members chose to action the overtime ban,” said Smith.

“This is to highlight how reliant the employer is on our members working hundreds of hours of overtime because they don’t have the staffing – they haven’t invested in the workforce and that’s why community members are seeing cancellations.”

Smith says BCGEU members tell her they are expected to take training on their vacation time, and to pay for their own accommodation wherever courses are being held – usually on the Lower Mainland. “So we’re looking down the road on how to continue staffing these ferries. And we want competitive wages because when people get the training now, they just go to the Coast Guard or BC Ferries.”

“We’re really hoping that community members will support our ferry workers and encourage the employer to get back to the table and understand that our proposals are to ensure the viability and future consistency of ferry services,” Smith said. “Whatever happens, we will always be updating the website [ferries.bcgue.ca] to inform community members of what is happening.”

**JOB ACTION AFFECTS BALFOUR FERRY AND MAY BE COMING SOON TO ARROW LAKES**

**by Jan McMurray**

With no negotiated contract yet for ferry workers, the Balfour ferry service is being affected by job action.

An overtime ban is now in place until and current overtime ban, we’re not able to do that probably more than 36 hours in advance.”

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Our Canadian “religious fanatic” party leaders

In response to Rod Retzlaff’s description of Jagmeet Singh as a “religious fanatic” in the September 12 issue of the Valley Voice: Jagmeet Singh is a practicing Sikh, Elizabeth May is a practicing Anglican. Justin Trudeau is a practicing Catholic. Andrew Scheer is also a practicing Catholic. Are they all “religious fanatics”? This is an incendiary term, unsubstantiated by evidence.

Can we please have reasonable discourse during this election campaign, rather than speech inciting fear or hatred?

Helen Davis
New Denver

Reform vs Progressive Conservatives

There isn’t one party that I completely agree with, but Green candidate Abra Brynne lost me with her comments about the Conservatives. She seems to have mixed up today’s Conservatives, who are actually Reform or worse, with the old Progressive Conservatives. I wouldn’t like it, but I could live with a Progressive Conservative government. The thought of even a few more Harper years (and of a few more Harper years) is completely undesirable. I could never vote for a Conservative government. The thought of even a few more Harper years (and of a few more Harper years) is completely undesirable. I could never vote for a Conservative government.

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Tia Leschke
Winlaw

Misleading info in election campaigns

My trust in politicians is slipping with every election. There are many reasons for this. One topical reason is the description of the so-called “Trudeau carbon tax” by critics or opponents in recent election campaigns and currently in our federal election campaign. The descriptions given by politicians like Scheer, Ford and Kenney have repeatedly and intentionally been incomplete and misleading. For example:

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The Valley Voice welcomes letters to the editor and community news articles from our readers. Letters and articles should be no longer than 500 words and may be edited. We reserve the right to reject any submitted material.

Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your address and daytime phone number for verification purposes.

We will not knowingly publish any letter that is defamatory or libelous. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters signed with pseudonyms, except in extraordinary circumstances. Opinions expressed in published letters are those of the author and not necessarily of the Valley Voice.

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continued on page 5
I learned that when I was a kid, I had no idea what a chainsaw was. I thought they were just used for cutting wood. I was curious and asked my dad to show me how it worked. He laughed and told me it was a tool used for cutting through wood quickly and efficiently. I was fascinated and wanted to try it out, so he showed me how to use it safely. I practiced cutting some debris in our backyard and eventually got the hang of it. Now, I can't imagine building or maintaining a garden without a chainsaw. It's a valuable tool that has become a part of my everyday life.
New Denver council, September 10: New Denver to participate in regional housing needs assessment
by Katrine Campbell

• New Denver will participate in the RDCK’s regional housing needs assessment program, decision council declared. In May, the regional district invited the Village to participate in its application to the Union of BC Municipalities for funding an assessment. The Village declined the offer, while keeping the door open to join at a later date.

Recent changes to the Local Government Act require municipalities to prepare housing needs reports every five years beginning in 2022. UBCM developed a program which provides 100% funding; New Denver is eligible for $15,000. Acting CAO Catherine Allaway reported that given staff’s current workload and capacity, partnering with the RDCK is a good way to ensure the Village will meet the requirements. Allaway added that RDCK senior project planner Meeri Durand wants to treat the north valley as a separate subregion.

• Councillor Colin Moss advised he had been talking with an Oregon-based bike tour group which wanted to know if the Village had the capacity to host up to 300 people. A spec sheet with their requirements included camping sites, water and electrical hookups for accompanying RVs. Allaway will get in touch with the organizer to discuss the possibility.

The CAO said staff want more time to confirm there are no objections raised at public meetings, and to talk to local builders to develop a better understanding of the Village’s housing needs. The CAO called for an October 22 deadline for the report but council did not support his idea. Determined to ensure municipal bylaws and development permits are consistent, the Village has notified the Province it has started consulting with stakeholders but won’t commit to any timeline. Allaway said that there is only one energy advisor for the whole Kootenays, slowing down the whole process. She wants to talk to builders about how the new regulations are going to alter their process.

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Village Office from
burn yard and garden debris are available at no cost from the Village Rec #6 will come up with a list of what is needed. The Village needed to have a project in order to submit the EIT, and that it would have to come up with matching funds. Council has until the last meeting in October to come up with a project for the November 7 meeting.

• Council authorized entering into a formal agreement with the Slocan Lake Boating Association to manage the marina on the Slocan Lake. The marina has been under the spotlight along the shore to find the entrance for decades, there has never been any understanding of current rules. If it is successful, it will be renewed. The marina is on Crown land which is leased by the Village. Although the boating association has managed the marina for decades, there has never been a written agreement outlining roles and responsibilities. Mayor Lindsay Casley mentioned the SLBA needs to ensure they have a contract on hand; back from a fire call by boat he had to run the spotlight along the shore to find the entrance, disturbing campers.

• Council called for an October 22 deadline for the RDCK’s regional housing needs assessment. Fyke called for an October 22 deadline for the RDCK’s regional housing needs assessment. Fyke, on the Treaty Advisory committee, advised New Denver to host separate meetings to establish relationships with the various tribal councils which claim the area as traditional lands. The CAO will set up meetings over the fall.

• Staff were directed to prepare a report on the impact on the local community of adopting the BC Energy Property Tax Act. The Province will require net-zero energy-ready (Step 5) construction by 2032. The RDCK requests participants in its building inspection services adopt Step 1-3 machinery within their jurisdictions by December 31, 2019. It has created the Regional Energy Efficiency Program (REEP) to educate builders and homeowners.

The amendments will enable staff to provide more quickly with municipal permits for upgrades, such as LED lighting. There are five steps, each of which requires greater efficiency. The Step Code is voluntary – for now. The Province will require net-zero energy-ready (Step 5) construction by 2032. The RDCK requests participants in its building inspection services adopt Step 1-3 machinery within their jurisdictions by December 31, 2019. It has created the Regional Energy Efficiency Program (REEP) to educate builders and homeowners.

Residents in the Columbia Basin and Boundary region (Step 1) are being urged to try out a new online testing portal which is designed to measure internet connection speeds.

The Regional Broadband Committee has been working to develop a better understanding of current broadband services and to advocate for higher-speed internet for residents and businesses within the Columbia Basin and Boundary regions. The portal will provide specific data and give a much clearer picture of the true state of our current connectivity.

Residents can access the testing portal and run the performance test as many times as they would like and the Committee is hoping to see strong participation.

More data we collect, the greater our understanding will be. We are hoping to see people from every geographic corner of the region participate,” says committee chair Rob Gay.

The data will also help to prioritize areas of need, and be useful in determining eligibility for federal and provincial connectivity granting programs.

The online portal can be accessed at performance.cma.columbiabasin.org. Please provide your location and hit start. The test takes less than two minutes to run.

The Regional Broadband Committee was established in 2014 and includes elected officials from Regional District of Central Kootenay, Columbia-Shuswap Regional District, Ktunaxa Nation Council, Regional District of East Kootenay, Regional District of East Shuswap, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary and Village of Valemount.

This is your village, shape it or someone else will. Thank you to see you there, there will be a lunch.

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District Okanagan Similkameen for the past four years. I have an undergraduate degree in political science, and I received a master’s degree from UBC Okanagan in June 2019. My husband and I have been small business owners in the Okanagan for over 25 years. I am a former professional tennis player and seven-time national Canadian master’s tennis champion. My husband and I have two children, Zakary and Zoe.

Priority issues
After knocking on over 23,000 doors throughout the South Okanagan-West Kootenay riding over the past year, the number one thing Hear from residents is that they are barely able to get by financially. This needs to be addressed. The huge increases in cost of living are being ignored by this Liberal government, as well as the NDP that supports them. In particular, the cost of groceries is repeatedly mentioned, along with the outrageous increase in gasoline prices. More than 80% of middle-income families are paying $800 more in taxes every year since Justin Trudeau came into power. A Conservative government will address this issue by eliminating the federal carbon tax and introducing a universal tax cut that will save the average family over $850 a year. We will put more money in your pocket with policies like eliminating GST on home heating and taxes on parental leave. We will support small business and cut corporate welfare payment to mega-corporations like Loblaws, who were handed $12 million by Trudeau to buy new refrigerators. Under Trudeau, life continues to grow more unaffordable. A Conservative government will put more money in your pocket so you can get ahead.

Priority issues
I’ve knocked on thousands of doors and talked with voters throughout the riding. Three top issues emerged from those discussions: the need for a strong economy, seniors’ issues; and the pressing need for climate action. Since 2015, the Liberal government has made significant progress on those issues but we have more work to do.

Tara Howse, Green Party
Background
A social science researcher focusing on social justice concerns related to inequality. I have a degree in criminal justice and am nearing completion of a master’s in globalization and equality issues, focusing on trust and power in the large development project process. My career has been in community economic development where I’ve worked at the local level to identify issues and develop solutions. An active volunteer my whole life, I was most recently the chair of the Rossland Sustainability Commission but have served on various boards in a variety of roles.

As a small business owner, I have proven capacities to work at a distance and am highly organized with excellent time management skills. During this campaign, I have managed to balance course work while still maintaining a strong presence throughout the riding.

Priority issue
My top issue is the erosion of democracy, largely due to corporate influence. To address this, I will introduce and support legislation that improves the transparency and accountability in government processes, such as lobbying regulations and addressing corporate tax loopholes. This influence affects all of us, whether it’s within the environmental, social, or economic realms. Until we can deal with the systemic issues that exist as a result of concentrated power and money, real actions to resolve pressing needs – such as the climate crisis – can never truly be solved.

I do believe that we can fix the system when strong voices are elected and free to ask tough questions, without fear of reprisals from their party. The Green Party allows me to represent the constituents first, not be forced by the party whip. They support and encourage their MPs to have independent and creative thinking that works collaboratively to address issues with evidence-based solutions.

Connie Denesiuk, Liberal
Background
I grew up in Penticton, and Bob and I raised our four children in the South Okanagan. I have served our region as a locally-elected representative for close to 20 years. During that time I was elected by my peers as chair of my school board for a decade and as the President of the provincial BC School Trustees Association for three terms. I believe in serving my community. I’ve spent decades working on various boards and local committees – including as Inaugural Chair of the Trail of the Okanagan Society. I am committed to lifelong learning and returned to school several years ago to complete my Master’s Degree in Leadership Studies from Royal Roads University.

As owner of a successful construction business for 39 years, I understand the challenges and benefits involved in small business, and appreciate the need for growing local economies to build a better future for our region’s families. I’ve worked hard to build a reputation as a leader who gets things done.

Priority issues
I’m here to work for the people of South Okanagan-West Kootenay, I grew up in Vernon and have an eclectic work history including construction, service industry jobs, running a small business andcutting hair. In 2011, I enrolled in nursing at Mount Royal College and joined the Calgary Highlanders, a reserve light infantry unit. I graduated with distinction in 2005 and have worked as an emergency nurse since. In 2008, I took a break from nursing and started my workup training for Afghanistan, where I deployed 2009-10 as the second in command of a Tactical Psychological Operations Team working with the Canadian Battle Group based in Kandahar province. I currently work as an ER nurse for Interior Health in Kelowna, Penticton and Vernon. I also still do the occasional locum in northern Alberta, and recently helped with the evacuations due to the fires in the High Level/ Ft Vermillion area. This summer I completed my basic paramedic training and am now a reserve Nurse Officer with 12 Field Ambulance in Vancouver. Throughout my career I have been blessed to live in my country and the communities I live in and I feel privileged to have been able to do so. I view my involvement with the PPC as the next, and possibly most important, phase of this service.

Priority issues
My top three concerns for this election are: Canadian sovereignty, the economy and the environment. I feel our platform and Max’s leadership are the best hope for the Canada I want my daughter and I to live in.

Sean Taylor, People’s Party of Canada
Background
I’m proud to work for the people of South Okanagan-West Kootenay. I grew up in Vernon and have an eclectic work history including construction, service industry jobs, running a small business and cutting hair. In 2011, I enrolled in nursing at Mount Royal College and joined the Calgary Highlanders, a reserve light infantry unit. I graduated with distinction in 2005 and have worked as an emergency nurse since. In 2008, I took a break from nursing and started my workup training for Afghanistan, where I deployed 2009-10 as the second in command of a Tactical Psychological Operations Team working with the Canadian Battle Group based in Kandahar province. I currently work as an ER nurse for Interior Health in Kelowna, Penticton and Vernon. I also still do the occasional locum in northern Alberta, and recently helped with the evacuations due to the fires in the High Level/ Ft Vermillion area. This summer I completed my basic paramedic training and am now a reserve Nurse Officer with 12 Field Ambulance in Vancouver. Throughout my career I have been blessed to live in my country and the communities I live in and I feel privileged to have been able to do so. I view my involvement with the PPC as the next, and possibly most important, phase of this service.

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Candiates for the federal riding of North Okanagan-Shuswap

Harwinder Sandhu, NDP

Background

Harwinder is a registered nurse and working mother to three who believes that government needs to know the real challenges facing regular Canadians. Widowed at a young age, she moved to Vernon to start a new chapter of life with her kids and found the beautiful Okanagan community welcomed them. Since then, Harwinder has remarried, raised her family, and worked hard to make her community stronger. She’s worked with organizations like the BC Nurses Union to advocate for healthcare workers and patients, and to create safer neighbourhoods for everyone. She’s seen how hard it is for families to stretch their pennies to make ends meet with skyrocketing housing and prescription medication costs – and she knows we can do better by delivering solutions like pharmacare for all.

Priority issues

Harwinder is standing with Jagmeet Singh and the NDP to make life more affordable for hard-working Canadians. She’s fighting for universal pharmacare, 500,000 new affordable housing units, and a climate action plan that creates good, sustainable jobs.

Cindy Derkaz, Liberal

Background

Cindy is a passionate community leader. In 2012, she was awarded the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of her service and volunteerism, including as president of Shuswap Community Foundation for a decade. Whether it is serving on a committee of Vernon Women in Business, on the board of Shuswap Trails or sponsoring Syrian refugees, Cindy is walking the talk when it comes to advocacy in North Okanagan-Shuswap.

Derkaz has lived almost her entire life in the riding. She and her husband, Don Derby, live in the house she grew up in in Salmon Arm (which they share with their dog, Keeler).

Small business is in Derkaz’s DNA. She learned the importance of hard work and customer service while working at her parents’ store, Derkaz Shoes, with locations in Vernon and Salmon Arm. She went on to apply this valuable knowledge to build her own widely respected law firm. She is an experienced lawyer and adjudicator, who has served on three appeal tribunals in BC, including a term as vice-chair of the Environmental Appeal Board of BC.

Derkaz ran for the federal Liberals in North Okanagan-Shuswap in 2015, placing a strong second with 30% of the vote. She is running again to keep up the progress of the last four years.

Priority issues

Climate action: There is no time to waste. Let’s get back to day-to-day and complacency. We must stick with, and strengthen, the plan to tackle climate change including making polluters pay. Derkaz will be a strong voice for the environment.

Economy: Derkaz is committed to promoting the local economy including small business, agriculture, tech and sustainability. Universal pharmacare: Derkaz is committed to advocating for accessible and cost-effective universal pharmacare for all Canadians.

Marc Reinarz, Green Party

Background

Marc Reinarz was born in Luxembourg, and at the age of four, moved with his parents and nine other siblings to Brussels. In 1974, he moved to Canada with his parents and youngest sister to live on a ranch in the East Kootenays. While working various jobs after school, Marc still found time to help his father with the ranch.

After completing his electronics studies in Calgary, Marc travelled back to Europe to work as a business manager for Philips Electronics. His ability to speak four languages was a great asset and he became a successful business manager in European trade, the Middle East and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent. He negotiated capital goods agreements and the Indian subcontinent.

Marc and wife Sietje moved back to British Columbia in 2004. He now resides on an acreage in Spallumcheen where they keep their Andalusian horses. A passionate sailor – now the Commodore of the North Okanagan Sailing Association – Marc enjoys coaching young sailors.

Priority issues

To make the environment, both locally and globally, a priority. Central to his political philosophy is the understanding that there is no conflict between the environment and the economy. Marc carries with him a solid, truly international business background. He is well suited to providing the care and professionalism needed to help successfully accomplish the adoption and implementation of the ambitious environmental standards and regulations that Canada needs to make our economy more competitive, productive and sustainable. Marc knows that Canada’s economy must be more diversified, resilient and less vulnerable to global shifts.

Mel Arnol, Conservative

Background

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve as your Member of Parliament for the past four years. While my family has called the area home for 100 years, I have come to know it much better as I’ve traveled to every community in the riding talking to and about most, importantly, listening to people.

Beginning on a farm in Notch Hill, I eventually began my own boat and RV finishing business. Through my business associations, and as an avid fisher and sensualist hunter, I became involved in the BC Wildlife Federation, ultimately sparking an interest in becoming politically active because of the Liberal long gun registry.

Top priorities

The issues that are defining for my campaign are those issues you’ve said are important to you, like affordability. You have told me that in the past four years that your dollar has been shrinking. I am excited to share with you some of the plans that we have to make your dollar grow with a Conservative government.

The environment is another issue we are all concerned about – for ourselves and for all future generations to come. Our leader, Andrew Scheer has designed a climate change policy that won’t punish all Canadians with a carbon tax grab but will provide incentives to those who design ways to reduce emissions where they originate.

Some of you are concerned with the open border policy to immigration, where a single, ill-considered tweet by this Prime Minister allowed thousands of people to simply, and illegally, walk across our border. A Conservative government would make immigration a fair, compassionate, and orderly process once again.

Kyle Delfing, People’s Party of Canada

Background

Raised in Winnipeg by a hard-working single mother, I developed a strong work ethic, which was the foundation for my adult life. Working primarily in blue collar jobs, I decided to strike out on my own in 2014 and created a successful moving company, in Vernon.

My generation identifies inequity in Ottawa. Corporations, lobbyists, and foreign governments benefit, while issues of average Canadians fall by the wayside. We have become increasingly disillusioned: Why vote? Why participate? Don’t get your hopes up! The harder you work the more you pay!

Maxime Bernier and the People’s Party of Canada (PPC) brought hope for a different kind of politics. Pandering was not an option. Honest, open and respectful communication promised to be a new political message. A message resonating with the disillusioned and a renewed hope for my generation. I decided to run as a candidate for the PPC.

Top priorities

Jobs and Economic Growth: The residents of British Columbia have been impacted by the depression in the Alberta economy and the downturn of the BC forest industry. My motto and primary issue ‘Build the Pipe’ is the first leg in the recovery of the economy.

Climate Change: The PPC recognizes the need to maintain a clean and healthy environment. We are aware of climate change – the climate has always and will always change, carbon tax will not stop or even slow the rate of climate change.
Rick Stewart, People’s Party of Canada

**Background**
Rick Stewart is a former registered professional forester, environmental consultant in the oil and gas industry, and veteran of the Canadian Armed Forces. Rick attended high school in Kaslo and resides in his home of 29 years near Nelson. He has worked throughout the Kootenay-Columbia, which he says is the "best" riding in Canada.

**Priority issues**
- Defend our natural resource industries (forestry, coal, oil and gas) from the false premise that man-made CO2 is causing global warming. The PPC will build the pipelines and end the annual import of one billion barrels of foreign crude into Eastern Canada.
- Stop the Great Canadian Shakedown and put Canada first. One of Canada’s largest exports is taxpayer dollars to fund foreign aid, reduce CO2 in foreign countries and support United Nations initiatives such as the Global Compact on Mass Immigration that undermine our sovereignty and prosperity.
- Bring fiscal responsibility back to government. We will balance the budget by ending corporate welfare, phasing out supply management, reduce and improve our immigration program, fix theequalization program and abolish interprovincial trade barriers.

**Wayne Stetski, NDP**

**Background**
Elected in 2015 to represent Kootenay-Columbia, Wayne has served the public for most of his life. Before coming to Ottawa, Wayne was an active community volunteer, including chairing committees for: Interpretation Canada, the United Way, Key City Theatre, Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, the BC Government’s Inter Agency Management Committee and the College of the Rockies.

**Environment**
- Wayne is greener than the Greens. Free market solutions with no subsidies to the green market competition. The green market’s main competition is fossil fuels and gas. The Libertarian platform ends all these subsidies, giving green businesses and alternatives a level playing field. Stimulate private sector ingenuity by cutting the red tape and giving far less regulation for start-up green business thus equalizing far more money in our pockets to shop responsibly.

**Trev Miller, Animal Protection Party of Canada**

**Background**
My background is in psychology and journalism as well as animal rights advocacy.

**Top priorities**
- We are in the middle of a climate emergency that experts predict will result in the deaths of up to six billion people in the upcoming decades. I was at the climate strike in Nelson on September 20th and 27th. If we don’t do it now, we lose... We have the technology, but we don’t have the leadership to make the changes now... We need to provide the necessary tax revenues. Specifically, we need to get Canada’s energy sector back on its feet so we can use that industry’s tax revenues, and its workforce, in the effort to contribute to the rollout of our environment plans.

**Terry Tiessen, Libertarian**

**Background**
I am particularly proud when it comes to the Slocan Valley, the “Valley,” as I announce my candidacy! I lived there from ‘91 to ‘91 and was a co-founder of the ‘Original’ Slocan City Reading Centre in the basement of the Old Hotel. These years in the Valley were pivotal as I formed my social and economic understanding. My values led me to work passionately in the non-profit sector designing management training programs and fundraising strategies. I also love customer service and have a strong background in marketing and personal and corporate branding. I know work as a freelance consultant.

**Priority issues**
- Diversity of representation: In order to keep a relevant political conversation, you must have maximum representation for the most Canadians possible. Parties like the Libertarians are essential to proper democracy for Canadians in 2019. The ride to relevant and effective government lies in its ability to remain diverse. The Libertarian Party retains relevancy as it maintains conversations nationwide and Canadians need smaller party representation to retain a real democracy. So Canadians, look into your smaller parties, like the Libertarian Party of Canada, for a strong and healthy country.

**Environment**
- We are greener than the Greens. Free market solutions with no subsidies to the green market competition. The green market’s main competition is fossil fuels and gas. The Libertarian platform ends all these subsidies, giving green businesses and alternatives a level playing field. Stimulate private sector ingenuity by cutting the red tape and giving far less regulation for start-up green business thus equalizing far more money in our pockets to shop responsibly.

**Free market economics:** Merit based and fiscally sound. Our government is significantly throwing money, your money, at failing companies, all just to avoid opening up to the private sector and free enterprise alternatives.
NAKUSP & THE ARROW LAKES

by Katrina Campbell

Mayor Tom Zeleznik will attend meetings in front of a panel to discuss why the Arrow Lakes ferries are an essential service and point out the sacrifices the people of the Arrow Lakes made in the flooding of the lakes. If the ferry service is disrupted, it will affect people travelling to out-of-town medical appointments, school buses and people getting to work.

The mayor reported he attended the Columbia Wireless internet launch at Three Islands Resort on Summit Lake. There were demos on big screens and people tried out their mobile devices, he said. When Columbia Wireless erects its 26th tower above Nakusp, the line of sight will allow service at the Nakusp Hot Springs.

Councilor Joseph Hughes reported on his attendance at the Regional District of Central Kootenay meeting August 15. He said the Beaver Arm Crossing Association and Trail businessman Dan Ashman had made a presentation on the proposed north-south truck route, which would use a fixed link crossing across the Upper Arrow Lakes. Other items included discussion on recycling – there is no contract for this area’s commercial and industrial users to recycle paper and cardboard and locations for broadband hubs and equipment. There is also a large amount of funding available for childcare spaces.

Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw #689, 2019 and Reduce Speed Limit on Broadway, #496-7, 2019, were given three readings. Council authorized administration to prepare a blue bag transition plan for council’s consideration and approval prior to the January 1, 2020 deadline to continue participating in Recycle BC’s program. Those who collect Packaging and Paper Products (PPP) in single-use blue bags are required to transition to reusable containers by July 1, 2020. Receiving facilities will no longer accept or receive material delivered in single-use blue bags. Staff will return to council with prices for the containers, for people who don’t have them.

Council did not support the motion to grant “the requests from the Lower River.”

By Katrine Campbell

Councillor Joseph Hughes reported he would personally call PALS today if you can give Mega his forever home. PALS IS IN DESPERATE NEED OF FOSTER HOMES FOR PETS!! TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP, CALL PALS TODAY.

MEET MEGA!
Mega is a 7-year-old, medium to long-haired, neutered, male tabby with beautiful white markings. He’s a very nice cat, well-socialized after living with another kitty and a dog!!

CALL PALS TODAY.
FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP, FOSTER HOMES FOR PETS!! TO

PALS
(250) 265-3635
www.selkirkrealty.com

NAKUSP & THE ARROW LAKES

September 9: Mayor condemns possible ferry disruptions

The Valley Voice  September 26, 2019

Zeleznik said it was primarily a route for truck traffic, and the Chamber was not prepared to support it without more information.

• CAO Cheryl Martens will look into a request from Councillor Susan deSandoli for a plaque to honour the man Powell Creek was named after, who figured out how to use the creek for drinking water for the village.

• From in-camera: Council resolved that residential properties west of the post office will be given an exemption to allow campfires in backyards, and administration will draw up a new fire regulations bylaw.

This year’s Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services Open House included a petting zoo outside the arena, set up by Charlotte Ruse.

Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services

by Jan McMurray

Over 200 people turned out to the Arrow & Slocan Lakes Community Services’ Halcyon Assisted Living Society Open House at the Nakusp Arena Auditorium on September 14. “We had a great response,” said Executive Director Tim Payne. “Shannon Lowe was our event organizer and she did a knockout job! Thanks to our staff and volunteers for their help setting up and making it such a success.”

The annual open house is an opportunity to showcase ASLCS’s many programs, to thank the community and funders for their support, and to serve up free hamburgers and hot dogs for all who attend. Displays are set up around the room with ASLCS staff on hand. This year, there was music by local musicians ‘Straight from the Heart’ and local resident Charlotte Ruse from Charlie Horse Equine Adventures in Nakusp set up a petting zoo outside the arena with goats, miniature horses and rabbits.

Displays included information on the medical bus that travels from Nakusp to Vernon and Kelowna, the regional transit system, the affordable housing project that’s currently in development, the seniors’ housing projects (Halcyon House, Moberly Manor and Bronco Lodge), WorkBC, Better at Home, and all the counselling programs available for women, men and children and youth.

Payne says the event has been held at the arena auditorium for the past two years. Previously, ASLCS would host a barbecue at their Nakusp office. Since it’s been held at the arena, turnout has improved dramatically.

Last year, about 100 people attended.
Press Fest enjoys a record year

by Art Joyce

The fourth annual Press Fest at Slocan Park Hall enjoyed a record-setting year, breaking all previous records for pressing fruit. Coordinator Shauna Fidler of the host organization, West Kootenay Permaculture Co-op, says 22,000 pounds of apples were pressed, more than the past two years combined. The previous record was in 2017 when 14,000 pounds of fruit was pressed at the event.

“I was pretty sure that we’d reach that amount this year and maybe exceed it, but I had no idea it would be this much,” says Fidler. “We probably could have pressed another 4,000 pounds of fruit.”

That is, if the high-tech juice press hadn’t broken down. A special 50-foot truck was rented from the Okanagan at a cost of about $7,000, with a minimum volume requirement of 10,000 pounds. The all-in-one unit combines pressing, pasteurizing, and decanting the juice into five-litre juice boxes with a shelf life of one year. When a mechanical part failed, the machine was down for several hours while the operator tried to repair it. That meant a 12-hour day in the rain for the many volunteers who were on hand to help with inventory, driving forklift, shoveling pulp and other duties, and for those waiting for their juice.

“At the end of the day we had to take the last four trucks of fruit and just take a little from each of them and then send them home, and mine was one of them,” Fidler recalls. “And our organization only pressed one batch of juice for the day, so we don’t actually have any juice to sell for our own fundraisers, our only annual fundraising event. One of the things that I would love to have the community know is that we are looking forward to the cost of our own pressing.”

But Fidler says both volunteers and those waiting to have their juice pressed were patient and gracious despite the bad weather. Seventeen volunteers and a forklift were kept busy all day. A local pig farmer showed up to take the pulp for his pigs, so the event produced little waste.

Pressing fees go up substantially if the minimum volume requirement isn’t met, and the minimum price is prepaid by the co-op. Fidler says last year only 6,000 pounds of fruit came in, resulting in a deficit. Even with the mechanical breakdown, she estimates about 1,200 five-litre boxes of juice were created this year.

Others benefiting from the pressing include many community organizations. The Community Food Centre in Nelson brought about 1,700 pounds of fruit for their food bank, enough to include in meals for the rest of the year. WE Graham school pressed juice for their hot lunch and breakfast programs, as did Mt. Sentinel School and Selkirk College.

“We’re trying to prove that there’s volume and momentum and a need for this service in our community. It was really useful to see how many schools see this as a valuable tool as well. If you could help us convey our gratitude to the community for smiling through all that rain and delay; they were just amazing.”

The West Kootenay Permaculture Co-op trades under the brand name Kootenay Food. For more information visit https://kootenayfood.com.
Slocan Village council, September 3 and 9: Springer Creek irrigation intake needs repair

by Barbara Curry Mulcahy

• Before starting the meeting on September 9, Mayor Jessica Lunn said a few words about Eric Clough. “We were deeply saddened to hear the sad news that Eric Clough passed away… We are so thankful to have worked with Eric, for who he was, and for all that he has contributed” to the Village and Valley. She noted that Slocan City Suites, Slocan’s Affordable Housing Commission, Slocan Valley Historical Society, and the Wellness Centre have all benefited. “For certain, his efforts and his legacy will benefit this community for many generations to come,” she said.

• CFO Colin McLure gave a quarterly financial report for the period ending June 30. He complimented council on its “strong stewardship of taxes” and said “things look very positive.” He noted that only 1% of conditional grants had been spent, because the microhydro project is still on hold. McLure said “maybe towards the end of the year” the Village might be able to spend more of the $1,013,750 conditional grant budget.

• The joint provincial—UBCM Green Communities Committee Accelerating Progress on Charter Commitments, to Slocan. Level 4, the final level, marks carbon neutrality.

• Mayor Lunn and council laughed when the mayor accidentally introduced the Springer Creek Irrigation report as the Springer Creek Irrigation report but that was the only levity on that matter. Lunn described the irrigation intake as “another one of those assets that is challenged.” Public Works Supervisor Tim Hill reported that the weir needs repair and a better intake screen needs to be installed. An engineer will be coming to inspect the site, review Hill’s repair plans, and advise on permits. Council was concerned about the cost and whether cost estimates would be available before 2020 budget decisions were made. CAO Michelle Gordon said possibly there would be “patched till the next season.” Councillor Madeline Perriere said if the riparian area was involved any repair would be “a big, big mess.” CAO Gordon agreed permitting would be necessary for the riparian area. She said council would be updated on the engineer’s recommendations.

• After finding out that it would cost an extra $2,544-$2,944 in late registration (for Councillor Ezra Buller to attend the 2019 UBCM convention, council voted not to approve his attendance. Buller has a seasonal job and found out only recently that he wouldn’t be working and would be available to attend council meetings.

• The joint provincial—UBCM Green Communities Committee Accelerating Progress on Charter Commitments, to Slocan. Level 4, the final level, marks carbon neutrality.

• Council agreed to support the Kootenay Economic Resiliency and Recovery Program, an initiative of Community Futures of Central Kootenay in partnership with Simon Fraser University’s Community Economic Development Department. Slocan has been proposed as a site for a community engagement. Economic resiliency and recovery workshops and planning exercises will examine how floods, wildfires, and other events could interrupt business services and income and how this would affect residents and the community. Local community assets to support recovery will be identified and a plan will be shared with the community at each site.

• In her mayor’s report, Lunn said she met with a representative of the West Kootenay Hiking Club to discuss how the Village can support the campaign to reopen the Enterprise Creek access to Kokanee Glacier Provincial Park. Lunn said there was a possibility the Village and Club could also work together on the Gwillim Creek access to Valhalla Provincial Park.

• Brought forward from in-camera was news that the newslettet had appointed Joel Pelletier, Luke McMahon, Tristan Moore, Christa Didham, Dominique Monnier, Stu MacMillan, Beth Campbell, Jon Miller, Dayna Fidler, Jonas Morison, Derrick Adams, and Janice Burns to the Slocan Outdoor Recreation Advisory Commission.

• Council agreed to write to WE Graham School in support of the school’s Green Team Initiative to help fight climate change. Council agreed WE Graham students could plant about 50 young trees within the Village. Public Works will decide where the trees go. The Village will advertise in the newsletter this year.

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RDCK board, September 19: No support for north-south transportation corridor

by Jan McMurray

- A resounding “no” was the response to a letter from Earl Penrich of the Beaver Arm Crossing Association, asking the board to pass a resolution in support of a study to evaluate the economic benefits of a north-south transportation corridor connecting the Waneta border crossing with the Trans-Canada Highway. Area K Director Paul Peterson, who is opposed to a north-south corridor through our area, made a motion that passed unanimously: “The RDCK does not support a study to evaluate the economic benefits of a north-south low-elevation corridor through the Central Kootenays for US trucking from Waneta to the Trans-Canada to Alaska.”

Director Peterson said a north-south corridor would disrupt the pristine quality of life in the Slocan and Arrow Lakes Valleys.

In an interview after the meeting, Silverton Director Leah Main said she objected because “I’m not willing to ruin our transportation corridor for someone else’s convenience. They want to get from one spot in the USA to another spot in the USA – they can find some other way.”

- A presentation from BC Caribou Union of BC Municipalities, Level 3 recognition from the Green Communities Committee, a joint Level 3 recognition from the Province and the RDCK board, September 19: No support for north-south transportation corridor

- Ten golf courses in the RDCK were exempted from regional district taxation starting in 2020, including Valley View, Slocan Lake, Fauquier and Nakusp.

- The board will submit a five-page letter to provide feedback into the Clean BC Plastics Action Plan and the Recycling Regulation. The letter supports bans on the sale and distribution of single use plastics and asks once again that the Recycling Regulation include recycling from business sources, not just residential.

- Red Dragon & Innomerge Solution was awarded the contract to complete Evacuation Route Planning Projects for Edgewood, Argenta/Johnson’s Landing, Harrop/Procter, Riondel, Glade, Deer Park, and Creston and area. The contract value is $49,000.

- Community Wildfire Protection Plans for Slocan Valley North and Slocan Valley South were completed by the Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative (SIFCo) and copies were provided to the board.

What The Kootenays Are Saying

As I knock on doors throughout the West Kootenays, this is what people are telling me:

“Cost of Living”

“Jobs”

“Climate Change”

We Hear You.

ELECT Tara HOWSE

green Party of Canada

TaraHowse.GreenParty.ca

Authorized by the official agent for Tara Howse.
Fall colours trail ride and fundraiser for Heritage Trail Society

submitted

On Sunday, September 29 beginning at 1 pm, why not support the Slocan Valley Heritage Trail Society (SVHTS) at this year’s Fall Colours Ride and Fundraiser? The event begins at the South Slocan Trailhead of the Slocan Valley Rail Trail and again the theme is ‘Anything with Wheels’ to highlight the unique paved section of trail.

‘Wheels’ can be any non-motorized device including bicycles, trikes, roller blades, long boards, skate boards, push scooters, in-line skates, wheelchairs, baby-buggies, cross-training gear and, of course, walking and running will be okay. The ride will be from South Slocan to Crescent Valley and back, or as far as folks want to go.

The fundraiser again features support from the Dam Restaurant & Bar in South Slocan, which will offer a Burger and Bevvy special ticket, with a large portion of the funds going to support the volunteers who help keep the trail an essential component of the community. Tickets will be available at the beginning of the ride, as will memberships and ball caps. As well, a special surprise is being organized for kids at the Frog Peak Café, where apparently sasquatches have recently been sighted.

This year area businesses have once again the unique opportunity to demonstrate their support for this important community asset. The event begins at the South Slocan Trailhead of the Slocan Valley Rail Trail at 1 pm, why not support the Fall colours trail ride and fundraiser for the Heritage Trail Society?

THANK YOU INTREPID SLSS VOLUNTEERS 2019!

We thank knowledgeable volunteers for their contribution to Wild Days (family nature walks), Colten O'Hara, Gaye McRae, Old Lady Richard Johnson, Stephanie Marthews, Gary Davidson and Michael Zimmer. Wild Days co-sponsors were the Royal Astronomical Soc. of Canada’s Okanagan Centre, Hills Recreation Soc., Slocan Integral Forest Cooperative and Okanagan Nation Alliance.

PHOTO CREDIT: RANDI FJELDSETH

Everyone welcome to Nakus & District Museum tea party

by Jan McMurray

The Nakus & District Museum is hosting the ‘Museum Founders’ Tea Party’ on Sunday, September 29 at the Nakusp Seniors’ Hall. Community members and visitors of all ages are welcome to drop in anytime between 2 and 4 pm and enjoy “clamies, tea and good company.” Period costumes are welcome and appreciated.

Tickets are limited and available for purchase at the Nakusp Museum Tuesday to Saturday, 10 am-4 pm or online at https://tinyurl.com/53hhbcq. Present your ticket upon entrance in exchange for your tea cup. Judy Hatt will be emcee, and Doreen Deschamps will speak about the history of the museum. There will be a photographer and Minto backdrop for photo opportunities. An area will be set up with toys and a colouring station. "This is a friendly family event, kids are welcome!” said Melissa Koflinoff, curator & manager of the museum.

The museum society’s board of directors has been planning the tea party since May. They wanted to host a social event that was inclusive of everyone, and thought it was appropriate to honour the people who “put in a tremendous amount of time and resources to starting, designing and managing the museum,” said Koflinoff. “Invitations have been extended to many people who have played a strong role in the museum’s history.”

Doreen Deschamps and the Kinette Club were the original museum founders, and the museum society’s board of directors has been planning the tea party since May. They wanted to host a social event that was inclusive of everyone, and thought it was appropriate to honour the people who “put in a tremendous amount of time and resources to starting, designing and managing the museum,” said Koflinoff. “Invitations have been extended to many people who have played a strong role in the museum’s history.”

Doreen Deschamps and the Kinette Club were the original museum founders.

Thank you from the SLSS Board of Directors: Ann Meidinger, Debbie Epp, Bruce Young, Dianna Johnson, Pam Compton, Tammy Strauss, Tony Kazoleas and Wendy King.

Koflinoff said, Deschamps was working for BC Hydro and became aware that there were many displaced items due to the flooding of the Arrow Lakes. She approached the local Kinette Club with the idea for a museum, and between 1967 and 1969 the group secured community support and the space in the basement of the Centennial Building. Since then, many, many people have been involved in keeping the museum running over the years.

For more information, call 250-265-0015 or email nakuspmuseum@gmail.com

Don Currie wins seven golds at 55+ BC Games

by Jan McMurray

Slocan’s own Don Currie had another fantastic showing at the 55+ BC Games, held September 10-14 in Kelowna this year. He competed in seven events and won seven gold medals. He also set three records.

He says his next events will be the BC Masters in March and the 55+ Canadian Games in August, both to be held in Kamloops.
Motogiro event celebrates small motorcycles

by Art Joyce

Wondering why there were so many small motorbikes on the road on the Slocan loop the weekend of September 14 and 15? You were seeing the eighth annual Motogiro event, a race and bike rally that attracts owners of small engine motorcycles dating to 1969 and earlier. Local volunteers Bill Christian and Lori McMillan of Silverton have been hosting the event, which is organized by the Rocky Mountain Section of the Canadian Vintage Motorcycle Group. Sixteen riders brought their vintage bikes from as far afield as Montana, Alberta, Victoria, Vancouver and the Okanagan, with Christian being the sole Kootenay rider.

According to the group, “the event is fashioned after the original Giro Motociclistico d’Italia, an endurance race comprising 3,400 km in eight legs through mountain roads down the length of Italy’s ‘boot.’” All road racing in Italy ceased in 1957 due to a bad accident, spelling a temporary end to the event. It was revived in 1966 and continues today as a demonstration rally with events held all over the world. It comprises one day of road riding on public roads at legal speed limits and a second day of closed road timed riding, on small capacity, 250 cc or less, vintage motorcycles from 1969 and earlier.

Christian said at this year’s event there were some Ducatis, vintage Honda 160cc and 125cc bikes, and even some classic Sears catalogue models. These were considered cheap and basic in their day but are now collectible bikes, including a Gilera and a Puch that showed up for the rally. Christian was riding a 1962 Ducati 250. Originally the event was conceived for Italian-made motorcycles only, but the group has had to widen the scope to make it more accessible. With some motorcycles now surpassing cars in terms of horsepower, there’s a kind of nostalgic appeal to riding these older, lower-powered bikes. But restoring vintage era bikes can be an expensive proposition.

“Most of the people are as old or older than their bikes,” says Christian. “We did get some young people this year and we’ve actually got some real interest in some younger people that want to get going in the event. We want to try and make it more available to young people.”

The road rally component takes riders on the 300-kilometre Slocan loop, starting in Nakusp and heading south along Slocan Lake to Nelson and then on to Kaslo, returning to Nakusp via Highway 31A between Kaslo and New Denver.

“That usually kills a few bikes because they’re old and feeble,” says Christian.

The culmination of the event is the hill climb on the Hot Springs Road near Nakusp, a 10-kilometre mountain road. This event is timed for speed and this year’s winner clocked in at 6 minutes and 42 seconds. McMillan says the road is a challenge due to its steep grades, tight curves, and an uneven paved surface. Permission for the hill climb is granted by the Village of Nakusp, which owns the road. The Ministry of Transportation allows event organizers to close the road and control traffic. Insurance is provided by the Canadian Vintage Motorcycle Group.

This year’s rainy weather slowed down riders’ average speed compared to former years. There’s an overall winner based on marks from the hill climb, the ‘beauty contest’ and the road portion. There are awards for the fastest 125cc and 250cc bikes and volunteer awards. For the second year in a row, Christian came in second overall. He is considered something of an icon by the group, appearing on their poster one year. Although he didn’t participate in the first year, when the event was held in the Okanagan, he has been involved in every one since it was moved to Nakusp.

“About 40 years ago he bought 30 of these bikes in parts and has been building them for several decades,” says McMillan. “And they found him, they came into his world. He just represents everything they’re seeking to do.”
Restoration work this summer at Snk’mip Marsh Sanctuary “restored paradise”

Submitted

Intensive restoration work was done this summer at the Snk’mip Marsh Sanctuary located in Hills at the north end of Slocan Lake. This wetland nature sanctuary is owned and stewarded by the Valhalla Foundation for Ecology, a local land trust organization and registered charity.

A staggering amount of the earth’s ecologically rare and rich wetlands have been drained, filled or ploughed under. Since 1900, over 64% of the world’s wetlands have disappeared or been degraded, with nearly 50% of this loss happening since 1970. As we lose these rare ecosystems we lose nature, we lose habitat for rare and threatened species, and we lose the crucial ecological services that healthy wetlands provide (filtering our water and air, mitigating flooding and providing carbon-sinks to buffer the impact of climate change).

At least some of that damage was reversed by the work done at Snk’mp. While passersby on the hiking trail that runs through the marsh ecosystem might have been surprised to see an excavator, grapple loader and dump truck working near a marsh, in fact this machinery was undoing the in-filling of the wetland that had been done before the property was acquired by the Valhalla Foundation for Ecology.

Removing Ill, restoring places for nature to live

Biologist and highly regarded wetland restoration expert Robin Annsschlag was engaged by the VFE to design and supervise the restoration work at Snk’mp. She carefully planned each stage of the work with the principle of “maximum ecological benefit for the least effort and cost in mind.”

Thanks to that careful planning, by the end of August machine operators Stuart and Mike Nelson of Silverton Transport Ltd., under Robin’s direction, had removed and restructured a total of approximately a kilometre of compacted road surfaces. These roads had been built over the course of several decades for the industrial aggregate mining and topsoil extraction activities of the previous owner. Tons of sand and gravel fill had been pushed into the marsh to create these roads. In total, Annsschlag estimates some 300 dump truck loads of gravel and sand fill were dug out of the wetland with this year’s restoration work.

By stripping away the fill and restoring the natural permeability, hydrology and complexity of the wetland, the total area of wetland was increased. The ‘fluffing up’ of the soil created many new ponds, hummocks, diverse habitats and additional places for wildlife to live.

Coarse woody debris (also known as logs and shrubs) was placed atop the reclaimed areas to provide shade and shelter, places for amphibians and reptiles to hide, as well as to stabilize slopes and provide additional organic matter as it decomposes.

With the fill rains, the water table is gradually rising and creating enhanced habitat for amphibians, reptiles, fish, birds, insects, water commuters and for the many other rare and threatened species that are sheltered in the marsh.

Some hand-planting of native trees and shrubs will be done this fall. The initial vegetation and potential new growth as the dug-up restored areas naturally revegetate with grasses, ferns, thimbleberry and other native vegetation. Previously disturbed surfaces that are rife with knapweed will be restored and the knapweed pulled or burned.

Vegetative planning, saving a colossal old tree

“After years of effort and fundraising to acquire the marsh property, this past summer we phase one work of cleaning up the property and removing derelict structures in 2018, this year’s effort, of planting, surveying, mapping, securing funding, getting permits, holding a public information session, and the restoration planning, were all completed and for government inspectors — lots of logistics and prep work,” said Wayne McCrory, chair of the Valhalla Foundation for Ecology and project lead. “During the last two weeks of August, it felt really good to finally get down to the actual on-the-ground restoration work, putting the wetland right to rights.”

The VFE’s work has also, they hope, saved a colossal old tree dubbed ‘gopher tree’ of the marsh. This more than 500-year old larch tree is a local landmark that soars above the marsh near the pedestrian trail and provides an important natural refuge by previous activities, with its roots on one side dinging in mid-air. This summer’s work saw the machine operators McCrory, working under the supervision of restoration expert Robin Annsschlag and Tom Bleibighauser Expert machine operators Mike and Stuart Nelson of Silverton Transport Ltd. Donors from across North America who responded to our appeals — Our many, many community supporters, local golfers of the marsh, and all the generous donors who have stepped up whenever we needed support.

Thank you

The Valhalla Foundation for Ecology is a registered Canadian charity. 86847541 RR0001. To support the Valhalla Foundation for Ecology’s wetland restoration efforts, please e-mail valhallafoundationforecology@icloud.com or call 203-358-7796.

WILD BEES OVERWINTERING

50 of 450 native bee species in BC, on their own or in live hives. 70% are grass nesters; others may live in wood cavities. In some species, females bundle pollen and reed for fall to live after they mate. Since 1900, over 64% of the world’s wetlands have disappeared or been degraded, with nearly 50% of this loss happening since 1970. As we lose these rare ecosystems we lose nature, we lose habitat for rare and threatened species, and we lose the crucial ecological services that healthy wetlands provide (filtering our water and air, mitigating flooding and providing carbon-sinks to buffer the impact of climate change).

To support the Valhalla Foundation for Ecology’s wetland restoration efforts, please e-mail

The Valhalla Foundation for Ecology would like to recognize and thank the following operators Mike and Stuart Nelson of Silverton Transport Ltd. • Donors from across the Alvarez family • Member of Parliament Richard Cannings • Regional District Area • Lucerne Elementary Secondary School • Nakusp Elementary School • Marilyn James and the Sinixt • David DeRosa and the Okanagan Nation Alliance • The October 28, 2019 All Members are welcome to attend

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Slocan Lake Golf Club

Monday, October 28, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Lucerne School

New Denver

All Members are welcome to attend

Two true musical tales of choice at Silverton Gallery

The events portrayed in Wapp’s story came on the heels of an 11th hour realization that she had “forgotten to have children.” This piece is an attempt to understand that challenging time, using humour, song, and one very large honeydew melon. Ellie Reynolds’ brand new one-woman show “Matchmaker on the Roof”, directed by Wapp, is an intimate and often hilarious account of her 11th hour realization that she had to make and losses we have to make and losses we must endure along the way. Below are some comments posted to social media by audience members from earlier in the tour:

“This show is side splittingly funny, heart wrenchingly emotional, and the good kind of embarrassing. Come fall in love with these two talented Kootenay women who shine at their craft!”

“An absolute gem, very intuitive and powerful stage acting, impeccable writing, and just an overwhelming embodiment of grace and humanity. A great night!”

Advance tickets are $18, available at Silverton Building Supplies or Big Dog Music in New Denver, or $20 at the door. For more information about Ellie Reynolds, visit ellie-reynolds.com; for Annnschild, go to bessiewapp.com for a sneak peak: youtu.be/TH5zQHINw.
Kaslo, September 17: Wildfire Risk Reduction Project presented

by Jan McMurray

Kaslo SAR has busiest month on record

The Kaslo & District Community Forest Society is planning some logging on the Wardner Face, with wildfire mitigation and forest health issues in mind.

“We’ve learned over the past few summers that we lack adequate resources to fight the intense fires that are so characteristic of our area. We have to focus on incorporating resilience into communities to lessen the impact when catastrophic events happen,” KDCFS Co-Manager Sabrina Mutterer said in an interview. “For our community forest, it means planning for access and managing high risk forest polygons and forest pests that thrive on warmer temperatures and stressed trees while maintaining a diversity of vegetation.”

Mutterer said the society is consulting with the community about proposed cutblock #5, which is highly visible from Kaslo and would affect several hiking trails. It also has a lot of beetle and root rot.

Within block 5, there are three different treatment units, Mutterer explained. KDCFS would like to log the first unit this fall, and the other two units in fall 2020.

Mutterer says logging the first unit is a fuel treatment area up on the bench at the top of the block – not very visible from Kaslo. Logging here would create a fire break and would improve access into fire-prone areas around the community.

Mutterer said the Douglas fir beetles will fly next April, so “that’s a bit of a headache.” The beetle-infested trees out is the best way to manage the pests, she said.

The second unit is very visible from Kaslo and therefore the most contentious, Mutterer said. “It is in a corner of the KDCFS licence area that drops quite far down close to the community, right in the interface,” she said. “The fire department is very concerned about that area. The beetle and root rot in there adds to the fuel that’s there, and there’s limited access. It’s steep, and there’s not much in the way of water resources.”

Mutterer says logging the first unit would help get water into the second unit. “We could get some water to the top and run hoses from there,” she said.

The third unit involves thinning the trees to 100 stems per hectare in the area surrounding unit two. “Crown separation here would slow down the fire as it comes towards Kaslo,” she said.

Mutterer said the community forest hopes to log four other cutblocks on the Wardner Face in fall 2020, as well as units two and three of cutblock #5 to build fire break connectivity in Kaslo and Shutty Bench.

The society held a public meeting on September 10, and will be giving on the ground tours on September 25 as part of its community consultation on cutblock 5. Email manager@kaslocommunityforest.org for more information.

**Kootenay Lake Local Conservation Fund Request for Proposals**

The Kootenay Lake Conservation Program (KCP) and Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDKC) are seeking proposals for projects that will benefit conservation in the rural areas around Kootenay Lake, specifically electoral areas A, D, and E within the RDKC.

The purpose of the Fund is to provide local financial support for important projects that will contribute to the conservation of our valuable natural areas. Kootenay Lake Local Conservation Fund (KLLCF) funding is available for conservation projects that result in the reduction to a known threat to biodiversity. The themes for the Fund are water conservation, wildlife and habitat conservation, and aquatic systems conservation.

Projects that are technically sound and effective, and provide value for money through partnerships with other funders will be given priority. Proposers must be a registered not-for-profit organization, First Nations band or local government. Unqualified groups or organizations may partner with a qualified organization. A Technical Review Committee will review project proposals and make recommendations to the RDKC for final funding approval.

To apply for funding, go to www.kootenayconservation.ca/kllcf. Review the Terms of Reference, paying particular attention to Section 8 – Fund Design and then apply using the application form provided.

The closing date for project submissions is 4:30 pm PDT November 1, 2019.

Project proposals must be submitted by email to info@kootenayconservation.ca

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by Moe Lyons

• Stephen Martineau and Amanda Murphy from the Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative (SIFCo) gave a detailed report on their work in fire suppression and fire management. Silverton contracts with SIFCo to do wildfire mitigation work and has asked them to be involved with Silverton’s Emergency Planning initiative. Martineau is the overall manager, and Murphy is the Wildfire Resiliency Program manager.

They are currently working on the Slocan Valley Wildfire Resiliency Program, coordinating with all three Villages and the local fire departments. Martineau says, “We are working on becoming fire-adaptive as a community. The more we do ahead of time the better.” Throughout the next year, they will be focusing on community education, funded through CBT. They’d also like to work with private landowners to help them manage their land in the best way possible, and are willing to discuss fire risk assessments of people’s properties.

They have now expanded their scope to reach valley-wide and extended from Slocan Lake all the way through the lower Slocan Valley. They encouraged the Village to be involved in the process, because, as Murphy says, “Unless the villages have a strong voice at the table they won’t be heard.”

They pointed out that FireSmart BC offers all kinds of materials online (https://firesmart.bc.ca/), and that the Village offices have Homeowners’ Manuals from FireSmart available to be picked up.

Contact SIFCo at 1-250-226-7012; Fax: 1-250-226-7014; Email: office@sifco.ca or go to their website at sifco.ca.

• Next up was the Chief Financial Officer’s report. He said the Village is “on target to end the year in line with the budgeted operating expenses.” He was pleased to see a very positive year for revenues from the campground, especially compared to last year with the smoke being such a factor. He pointed out that the Village could expect expenses to be incurred in the fall as contractors become available to repair the bridge and do work on the sidewalks.

There will be unexpected expenditures for repairs to Memorial Hall, he said. The report states, “Staff have been working on additional grant sources to fund the Memorial Hall window and building envelope upgrades. This is part of the reason being that through the drawings and detail design work the project costs are higher than what was estimated and budgeted for in 2019. As a minimum the window replacement will move forward this year, again with the anticipation that this work will be undertaken in the fall.”

Councillor K. Gordon asked if projects in the future could be listed individually with expected costs for clarity and the CFO said he would endeavour to do that.

• Council agreed to participate in the Woodstock Exchange Program in 2020 and will allocate up to $300 to contribute to up to three $100 rebates for the stove exchange within the Village.

• Council agreed to participate in the Silverton and Slocan Case Study for Integrated Climate Action. This is a research initiative from the Adaptation to Climate Change Team out of Slocan with the Integrated Climate Action in BC Communities Initiative.

After some discussion, the question of whether the Village should take down fruit trees on the boulevards was tabled for further research and discussion. This stemmed from a citizen complaint about one particular untended tree, and staff pointed out that the Village does not have the wherewithal to be responsible fruit tree managers, and recommended removal of problem trees on the boulevards.

• Councillor Main was not present, but submitted a detailed report of her many months. She also recommends that Silverton form a citizens’ “rat patrol” type of organization is the formation of a citizens’ ‘rat patrol’ type of organization is being encouraged.

Three recommendations from this meeting will go to council at the regular council meeting on October 8. The first is for staff to prepare a mail-out to all property owners about the rat problem and how to deal with it. The second is to update the Village website with information on the topic. The third is for staff to look into the costs of equipment such as traps and rat-proof composters for use on Village property, and to explore ways of assisting citizens to purchase these and other types of equipment at less than market cost.

WildSafe BC Coordinator Tammy White, contacted through the WildSafeBC New Denver Facebook page, by email: newsdenver@willsafebc.com, by phone: 250-505-4393.

Lyons says White is taking over the mapping project that Council will follow up on, so she will continue mapping where rats are seen or caught, as residents call in. White will attend the meeting that traps will help, but will not fix the problem. Managing attractants, and dealing with an eliminating habitat are what is necessary – and getting educated. The formation of a citizens’ ‘rat patrol’ type of organization is being encouraged.

The rat problem in New Denver was the sole agenda item at a New Denver Committee of the Whole meeting on September 20. All council members, WildSafe BC Coordinator Tammy White, and concerned citizens Moe Lyons and Burgin Jacobs were in attendance.

“Village council has taken a proactive approach to the rat problem,” Lyons reported after the meeting. “Our WildSafe BC coordinator is a great resource, and residents are asked to contact her if they catch a rat or if they want more information.”

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CAMPGROUNDS

Nakup Municipal Campground - Nakup
(250) 265-1061 nakupcampground.com
Camp Nakup Municipal conveniently located
Nakup, 1 km from downtown. 3 blocks from public beach and adjacent to the Community Park, which includes a tennis court, squash court, ball parks & soccer field. Music on the park every Wednesday during July & Aug. 41 tent sites, 10 with power service & 28 over flow campsites. Hot showers and sani-
sation. Open May 1st to Oct. Reservations accepted.

Murphy’s Landing - Nakup
Creekside & Lakeside Cabin & RV Resort
(250) 265-0200 murphyslanding.ca
1200 Hwy 239. 2 km from Nakup on Highway 239. Water, electricity & water hook-ups, sand-pump showers & toilets, boat launch, firewood, pets must be leash.

Silverton Municipal Campground - Silverton
(250) 358-2472 silverton.ca
At Levy and Turner Streets. 40 sites, 28 with water & electrical hook-ups, 2 with water only hook-ups, sand-pump showers & toilets, boat launch, firewood. Pets. Reservations recommended.

Springer Creek RV Park & Campground - Silverton
(250) 352-2266 springer.cabooks.net
Open May 15 to October 15. Located at 1020 Giffen Rd., Silverton. Turn right immediately off of Hwy 6 entrance to Village of Silverton. Full & partial hook-ups, tenting sites, sand-pump, wheelchair accessible washroom and showers, picnic area, firewood, boats and fishing.

Lemon Creek Pioneer Campground - Lemon Creek
(250) 355-2547 info@lemoncreekcampground.ca
Keechelus County Park Rd., 1 km south of Silverton. Roseberry Rd. to Silverton Rd. to Keechelus County Park Rd. 17 sites, 16 with water service, 14 with power service, 3 with full hook-ups, 1 with water service only. Pets.

Kaslo Municipal Campground - Kaslo
(250) 352-2622 kaslo.ca/kaslocampground/yellowpages.ca
2912 Waterstone Rd. 60 sites, 38 with full hook-ups, 2 with partial hook-ups, sand-pump showers, boat launch, firewood. Pet friendly.

Woodbury Resort and Marina - Kaslo
(250) 353-7117 1-877-353-7177 woodburyresort.com

Rosebery Provincial Park - Rosebery
A restful escape away from the bustle of other campgrounds. 3 private campsites in a beautiful forest setting along Wilson Creek. Close to breathtaking Slocan Lake and the historic Galena Trail. New, 9 reservable campsites. Part of 105 sites in this area. 3 km from downtown Kaslo. Hwy 206, 2-night, Extra Vehicle $10/night.

Summit Lake Provincial Park - Summit Lake
Unlimited opportunities for fishing, boating and swimming in this cool mountain lake. Located 1 km south of Kincaid. Fishing from bank or boat. 20 campsites on a walk-in basis. Open June 15 to September 8. Reservations required. The Lodge at Arrow Lakes - Kaslo
(250) 358-2047 williamhumbertinns.com
301 Lake Ave., Silverton. We have two beautiful log cabins divided into a total of three suites. All suites feature queen-sized beds, spacious living room with comfortable sofa, bathroom including shower/ tub, and a kitchenette complex with a 2 burner cook top, fridge, microwave, toaster, coffee maker and cooking utensils.

Clotho’s Bakery - Winlaw
(250) 358-2831 1785 Hwy 6 Corrals, 2 km from Winlaw. We offer traditional breads, rolls, buns, bagels, pastries, muffins and cakes. In-season, we also offer fresh fruit pies, quiches, breads and delectable desserts.

Paradise Valley Lodge - Winlaw
(250) 356-6154 paradisevalleylodg.com
5972 Cedar Creek Road, Winlaw. Two deluxe vacation rentals on 5 bedroom acres. The Lodge: Sleeps 2 to 8 – 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, private yard, patio. The Loft: Sleeps 2 to 4 – 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, kitchenette, deck. Beautifully furnished, spacious, comfortable. Enjoy peace, quiet and beautiful views. Close to 4 cities and the Kootenay Trail.

Woodbury Resort & J.R.’s Restaurant/Pub - Kaslo
(250) 353-7373 1-877-353-7717 woodburyresort.com

The Local at Arrow Lakes - Kaslo
(250) 265-3618 1-800-665-0100 thelocalatarrowlakes.com
2211 Main St., Kaslo, V0G 1V0 The Lodge at Arrow Lakes is the only full service hotel in downtown Kaslo. 2 minutes from our public beach. We have 8 rooms; all are conditioned. On site liquor, wine and cold beer bar. 7 days a week. Restaurant, outdoor pools and Arrow Lake Kayaks and sports bar.

Draken’s Loft - Nakup
(250) 265-1791 jame.merkley@gmail.com 91 Ave. Nakup
Fresh, charming and cozy, Draken’s Nakup Loft, centrally located in downtown Nakup. A stone’s throw from shops, restaurants, marina and our renowned waterfront. Private entrance, fully equipped kitchen, comfort queen bed with ensuite bathroom, king size bed, living area with well-equipped air-conditioned, small furnished patio, complimentary WiFi, parking permit, pet-friendly.
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 250-365-346 ext. 201 or email nakusp@futures.bc.ca.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
THE HIDDEN GARDEN GALLERY is now accepting applications for our 2020 season. Please go to: Exhibitions, HGG, Box 201 New Denver, BC, V0G 1X0, by October 10th. Along with a brief description of your work, please list the number of pieces, sizes and mediums used, include a few photographs, CD or flash drive with examples of your work. For more information go to www.hiddengardengallery.ca.

CARD OF THANKS
THANKS TO EVERYONE who patronized my fruit stand in Silverton on October 18, 19 & 20, Nelson. Beginner’s Argentinian Tango Workshop: Friday Potluck & Practice & Saturday Milonga.

AUTOMOTIVE
SPORTS CARS – GAS SAVERS
SALES • SERVICE • REPAIR
250-359-7815 ; 1-877-376-6539
250-358-7199 • www.shonsbs@gmail.com

BUSINESS DIRECTORY
GARDENING
TUESDAY 1-3, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 9-12 or by appointment. 427 The Langham, Kaslo. 250-353-8363. Funding for this position thanks to CRF and RDC. Kaslo EDC.

Buddys Pizza, Kaslo
 Residents of Kaslo and Area D with affordable housing. Office hours:Coordinator, assisting residents of Kaslo and
Kaslo Housing Society
250-353-2282.

Winning, hand-stretched artisan pizza.

Buddy’s Pizza, Kaslo:

Wellness Centre
Hand & Soul

GARDENING
Hand & Soul

RECYCLING
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Lodge. Wages dependent on experience and maintenance worker - Passmore Seniors’ Contract

Contact Kevin at KHS at 250-353-8363.

your property and manage the unit ourselves.

consider adding an additional dwelling unit to good relationship with all parties. We will also add an additional dwelling unit to your property and manage the unit ourselves.

LANDLORD WANTED:

Society seeks a property owner to work with us in Kaslo. We sign a lease with you, find an appropriate tenant and actively support a good relationship with all parties. We will also consider adding an additional dwelling unit to your property and manage the unit ourselves.

Contact Kevin at KHS at 250-353-8363.

**LEGAL NOTICE**

NOTICE OF WOODLOT LICENSE PLAN

Take notice that a Woodlot License Plan (WLP) has been prepared for Woodlot 1460, located near Howser, BC. This plan outlines the results and strategies that the Woodlot Licensee will follow to meet objectives set by Government. A draft of this plan is available for public review and written comment. A review can be arranged by making appointment with Wes Bieber, RPF at the office of Longfellows Natural Resource Management Solutions Inc. Written comments should be submitted no later than November 7, 2019. Email: wes.bieber@longfellows.ca Telephone: 250-368-1199. Longfellows Inc., 4840 16th St NE, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 1E1.

**HELP WANTED**

KASLO HOUSING

Our community seeks a property owner to work with us in Kaslo. We sign a lease with you, find an appropriate tenant and actively support a good relationship with all parties. We will also consider adding an additional dwelling unit to your property and manage the unit ourselves.

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Government’s new forest worker support programs

submitted
The provincial government has announced $69 million to fund a new series of measures aimed at supporting British Columbia forest workers impacted by mill closures and shift reductions in several BC Interior communities. The Interior forest industry has been reducing production in an effort to adjust to the end of the mountain pine beetle harvest and the devastating 2017 and 2018 fire seasons.

“While the forest sector must reduce surplus milling capacity to remain competitive, it cannot do so at the expense of the workers,” said Premier John Horgan. “Our government will ensure that forest workers impacted by mill closures are supported.”

Horgan and Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, met with the chief executive officers of the major Interior forest companies to set out measures to support forest workers in the months and years ahead. Those measures include:
- $40 million to establish a new cost-shared, early-retirement bridging program for older forest workers;
- $15 million to establish a new short-term forest employment program, focused on fire prevention and community resiliency projects;
- $12 million for workers to access skills training, and for employer and community grants for training;
- $2 million to establish a new job placement co-ordination office that will track the transition and employment of impacted forest workers on an individual basis; and
- Community support grants aimed at providing short-term assistance to communities more profoundly impacted by the closure of a major forest employer.

“The Province is committed to supporting the people impacted by this change, but we need the forest industry and the federal government to step up and do their part as well,” Donaldson said.

He called on the forest industry to increase supports for impacted workers, ensure key corporate leaders are working on the industry transition and ensure that it does a better job of communicating effectively with affected workers and communities. The measures announced received support from several unions and forest companies, including the United Steel Workers, the Public and Private Workers of Canada, West Fraser and Unifor. The USW called for the BC government “to renew the social licence and reverse the trajectory and mill closures and job losses … forest workers want to see the provincial government take bold steps to hold corporations accountable for their access to our public resources.”

Board audits Cooper Creek Cedar in KL TSA

submitted
During the week of September 23rd, the Forest Practices Board is examining the forest activities of Cooper Creek Cedar Ltd. on forest licence A30171 in the Selkirk Natural Resource District. Auditors will examine whether timber harvesting, roads, silviculture, fire protection and associated planning carried out between September 1, 2017, and September 26, 2019, met the requirements of the Forest and Range Practices Act and the Wildlife Act.

The audit area is located in the Kootenay Lake Timber Supply Area (TSA), which includes the communities of Nelson, Balfour and Kaslo. The area encompasses three major drainage systems – Kootenay Lake, Duncan River and Larche River. Cooper Creek manages many resource values in the TSA, including water, timber, recreation, wildlife and visuals.

Once the audit work is complete, a report will be prepared and any party that may be adversely affected by the audit findings will have a chance to respond. The board’s final report and recommendations then will be released to the public and government.

The Forest Practices Board is BC’s independent watchdog for sound forest and range practices, reporting its findings and recommendations directly to the public and government. The board audits forest and range practices on public land, as well as appropriateness of government enforcement.

Herb Hammond to speak in Argenta

submitted
Friends of the Lardeau River announces that Herb Hammond, who has a B.Sc. in Forest Management and a Masters of Forestry from Oregon State University, will speak in Argenta Hall, 27 at 7 pm at Argenta Hall.

Hammond is a Registered Professional Forester with a 30 years of experience in research, industry, teaching and consulting. Together with his wife Susan, he founded the Silva Forest Foundation, a charitable society dedicated to research and education in ecosystem-based conservation planning. Hammond has worked cooperatively with Indigenous Nations and rural communities to develop more than 20 ecosystem-based plans across Canada, and in Russia, the US, and Indonesia.

In 2003, Hammond received the Governor's Award for Sustainable Living at the Canadian Environmental Awards. His award-winning books, Maintaining Whole Systems on Earth's Crown: Ecosystem-based Conservation Planning for the Boreal Forest and Seeing the Forest Among the Trees: The Case for Holistic Forest Use continue to be used by a wide audience in planning forest protection and use. Hammond, who has a B. Sc. in Forest Management from Oregon State University and a Masters of Forestry from the University of Washington, likes to remind us that the forest sustains us; we do not sustain the forest.

Fir wood pellets

Stove Pipe, Stoves & Accessories
Wood cutting tools, Saws, Chains, Oil, Files

Fall bulbs for beautiful spring flowers

Home hardware

Forestry Week

FOREST WEEK

Steele Valley

Home Hardware

Fence Posts & Fencing

Home Hardware

PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES

Slocan Valley

Fence Posts & Fencing

Home Hardware

Fall bulbs for beautiful spring flowers

Home Hardware

FOREST WEEK

Canada’s Forests: Diverse Community Forest

Canadian Institute of Forestry
Institute forestier du Canada

NAKUSP AND AREA COMMUNITY FOREST

Canada’s Forests: Diverse Community Forest

NATIONAL FOREST WEEK

September 22-28, 2019

We invite you to explore the ARROW PARK TRAIL, part of the Community Forest.

Stay Connected – visit our website at www.nakuspcommunityforest.com or visit our office to pick up a map, at 119 Broadway Street, Nakusp
September 29 is World Rivers Day and all are invited to Crescent Valley to celebrate local rivers. The day starts with a ceremony at the beach, from 1 to 1:45 pm, followed by refreshments and a video at Crescent Valley Hall from 2 to 3 pm. A short documentary will be shown at 3, then at 3:30 to 4 the raffle draw takes place.

World Rivers Day, annually celebrated on the last Sunday in September, was created to improve and protect the rivers around the world. It began in 2005, when the United Nations launched the Water for Life Decade. It may not be a holiday, yet it is one of the most important days of the year because it’s about our future.

The day is a testament to the history of rivers which highlights the impact that these natural tributaries have on their surrounding communities and ecosystems. It also raises awareness about the need to educate communities about river preservation because these waterways are the lifeline to a delicate and diverse array of animals, fish and plants – not to mention humans.

Founded by Mark Angelo, a BC man with a lifelong passion to preserve and protect the world’s rivers, BC and World Rivers days are among the most impactful events of the many holidays celebrated annually. It was Angelo’s initiative that got the event noticed. His persistence eventually turned Rivers Day from a local event to a provincial one, and thereafter a national and international event. The day officially became recognized by the BC provincial government in 1980; from there, Angelo continued his mission by asking 100 BC municipalities to hold specific Rivers Day events. Then in 2004, thanks in part to efforts by the United Nations, Rivers Day went international.

Her love of nature is reflected in her landscape paintings and bird, and you will also find still life in his first collection. Come meet and greet the artist at the opening reception, Friday September 27 from 5 to 8 pm. Refreshments will be served. The gallery hours are 11 am to 4 pm, Tuesday to Saturday. Other times available by appointment; call 250-265-3586. Follow the gallery on social media: www.facebook.com/studioconnexion.

Special events are in planning for the fall & winter season.

Celebrate our rivers September 29
BC man with a lifelong passion to preserve and protect the world’s rivers, BC and World Rivers days are among the most impactful events of the many holidays celebrated annually. It was Angelo’s initiative that got the event noticed. His persistence eventually turned Rivers Day from a local event to a provincial one, and thereafter a national and international event. The day officially became recognized by the BC provincial government in 1980; from there, Angelo continued his mission by asking 100 BC municipalities to hold specific Rivers Day events. Then in 2004, thanks in part to efforts by the United Nations, Rivers Day went international.

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