Argenta artists unveil ‘Harvest’ – second sculpture in ‘Koots’ series – in Meadow Creek

by Art Joyce

There be giants here – but friendly giants. A trio of artists from Argenta have created a unique brand of sculptural art in their ‘Discover the Koots’ initiative. Yvonne Boyd, Christopher Petersen and Spring Shine have now created two sculptures that are massive and yet intimate at the same time, in what they hope to be a series – a family of characters known as ‘Koots.’ Their first collaboration, ‘The Keeper,’ won the Peoples’ Choice award at the 2018 Castlegar Sculpturewalk. It was purchased by Sculpturewalk and resides permanently in Castlegar. On November 20, the second Koot, ‘Harvest,’ was unveiled at the Lakehead and Beyond farm property at the south entrance to Meadow Creek, where it was created and is permanently installed.

The artists have partnered with the Lardeau Valley Opportunity LINKS Society for the ‘Discover the Koots’ initiative, and received a Columbia Basin Trust Public Art grant to create ‘Harvest.’ They envision a series of large woodland-inspired sculptures in communities throughout the Kootenays. The concept is that the ‘Koots’ creatures will be discovered by people hiking, biking, canoeing or kayaking in the region. The goal is to create a world-class sculpture circuit, with promotion and geocaching of the Koots to inspire public art touring.

The Koots sculptures are created using a combination of metal and reinforced concrete, starting with a maquette (miniature) of the final sculpture. Welded steel frames support wire and fibreglass reinforced concrete to form a durable and lasting sculpture that will withstand both weather and the interaction of viewers. They are intended to grow moss, lichens and other plants, gradually integrating themselves into the surrounding landscape.

“The Koots character outdoor sculpture is designed to represent elements of nature and to enhance the purpose of the destination. These sculptures are designed to communicate through their extreme size, the personal gestures and the inviting facial expressions. They provoke thought and emotion in a landscape setting and inspire ways in which we interact with our surroundings,” explains Boyd.

Yvonne Boyd has her paintings and stained glass works hanging throughout the Kootenays. She is perhaps best known locally for face painting, and won the North American body painting championship in 2012. She has worked with youth creating collaborative murals in Kaslo and Meadow Creek. Most recently she did a live art performance piece in collaboration with Rielle Oswald at Touchstones Museum of Art and History Gala.

Christopher Petersen creates large-scale sculptures out of wood, concrete and metal. His pieces are primarily commissioned and reside in private homes throughout the Kootenays. He has worked with both Spring and others on Kaslo’s Winter in the Forest snow sculpture as well as the Whitewater snow sculptures.

Spring Shine started carving with wood many years ago and from there has moved onto large-scale stone sculptures, which are displayed throughout the Kootenays. He also has collaborated on many of the snow sculptures in both Kaslo and Nelson. Previous collaborative works by Spring and Christopher entered into the Castlegar Sculpturewalk have taken first place and been shown in Nelson as well as Castlegar.

Look for ‘Discover the Koots’ on Facebook and Instagram.
submitted

Nelson’s Oxygen Art Centre welcomes Hawaii-based artist Mary Babcock as the newest artist in residence. Babcock will work collaboratively with local artist and writer Susan Andrews Grace to stitch together a creative cautionary tale of waters, climate change and the Columbia River Basin. During the residency the artists will explore textiles, sound and space as they work towards the installation of new work. The residency will culminate in an exhibition under the title, Oh, Columbia!

The residency will run from December 7-21 with an open studio and artist talk taking place on Saturday, December 21 from 5 to 7 pm. Both artists will be in attendance.

The exhibition opens January 8 and runs until February 1. There will be a closing reception on January 31 from 7 to 9 pm. The gallery will be open Wednesday through Saturday from 1 to 5 pm during the exhibition for viewing.

The title, Oh, Columbia! with its obvious reference to O, Canada! is also a nod to the history of the river. Oh, Columbia (Columbia Calls) is an illustration of a young woman draped in the American flag, which was used by the US Food Administration as propaganda to garner support for World War I.

As part of the collaboration, Andrews Grace will be creating a soundscape to accompany the material-based aspects of the installation. The two artists met in 2013 while attending an international conference on Contemplation at the Mir Centre for Peace. Forming a curious interest and admiration for one another’s work, the seed was planted for some sort of future creative endeavour together.

About the 1948 tragic flooding of the Columbia River when Vanport, Oregon – a pop-up city built to house African American workers – was destroyed when a dike broke, releasing enormous volumes of water. 18,000 people were left homeless. Layers of injustice haunt this ecological, social and political disaster today.

The fate of the Columbia River is of concern for Babcock. She has worked creatively with social and political issues concerning the Basin for over a decade, and as climate change and Trumpism escalate Babcock has focused her art practice more acutely on social, political and environmental activism.

Babcock will utilize household wax paper as the central material for Oh, Columbia! Chosen for its paradoxical and metaphorical nature wax paper is meant to preserve and protect yet is itself fragile and impermanent. Wax paper as a textile is perfect for domestic processes such as stitching, ironing, ordering and entwining. In the labour-intensive creation of a massive flood plain Babcock will use the act of mending as a personal and political gesture of restoration and repair.

Research for the project references archival information about the 1948 tragic flooding of the Columbia River when Vanport, Oregon – a pop-up city built to house African American workers – was destroyed when a dike broke, releasing enormous volumes of water. 18,000 people were left homeless. Layers of injustice haunt this ecological, social and political disaster today.

The title, Oh, Columbia! with its obvious reference to O, Canada! is also a nod to the history of the river. Oh, Columbia (Columbia Calls) is an illustration of a young woman draped in the American flag, which was used by the US Food Administration as propaganda to garner support for World War I.

As part of the collaboration, Andrews Grace will be creating a soundscape to accompany the material-based aspects of the installation. The two artists met in 2013 while attending an international conference on Contemplation at the Mir Centre for Peace. Forming a curious interest and admiration for one another’s work, the seed was planted for some sort of future creative endeavour together.

You’re at home here.
Columbia River Treaty meetings highlight Indigenous-led ecosystem work, salmon reintroduction

**by Jan McMurray**

Meetings to update the public on Columbia River Treaty negotiations were held in Meadow Creek November 26, Nakusp November 27 and Fauquier November 28.

The meetings highlighted the importance of engagement with Basin residents, the Indigenous Nations' participation in the treaty negotiations, and the efforts to include ecosystem function as a treaty priority alongside flood control and power production.

“When the treaty was negotiated in the 1960s, there was no consultation,” said Kathy Eichenberger, BC government representative, at the Fauquier meeting. “This time, we are committed to doing it differently. We really want to listen and talk to people. Another change this time is the ecosystem work, and another change is the partnership with Indigenous Nations. They have brought a rich perspective and have made us stronger together.”

The Ktunaxa, Syilx (Okanagan), and Secwepemc (Shuswap) Nations were given observer status in the treaty negotiations in April this year, and are taking the lead on the ecosystem function work.

Negotiations to modernize the treaty have been happening since May 2018. There have been eight meetings so far. The seventh meeting marked the beginning of the official participation of the Indigenous Nations. At the eighth meeting, held at St. Eugene Mission Resort in Ktunaxa territory near Cranbrook, the Indigenous participants made a presentation on ecosystem function and the reintroduction of salmon to the Upper Columbia.

Eichenberger explained that the team came up with a lot of detail about the negotiations because it’s happening “behind closed doors” and is confidential. “But at some point, it won’t be behind closed doors and we will come back to the communities.”

She also said that negotiations “is a bit of a misnomer” because there are no proposals or counter proposals yet. “It’s more just laying out the groundwork, so it’s taking time, but we need to know where each country’s interests lie to find common ground. We’re still in a bit of a discovery phase.”

However, Eichenberger said the Canadian team is very clear on what they want to discuss with the US, based on consultation with Basin communities in 2018. “The BC Decision document represents what we heard from Columbia Basin residents on what we all want to see in a renegotiated treaty, and we follow that. These are improvements we collectively want to see – ecosystems, adaptive management and Libby coordination.”

Nathalie Allard of the Ktunaxa Nation Council sits on the negotiating advisory team and was at all three public meetings in this area of the Basin. She stressed that although the Indigenous Nations participate as “observers,” it is very meaningful participation. “We are involved in all the preparatory and caucus meetings. Our voices are being heard.”

Michael Zimmer, biologist working for the Okanagan Nation Alliance fisheries department out of Castlegar, gave presentations on salmon reintroduction and the ecosystem function work.

“All the Columbia River tribes and nations are salmon people, and the loss of salmon is literally impermeable,” he said. “It’s a story of tremendous loss.”

He said the Columbia used to be one of the most productive salmon rivers on the planet, with millions of salmon returning from the ocean to spawn in the Upper Columbia, including Arrow and Slocan Lakes. The Chinook salmon, weighing up to 90 pounds, were known as ‘June hogs.’

Since 1940, when the salmon were blocked from returning to the Upper Columbia with the construction of the Grand Coulee Dam in Washington State, Indigenous people have been working to bring them back, Zimmer said. In 2017, the Columbia Basin Trust got the parties together and in October 2018, Canada, BC, and the three Indigenous Nations began developing a Letter of Agreement. The letter, signed in July this year in Castlegar, outlines a three-year commitment of $750,000 per year to develop a strategy for salmon reintroduction.

Before Zimmer’s presentation on ecosystem function work, Nathalie Allard of the Ktunaxa Nation and Leon Louis of the Syilx Nation spoke about their peoples’ connection to the land, which is the foundation of their spirituality. “We are part of the land, so we have respect for all living things,” said Allard. “Our land care for the land and the land cares for our people.”

Zimmer’s presentation reviewed the ecosystem loss by reservoir, as published in the 2018 Dam Footprint Study. He noted that while salmon were lost in reservoirs such as Arrow, Slocan and Kootenay, other areas of the Columbia Basin were impacted as well.

At the Fauquier meeting, Crystal Spencer asked if there was a danger “of being bought by the US – just money coming back to Victoria over all these other values.” Eichenberger responded, “It’s not just about money. We have all been clear to the US that we will not have an agreement unless ecosystems are addressed. The sharing of the benefits coming to the Province is important, but this time the ecosystems will have equal weight. There will be no agreement unless the ecosystems are part of it. That’s the commitment.”

The final presentation was from Ingrid Strauss of the BC government, who is coordinating community issues that fall outside of the treaty such as the Nakusp marina and breakwater, Duncan Dam fish passage, and Creston Valley dikes. She is also leading a team that is working on developing a heritage tour throughout the Basin. The tour will tell the story of what was lost when the dams were built, and will showcase the Basin’s assets.

A survey on the ecosystem function work is available at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NKPTTV with a deadline of December 9.

To provide feedback, email columbiarivertreaty@gov.bc.ca, call 778-698-7277, message through the Columbia River Treaty Facebook page, or write to the CTR Team, PO Box 9314 Sn Prov Govt, Victoria V8W 9N1.

**SHELLEY BORTNICK, MSW, RSW**

Individual, couple and family therapist

25+ years experience

Offers counseling services involving mental health (depression, anxiety, etc.), addictions, grief and loss, trauma and life transition issues.

For appointment, please call 250-265-3397

**Nature’s Sponge**

As rain and snow regimes shift due to climate change, wetlands mediate by acting as water reservoirs, storing and holding water until releasing it slowly. Their high plant diversity provides cooling shade for the many amphibians, fish and fowl eggs that have a low tolerance for toxicity water temperatures. Wetlands also act as a filter for sediment and contaminants carried by floods and slides.

**Seniors’ Christmas Tea**

Dec 7 from 1-3 pm Slocan Park Hall Call 250-226-0008

**Slocan Lake Historical Society**

slocanlakehistory.com

**HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS**

**Ceramic Ornaments**

December 8

Children (7-12) 10-12pm

Adults 1-3pm

$20 - contact: margot.baker789@gmail.com - 778 206 6501

**Beeswax Food Wraps**

December 11

Drop in, 6-8pm

December 14

Drop in, 10-2pm

11-1pm

$20 - contact: aimee.watson@icloud.com

**All workshops held at the Silverton Gallery**

Brought to you by your Slocan Lake Arts Council

www.slocanlakeartsCouncil.ca
Rejoicing in UN Declaration

Let us rejoice in the important first step taken by Premier John Horgan and the BC government, in recognizing Indigenous title and rights, to align with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, which resolution has been adopted by 148 countries including ours.

Now may we watch how Bill 41 plays out to begin achieving a just reconciliation through action!

Karen Pidcock
Kaslo

Out of balance

A 1970 UN resolution set foreign aid at 0.7% of gross national income. Canada has never met that commitment although millions starve or from dirty water, curable illnesses, and climatic disasters. In 2000, economist Sir Nicholas Stern determined the benefits of combating climatic change considerably outweigh the costs. He calculated costs at 1% of global GDP. He forecast ignoring climate change will damage economic growth and create risks similar to the Great Wars and Depression of the early 20th century. Canada has never allocated 1% of its GDP to greenhouse gas reductions. We’re failing to meet our Paris Accord commitments. In contrast, Canada agreed to NATO’s request to spend 2% of its GDP on defence by 2024. In 2018, Justin Trudeau fattened Canada’s defence spending by 70%. Our international priorities are shamefully inequitable and inhumane skewed.

Robert M. Macrae
Castlegar

Disgraceful democracy

Election 2019: At all-candidate forums in Nelson and Castlegar, open questions from the floor were not allowed. For a candidate to attend a forum ad for a forum in Nakusp stated questions had to be submitted by noon October 10 (ad in the October 10 edition of The Valley Voice) for the October 17 forum. Many people do not receive The Valley Voice until noon October 11. Something to think about. A suggestion was made to a candidate’s office that they be prepared to answer questions on Agenda 21. Is this how they prepared, by not allowing questions from the floor? Conservation Brian Mulrooney signed Canada onto this Agenda 21 in 1992. Did Conservatives attend these forums?

Election 2019 should have been about Agenda 21. As for candidates who attended forums where no questions were allowed from the floor, if they were elected they should have to stand down so that we can elect someone to represent us.

Ed Varney
Vallican

Peter de Groot

Congratulations to the de Groot family on their success in attaining an inquest into the death of Peter de Groot. It was clear even at the time of the ‘snatch’ that the RCMP were overestimating the threat to the community caused by their confrontation with Peter de Groot. Shutting down access to the village of Slocan was way over the top. Allegedly Peter de Groot shot at police, but I never saw any evidence in the public realm that that charge was anything more than an allegation. From the start, the RCMP seemed to be intent on hunting him down.

We should all be so lucky to have a sister like that. It is so sad that the family on their success in attaining an inquest into the death of Peter de Groot.

Rod Retzlaff
Glade

IUFRO article cause for concern

The 25th meeting of International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) hosted for the first time in South America (Curitiba) was featured in the October 24 Valley Voice as a submitted piece. This is cause for concern.

First, I believe the individual, employed by this international organization who submitted the article to VV, has an interest in the Perry Ridge Crown woodlot that is part of Similk First Nation non-ceded territory. This woodlot does not belong to the Crown and the Perry Ridge Crown woodlot really should be returned to Similk First Nation.

The IUFRO is apparently an organization of European forest scientists, or, some would contend, the historical representatives of the ‘Sheriff of Nottingham.’ It is important for international/ national forest scientists and technical staff to remember there was not one scientist here in North/South America (Turtle Island) until 1492 when the pilgrims began to spread various deadly genocidal methods to bring their not-so-kind religion and economic paradigm to enslave Red folk. The primitive natural forests before Europeans arrived, I believe were much better maintained by the human beings here than they are today with thousands of scientists getting paid to go to a ‘conference’ in Brazil as millions of hectares burn in Brazil. The Forestry studies should not be separated from the study of ecology. Forestry universities and programs are part of an effort to continue down an economic path that needs to cut every old growth tree and to continue the path to extinction.

Tom Prior
Nelson

United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Today is an historic day for all the people who live in this place we now call British Columbia.

Today the provincial government voted to update our laws to align with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, a resolution adopted by 148 countries, including Canada. BC is the first government in Canada to do so.

Many people don’t understand this move, and thus are afraid of it. But really it is good news for all of us.

Here are some quotes from Terry Teegee, regional chief of the BC Assembly of First Nations: “To bring this to a hard point, some people will oppose this law because of their fears of what an era of mutual consent means. There is fear in the idea of sharing power and jurisdiction. I want to say strongly and clearly here this declaration law is not about providing any government with veto rights.”

“Consent is about agreement. It is a process to achieving and maintaining agreement … about respecting our laws as equals and as partners.”

“Consent is the future and one of the most important things we have to do. To the First Nations peoples, our consent is a process that is about the process of finding common ground.”

The Valley Voice

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

Publisher - Dan Nicholson  Editor - Jan McMurray  Food Editor Emeritus - Andrew Rhodes  Arts & Culture Editor - Art Joyce
Reporters - Katrine Campbell, Claire Paradis, Barbara Curry Mulcahy, Moe Lyons

The Valley Voice is distributed throughout the Slocan and Arrow Lake Valleys from South Slocan/Plum Cay Junction to Edgewood and Kaslo on Kootenay Lake. Circulation is 7,600 papers, providing the most complete news and advertising coverage of any single newspaper serving this area.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: CANADA $54.60, USA $84.00, OVERSEAS $126.00. E-Mail Subscription $22.40 (Prices include GST)
Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement #40021191

The Valley Voice is printed in British Columbia, Canada
Continued from page 4

BC, it has done little to create legal certainty.”

Teegge stated that too often the Crown does not engage in good faith consultation and negotiations and First Nations are turning to the courts to resolve these issues.

For example, “One of the greatest uncertainties for project mapping in BC is not knowing if a project has the consent of affected First Nations. Laws that are co-developed…will deliver economic, legal certainty and predictability in this province.”

Well said.

Maureen Lyons
New Denver

Response to vaccine article

I am writing in response to your article last edition ‘Vaccine choice demonstrators march in Nelson.’

Nothing in human history — except possibly the provision of clean drinking water — has saved more lives, or saved more lives than mass vaccination against infectious diseases.

Smallpox, polio, whooping cough and even measles have killed countless millions of people through the ages. It is a sad fact that up to 90% of our First Nations were wiped out by two epidemics of smallpox — one in the 1770s and another in 1840 — as well as several intervening measles epidemics.

As we speak, a measles epidemic is sweeping through Sumas, WA. With a population of only 200,000, at last count 30 people are dead, almost all children under 5. People are rushing to get vaccinated, but in many cases, too late as they may already be infected as symptoms don’t show for up to 10 days. An interesting side note: 60% of the population had been vaccinated, one of the lowest rates in the world and far below the 90-95% rate needed to provide ‘herd immunity’ which prevents epidemics from taking off. As Sumas is showing us, 60% doesn’t do it.

They say that those who don’t learn from history are doomed to repeat it. Unfortunately, the victims in a scenario where enough parents become ‘vaccine hesitant’ will be mostly the young children, those under 5 who depend on their parents to make good choices on their behalf.

Rory Lindsay
Lemon Creek

Hoping Kaslo joins 100% Renewable Kootenays

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a consortium of thousands of climate scientists worldwide, issued their dire report last year. The report sets the world a clear target: we must reduce greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by the middle of this century to have a reasonable chance of limiting global warming to 1.5°C. Breaching this target, they state, is about the point we’ll see some of the climate impacts we already see today begin to go from bad to outright terrifying. It’s about the point where we’ll likely see many natural systems begin to cross dangerous points of no return, triggering lastling changes and transforming life as we know it.

It is clear that it is still technically feasible to limit warming to 1.5°C, we will not succeed without strong political will and leadership. Governments should recognize both the great peril we face from poor choices or hesitation, and the enormous opportunity on offer from the rapid transition to a clean and sustainable economy.

Kaslo has a wonderful opportunity to show strong leadership, and fortunately for our region, the Kaslo Sustainability Development Council has a double vision, and the expertise to help us make it a reality.

Donn Grace Campbell
Kaslo

SD 8 Creston trustee explains why he was censured

We need to do get censured by the school board! I will endeavour to help you understand the accusations against me by the board of school trustees and provide you with a short response within the space limitations that I have for this letter.

One of the two specific allegations the board has made against me was in the May 30, 2019 issue of the Creston Valley Advance newspaper. I had written an article entitled ‘Elitism in our Public Schools.’ The board has stated that my article included “negative statements about student fees” and may not be respectful and within our duty as a trustee. In this I expressed my opposition to our school board approving exorbitant fees for some courses, as much as $1,500, while the teacher’s salary comes out of the district budget and is paid for by the taxpayer. I do not deny this allegation, as I am opposed to using public funds to pay for courses in our public schools where there is no reasonable expectation of sufficient financial means to enter this pay-to-play education system.

In response to this allegation, I write this letter not only to represent my opinions on exorbitant course fees that was discussed and presented in an open and public board meeting. I did not disclose any confidential information, nor was I accused of any untruths. If board members are choosing to censor those of us who speak out and speak the truth, what is the reason? There is already enough suspicion by the public with our governing bodies regarding covers-ups and backroom dealings. Does this form of censorship breed public trust and confidence?

The other allegation accuses me of lowering my voice and reacting in an aggressive and apathetic manner in relation to a new board policy that was placed on the agenda that day without the usual advance notice that most policies are given. The board chairperson accused me of “choosing” to not attend a meeting earlier that day when the new policy was apparently brought up and discussed. To provide some context, nine days earlier I suffered broken ribs and other injuries as a result of an accident. Attending the regular board meeting with a broken rib was a challenge and to be accused of ‘choosing’ to be absent from the earlier meeting was a little rich and the cause of my agitation.

In response to this allegation, I want to be clear that I can be relentless in pursuing answers to questions that I and/or my constituents are entitled to. If my opinion is a dissenting one from the board, I will speak up and make my position clear. When I was elected, I stated that I would ask the tough questions and I will continue to do so, especially when decisions are made that I disagree with and are contrary to the role and responsibility of public education. When the board has censured me for raising my voice and being agitated, they are invoking a form of censorship or closing their minds to hearing dissenting opinions. Can they simply censor a trustee for asking questions they don’t want to have answered or are being asked in a manner they don’t find ‘respectful’? Apparently so.

Will they be successful? We will find out. There are many reasons that the board’s censure of my actions was unjust but the main one is that public information isn’t being shared in a way that the public can understand different points of view and have the necessary information to make informed opinions. When they shut down a trustee’s freedom of speech and right to communicate with their constituents, they are telling the public that their vote doesn’t count.

Allan Gribbin
Creston

LETTERS

John Humphrey 1949-2019

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our dear husband, and stepfather John Humphrey. He was born on December 24th, 1949, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to Ted and Dorothy Humphrey. He was raised in Las Vegas, Nevada, and Southern California.

At the age of 16 John and his brother Ted Jr. went off to University of Southern California, Berkeley. After discovering that it would take 7 to 14 years to become an architect, he dropped that idea and became a Sound and Lighting Company. Along came the draft and off he went to visit Vietnam.

After just six months his father required surgery so back to the USA he came. Before his leave was up he boarded a plane to Vancouver, BC.

While in Vancouver John worked various jobs. A tech for CP Telecome, had his own Sound and Lighting Company, where he worked with many famous people at the Commodore in Vancouver. BB King was one of his favourites. Later John moved to Rossland to go to the Rossland mining School, then on to work on the underground at the Keno Hill mine in the Yukon.

When the surface workers went on strike, the company found John a job at Cominco. His job there was boring so he read 2 books per shift. Not being that well-off yet he opened John’s Books in Trail. He was able to do both for a couple years but Cominco downsized and he was laid off, enabling him to run the store full time.

That’s where he met his future wife Janette who worked side-by-side with him with her young daughter in tow for 17 years. John worked tirelessly there, and loved every minute of it. When burnout started happening, the business sold. John and Janette moved to Slocan Park where they put down roots of love.

John developed a neurological disorder that only nine people in the Province had at the time. There are only four now. John fought a courageous battle with multifocal motor neuropathy for close to 15 years.

Cathie and I would like to take this time to thank Dr. Barbara Jones, Dr. Barry, Dr. Gibson, Dr. Cook, Dr. Newth and Dr. Mountain and many more that took care of him. We especially want to thank all the nurses at room 321, Cheryl, Juanita, Annette, Kelly, Shannon and Betty for keeping him with us for so long.

We also cannot forget the First Responders from Passmore fire hall and Kim, Annika, and all BC Ambulance Service. His favourite caregiver, Cathie and I would like to thank the doctors and nurses at Trail Hospital ICU for their tender care and Kim, Annika, and all BC Ambulance Service. His favourite caregiver, Cathie and I would like to thank the doctors and nurses at Trail Hospital ICU for their tender care and Kim, Annika, and all BC Ambulance Service. His favourite caregiver, Cathie and I would like to thank the doctors and nurses at Trail Hospital ICU for their tender care and Kim, Annika, and all BC Ambulance Service. His favourite caregiver, Cathie and I would like to thank the doctors and nurses at Trail Hospital ICU for their tender care and Kim, Annika, and all BC Ambulance Service. His favourite caregiver, Cathie and I would like to thank the doctors and nurses at Trail Hospital ICU for their tender care and Kim, Annika, and all BC Ambulance Service. His favourite caregiver, Cathie and I would like to thank the doctors and nurses at Trail Hospital ICU for their tender care and Kim, Annika, and all BC Ambulance Service. His favourite caregiver, Cathie and I would like to thank the doctors and nurses at Trail Hospital ICU for their tender care and Kim, Annika, and all BC Ambulance Service. His favourite caregiver, Cathie and I would like to thank...
Communities rallying to manage the Argenta-Johnsons Landing Face

by Moe Lyons

Many years of concern and action have come to a head recently with a series of five community meetings thus far, resulting in the communities of Argenta and Johnsons Landing coming up with plans to protect the forest around their homes.

The communities were motivated to undertake this round of organizing when Cooper Creek Cedar (CCC) called a public meeting last June 13 to discuss their plans to begin logging in the area. A provincial government moratorium on logging in the area was presented to the community on October 3, and was emailed on October 6. Hard copies were mailed on October 8. This letter was addressed to Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Land, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, and George Heyman, Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, as well as 14 more representatives of government at all levels, including the local MLA and MP. To date, apparently only robot responses to the emails have come back, and no written responses have been received. Accompanying the letter were two lists of people indicating support of the moratorium: 19 handwritten signatures and 66 emailed responses. A review of these signatures shows that they reflect a broad spectrum of people in the communities, including some who work in the logging industry.

The letter states: “The Argenta and Johnson’s Landing communities request a two-year moratorium on logging the slopes that surround our communities.” It goes on to outline several reasons for this request, including the presence of mountain caribou on the hillside, wildfire mitigation concerns and watershed security concerns, particularly because of the karst topography in the area. The residents also point out that Cooper Creek Cedar is under audit by the Forest Practices Board and that the Forest and Range Practices Act is under review, and they’d like to know the results of these before cutting permits are issued. Finally, the community intends to use the two-year period to initiate an independent process of landscape-level planning.

In expressing concern about the presence of caribou, they point out, “This finding and the presence of appropriate wildlife protection work have been done by an independent biologist [BrendaHerbison] working under contract for the licensee, Cooper Creek Cedar. This is a two-year moratorium on logging in the Peace Region, based on caribou protection, was recently granted. Our request builds on that precedent.”

In an updated post to the Larder Links website on November 4, 2019, Cooper Creek Cedar says, “the caribou management area has been cruised and CCC is preparing information from the cruise to present to Brenda Heribison required for Brenda to complete the caribou management report. Crusing near Cooper Creek Lindsey 4005 blocks will be completed the week of November 11.” To date no further information has been forthcoming from the company.

The letter states, “Karst scientists have not studied each of the significant karst features on this hillside, and feedback from karstologists to the recently completed Professional Responsibility Review was critical of forest operations on karst topography – in Caledon, regarding water, “A security. Poorly planned logging has the potential to have a negative impact on the quantity, quality, timing and flow of the water our communities rely on.” According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary karst is “an irregular limestone region with sinkholes, underground streams, and caverns.”

The letter concludes by saying: “For all these reasons – slope safety, protection of mountain caribou, potential for loss of human life, fire mitigation, prospective changes to FRPA, the audit of a licensee with a reputation for compromising and poor practice, and especially the new information that the remains of the southern herd of mountain caribou are using the hillside – we request a two-year moratorium on logging on the Argenta-Johnson’s Landing slope while our communities lead a process of landscape-level planning.”

Meanwhile, the community has not been sitting idle, passively awaiting government response. The community meetings have designated a Cooper Creek Liaison Committee to bring the concerns raised in the community meetings to the attention of the company, to monitor the company’s activities in the community, and to report back to the community. To date, this group is working on “relationship building,” according to one participant, and has met with Bill Kestell, Woodslands Manager with CCC, and has gone out on two field trips with CCC. As well, the group has been liaising with CCC and the Ministry of Forests for a number of years. While they do not officially represent the community, they are committed to sharing the information they gather with the community. Another active group is Willet Wilderness Forever, which advocates for the ALC face to be included within the Purcell Wilderness Conservancy. The Community Forest Committee is tasked with exploring the potential for loss of human life, fire mitigation, prospective changes to FRPA, the audit of a licensee with a reputation for compromising and poor practice, and especially the new information that the remains of the southern herd of mountain caribou are using the hillside – we request a two-year moratorium on logging on the Argenta-Johnson’s Landing slope while our communities lead a process of landscape-level planning.”

The Valley Voice December 5, 2019

Kootenay Carshare Coop launches two EVs

Kootenay Carshare Cooperative celebrated the addition of two Hyundai Konas to their inventory of member-owned vehicles on November 19.

Members celebrated by holding an open house (or parking lot) so people could check the cars out and take a ride.

The co-op says Community Futures and the Nelson & District Credit Union made it possible to bring the vehicles to the community through supportive financing.

The new zero emission vehicles are available to use by the hour through the co-op’s casual or full membership options. December usage is half price at just $5/hour and 5¢/km.

Range anxiety is one of the major deterrents to purchasing EVs, but infrastructure and route planning apps are improving all the time. The co-op is working on the possibility of making EV’s more accessible.

KCC has been operating since 2001 but this year it has seen a boom in membership, especially in Nelson. Members now are well served by two trucks, a seven-passenger van, a wheelchair assisted van, two mid-sized vehicles and several economy cars. Vehicles are parked in all neighbourhoods to it is an easy walk to access one near you. It is a great alternative to purchasing a second vehicle or a truck for those less busy routes. KCC also offers routes in Kaslo, Revelstoke and Rossland. Members enjoy the flexibility to access any vehicle in any location including our Tesla Model 3 in Revelstoke!

Business and individual membership application fees will also be waived for the month of December.

This is a great opportunity to sign up with no cost or commitment. If you just want to try out an EV, now is your chance!

The North Valley Mountain Film Festival

Call for Submissions · Short Films & Digital Slideshows Submission Deadline: January 31, 2020

For Submission and Event info visit norvalleyfilmfestival.com or email norvalleyfilmfestival@gmail.com

Thank you to our 2020 Sponsors

Valhalla Mountain Touring Ambler

Ice Creek Lodge CBT

The Valley Voice December 5, 2019

Richard Cannings re-named Critic for Natural Resources

Resources file at this difficult time for that industry, and Cannings hopes to provide broader opportunities that would support both domestic and export markets.

We recognize that people are working on the climate crisis, but they’re also concerned about making ends meet and looking after their families. We want to make sure that we’re all working together to have a good life while taking care of the environment for future generations,” said Cannings. “We have a really great team and I’m confident we’ll work together to get results for Canadians.”

Cannings was first elected in 2015 and served as the Critic for Natural Resources in the previous parliament.
by Kathy Hartman

At the November 26 West Kootenay Transit public engagement meeting in Silverton, Councillors Colom Moss, John Fyke and Gerald Wagner gave options on options to improve transit in the Kootenay Lake West, City of Nelson and Castlegar and Area Transit Future Service Plan. Councillors reported on options to improve the current service or increase the Nakusp to Slocan City run to five days a week with the last run at 7:30pm. There was talk of adding a fifth day of service to Kootenay Lake between Nakusp and Castlegar.

The meeting was facilitated by the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Planning Director. He said that of 15 communities in Canada that have signed on to the West Kootenay EcoSociety’s ambitious Renewable Kootenays initiative, the question being asked was: “How does that actually happen?”

Both Silverton and New Denver have signed on to the West Kootenay EcoSociety’s ambitious Renewable Kootenays initiative in the northern Slocan Valley saw 17 local citizens start the public process of thinking about going 100% renewable energy by 2050. Since both Silverton and New Denver have signed on to the West Kootenay EcoSociety’s ambitious Renewable Kootenays initiative, the question being asked was: “How does that actually happen?”

The evening was facilitated by Matt Murray, the EcoSociety’s Energy Advisor. Mayor Leonard Castré felt that the cost of an Energy Advisor in this area would be closer to $1,500 and considered discussing with the RDCK the possibility of creating such a position.

The workshop focuses on how to prioritize resources and upgrades, asset management software, and manage assets into the long term.

The Village will encourage voluntary participation in BC Energy Step Code, and will work toward a 2020 transition to requiring Step 1. The BC Energy Step Code consists of fiveincremental steps within early January. The BC Energy Step Code includes buildings that are net-zero energy ready by 2032. Step 1 requires energy modelling and testing at the cost of approximately $1,000. Currently, one house in New Denver has completed Step 1. A $500 rebate is available to builders, intended to reduce the approximate $1,000 cost of hiring a Certified Energy Advisor. Mayor Leonhard Castré felt that the cost of an Energy Advisor in this area would be closer to $1,500 and considered discussing with the RDCK the possibility of creating such a position.

There was general consensus that Step 1 would help people in the long run and that more funding should be available for local builders in buildings that are net-zero energy ready by 2032.

Both Silverton and New Denver have signed on to the charter, and climate action is written into their Official Community Plans. With 100% Renewable Kootenays, the goal is to become carbon neutral by 2050. This will include work on buildings, transportation, electrification, and energy consumption and waste management, and more money from other levels of government to municipalities so they could actually implement conservation programs. Another suggestion was a subsidized retrofitting crew, dedicated to helping people make their homes energy-efficient.

The fact we live in a society based on consumption and the concept of a linear system is an underlying problem. As one participant said, “We have to start talking about what we can do without.”

Some solutions suggested were ride-sharing, a carshare cooperative, and electric bus service between the villages. There was a need for more power generation, and more money from other levels of government to municipalities so they could actually implement conservation programs. Another suggestion was a subsidized retrofitting crew, dedicated to helping people make their homes energy-efficient. Murray pointed out retrofit information is available through the EcoSociety. There was no shortage of ideas and no doubt everyone who reads this can come up with several themselves. Wagner thanked for their interest – only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Village of New Denver would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season. Please note that the Village Office will be CLOSED Wednesday, December 25 to Friday, December 27 inclusive and Wednesday, January 2.

2020 COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council Meetings are held at 7:00 pm in the Village of New Denver Council Chambers on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The schedule for 2020 is as follows:

- January 14 & 28
- February 11 & 25
- March 10 & 24
- April 14 & 28
- May 12 & 26
- June 9 & 23
- July 14 & 28
- August 11 & 25
- September 8 & 22
- October 13 & 27
- November 10 & 24
- December 8 & 22

GARbage REMINDER

Municipal garbage collection takes place every Tuesday starting on am for residential properties in New Denver. A reminder that solid waste must be bagged (in a manageable size and weight), tagged and placed in a garbage can before being placed outside for collection. Please DO NOT include yard waste, recycling, construction materials, hazardous waste, broken glass, or any items that might tear the bag and cause injury to the garbage collector.

PREPARING FOR WINTER

The Village of New Denver reminds residents that snow removal is in progress. The Village requests your cooperation in removing items from the lanes, alleyways and boulevards so that plowing can be done efficiently and safely.

UTILITY PAYMENT REMINDER

If you have not yet paid your 2019 Utility Bills for water and garbage collection charges, please do so before December 31, 2019 to avoid daily interest charges. Payments can be made by cash, cheque or debit at the Village Office, or through KS-CU’s online payment service. 2020 Utility Bills will be mailed to property owners in January. If you have questions about the status of your account, please contact the Village Office.
Fish passage over Duncan Dam explored at Argenta presentation

**by Jan McMurray**

It is worth considering year-round fish passage over Duncan Dam? This was the key question explored in a talk by Peter Jonker on November 20 at Argenta Hall.

Jonker, a local resident, Friends of the Lardeau River (FLR) board member, and retired University of Saskatchewan Adult Education faculty member, will give the talk again at the hall in Meadow Creek on December 10 at 7 pm. This talk is the latest in the FLR speaker series.

Jonker started out with a description of ecological conditions for fish in Duncan Lake and River prior to the construction of Duncan Dam. “At one point, there was great fish habitat at Duncan. It was relatively rich compared to now,” he said.

Jonker went on to describe the impacts of the dam construction on fish. “The real problem is the effects of controlling the water flow through the dam,” he said. “Fish have suffered greatly from the huge fluctuations of the water levels in the reservoir.”

Extreme fluctuations in reservoir water levels have greatly impacted the ‘littoral zone’ of Duncan Lake, Jonker said. The littoral zone is the area around the shoreline that has aquatic vegetation and provides critical habitat for fish. At full pool, there is very little ‘littoral zone’ in the reservoir pool, the littoral zone becomes high and dry, and no vegetation can survive. “The littoral zone is basically a desert minimum pool, and no plants can grow there.” This is a big problem for the fish.

**Extended power outage in Lardeau by Jan McMurray**

The power was out in the Lardeau Valley for 29 hours, from 8:04 am on November 20 to 1:19 pm November 21, affecting 429 BC Hydro customers.

Mary Anne Codds of BC Hydro reports that the outage was caused by a very large tree that came down on a powerline on November 20, making it unsafe to do at night. The tree and debris were removed the next morning, and created access to the site with an excavator. They removed the tree, did the repairs, and power was restored to 429 BC Hydro customers.

**Area D Director Aimee Watson** says the Lardeau Valley has extended power outages fairly frequently, and this raises safety and economic concerns in the community. During the power outage, the telephone service often goes down, and there is no cell phone service in the area. “Lardeau Valley residents were without phone service for 29 hours during the recent power outage. This is a huge safety concern, as it can make it difficult for us to call for help, and the second one is the negative impact on the economy because power instability impedes investment,” she said.

Watson said she was sorry that there was no time at the recent Columbia River Treaty meeting in Meadow Creek to discuss issues related to Duncan Dam and BC Hydro. “We have quite a few community issues up here and power instability is one of them,” she said. “I think we need a fish passage over Duncan Dam fish passage, reservoir levels, and the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program.

**Adolescent health survey: some bad news, some good submitted**

In 2018 an adolescent health survey was completed by more than 38,000 12-18 year-olds in BC's 60 school districts, including all four school districts in the Kootenay Boundary (KB) region.

The McCreary Centre Society has released the KB results. They showed increases in victimization, including experiences of online and in-person bullying, sexual harassment, physical and sexual abuse, and discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and disability.

**Concerning findings included a decrease in positive mental health and in the percentage of youth who got eight hours sleep, and a rise in eating disordered behaviour for both boys and girls.**

**The report, Balance and connection in Kootenay Boundary: The health and well-being of our youth, is now available at www.mcs.bc.ca. A PowerPoint presentation is also available at www.mcs.bc.ca.**

The 2018 BC Adolescent Health Survey was conducted in 58 of BC's 60 school districts. It is the sixth time students have been asked to complete the comprehensive health survey since 1992.

The 2018 survey included 140 questions asking students about their perceptions of their current physical and mental health, their engagement in health promoting and health risk behaviours, and about factors that can contribute to a healthy transition to adulthood.

Participation was the highest so far, with 91.6% of students responding. The results are considered representative of over 95% of mainstream school students in Grades 7–12 in the province.

**Enhanced First Responder service coming to RDCK fire departments by Jan McMurray**

The RDCK has agreed to approve a plan to enhance the First Responder program of the regional fire departments.

"First response is a huge part of what our fire services do," said Nora Hannon, acting regional fire chief. “In our rural communities, because of the geography, sometimes the ambulance takes time to respond, so our First Responders bridge that gap between the 911 call for help and the ambulance arrival. So anything we can do to improve that pre-hospital care is really vital to the fabric of our communities.

The RDCK has agreed to retain the services of the Anesthesia Trauma & Critical Care Organization (ATACC) and Dr. Nick Sparrow from Nelson’s emergency department to help develop a consistent training program for First Responders, and to provide other support to enhance the service.

In addition, volunteer firefighters who are licensed nurses, Primary Care Paramedics, or Emergency Medical Responders will be able to provide a higher level of care than they do now when responding to incidents with the fire department as First Responders. Up to now, the RDCK has restricted medical response by volunteer firefighters to the First Responder level. Hannon explained that ATACC and Dr. Sparrow will help define how best to serve patients when there are nurses, primary care paramedics and emergency medical responders on the volunteer firefighting team. “Some things won’t be reasonable on a fire truck, so we’ll work with the physician to come up with the parameters,” Hannon said.

**Committee to modernize health professions regulations submitted**

A steering committee with representatives from all three parties in the legislature has worked on a proposal to modernize the province’s health professions regulatory system. The committee is comprised of members appointed based on merit and competence; reduce the number of regulatory colleges and boards; improve efficiency and support for all regulated professions (no professions will stop being regulated); make it easier for new professions to be regulated; and simplify and increase transparency in the public complaints process.

The proposed changes would:

- ensure regulatory colleges put the public’s health and patient safety ahead of professional interests;
- improve effectiveness of regulatory college boards and ensure boards are comprised of members appointed based on merit and competence;
- reduce the number of regulatory colleges from 20 to 4; improve efficiency and support for all regulated professions (no professions will stop being regulated);
- make it easier for new professions to be regulated; and
- simplify and increase transparency in the public complaints process to complete the comprehensive health survey since 1992.

The 2018 survey included 140 questions asking students about their perceptions of their current physical and mental health, their engagement in health promoting and health risk behaviours, and about factors that can contribute to a healthy transition to adulthood.

Participation was the highest so far, with 91.6% of students responding. The results are considered representative of over 95% of mainstream school students in Grades 7–12 in the province.

The RDCK board has agreed to write to BC Emergency Health Services to notify them of the change and to assume all related liability.

The cost to hire ATACC and Dr. Sparrow is $24,000, with each of the departments contributing $150 each from training budget.

**British Columbians can participate in an online survey or provide written feedback by email using the subject line ‘Feedback - Regulating Health Professionals’ to: PROREGADMIN@gov.bc.ca.**

The consultation period runs until January 10, 2020.

Learn More: The 2018 BC Adolescent Health Survey is available at service.feedback.gov.bc.ca/649771?lang=en.

Learn about health profession regulations and read the proposal at: engage.gov.bc.ca/healthprofessionregulation/.
Mt Sentinel boys team best in public schools

submitted

The Mt. Sentinel Sr. Boys Volleyball Team fought to a fourth place finish out of 16 teams at the recent provincial championships hosted at Selkirk College and LVR November 21-23. The Wildcats should feel proud of their efforts overall in this tournament and can lay claim to be the best Single A Sr.

Boys Volleyball public school team in BC.

The Wildcats earned their way into the semi-final with a very close and gritty win over #5 ranked St. Andrews Christian from Victoria. They then played in another close, tough match for the bronze medal but fell just short of that accomplishment in a tough 3-1 loss to Credo Christian, a private school from Langley, which Mt. Sentinel beat earlier 2-0 in round robin play.

Xavier Moore received a Second Team All-star Award and Aaron Spurge also received an Honourable Mention All-star Recognition.

The team thanks “our community, our local sponsors, our student and parent volunteers and all of you ‘Wildcats’ for your support in cheering us on to a good finish... we wouldn’t have done as well without you behind us!”

Slocan Valley farms participate in soil study

by Art Joyce

As the climate changes and becomes more unpredictable, it’s unclear how it will impact the production of food and other crops. Four West Kootenay farms, two in the Slocan Valley, are participating in a province-wide research project with the University of British Columbia (UBC) to study soil and water management practices and evaluate which practices are the most resilient to increased weather variability. Dr. Sean Smukler and Masters candidate Raelani Kesler of UBC Land and Food Systems are coordinating the study, expected to begin in spring 2020.

The two Slocan Valley farms are the Crooked Horn of Winlaw, an organic farm owned by Angela Weir and Gord Spankie; and Linden Lane Farms of Krestova, owned and operated by three generations of the Carr family. The two other farms are Bent Plow, located in Blewett, and Salix and Sedge, located in Salmo. Three other BC regions, Vancouver Island, the Lower Mainland and the Boundary region, are participating in the study.

“Across much of BC, climate change is altering the availability of water during the production season,” states a description of the project on the BC Agriculture and Food Climate Action Initiative website, “with increased fall and spring precipitation and reduced summer precipitation and streamflows. How soils are managed will influence the ability of vegetable farmers to adapt to these changing conditions.”

The research project will evaluate both common and innovative soil management practices, assessing the timing of fertilizer application, the use of winter cover crops and the use of winter plastic mulches. The goal is to identify soil management practices that can increase resilience to changing precipitation patterns. Using both computer modelling and field trial results over a four-year period, these will then inform recommendations for best practices.

As the UBC’s Faculty of Land and Food Systems explains its mandate: “We need to protect our water, build resilience into our food supply, and figure out how to do it all with rising temperatures and shifting weather patterns. We need to figure out how better to feed humans, how better to understand the way our food nourishes and powers us, and how better to care for our food resources.”

Lenora Trenaman remains chair and Sharon Nazaroff remains vice chair of the School District 8 Kootenay Lake Board of Education after the election at the board meeting November 19. Both were re-elected by acclamation. Trenaman, chair since December 2014, has been the trustee for Crawford Bay, East Shore and North Shore since 2005, and Nazaroff, vice chair since December 2017, has been the Slocan Valley and Bonnington trustees since 2014.
Kaslo infoNet installs underwater fibreoptic cable from Kaslo to Johnsons Landing

by Jan McMurray

The Kaslo infoNet Society (KiN) has made significant progress this year on its goal to provide fibreoptic internet connections to homes and businesses throughout its service area, which extends from Ainsworth to the top end of Kootenay Lake. “We’ve covered about 60-70% of our service area,” reports Tim Ryan of KiN.

This year’s project involved installing fibreoptic cable in Kootenay Lake from Kaslo north to Lardeau and across the lake to Argenta and Johnsons Landing. Now that this “backhaul” cable is in, KiN’s next goal will be to install fibre from the backhaul cable to homes and businesses in Shutty Bench, Argenta and Johnsons Landing.

“It will be fairly expensive, so the next challenge is to get funding for that,” Ryan said. The cost of trenching the cable is about $7-$8 per metre, and the distances involved in these rural communities is significant. Ryan mentioned that CRTC has recently launched a funding program for rural and remote underserved areas, and the Connecting BC funding program is ongoing.

Ryan explained that KiN was able to install fibre to the home in Schroeder Creek, Lardeau and Balmer’s Pointe in a previous phase of the project. “Until now, the fibre distribution system in Schroeder Creek, Lardeau and Balmer’s Pointe have been dependent on a chain of wifi towers. This backhaul project replaces and eliminates dependency on will towers and that’s where there’s a dramatic increase in capacity. With the wifi system, there was a 500-megabit capacity at best, but with the fibre backbone, we can offer any speed required. Schroeder, Lardeau and Balmer’s Pointe have fibre to the home, so they can get really fast internet now.”

KiN now will be able to serve almost all communities from Ainsworth to Kaslo, plus Schroeder Creek, Lardeau and Balmer’s Pointe with fibre connections to the home. As of January 1, the society has eliminated all usage charges for customers. “It’s ‘all you can eat.’ It’s just the speed you are paying for,” Ryan said.

Kaslo & New Denver Community Pharmacy

Come in and shop wonderful spa, health and wellness gifts, stocking stuffers and Christmas candy all month long

COMMITTED TO YOUR HEALTH AND OUR COMMUNITY

Phone: 250-353-2224
403 Front Street, Kaslo
Phone: 250-358-2500
309 6th Avenue, New Denver
Do your past lives influence your present?

submitted

Can past lives resurface in the present day and influence our daily propensities and practices? This question is pondered in Nakusp author Lucia Mann’s latest book, *Endless Incarnation Sorrows*.

Three surgeries resulted in three resuscitations for Mann. After the last one, she began to perceive and recognize a succession of intimate memories packed with people and places from long ago. The vivid flashbacks took on a life of their own, arriving and departing on an otherworldly schedule.

Although paralyzed with fear from echoes and visions of the past, she recognized uncanny connections to her current life. Boldly, fingertips to keyboard, she took her first steps toward making peace with yesteryear.

In *Endless Incarnation Sorrows*, Mann’s spellbinding memorials to past times are clearly linking recognizable themes from her present life to moments and images from her past, all the way back to her first imprint on Earth. Could her physical marks be symbolic of ancient unsanctioned deeds? Has the deep, pure love she shares with her husband survived ancient captivity, depravity, and more?

The characters in her ancestral line impart stories that transform into lessons. Lala suffers enslavement in a hostile desert because of her mother’s original sin. Lyveva braves abduction by Danish Vikings and emerges as a respected healer. Lucja endures barbarity and degeneracy in the toxic pit of Auschwitz.

Through this multigenerational tale, Lucia Mann triggers you to ponder your own life. Are there elements within that puzzle you, or you take for granted? This book invites you to contemplate the concept of reincarnation and to consider how it may be affecting your own Earthly journey.

The book is available at Amazon and at three locations in Nakusp: Treasure Trove, What’s Brewing and Nakusp Home Hardware.
Valhalla Community Choir continues holiday tradition

The Valhalla Community Choir holiday concert (December 13 this year) is one of those long-standing events that form a cornerstone of local community spirit. For more than 30 years, the musically inclined from the north Slocan Valley have come together to sing every Monday night for four months, their efforts culminating in the holiday concert. The concert has traditionally been a must-attend event to mark the informal start of the holiday season.

What binds the choristers and the community together is the warm feeling one gets from participating in a fun event built around music.

This year’s performance will feature an eclectic selection of music both seasonal and non-seasonal. Opening with a rousing medley of traditional carols by Vaughan Williams, the evening will also feature African drum beats, an a cappella Voca8 song, several longstanding choral favourites including The Old Mill, and some new, upbeat pieces. There will also be solos by local composer, songbird and accomplished pianist Rebecca Laity, who is also accompanist for many of the choral pieces.

New this year is the involvement of the Slocan Valley Community Band. The band will accompany the choir on several songs and perform a couple of numbers on its own.

“We’re really pleased to welcome the community band into our collaboration,” said choir director Francie Oldham. “Having a full band to back up the choir is going to sound great.”

Band director Gail Elder said that the pieces selected as joint choir/band numbers are challenging, so “everyone is really pulling up their socks for this event.”

Adding that he also looks forward to a successful collaboration, he said “the more we can collectively stimulate people to participate in music, whether choral or instrumental, the better it is for our communities and for the people involved. Music keeps our brains working and brings us joy.”

The costs involved in this year’s event are supported by choir member fees, donations at the door, and grants from the Columbia-Kootenay Cultural Alliance, the Columbia Basin Trust and the Slocan Valley Legacy Fund.

The doors at the Silverton Memorial Hall will open at 7 pm on Friday, December 13, with the performance starting at 7:30 pm. Admission is by donation at the door.
Nakusp council, November 25: Nakusp to phase out recycling bags, bring in bins

by Katrine Campbell

• Council approved the Single-use Blue Bag Transition Plan submitted by administration, which will now submit the transition plan to Recycle BC. The Village will switch from single use plastic bags to reusable bins, with the transition to be completed by July 1. After that time, the Village won’t collect bags left at the curb.

Nakusp plans to buy 900 bins at a cost of approximately $10,000; they are described as 22 gallon/83 litre lidsless bins, 19” by 16” by 21” high. Each residence will receive one but can buy more if needed. The Village will work with local retailers to ensure they are available for purchase locally. An educational pamphlet will be delivered with each bin.

• Chris Johnson, the Regional District’s Emergency Program manager, gave a presentation on the Emergency and Wildfire Mitigation programs. He outlined the Emergency program’s structure, reviewed what had been accomplished to date and what he was planning for the future.

Terry Warren, Nakusp’s fire chief, is also the Emergency Program coordinator for the sub-region. In the past, Johnson said, EPs concentrated on preparation and response; now they are moving into mitigation. He also emphasized that for every day spent in responding to an emergency, we lose a day of productivity.

Warren emphasized that for every day spent in responding to an emergency, we lose a day of productivity. For more information, visit www.cmhheli.com.

by Jan McMurray

CMH Heli-Skiing & Summer Adventures has been named one of Canada’s Most Admired™ Corporate Cultures. The award, founded by Waterstone Human Capital, annually recognizes best-in-class Canadian organizations for having cultures that have helped them enhance performance and sustain a competitive advantage.

“It’s pretty special to get this award,” says Maureen McPhee, manager of the Lodge at Arrow Lakes, the CMH lodge in Nakusp. “It’s really good recognition for our company. From head office to the lodges, we’ve worked hard to create an atmosphere where staff feels part of a team and returning guests feel like they are coming home again. It’s nice to see the same faces every year.”

McPhee has been working at the Lodge at Arrow Lakes for 25 years and says there are a few long-term employees at the lodge.

“We’ve worked hard to create an atmosphere where staff feels part of a team and returning guests feel like they are coming home again,” McPhee said.

Waterstone Human Capital is a human capital management consulting firm specializing in retained executive search, cultural measurement and assessment, and leadership training and development.

CMH Heli-Skiing & Summer Adventures has been in business for 50 years. With over 3 million acres, the total CMH tenure is 23 times larger than all the skiable terrain in North America combined. Based in Banff, Alberta, CMH operates from 12 lodges located in the Bugaboos, Purcell, Selkirk, Monashee and Cariboo ranges of British Columbia, Canada. CMH is part of the Alterra Group of North American mountain companies and is the only heli-adventure destination represented on the Ikon Pass.

Heli-Skiing Takes place each year from December through April, and the ‘Heli Tourism Remarkable Experiences’ award-winning CMH Summer Adventures take place in July and August.

For more information, visit www.cmhheli.com.

PHOTO CREDIT: Alex Lavigne
Huge funding opportunity for high-speed internet projects

The Connecting British Columbia program will provide access to funds to support connectivity projects throughout the province. These funds may include building infrastructure to bring connectivity to entire regions or making final connections to homes and businesses. Since July 2017, projects supported through the province’s Rural, remote and Indigenous communities program have been up the towers multiple times. “Apologies to everyone who took part in the meetings, for their contributions and for the service will be back up and running within a couple of weeks. “We have confidence that we can get things up and running and provide a stable and growing service for the future,” Murphy said. The society also plans to create a Facebook page, to improve communication with customers. The page will be used for the society to provide updates, and for community members to report problems.
Kaslo River Bridge to be replaced by fall 2021

by Jan McMurray

The bridge over Kaslo River on Hwy 31 at the south end of town is scheduled to be replaced by fall 2021. An open house on the project was held at Kaslo Legion on November 20, with poster boards set up around the room and several Ministry of Transportation representatives on hand to answer questions.

“Most of the people who attended the open house were happy with the proposed design,” reported Robbie Kalabis, regional project manager, in an interview. “Some participants thought it would be nice to include anesthetic elements that would act as a gateway to Kaslo, like a wood sculpture for example. That’s outside of what the Province is trying to do, so it would have to be paid for by the Village and approved and permitted by the Ministry, but we’ve seen other municipalities do this. The Village

BCGEU, Western Pacific Marine reach tentative agreement on ferries

submitted

The communities of Kootenay Lake and Kaslo, who have been facing disruptions to their ferry service due to the labour dispute between BC Government and Service Employees Local Union 201, and the B.C. Ferry workers and their employer, Western Pacific Marine. On November 26, after 13 days of intensive bargaining and more than five months after the negotiations reached an impasse, the two parties reached a tentative agreement. The agreement was ratified on November 26. The WPM agreement will take effect immediately and expire on March 31, 2024.

The agreement includes

Inspired Ideas: Old Growth and Climate Change submitted

Café Langham Inspired ideas presented "Old Growth Forests & Climate Change" with Natasha Edmunds of the West Kootenay EcoSociety, December 5 at 7 pm. She will discuss the importance of old growth forests in our region, their flora, fauna and their amazing ability to sequester carbon. Natasha will present into a presentation on the EcoSociety’s 100% Renewable Energy campaign office has informed the committee that IH’s objective is to have 65 residential beds per 1,000 population aged 75 and older in the Nelson/ Kootenay Lake area. The area currently has 43 additional beds, and IH is planning to put them all in Nelson. No new beds are planned for Kaslo in the next year, but Kaslo.

• Natasha Edmunds of the West Kootenay EcoSociety made a presentation on the 100% renewable energy campaign and asked Kaslo to consider supporting the initiative. Several West Kootenay communities as well as other Canadian and US communities have already signed on, with the goal of transitioning to 100% renewable energy by 2050.

• CAO Dunlop reported that he spoke with Lee Johnson of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing about the upcoming Green Infrastructure grant intake. Johnson confirmed that the A Avenue Waterline project is not a good fit for the program. He suggested that UV treatment at the wastewater treatment plant would be good, as this is being mandated by legislation. Staff is waiting for a quote from an engineering consultant to help with the application.

• A letter from a resident asks that the Lettrari Loop Trail be restored, as the Kaslo Runners use it and love it. The section of the trail below the gravel pit was destroyed last summer during the paving. The CAO reported that the trail needs to be relocated away from the gravel pit due to safety hazards. The letter was referred to the Parks Trails and Public Arts Committee.

Village welcomes the appointment of Danielle Byers to the Kaslo & Area Health Select Committee.

• The Village will continue its contribution of $52,000 to the community’s WildSafeBC program for 2020.

• Bylaw 1247, a bylaw to amend the 2019 budget, was read three times. The amendments better represent actual revenues and expenditures in 2019. The changes are due to the sewer expansion project coming in under budget, the paving project (fully covered by gravel pit royalties and the doubled gas tax allocation), and other adjustments.

• The Village office will be closed from noon on December 24 through January 1. Christmas gratuities of $60 in Chamber bucks will be provided to permanent full-time and part-time staff.

Village of Kaslo

Holiday Hours

The Council and Staff of the Village of Kaslo would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The Village Office will be closing at noon on Tuesday, December 24th and will reopen at 10 am on Thursday, January 2nd.

Regular Council Meetings

Council Meetings are held at 7 pm in the Village of Kaslo’s Council Chambers on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Regular Meetings of Council in 2020 are:

January 14th and 28th
February 11th and 25th
March 10th and 24th
April 14th and 28th
May 12th and 26th
June 9th and 23rd
July 14th
August 11th
September 8th and 15th
October 13th and 27th
November 10th and 24th
December 8th

Garbage Collection

The Garbage and Recycling Collection Calendar can be found on our website at kaslo.ca, under the Residents Tab.

2020 Budget

In accordance with section 166 of the Community Charter, the Council of the Village of Kaslo invites public consultation in the preparation of the Village’s 2020 Five Year Financial Plan. Council welcomes public input from residents of the Village with regards to items they would like to see addressed in the budget. Please submit your written comments to the Village of Kaslo, Box 576, Kaslo, BC, V0G 1M0 at our office: 413 4th Street, Kaslo, BC or email: admin@kaslo.ca

Dog Licenses

Dog owners in the Village of Kaslo are reminded that all dogs residing in the Village of Kaslo are required to have a current dog license. Dog licenses are available from the Village Office.

Business Licenses

Business owners are reminded that a current Business License is required for all commercial undertakings of any kind within the Village of Kaslo, including home-based businesses, professional, personal or other services for the purpose of gain or profit. Business Licenses are available from the Village Office.

For more information visit kaslo.ca
ANNUAL GATHERINGS
BUDDY’S PIZZA, KASLO: Award winning, hand-stretched artisan pizza. 250-352-5135
KASLO HOUSING SOCIETY HOUSING COORDINATOR, assisting residents of Kaslo and Aena D with affordable housing. Office hours: Tuesday 1-3, Thursday 9-12 or by appointment. 423 The Langham, Kaslo. 250-353-8363. Funding for this position thanks to CIF and RDCK/Kaslo EDC.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
thanks to CBT and RDCK/ Kaslo EDC.

250-353-8363. Funding for this position
in Area D with affordable housing. Office hours:
Sue Mistretta, M.A.

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 250-358-7218 or email Nakups@futures.bc.ca.

HAVE YOU ALWAYS DREAMED about starting your own business? If so, Community Futures to learn about the free

FUNDING FOR SUBMISSIONS THE NORTH VALLEY MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL is now accepting submissions of short films and digital slideshows for its 2020 event. Visit www.northvalleyfilmfestival.com for event information and submission guidelines or email inquiries to northvalleyfilmfestival@gmail.com

JOIN THE VALLICAN WHOLE COMMUNITY CHOIR at their Annual Holiday Concert and Seasonal Sing-a-long! Saturday, December 7, 5:00-9:00 at the VallieCan Whole Community Centre! Music, Indian dinner, bake sale, & silent auction. Admission $3 (kids 12 and under free). Dinner $12/adult, $6/child. No alcohol allowed. It is a family affair and supervised by donation. It is a family affair and supervised by donation. It is a family affair and supervised by donation.

WIN SOME CASH! Lucerne PAC 50/50 raffle tickets are available at the School office. The Apple Tree, RHC Insurance, Ratanaga’s and Silverton Building Supplies.

HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS at Silverton Gallery: Ceramic Ornaments - December 8, 10 am - noon (children 7-12) and 1-3 pm - pop-in. 3804 Pine Rd. Krestova, BC. Murgy baptist978@gmail.com, 778-206-6501. Free-form dance every second Saturday. November 30, December 14, 10 am - 2 pm. Drop-in. $5-7 per wrap, materials provided. Info: slcbskatecouncil@gmail.com, Festive Gift Bags - December 14, 11am-1pm. $20. Contact: nonierose23@gmail.com, 250-358-7525. Winter Solstice Wand -

RECYCLING
Slocan Lake Art Council invites you to join voices with our harmonic
singers, directed by Shannon Long (250-226-7911) at the VallieCan Whole Community Centre. Our Seasonal Singalong is a seven-year tradition and is a great way to kick off the holiday season! We would also like to welcome special guests, the Family of Friends Choir and some members of the RhythmDance Drum Orchestra. We provide mulled apple cider and goodies at this festive occasion and admission is by donation. It is a family affair and supervised by donation. It is a family affair and supervised by donation. It is a family affair and supervised by donation.

COFFEE HOUSE FUNDRAISER! Saturday, December 7, 11:30am-12:30pm at the VallieCan Whole Community Centre! Music, bee's wrap sale, & silent auction. Admission $5/under 12 and under free). Dinner $12/adult, $6/child. No alcohol allowed. It is a family affair and supervised by donation. It is a family affair and supervised by donation. It is a family affair and supervised by donation.

WIN SOME CASH! Lucerne PAC 50/50 raffle tickets are available at the School office. The Apple Tree, RHC Insurance, Ratanaga’s and Silverton Building Supplies.

HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS at Silverton Gallery: Ceramic Ornaments - December 8, 10 am - noon (children 7-12) and 1-3 pm - pop-in. 3804 Pine Rd. Krestova, BC. Murgy baptist978@gmail.com, 778-206-6501. Free-form dance every second Saturday. November 30, December 14, 10 am - 2 pm. Drop-in. $5-7 per wrap, materials provided. Info: slcbskatecouncil@gmail.com, Festive Gift Bags - December 14, 11am-1pm. $20. Contact: nonierose23@gmail.com, 250-358-7525. Winter Solstice Wand -

COFFEE HOUSE FUNDRAISER! Saturday, December 7, 11:30am-12:30pm at the VallieCan Whole Community Centre! Music, bee's wrap sale, & silent auction. Admission $5/under 12 and under free). Dinner $12/adult, $6/child. No alcohol allowed. It is a family affair and supervised by donation. It is a family affair and supervised by donation. It is a family affair and supervised by donation.

WIN SOME CASH! Lucerne PAC 50/50 raffle tickets are available at the School office. The Apple Tree, RHC Insurance, Ratanaga’s and Silverton Building Supplies.

HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS at Silverton Gallery: Ceramic Ornaments - December 8, 10 am - noon (children 7-12) and 1-3 pm - pop-in. 3804 Pine Rd. Krestova, BC. Murgy baptist978@gmail.com, 778-206-6501. Free-form dance every second Saturday. November 30, December 14, 10 am - 2 pm. Drop-in. $5-7 per wrap, materials provided. Info: slcbskatecouncil@gmail.com, Festive Gift Bags - December 14, 11am-1pm. $20. Contact: nonierose23@gmail.com, 250-358-7525. Winter Solstice Wand -

WIN SOME CASH! Lucerne PAC 50/50 raffle tickets are available at the School office. The Apple Tree, RHC Insurance, Ratanaga’s and Silverton Building Supplies.

HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS at Silverton Gallery: Ceramic Ornaments - December 8, 10 am - noon (children 7-12) and 1-3 pm - pop-in. 3804 Pine Rd. Krestova, BC. Murgy baptist978@gmail.com, 778-206-6501. Free-form dance every second Saturday. November 30, December 14, 10 am - 2 pm. Drop-in. $5-7 per wrap, materials provided. Info: slcbskatecouncil@gmail.com, Festive Gift Bags - December 14, 11am-1pm. $20. Contact: nonierose23@gmail.com, 250-358-7525. Winter Solstice Wand -

WIN SOME CASH! Lucerne PAC 50/50 raffle tickets are available at the School office. The Apple Tree, RHC Insurance, Ratanaga’s and Silverton Building Supplies.

HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS at Silverton Gallery: Ceramic Ornaments - December 8, 10 am - noon (children 7-12) and 1-3 pm - pop-in. 3804 Pine Rd. Krestova, BC. Murgy baptist978@gmail.com, 778-206-6501. Free-form dance every second Saturday. November 30, December 14, 10 am - 2 pm. Drop-in. $5-7 per wrap, materials provided. Info: slcbskatecouncil@gmail.com, Festive Gift Bags - December 14, 11am-1pm. $20. Contact: nonierose23@gmail.com, 250-358-7525. Winter Solstice Wand -

WIN SOME CASH! Lucerne PAC 50/50 raffle tickets are available at the School office. The Apple Tree, RHC Insurance, Ratanaga’s and Silverton Building Supplies.

HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS at Silverton Gallery: Ceramic Ornaments - December 8, 10 am - noon (children 7-12) and 1-3 pm - pop-in. 3804 Pine Rd. Krestova, BC. Murgy baptist978@gmail.com, 778-206-6501. Free-form dance every second Saturday. November 30, December 14, 10 am - 2 pm. Drop-in. $5-7 per wrap, materials provided. Info: slcbskatecouncil@gmail.com, Festive Gift Bags - December 14, 11am-1pm. $20. Contact: nonierose23@gmail.com, 250-358-7525. Winter Solstice Wand -

WIN SOME CASH! Lucerne PAC 50/50 raffle tickets are available at the School office. The Apple Tree, RHC Insurance, Ratanaga’s and Silverton Building Supplies.

HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS at Silverton Gallery: Ceramic Ornaments - December 8, 10 am - noon (children 7-12) and 1-3 pm - pop-in. 3804 Pine Rd. Krestova, BC. Murgy baptist978@gmail.com, 778-206-6501. Free-form dance every second Saturday. November 30, December 14, 10 am - 2 pm. Drop-in. $5-7 per wrap, materials provided. Info: slcbskatecouncil@gmail.com, Festive Gift Bags - December 14, 11am-1pm. $20. Contact: nonierose23@gmail.com, 250-358-7525. Winter Solstice Wand -

WIN SOME CASH! Lucerne PAC 50/50 raffle tickets are available at the School office. The Apple Tree, RHC Insurance, Ratanaga’s and Silverton Building Supplies.

HOLIDAY CRAFT WORKSHOPS at Silverton Gallery: Ceramic Ornaments - December 8, 10 am - noon (children 7-12) and 1-3 pm - pop-in. 3804 Pine Rd. Krestova, BC. Murgy baptist978@gmail.com, 778-206-6501. Free-form dance every second Saturday. November 30, December 14, 10 am - 2 pm. Drop-in. $5-7 per wrap, materials provided. Info: slcbskatecouncil@gmail.com, Festive Gift Bags - December 14, 11am-1pm. $20. Contact: nonierose23@gmail.com, 250-358-7525. Winter Solstice Wand -
Six years have passed since our beloved Lyla (18) and Joel (19) passed on into another world. Every winter without you both seems to get colder every year, but you’ve never
made fr...
Laura Nessman, the college’s five-year strategic plan, “spells out in our recently released fundamental commitments as one of Selkirk College’s basis at the Castlegar Campus.

Electricity needed on an annual basis is approximately 10 per cent of the $190,000 and will produce 112,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity, making the project feasible. The source was an important part of emissions. The provincial funding is put towards projects that reduce carbon emissions. The college then pays an annual carbon tax on these figures. The college has submitted its greenhouse gas emissions in British Columbia, Selkirk College has contributed to many awesome activities for the Lucerne students.

Sustainability Coordinator says that the Castlegar Campus solar project will help provide important information and a foundation for future projects across the college region. Learn more about sustainability at Selkirk College at selkirk.ca/sustainability.

How would you like an infusion of cash right before Christmas? Lucerne Elementary and Secondary School PAC (Parent Advisory Council) is giving you just that chance with their 50/50 raffle.

The Regional Post-Secondary focuses on a future less reliant on non-renewable energy sources. In October, the college installed an array on the library roof that includes 275 panels with the capacity to produce an estimated 112,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per year. Installed over a two-week period, the panels will help produce the college power lights, computers and operations, curriculum and campus culture. Though still early, Facilities Project Manager Mike Giesler says that the Castlegar Campus solar project will help provide important information and a foundation for future projects across the college region.

For more information about sustainability at Selkirk College visit selkirk.ca/sustainability.

The less parents have to worry about is how to keep their kids busy with activities for the Lucerne students. The PAC (Parent Advisory Council) is giving you just that chance with their 50/50 raffle. How would you like an infusion of cash right before Christmas? Lucerne Elementary and Secondary School PAC (Parent Advisory Council) is giving you just that chance with their 50/50 raffle.

The Regional Post-Secondary focuses on a future less reliant on non-renewable energy sources. In October, the college installed an array on the library roof that includes 275 panels with the capacity to produce an estimated 112,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per year. Installed over a two-week period, the panels will help produce the college power lights, computers and operations, curriculum and campus culture. Though still early, Facilities Project Manager Mike Giesler says that the Castlegar Campus solar project will help provide important information and a foundation for future projects across the college region.

Learn more about sustainability at Selkirk College at selkirk.ca/sustainability.

The Regional Post-Secondary focuses on a future less reliant on non-renewable energy sources. In October, the college installed an array on the library roof that includes 275 panels with the capacity to produce an estimated 112,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity per year. Installed over a two-week period, the panels will help produce the college power lights, computers and operations, curriculum and campus culture. Though still early, Facilities Project Manager Mike Giesler says that the Castlegar Campus solar project will help provide important information and a foundation for future projects across the college region.

Learn more about sustainability at Selkirk College at selkirk.ca/sustainability.
The bears are almost all denned up for the winter, as is the WildSafeBC program. Once again, it had an active year assisting New Denver and area with wildlife conflicts. The program included door-to-door canvassing, garbage tagging, attendance at public events, special presentations on bear spray and electric fencing, rat control education, and the delivery of the WildSafe Ranger elementary school program.

Fruit trees and garbage still remain the top high conflict animal attractants in the area, says Tammy White, the New Denver/Silverton/Nakusp and Area K WildSafeBC Community Coordinator. Bears are still the species most frequently affected by lack of attractant management. Perhaps more troubling for the region, rats are becoming an issue. When spring arrives, please consider knocking blooms off of fruit trees if the fruit will not be utilized. This will help mitigate one of the region’s most prevalent attractants.

The year-end report is scheduled for release on the website this month, to show what WildSafeBC was able to accomplish this year. This report contains specific data on attractants and species as well.

During the winter months, wildlife conflicts can still be reported to the RAPP line at 1-877-952-7277 and urgent wildlife questions can be directed to bc@wildsafebc.com. Until the program resumes in the spring, please visit wildsafebc.com and follow the Facebook page WildSafeBC/New Denver for updates, tips, and other information to assist you in keeping wildlife wild and communities safe!

White says she is grateful for the generous support of the BC Conservation Foundation, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, the Columbia Basin Trust, the Village of New Denver, the Conservation Officer Service and Bylaw Enforcement for their ongoing support, and everyone who has made an effort to prevent human-wildlife conflicts this year. Thank you to Harvest Share, The Healthy Community Society of the North Slocan Valley, Grizzly Bear Solutions and the numerous staff persons at Village offices throughout the region.