Residents fume as out-of-town visitors monopolize local beaches

Residents of communities around the Arrow Lakes say they’re fed up with tourists commandeering tiny day-use sites, preventing locals from using them.

“They are starting to get really angry. Every year there are more campers and it’s causing more problems,” says Quinn DeCourcy, who lives in Edgewood.

DeCourcy took RDCK Area K Director Paul Peterson on a tour of several sites last week around Needles and Edgewood, where beach access was recently blocked. The Valley Voice tagged along for the trip.

The spots are down narrow, winding bush trails. They remained locals-only for years, but over time – and with public camp sites barred to non-BC residents this year – informal sites have been discovered by out-of-towners.

“A dozen people from out of town come here, they take over the beach, they don’t pay anything, and they can have about this pristine place they can go where each go back and tell a dozen more people they don’t pay a nickel,” says Peterson. “Then they come back and they don’t pay anything and they have all the parties they want.”

The problem is at several locations, from Edgewood to past Nakusp. Teresa Weatherhead says she and her husband tried to access a favourite kayak launching spot north of Burton on the long weekend.

“They had a sign at the top of the road saying ‘Welcome home from jail, Nash.’ There were five different vehicles and their trailers down this narrow path, and they were camping,” says Weatherhead, who is Peterson’s alternate on the RDCK board.

“We couldn’t even try to get down, or turn around.

“When my husband asked if they could move their vehicles, they said, ‘no, we’re using this space. They inhabited the whole beach, the whole area. What could you do about it?’”

While the beaches he inspected were deserted during Peterson’s tour, he’s worried about the upcoming long weekend and how local people will react if they’re blocked from accessing the rec sites.

“If the obnoxiousness that gets to me,” says Peterson. “The lack of humility. The sense of entitlement.”

Peterson says it’s a problem that’s getting worse.

“What concerns me the most is that the complaints have doubled every year for the last four years, and this year it’s even past that,” he says. “It’s the self entitlement, the attitude that ‘it’s our beach, take off,’”

And Peterson says it’s out of local hands. “I have absolutely no authority to do anything about it,” he says. “But I will see if the RD can get something set up to allow us to kick out the troublemakers and allow the good people to enjoy themselves.”

Peterson says locals may have to organize to push for better maintenance at the sites, physical barriers for RVs, better washroom facilities, and the like.

But he says there also has to be an attitude adjustment on the part of some out-towners.

“They act like they own it and don’t want anybody else here, they’re being very obnoxious,” he says. “Only a few are making a tremendous mess, but they all get blamed for it… the total disrespect for the community, the neighbourhood, for the environment, for the lake, there’s no respect going on. It’s going to be a disaster every year.”
Residents on alert as crews fight fire on Perry Ridge

by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The knock came on Kirby Uhlman’s door at 10:30 Saturday night.

“It was the local fire chief, he’s the one who told us about the evacuation alert,” says Uhlman, who’s lived in her Vaillican home for about three years.

“Apparently the forecast for Monday night is unfavourable wind direction. That gives the fire the potential to blow down the mountain.”

Uhlman’s was one of about 300 households alerted by the Regional District’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) that they may be forced to evacuate at a moment’s notice. The alert included Lehabdo, Passmore, Little Slocan, and Vaillican, small communities set in the shadow of the ridge.

The reason was the Talbot Creek fire on the south end of Perry Ridge. Uhlman can see the fire up on the hillside behind her house, just a kilometre away as the crow flies.

On Monday afternoon the windstorm hit, and crews built guarded lines on the hillside.

“Crews and aviation resources are focusing suppression efforts on the south and east flanks of the fire. Initial attack crews continue to work on constructing helppads to support helicopter resources,” said the Southeast Fire Centre (SEFC).

“Bulldozer and excavators are being moved into place to begin work on a contingency fire guard along the south-southeast flank.”

The SEFC also ordered an area restriction, limiting use of the Little Slocan Main FSR and area to Little Slocan Lake’s southern end. The public can travel on the forest service road but not stop in the area. The lake is still open and accessible from the north.

Talbot Creek is one of nearly a dozen fires sparked in the high country from Nakusp to Kaslo to the south Slocan Valley after a powerful thunderstorm moved through the region Monday, August 17.

Perry Ridge, a low line of hills that marks the west side of the Slocan Valley, was struck hard by the thunderstorm, and had four fires burning the next day. Talbot Creek has been the largest and most visible, sending a plume of smoke high into the sky for a week, and glowing an ominous red over the ridge at night.

Uhlman says her neighbours with farms have been moving livestock out of harm’s way, and readying to move if necessary.

“Our务est are certainly responding to it, but there’s no sense of panic,” she says.

“People are pretty calm.”

Despite the alert, at press time officials said no homes or structures were immediately threatened by the fire.

Other fires

In all, about a dozen fires were burning in the highlands bordered by Trout Lake to the north, the Arrow Lakes to the west, Kootenay Lake to the east and the Kootenay River to the south.

Most were being held or under control, while others were not being actioned at this time.

One of the latter is the largest fire in the West Kootenay. The Woodbury Creek fire started August 15 as a lightning strike in the inaccessible high country southwest of Kaslo, on the border of Kokanee Glacier Park. Fire officials say for crew safety, they’ll only monitor (not action) the 480-hectare blaze until it becomes a problem or moves into safer-to-tackle terrain.

Fire crews aren’t expected to get much of a break from the heat spell. While temperatures are set to moderate slightly, no change of the weather is forecast – it’s supposed to be clear, dry, with temperatures in the mid-to-high 20s forecast into the first week of September.

Visit the Valley Voice Facebook page for updates to this story.
SD 10 Arrow Lakes ‘in a good place’ with back-to-school plans, says super

by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

We asked School District 10 – Arrow Lakes superintendent Terry Taylor to give us the A-B-Cs of Back-to-School 2020. Here are her responses:

What can SD 10 elementary school students expect to see when they return in September?

We are excited about welcoming all our learners back to school. The first two days of school will involve orientation to COVID-19 health and safety procedures and review of hand hygiene, social distancing where possible (especially in the older intermediate and secondary grades) and the importance of not coming to school when sick.

What is different this school year based on provincial health guidelines is that all students will be in a Learning Group cohort. Within that cohort, the students and teachers will be able to minimize their social contacts, which reduces any chance of contacting or spreading the virus and have minimal physical contact, but the two-metre physical distancing does not need to be maintained according to the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)/Provincial Health Office guidelines.

Is there any difference between what kids in rural areas will experience compared to the more ‘urban’ schools in the district?

In our smallest schools, Burton and Edgewood Elementary, the entire school is one Learning Group cohort. At NSS, the provincial health officer has allowed a variance from the maximum number of 120 in a secondary cohort to include all the students and staff at the school. At Nakusp Elementary, there are four learning group cohorts and at Lacerne, two elementary cohorts and all the secondary students are one cohort. In our Arrow Lakes Distributed Learning School, families that come together in New Denver at Lucerne School to support learning of their home-based learners are a cohort along with the teacher, and in the DL School program based in Nakusp for high school students, that group is a Learning Group cohort along with the teacher. All of our schools will be taking kids outside for learning not only for physical well-being but also the benefits that being outside and kids outside for learning not only for physical well-being but also the benefits that being outside and educators for physical well-being.

Will students have an online learning option again?

In stage two, the Ministry of Education has directed that all students are to attend schools in person full-time. The Ministry of Education tells us that by the return to school in September, some students will have missed 173 days of learning as not all students engaged with remote learning. If schools go back to stage three, which is what we did in June, then students will have a hybrid of in-school and remote learning. Parents who would prefer full-time online learning can register with the district’s Arrow Lakes Distributed Learning School by contacting Principal, Nick Graves at Nicholas.graves@sd10.bc.ca

Is anything specifically tailored for SD 10 circumstances that are different from the general protocols the province has devised?

Absolutely! And not at all…. Absolutely, in that we are in a better position than most schools in the province because our schools are small, our communities have had no cases of COVID and the risk is much lower. We are also in a good place because 70% of our students were attending school in the month of June during stage three, whereas the percentage across BC was closer to 20-30% of students. We are blessed to be able to easily take our students outdoors for learning with schools nestled in forest and lake landscapes and teachers committed to learning in nature. Most of all, because of the commitment and dedication of all our staff – from our hard-working custodians to our amazing teachers, everyone keeps the needs of students at the centre of their planning, thinking and efforts.

That said, we are in compliance with all enhanced cleaning and health safety protocols that the BC Centre for Disease Control and Public Health Office as well as the Ministry of Education put in place. Our plans reflect this provincial direction.

What is your advice to parents if they are concerned about returning?

School will look different just as it did in June, and we know that very quickly you will be immersed in all the great things about school: being with your friends, meeting new ones, world-class learning experiences with great teachers and support staff at your back. We’ve got this! You’ve got this!

SD 8 tailors back-to-class plan to each school’s circumstances

by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

It’s a new school year unlike any in memory – and the head school administrator for SD 8 Kootenay Lake says good communication can help ease anxieties.

The message is, “We have your backs and are doing everything possible to ensure their safety and future learning,” says Dr. Christine Perkins, the superintendent of SD 8.

For the last few weeks, provincial and local education officials have been developing policies and strategies to offer children as safe a return to school as possible. The COVID-19 pandemic cut classes short last spring, and concerns are that packing in students could cause a resurgence of the virus.

The provincial plans include more frequent cleaning, keeping cohorts of children separate from each other, and staggered learning periods.

Some of the other basic prevention tactics are familiar to most people by now.

“One of the biggest things is masks,” says Perkins. “We encourage all to wear them.”

Perkins says the SD 8 board was planning to release the details of its back-to-school strategy this week. More details and protocols will be available on the SD 8 website on August 26.

“Each school will have a personalized student return-to-school plan, following district and provincial guidelines,” she says. “Families are asked to contact their school principal for individual school details.”

In the meantime, parents can help by having children get accustomed to wearing masks.

“Teach them about how to wear a mask (especially on buses and in crowded spaces),” she says. “And to continue to wash their hands, physically distance, and follow all protocols they learn about at school.”

Classes resume on September 10. Secondary school administration offices open on August 24 and elementary school offices on the 31st.
Gratitude for our Koots right now

War as the instrument of peace. Zinc-no as the instrument of New Denver ecological upgrade. Lockdown as the instrument of social cohesion for all. Violent divisive protest as the instrument of communication. Money as the instrument of food in the Forced vaccination as the instrument of immunity-building. Masks as the instrument of body oxygenation. Facebook as the instrument of human connection. Smart phones as the instrument of telepathy.

What social engineering we’ve sold!

To all the Koots people dis-engineer-ing these planted dis-engineer-able limitations, my gratitude is immense. Keep stitching our true Love-is-all, Love-is-for-all human experience.

Marc Heroux

Young people – protest, SCREAM!

Especially you young Canadian students! How come you are not out in the streets, protesting?? You were to get around in million of financial support. But no, that plan was scrapped. Instead, the prime minister’s mother (who has a pension as the widow of a former PM) got a 1/4 million and his brothers a similar amount (for silly pranks and a 1/4 million and his brothers a financial support. But no, that plan were to get around $90 million of students! How come you are not SCREAM!

All human experience.

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Slocan

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Marc Heroux

Slocan

Unhappy with new recycling regime

I live in Meadow Creek, where we are served by the Marblehead recycling and refuse facility, as are Johnson’s Landing, Argenta, Howser and Ladner. We are not, however, well served by the RDCK’s current recycling changes.

The facility was announced to reopen, after weeks of total closure, in mid-July; then, again, about August 1; and again, about August 8. Unable to attend before noon on Saturday, I found the container recycling box was already full, overflowing and closed, as early arrivers disposed of their long-accumulated loads. Now that that pressure is over, one may only recycle containers, paper and glass. Plastic bags, foam and foam wraps, and coated packaging must all go to Kaslo (40 km distant) or Balfour (70 km distant) for disposal.

There was no provision made for recycling during the turnaround, and the reopening schedule was repeatedly delayed without explanation. I know the COVID-19 crisis is partly to blame, but poor planning and management do not help at all. I am retired on a small pension, and a round trip to Kaslo costs me about $18. Further, the Kaslo facility is not open on Saturday, my usual shopping trip day, yet I pay the same taxes for these services as folks in Kaslo and Balfour. I do not appreciate being put in this situation at my own expense; nor, I should imagine does anyone else in the North Kootenay Lake region. What will be done about this, and when?

Rev. F. Mark Mealing

Meadow Creek

Global technocracy

I want to commend Rick Galbraith and Lisa Ross from Kaslo for speaking out. I make no apologies for my thoughts on this as, since about January 3, 2020, I myself decided to do just a bit of digging into the Who is connected to WHO, and whose billions were going where for what. I also looked at laws that might be hurriedly changed, sneakily on the sly. I looked at stocks that were coming out of nowhere and WHO was investing in them. And since they always dry run everything, I googled pandemic scenario planning and ROOM there was our Clade X series and the Event 201 resulting discussions. Wading through that lot and digging around patents lurking, and vaccine manufacturer relations with DARPA and more and more, the whole financial heist was being revealed and the forced roll-out of a global technocracy of the sort to make China blush. Having discovered in about 2012 that 9/11 was an inside job, I spent thousands of hours since then down rabbit holes and read Rockefeller’s plan of 2010. I recognized all the same fingerprints and style once again.

The new world order, one world government and a technocracy at the very biological level inside YOUR bodies, everybody’s bodies! You become part of the internet of things.

All science has been completely abandoned. No virus has been isolated. No Koch Postulates been met and the PCR test NOT designed to diagnose viral illness is completely scientifically meaningless. Flu and colds and all other causes of death have stopped, masks do more harm than good and do nothing to prevent any transmission of coronavirus or influenza viruses and there are many, many studies done on every conceivable mask type and done before it was a politicized issue. ALL of them say the same thing. They do not work, and they do more harm than good!

Cal Aylmer

Slocan

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The Valley Voice
August 27, 2020

The CULT of COVID

There are four guiding principles necessary for the creation and maintenance of a cult: 1) Isolation 2) Conformity 3) Indoctrination through Repetition 4) Fear and Trauma. Since there doesn’t seem to be any right for this ‘pandemic’ even though 99+4% of people who contract the COVID virus recover, continued on page 5
continued from page 4
could it possibly be we are witnessing a worldwide CULT of COVID?
On a daily basis, it seems to me every politician and public health official enacts strict mandates or messaging to perpetuate fear, trauma, conformity and isolation. Yet, these same politicians and public health officials claim they are remorseless when it comes to taking responsibility for the immense suffering caused by their policies and actions. Here in Canada, somewhere between 81% and 84% of the people who succumbed to the COVID virus were elderly residents in long-term care facilities. The lockdown (a prison term) ultimately transformed LTC into gulags for the aged when residents were not permitted to leave their rooms and enjoy visits with family and friends or even go outside for fresh air and sunshine. I speculate many of the deaths in LTC laboratories were actually due to Broken Heart Syndrome (cardiomyopathy).
Speaking of immense suffering, ten million children in South America are starving due to COVID-19 policies. As well, the destruction of the global economy has sent millions, perhaps billions on a spiralling descent into poverty while food supply chains are breaking all over the world, including North America. The situation has become increasingly dire here on Mother Earth.
One day in the not too distant future, it will be revealed how policy makers at the WHO along with corporations and complicit politicians constructed the CULT of COVID for nefarious purposes... destroying the economy and societies perhaps on a global scale... I wonder if there is any doubt, there will be a day of reckoning for those who created this massive and needless suffering!
"The welfare of humanity has always been the alibi of tyrants." -Albert Camus

Ellen Chambers Winodal
Sharing some Facebook wisdom
I do not know who wrote this but it sure speaks volumes and hits the nail on the head. I found it on the Facebook page ‘God bless the fallen soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.’ May your day be a good one!

"I’m sick of COVID-19. I’m sick of black and white. I’m sick of people who think that 500-year-old history is our fault... it’s history... get over it! We’re one race – the human race. We All Matter!! You want to support President Trump? You do it! If it’s your choice. You want to support Biden? Fine... also your choice! Same for Trudeau, McKay and O’Brien. You want to believe in God? Okay, believe in God. You want to believe in magical creatures that fly around and sprinkle fairy dust to make life better?... you do you.

"But stop thrusting your beliefs on others and not being able to deal with the fact that they don’t have the same exact mindset as you. Having our own minds is what makes us all individual and beautiful. If you can’t handle the fact that you may have a friend that has opposing views as you, then you are not any better than the bigots and the racists. I don’t have to agree with everything you believe to be a decent human being and your friend. Unfriend me if you want!" So be a decent human being. Love one another, be kind, be humble, be helpful, a stranger and do a good deed!

Kathe Roberts

Hoaxes and conspiracies and seatbelts - oh my!
True: We are faced with a coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) and its given name. Why not examine our response to the pandemic and evaluate? Why not use critical thinking rather than fear-based thinking? Why not decide to change the chase, NOT run from the nightmare. So, ask the questions! Such as...
Can anyone speak to a time in history where healthy people were quarantined? Why has the US fared worse than other countries – those with a one-in-three-million death rate (e.g. Nigeria and Kerala, India)? Could overall health AND the approach taken, be significant causal factors? The number of comparisons of masks to seatbelts is staggering and simply off-base. It isn’t black-and-white as some would like to believe. The theory: masks help in terms of prevention and protection. First, masks help to prevent spread and lower infections (masks make sense in hospitals). So can masks be argued as unsanitary?
As for protection, how do rational people factor in that your eyes and half your face are exposed? Even the Canadian Disease Control Centre has concluded: "Although mechanistic studies support the potential effect of hand hygiene or face masks, evidence from 14 randomized controlled trials of these measures did not support a substantial effect on transmission of SARS-CoV-2 confirmed infections. (Volume 26, Number 5 - May 2020).
Another study (‘Respiratory virus shedding in exhaled breath and efficacy of face masks’) states: "Some of the COVID-19 face masks can efficaciously reduce the emission of influenza virus particles into the environment in respiratory droplets, but not in aerosols." That is to say, NOT in fine particles. And even more striking: “Among the samples collected without a face mask, we found that the majority of participants with influenza virus and coronavirus infection did not shed detectable viruses in respiratory droplets or aerosols.”
No – this is not in akin to wearing a seatbelt. If you want to wear a mask for prevention, go for it but don’t enforce it on others. If you want to save your own life, be different and stop…? But let’s not fling mad and start a witch-hunt on others that choose alternative approaches based on critical thinking. And let us not summarily group and dismiss those with alternative viewpoints – no we’re NOT flat-earthers and conspiracists. CBC radio has often done this – I stopped listening.
We could trade science findings ad nauseam. One has to factor in science with every approach and other factors as well. As we are doing so, we can examine past findings for cigarettes, DDT, asbestos, climate crisis cover-up, etc. The pharmacy: the number one lobbyist ($4.45 billion over 22 years). One last consideration. Not only is it vital to examine what is presented during this pandemic, but also what is missing. What about enhancing overall health? Recent research for consumption: ‘WashU says COVID-19 is mostly a 'treatment strategy' for COVID-19.’ The immune system is very germane to this discussion. And once again, considering the seatbelt analogy, this black-and-white comparison falls flat on its face (masked or not).
T. Orlando Winodal

Where is this headed?
Have you wondered how people were able to convey some of the global world health policy? We live under a globalist technocratic dictatorship, ruling from behind a fast-thinning veil of democracy. It has used a variety of these tactics and crises and other techniques to get to this point. COVID-19 is one of the biggest nails in the coffin.
I worry when people who are starting to see the overkill in the COVID-19 measures say, ‘just go along with it while a little longer and it will go away’. The opposite is true. A report by Keck CNC recently found that public perception of how many people are sick and dying of COVID-19 is 100 times higher than even official statistics, which are vastly overinflated. The government and mass media do nothing to quell this fear because it is so useful to the technocratic elite who are really running the show. Fear is a powerful means of distraction (saw it go up July 16 that we are living in a social engineering experiment. I need to revise that. It’s an experiment. And when policy-makers say they are being ‘guided by the science’ we have to question ‘what science?’. It’s not virology, it’s psychology. What will it take to get a majority to go along with what the technocrats want? More censorship? Training people to espouse their neighbours and feel virtuous? Humilating policies like mandatory masks? Celebrities publicly supporting the lockdown? Economic pressure? Be aware of the massive financial stake the world is putting in this. We may think our decisions are made by Propaganda techniques are being used today in this crisis that were used in Nazi Germany. The one that stood out the most when I started looking at this was the refusal to engage with what the Nazis called ‘intellectuals’ and intellectuals are called ‘conspiracy theorists’ but instead to manipulate others to attack them.
We need to wrap our minds around the fact this crisis is not caused by COVID-19. COVID-19 is a vehicle to lead the world in a predetermined direction: an end to humanity as we’ve known it and a fusion of the human brain with artificial intelligence (AI), under 24/7 surveillance controlled by a draconian social credit system. Think China today, on steroids. We are already very close. I implore people to research the eugenics movement from its origins through to what is happening in Nazi Germany. The one that I stand out the most when I started looking at this was the refusal to engage with what the Nazis called ‘intellectuals’ and intellectuals are called ‘conspiracy theorists’ but instead to manipulate others to attack them.
We can still turn this around. It will take empowerment through knowledge and global non-cooperation. First, we must realize an uncomfortable truth. We have been lied to about just about everything. It’s time to head to party counts with sand.
Lisa Ross

Kaslo

Masks don’t prevent the spread of disease
In response to Jim Herring’s letter of July 30, where he said ‘Surgeons wear masks when they work because they are effective protection for us,’ he might be interested to know that the medical literature for the past 45 years has been consistent: masks are useless in preventing the spread of disease and, if anything, are unsanitary objects that breed themselves bacteria and viruses. I have a list of 14 studies and if you wish to check them out please go to cellphonetaskforce.org. We need to ask ourselves if there is more to this than just fear to wear them when it has been proven they DO NOT work. I believe this pandemic is a hoax to cover up many lies, that over the next 10 years will be proven in court, as ‘we the people’ sue our government for spending our money to support big pharma and the multinations who own the newspapers and radio and TV stations as more of our basic freedoms are taken away.
Mandating masks has not kept death rates down anywhere. The 2 US states that have never ordered people to wear face masks indoors and out have dramatically lower COVID-19 death rates than the 30 states that have mandated masks. Both states have COVID-19 death rates below 20 per 100,000 population, and none have a death rate higher than 55. All 13 states that have mandated masks have death rates higher than 55 per 100,000 are states that have required the wearing of masks in all public places. It has not protected them. What we are seeing is an atmosphere of permanent illness, of meaningless separation,” writes Benjamin Cherry in the Summer 2020 issue of New York Magazine. “A separation that is destroying lives, souls, and nature.”
The cellphonetaskforce.org website also explains why 5G is harming us as it begins its beta testing in the north-west United States and southern Canada later this summer. The single biggest obstacle to recognizing its effects on humans will be COVID-19. Because no matter how many people sick or die in that part of the world, it will be blamed on the coronavirus. As I pointed out in a newsletter, the pandemic began with 5G. In March, it came to Wuhan shortly before the outbreak of COVID-19 there. 5G came to New York City streetlamps shortly before the outbreak of COVID-19 there. COVID-19 deprives the blood of oxygen, while radio waves deprive the cells of oxygen. COVID-19, alone, is just a respiratory virus like the common cold. But together with 5G, it is deadly. To deal with COVID-19 effectively, society must first recognize the harm done to the body by radio waves. 5G is radio waves with death rates higher than 55 per 100,000.
Many of the letters to the editor speak of conspiracy theories. Perhaps if Snowden and Assange were free to speak, they would warn us that there is little justice for the truth tellers. There are few countries left that have as much freedom of speech as we have been allowed. Use it wisely and place your time and trust in those who are not sucking you dry of your resources. As they say, ‘follow the money’ and question authority.
Angelo Ortega

Johnson’s Landung

Letters
Open letter to Village of Kaslo council

We would like to thank you for passing the amended anti-racism proclamation that was presented by the Anti-Racism Collective of Kaslo and Area (ARCKA) at the Committee of the Whole meeting dated July 28, 2020. This powerful statement will demonstrate to the rest of the province, country and world that the Village of Kaslo is a safe place for everyone. It is our sincere hope that the proclamation will continue to guide all of us for generations to come.

However, we would like to express our deep concerns about the comments and reactions of Counsellor Van Mill with regards to the anti-racism proclamation during the regular council meeting dated August 11, 2020.

Counsellor Van Mill’s vote against the amended anti-racism proclamation, as well as his vote against the original anti-racism proclamation presented by ARCKA, is very upsetting. His actions and opinions send a strong message of non-support to marginalized members of our community. It is concerning that Van Mill’s unwillingness to acknowledge the racism and discrimination that exists in Kaslo and area is disappointing to say the least.

During the regular meeting, Counsellor Van Mill commented during the discussion period regarding the adoption of the amended proclamation, “We, as council, made the motion in good faith. If we are going to change our decision every time that a few residents are not in favour, we are going down a slippery slope...” We would like to address this comment. A few months ago, a group of Kaslo and area citizens formed ARCKA as a response, in part, to racism expressed on the Kaslo Community Web Facebook group. We have been meeting regularly since then and do our very best to work to end racism in a thoughtful, engaging manner in our community. We successfully organized a Black Lives Matter event on June 19, 2020 and over 220 people joined us in respectful silence and conversation. We believe that the formation of ARCKA and this event demonstrates that more than just a few residents wish to end racism in our community and that we want a strong anti-racism proclamation from the Kaslo Village council.

Counsellor Van Mill also said in his official statement that “...Some of the letters are appalling, dishonourable and indicative of being privileged and stealing.” We are assuming that he is referring to letters received in support of the amended proclamation. If some of the letters received were discriminatory in any way, we are dismayed that this happened as it does not help with the anti-racism work that is so necessary.

We hope that all councillors will see that these reactions come from a deep and sometimes justifiably anger. Our question is, does a few angry letters from Kaslo residents negate the powerful, positive message of the anti-racism proclamation presented? It seems not, as the majority of the council passed the resolution.

We believe that Counsellor Van Mill also said after his official statement, “We got to stay out of this political stuff. It’s gonna hurt us.” It is our opinion that a Village councillor’s job is to stay out of the political stuff. To stay out of the “political stuff” is not an option. We remind Counsellor Van Mill that the original anti-racism proclamation was brought forward by one of your fellow councillors. When council members chose to adopt an anti-racism proclamation, they opened the door to commentary from community members. It is the job of the council to listen to all comments and concerns in order to make informed decisions.

The ARCKA statement provided extensive materials before the Committee of the Whole meeting on July 28, 2020. Our amended anti-racism proclamation was not presented by Kevin John and others of our group were available via video for any questions that council may have had. We would have been happy to address Counsellor Van Mill’s concerns at that time. We find it discouraging that Counsellor Van Mill chose to comment during the following meeting and not ask questions at the Committee of the Whole so that we could have a real-time conversation and answer any of his questions.

In conclusion, we believe that Counsellor Van Mill’s comments regarding residents’ concerns and having to stay out of this “political stuff” are contrary to the representation of the community. To stay out of the “political stuff” is not an option. We would have been happy to address Counsellor Van Mill’s concerns at that time. We find it discouraging that Counsellor Van Mill chose to comment during the following meeting and not ask questions at the Committee of the Whole so that we could have a real-time conversation and answer any of his questions.

In conclusion, we believe that Counsellor Van Mill’s comments regarding residents’ concerns and having to stay out of this “political stuff” are contrary to the representation of the community. To stay out of the “political stuff” is not an option. We would have been happy to address Counsellor Van Mill’s concerns at that time. We find it discouraging that Counsellor Van Mill chose to comment during the following meeting and not ask questions at the Committee of the Whole so that we could have a real-time conversation and answer any of his questions. We are disappointed that Van Mill’s comments have not been addressed.

Therefore, we would like to respectfully ask Van Mill to resign from the Kaslo Village council as soon as possible. His actions and statements demonstrate his inability or unwillingness to listen to the very people that he has pledged to represent.

Susanne Chamberlin
Counsellor
Kaslo

Creating beautiful parks for Slocan Valley residents and repaid with slander?

For my past 25 years of living in this valley, I’ve used my time and skills to work toward the protection of our natural environment. I’ve thrown myself into the work of protecting our lakeshore property on the west side of Slocan Lake that was acquired and then donated to BC Parks. It is now part of Valhalla Provincial Park, a public place for the province of BC. With that came the responsibility to ensure that the park is managed well to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy it as we enjoy it.

I have worked with volunteers and colleagues in the Valhalla Foundation for Ecology, and with an amazing groundswork of support of the community, we went to buy and protect the Valhalla Mile: a mile of lakeshore property on the west side of Slocan Lake that was acquired and then donated to BC Parks. It is now part of Valhalla Provincial Park, a public place for the province of BC. With that came the responsibility to ensure that the park is managed well to ensure that future generations will be able to enjoy it as we enjoy it.

After working with others to protect the Valhalla Mile, we then worked to protect the adjacent homesite property on the east side of Slocan Lake that was purchased from the Slocan Valley Community Association. My request is that local residents and community organizations that support the Valhalla Mile will come together to protect our beautiful park along the lakeshore property.

Maxine Keesing
Counsellor
Kaslo

The Valley Voice August 27, 2020
Canada has been enormously blessed by medical guidance that has given us amongst the lowest number of Covid-19 cases in the developed world as well as to this country. Unfortunately, this makes it very convenient for people to dismiss the seriousness of the pandemic. But this leads to the fact that the protective measures are not necessary. This position also needs addressing because there are people who are allowed to travel to other countries that failed to put in place sufficient restrictions.

In the previous issue of the Valley Voice, see reference above, the Freeman of Kaslo contained many of the same elements of Covid conspiracy theory as previous letters by other writers, most recently Lisa Ross from Kaslo. Mr. Freeman’s letter was restrained and seemingly logical, yet it contained some outright false information, and omitted key context that is easily accessible to laypeople and likely credible news sources online.

For instance, Mr. Freeman ignored the fact that the U.S. has been caught in a tsunami of new infections due to premature abandonment of restrictions, and a resistance to taking any precautions that have caused the death of millions of people. It is not only a matter of fact that it is not to be done. As the writing of this letter, the U.S. reported 54,411 new cases and 1,179 deaths a day 24 hour deaths totaling 170,360, including 1,220 deaths just today.

DEATHS OVER-REPORTED OR UNDER-REPORTED?

Mr. Freeman dismisses the statistics as inaccurate, claiming that the death rate is far less than what the data shows.

“Did you know that in the USA anyone who died and had any symptoms of flu (which covers almost everything) was reported to have died of Covid-19 even when they were never tested?”

Later, if you had never tested positive and died from anything — stroke, heart attack, cancer, etc. — you were considered a death from Covid-19.

The question Freeman doesn’t answer is why doctors and hospitals would engage in a policy so irrational, dishonest, and unethical to the public.

The answer lies in two previous, successive letters from Kaslo on the same subject, from Lisa Ross. She falsely claimed that these medical reports were made so doctors and hospitals could draw on governmental funds reserved for Covid-19, so a fraudulent intent was involved.

Freeman didn’t need to explain why these misrepresentations were made, because his statements rest on rebuttal statements by Ross. And like Ross, he refers to Covid-19 as just another “flu.”

COVID-19 IS NOT THE FLU

However, in the US, the death rate from flu has been estimated at between 12,000 and 50,000 each year for the ten years 2010 to 2019. In 2019-2020 it has been estimated at 24,000-62,000 deaths up to August 31, 2020. Of these, Covid death totals in the US of 172,840 in six months. The difference is staggering.

Still, it is very misleading to reduce Covid-19 to a mere matter of how many deaths. It is a matter of how many die. Radically unlike the flu, Covid-19 can attack the heart, lungs, kidneys and brain. This can cause permanent damage to the lungs, neurological symptoms, heart attacks and strokes, as well as limb amputations due to blood clots, leaving long-term, disabling impacts.

A German cardiologist, citing a report from Germany, states that the most recent wave of patients from Covid-19 is inflicting on the heart. Although many participants of the study were asymptomatic or had mild symptoms, nearly 40% later afflicated with heart abnormalities and 60% had myocarditis from the Covid-19.

All this goes to explain why a variety of conditions in hospitals have been attributed to Covid-19, because the virus precipitated these conditions. On the other hand, many Covid deaths may have been reported as pneumonia, heart attacks and stroke. Medical authorities lean toward believing that Covid deaths have been under-reported, and they are trying to improve the system.

Freeman has endeavored to ignore the actual statistics by positing that all the Covid death rates are falsified by doctors and hospitals. This is both false and misleading claim that equates Covid-19 with the common flu, which is clearly justifies the solution he goes on to propose.

SACRIFICING THE VULNERABLE FOR HERD IMMUNITY

Herd immunity does offer some hope for the future, and vaccines are the best way to achieve it, because they are a natural way to rebuild immunity through antibodies without having to become infected with the virus. Mr. Freeman argues against it.

“Because the pandemic is really mild by populated standards, there is only one way to stop the virus in its tracks. 80% of the general population must be exposed to Covid-19. This will immunize the bulk of the population with true antibodies. It’s nature’s vaccine. Yes, there will be many deaths in the process.”

But that would be the impact on hospitals! If 80% of the population get infected to achieve herd immunity, that means over 4 million of BC’s 5.1 million residents must be infected. If done naively, which would have to be the only way, it means approximately 29 million Canadians get infected, based on a total population of 37 million.

In a sampling of Covid cases by Health Canada, 14.7% were severe enough to require hospitalization. This could mean 500,000 hospitalizations in BC and 4.5 million hospitalizations in Canada alone. To further burden the normal patient burden of these hospitals, the health care system is running on the brink of collapse. With 20% of the population getting infected would be overwhelming to our medical system.

While considering that, consider too that nearly 600 U.S. frontline health care workers (nurses, paramedics, doctors, 278 physicians) have died fighting for Covid-19, and that industry authorities blame this by virus. Amnesty International reports that over 3,000 health care works have died from testing and treating Covid-19.

And these from 78 countries out of hundreds not reporting.

Freeman allows: “we must protect the vulnerable as best we can, but for the vast majority who are otherwise healthy we need not become normal.” Smallpox, polio, and measles are examples. This must also include our health care workers. The “healthy” people are apparently the younger generations.

1. Young people are NOT invisible.

To date, according to Health Canada, approximately half of confirmed Covid cases in Canada are younger than 50 years. They make up only 15% of hospitalized cases, and this age group in Canada seldom dies from Covid. But Dr. Fauci warned against the assumption that young people are safe: “It will take months to a year or more to determine whether these patients now have a chronic illness.”

In addition, young children may develop a life-threatening inflammatory reaction weeks after a Covid infection, even though they may appear mild or no symptoms.

2. Young people can spread the virus.

At this very time BC, which started out with one of the fewer number of infections in Canada, successfully “flattened the curve,” is now having a resurgence in cases. This has come within sufficient distance of them. At the very time that BC health authorities are openly begging young people to comply with safety measures, advocates of herd immunity are not only urging them to expose themselves, but scolding those of medical experts who are urging otherwise.

WEIGHING THE DAMAGE OF COVID-19 VS. LOCKDOWNS

Freeman argues that the “many deaths” his approach would cause are justified because lockdowns cause worse damage: “...people’s lives are being destroyed and now we are destroying the economy of Canada and the entire world.” While “on the verge of decimating society and the social fabric...”

This represents a huge exaggeration in support of his aims.

As another example, he claims that lockdowns have cost the lives of “tens of thousands of people, especially children everyday.” What he doesn’t tell us is that lockdowns have caused the severe malnourished African countries and Afghanistan, in which children (and adults) are dying from hunger. Donations from other nations have not been forthcoming.

Crop failures, the virus, higher prices and thieves have worsened this tragedy. Freeman has taken this summary fact out of context to portray that lockdowns are doing so much damage they must be lifted.

And if these exaggerations aren’t bad enough, then he tells us that a Covid vaccine will never ever be successful. He has been a successful vaccine for any flu or coronavirus and there never will be.” He doesn’t get overly optimistic about the situation with flu vaccines. It is true that they must be repeated each year due to mutations, but the CDC states that they reduce the risk of a flu infection by 40 to 60%. At this stage, a similar reduction in the risk of a Covid infection would be enormously valuable.

While Mr. Freeman tells us that vaccines may be ineffectual because the virus can change very quickly, Mr. Freeman Covid 21, he fails to recognize that herd-immunity gained through mass infections would be better.

The text and tone of Freeman’s letter resembles objections that were raised to the use of government funds to find a vaccine for the viruses that produce smallpox and infantile paralysis (polio). It will never happen, the skeptics claimed, but it did and widespread scaring was eliminated through childhood vaccinations saving millions of lives.

Vaccine development proceeds at a glacial pace because safety is crucial but given time, herd immunity might be achieved by way of a vaccine, and doesn’t require sacrificing those who are older or immune compromised. WHO has warned that vaccine protection might not be achieved with the current vaccine augmented with treatments, but given time we don’t know what might be achieved.

Mr. Freeman is very clear that his aim is to restore business as usual. Here too, he ignores the widely recognized fact that the COVID-19 pandemic has placed our government’s “Economy-first” policies has also devastated the U.S. economy.

I’ve spent so much time and effort to address a couple of these letters by Lisa Ross because, in these troubled and perilous times, a great deal of confusion can rise, and these claims by Mr. Freeman and Trum’s “Economy-first” policies may have contributed to a failure of the free market, and that business should be unaffected. More than that, it urges that no steps should be imposed, even if (based on distancing), based on grounds that we are all being fooled, misled, bamboozled by authority.

Such sentiments lead to resentment and resistance, which will generate the kind of crises and devastation we’ve seen demonstrated so forcibly in the US from those fiercely protecting their freedom to risk infection and spread it to others.

Mr. Freeman portrays Covid-19 as a flu in disguise. Today’s worldwide figures show almost 23 million infected, with 260,964 new infections in the past 24 hours, and 796,253 deaths, plus 6,003 deaths in the past 24 hours. Does this seem like a mild pandemic, as he calls it? Like a touch of the flu? He urges freedom from precautions — just go on, get infected. I think it evident this is a very dangerous course of action.

I believe these communications inadvertently or inadvertently sabotage the unity that is so badly needed to effectively deal with the pandemic. I hope we can all remain safe from the viral perils, but I fully believe the vast majority of medical professionals who say that the only way to do that is to follow the measures they are recommending.
Affordable housing coming to New Denver

by Kathy Hartman
The New Denver and Area Housing Society (NDAHS) board members have been slowly but surely putting all the pieces together to build an affordable housing project with at least 10 units in New Denver.

“It takes time to do the research, planning and fundraising for a project like this,” says Jan McMurray, NDAHS board president. “We’re just at the feasibility study phase, but it feels like quite an accomplishment.”

On August 11, all the board members, their architect, Village staff, and the society’s not-for-profit development partner met together at the proposed project site.

New Denver Village council has indicated that it will consider making the Village-owned land that currently houses the recycling depot available for the project. The plan is to have a building ready for renters in late 2022.

“The society is looking at building one-, two- and three-bedroom units with some smaller studio spaces. “We want the units to look more like homes than apartments, and to blend well into the community,” McMurray said.

Preliminary architectural drawings will be completed later in the fall. The society hopes to present them to the community sometime in November.

According to their website, the society’s goal is to “provide much needed housing for individuals and families that might otherwise have to leave the village to find affordable living alternatives. In a community this small, everyone is important!”

This feasibility phase of the project is being funded by the society’s development partner, New Commons Development, and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

The housing society is also applying for a federal Sustainable Affordable Housing grant, which funds the design and construction of energy-efficient buildings that emit lower greenhouse gases. “We’d like a building that can survive climate change and be as energy efficient as possible,” says Kathy Hartman, vice-president of NDAHS.

The project’s architect, Lukas Armstrong, Cover Architecture’s principal and senior architect, was the first to build a multipurpose passive building in Nelson. He plans to design a building that can be retrofitted for more and more energy efficiency as funding allows.

The final cost of the project will run between $4 and $5 million. Locally, the Turner-Zion United Church, the New Denver and Area Housing Society, and the community have put up to $30,000 from the proceeds of the sale of the Silverton church. They’d like to see the community step up with matching funds of $10,000.

Donations from community members can be arranged through the society’s website at http://www.ndahs.org/ or contact the RDCK office and talk to Jan McMurray.

“Please help everyone in the village and surrounding areas will show their support, and encouragement for such a worthwhile facility in our community,” said NDAHS board member Keith Dewey, who created the website. “The work the society does now will support our existing community and promote sustainable growth for people who want to call New Denver their home. I am delighted to be part of this project.”
New Denver council, August 11: Rainbow crosswalk passes unanimously

by Kathy Hartman

Council unanimously supported the installation of a rainbow crosswalk on 6th Avenue near the Friday Market. The youth Centre has volunteered to paint the crosswalk, with rainbow colours as well as brown, white and black as a statement of inclusivity in the community. There are sideward replacement work planned for the northeast corner of 6th Avenue at Kildare Street.

- The Centennial Park Master Plan project still needs $10,000 to go ahead. Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) has committed $15,000, and council has been discussing other funding options. The bulk of the funds are to be used to gather public input.
- Carpenter Creek Last Wishes Society (CCLWS) representatives Kay Costley-White and Birgit Schinke presented information on the green burial process and asked for support for a green burial area in the New Denver Cemetery. The Village owns the cemetery, but, according to Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Catherine Allaway, “We don’t know where all the bodies are buried.” There are gravestones dating back to 1892 but the records of burial were removed with each successive undertaker. Allaway said the first step would be to map the area with ground-penetrating radar technology.

Council members discussed the possibility of developing green burial blocks up the treed hillside in the cemetery for green burials. They also talked about where to find funding for the radar mapping.

Rural health issues highlighted in podcast series

The Centre for Rural Health Research has released a new podcast mini-series, ‘ Citizen-Patient Engagement,’ on engaging British Columbia’s rural citizens and patients in health services planning and research.

In the first episode, Dr. Jude Kornelsen, co-director of the Centre for Rural Health Research, and Christine Carthew, manager of the Rural Evidence Review project, discussed the need for rural patient voices in health services research, and how they work to bring patient voices to health policy decision-makers in both rural and urban areas.

The second episode features April Hards, author of the Hards Method, a tool that expects parents can use to help their child develop mental wellness following childbirth. As a resident of rural BC living in the town of Golden, April took it upon herself to make sure that she would have the kind of integrated support she needed to protect her postpartum mental health. Now April is working alongside Dr. Kornelsen of the Centre for Rural Health Research to have the tool she developed made available to other expecting parents across rural BC.

The next release in the series will feature an interview with Ed Staples and Nienke Klaver of the BC Rural Health Network, a patient-run grassroots initiative including groups from 24 communities across rural BC with an aim to amplify patient voices and priorities.

‘Citizen-Patient Engagement’ follows the centre’s first podcast series, ‘Innovation From The Edges,’ which explored stories of rural community resilience and ingenuity in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

To find the podcasts, visit https:// crhr.med.ubc.ca/crhr-podcast/. You can subscribe to the podcast on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify and more.

According to CCLWS’s vision statement, “Green burial is intended for people who are mindful of the cyclical nature of life and prefer their body to be returned to earth to decompose naturally. In this way burials contribute to new life on earth and minimize the impact on the local and global environment.”

The CAO received a $31,780 grant from the Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure to create a plan for “active transportation infrastructure,” such as building a sidewalk from the traffic light to the grocery store, improving pedestrian and bike routes, and identifying any other gaps in New Denver’s active transportation areas. Once the plan is completed, the Village can apply for funds to support each project.

- Councillors voted to phase in tax increases for Denver Siding residents if the proposed boundary extension is approved. Tax rates for Denver Siding would be increased over five years until they matched the tax rates within the Village’s original boundaries. The CAO reported that phased increases are commonly used to soften the financial blow to individuals who purchased rural property and may have budgeted for the lower tax rates typical of unincorporated areas. She said that in 2019, the tax rate for residential properties outside the municipal boundaries was approximately 70% of the rate for residential properties in the Village, so applying municipal tax rates to newly incorporated properties could result in an estimated 40% increase for owners in a single year. Many households within the proposed boundary extension area should see reductions in their insurance premiums and water user fees to help offset tax increases. The CAO said the delay in collecting full taxation within the proposed extension area is not expected to cause significant financial hardship for the Village. Although there will be additional expenses for the maintenance of public lands within the proposed extension area, this should be supported by the larger tax base in the long term.
- New Denver councillors enthusiastically supported the Village of Kaslo’s resolution for a provincial strategy to expand rural community health services. The resolution will be voted on at the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) convention.
- Amy Wilson, RDCK Resource Recovery Manager, attended by phone to answer questions about the new recycling depot. “In general, it seems to be working well,” Mayor Leonard Casley said. Wilson agreed to investigate how to remove leftover garbage.

The Village is in good shape financially despite COVID-19, reported Chief Financial Officer Colin McClure, who presented the 2019 Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) and an update for the period ended June 30, 2020. The 2019 SOFI shows remuneration for council members and Village employees. The mayor received $5,332 and $4,877 in expenses in 2019. Councillors received $2,927 each, with Councillor Wagner receiving $5,392 in expenses, Councillor Gustafson $2,075, Councillor Fyke $1,992 and Councillor Moss $1,965. The total paid out in wages and salaries (excluding expenses to employees was $453,447; $91,239 of that went (excluding expenses) to employees.
Silvertown to seek quotes for Lakeside Campground development

by Moe Lyons

The Lakeside Campground project was the main topic at a virtual Silvertown Committee of the Whole meeting on August 17. Council members also discussed a dog bylaw and broadband.

With Councillors Kelly Gordon and Arlene Yofonoff absent, Councillor Tanya Gordon questioned whether the meeting should move forward. “This is a matter involving significant costs,” she said, referring to the campground project. “I think there should be more of us here.”

Mayor Jason Clarke said that while it was true that implementation of their decision would involve significant costs, getting quotes to do the work would not have significant financial impact. He said there had been sufficient notice of the meeting and things needed to move forward. The meeting continued.

Council members agreed with Councillor Hillary Elliott’s recommendation to issue a Request for Quotes (RFQ), using New Denver’s RFQ for the Centennial Park Master Plan as a template. The next item of discussion was whether Silvertown should pursue a dog bylaw. Councillor T. Gordon was concerned that many citizens were complaining about dogs being off-leash and running free in the village. Mayor Clarke queried whether council supports bylaws on principle, particularly since they have no bylaw officer and thus no way of enforcing them.

Councillor T. Gordon pointed out that Silvertown is not the only community with these issues and asked if it might be possible to have a bylaw officer shared among Silvertown, New Denver and Skocum. Councillor Leah Main said in general she supported the concept of a shared bylaw officer but would want to clarify what bylaws this person would be

Public engagement planned for Kootenay Lake shoreline guidelines

by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The RDCK board has given staff the green light to continue a process to improve environmental conservation practices along the Kootenay Lake shoreline.

Planner Corey Scott gave a presentation to the RDCK’s Rural Affairs Committee on August 19 on the Kootenay Lake Development Permit Area Review. The Regional District is trying to come up with clear and consistent guidelines for shoreline development and protection that will apply all along the lake.

That won’t be an easy process, staff say. Different areas have different attitudes towards lakeshore development. The RDCK is trying to promote conservation practices in areas where this may not have always been a priority. As well, people don’t really understand how fragile riparian areas are, and how important they are to lake health.

“It leads to sentiments like, ‘well, it’s a big lake, my property is just a drop in the bucket, so why does it matter?’” said Corey Scott, a planner with the RDCK. “But the development of individual properties accumulates over time in some cases to degrade the natural environment.”

Improving understanding and buy-in of best development practices will help minimize human impacts along the shoreline of Kootenay Lake, create a consistent plan for riparian area conservation, and encourage the public to proactively protect the lake foreshore.

A public engagement is being planned for September/ October, where shared values, problems, opportunities and challenges will be discussed in workshops and other meetings. From there staff will draw up nights and on non-working days, “but it would be best if people avoided this area altogether for now,” Visser said. The work is expected to be done by September 2.

“To reassure all you environmentally concerned folks, all necessary permits are in place from the BC environment ministry for this work,” Visser said. “We are restoring the Bonanza Marsh wetland to its original extent and increasing ecological productivity by creating additional ponds, pools and forested-wetland habitat.”

New mats for the climbing wall

by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

The new mats will cost $19,045.95. They will be paid for from Community Works Fund monies allocated to Area K.

![rail trail temporarily closed in Hills](image)

Signs have been posted.

Then they hit a final hurdle. “Recently we were made aware the gym mats the school had planned on using are not certified as safety mats for a community climbing wall or public use,” writes NSS Principal Peter Gajda in an application for RDCK Community Works funds. “And we would have to purchase designated certified safety mats just for climbing walls.”

The new mats will cost $19,045.95. They will be paid for from Community Works Fund monies allocated to Area K.

New shipment of fence posts and fencing

![store at any one time.](image)

Car & truck batteries

![auto parts](image)

River floatees still available!

![mats](image)

Major Sponsors: CFNLKS • CBT • ACE Building Supplies

Donors:

Yogi Hincks and Pat Wilson (kootenayyogafarmer@gmail.com)

When we were advised by the BC Seniors Association that all branches would be closed during the COVID outbreak until further notice, our Kasis Branch #81 Executive decided to turn this down time into an opportunity.

We had recently been dealing with a mouse infestation in our building and felt that while our hall was empty the timing was perfect to do a major cleaning. As we purged years of debris that has been accumulated in our cupboards and storage area, we discovered the reasons for the rodent problem.

The solution to our problem was to address the many gaps in the building and to seal them off. We then applied for the funding that will enable us to purchase and install new flooring and baseboards.

When we asked our friend Yogi for help, he didn’t hesitate and took multiple trips to the dump and he and Charles moved and stored all our furniture and appliances. Our installer, BodhiContracting/Shawn McConnell then went to complete the floor and baseboard installation without having to move items around.

The next obvious task was to paint the kitchen walls, and thanks to Yvonne Grondin, the walls were washed, and the many nail holes were filled, and two coats of white paint were applied.

During this project we would not have been able to meet our budget had it not been for the generosity of our wonderful team of volunteers who did the dirty work of cleaning, sorting, hauling, garbage disposal and painting. Thank you to our dedicated volunteers: Delia Arnold, Charles De Pape, Louise De Pape, Yvonne Grondin, Richard Hayter, Yogi Hincks, Val Koenig, Mabel Russell and Linda Van Mill.

The Valley Voice August 27, 2020
Kowalczyk, Krystyna

Krystyna was born on April 19th, 1932 in Chorzow city, Poland and passed away with her son by her side on August 7th, 2020 in Vancouver, BC.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband Ben. Krystyna is survived by her two sons Chris and Thomas, and her grandchildren Bart, Julianna, Nathan and Nadia.

Krystyna was a wonderful and gentle mother devoted to her family. She was passionate about gardening and classical music and she loved nature.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on August 17th, 2020 at Catholic Church of Our Lady of Lourdes at Nakusp, 96-5th Avenue NW, Nakusp, BC.

Gwen Ziprick and Zachary Schmidt of Valley Funeral Home have been entrusted with the arrangements.

“We will love and miss you forever”
Bears and people agree – our ripening fruits are delicious!

Submitted

Residential fruit trees are one of the top attractants that bring bears into our communities and can lead to human-wildlife conflict. Over the past month, WildSafeBC and our Wildlife Alert Reporting Program (WARP) have received numerous reports of black bears accessing residential fruit trees in people’s back yards in Silverton, New Denver, Nakusp and Kaslo. Currently, the main trees being accessed are mountain ash, cherries and apples. This is understandably a concerning activity, given that children and pets are also using these same spaces.

Our top recommendations for avoiding conflict with bears if you have residential fruit trees are to: (1) pick fruit before they ripen and allow the fruit to ripen indoors; (2) consider electric fencing to protect your investment; (3) check for local fruit gleaning organizations and consider volunteering; (4) prune trees to keep them manageable; and (5) replace fruit trees with non-fruit bearing alternatives if you no longer want to or are able to manage the fruit.

For more information on electric fencing options, contact your local WildSafeBC Coordinator (Cora for New Denver – Nakusp @ 778-987-3652 or newdenver@wildsafebc.com; Brian for Kaslo @ 905-977-8288 or kaslo@wildsafebc.com). Our next electric fencing workshop will be in Burton on the evening of September 29 (email Cora for registration). If you would like to explore fruit gleaning options (i.e., assistance with picking fruit off of trees), then contact either Harvest Share at 250-354-8120 if you are in the New Denver and Silverton region, the Root and Branch Society at 250-265-3458 or rootandbranchharvest@gmail.com if you are in the Kaslo region.

It is not just our residential fruit trees that are in season! There is a bounty of natural berries such as thimbleberries, black huckleberries and blueberries throughout much of British Columbia, which is something to consider when heading out to enjoy trails either running, hiking or biking. Berries are highly prized by both grizzly and black bears as an important source of food as they start to put on weight for winter denning. When on trails, use caution in areas where there are berry bushes, make noise using your voice and ensure your dog is under control. Bring bear spray and know how to use it by checking out https://wildsafebc.com/learn/bear-spray/

Please report wildlife in conflict to the Conservation Officer Service 24/7 at 1-877-952-7277. Residents can also report sightings of bear, cougar, coyote or wolf in an urban area. These reports are uploaded daily to WildSafeBC’s Wildlife Alert Reporting Program (WARP), available at www.wildsafebc.com/warp. This program allows the public to see what wildlife has been reported in their neighbourhood and be alerted of new sightings. Thank you for helping keep wildlife wild and communities safe!

Makeover at Monica Meadows

Submitted

One of the better known jewels for hikers in the Kootenay Lake area is Monica Meadows. It’s only a two-hour drive from Kaslo, the road can generally be handled by any regular vehicle and it only takes an hour to hike as far as the first meadows, where one can start exploring.

Over a period of four days early in August, a crew of volunteers from the Kaslo Outdoor Recreation and Trails Society and four members of the Youth Trail Crew established an actual campground near the meadows. This was done to limit human impact to one area as much as possible and to reduce random camping impact on the alpine meadows. One wet and muddy section on the trail was also bridged by new timbers. As part of the new campground, four tent pads were constructed as well as a metal fire ring, easy access to good water, a sturdy food cache and a relocated outhouse to replace the derelict structure that has been in use for many years.

The Youth Trail Crew and a couple of hours of helicopter time was supplied by BC Recreation Sites and Trails with funding from Columbia Basin Trust. Four of the ‘senior members’ of the Trailblazers made up the rest of the work party. It is hoped that these changes will enhance any longer stays at the Meadows.

For more information, call 1-800-803-5787 (toll-free), email selfmgmt@uvic.ca or visit us at www.selfmanagementbc.ca

For further information on fruit trees in people’s backyards, harvest opportunities and how to submit reports of bears in your neighbourhood, please visit www.wildsafebc.com/warp.

WildSafeBC’s Wildlife Alert Reporting Program (WARP) is open to residents for avoiding conflict with bears and ensuring bears don’t become a problem. Reports are uploaded daily to www.wildsafebc.com/warp. This program allows the public to see what wildlife has been reported in their neighbourhood and be alerted of new sightings.

Thank you for helping keep wildlife wild and communities safe!
Slocan Valley Legacy Fund delivers COVID-19 supports

The Slocan Valley Legacy Society is delighted to announce that Slocan Valley community organizations have just received $22,000 to support rural Canadians during the COVID-19 crisis.

Alex Berland, Chair of the SVLS, explains, “The Slocan Valley Legacy Society was honoured to be the conduit for $17,500 from the federal government’s Emergency Community Support Fund. When we realized the pressing need, our Legacy Society topped up the government funds with $4,500 from our endowment fund.”

Four groups received grants to serve north and south Valley residents dealing with increased isolation and other issues resulting from the pandemic.

Hills Recreation Society, partnering with the New Denver Youth Network, will offer programs by skilled facilitators who have previously worked with north Valley youth. The workshops are intended to help youth understand and possibly share their knowledge with their peers on topics such as healthy relationships, self-exploration and mental health as well as issues such as LGBTQ, addiction, disability, and homelessness.

Kutenai Art Therapy Institute will provide mental health services via its Virtual Art Therapy Clinic, an online space where clients are matched with art therapists. This is a simple and effective way to get connected with mental health supports quickly.

SQx Danza will present its Active Inclusion Program using contemporary dance and targeted discussions to disrupt systemic racism, discrimination, intolerance, and hate. The performance workshop will be presented in south Valley schools or online, if need be.

WE Graham Community Service Society has designed a community mental health project that will provide support to vulnerable youth and adults. Mental health workers will be available in Slocan every week, offering individual assessments, supports and services for mental and physical health and safety. Referrals can be formal or casual and self-referrals will also be accepted.

Ottawa channelled the emergency funds through community foundations because of their strong community connections, understanding of local issues and ability to meet tight deadlines. The Slocan Valley Legacy Fund has been supporting Valley organizations for nine years.

A community legacy fund is a fund that gives forever. It collects interest from those funds to award grants to local organizations. The Slocan Valley Legacy Society’s granting committee reviews and evaluates local grant applications. Awards are approved by the legacy society’s Board of Trustees.

Alex Berland explained that the Slocan Valley Legacy Society uses its funds to enrich the community we are thrilled he found. Thank you to all who were involved in his search & the incredible community we are so grateful to have contributed from our endowment fund. Valley residents have been generous to the Slocan Valley Legacy Fund, both in donations and support.”

During the pandemic the Slocan Valley Legacy Society hasn’t been able to reach out to the community with its regular events. Berland asks the community to remember the organization during its annual Giving Tuesday campaign on December 1, 2020.”

The campaign builds the Slocan Valley Legacy Fund. Berland invites the community to learn more at www.slocanvalleylegacy.com

MUSHLOVE • WINLOVE

Sean Christopher Dowdeswell
Dec. 13, 1984 – Aug. 5, 2020

With heavy hearts we mourn Sean’s unexpected exit in Winlaw, BC. Born in Calgary, he followed his passion of art. (ACAD) Sean loved travel, festivals, & fun.

Sadly survived by mom Katrina, dad Roger, sister Shae-Lyn, uncles Bill & Bruce, grandparents Chuck & Linda, cousins Nys, Julie, Charles & Rhys.

Thank you to all who were involved in his search & the incredible community we are thrilled he found. Sean’s laughter, big heart, wonder, & hugs were contagious. Please carry it forward for him.
Nakusp council, August 10: Downtown facelift gets phase two nod
by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Beautifying downtown, part two

The second phase of the downtown revitalization project is set to begin early next month.

Council approved spending just under $250,000 for the project at its August 10 meeting.

The work will see both sides of Broadway renovated, from 5th to 6th Ave. That includes the Lodge and Save-On Foods. However, the design will be slightly altered from phase one, and will see no corner bulbs at the intersection of Broadway and 6th Avenue, no irrigation, trees, or mid-block plantings. Features will include pavers, concrete sidewalks and curbs, streetlights, four benches and two combination waste and recycle receptacles.

Work should be completed by mid-October.

The project is being paid for by the community-owned NACFOR Legacy Fund, leaving about $190,000 in the fund.

‘Maybe’ to more cannabis stores

Nakusp Village Council won’t change the zoning bylaw, which allows for just one cannabis store in town — but it didn’t completely close the door for more cannabis retailers.

Council went along with the staff recommendation to leave the current bylaw as is, and require anyone interested in opening a cannabis retail store to apply to the Village for a zoning bylaw amendment for a site-specific designation.

The move to take another look at the existing bylaw came after two local businesses said they would like to see changes to allow them to open outlets as well.

Nakusp’s first private cannabis store is set to open before the end of the month.

Pandemic finances

A report from the Village’s director of finance gives a glimpse on how the COVID-19 pandemic has hit two of the municipality’s sources of revenue.

The municipal campground saw a decrease of nearly $15,000 in revenue in June of this year. The Village-owned hot springs saw a decrease of a whopping $94,000 in June of this year, compared to last, and a $34,000 drop in July compared to the same time last year.

While revenues have returned to near normal for both public enterprises, it’s still a drop of nearly $130,000 over the two months — money that often comes in handy at budget time to help offset property taxes.

COVID-19 has also slowed tax revenue streams. About $204,000 in current taxes are outstanding, compared to about $137,000 at the same time last year. Approximately one-third of the outstanding taxes are owed by commercial and industrial taxpayers, who don’t have to pay until October this year thanks to pandemic-related changes to provincial tax law. Usually they’re due in July.

Cannabis stores

Maybe to more cannabis stores? Resident Donnette Olsen thinks so. While she’s owned cats herself in the past, she says in recent years they’ve made her life miserable, doing their business in her yard, killing songbirds on her property, yowling for mates all night, and doing other cat things.

“I realize that cat management is not an easy chore for an animal control officer. They are devious, slippery, sneaky and uncooperative at best,” she wrote to council. “But it is also a source of income and may be a deterrent to those who lose one cat and automatically go get one or two or six more. It would also perhaps inspire those pet owners who do not or refuse to, spay or neuter their pets.” Council received the letter as information.

Wastewater project

Council budgeted $100,000 in 2020 for construction of a detention pond and pump at the wastewater treatment plant in order to comply with provincial environment regulations. An engineering analysis has since set the price of the job at $150,000. Council approved the revised cost, and the extra $50,000 will come from the capital reserve. Administration pointed out that still leaves enough in the reserve for upcoming wastewater improvements.

Bike station

Bicyclists finding themselves with a flat tire downtown will be able to do a quick repair job. Council approved a Nakusp and Area Bike Society request to install a bike repair stand and pump by the skate and BMX park. NABS will install the stand, and funding for it is coming from the Columbia Basin Trust.

Remembering Hiroshima

The Nakusp Rotary Club wants to plant a gingko tree sapling, a descendant of a tree that survived Hiroshima, in the park across from the public beach in spring 2022.

The Heiwa project is a Rotary initiative to promote peace and nuclear disarmament.

Cat bylaw?

Should Nakusp have a bylaw regulating cats? Resident Donnette Olsen thinks so. While she’s owned cats herself in the past, she says in recent years they’ve made her life miserable, doing their business in her yard, killing songbirds on her property, yowling for mates all night, and doing other cat things.

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It wasn’t all bad news from the finance department. Director of Finance Mark Tennant noted the breakwater project was completed at a cost of $306,500 which came in under the $320,000 budgeted amount. As well, most departments — administration, parks and rec, public works, etc., were all coming in under spending targets.

The Valley Voice August 27, 2020
Celebrating its 20th anniversary, the HGG volunteer board took on the challenge of responsibly promoting local culture during a pandemic. The “small gallery that could” attributes its longevity to the community’s unwavering support and appreciation of artistic diversity.

Wrapping up its 2020 season, the gallery presents Mixed New Works by local artists Louise Ducharme and Boukje Elzinga. Their exhibit runs September 1-6. The show combines an array of drawings and paintings focused on diverse subject matter. An equally diverse variety of mediums are used: oil, acrylic, watercolour, encaustics, cold wax, collage papers and textiles.

Louise and Boukje, who both studied at Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design, are avid participants in Life Drawing sessions with other community artists and have taught art classes in the region for many years. They are pleased to share this exhibition and look forward to your visit.

The Hidden Garden Gallery is situated at 112 Sloan Avenue in New Denver. It will be open from 10 am to 3 pm, Tuesday to Sunday. As with all shows this season, viewing of the work will follow COVID-19 guidelines.

VISITOR INFORMATION

Hidden Garden Gallery's 2020 season finale

The Paddy Shack

250-843-3255  The Paddy Shack, located on Highway 6, is open daily from 11 am - 8 pm. Monday-Friday.
Choose a homemade burger, hotdog, wrap, donut, or something else off the menu. Pair that with a cold beer or cup of coffee.

Shon's Chicken

shons.info@shons.com  (250) 265-3382 410 Broadway Ave. 410 Broadway Ave. 410 Broadway Ave.

Shon's Fish & Chips

shons.info@shons.com  (250) 265-3382 410 Broadway Ave. 410 Broadway Ave. 410 Broadway Ave.

Shon's Steak & Fish

shons.info@shons.com  (250) 265-3382 410 Broadway Ave. 410 Broadway Ave. 410 Broadway Ave.

Shon's Coffee

shon's info@shons.com  (250) 265-3382 410 Broadway Ave. 410 Broadway Ave. 410 Broadway Ave.

Shon's Fish & Chips

shons.info@shons.com  (250) 265-3382 410 Broadway Ave. 410 Broadway Ave. 410 Broadway Ave.

Shon's Coffee

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Meet the School District 10 trustee candidates

by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Residents of the Central Attendance Zone of School District 10 – which includes Nakusp, Summit Lake, and up Highway 31 to Galena and Trout Lake, go to the polls on September 12 to choose a new trustee for School District 10 Arrow Lakes. There’s an advance poll on September 2.

The Valley Voice contacted each trustee candidate to offer them the chance to introduce themselves to the voting public. We asked each five questions. Here are their responses.

Tell us a little about yourself.

Aidan McLaren-Caux: I would appreciate your support.

Steve Gascon: I am a husband of one amazing wife, father of three great elementary age kids, a pastor at Arrow Lakes Alliance church and proud to be part of the village of Nakusp.

Carlee Hughes: I am a husband and I am raising our three children in Nakusp, currently in SD 10. I have coordinated the swim program on Recreation Commission #4 for 10 years, am secretary on the Nakusp & Area Youth Society board, on the NSS PAC, and serve Hot Lunch weekly at NSS and NES. Professionally, I serve our community as a Woman’s Outreach worker with ASLCS and our province on the board of The Ending Violence Association of BC.

Judy Struck: My 19 years’ experience would be an asset during these challenging times ahead. I am a good problem solver and am willing to put in the time to make this transition as easy as possible for everyone. No one really knows what lies ahead.

One issue the board is currently dealing with is building a 96-space daycare facility in Nakusp Elementary. Do you support this project? Why or why not?

Steve Gascon: This is a big question, bigger than a simple yes or no answer. Overall, I think the project is a great opportunity for our community and will be an incredible positive for the school, but there are still some hurdles to clear in order to make this facility a great success. The current board has done great work in this area and I am excited to help with those remaining hurdles.

Carlee Hughes: I know there is a need for childcare in our community. I hope to support this project but to my understanding, there are still many unanswered questions. I would need more information and would only support it after seeing a plan and budget that would not put the school district in a financially vulnerable position, inadvertently impacting the children in SD 10.

Aidan McLaren-Caux: Finding childcare can be a challenge for parents of young children and, indeed, can be preclusive of growth in both school enrolment and the community at large. Consequently, in principle I support the creation of a daycare at NES, but there are many details that need to be sorted out, including a sustainable funding model and a management structure separate from the current NES administration.

Judy Struck: Although I never required daycare as I was a stay-at-home mom, I certainly understand the need for one. My son used the present day care facility. Nakusp needs a place that is open when parents need it the most (before and after school). I know there are pros and cons to this endeavour, so I plan to research them thoroughly before making a decision.

How do you think the school board can best navigate through the ongoing pandemic crisis?

Steve Gascon: I think the school board needs to provide strong leadership and support for our administration and teachers, without getting paralyzed by the present, but having an eye to the future. We will need to face the year’s challenges and changes of the pandemic and do what we can to free our teachers to do what they do best – teach our kids!

Carlee Hughes: I have been completely amazed and grateful for the way that our educators and administration have handled it, especially when speaking with parents from other communities/provinces. I am uniquely experienced in the challenges and opportunities that provide for our region during this pandemic as my husband and I had the privilege to homeschool our children in their early years. We are seeing a fundamental review of how education supports students while greater emphasis is placed on utilizing the greatest classroom – the outdoors.

Aidan McLaren-Caux: The most effective strategy to come through this pandemic is to trust the medical experts to give appropriate guidance. As a community, we need to support our very capable administrators and staff to implement that action plan as it pertains to our district. And, of course: “Be Kind. Be Calm. Be Safe.”

Judy Struck: Nothing is going to be the same. Much of the direction will come from the ministry. Many new policies will have to be developed. During my time as a trustee, we completely overhauled the financial manual. It was time-consuming work. With no other job or commitments, I have the time to do the work again if required. Consultation, coordination, and cooperation with all partner groups is key.

Are there any other issues you want to raise?

Steve Gascon: I am not afraid to ask the hard questions and pursue excellence. Together we can make this great district even better!

Carlee Hughes: I would be honoured to represent SD 10. I am so proud of our district. I will continue to advocate for increased opportunities for all children. I would like to see the band program reinstated, and more opportunities for enrichment, arts and music. My dream is to see a proper kitchen built at NES, including a space for children to eat, allowing an expanded breakfast and lunch program.

Aidan McLaren-Caux: I want to thank SD 10 and the people of the Central Attendance Zone for their interest in this byelection. I hope I can count on your support on September 12, and don’t forget to vote!

Judy Struck: I would appreciate your support.

Steve Gascon: Why do you want to be a trustee?

Steve Gascon: This community needs a steady hand and skillful administration to return that investment. We are We are a third generation Nakuspian, have had the honour and privilege to serve with other dedicated residents and consistently brought trust and integrity to all aspects of our community.

Carlee Hughes: my 19 years as a trustee was very rewarding. I am a woman. I love living in Nakusp and with honesty, integrity, patience and love, I intend to stay. My previous time as a trustee was very rewarding. I am a scrapbooker, so good memories are important and I have many.

Aidan McLaren-Caux: Our school district has many years that I have dedicated to community service, I have demonstrated the right demeanour and capacity to help the school board navigate the challenges it currently faces. Board work is about building consensus and working together in a constructive, professional manner to overcome obstacles and achieve results; both my professional career in management and volunteer experience in community over the years has instilled that in me as a guiding principle.

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Council intends to build six to 10 affordable housing units for low-income families in the village, one of the most economically depressed in the region. The final number of units will be known when the design stage is complete.

The project will take advantage of opportunities identified in the OCP by encouraging multi-family housing that caters to low-income residents in areas where conflicts with other uses will be minimized,” a report from council states. The site also affords easy access to water, electrical, and other services.

It will also meet a need for affordable housing in a community where the number of rental units is declining.

Council has been working on the project for more than three years. But it hit the snag at a public hearing to discuss the bylaw changes on August 10.

About a dozen people showed up to the meeting, and 10 voiced their concerns. Among the issues raised were the increase in traffic the project would cause, how problem tenants would be managed, and the impact on property values. There was concern about drugs and upkeep of the properties. According to the meeting minutes, many asked if the project could be located elsewhere.

“The negative response at the public hearing came as a bit of a shock to council,” said CAO Michelle Gordon. “There has been much support within the community for the proposed housing project so far, in response to the information the Village has provided through the community, once they’ve completed. The public will have the opportunity to comment and ask questions.

That’s going to push back construction plans too, says Gordon. Council was hoping to get into a September funding uptake. That won’t happen now until January. So no shovels will break ground on the complex this year.

Visitors not behaving

Summertime, and the living is easy — as long as you’re not trying to keep visitors and locals from hurting birch and Douglas maple. The seeds of desirable native grasses were also scattered as was cottonwood fluff containing seeds. A long, wet winter and a cool wet spring helped the plants take hold and establish roots.

Thanks to funding from Environment Canada’s Eco Action Community Funding Program and the Columbia Basin Trust, CKISS will be organizing another planting event at Snk’mip Marsh Sanctuary for this fall, likely in late September or early October. Anyone interested in lending a hand should contact Laurie at: Ifr Frankcom at ckiss.ca to get on the list to be contacted once a date and details are finalized.

Hypodermic needles were also reportedly found at the beach, causing a concern for public safety. Staff will plan to work with police, the people who manage the campground and beach washroom contracts, public works, ANKORS, a public service agency that deals with drug use, to “strategize how to better manage future long weekends when we can anticipate an influx of visitors.”

While the influx of tourists has meant record revenues for the community-owned campground, it’s also caused complaints of out-of-towners camping for free illegally in all sorts of nooks and crannies in the area. Staff are working on a draft ‘No Camping in Public Places’ bylaw, which will better enable RCMP to get involved to manage the situation.

Swimming around and jumping off the boat dock and breakwater has also become an issue, mainly due to the absence of the swim dock. “Signage is posted at the boat dock advising ‘no swimming,’ yet the signs seem to go unread,” the CAO reports.

Staff are working on more prominent signage. The swim dock will be put back into the water once the boom logs have been placed. The Village has been warned by its insurer, however, that the dock is a major liability for the Village, with no lifeguard or ability to control deadheads or other hazards.

The police have also agreed to step up patrols of the village, especially during the upcoming September long weekend.

Council is now planning for next year. Council directed staff to draft a policy outlining annual beach cleanup, inspection, deadlines and procedure, put up more prominent signage, work with RCMP on protocols for more effective control of illegal camping and inappropriate behaviour, and plan how those costs can be addressed in next year’s budget.
Kaslo council, August 11: Van Mill dissects on anti-racism amendment

by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative

• Kaslo Village councillors rescinded the anti-racism proclamation it passed in mid July, and adopted a new resolution with proclamation it passed in mid July, rescinding the anti-racism Initiative by John Boivin, Local Journalism Kaslo council, August 11: Van Mill dissects on anti-racism "...but not without one member in question.

Racism Collective of Kaslo & Area and adopted a new resolution with proclamation it passed in mid July, rescinding the anti-racism Initiative by John Boivin, Local Journalism Kaslo council, August 11: Van Mill dissects on anti-racism "...but not without one member in question.

Henry Van Mill voted against changing the proclamation so it specifically referred to people of colour and Indigenous people — a phrase he convinced council to remove from the original proclamation at the July 14 meeting. After the July council meeting, council was criticized by anti-racism activists in the community, prompting councillors to review the issue at their last Committee of the Whole meeting. There, they voted to consider the new proclamation, which refers to “Black, Indigenous, and all people who experience racism in Kaslo.” Van Mill was having no part of it. “We as council made the motion in good faith,” he said in explaining his opposition. “If we are going to change our decisions every time a few residents are not in favour, we are going down a slippery slope.”

He added that some of the letters council had received on the issue were “appalling, discriminatory, racist... and accusations of being privileged and stealing I will not accept. “We gotta stay out of this stuff,” he said.

The rest of the council voted in favour of rescinding the motion, and adopting the new proclamation suggested by anti-racism activists in Kaslo.

• At the urging of the Health Select Committee, Mayor Suzan Hewat will be sending a letter to the Minister of Health and Kaslo’s MLA, Michelle Mungall, requesting that 10 of the 75 beds announced for the Nelson area be diverted to fulfill a commitment made long ago to Kaslo.

• Council passed a motion to apply for funding for the Lower Kaslo Sewer Expansion Project Phase 2 under the Invest Canada Infrastructure Program for rural and northern communities – a fund that will backstop rural communities for 100% of the cost of eligible projects.

Council also approved $12,000 to pay TRUE Consulting to get the Village’s plan to a ‘shovel-ready’ stage for the application. Staff will apply for an $8,500 grant to go towards the consultant’s work.

Right now only about a third of the village is connected to the sewer system, and the Liquid Waste Management Plan shows that Lower Kaslo could be connected with minimal improvements to the treatment plant. The application is due in October.

• Council approved closing Fourth Street overnight on August 28 to allow the painting of a Pride Rainbow Crosswalk between Front Street and Penny Lane. The closure will be between 3 pm and 10 am. The Kaslo and Up the Lake Youth Network made the request. They also asked the Village to fly the Pride rainbow flag for two weeks at City Hall. Council approved the plan, with one dissenting voice.

Councillor Henry Van Mill voted against both ideas. “With today’s political field – if I can be nice here – I think we are opening up a can of worms if we allow painting on the sidewalk. We don’t have enough streets to get painted on...” he said. “And I am a flag person. I would love to have it. If they gave me a flag, I would be happy to hang it on my pole but I don’t think it is appropriate to hang it at City Hall. A flag for anybody other than government and ourselves.”

• Council received a pitch in July from the BC Rural Centre asking it support a project called ‘Kaslo 2.0’ that included an online ‘Health Hub.’ The Hub – a website, discussion board and interactive community – would bring greater health care services to the community, proponents said. It would also serve as a keystone for Kaslo to become the ‘communici’ culture’ capital of BC, they hoped.

Council sent the idea off to the Kaslo and Area Health Select Committee for comment. They lobbed it back to council, saying they “lack the capacity” to take on the ‘Health Hub’ pilot project. It’s not certain where the initiative goes next.

• Council approved committing $35,000 ($24,000 of that as staff-time) as part of an application for $60,000 from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities-controlled fund for implementing a new asset management program. Asset management allows municipal governments to plan their water, sewer, and other infrastructure replacement needs for years to come, thus avoiding nasty surprises for taxpayers.

Carol Koenig named Kaslo Citizen of the Year

by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

A very active community volunteer – Carol Koenig – was named Kaslo’s 2020 Citizen of the Year at the Village’s 127th birthday celebration on Friday, August 14. Mayor Suzan Hewat noted Carol Koenig’s many years of contribution to seniors’ groups, the Legion, Red Cross, the hospital auxiliary thrift shop, and many other community organizations and activities. She said Koenig had been a pillar of support for those groups, contributing time, baking items for donation, participating in quilting bees, and even sewing matching aprons to build volunteer team spirit.

“Thank you for everything you do for our community,” said Hewat. “You are a very worthy recipient.”

“For once I’m speechless, I had no idea this was going to happen,” said a pleasantly shocked Koenig, who said she came to the event to find out who was going to be named to the honour. “Thank you all so very much... I love being part of everything Mayor Hewat mentioned.”

The Kaslo and District Community Forest Society invites our members and community to follow operations on our social media sites while social distancing measures are in place: https://kaslocommunityforest.org/ https://www.facebook.com/kaslocommunityforest

Find links provided to join virtual board meetings everyday third Wednesday of the month at 7 pm.

Business opportunity

The Kaslo Golf Club Restaurant is available for lease for the 2021 season.

For further details regarding lease requirements, please view: kaslogolf.com/lease-opportunity

Contact: kaslogolfclub@gmail.com

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Contact: kaslogolfclub@gmail.com
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NAKUSP & AREA

Anderson’s Automotive Services
Open Mon. 8 am - 5 pm (temporarily – all resume regular hours to 9 pm when restrictions are lifted.) Practicing physical distancing, enhanced cleaning 250-265-3313

Bon Marche Dollar Dollar
Open 9 am - 5 pm Monday to Saturday. Contactless debit/credit. Cleaning protocols in place, customers reminded to social distance. Facebook: Bon Marche Dollar Dollar 250-265-3644

Chumley’s Restaurant & Three Lions Pub
Open at 11:00 Monday to Saturday. Kitchen closes at 9:00 pm. Closed Sunday. 250-265-3371 or 250-265-4944 for latest orders.

Crescent Bay Construction Ltd.
Open Mon-Sat. 8 am to 9 pm. Nitrile gloves must be put on (available beside the door) when entering and discarded (beside the door) when leaving. Phone orders and pick-up available. E-transfer payment available at cresbay@telus.net • 250-265-3747

Kal Tire Nakusp
Open Mon Sat 8 am to 9 pm. Call or book online for appointment or tire purchases. Emergency and commercial work done as required. Please ensure one customer in showroom at a time. Payment accepted by Debit or Credit. NO CASH please. Sanitization precautions being taken in showroom and all customer vehicles. Visit our Facebook page for full details. 250-265-4155; watch kaltn.com

Kim’s Kustoms
Open regular hours, 8:30 am-5:30 pm 250-265-4012

Leland Hotel
OR-Sales: 11 am-11 pm. If door is locked, call 250-265-3314. Restaurant: Open 4:30 pm for takeout. Closed Tuesdays. 250-265-3314

Marvin’s Small Motor Repairs
Mon-Fri 9 am-6 pm; Sat & Sun 9 am-5 pm. Open regular hours 250-265-4911

NACFOR
The NACFOR office is now open to the public for regular business hours between 8 am and 9 pm. Monday to Friday, with COVID-19 safety precautions in place. 250-265-5665, info@nakupcommunityforest.com

Nakusp Computers
Open Mon-Fri, 10:30 am - 3:30 pm; 250-265-0129; nakuspc@westlink.net; facebook.com/nakuspcomputers

Nakusp Farmers’ Market
Saturday 9 am - noon, starting May 16. Locally raised foods and vegetable starter plants, Crowd limit and handwashing stations. Bring your reusable tote bags. Money handling will be separate from vendors. Vendors of exposed products will wear masks and gloves; produce will be shielded. Food harvesting done safely.

Nakusp Glass
Open Drop in, call or email to make an appointment. 250-265-3292, nakusglass@lakes.net

Nakusp Taxi
Pick-up and delivery of anything from licensed food, beverage and retail stores. 250-265-2822

Nakusp Tircraft
Open 250-265-4438, https://tircraft.com/tircraft-nakusp/Facebook: @tircraftnakusp

Royal LePage Selkirk Realty
Open Mon-Fri 9:30 am - 4:30 pm with COVID-19 safety precautions in place. Our agents are more than happy to help. 250-265-3035; Nakusp@royalepagina.ca

Shon’s Bike - Ski - Stay
Mon-Sat 9 am - 5 pm. Please do not leave bike repair to the rear entrance (alley) of the shop. No appointments are necessary for bike tune-ups. Our coffee shop and lounge area is currently closed. All 2019 bikes are on sale. For all inquiries, call us at (250) 265-2332, email: info@shons.ca, website: www.shons.ca, Facebook: Shon’s Bike - Ski - Stay. Studio Connexion Art Gallery
Open by appointment or by chance Tues-Sat 11 am-4 pm 250-265-8888; 203 FIR Ave NW, Nakusp

Will Hewat Repairs LTD.
Open 250-265-4338, Facebook: @hewatrepairs

KASLO & AREA

ACE Building Centre-Kaslo
Open 7:30-5:30 Mon-Sat. Open Sundays and most stat holidays 10:22 250-335-7629, kaslo.building@telus.net, www.acebuildingcentre.com

Angry Hen Brewing Company
Open for patio and inside seating with off-sales for beer to go, 7 days a week! Phone to order or to arrange a ‘beer-a-while’ delivery for a friend. 250-335-7448, lounge@angryhenbrewing.com, Facebook, Instagram.

Cornucopia
Now open Mon-Sat. 9:30 - 5:30, closed Sunday 250-335-2864; com;kaslo@kaslohotel.com; Facebook: CornucopiaKaslo

Eric’s Meats
Open Tues-Sat 9:30 am-5 pm 250-335-2436

JB’s Pub & Restaurant
Open Thurs-Sun, 11 am-9 pm. Hours will extend in the summer. Takeout available – 353-7716; 353-7717

Jones Boys Boats
We are open for business! www.jonesboysonboats.com 250-335-2500 info@jonesboysonboats.com https://www.facebook.com/jonesboysonboats

Kaslo Hotel
Open Pub 11 am daily. Kitchen open 11 am-3:30 pm and pm-5 pm. Front deck 8 am- pm for check-in and reservations. Strict sanitizing protocols in place. 353-7714; kaslohotel.com; Facebook.

Kaslo Husky
Open Mon-Fri 6 am-8 pm; Sat & Sun 8 am-8 pm. Physical distancing measures in effect. 353-2205

Kaslo Community Pharmacy
Open Monday-Friday 9:30 am-5:30 pm. We look forward to serving you! Welcome to shop by visiting during business hours or: By phone: 250-335-2244; By fax: 250-335-2336. By email: kaslo pharmacist@gmail.com For prescription refills online visit: kaslopharmacy.myrefill.ca 403 Front Street, PO Box 550, Kaslo V0G 1M0 kaslo pharmacist@kaslohotel.com; phone 250-335-2244, fax 250-335-2336

Kul Nijjar, REALTOR(R) Fair Realty Ltd.
Open 250-353-5101, 3019 Slocan Valley East Road, Slocan Park 250-353-7742

Sunnyside Natural
Open Mon-Sat, 9 am-6 pm. Physical distancing measures in effect. Food takeout Phone orders and pick-up available. 353-9697

Village of Kaslo
Open 10 am-5 pm, Mon-Fri. We’re open by phone or email. admin.kaslo.ca, kaslo.ca, facebook.com/KasloC1 Woodbury Resort
Boat rentals, Camping, Fishing! Angler Incentive Program Depot Open 353-7717, 353-7714; www.wildsCanada.com, 866-568-2826; woodbury.net/ka

SLOCAN VALLEY

New Denver Foods
Open every day, 8 am-6 pm. You are welcome to come and shop. Keep your distance as much as you can with others. We have hand sanitizer at the door as well as at the tills. If you are self isolating or not wanting to come to the store, we can do your shopping for you and have it delivered to you or you can pick it up. You can call the store at 250-598-2270 or email shop@newmarketfoods.ca to place your orders.

Raven’s Nest
Now open every Monday through Saturday. 10:30 am-4:30 pm (from 10 am on Friday), and on Sunday, 11 am-3 pm. We’ve still got cool clothes, great books, and more – hope to see you soon!

Valley Voice
Open 1-833-501-1700; valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca; www.valleyvoice.ca

Wilds of Canada Cycle
Open regular hours, 8 am - 7 pm daily Bottle Depot open Tues-Sat 9-5, closed holidays Taking precautions for everyone’s health and safety 250-335-2245

Village of Slocan – Fitness Centre, Library, Campground, Playgrounds
Village Office open by appointment. Other facilities temporarily closed. Campground open June 15 to BC residents, self-contained units only. 250-335-2277, info@villagelscoan.ca; www.slocanco.com

Slocan Village Market
Open. Limiting number of customers in the store. Providing gloves and masks to shoppers. We are accepting orders by phone for pick-up for those who prefer not to enter the store. We are also offering delivery services on a weekly basis. 250-355-2211, sumfit@telus.net

WINLAW

Emery Herbals Botanical Dispensary, Healing Suites and Teaching Centre
The Botanical Dispensary Open Thurs and Fri, 12-4. Limit of one client in the shop at a time. Order requests can be sent to orders@emeryherbal.com or by phoning 250-226-7744 for pick-up using our safe pick-up guidelines. We offer a $10 local shop rate and all local orders over $75 are shipped free. We shop once weekly. Our online shop is https://emeryherbals.com/online-aphothecary/ + Colleen Emery, RHT (CIHABC) is conducting all client consultation online or via the phone. Priority for acute cases, new clients are welcome. + All classes have moved online at this time.

Gaia Tree Whole Foods
New COVID hours: Mon-Sat, 10 am-5 pm (closed Sun) Email to order for pick-up gaitreewholefoods@gmail.com 250-226-7235

Kootenay Country Craft Distillery
Open for online/telephone sales. Tasting room closed. Hand sanitizer available lora@kootncountry.ca 250-355-2702

Mama Sita’s
Open for take-and-delivery. Outdoor seating, 9 am-7 pm. Phone or come in. 250-226-7070.

Winlaw Brew Op
Open by appointment only 250-226-7325, winlawbrew@telus.net

SLOCAN PARK

StillPoint Pottery
250-226-8876, 3019 Slocan Valley East Road, Slocan Park You are welcome to visit us Tues-Sat, 10 am-4 pm in a safe, hygienic environment. For updates check Facebook, Instagram or our web page stillpointpottery.ca

Your business could be listed here for only $10 + GST

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wonderful community connections. If you need us. We have absolutely loved our life as we have modified our space to welcome you when you come and support your local farmers, artisans and food vendors. New hours: vendors will be ready to serve you from 9:30 am to 12 pm. See you there.

SLOCAN SATURDAY MARKET featuring local farmers, food and artisans every Saturday, 10 am-2 pm June, July and August. Expo Park, Village of Slocan. New vendors welcome. Call Christina 250-355-2635.

PRE-REGISTER by calling the office at 250-226-7130 or by email at info@svhousing.ca. We will meet outside with social distancing. Confirmation of your pre-registration at 1:45, Meeting at 2:00. Bring your own water.

ESTATE SALE
RETAILLAGE GARAGE SALE Sept.
8, Kenneth Smith’s possessions. Tools, boats, generators, saws, etc.

FOR RENT

ONE BDR COZY CABIN. Red Mountain Rd, Silverton. Ideal for one person/couple. Wood stove/electric heat. N.S. No Pets. References required. $580 (includes internet) + Utilities. Available NOW. Contact: Colleen 250-633-0993 or colleen@myredmountain.com

FOR SALE
AFFORDABLE STEEL SHIPPING CONTAINERS 20 ft. and 40 ft. sizes. Kootenay Containers Sales & Rentals, Castlegar. 250-365-3014.

WATKINS PRODUCTS, HAND CRAFTS - Bertha Williams, 811 - 217 Zacks Rd. 250-265-9080.

SLOCAN V ALLEY SENIORS’ HOUSING
Guesthouse. The gallery is open 10am - 3pm, 112 Slocan Ave, behind Sweet Dreams. The Hidden Garden Gallery is located at 112 Slocan Ave, behind Sweet Dreams Guesthouse. The gallery is open 10am - 3pm, Tuesday - Sunday. For more information please visit www.hiddengardengallery.ca.


ASSOCIATION
250-353-2282.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
THINKING OF STARTING
ENTREPRENEUR?
If so, call Community Board of Directors has decided to rent the Passmore Hall out again, with COVID protocols in place. Our Hall, on Passmore Old Road, near the Slocan River, is a beautiful hall with lots of windows, 3 outside doors in the main area, 3 bathrooms and a large, roomy kitchen with own door to the outside. Lots of light and fresh air in the Hall. We have ample parking as well. Please call Brenda Curry at 250-228-7661 to book the Hall. You will need to present your COVID plan when you book.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
WHAT AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY to live your dream and own your own business. Become the proud owner of the Valley Voice and a quaint building on the main street of New Denver. The newspaper business can provide a modest living for you and your family, and wonderful community connections. If you are so inclined, we would love to show the ropes and stay as long or as little as you need. We have absolutely loved our life as newspaper people! Give us a call at 4-835-9170 for a chat, or email valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca. Yours, Dan & Jan.

ARE YOU AN ASPIRING ENTREPRENEUR? Our Community Futures want to learn about the free Business Plan workshop open to anyone! And if you’re eligible, you may also qualify for the Self-Employment program where you will receive ongoing business training and coaching and usually financial support while you start your business. To learn more, call 265-3674 ext. 201 or email nakusp@futures.bc.ca.

COMING EVENTS
THE FRIDAY MARKET is happening every Friday this season in the heart of New Denver. It will look a little different this year, as we have modified our space to welcome you, and hope to offer a wider range of products and services. Call Dan 250-358-2566 for more info or email dan@canadiangardensupply.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS
you when you come and support your local farmers, artisans and food vendors. New hours: vendors will be ready to serve you from 9:30 am to 12 pm. See you there.

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Turner Zion United Church of God

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Support the Valley Voice Deadline: September 4, 2020
School District 10 delays decision on providing child care

by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

Nervous trustees with School District 10 Arrow Lakes have put plans on hold to build a child care facility at Nakusp Elementary School for a month or so.

On Monday, August 10 to defer a decision to approve construction of a 96-space child care centre at Nakusp Elementary School, District 10 Arrow Lakes have put plans on hold to build a child care facility at Nakusp Elementary School for a month or so.

Trustees voted on Monday, August 10 to defer a decision to approve construction of a 96-space child care centre at Nakusp Elementary School for a month or so.

The board was expecting to hear before the meeting if their Nakusp child care centre proposal, which has been in the works since last winter, was to receive provincial funding. The project involves tearing down two aging portables and building an addition onto Nakusp Elementary, and is expected to cost somewhere around $2 million. Most of that money would come from a provincial program to expand available day care spaces.

But provincial officials called earlier in the day to say they needed more time to go through the applications due to the pandemic, and they wouldn’t hear back from Victoria until September, SD 10 Superintendent Terry Tay told the board.

“Essentially the situation is they are short on staff to deal with the volume of applications that have come in, and getting their committee together from various ministries and divisions is taking them longer,” she said. “…There are quite a number of applications so there is stiff competition for limited numbers of dollars, and they’ll be able to do that before the end of September.”

During the hour-long meeting, Simon and Dixon raised numerous points about the project – questioning projections about the number of users and need, financial projections, the loss of portables, the impact of a change of government, long-term funding in the light of the pandemic’s effect on the economy, the loss of field space for play by the new construction, and even whether the project was in the students’ interests.

The board finally voted to put off a final decision to go ahead until they hear from the Province. They also voted to defer a decision to discuss whether the board should become a licenced child care provider, or contract out the service, until the project gets the financial go-ahead.
by John Boivin, Local Journalism Initiative reporter

**Building better**

The RDCK is entering into a new contribution agreement with Fortis BC to fund building projects. The agreement will help the RDCK make new home construction more energy efficient. The Built Better RDCK program will provide funding for builders and building officials within the RDCK. The training will take place this Fall, and Fortis BC is providing $28,000 to fund the work. No RDCK money is going into the project. If it proves a success, the energy company plans to roll out the program to other municipalities in its service area.

Builders need the training in order to be able to meet new provincial energy requirements for new home construction. Step Code One comes into effect on December 31 of this year; new homes have to meet Step Code Three requirements by December 2022.

**REEP-ing the benefits of energy saving**

A program to help homeowners have more energy-efficient homes is proving popular with its target audience.

A report from the RDCK’s sustainability planner says the two-year pilot project started in April 2019 with the goal of reducing home energy consumption by March. The project had reached half its goal. COVID-19 forced the program to stop in May, but the momentum has continued. Since July 13, ‘SaveNow’ has provided RDCK residents, both renters and homeowners, online access to REEP and free energy-saving products.

After only three weeks of being online, the program had registered 458 homes and businesses from across the regional district with an average value on each order at $90 due to COVID-19 containment plans before they can use the facilities. As for the costs, there’s no hard date set yet, but the general manager of community services says they’re shooting for an October reopening.

**Food fight**

RDCK Board Chair and food security advocate Aimee Watson has written to the BC Farmer’s Market Association to complain about a policy that only allows vendors who grow or make what they are selling to attend farmer’s markets.

“This is an urban-based policy that creates barriers to access fresh, BC-bred food products not available to our rural and remote communities,” she says, noting that several vendors were recently barred from the Kaslo Saturday market for that reason.

“I am receiving many concerns from families who rely on them and the associated market coupons to keep their families healthy and full of nutrients all year long,” she added.

The policy is directly contributing to food insecurity for our rural and remote communities through this policy and respectfully request an immediate reversal of the decision.

**Emergency slowdown due to COVID**

Calls to emergency responders has dropped significantly between 2019 and 2020, the RDCK’s fire chief says.

Nora Hannon told the board it’s largely due to an order from the provincial health officer to reduce the types of First Responder events fire departments could attend to “very high acuity calls.”

That said the overall number of calls drop from 734 at this time last year, to 589 in 2020. The biggest drop is in the number of first responder complaints for the RDCK department responded to.

The intent of the order is to help preserve personal protective equipment, and reduce responder exposure to COVID-19. The reduction in travel during the early months of the pandemic also impacted the level of complaints for vehicle incidents, Hannon said, though this has seen a marked increase with the reopening of the province, and return of tourism.

**Housing report**

Directors got a first look at a housing study underway by the RDCK.

Funded by the Union of BC Municipalities, the $150,000 study is looking at the existing housing supply in the RDCK, the kinds of housing, its condition, the ratio of renters vs homeowner, the amount and quality of subsidized and supported housing, affordability issues (comparing income to housing costs across the area) and housing gaps and needs.

The study meets a provincial mandate that local governments have housing needs studies and update them every five years.

The final version of the study will be delivered at the end of September; the project also plans an online open house to discuss its findings next month.

The board received the 750-page report as information, and will discuss it at its next meeting.

**Trustworthy nominees**

The RDCK is going to have a new representative on the Columbia Basin Trust board, as retired director Lanny Binks’ term ends on December 31. Directors nominated four candidates – Board Chair and Area D Director Aimee Watson, City of Nelson Councillor and RDCK Alternate Director Janice Morrison, Kaslo Mayor Susan Hewat, and Area A Director Tanya Wall. The names will go to the CBT board for a final vote. The winning representative’s term will end December 31, 2023.

**Soil and gravel bylaw**

The RDCK’s Rural Affairs Committee voted to not repeal the bylaw governing soil and gravel extraction, nor did they bring forward new recommendations on how to improve the 23-year-old bylaw.

**Highway Project**

The board voted to provide a letter of support for the Columbia River Treaty Heritage Project, a touring route through the Columbia Basin that will acknowledge the losses suffered from the treaty and celebrate the Basin’s assets.

**Galena Trail accessibility**

Staff will assess the overall accessibility of the Galena Trail between New Denver and Rosedale Parklands and report back with options to improve accessibility in accordance with accessible trail design best practices.

**Rec centres reopening**

The RDCK is slowly and carefully reopening facilities. The district’s three big arenas (Nelson, Castlegar, Creston) will reopen in September. User groups will have to come up with acceptable COVID-19 containment plans before they can use the facilities. As for the costs, there’s no hard date set yet, but the general manager of community services says they’re shooting for an October reopening.

**Calls to emergency responders**

The trouble for the RDCK is that soil mining comes under provincial law, and they have no power to regulate the details of a mine’s operations.

After many months discussing the subject, holding a workshop for directors to better understand the issues, and experience with using other measures to deal with complaints caused by mining, staff suggested the whole bylaw be scrapped. They did say administrators could review the existing bylaw again (and study how other municipalities have dealt with the issue), but estimated doing that could cost anywhere from $30-50,000 in staff time and contractors.

But that didn’t hold well with Area D Director Andy Davidoff, who called on the staff to go back, sharpen their pencils, and let directors know what a more accurate cost and scope of the work would be. “They’ll do that, and come back in November with new recommendations on how to improve the 23-year-old bylaw.

Consider the RDCK’s financial situation, this budget, and the board’s priorities. And I would say that’s a pretty big one,” Davidoff said.

The board voted to provide a letter of support for the Columbia River Treaty Heritage Project, a touring route through the Columbia Basin that will acknowledge the losses suffered from the treaty and celebrate the Basin’s assets.

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The board voted to provide a letter of support for the Columbia River Treaty Heritage Project, a touring route through the Columbia Basin that will acknowledge the losses suffered from the treaty and celebrate the Basin’s assets.
COVID-19 Information and Updates: For current information regarding the 2020-2021 School Year and to review the SD10 K-12 September Restart Plan, please visit the SD10 website COVID-19 Updates and Resources Page and the SD10 Recent News Posts. https://sd10.k12.ca.us/covid-19-updates-and-resources/
https://sd10.k12.ca.us/recent-news/

*September 10, 2020 – all district schools will be in session 5 days only*

KINDERCARE STUDENTS: Each school will be providing information on transition plans to full-day kindergarten. Contact your school for details.

REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS
School calendars are available on the school district website: http://sd10.k12.ca.us/patients-students-school-calendars

EDGEOODW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Brent Cook, Vice Principal
Ph: 250-265-3638, press 5
Hours: 8:33-12:15 & 12:55-3:11

BURETTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Brent Cook, Vice Principal
Ph: 250-265-3638, press 6
Hours: 8:30-12:07 & 1:00-3:21

NAKESOON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Mike Hibbert, Principal
Ph: 250-265-3638, press 4
Hours: 8:58-12:15 & 1:05-2:58

NAKESOON SECONDARY SCHOOL
Peter Gamble, Principal
Ph: 250-265-3638, press 2
Hours: 8:55-11:48 & 12:20-3:29

LUCERME SECONDARY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Nicholas Gravel, Principal Ph: 250-265-3638, press 3
Hours: Grades K-9: 8:30-12:00 & 1:00-3:10
Grades 10-12: 8:50-12:15 & 12:50-3:10

ARLWATI LAKES DISTRICT LEARNING SCHOOL
Nicholas Gravel, Principal Ph: 250-265-3638, press 3
ALDL Nako (Location TBC): Wednesday 12:00-3:00 / Friday 9:00-3:00
ALDL New Denver (Lucerne School): Tuesday and Thursday 3:15-4:30

*Note: Break times for all schools may be subject to change to accommodate staggered breaks for learning groups.

BUS ROUTES & TIMES
If you are a new bus student or family and you have not already done so, please contact your school directly before September 8, 2020 to register for bus transportation. Bus routes are subject to change upon completion of student enrollment and may be revised as required during the school year. Schedules are regularly updated on the SD10 Website at http://sd10.k12.ca.us/patients-students/bus-schedules/. For updated information on COVID-19 transportation protocols please visit the SD10 Website at http://sd10.k12.ca.us/covid-19-updates-and-resources/

STUDENTS RIDING SCHOOL BUSES MUST BE AT THEIR STOP 5 MINUTES PRIOR TO POSTED BUS ARRIVAL TIMES.

Where bus service is not available, transportation assistance may be provided to eligible parents who apply for transportation assistance application. Applications will be completed each year.

HILLS / NEW DENTON / SILVERTON ROUTE

**AM RUN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:17</td>
<td>Jr. Yard 4:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:42</td>
<td>Leave YRB 3:14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:42</td>
<td>Purdy Road 6:44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:51</td>
<td>Bus Turn Around 7:39</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:09</td>
<td>Baldwin Rd. 7:23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:10</td>
<td>4564 Hwy 7:34</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:11</td>
<td>Hills Upper Rd. 5:44</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:13</td>
<td>Larkin Rd. 5:46</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:14</td>
<td>Bonanza Rd. 5:44</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:21</td>
<td>Roscety Loop and 3rd street 4:44</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:22</td>
<td>Rd. 5:40</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:28</td>
<td>S. Silverton 4:14</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:35</td>
<td>6th St. Silverton 4:27</td>
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<td>8:37</td>
<td>Silverton Bigway 4:14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45</td>
<td>LEES 4:24</td>
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**FAUQUIER/BURTON/NAKESON ROUTE**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:39</td>
<td>Pre-trip 2:55</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:04</td>
<td>Leave Base 3:01</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45</td>
<td>8383 Bridges Road 3:02</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:55</td>
<td>Ash Road Transfer 3:03</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:57</td>
<td>Tukaduk Campground 3:23</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:01</td>
<td>Arrow Park Rd. 3:24</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:10</td>
<td>Revelstoke Road 3:28</td>
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<td>8:11</td>
<td>Silver Queen Road 3:33</td>
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<td>8:20</td>
<td>Johnston Rd. 3:35</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:25</td>
<td>Arrowhead Elementary School 3:37</td>
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<td>8:25</td>
<td>Arrowhead Elementary School 3:21</td>
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<td>NSS 4:00</td>
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<td>LEES 4:45</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:58</td>
<td>BASF 4:45</td>
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**BOX LAKE/ GLENBANK/ HWY 23 ROUTE**

**AM RUN**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Step</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:15</td>
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<td>Leave Base 3:10</td>
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<td>8:03</td>
<td>Summit Hill Turnaround 3:12</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:59</td>
<td>360 North East Rd. 3:50</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00</td>
<td>Post Trip</td>
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