New report on Glacier/Howser project submitted to EAO by AXOR

by Jon McMurray

The controversial Glacier/Howser independent power project is back in the news now that the proponent, AXOR’s Purcell Green Power, has submitted part of the additional information required by the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO).

The EAO suspended its review of the project proposal about one year ago, until AXOR could provide more information on fish and fish habitat in both Glacier and Howser Creeks. Simon Gourdeau of AXOR explained in an interview that the company had recently submitted the required additional information for Howser Creek only. The report on Glacier Creek is “ongoing” and is yet to be submitted.

“We handed in the Howser report because we knew it would be faster, and it will be useful to get the feedback on it. The feedback we get from the EAO on the Howser report will help us improve the report on Glacier,” said Gourdeau.

He explained that over the past year, the company had looked at all the comments from the agencies and the public, and had been working on re-designing the project to address the comments. “We’ve already made small changes here and there to the Howser Creek component – we changed some of the layout of the intake and we shortened the length of the tunnel, for example. The re-design of the Glacier Creek component is not complete so it hasn’t been submitted yet,” he said.

When asked what the company was hoping for in terms of a timeline for the project, Gourdeau said there had been so many delays that they were going “step by step” at this point. “We’re waiting for comments on the Howser report, and this should help us to key in to what should be completed on Glacier. Then we hope the EAO will lift the suspension and carry on with the review,” he said.

EAO Project Assessment Director Kathy Eichenberger explained the process from here in an interview. She said that if the EAO determines that the information in the report submitted by AXOR is adequate, based on advice from the working group, the report will be posted on the EAO website. If the information is deemed inadequate, the report will not be made public, and AXOR can go back and revise the report based on comments provided by the EAO. There is no limit to the number of revisions AXOR can make.

Eichenberger said she expects the working group to provide a recommendation on whether or not the information is adequate by the end of September.

The 180-day environmental assessment review period for the Glacier/Howser project was underway for 92 days before it was suspended in September 2009. There are 88 days left in the timeline for the application review. Eichenberger explained that the timeline may resume once the EAO has determined that the supplementary information is adequate. “However, the proponent, in their update letter of July 15, advised that they are considering design changes to the proposed project. The EAO would want to be advised of what plans the proponent may have for changes to the proposed project before resuming the environmental assessment,” she said.

Eichenberger said it was undetermined at this time if there will be another public consultation period. “It depends on whether there is substantial new information to present to the public,” she said. “Since the proponent has indicated considering significant design changes, this would factor into the decision on public consultation and open houses, but we have no information from the proponent as to if and when they would provide us with any information on changes to the proposed project design.”

Nelson-Creston MLA Michelle Mungall has written to the EAO about AXOR’s newly submitted information, with three requests: to hold a public meeting in Nelson, in addition to other public meetings; to allow the maximum number of days (75) for public consultation; to provide an independently written executive summary of the proposal in language that is understandable to the public. Eichenberger said a response to Mungall’s letter could be expected in the next two weeks or so.

The Glacier/Howser project application was first submitted to the EAO in May 2008. It was returned to the proponent at the end of June because there was missing hydrological and fisheries data. The application was re-submitted in May 2009. The environmental assessment review began June 2, 2009 and was suspended on September 2, 2009 because the EAO wanted more data on fish and fish habitat.

Water blessing ceremony held on Glacier Creek

by Jon McMurray

On August 24, 60 people gathered from many nations and all walks of life to attend a water blessing ceremony at Rainbow’s End Ranch on Glacier Creek called ‘Protecting the Sacred.’ The event was organized by the proprietors of the ranch, Mick and Gabriela Grabowsky, and their friend Eloise Charet of New Denver. They were inspired to hold the ceremony after attending an international indigenous meeting in Lillooet this past spring. There, water they brought with them from Glacier Creek and New Denver was blessed by several indigenous spiritual leaders.

‘The Protecting the Sacred’ ceremony was held for Glacier Creek, to honour the sacred life-giving essence of the water that connects all of us,” said Charet in an interview after the event.

The blessed water brought back from Lillooet was given to the children at the Rainbow’s End Ranch ceremony to pour into the creek. Charet said that the children were called forward first, and “They spoke of their concern for fresh water in their future and they are worried.”

The adults then took their turns to speak. Charet reports that a man from Mexico told of the pollution of water in his country by large-scale farming and big industry. People from Alberta talked about streams and lakes being taken away in the interests of oil extraction. Gabriela Grabowsky shared her concerns about business proposals that will affect Glacier Creek – AXOR’s Glacier/Howser independent power project and Jumbo Glacier Resort.

“It was wonderful to see such a mix of people taking the time to come and honour this glacier-fed creek as a sacred source, to kneel by it with gratitude or drum their songs,” said Charet. “The more prayers we say for the creek, the stronger it becomes. Water is like spirituality – if you hold it to yourself, it evaporates, but if you let it run free, it goes into river, lake, ocean and will live forever.”
The Ramadan expansion is the final project in the Columbia Basin Accord, and the agreement calls for all the projects to be done in the public interest by the Crown corporations set up for BC’s private- or-nothing ideology rules in this province, so instead we’re handing majority control of this public asset over into private hands,” he said. Horgan believes bringing in BC Hydro as a partner would make a lot more sense, making the people of BC the majority shareholders.

The Waneta Expansion is a proposal to construct a second powerhouse adjacent to Teck’s existing Waneta Dam on the Pend d’Oreille River, near Trail. The Province acquired expansion rights to the Waneta Dam in 1994 from Teck Cominco. The rights were transferred to Columbia Power Corporation in 1995 and are now held by Waneta Expansion Power Corporation, a subsidiary of Columbia Power and Columbia Basin Trust.

John Horgan, New Democrat energy critic,echoes Conroy’s views. “The Waneta Expansion is the final step in the Waneta expansion is the final project in the Columbia Basin Accord, and the agreement calls for all the projects to be done in the public interest by the Crown corporations set up for BC’s private- or-nothing ideology rules in this province, so instead we’re handing majority control of this public asset over into private hands,” he said. Horgan believes bringing in BC Hydro as a partner would make a lot more sense, making the people of BC the majority shareholders.

The Phase 1 Report looks at how power and flood control could be affected after 2024 if the treaty continues and if it is terminated. If the treaty continues, the Canadian Entitlement would be retained, although the value of the Entitlement is expected to decline. The US would continue to receive power and flood control benefits from the treaty operation.

One of the provisions of the treaty is that as of September 16, 2024, Canadian flood control obligations automatically change from a pre-determined annual operation to a ‘Called Upon’ operation. The Phase 1 Report highlights a need to clarify this ‘Called Upon’ flood control, as well as the need for study on things other than power and flood control, such as climate change, fisheries, wildlife habitat, recreation and First Nations interests.

A Notice of Intent has been posted on BC Bid giving interested parties the opportunity to express their interest in investing in the project if they can provide similar or improved economic benefits over those of Fortis. SNC-Lavalin remains the preferred proponent for the construction of the project. Interested companies can review the Notice of Intent online through BC Bid (www.bcbid.gov.bc.ca) and have until 4:30 pm (PST) on September 13 to submit their proposals.

Columbia River Treaty Review Phase 1 Report released

The Phase 1 Report studies were done by BC Hydro, in cooperation with the Bonneville Power Administration and the Army Corps of Engineers in the US, which are the entities that are responsible for implementing the treaty. Many studies and substantial public and inter-governmental consultations are expected to take place between now and 2014.

Winlaw grow-op busted

Sukup and Slocan Lake RCMP took down a large outdoor marijuana grow operation on Crown land near McKean Road in Winlaw on August 23. Three adult male suspects were arrested on scene attending to the plants.

A total of 657 plants were removed and a significant amount of cash was seized from the individuals.

The suspects, a father and two sons, reside in the local area – Slocan Park, Slocan City and Winlaw. They were held in custody at the Castlegar detachment and then released later that day after signing documents promising they would appear in provincial court in Nelson on November 22.

Their names cannot be released, as no charges have been laid.

Columbia Power Corporation (CPC) and Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) have reached an agreement in principle with Fortis to further the advancement of the Waneta Expansion Project.

“The project brings approximately 400 jobs and $200 million in wages and benefits to the Kootenay region,” said Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources Minister Bill Bennett. “This agreement between Columbia Power Corporation and the Waneta Expansion Project is the result of a tremendous amount of hard work and cooperation from all the parties involved.”

The proposed structure with Fortis would be a partnership, the equity interests of which will be owned 49 percent by CPC and CBT and 51 percent by Fortis. In addition, FortisBC

Inc. (a subsidiary of Fortis), commits to purchasing capacity available from the project.

While NDP MLA Katrine Conroy has long been a supporter of the expansion project as a means of generating local jobs and economy, she feels the partnership structure leaves plenty to be desired.

“Instead of figuring out a way to make sure the Columbia Basin Trust receives maximum benefit that it can bring to the people of the Kootenays, Minister Bennett deliberately handed majority control of the project and its profits to a private corporation,” said Conroy.

The Waneta Expansion is a proposal to construct a second powerhouse at 10:00 a.m. unless Delinquent Taxes are sooner paid:

New Denver Municipal Office on Monday, September 27, 2010 shall be offered for “Sale by Public Auction” at the Village of

VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER

LOT FOR SALE BY PUBLIC TENDER

The Corporation of the Village of New Denver offers for sale by public tender, subject to conditions, the following described lot:

Lot 3, Block G, Plan 4177, District Lot 549, Kootenay Land District – 508 6th Avenue

1470 Hwy 3B, Fruitvale DL#5996 barretts@telus.net

BARRETT HONDA/YAMAHA

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• We service ALL makes & models!

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The Valley Voice September 8, 2010

VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER

TAX SALE

The following described property and improvements thereon shall be offered for “Sale by Public Auction” at the Village of New Denver Municipal Office on Monday, September 27, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. unless Delinquent Taxes are sooner paid:

Lots 21-23, Block 46, Plan 557, District Lot 549, Kootenay Land District – 508 6th Avenue

210 Granby Drive, Edgewood $239,000
Immaculate one owner home on ½ acre lot. 3 bedrooms, 1 ½ baths, fully finished basement. Newer roof, 200 amp service, garage & workshop. 1 block to school & short walk to ski lake.
Call Darline Scott to view

604 Dority Road, Edgewood $185,000
Riverfront property only minutes from Arrow Lake. Very private 4.09 acres on the edge of town. Electricity on the site.
MLS# K192254

N.Needles Road, Edgewood $225,000
77 of an acre with semi-lake front. Hydro owns foreshore, you get to use it. Access off Hwy 6 before ferry. Golf course just across the river. Bring your boat, lawnchair & camping supplies
Call Darline Scott to view

20 different dry and wet media
10 Media with Drawing of Bradley Maye
An exploration with drawing of Bradley Maye
Cost of class: $55 for ALFA
Guides members for 6 weeks 2 hour lessons
Saturdays 2 - 4 pm - Sept 18 - October 30
Registration/Inquiries via email: alfaguild@telus.net
Carole Gordon, CMC

LOT FOR SALE BY PUBLIC TENDER

The Corporation of the Village of New Denver offers for sale by public tender, subject to conditions, the following described lot:

Lot 3, Block G, Plan 4177, District Lot 549, Kootenay Land District, PID-016-086-552. Dimension: 50 ft x 130.50 ft. Zoned: R1 “Single and Two Family Residential”. Located at 307 Kildare Street, New Denver, B.C. Basic upset price which will be considered is $75,000.00. Highest tender or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Sealed tenders must include a refundable deposit in the form of a certified cheque for 10% of the total bid submitted. The balance to be paid into the Trust account of the Village’s solicitor, prior to delivery of the deed to the purchaser. Sealed tenders clearly marked “Lot 3, Block G Tender” must be received by the Village Office, 115 Slocan Avenue, P.O. Box 40, New Denver, B.C., V0G 1S0 prior to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 22, 2010.

The completion date of the conveyance shall be the 30th day after the acceptance of any offer by the Village of New Denver. All conveyance documents will be prepared by the Village’s solicitor at the cost of the purchaser or the conveyance documents prepared by anyone else must be acceptable to the Village’s solicitor.

The Village reserves the right to reject any offer.

Carol Gordon, CMC
Administrator

Winlaw grow-op busted

Sukup and Slocan Lake RCMP took down a large outdoor marijuana grow operation on Crown land near McKean Road in Winlaw on August 23. Three adult male suspects were arrested on scene attending to the plants.

A total of 657 plants were removed and a significant amount of cash was seized from the individuals.

The suspects, a father and two sons, reside in the local area – Slocan Park, Slocan City and Winlaw. They were held in custody at the Castlegar detachment and then released later that day after signing documents promising they would appear in provincial court in Nelson on November 22.

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The Perry Ridge Water Users Association has written to Minister of Environment Barry Penner through lawyer David Aaron to warn the minister that vital safety concerns have not been adequately addressed by BC Timber Sales, or by the Ministry of Forests and Range.

“My client takes the position that this issue falls within the responsibilities of the Ministry of Environment,” writes Aaron, “particularly since they involve the risk of landslide and water degradation.”

Aaron’s letter to AL Skakun of BCITS has also been copied to Michael De Jong, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General. The association notes that the Province’s site-specific assessments for Perry Ridge pre-date the publication of the Van Tuyl slide report (the event that caused the death of Bernie Eigenthaler, said to be a watershed moment), which states Skakun’s “assertion of all of the relevant contributing factors to (the Van Tuyl landslides) have been considered in the Perry Ridge studies.” If BCITS is relying on Perry Ridge studies, the association would like to see them.

“We have not had a response to date and yet BCITS is again neglecting to address our concerns and putting the area up for bid,” says PWUA President Marilyn Shadrack.

However, the Ministry of Forests continues to assert that its geoscientist’s opinion is “consistent with other licensed professionals, including the geoscientist who has peer reviewed both the Van Tuyl Landslide Report and the Perry Ridge Terrain Stability Assessment. The information presented in the Van Tuyl Landslide Report would not change any of the observations, interpretations or risk analysis presented in the Perry Ridge Terrain Stability Assessment.”

Both the PRWUA and hydrologist Allen Isaacson have stated that the Equivalent Clear Cut Area model, a model issued co-created, is obsolete and cannot reasonably be applied to the terrain on Perry Ridge. In an assessment done by Isaacson for PRWUA in 1998, he stated that, “The ECA model will not work on any terrain; the model simply does not look at the effect of roads on the runoff, intercepted water, or sedimentation; (and) does not look at the increased risk of mass failures on unstable terrain – the model assumes that the terrain is stable everywhere.”

For these reasons the ECA model was abandoned by most hydrologists in the mid-1980s and replaced with a sediment model with a water-yield component. While it adds to not having used the ECA model to predict any downslope or downstream effects, the ministry considers ECA to be “one of several factors considered in the professional assessments conducted for the current timber sale at Perry Ridge.”

The PRWUA maintains that without proper rain and snow precipitation and groundwater data, the Province is proceeding without adequate information, potentially placing residents at risk of landslides and water degradation. This too is cited by Isaacson as an inherent flaw in the ECA model, which “does not predict runoff from rain or snow events that trigger mass failures and flooding in this area.”

Skakun has written that BCITS is aware of both stable and unstable areas on Perry Ridge, yet road-building is still planned. Residents are concerned that road-building will result in increased water flow, heightening the risk of “mass failure” due to the steepness of the streams on the ridge.

Once again the Ministry of Forests believes they have taken all the necessary data into consideration. “The key factors identified in the Van Tuyl Landslide Report (redirected runoff, downslope sensitivity, extent of test and burned areas and failure types and mechanisms) were also criteria considered in the Perry Ridge Terrain Stability Assessment.” Terrain Stability Assessments are supposed to take into account regional precipitation and climate factors as basic parameters. “Soil drainage and thickness, slope steepness, relevant catchment features, possibility of buried or excavated trails, and dimensions, construction methods and drainage structures in road plans are all key considerations when assessing the likelihood of interfering, concentrating or redirecting runoff.”

The closing date on the last BC Timber Sales call for bids was August 18, but no bids were received. Burgoon says one local contractor believes that the reason was that it was too high a cost. Logging costs on Perry Ridge potentially outweigh the profits, so essentially the operation would be subsidized by tax dollars. This is why Burgoon says a cost-benefit analysis must be done to determine the likelihood of viability of Perry Ridge.
Loves the New Denver museum

As a frequent visitor to the lovely Slocan Valley, I just wanted to tell you how impressed I was with the wonderful exhibit at the Silvery Slocan Museum of the senior citizens of New Denver. Both the photographs and their life history were done just excellently, and there was a great deal of taste. As a professor emeritus and former chairman of the history department at the University of New Mexico, I am much interested in bringing about a similar exhibit in various parts of our state. You certainly owe a lot to Trevor Harrop and his work.

Frank W. Hale
Albuquerque, NM

Finger pointing time

And you all know how the song goes, but the KDCFS seems to be shying off in all directions, with an apology to Stephen Leacock, as this is not funny.

According to Art Joyce on August 25 in your esteemed paper, the rumours are flying, the finger pointing and the buck passing to bothing health and is circling the wagons in defense of the manager’s inappropriate behaviour. 
Art Joyce writes that “Muenter refers to a statute that an easement can be enforced.” That sure sounds like a veiled threat, to the reasonable man. For the board of directors to stand behind management is usual, if not necessary, in an organization. When it comes down to respect and good manners, the board must also direct the management in their overall philosophy toward the citizens who make up the community. I don’t see anywhere in the article that the board proposes to do anything except ghply continue to support their managers’ style of negotiating with landowners for public access to logging operations. Who or what is the common denominator here? It looks like the management team hired by the KDCFS, running wild!

Jim Van Horn
Kaslo

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY

The Valley Voice welcomes letters to the editor and community news articles from our readers.

Letters and articles should be no longer than 500 words and may be edited. We reserve the right to reject any submitted material.

Please mark your letter “LETTER TO THE EDITOR.” Include your address and daytime phone number for verification purposes. We will not knowingly publish any letter that is defamatory or libelous. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters signed with pseudonyms, except in extraordinary circumstances.

Opinions expressed in published letters are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Valley Voice.

Open letter to Canada Post

It has come to my attention that Canada Post has instituted a policy in British Columbia that provides for non-delivery of mail when employees are absent from work. I have received reports that this change has affected the community of Cranbrook. According to Mr. Ken Mooney, Regional Grievance Officer for CUPW-STTP, there have been at least five separate incidents of a similar nature in Cranbrook, in violation of the collective agreement, Canada Post Service Charter and the Canada Post Act.

In reference to your column to Canada Post points out to Mike Sheron, Divisional General Manager, in a letter dated August 5, 2010, the way in which this is being implemented points to a change in direction that directly opposes provisions in the collective agreement, which requires coverage of unstaffed letter carrier routes, as well as the above-mentioned service charter and the Canada Post Act.

According to Mr. Mooney, an enormous list of grievances has been filed on this issue. It is possible that this change of policy, if true, does not appear to be an acknowledgement by Canada Post head office that this is taking place.

I am very concerned that Canada Post’s mandate for universal service will further be eroded if the new policy is rolled out throughout the rest of Canada. Therefore, I respectfully urge you to reconsider what appears to be a change in both policy and practice to ensure that employee absences are covered by an independent replacement staff. This way, Canadians will continue to enjoy the high quality of service from Canada Post they have received in the past.

Alex Atamanenko, MP
BC Southern Interior

Open letter to the BC Environmental Assessment Office

It has come to my attention that AXOR has recently submitted the required documents to supplement their application for a private power project on Glacier and Howser Creeks in the Kootenay region of BC.

According to public consultation process as you consider the application:

A formal public meeting is held in Nelson. AXOR’s previous refusal to hold a meeting in Nelson caused anger and frustration to local people dealing with transportation and access issues. While a two-hour drive from the proposed site, Nelson is the only community with a large number of businesses, organizations and stakeholders who rely on the areas proposed for AXOR’s development. As MLA, I responded to the public demand by organizing an informational meeting on the proposed project and its possible impacts. More than 500 concerned citizens attended, demonstrating that a meeting in Nelson is warranted.

The period for public consultation lasts the maximum number of allowable days (75) under the Environmental Assessment Act: Public Consultation Policy and people are well informed of the opportunities and ways to contribute to the public input portion of the application.

During the summer of 2009, the public was given 45 days to become informed, have a dialogue and provide feedback on AXOR’s second submission for a Glacier/Howser private power project. This short time period was cumbersome and difficult for the public to do due diligence. Additionally, I received an exceptional number of questions from the public about how best to make their voice heard; it was clear that this basic information was not sufficiently forthcoming from the proponent, nor the Province. For a meaningful region-wide dialogue, the public must have sufficient time and knowledge about the process.

An independent source synthesized the information regarding AXOR’s Phase 2 proposal and contained within the application into an executive summary which highlights the key points of the project and is translated from technical jargon into understandable language. Not surprisingly, people felt that the 7,000-page document was far too cumbersome to read and composed perfectly to offer comprehensive feedback, they need have tangible information.

Ultimately, I am asking that this process be transparent and accessible to the general public. I trust that you will find these requests in the best interests of democracy and the public.

Michelle Mungall, MLA
Nelson-Creston

Opposed to greenhouse on school fields

After talking to Kevin Murphy about the KDCFS letter on the school property I am writing this letter to let New Denver village council and the school district know we don’t want a greenhouse. Why don’t they put it over the existing garden on the schoolyard?

I live right across from the school grounds. There are children playing soccer, baseball, flying kites and just generally running around in the upper and lower fields at all times. Murphy’s children played soccer in the very field he is thinking of destroying this summer and his grandson played in the field nearly every day with other children. The children that live near the school (about 20) use the school grounds every day. Doesn’t school curriculum mandate that the children must exercise so much a day? The fields are used daily during school

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The Valley Voice

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More criticism of socialism

I am astonished that Keith Newberry condemned North Korea and Zimbabwe. This is the first time I have ever heard a socialist condemn those two nations. It is also extraordinary that he has chosen the Scandinavian countries as role models for Canada. Don’t get me wrong – I love those countries.

Raging in British Columbia at the moment is the fight over the HST, which currently stands at 12%. The New Democratic Party (NDP) is condemning this as a terrible burden for the people of BC. In countries such as Sweden, Norway and Denmark they have something similar called the VAT, which has a maximum rate of 25%. The NDP is calling for more spending on health care, education and social programs, and I just heard that they are proposing a day-care program that will cost about $1.5 billion.

Where is the money for all these programs to come from? Obviously, if the NDP comes back to power they will be pushing the HST to 15%, then 20% and onwards. This current fight against the 12% HST is very hypocritical.

Regarding health care, up to the 1990s Sweden had the same single-payer, heavily socialized system that Canada has, and their health care system began to fall apart. They therefore revised it and moved to a system somewhat similar to other parts of Europe, and particularly privatized it. The system is still funded primarily by taxpayers, but patients pay user fees, and drugs are paid for by patients on a sliding scale. Switzerland and Holland also have better systems than Canada. Sweden currently spends about 9.3% of GDP on health care. Canada’s unsustainable system spends about 11% of GDP on health care, and it is getting worse. Measures to improve Canada’s health care system are usually blocked by socialists such as the NDP and unions. I am sure that if an opinion poll was carried out with a question like: “Would you like to continue with Canada’s unsustainable health care system, which is based on socialist dogma as practised in North Korea, or should the system be upgraded to something similar to that of Sweden or Holland’s, which have more of a basis in common sense?”, I believe people would vote to change the system.

Keith Newberry referred to me as a capitalist shill. This is not true. I came to capitalism through seeing that socialism does not work, and it cannot work. I use my common sense, and I only support corporations that have high levels of integrity. The NDP is more of a capitalist shill than I am. I recall at some past election campaigns, NDP propaganda said that if you vote NDP you will get free prescription drugs, particularly seniors. In my opinion, our current medical system is thoroughly drug infested, with far too many drugs prescribed for patients. Many articles have been written about drugs caused by legal prescription drugs. The attitude of the NDP is that of wanting to write blank cheques to pharmaceutical companies. They will pay the pharmaceutical companies anything they want, which is ludicrous. One recent book that explains the abusive nature of many pharmaceutical companies is The Truth About the Drug Companies by Marcia Angell, M.D. It should be required reading for all supporters of the NDP.

Roger Pratt
Nelson

Perry Ridge battle continues

The Ministry of Forests through BC Timber Sales planned to cut four cutblocks on the northern end of Perry Ridge. The tender was open for bidding from July 27 to August 18 to contractors registered with BCTS.

No bid was received.

There are several reasons why contractors didn’t bid. Lumber prices are still soft and the recent severe decline of housing starts in the US isn’t going to change soon. Another reason is that some contractors remember the enormous opposition to road building and logging on Perry Ridge in 1997 by water users and residents concerned about safety due to documented landslides and resulting property devaluations.

Hundreds of people turned out for blockades, MoF applied for an injunction which was granted at first but later rescinded. I was one of five protestors sued by MoF, several people were arrested and there was a lot of frustration and anger.

The court later accepted arguments plus expert testimony on landslide issues, rescinded the original injunction and on appeal MoF refused a second time to grant an injunction against hundreds of protestors. We were extremely happy that the superiority complex at MoF was somewhat diminished after the judge’s decision.

After a few years, MoF came back with an agreement with Local Resource Use Plan (LRUP) for Perry Ridge which is another boring story of how to stack a process with development sympathizers and call it a community plan.

It didn’t fly because water was not the priority but timber was.

MoF then changed Perry Ridge from Small Business Forest Enterprise Program (SBFEP) to BC Timber Sales (BCTS) – another move to get into people’s watersheds.

The Perry Ridge Water Users Association (PRWUA) has been successful for more than 20 years preventing road building and logging the domestic watersheds on Perry Ridge. It’s been a long, long battle for clean water with many twists and turns and yes, it’s disgusting that residents have to fight their own government to protect their water, but that’s the reality still today.

And even more disappointing is the fact that we didn’t win on arguments for protecting water because there is no effective legislation and the hundred-year-old Water Act is a sad joke. We won because of landslide issues, expert testimony about the instability of Perry Ridge and proven property devaluations due to slumps.

The Forest Act and Forest Practices Code rule and supersedes every other non-timber value as many communities find out when the D8 cats and logging equipment roll into their watershed.

Government has no intention to beef up the Water Act because that would interfere with logging and that’s not allowed.

MoF, or BCTS, is not required to do cost/benefit analyses that include non-timber values. Forests are not appreciated or valued as carbon sinks or as suppliers of oxygen.

Government mentality is towards water treatment, not water protection.

Many old people remember that they could drink the water straight out of a creek but today IPPs are as much a threat to water quality as destructive logging practices. Instead of-demanding an effective Water Act, Interior ‘Health’ promotes chlorination etc. as a way to better living forcing people by law to add chemicals to their water.

Government has virtually no data on creeks or streams but hands out water licenses anyway. Climate change is a fact but is not even recognized in any planning. IPPs are approved and domestic watersheds are logged without any thought about reduced water flow in coming decades.

I hope BCTS does not re-tender the cutblocks and that contractors remember 1997 and respect the wishes of residents for non-development of their watersheds.

If you live on Perry Ridge, your best chance for maintaining clean water is to support PRWUA, which has a proven record of preventing developments on Perry Ridge. Visit http://perryridge.org/ and PLEASE, send a donation to PRWUA Grp 16 C-9 Winlaw, BC, V0G 2B0.

Do it for the love of your water.

Gunter Ritterath
Winlaw

LETTERS
Dominique Fraissard releases two fine new albums

by Art Joyce

Though there is no shortage of singer-songwriters these days to-ing and fro-ing in support of independently produced music, at times they all seem to blend into the wallpaper. Occasionally a performer comes along who possesses the magical mix of skill, originality, and intelligence that makes for an outstanding musician. With the release of two new albums by Dominique Fraissard, the live Cutting Teeth and Humble in the Moment, a six-song EP, he has proven he is just such an artist.

His mastery of acoustic guitar fingerpicking creates shimmering, slightly off-kilter melodies in open tunings occasionally reminiscent of legendary English songwriter Nick Drake. Unlike many folk performers, however, Fraissard’s guitar often incorporates the more aggressive rhythms typical of rock ’n roll. The dynamic range thus veers from subtle, humming strings to fierce rhythmic attacks and back again, perfectly matching the emotional gyrations of a song. A few things, he sings: “You say only death and taxes are sure / but is that a motive or a maxim?” His lyrics effortlessly swing from the personal to the political, sometimes within the same song, while never becoming either maudlin or preachy – a rare ability. Fraissard understands that writing personal songs is pointless if the lessons of these life experiences are ignored. Thankfully he is enough of a poet to write lyrics that capture his insights in a few well-crafted, gemlike phrases.

Humble in the Moment, the album is led off by the superb Art of a Common Kind, a song that, along with the title track, captures that rare magic that can create an instant classic. The song could be an anthem for culture at its most vital – the true original he’s met in his travels from Australia to France to Canada. “But there’s more to the band / more to the dress than the swim / when you’re looking for art of a common kind.” Yet Fraissard’s literate musings are never reduced to the level of an intellectual exercise, his words tempering by an awareness of what it means to be human beings. “Hope is found in the seam / when you’re looking for art / from it you can never hurt anyone / but is that a motive or a maxim?” His lyrics demonstrate, in Fraissard’s own words, “a fine Summers’ evening reading the latest news, or perhaps even to pass the time.”

For Cutting Teeth, Live 1998-2008 demonstrates, in Fraissard’s own words, his “10-year apprenticeship” as a touring musician. With characteristic humility, he claims that he has “only just become a professional performer, able to deliver tight performances consistently of the caliber required to deserve a lifelong career.” This skill, combined with his highly personable stage presence with audiences, makes for shows both intimate and riveting. His show at last year’s Salmon Arm Roots and Blues was an unforgettable example of his ability to connect at a profound, unpretentious level.

And while some musicians are great instrumentalists but poor lyricists, Fraissard has an equal measure of both talents. On the live album, in About Her, he has proven he is just such an artist. His mastery of acoustic guitar

New Denver’s Japanese United Church property re-zoned

by Jan McMurray

The Japanese United Church property near the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre in New Denver has been re-zoned from Public & Institutional to Single and Two Family Residential.

The re-zoning will facilitate the sale of the property, which in turn will benefit the Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre (NIMC). All funds accruing from the sale of the property will be placed in a special reserve fund that can be used for NIMC capital maintenance only.

The re-zoning was approved at a special council meeting on August 31, immediately following a public hearing.

Slocan volunteers spruce up Library building and Wellness Centre

Recent visitors to the Village of Slocan Wellness Centre this past summer can be forgiven their looks of surprise as they drive up along Harold Street. The home of the Slocan Community Library, Fitness Centre and Health Centre is sporting a fresh coat of paint, and that’s just the start of it. Over 20 volunteers from the Kick-Ass Citizens for Slocan volunteer group have spent countless hours this summer giving the Wellness Centre this much needed facelift. The results speak for themselves. To date the group has repaired the stucco exterior, removed an unsused staircase, removed the remnants of an old cement wall and installed sod, pruned trees and shrubbery, and made landscaping improvements to the garden beds. The new brick-red paint job hearkens back to the building’s original use as a schoolhouse.

The goal of the group is to create a ‘town centre’ at the site, where visitors and citizens alike can gather to discuss the latest news, or perhaps even to pass a fine summers’ evening reading the Valley Voice.

But these volunteers aren’t done yet; future work includes installing more seating, removing the chain link fencing, relocating the Village cenotaph as well as additional improvements to the grounds. Regardless, take a gander next time you’re driving by the Wellness Centre, and make sure to stop in for a book while you’re at it.
Members and volunteers of the Burton Flats Awareness Project proudly introduce new signage explaining the ecosystem of the flats. From left to right: Hans Dummerauf, Cam Griebl, Phil McMechan, Denee McMechan, Liz Gillis, and Lori Eger. Missing from this photo is Lori Stevenson and Melissa Thomas.

Burton Flats awareness project now complete submitted by Liz Gillis

In 2010, the Burton Flats Awareness Project received funding from Columbia Basin Trust’s Environmental Initiatives program to design and construct signs that would educate and bring awareness to the unique ecosystems of the flats surrounding Burton. The Burton Flats Awareness committee is pleased to announce that this project is now complete. There are six signs located throughout the Burton Flats showcasing and describing its historical and environmental significance and encouraging locals and visitors to enjoy, respect and preserve the flats. It’s a unique way to learn about this aspect of our natural environment. The Burton Flats Awareness Project committee would like to acknowledge and thank the following people for their support and contributions to the project: Columbia Basin Trust; Kenyon Andreashuk and Jaime Cristales, Canadian Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission; Paul Peterson, RCDK; Burton Hall Board Association; Ian Fraser, Kent Simpson, HMC; Rafael K. Komierowski; Arrow Lakes Environmental Society; and the many volunteers of Burton.

For Portion of Electoral Area H
Silvery Sicamous Legion Hall 502 Horsel St. Sicamous, BC
Winlaw Community Hall 5039 Highway 6, Winlaw BC
Passmore Community Hall 3656 Passmore Rd, Passmore, BC
Crescent Valley Community Hall 1385 Hwy 6 Crescent Valley, BC
Regional District of Central Kootenay Office 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC

**ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITY**
The Advance Voting Opportunity shall be on Wednesday, October 6, 2010 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at:

For Electoral Area E: Balfour Community Hall 4833 Busk St. Balfour BC
Regional District of Central Kootenay Office 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC
For Electoral Area F: Arrow Lakes Community Office 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC
For Portion of Electoral Area H: Winlaw Community Hall 5897 Highway 6 Winlaw, BC
Regional District of Central Kootenay Office 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC

A recent change in provincial legisla-
tion now enables any qualified elector to vote on Advance Voting Day.

**ELIGIBLE ELECTORS**
The Local Government Act sets out the qualifications for electors entitled to vote at Local Government Voting and if you qualify, and are not on the list of electors, you may register at the time of voting by completing the required application form available at the voting place. To register, you must meet the following qualifications:

Qualifications for a Resident Elector: Must meet all of the following requirements:
(a) General Voting Day you must be at least 18 years of age or older;
(b) you are a Canadian citizen;
(c) you must have resided in British Columbia in accordance with Section 52 of the Local Government Act for at least six months immediately preceding the day of registration;
(d) you must be within the area in which the vote is taking place in accordance with Section 52 of the Local Government Act at least 30 days immediately preceding the day of registration;
(e) you must not be disqualified by the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting on General Voting Day or be otherwise disqualified by law.

Resident electors not on the Voters List and wishing to register on voting day will be required to produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature). The identification must prove identity and residency.

Qualifications for Non-Resident Elector: Must meet all of the following requirements:
(a) (b) and (d) above plus
(b) you must have been the registered owner of real property within the area in which the vote is taking place for at least 30 days immediately preceding the day of registration;
(d) you must not be disqualified by the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting on General Voting Day or be otherwise disqualified by law.

Non-Resident electors not on the Voters List and wishing to register on voting day will be required to produce the following:
(a) evidence of ownership in the real property (at least one with a signature) to prove identity;
(b) state of title certificate;
(c) registered agreement for sale;
(d) property tax notice (last); or
(e) property assessment notice.

Voting in advance of the 2010 Municipal Election is necessary to determine if the service not to exceed $58,000?" is

Service with the annual requisition for Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2161, being the “Electoral Area E Library Financial Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2160, 2010.”

Bylaw No. 2162, being the “Electoral Area F Library Financial Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2160, 2010.”

The vote will be conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act.

The questions to be asked to obtain the assent of the electors shall be:

For Electoral Area E Library Financial Contribution Service Area:

“Are you in favour of the Regional District of Central Kootenay adopting Bylaw No. 2160 to provide for the following:

the establishment of the “Electoral Area E Library Financial Contribution Service” with the annual requisition for the service not to exceed $88,000?"

For Electoral Area F Library Financial Contribution Service Area:

“Are you in favour of the Regional District of Central Kootenay adopting Bylaw No. 2160 to provide for the following:

the establishment of the “Electoral Area F Library Financial Contribution Service” with the annual requisition for the service not to exceed $88,000?"
Nakusp council, August 24: Council decides on new water line infrastructure

by Art Joyce

• Council discussed the costs of new water line infrastructure.

Treasurer Don Willems presented a comparison of costs for four scenarios. The first scenario involves work that is included in the Sewer Treatment Plant project budget – an eight-inch pipeline running from the sewage plant, across the Kuskanax bridge and along the highway to the arena. This pipe will convey treated sewer water to irrigate fields that are currently irrigated with drinking water. The total cost of this first scenario after HST rebate is $47,314. Scenario two would add hardware to the bridge for a future 12-inch pipeline at a further cost of $9,136; scenario three would complete this phase by hanging the 12-inch pipe on the bridge, for another $31,644. Scenario four would connect the 12-inch pipe to an existing 12-inch underground pipe adjacent to the bridge, halfway to the Esso station, at a cost of $44,245.

The total cost of all four scenarios is $102,361. However, the net cost to the Village to complete all four scenarios is $64,713, as the first two scenarios can be done as part of the Sewer Treatment Plant project and benefit from grant funding. Willems’ report shows that if the second scenario is deferred, additional costs of $25,000-$30,000 will be incurred; if the last three scenarios are deferred, additional costs of $47,500 will be incurred.

Councillor Mueller was concerned that the Village might be spending money on infrastructure for future development that is as yet uncertain. “I’m uncomfortable with having to borrow that much money,” she said.

Councillor Herpner objected, pointing out that, “in the past when we’ve deferred work like this, it ends up costing us three times as much when we finally do get around to doing it.” Mayor Hamling agreed, adding that if all four scenarios were approved now, the Village would still save money even with paying off interest over the next five years.

Mueller asked the treasurer if the Village is able to borrow the money. Willems said yes, explaining that, “at the end of the day you’re really talking about whether you want to incur the future costs for scenarios three and four of a further $20,000.” Council voted to proceed with scenarios one through three but to defer scenario four.

• Mayor Hamling reported that she met with the RCPM regarding the dangerous dog situation in the community. She noted that the muzzle issue will have to be revisited in order to get more information because “up to a third or a half of the dogs in Nakusp have that breed in them.”

• Bylaw 627, the Hot Springs Commission bylaw, was given the wrong number; it was rescinded and given the first two readings as bylaw 629. Final reading will be given at the next meeting. A motion was passed to place an ad calling for interested persons to sit on the hot springs commission.

• Mayor Hamling announced that the Village has received a $42,333 grant from the Southern Interior Development Initiative Trust (SIDIT), to be used to furnish the emergency services training centre with tables, chairs, computers, and video equipment.

• The mayor reported that True North Forestry has received its fuel management prescription funding, enabling that project to move forward.

• A motion passed to install new back steps at the Esso station for a cost of $271,000. A lower estimate failed to include everything council requested.

• Public Works submitted a report of its sidewalk inspection, complete with photos, and a report of its fire hydrant inspection.

• Bylaw 614-8, the notwithstanding clause for zoning nonconformity, was tabled to a future meeting.

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Arrow Lakes Arts Council
Concert Series announced

Now in its 33rd year of supporting arts-related activities in the Arrow Lakes region, the Arrow Lakes Arts Council (ALAC) is offering six concerts in the 2010-2011 season. All concerts will be held at the Selkirk Kootenay Centre unless otherwise noted.

The season starts on Saturday, October 23 with Ballet Kelowna. Aspects of Love will be performed in the auditorium of the Nakusp Arena Complex at 7:30 pm. Ballet Kelowna is breathtakingly beautiful, bold and fresh, captivating audiences with classical and innovative dance. Because they are such a small ballet company, their performances are intimate, carefully crafted, rare and precise. The second show will be a performance by Mrs. Massey Theatre on Saturday, November 20. This local theatre group will be performing a British farce called All’s Well, a pantomime. Pantomimes are usually based on fairy tales, and the lead characters are performed by men for the female roles, and females for the male roles. Men have a marvelous time gown, ever feigning the lady’s suit and the lady’s suit and the lady’s suit and the lady’s suit and the lady’s suit.

The season ticket holders from last year will receive a $5 discount per ticket. For more information contact Marilyn Massey at 250-265-4087.

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The Valley Voice September 8, 2010
Hills Garlic Festival time again

by Jan McMurray

What’s the biggest and best outdoor market in the Kootenays with the theme ‘homemade – homegrown – organic?’ The Hills Garlic Festival, of course.

Now in its 18th year, the festival attracts about 6,000 people to the charming village of New Denver, increasing the town’s population tenfold for the day.

The festival is always held on the Sunday after the Labour Day long weekend. This year, it falls on September 12.

A shuttle bus runs between the festival site and Valhalla Inn in downtown New Denver all day long, to make parking in New Denver’s downtown area convenient. Before heading down to the festival, check out the shops and cafes in town and stop by the ATM at the credit union on New Denver’s main street – there is no cash on the festival grounds and most vendors cannot accept credit cards.

The 160 vendors at the Master Cuban percussionist to teach at Silverton Gallery

submitted

If you have ever wanted to explore and understand the intricacies of Afro Cuban music, here’s your chance – José Sánchez is coming to Silverton. The workshops will be at the Silverton Gallery on Saturday, September 18 and Sunday, September 19 from 1-4 pm each day.

José Sánchez is a recognized master percussionist from Cuba. He began his studies in percussion at Manuel Saumell School of Music at the age 11, and graduated with honours from the Amadeo Roldan Conservatory in Havana. Sanchez has an elaborate and impressive technique. His taste for Afro-Cuban rhythms is contagious and his workshops are always fun.

He has participated as a percussionist and a producer in many recordings in North America and Europe with big Cuban names such as Adalberto Alvarez y su Son, Royitos y su Orquesta, Amaury Perez and others.

Sánchez moved to Vancouver in 1997, where he joined the music scene with the Puentes Brothers, Juno award winner Alex Cuba and with Canadian pop singer Amanda Marshall. He now makes his home on Salt Spring Island.

Cost is $15 for the Saturday workshop, and $25 for the two days. For more information or to register call 250-358-2332.

This workshop is made possible with assistance from the Columbia Basin Trust and Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance.

The 160 vendors at the festival offer organic garlic, organic produce, plants, locally made art, jewellery, furniture, pottery, textiles, soaps, lotions and herbal remedies.

The food vendors will be spread out over the grounds a bit more this year. Watch for a cluster of them up near the bocce pits and new washroom building, as well as in the usual area down closer to the lake.

The contests are always fun – either to enter or to witness the outcome. Prizes are awarded for the largest head of garlic (soft-neck and stiff-neck), the heaviest clove of garlic, the best garlic poem and the best garlic braid.

The Garlic Festival is a community fundraiser put on by local volunteers through the Hills Recreation Society. Over the years, money raised from the festival has provided recreation facilities and services for the area, including basketball/tennis courts and local cross-country ski trails.

About 50 volunteers are involved in organizing the event. Two other volunteer groups are brought on board to man the gates and to deal with the garbage and recycling. These two groups, the graduating class and the preschool/elementary school, raise funds for themselves by taking on these tasks at the festival.

The event grew from a potluck supper among friends to a festival at Hills Community Park. By 2003, it had outgrown its home in Hills, and was moved to New Denver.

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Canadian/British songwriting duo to perform in Slocan Valley

submitted by Tim Sander

When speaking about music, connection is one word that immediately springs to mind for Canadian songwriter Celeste Lovick. She and musical partner Chris Ellis will be performing at several venues in the Slocan Valley this September, with two voices interweaving in harmony and two guitars. “For me, it is about connection,” says Lovick, “to the music, to the audience, to the ground beneath my feet. While we might be the ones physically making the music, I always find the gigs which feel the best are the ones where we can be a listener right along with the audience, all sharing a collective musical experience, which makes us feel more connected to each other and the world around us.”

Born on Canada’s west coast, Celeste Lovick went to England as part of a university exchange program in 1999. While there, she became involved with Britain’s vibrant acoustic music scene and began to perform professionally. In 2000, she met British songwriter and composer Chris Ellis. Both solo artists in their own right, they found a chemistry and a musical compatibility which gave rise to many collaborative projects, including performances at festivals across the UK such as Glastonbury Festival and Solfest and at venues like the National Theatre in London. The tour for Lovick is a welcome return to her Canadian roots, and both are looking forward to making music in the Slocan Valley.

“I am always drawn back to Canada,” says Lovick. “It’s both the natural environment and the people. There’s a real openness and an ability to listen here.”

Nelson Library and Kootenay Co-op celebrate local flavour

Two local institutions have teamed up to create a literary cookbook, Seasonings: A Year of Local Flavours in Words and Recipes will be released at a special event on Friday, October 1 at 6:30 pm at the Nelson Library. “We are such a creative culture in this area,” says Nelson Library adult services coordinator Anne DeGrace. “Celebrating with a marriage of food and words satisfies every appetite.”

Dozens of cooks and scribes came forward and submitted recipes, poems, stories, and essays celebrating gardens, growing, seasons, and food. Food photographer Heather Goldsworthy of Image Obscura, Photographer and designer Steven Creteny of The Forest Design and Communications made the concept soar. The library strives to enrich lives by encouraging the joy of reading, the discovery of new ideas, and by promoting creative expression. For the Kootenay Co-op, community involvement and the cultivation of health and sustainability are important. To both Carver and DeGrace, a partnership made sense.

“That’s been the perfect collaboration,” says Kootenay Co-op marketing director Jocelyn Carver. “The co-op finally created a community cookbook with lots of help from writers, and the library got a great fundraiser, with lots of help from cooks and the co-op.”

Although the co-op is a full partner in the production of Seasonings, 100 percent of the profits from the book will benefit the Nelson Library and its expansion project. The Seasonings launch is part of a special event and open house to showcase the library’s expansion progress to date and to celebrate the library’s birthday. For 90 years, the library has given local residents access to information, enjoyment, education, and community programming for all residents from babies to seniors.

Patricia Ruth Tees

March 11, 1929
To
August 28, 2010
Pat Tees died peacefully at home, with family beside her, on August 28th, after a brief period of illness.

A memorial gathering will be held Saturday, September 18th at Passmore Hall, from 1:00 – 3:00 pm

THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY OTHER VOTING OPPORTUNITY – CLARIFICATION OF REFERENDUM INFORMATION

Are you a BC Hydro water system customer in the Burton, Fauquier, Edgewood, or West Robson water system? Is your account in good standing? Have you registered with the BC Hydro Water System Administrator?

Then if your community votes “Yes” in the referendum to become a ROCK water service: the total water utility fee per connection PLUS the annual parcel tax contribution to your system’s reserve replacement fund will be paid on your behalf by BC Hydro until your property transfers by any means to a new owner. To qualify for the Fee Holiday being offered by BC Hydro your account must be in good standing and you must be registered with the BC Hydro Administrator. Contact: (250)385-4553

If you are a resident of these water service areas: please cast your vote. For details about the voting process, the location of polling places, to obtain the legal agreement for BC Hydro Water systems and to find out about the fee rate holiday being offered by BC Hydro to registered customers visit the RDCK website at www.rdck.bc.ca

Contact:
Devin Attorp, General Manager of Corporate Administration
Regional District of Central Kootenay
Phone: 250.352.6665 Fax: 250.352.9300

I would like to wish all workers and their families a safe and relaxing Labour Day. We honour your commitment and effort to make our community strong and prosperous.

Katrine Conroy, MLA
Kootenay West
1-888-755-0556
katrine.conroy.mla@leg.bc.ca
www.katrineconroy.ca
Gillian Redwood exhibits new work at Studio Connexion by Art Joyce

It’s the artist’s job to depict what is unseen as much as what is usually seen. Artist Gillian Redwood does just that with new work exhibiting at Studio Connexion, September 2-25. Songs of Maya is a series of acrylics on large format canvas and part of her larger 2010 series Energetics of Land and Body. The studio’s full hours are Tuesday to Saturday from 12:30 to 4:30.

“T’ve been developing ideas using transparency on the theme of the human form and environment. Energetically we’re all made up of movement and lines and forms that are maybe different than the ones we perceive. It’s the unseen that fascinates me.” Redwood explains. “It’s not really about goddesses, it’s about women of our time and their energies. It’s more to do with the human spirit.”

Redwood studied art in the UK in Cardiff and Bristol and although she has always painted, it was 2003 before she decided to become a full-time artist. Her art has been exhibited throughout her travels in Wales, Cornwall while studying at St. Ives School of Painting, and Hawaii. While in Cornwall she ran her own studio and sold her work from there to the many visitors to that region. While living in White Rock, BC she produced a series of pastels of redwood trees and exhibited them there. Recently she exhibited with Sabine Burmeister at Halcyon Hot Springs and a storefront on Broadway Street, Nakusp. Songs of Maya is her first solo exhibition since living in the Kootenays.

Redwood and her husband, Caelen Starblanket Larocque, a guitarist, found Nakusp after travelling for a few years, looking for somewhere to settle. She says this region has elements of all the places they’ve visited or lived in, including a village in Italy by a lake. The mountains and peacefulness of the area reminds her strongly of West Wales where she lived for much of her life.

Energy workshop offered to businesses

A workshop designed to help businesses deal with rising energy prices is being offered Monday, October 4 from 1 to 3:30 pm at the Hume Hotel in Nelson. Transition Nelson, in collaboration with the Nelson and District Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Business Association, is offering the workshop. It is intended to help local businesses identify their vulnerabilities to rising energy prices and develop mitigation possibilities with other local business participants. The workshop fee is $15, and lunch is optional from the regular menu. Registration by September 20 is encouraged by email at kimmy.klassen@gmail.com. More information is available at www.transitionnelson.org.

Singer/songwriter Justine Bennett, a Silverton native, performed at the Silverton Gallery on Broadway Street, Nakusp. Songs of Maya, at Studio Connexion from September 2 to 25. These mythical figures depict feminine energy signatures juxtaposed against various landscapes.

Kaslo Food Hub Grand Opening

After many months of building and coordinating, and years of planning, the Kaslo Food Hub is officially open! To celebrate, we invite you to our grand opening—a night to celebrate our farmers and long time homesteaders with stories of our region’s food production. The building of the Kaslo Food Hub has been made possible by many volunteers and we will also be taking some time to honour the many hands that made this venture possible.

The Kaslo Food Security Project has been a program of North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society since our inception and to celebrate our union—we are having our grand opening in conjunction with NKLCSS AGM.

7pm – NKLCSS AGM
7:45pm - Kaslo Food Hub Grand Opening!!
Appies & Stories
Volunteer Appreciations
Music and Mingle

Open Thursday – Sunday every week
3 am – 8 pm
Only 2 more weekends until we close for the season

The restaurant at Retallack Lodge is officially open for the summer! We invite you to take a seat on our patio overlooking the Kaslo river and enjoy Chef Yves Robitaille’s delectable culinary creations.

Located at the summit of Highway 31A between New Denver and Kaslo.

Prima Materia

Global Gift
Discoveries
Inspiring Arts & Crafts
textiles . objects . artworks

Your “Boho Chic” destination store in the Kootenays!
318 Broadway St. Nakusp, BC 265-3288

Winter Hours
11am-5pm / Closed Tuesdays
Lunch/Dinner Service Only
Fresh bread still available Sun., Wed., Fri.
Reservations: 250-226-7355

COMMUNITY

The Valley Voice
Enter a bike or foot race at Kaslo Sufferfest, October 3, 2010

Sunday, October 3, Kaslo hosts an exciting new event. Sufferfest, the first event of its kind, features 10- and 25-km trail run and an epic enduro bike race up Mt. Buchanan and then down the legendary ‘Monster’ bike trail.

With a name like Sufferfest, you might think you need to compete in all three events, but that’s not the case. Competitors pick their pleasure, choosing either the Monster Enduro bike race or one of the True Blue trail run races. There is also a kids’ run or bike race. All events run simultaneously.

“We’re eager to see the running community compete on the same morning and in more or less the same place as the mountain bike crowd,” says event creator and co-director Iain Lampimaki of Kootenay Mountain Sports in Kaslo. “They are really quite different groups and we think it will be exciting for everyone to see all the action of different events at the same time.”

Spectators are in for a treat, too. The finish line for all the races will be on Front Street in the heart of Kaslo, with a special finish line ramp for the bike races. A professional announcer has been hired and there will be a live video feed in the Kaslo Hotel Pub.

The community and sponsors have shown tremendous support for this event and race organizers are pleased with the registration to date. “We’ve got competitors from as far away as Calgary and the Okanagan, and we expect more from all over, including a few pros. When we were putting this event together we discovered that there are no trail foot races in the Kootenays and yet there are lots of runners who look for this type of race,” says Lampimaki.

Co-director Shon Neufeld, who is also co-owner of Kootenay Mountain Sports in Kaslo, has enlisted some easier rider volunteers to do remedial work on the legendary ‘Monster’ trail which descends from the summit of Mt. Buchanan all the way to the highway. Neufeld reports, “Things are shaping up nicely. There are bypasses for all major jumps, and any of the natural drops in terrain on the course are less than three feet. Racers will have a great time, the Monster is a blast! The lower section is very flowy and you can really get your speed up.”

Lampimaki spoke of the plans for the future of this event. “We plan to make it an annual thing, with the key

The New Denver-Silverton Trail Society will hold its first Annual General Meeting Saturday, September 18 at the Silverton Memorial Hall • 3:00 pm

Come out and help us elect our first board of directors!

Stewart Spooner, Trail Manager for the Kootenay-Columbia Trails Society will be on hand to answer questions.

Kaslo is the ideal setting for outdoor sport, with challenging terrain and spectacular views. Don’t miss Sufferfest, a bike and foot race event on trails in the Kaslo area on October 3.

Tree a(wake): tree theatre in Argenta submitted

Dressed as trees and moving to a slow drum beat, concerned residents walked in single file along the Argenta road at noon on Friday, September 3, in a symbolic act to acknowledge this summer’s intensive logging of the hillside above the community. Positioning themselves one by one along the roadside, each within sight of the last, the tree-people put down their roots for the duration of the event, silent witnesses to the logging and to the importance of trees to our planet.

The event was largely silent, as befits the tree-people and moving to a slow drum beat, concerned residents walked in single file along the Argenta road at noon on Friday, September 3, in a symbolic act to acknowledge this summer’s intensive logging of the hillside above the community. Positioning themselves one by one along the roadside, each within sight of the last, the tree-people put down their roots for the duration of the event, silent witnesses to the logging and to the importance of trees to our planet. The event was largely silent, as befits a forest, but some participants chose to add their words to a collage expressing reactions to the summer of logging. While appreciating that the truck drivers were basically considerate towards the other users of the road – from herds of goats to kids on horses and bikes – the comments mostly expressed dismay at the extent of the logging and the huge impact of the noise, day and night.

Event organizer Carol Ross stated that her motivation was a desire to bear witness as a community to the impacts of the logging – on ourselves, but more importantly on a planet increasingly and irrepairably stressed by human activity. Her view is that major changes are needed in our collective mindset to cope with a changed global ecology, and that “business as usual” won’t take us where we need to go, but straight over the cliff of ecological, political and human disaster. Her hope is that participation in actions such as Friday’s tree theatre can help create that shift in awareness.
Kaslo council, August 24: OCP open house to be scheduled soon

by Jan McMurray

• A public meeting for an OCP open house will be set up for the second or third week in September.

• Gillian Sanders gave an update on the North Kootenay Lake Bear Smart Program. She said the community did except on any bears, and some very few bears coming into town. She said she felt the Village was almost ready to apply for Bear Smart certification. Once a Village is certified, non-lethal methods are to be used, and a public education campaign is expected very soon.

• Councillor Lay reported that the campground committee was hoping at determining the cost of upgrading the septic system in the campground in the event that the new washroom facilities would be unable to be connected to the sewer system. She asked that the Development Services Committee look at hiring an engineer to determine the capacity of the system. Council agreed, giving the committee the authority to act.

• During public time, Anne Malik said she was concerned about the focusing on the capacity of the sewer plant, when she feels a technical assessment of the plant is necessary to determine needed upgrades.

Councillor Leathwood said that all information gathered about the sewer system will go to the committee, and said the sewer issue is important to the campground and City Hall projects—the Building Inspector won’t issue a permit for the top floor of City Hall without a sewer connection. She mentioned that Community Services had also shown an interest in a sewer connection. “An engineer’s report will give us information that will benefit lots of people,” she said.

At the September 2 Development Services Committee meeting, Foreman Glen Walker reported on the sewer system. He said a salesman from a company called Sanitherm was coming to Kaslo, and Walker had been told that he “knows his stuff” and that engineers look to him for advice. Walker will meet with him to learn more about the capacity of Kaslo’s system. He also pointed out that TRUE Engineering was determining how much sewage could come out of the specified area as part of the Infrastructure Cost Recovery study. The committee decided to hold off on the engineer’s study until receiving the information from Sanitherm and TRUE.

• As recommended by Councillor Leathwood, the Village will ask for clarification from the Interior Health Authority about its intention to fill the Public Health Nurse vacancy in Kaslo.

Sunday, October 3rd

The best in Canadian Crafts
Feeling the fall chill? Come see our selection of cozy wool sweaters, socks, toques, and mitts to keep you warm as the cool weather arrives.

Open 7 days a week

Front St, Kaslo • 250-353-2566
toll-free 1-866-706-2566

CREATE A SPACE THAT REFLECTS YOUR LIFESTYLE

YARDISTRY COMPONENTS ARE PRE-FINISHED AND READY TO ASSEMBLE
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KASLO BUILDING SUPPLIES
250-353-7628
Time to get out of the markets?

I think the volatility in the markets is here to stay, permanently, for two reasons: the ability to buy and sell the entire market at the push of a button, and the fact that a huge group of ‘investors’ now treat the stock market as a giant online casino. Stock prices were set to be by an analysis of a company’s fundamentals—book value, earnings, margins, etc. In truth, for professional money managers, this is still how investment decisions are made.

In the long run, I believe, holding stocks with good fundamentals will still produce superior returns. BUT... the stock market indexes, like the S&P/TSX (Toronto) or the S&P 500 (US) are made up of the combined stock price of hundreds of companies, both good and bad. Through sophisticated futures trading programs and new investment vehicles like ETFs, people can now buy and sell an entire index, including ALL of the companies in the index, in the blink of an eye, for about $20 a trade or less. This kind of trading makes the stock price of the good companies just as volatile as the bad ones.

Furthermore, unblinking computer trading programs now watch the indexes 24/7, prepared to rip their owners out of the market. And, when you buy a financial instrument you own it forever. They will give you less or give you water. If you choose the first, be prepared that you might want to throw up some days. But, if you choose the second, realize that you will never catch any fish. You will instead have to buy your fish, and that will give you less or give you water. If you retreat to “solid ground,” like GICs or cash, realize that you are probably locking your savings into most lower returns. Most

and fruit, Smores and cream, or opt for Tiramisu (a concoction of whipped cream and coffee soaked in goodies mixed in) or crepes with bananas, strawberries, Nutella and whipped cream.

Coming soon will be Aussie meat pies, vegetarian pies and fruit pies. The meat pies will include beef, pork and chicken topped with puff pastry or piped potato. The fruit pies will weigh 80 to 90 percent meat. OH YES!! All the food that comes out of Roxanne’s kitchen is made from scratch using local, natural and organic ingredients when possible.

In the meantime, remember the old dining room? Half of it will be a food prep area and the other half will be a bistro with a kitchen window. The Silvertown Inn will deliver food from Red Mountain Road to Hills. They will also be making prepared meals for seniors and families to be delivered, frozen and there will be a variety to choose from.

But hold on, the Silvertown Inn will also be hosting traditional holiday meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas. They’ll also have an outdoor corn roast with grilling stations (to order) on Garlic Fest day, September 12.

But, at least they won’t throw up. Your choice...
VISITOR INFORMATION

GOLF COURSES

Slocan Lake Golf Course  
New Owner! Phone: (250) 358-2408  
9-HOLE GOLF COURSE – OPEN 7 AM TO DUSK  
GREEN FEES: $12.00/18 holes, $5.00/9 holes, Day Pass: $47.25, Weekly Rate: $204.75  
RESTAURANT: Club and pull carts available.  
Power Cart: $32.40/9 holes, $51.60/18 holes. All prices include tax  
19TH HOLE RESTAURANT: Tues.-Sat. 11:00 am-3:00 pm and 4:00 pm-8:00 pm; Sun.-Mon. 11:00 am-3:00 pm for lunch. Restaurant: (250) 398-2183  
2010 TOURNAMENTS:  
• Open Tournament: August 8. Everyone welcome.  
Nakusp Golf Club  
Phone/Fax: (250) 265-4531  
9-HOLE PUBLIC COURSE, RATES IN EFFECT 7 DAYS A WEEK  
GREEN FEES: Adults $25.00/9 holes, $54.20/18 holes, Senior rates: 50% off  
Juniors 14 & 15 $17.60/9 holes, $34.30/18 holes, 10 game punch card available  
General Manager: Jim Draper  
Rentals: clubs, pull carts, Bistro at the Greens.  
Bistro at the Greens: Fully licensed restaurant. Phone: (250) 265-3365  
10-hole course punch cards available  
Ladies’ nights: Tuesdays 4:00-6:00 pm. Guests welcome.  
Men’s nights: Thursdays 4:00-6:00 pm. Guests welcome.

Valley View Golf Course  
Phone/Fax: (250) 252-7241  
9-HOLE GOLF COURSE AND RESTAURANT: OPEN 8 AM-8 PM  
GREEN FEES: $30.00/9 holes, $57.00/18 holes, Junior $10/18 holes  
RESTAURANT: pulls cart, pull carts, restrooms available  
Walk-on tee times, no reservations required.  
No-day juniors tournaments – 25% off members with club play  
No-day Juniors Night: 515 includes golf, free drinks & pop, prizes and parents golf free  
Tuesday: halfprice golf ALL DAY!  
Wednesday Ladies’ Night: 25% off members with club play  
Fridays: 2 for 1 after 2 pm and wing night

ACCOMMODATIONS & RESTAURANTS

Kaslo Municipal Campground  
(250) 353-2662  
www.kaslo.ca  
kaslocampground@yahoo.ca  
May 1 – Sept. 30. Serviced (S2) Unserviced sites ($18) Water and power hook-ups, fire pits, picnic tables, showers and potable water. Downtown location, close to pool, beach, playground, 55-boat waterfront and great shopping! Pets on leash welcome.

Centennial Campground  
On the lake in New Denver, 44 sites, 8 with electricity & water hook-up, sani-dump, showers & toilets, boat launch, firewood, pets must be leashed.

Springer Creek RV Park & Campground  
(250) 355-2266  
springer@telus.net  

Silverton Municipal Campground  
(250) 358-2472  

Woodbury Resort and Marina  
(250) 353-7717  
serviced sites Tent Sites - Motorcycle Friendly – Marina – Heated pool - Boomed Swimming Beach – J/Ps Pub and Restaurant – Hotel and Chalets - Charter Fishing - Boat Rentals - Kayak/Bike Trails - Scuba Dive the assenbys wreck. 4 km north of Ainsworth Hot Springs on Highway 31

HOT SPRINGS

Halcyon Hot Springs Resort & Spa  
1-888-889-4699 (250) 265-3554 Fax (250) 265-3887  
www.halcyon-hotsprings.com  
e-mail: info@halcyon-hotsprings.com

Halcyon Hot Springs Resort is open year round. Jardinet healing waters soothe mind, body and soul. Relax in cozy cabins or luxurious CDs. Relax in luxurious hot tubs. Enjoy gourmet food and beautiful views from the Kingfisher Restaurant & Lounge. Pamper yourself at the Spa at Halcyon. Outdoor adventures from your doorstep.

Ainsworth Hot Springs Resort  
www.hotnaturally.com  
1-800-668-1171 (250) 229-4212

Visit one of the “coolest” places in the Kootenay. Experience our unique natural hot springs and you’ll understand why we say, “only in Northern BC.” Time to experience your own natural hot springs.

Kaslo Hotel & Brew Pub  
(250) 353-7777  
serviced sites Tent Sites - Restaurant & Bar - Motorcycle Friendly – Marina – Heated pool – J/Ps Pub and Restaurant – Hotel and Chalets - Charter Fishing - Boat Rentals - Kayak/Bike Trails - Scuba Dive the assenbys wreck. 4 km north of Ainsworth Hot Springs on Highway 31

Kaslo Bay Resort  
(250) 353-7777  
serviced sites Tent Sites - Restaurant & Bar - Motorcycle Friendly – Marina – Heated pool – J/Ps Pub and Restaurant – Hotel and Chalets - Charter Fishing - Boat Rentals - Kayak/Bike Trails - Scuba Dive the assenbys wreck. 4 km north of Ainsworth Hot Springs on Highway 31

WING CREEK RESORT  
(250) 353-2475  
www.wingcreekeresort.com

Experience this tranquil waterfront resort offering ownership opportunities, vacation rentals, and the calming Water Spa. Relax in your luxury cottage, enjoy our cozy woodburning fireplace, revel in the scenic splendor of Kaslo Lake, surrounded by soaring mountains. Twenty acres of orchard, gardens, trails, streams and beautiful private beach. Adults.

O’Brien’s on the Lake  
(250) 265-4575  
serviced sites Tent Sites - Restaurant & Bar - Motorcycle Friendly – Marina – Heated pool – J/Ps Pub and Restaurant – Hotel and Chalets - Charter Fishing - Boat Rentals - Kayak/Bike Trails - Scuba Dive the assenbys wreck. 4 km north of Ainsworth Hot Springs on Highway 31

GALLERIES

Hidden Garden Gallery  
(250) 358-2297  
www.slocanlake.com/hiddengarden

The Arrow Lakes Fine Arts Guild Gallery  
311 Broadway, Nakusp  
(250) 265-4924  
www.nakuspfineartsguild.com

1896 FINE BOOK AND SILVER GALLERY  
Quality books and locally crafted silver. In Kaslo across from the Moyle.  
ALL HOURS: Wednesday – Friday from Noon to 5; Saturday, from 10 to 5.

BOOKS & SILVER

Nakusp Craftworks  
Studio Connector  
(250) 265-8884  
203 5th Avenue NW, Nakusp  

MUSEUMS

Nakusp Museum  
(250) 353-3677  
www.slocanlake.com/museum

Open 10:00 to 5:00. Located 1 km east of New Denver on Hwy. 31A in historic silver mining ghost town. Collections of stunning photographs and fascinating artifacts including the Tamada, “two-stqueen of nakusp.” Admission (Children under 12, members free): 10 over: $4, 12-17 yrs: $3, Adults over 18: $10

Nakusp Museum  
(250) 358-7288  
The only historical site in Canada dedicated to telling the WWI Infantry Story. Located in The Orchard in New Denver. Opens 7 days a week 9:30 am to 5:00 pm.

55 S. Moyie Ph/Fax: (250) 353-5125  
www.kluse.ca  
354 Front Street, Kaslo, BC

The world’s oldest intact Passenger Steamship. National Historic Site located just one hour east of Nelson and 35 minutes north of the Kaslo Ferry at Crawford Bay.  
Open daily from 9 to 5, mid-May through Thanksgiving weekend.
Pat married Jack Trees in 1947, and raised their daughters, Shelly and Penny, in a family that loved camping, the ocean, picnics and family gatherings. Pat was a terrific seamstress, enjoyed reading, could cook a meal for a crowd on a moment’s notice, and was always keen to play cards and games. She was proud of her skill as a banquet waitress, the bicycle tours she made with Jack on the west coast islands, and her community involvement.

A graduate of Oakland’s Castlemont High School, Pat maintained life-long friendships with many of her childhood classmates and her high school classmates, attending most of Castlemont’s reunions, including the 60th in 2008.

Despite her divorce from Jack a few years after moving to Winlaw in 1978, they later resided on the same property, and visited almost daily. Pat loved being Grandma to her 10 grandchildren, delighted in her birthday cakes, storytelling, and visits almost daily. Pat loved being Grandma to her 10 grandchildren, delighted in her birthday cakes, storytelling, and visited almost daily. Pat loved being Grandma to her 10 grandchildren, delighted in her birthday cakes, storytelling, and visited almost daily. Pat loved being Grandma to her 10 grandchildren, delighted in her birthday cakes, storytelling, and visited almost daily.

Pat took a leadership role in the PTA when her children were in school, and her community involvement. She was also involved in her community involvement. She was also involved in her community involvement. She was also involved in her community involvement. She was also involved in her community involvement.

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Passmore firefighters honoured at fire hall ceremony

At a special awards ceremony at Passmore Fire Hall on August 10, four members of the Passmore Volunteer Fire Department were honoured for their many years of volunteer service to the community.

Tracy Sked, Passmore deputy fire chief and John Ludwar, former fire chief and long-time fire hall member, were both awarded the Fire Services Exemplary Service Medal from the Governor General of Canada “in recognition of 20 years of loyal and exemplary service to public security in Canada.” They were also awarded with the Twenty Year Service Medal from the RDCK. Additionally, Tracy Sked was honoured by receiving the 25 Year Long Service Award from the provincial government. Passmore Captain Dave Halliday and Lieutenant Nathan Mikkelson were honoured with the Ten Year Service Medal from the RDCK.

Federal MP Alex Atamanenko presented the medals on behalf of the Governor General and on behalf of Katrine Conroy, MLA, who was unable to attend. Area H Director Walter Popoff presented the awards for the RDCK. Both thanked all the firefighters for their dedication to voluntarily helping the community, not only with fires but with all the other emergency services they provide.

Passmore Fire Chief Gord Ihlen concluded the ceremonies by thanking the recipients for the service, commitment and sacrifices they have made, stating, “I am honoured to work with these people and proud to count them as my friends... You have all served with distinction and your families and friends should be proud of your accomplishments.”

Attending the ceremony were many former and current members of Passmore Volunteer Fire Department, as well as the families and friends of those being honoured. After the ceremony, all who attended were invited to stay for a reception in honour of the recipients.

The Valley Voice September 8, 2010
COMMUNITY

Slocan Lakes area. The Reading Centres are located in Edgewood, Faquier, Burton and New Denver. In small rural communities, with limited access to public libraries, the Reading Centres play an important role in lending reading materials such as books, magazines and videos to adults, children and families. Since their inception, these centres have been managed by hardworking volunteers who are dedicated to reading, libraries and literacy. This volunteerism also includes community fundraising for the centres. On behalf of all of the adults, children and families who have benefited from local Reading Centres in our area, CBAL would like to thank and acknowledge the volunteers, both past and present, of Edgewood, Faquier, Burton and New Denver for their contributions to literacy. The Community Literacy Award can be given to an individual, service group, organization or business. All nominees must demonstrate a commitment to local literacy. For more information about community literacy programs and services, please contact Rhonda Palmer at 250-265-3779 or Liz Gallis at 250-265-3538.

MAX Mine up again after temporary shutdown submitted

The MAX Molybdenum Mine in Trout Lake is back up and running following a temporary shutdown from August 25 to September 3. The mine shut down after wall sloughing was observed in the lower levels of the mine. “… the stope wall sloughing is active only in the stoping area and not in any manned-access; sloughing is active only in the stoping levels of the mine. “… the stope wall sloughing was observed in the lower levels of the mine. "cautious step that will protect the safety of mine workers and equipment from unforeseen ground conditions.” The event was contained to inactive, non-manned entry stope,” states a press release describing the shutdown as a precautionary measure. The event was contained to inactive, non-manned entry stope,” states a press release describing the shutdown as a precautionary measure.

New Community Literacy Award announced for Arrow and Slocan Lakes

To celebrate International Literacy Day on September 8, the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL) is excited to announce its inaugural Community Literacy Award. CBAL is a non-profit organization that partners with schools, libraries and community agencies to offer a variety of literacy programs for all ages. Each community in the Alliance has a Community Literacy Advisory Committee with representatives from a wide range of organizations. The local Community Literacy Advisory Committee covers the Arrow and Slocan Lakes area. It was the role of the Community Literacy Advisory Committee to nominate and choose the first ever recipient of this award. This year’s recipients of the Community Literacy Award are all of the Reading Centres in the Arrow and Slocan Lakes area.

Please be advised that the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources issued a Stop Work Order, requiring the mine to provide an independent geotechnical report of conditions at the underground mine. The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources issued a Stop Work Order, requiring the mine to provide an independent geotechnical report of conditions at the underground mine. On September 3, the company announced that the geotechnical review had been done, and that there were no issues with re-entering the mine. “The event was contained to the inactive, non-manned entry stope,” states a press release issued by Roca Mines Inc. The release describes the shutdown as a “cautious step that will protect the safety of mine workers and equipment from unforeseen ground conditions.”

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT

NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Directors of the Regional District of Central Kootenay proposes to adopt “Geospatial Information Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2136, 2010” which would authorize the annual requisition of not more than $246,000 or $0.0315/$1000 of not taxable value of land and improvements in the service area.

The purpose of this bylaw is to formalize the provision of geospatial information services (GIS) in Electoral Areas A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J and K and the municipalities of Creston, Kaslo, Nakusp, Nelson, New Denver, Salmo, Silverton and Slocan. GIS service is currently being provided through the General Administration Service. Bylaw 2136 will create a new service and move taxation from General Administration into this stand-alone service.

AREA: The boundaries of the service established under Section 1 of Geospatial Information Service Establishment Bylaw No. 2136, 2010 are the boundaries of the Regional District of Central Kootenay, excluding the area within the municipal boundaries of Castlegar.

RATEPAYER IMPLICATIONS: The maximum amount of money that may be requisitioned annually for the service under Section 805 and Section 806 of the Local Government Act shall not exceed the greater of $246,000 or $0.0315/$1000 of not taxable value of land and improvements in the service area.

ASSESSED VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY TAXATION @ RESIDENTIAL RATE ($0.0262/$1000)

$150,000. 3.33
$250,000. 5.65
$450,000. 11.79

No borrowing shall be incurred for the purposes of this service.

The annual cost of providing this service shall be recovered by one or more of the following:

a) Property value taxes to be levied and collected on the net taxable value of land and improvements within the participating areas, imposed in accordance with Division 4.3 of the Local Government Act
b) Parcel taxes imposed in accordance with Division 4.3 of the Local Government Act
c) Fees and charges imposed under Section 363 of the Local Government Act
d) Revenues raised by other means authorized under the Local Government Act or another Act
e) Revenues received by way of agreement, enterprise, gift, grant or otherwise

ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS: Under Section 86 of the Community Charter, approval of the elections within the “Geospatial Information Service Establishment Area” is being obtained by means of the Alternative Approval Process. Therefore, eligible electors within the service area opposed to the RDCK establishing this service may petition against the adoption of Bylaw No. 2136 by signing an Elephant Response Form which may be obtained from the Regional District of Central Kootenay Office.

At least 10% of electors must petition against the proposal prior to the deadline date, which is at least 30 days after the last publication of this Notice, in order to prevent the Board from proceeding with the Bylaw without the assent of the electors.

ELECTOR RESPONSE FORM: The Elephant Response Form must be in the form established by the Board of Directors and is available from the offices of the Regional District of Central Kootenay during regular office hours or from the RDCK’s website at www.rdck.bc.ca

WHO MAY SIGN ELECTOR RESPONSE FORM: Electors, either resident or owning property, within the boundaries of the “Geospatial Information Service Establishment Area” are the only persons entitled to sign the Elephant Response Form. An elector is a person who meets the requirements and qualifications defined by the Local Government Act as described in detail on the Elephant Response Form. The Board of Directors has resolved that a fair estimate of the total number of electors in the subject area is 37,374. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 86(1)(c) of the Community Charter, 3,737 or more electors must sign the Elephant Response Form to prevent the Board from proceeding without the assent of the electors.

DEADLINE: The Elephant Response Form must be received by the undersigned before 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 19, 2010.

If you have any questions regarding this proposal or would like to request an Elephant Response Form, please feel free to contact the undersigned. Information relating to this notice will also be available on the Regional District’s website at www.rdck.bc.ca under “Public Notices”.

Dated at Nelson, B.C. this 27th day of August, 2010.

Dawn Alltop, General Manager of Corporate Administration
Regional District of Central Kootenay
Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC V1L 5R4
Telephone: 352-6665 Toll Free: 1-800-288-7325 FAX: 352-9300 E-mail: daltop@rdck.bc.ca
**Scratch magazine award winners to read at Slocan Library**

Two local award-winning authors will showcase their work at the Slocan Community Library on September 19 from noon until 1:30 pm. Nelson’s Amos Tanguay and Winlaw’s Julia Caceres-Booth won first and second place respectively in Scratch Mag’s first writing challenge. Scratch Mag is a Columbia Basin Trust youth-based magazine. The magazine was launched in response to the desire of youth in the area to have a forum to express their artistic side and have relevant current issues presented.

Caceres-Booth, who is already feeling adrift and fearful about his childhood. He has been teaching and preserving in the Medicine Wheel, the powerful interests that insist water is just a commodity. "Water must be declared a public trust, to protect fresh water is to privatize it. It is humanity's own right to the liquid that sustains all life -- balanced against powerful interests that insist water is just another resource to be bought and sold. "Water must be declared a public trust and a human right that belongs to the people, the ecosystem and the future," argues Barlow. "They will be followed by a question and answer session with filmmaker Marshall, Raelynn Gibson of the West Kootenay EcoSociety, and Michelle Mungall, MLA, who is co-sponsoring both film nights."

The top 10 finalists out of the 44 submissions were able to take advantage of one-on-one mentorship with published authors and writing instructors to fine tune their stories. Their stories were then submitted once more for final judging. The final 10 stories, which were published in the summer edition of Scratch Mag, were reviewed by a volunteer selection committee comprised of Basin authors, writers and editors.

The Scratch Writing Challenge was very well received by the youth and arose from the desire to increase creative writing submissions from youth in the CBR. “We were surprised both by the numbers of submissions and the quality of the submissions,” said Michelle d’Entremont, Basin Youth Liaison. “We hope some of the stories had to be set in the Basin. “It was great to hear how youth portrayed their communities and the range of topics presented, said d’Entremont. “We didn’t know what to expect when we said it was to be set in the Basin. Some placed the story there and moved on while others elaborated on spots and you knew it came from a personal favourite.”

This will be the second event for the Slocan Community Library this season. The first literary event with Terry Falls was a success, said Michelle Morelli, library volunteer. Over 18 people attended and Falls sold out of his book.

If you are planning to attend this event for the young writers and would like to read their stories beforehand, you can find them online at www.skeltoncreektoweg.com.

### Water documentary to screen in Kootenays

When Liz and her team were in the West-Kootenay filming, they interviewed Lee-Ann Unger of the EcoSociety, Michelle Mungall, MLA, Storm and Mick Grabowski of Rainbow’s End Trans Canada Radio, The Arrow 107.1 is currently undertaking a 5 part radio series on the Columbia Basin. This series is funded by a grant from the Community Radio Foundation of Canada.

Pathways School, directed by Dr. Michael Smith and Chris Morasky, is pleased to announce the Full Circle Program. This year-long apprenticeship offers a unique curriculum of guidance along the journey to becoming a whole, enlightened being living in harmony with the earth. Drawing upon First Nations and Taoist spiritual and healing traditions and primal skills for meeting one's physical needs from the earth, Full Circle is unlike any other course in personal growth.

Participants will receive over 500 hours of instruction, including teachings in the Medicine Wheel, the Eight Branches of Taoism, Qi Gong and meditation, ancestral diet, indigenous calendar, massage, energy healing, sacred communication plus the ancient skills of drum making, hide tanning, stone and bone tools, herbology, fire by rubbing sticks together, Stone Age hunting and trapping ethics and methods, silent movement training with all things, living together in peace, and much more.

Apprentices will also learn permaculture techniques to grow a bountiful garden without chemicals, raise livestock, and build with natural materials. These teachings are essential today, as humanity faces the challenges of global climate change, peak oil, the collapse of our ocean fisheries, increasing competition for natural resources, economic depression and overpopulation. The ancient teachings show us not only how to meet our needs and cultivate immediate survival during these uncertain times, but also give us reason to hope for a future of harmony and sustainability.

Dr. Michael Smith is a Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine and inheritor of an oral tradition, Lay-sustainability. He has even led our place within it. He has even led extensive understanding of nature and our place within it. He has even led several wilderness survival expeditions using only Stone Age tools. Morasky lives in the mountains of Idaho in a tipi for six years and learned from teachers throughout North America, including many survival instructors and members of Lakesh One, Arapaho, Blackfoot, Crow, and Seri tribes.

For more information, visit www.pathwayschool.ca or call 250-357-2202 (Chris) or 250-352-0459 (Michael).

### One-of-a-kind survival course comes to the Kootenays

Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) invites Basin youth ages 15-29 to sign up now for ‘Currents,’ Columbia Basin Trust Youth Water Forum 2010. ‘Currents’ will be held at Halcyon Hot Springs in Nakusp from September 24-26.

“CBT is looking forward to engaging youth in water issues in the Columbia Basin for a second year at ‘Currents’,” said Heather Michael, CBT Program Manager, Water Initiatives. “We recognize that Basin youth are the future leaders in our communities and will be instrumental in future water-related decisions. ‘Currents’ is an opportunity for them to learn about important water issues in a fun environment and get involved in water stewardship in the Basin.”

Designed as an experiential field-based weekend, participants will acquire new skills, network with other youth and professionals working in water and learn more about water resources. Those attending will also have the opportunity to take action by starting a water-focused project in their community.

Participation in ‘Currents’ is free and includes lodging, meals and all scheduled activities. Space is limited so participants are encouraged to sign up early. Registration is available online until September 13 at www.cbt.org/currents.

For more information on CBT’s Water Initiatives, visit www.cbt.org/water. For more information on ‘Currents,’ contact Heather Mitchell, Program Manager, Water Initiatives at 1-800-505-8999 or hmtichel@cbt.org.