Exploration undertaken at Willa and LH properties near Silverton

by Jan McMurray

After a long period of inactivity, gold mining exploration at the Willa and LH properties above Red Mountain Road near Silverton is underway once again.

International Bethlehem Mining Corporation has completed its exploration work for this year, which consisted of drilling one 807-foot-deep hole up on a ridge in the Fingland Creek drainage during the second week of November.

“Til the assay results are favourable, and I'm optimistic they will be, we will be back in the spring to drill 10-12 more holes along the ridge,” reported Ron Coombes, president of International Bethlehem Mining Corporation. Assay results are expected back in mid-December.

Coombes said if the company decides to return, they will hold a community meeting before the spring drilling program starts up.

The company received a permit on November 6 to do much more work than was originally planned. Coombes explained that the company’s renewed interest in the mining property has to do with the current high price of gold and the promising results from 1988 exploration in this area done by Noranda Mining and Exploration Corporation. “They made a discovery in 1988 that they never followed up on,” said Coombes. “We decided it was time to go up and verify their results.”

Coombes added that the 1988 work was done by well-respected people in the industry who have worked in southeastern BC for many years. The drill hole completed this fall was done in between two of the four holes drilled in 1988.

Coombes said that the company does not usually drill on hillsides this late in the season – usually not past the third week of October – but International Bethlehem has entered into a joint venture agreement with Magnum Capital Corporation on the exploration property, and for that transaction to be completed, the work had to be done by the end of this year. Also, the permitting took longer than expected.

Despite the late start, Coombes reported it only has a couple of days of work to do this year. “The road work we have to do means less of an impact in the area. The work area is also away from the riparian area, so that’s good news,” he said.

During the course of this project, the company became aware that there are 13 water users on the creek – something they hadn’t known before. Coombes said the water users can rest assured that the company has excellent practices and is aware of their responsibilities. “We’ve done a lot of work there previously without any mishap – no one objected to our quality standards there at the end of the day,”

He explained that the company has 19 contiguous Crown grants in the area, which have been in good standing since 1903. “These are different from mineral claims but still subject to the same regulations. They are more like strata held properties – we pay annual taxes on them.”

He said they dropped one piece of their property in the area, just downhill from the present site, because they felt it held no promise. This smaller property is reportedly being acquired by Discovery Ventures Inc. and Caribou King Resources.

It’s that time of the year again! Santa makes his appearance at Nakusp’s Celebration of Light, Nov 24.
Jumbo becomes mountain resort municipality in February

by Katrine Campbell

Despite vigorous opposition from many environmental groups and local residents, the BC government is allowing development of the Jumbo resort to go ahead. The latest announcement from Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Bill Bennett is that cabinet has approved the incorporation of Jumbo as a mountain resort municipality effective February 19, 2013. He also announced $500,000 in government funding, the opposition NDP says.

At the annual meeting of the Union of BC Municipalities in September, local and regional government delegates voted to ask the ministry to consider “a governance structure that includes elected representatives responsible for land-use decisions for a permanent population of at least 200 people” and said “that UBCM does not support the concept of an unelected body making land use decisions for an area with no population.”

A municipal council has been appointed for a term ending November 30, 2014, and an interim corporate officer has also been named and will serve until the first council meeting of the new municipality.

Appointed as Jumbo’s first mayor and councillors are Greg Deck, Nancy Hugunin and Steve Ostrander; Phil Taylor will be the interim corporate officer.

After the announcement was made, reaction was swift. The Kootenay Coalition for Jumbo Wild said the announcement “demonstrates the current government’s blatant disrespect for public opinion, and for the role of elected local governments as managers of local land decisions.”

The Coalition noted that “controversial changes to the Local Government Act in May 2012...allow for the designation of a Mountain Resort Municipality in a wilderness area, with no requirement of a permanent population and no infrastructure.”

BC taxpayers will be responsible for the new CAO’s salary, road maintenance and avalanche control costs, the Coalition says, and the municipality – which doesn’t exist and has a population of zero – has the right to access public funds to build infrastructure.

The Jumbo Creek Conservation Society calls the Resort Municipality “a banana republic in the Jumbo Valley.” Spokesperson Bob Campbell says the province “has appointed a puppet council which will be operated as a commercial enterprise for private profit...while the economic, environmental and social debts incurred will be the taxpayers’ responsibility.”

The NDP called the decision to “appoint an unelected council to oversee an unpopulated resort...is just the latest step by the Liberal government to force the resort onto Kootenay residents.”

Not everyone is unhappy: the BC Chamber of Commerce says it is “very supportive” of the government’s decision. The resort will be “a game changer for BC tourism,” adding the province sent “a clear signal that economically critical projects can ultimately be dealt with through an expeditious and balanced process.”

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Season’s Greetings
From the Council & Staff of the Village of Slocan

Holiday Hours:
The Village Office will be closed at 4 pm on Thursday, December 20th and will re-open at 9 am on January 2nd, 2013.

Wishing all of you a safe and happy holiday!
Residents and property owners show strong interest in the future of Slocan Lake
submitted by Michelle Laurie

A recent survey conducted in the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) Area H North, including the Villages of Slocan Lake, Silverton and New Denver, points to the paramount importance of clean water and healthy ecosystems to local residents and property owners.

The community values study, ‘Imagine Slocan Lake,’ surveyed residents and property owners aged 16 and over on their values and vision for the future of Slocan Lake. 665 surveys were collected, which is more than double the number needed to be 95 percent confident the answers represent the reported for the overall population (with +/- 5% confidence interval).

Survey analysis was based on the broad groupings of values and vision, recreation, built structures, boating and marinas, and planning, land use and our environment. More detailed analysis was undertaken to compare the responses of permanent residents versus those of part-time/seasonal residents and absentee land/home-owners as well as each village and the combined rural area. Overall, the views of residents and property owners in the three villages were in agreement, whereas the split in the other study area were generally in alignment.

The police investigation is double the number needed to be 95 percent confident the answers represent the reported for the overall population (with +/- 5% confidence interval).

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Break and enter and assault on Red Mountain Road
Submitted by RCMP

Four males have been arrested and are in police custody in connection with a break and enter and assault that occurred at a residence on Red Mountain Road near Silverton on Sunday, November 25.

Slocan Lake and Nakusp RCMP members responded to a report of an armed robbery at the residence at approximately 11:30 Sunday morning.

Two males reportedly entered the home pointing firearms. A physical altercation with the two residents ensued, and one of the residents and one of the suspects were stabbed.

The vehicle description of the suspects was passed along to neighbouring detachments and the Nelson Police Department. Road checks were set up and patrols of the area were made.

At approximately 2:30 pm, Midway and South Okanagan RCMP stopped the suspect vehicle on Hwy 3 near Bridesville. The four male occupants, ranging in age from 22 to 62, were taken into custody without incident. A subsequent search of the suspect vehicle revealed a handgun and pellet gun.

Staff Sergeant Dan Seibel reported that both people who were stabbed required medical attention and have been released from hospital. The stabbed suspect was treated after being arrested.

When asked if drugs were involved, Sergeant Seibel said police had not ruled out the possibility.

The police investigation is continuing.

Values and Vision

With respect to values and visions, Slocan Lake residents and property owners place a very high value on clean water (83.5%) and healthy ecosystems (98.3%). The least valued was the highest ranked values, the ideal vision for 2032 and beyond for the majority of respondents included clean water and healthy aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. Undeveloped Crown land and quiet were also high-ranking visions.

The vast majority of residents and property owners were concerned about the future of Slocan Lake (77.4%) with the top concerns being the inverse of what is most important to them (for example, increased water quality and loss of biodiversity).

Additional concerns that ranked high in respondents’ top choices included crowding on the lake, selling Crown land, and noise pollution.

Highly-ranked choices should be taken into the context that participants were only allowed to select up to five choices in total. The desire for some limited new private development emerged as a vision for some respondents in the open-ended responses. Perhaps respondents felt they could more clearly qualify their statements to specify if they only wanted sustainable, limited development that was “done right.”

Recreation

With respect to recreational activities, the majority of respondents felt that the current situation is satisfactory with regard to swimming, fishing, canoeing/kayaking, rowing, sailing, and small electric or 4-stroke motor boating.

On the other hand, the majority of respondents (over 64%) felt that with respect to houseboating and sea-dooing/ jet skiing, there should be either none or less than the current situation. A large number of respondents (more than 43%), although not the majority, also felt that for ski boating and wake boating, there should be none or less than the current situation.

Camping and hiking were the only two activities that a small majority of respondents indicated there could be more of or on Slocan Lake.

Built Structures

Overall, the results suggest that for the majority of respondents, there is substantial to total support for the maintenance of existing public wharves/docks/boat ramps. With respect to the development of additional public wharves/docks/boat ramps, the results are mixed, with the largest percentage of respondents indicating no support, the second largest percentage of respondents indicating only modest support and a small percentage of respondents (less than 20%) indicating substantial to total support.

With respect to location of new public wharves/docks/boat ramps/ breakwaters, if they were to be developed, a strong majority of respondents (71.9%) expressed no support for locations outside of existing communities. A small majority (57.6%) expressed substantial or total support for locations within and around the villages of Slocan, Silverton, Nakusp and the unincorporated communities of Rosebery and Hills.

In terms of private structures, the majority of respondents expressed no support for unlimited private development of wharves/docks/ permanent and floating structures/breakwaters on the foreshore. Support for limited new private development on the foreshore ranged between respondents that expressed no support (49.6%), those that expressed modest support (29.6%) and those that expressed substantial or total support (19.6%).

Boating and Marinas

The majority of respondents indicated modest support (40.9%) for moorage expansions at existing docks, while 19.5% indicated substantial to total support and 28.1% indicated no support for moorage expansions at existing docks.

With respect to the development of dock and moorage facilities at additional locations, a slight majority of respondents indicated no support. The bulk of respondents who indicated some support indicated only modest support.

Support for the proposed regulations and restrictions relating to boating and marinas was very strong with the majority of respondents indicating substantial to total support.

Planning, Land Use and Our Environment

Overall, the majority of respondents indicated support for a wide range of regulations associated with lake and land management and no support for the development of vacant Crown land bordering the shores of Slocan Lake or development on the lakeshore. A sizable percentage of respondents (47%) indicated that more regulation is needed to ensure that the lake and foreshore is properly managed.

Thank you to all who participated.

Congratulations to Deborah Porter of Kelowna/Rosebery, winner of the draw for the $100 cash prize.

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**Community Calendar**

**Wednesday, November 28**
Nakusp & Area Development Board AGM
Community Services 7 pm

**Thursday, November 29**
Columbia River Treaty Review workshop
RIK’s Handy Man 4 pm

**Friday, November 30**
Christmas by the Lake begins
Opera for Heathens 5 pm

**Saturday, December 1**
Santa arrives
Christmas by the Lake 10 am - 3 pm
Christmas Tea for Seniors 2 pm
Mirror Theatre presents SINBAD 7 pm

**Sunday, December 2**
Christmas by the Lake
Turkey Bingo 1 pm
Mirror Theatre presents SINBAD 7 pm

**Monday, December 3**
Silverton-New Denver Trail Society AGM
Red Mountain Internet Society AGM 7 pm

**Tuesday, December 4**
Steak & Ale Night
Goat Mountain School AGM 7 pm

**Wednesday, December 5**
28th Annual Community Carol Sing
New Denver Manor Social Club 7 pm

**Thursday, December 6**
Nakusp-High School Gym 7 pm

**Saturday, December 8**
Brian Mervosh & Celebrate Hanukkah
Wintex Christmas Craft Fair 9 am - 3 pm

**Friday, December 14**
Dinner at the Cup
Wintex Christmas Craft Fair 6:30 - 9:30 pm

**Saturday, December 15**
The Whole-School Blue Moon Café
Wintex Christmas Craft Fair 5 - 10 pm

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**Nakusp Rotary Club**
Meets Wednesdays at 7:00 pm
at the Nakusp Rotary Villa • 206 - 7th Ave

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**3NEWS**
Open letter to Norm Macdonald, NDP MLA re: Jumbo development

I have read with some interest, your comments of today reacting to Minister Bennett’s announcement regarding the captioned.

I am sure you have ready access to all of the resources of the New Domineering Party’s research department. If you are unable to engage those services, then I direct your attention to one of the first of the Barrett cabinet’s orders-in-council, concerning the boundary expansions of Kelowna, Kamloops and Prince George.

Let us not get into a debate about democracy. Mr. Macdonald, using the term you so eloquently employed today regarding the appointment of a municipal council for Jumbo.

Judging solely on the Kelowna, Kamloops and Prince George legislation of the early ‘70s, it strikes me that the NDP does not have a corner on that particular market.

Look it up and give it a good read. It was disgraceful then, and remains so now. But then, that – I suppose – reflects the NDP’s definition of democracy.

Jim Yount
Kaslo

A-Dios Jennie’s Book Garden!

“I used to walk my goats down the dirt road” she said once – the dirt road being our actual highway. I can only imagine… how I love to imagine…

The Ingrid Rice cartoon is a satirical look at current events in politics and is sponsored by the Kaslo Hotel. The Hotel does not necessarily share the political views of the artist.

I wish he would follow his mandate - a purposeful, useful mandate created by our government.

WHAT WOULD THAT MANDATE BE?

I wish he would follow his mandate - a purposeful, useful mandate created by our government.

TO SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP

Air pollution via electromagnetic signaling

Pollution is often described as being something that’s in our environment that didn’t get there by natural means. It is an unnatural presence and it usually has deleterious effects on ecosystems. It’s especially bad when it’s a toxic substance or material and dangerous to human health.

Electromagnetic radiation is used for a variety of different purposes. These include broadcasting radio and television signals, cell phone and radiophones communications, auto weather station reporting and, today, transmitting signals from homes to receivers that carry data pertaining to the use of hydropower… electricity. In all these cases, the signaling and broadcasting that goes on is invisible to the human eye; we can’t see electromagnetic signals as they propagate through our air. But they are there, whether we can see them or not.

Our televisions and radios and internet antenna can see them, and BC Hydro’s receivers can see the signals their so-called ‘smart meters’ transmit and our cell phones can see signals broadcast from cell phone towers, and the gear on the towers can see the signals our cell phones broadcast. We are awash in a sea of electromagnetic signaling. Telus and Fortis and BC Hydro want to increase the volume of this traffic that’s polluting our air, likely quadrupling or quintupling it, or more.

The question is, should we let them do it? The answer lies in knowing the degree of health risk this poses for us. We can probably be pretty sure that neither Telus nor Fortis nor BC Hydro care a lick about whether their pollution carries negative health risks or exposes us to potentially quite harmful stuff. They’re in it for the money and only in it for the money. Thus, anything they have to say about it must be seen through very circumspect eyes. There is ongoing debate in the science and medical fields as to whether electromagnetic signals do or don’t pose health risks to people living in communities exposed to them. But while there’s been no definitive answer provided by either science or medicine, there’s sufficient evidence to support some quite good, if somewhat tentative, arguments that they do.

To a rational person, this means we should err on the side of caution. It is our health after all, and the health of our children. And that pretty much means saying “NO!” until such time as better science and enhanced medical research become available to better predicate any decision we might make on the issue.

Why run fast into a brick wall, or even a wall we can’t see? Why indeed.

Sean Rooney
Vallican

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.

The Valley Voice

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The Ingrid Rice cartoon is a satirical look at current events in politics and is sponsored by the Kaslo Hotel. The Hotel does not necessarily share the political views of the artist.
Regional District supporting installation of smart meters, and numerous local governments have adopted an application. Further, a majority of the community meetings organized by the customers (many of them seniors and community members) have been utilizing a wired meter option, in part because the AMI wireless option is economically and environmentally preferable. The AMI wireless option is estimated to cost between $430 and $470 per meter, whereas FortisAlberta and Idaho Power have spent $208 and $212, respectively, installing wired meters. This represents a capital cost savings of between $162 and $288 per meter, which is a significant cost savings between 2013 and 2032 than AMI wireless option.

5. None of the residential customers (many of them seniors and retired professionals) presenting at community meetings organized by the customers have expressed any concern related to health and safety. In fact, many customers reported that they are utilizing a wired meter option, in part because the AMI wireless option is economically and environmentally preferable. The AMI wireless option is estimated to cost between $430 and $470 per meter, whereas FortisAlberta and Idaho Power have spent $208 and $212, respectively, installing wired meters. This represents a capital cost savings of between $162 and $288 per meter in favour of the wired option.

6. For all of the above reasons, it is therefore requested that these proceedings be suspended until FortisBC has amended its application to include an appropriately sourced and verifiable PLC AMI and/or wired option for consideration alongside their preferred AMI wireless option.

Response to Chris Dawson

For someone who claims to have been a journalist, Mr. Dawson shows an astonishing ignorance of his subject. Without ever bringing up a single fact, he resorts to characterizing anyone concerned about the biological effects of wireless radiation as ‘anti-faucet’ hat wearers. Apparently he knows better than several international scientists who have been doing research into the issue, including Dr. Andrew Goldsworthy (UK), Dr. Magda Havas (Canada), Dr. Lennart Hardell (Sweden), Dr. Olle Johansson (Sweden), Dr. David Carpenter (US), Dr. David Bronz (US), Dr. Andrew Michrowsky (Canada), Drs. Ronni and Danny Wolf (Israel), and many others. Several of these presented studies to Health Canada in 2010, explaining that Canada’s current radiofrequency (RF) exposure limits, Safety Code 6, are outdated and inadequate to protect the public health.

Then last year the World Health Organization upgraded RF as a Class 2B Possible Carcinogenic, but many scientists were arguing for a much more absolute categorization of it as a known carcinogen. The WHO has in the past been compromised by the influence of the telecommunications industry and even the editor of the prestigious medical journal The Lancet criticized the organization for its “lack of evidence-based guidelines.” (Associated Press, March 3, 2011)

And then there is Dr. Martin Blank of Columbia University, a contributor to the 2007 Biomonitoring Report, which sought to collate data and find trends on the subject to date. “There is now sufficient scientific data about the biological effects of EMF, and in particular about radiofrequency (RF) radiation, to argue for adoption of precautionary measures. We can state unequivocally that EMF can cause single and double strand DNA breakage at exposure levels that are considered safe under the FCC guidelines in the USA,” writes Dr. Blank.

That good enough for you, Mr. Dawson? Or do you have something this distinguished scientist and his colleagues don’t? (Health Canada’s pathetic standard is a carbon copy of the FCC’s.)

Appropriately Mr. Dawson is of that blissfully simplistic part of the population who believe that if you can’t see it, it can’t hurt you. Either that or he is trying to believe whatever corporate propaganda is shoved down our throats in the name of preserving the profits of a multi-billion dollar industry. It seems he has little knowledge of history, either. We’ve been through this before: powerful industries lobbying government for approval of products based on faulty or even fraudulent safety studies. Think asbestos, thalidomide, PCBs, Vioxx, etc. etc. That is why we should be surprised a journalist is truly incredible.

In future if you can’t manage your facts, Mr. Dawson, kindly refrain from insulting those of us who can.

Art Joyce
New Denver
by Jan McMurray

• Gary Willman attended on behalf of the Silverton Community Club and Christmas by the Lake. Council approved requests for the use of the Silverton Gallery grounds and fire hall for the Christmas event November 30–December 2, and Mayor Provan said she would be honoured to speak at the opening ceremony. He said the event would be similar to past years, with 30 vendors, the popular ice slide, and visits by Santa. All youth 16 and under can enter a contest for a Nikon CoolPix camera. The shuttle from Nelson will be operating.

Willman said the group did not get the grant it had applied for to build the proposed gazebo on the gallery grounds, but is applying again and hopes to get the project underway this spring.

He reported that the society’s slate of directors elected at the recent AGM include Ron Provan (president), Kerry Heidema (vice-president), Vern Hartman (treasurer), Linda Lakin and Cheryl Butchart (secretaries), Gary Willman and Armand Lange (directors). Memberships to the society are now available at no charge. Over the last seven years, the Silverton Community Gallery has granted over $200,000 to local organizations.

• Six youth from the nine-member REACT (Real Environmental Action Created by Teens) attended as a delegation to introduce the group’s idea of going plastic bag free in New Denver and Silverton. Their plan is to purchase 2,000 fabric bags, and have them available in boxes in every store that agrees to take them. The group has spoken to many of the businesses, and they are supportive of the idea.

The group plans to have a public meeting on December 13 at the Bosun Hall from 5 pm to 8 pm – soup from Soup du Jour will be served.

Danks said she had also spoken to Mayors Provan and Banka about a plastic bag fine program.

Group members shared some grim statistics: Canadians use 9-15 billion plastic shopping bags every year; plastic bags “photodegrade,” which means they break down into smaller, more toxic bits and enter the food system; the Pacific Garbage Patch is now as big as the US.

• At a special meeting November 8, Elaine Rogers was appointed Chief Election Officer and Melissa Miles was appointed Deputy Chief Election Officer.

Also at the special meeting, council decided to set up a task force to “meet, manage, recommend and advise council on matters relating to the Silverton Gallery and the recently completed Feasibility and Conservation Study.” Committee members will be Mayor Provan, Councillor Main, Jonathan Battle of the Slocan Lake Gallery Society, one member of the Silverton Historical Society and one member of the public. Staff was directed to engage Galena Environmental Ltd. to begin an environmental assessment of the gallery building and lands. Council decided to apply for funding under the Community Improvement Fund for further studies for the building, including an energy audit and a structural assessment of the roof, before a decision on renovating is made.

• Water Rates and Regulation Bylaw 479-2012 was read three times. In the new bylaw, the rates have not changed, but the 5 percent discount for early payment has been eliminated and a 10 percent penalty is applied to accounts still outstanding on July 1. They estimate this will bring in $3,000. Council members said they are aware of a regulation for a self-sustainable water system, where rates are sufficient to cover operating costs and build a reserve fund. However, for now, the council is not interested in taking it any further and to be topped up from general revenue.

Bylaw 478-2012, a bylaw to regulate the proceedings of council and council committees, was on the agenda for three readings, but no readings took place. It was referred back to staff for changes and will come before council again. During public time, concerns were expressed because the draft bylaw allows for public input only at the beginning of the meeting, and there will be no public input during council committee meetings. People feel a public input period is important at the end of the meeting, so they can ask questions about the meeting’s proceedings.

• Council received an invoice from Waste Management for the rental of the electronic recycling bins for $50 per month of October. This means the rental of the bins will cost $570 per year. Also this year there is a $2 per pickup charge. Council was surprised, as the Village had previously been paying a total of $500 per year. This was referred back to staff to look into alternative rates.

• A letter from Craig Pettitt of the Valhalla Foundation explains that due to unforeseen circumstances, the foundation will no longer be involved in the acquisition of the waterfront lot near the late Colleen McCrory’s home. The letter states that the owner of the property, Mr. McGuire, will be contacting the Village about plans for the property.

• Councilor Clarke reported that Red Mountain Internet Society directors are interested in understanding how the system works, so Clarke has volunteered to work with the technician to document this.

• Reporting on the Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission (SVEDC), Main said CBT funding of $10,000 has been confirmed for the Business Retention and Expansion project that will be done in partnership with the Slocan District Chamber of Commerce. The SVEDC has also been approved as the organization to deliver $100,000 per year for three years to support the Slocan Valley as a whole. The new CBT program.

• Councillor Main reported that the Rosebery Parklands and Rosebery-Three Forks Trail Commission had submitted its budget to the RDCK and no new taxation is required for the service.

• Councillor Main reported on the Slocan Valley Local Government Forum, where New Denver, Silverton and Slocan councils meet, with Director Popoff as a guest. She said they are discussing service and staff sharing, and although they don’t yet have a concrete plan, she feels it is a worthwhile discussion. She said Nkusk has been asked to include, and New Denver will invite them. There has also been some interest from Kaslo.

“We’re getting noticed by other people and being looked at positively,” she said.

• Council will recommend that Julie Fry’s appointment to Recreation Commission #6 be renewed.

• Council approved a request from the Valhalla Community Choir to use candles at the concert at the Memorial Hall this year, the last concert that Francis Ollman will be directing. They will be asked to find an alternative to candles for next year.

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NOTICE OF POWER INTERRUPTION 
SCHROEDER CREEK 
AND AREAS NORTH

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
When: Wednesday, December 5, 2012

We will be making electrical system improvements in Schroeder Creek and areas North on December 5th. To ensure the safety of our work crews, it will be necessary to interrupt electrical service for approximately 4 hours, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The area affected is from 10325 Hwy 31 North to and including the community of Johnsons Landing and all communities in between—Schroeder Creek, Lardeau, Argenta, Meadow Creek, Duncan Dam, Howser and Cooper Creek.

To prepare for this interruption and protect your equipment from damage, please unplug all electronics, such as TVs, PVRs, DVD players and computers. Please also turn off all lights, electric heaters and major appliances, such as your clothes or dishwasher, dryer or oven.

For the first hour after the power comes back on, please plug in or turn on only what you really need. This will help ensure the electrical system does not get overloaded.

We are sorry for the inconvenience. We will restore your power as soon as we can. Prepare for outages and stay informed by visiting bchydro.com/outages or bchydro.com/mobile from your handheld device. Please call 1 888 POWERON (1 888 769 3766) if you experience any electrical difficulties or for more information.

NOTICE OF ELECTION

The Village of Silverton

2013 BY-ELECTION

NOTICE OF NOMINATION

Public Notice is given to the electors of the Village of Silverton that nomination for the office of:

COUNCILLOR – ONE

Nominations will be received by the Chief Election Officer or a designated person, as follows:

The Village of Silverton
421 Lake Avenue, Silverton, BC
Nomination Period:
9:00 am December 11, 2012
To 4:00 pm December 21, 2012
(Excluding Statutory holidays and weekends)

Nomination documents are available at the Village of Silverton office during regular office hours of Tuesday through Friday 10:00 am to 4:00 pm or by special request during the nomination period.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

A person is qualified to be nominated, elected, and to hold office as a member of local government if they meet the following criteria:

• Canadian Citizen;
• 18 years of age or older;
• Resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day nomination papers are filed; and
• Not disqualified by the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election in British Columbia or from sitting nominated for, being elected to, or holding office.

FURTHER INFORMATION on the foregoing may be obtained by contacting:

Elaine Rogers, Chief Election Officer 250-358-2472
Melissa Miles, Deputy Chief Election Officer 250-358-2472

The Valley Voice November 28, 2012
Kohan Garden shoreline restoration completed submitted

This past summer, 19 Redfish
found on the Slocan Lake shoreline. Red osier dogwood, Nootka rose, Columbia Basin Trust Environmental and employment opportunities. She has also been in contact with the Ministry of

needs repair and the marina does not have the funds for the project. 

• CAO Tyuann added that the Village believes that the breakwater is part of what BC Hydro has already ordered to do in Nakusp. Councillor Duchaine said he did not want this to delay the project any further, so the breakwater would have to be done in the future. The CAO agreed to include this in the letter, and assured council that the project is moving forward – the tender is out.

• Council approved a request for a Beer Garden at the arena during the Falcon Cup Tournament December 22-23. Teams playing at the tournament will be made up of people from Nakusp, past and present. There will be no out-of-town teams. The tournament is a fundraiser for Nakusp Minor Hockey.

• Councillor Mueller reported that the hot springs advisory committee is working on a prospectus of the hot springs and will meet with Diana Brooks, project manager in economic development with the Province, on December 10.

• Council agreed to support CJBAL’s (Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy) grant application through the 2013 Age-friendly Community Planning & Project Grant program for $3,500 for a 2013 Seniors Resource Fair.

• Mayor Hamling reported that she and Dr. Lea had a long conversation with Dr. Alan Stewart of Interior Health. Stewart assured them that although the Arrows Lakes Hospital was moved from acute care to community care in an BH re-organization, hospital and medical staff in Nakusp will receive the support needed. Other concerns raised with Dr. Stewart included the need for a respite bed, diabetes clinics, and more home care. She added that funding has been allocated for drawings of a redesigned emergency department at the hospital.

• Mayor Hamling reported that she met with a representative of the Employment and Labour Market Services division of the Ministry of Social Development in Nakusp. His department can help with a Community Employment Plan and various training and employment opportunities. She has also been in contact with the Ministry of Social Development in Nakusp. His department can help with a Community Employment Plan and various training and employment opportunities. She has also been in contact with the Ministry of

By Jan McMurray

Nakusp council, November 13: Council pushes for breakwater for wharf

A letter will be sent to the Water Stewardship Commission urging them to require BC Hydro to replace the breakwater as part of the wharf project.

BC Hydro has stated that the Nakusp wharf project does not include a breakwater because the marina provides adequate protection. Mayor Hamling said that BC Hydro is installing breakwaters with every other wharf they’ve been ordered to build on the Arrow Lakes. “I feel strongly that BC Hydro should be responsible for that because it is their wharf. There would be no protection for that wharf,” she said. “It’s their responsibility to give us access [to the lake] and protect that wharf.”

Councillor Mueller added that Ken France from the marina came to council some time ago to say that the breakwater Project started in April with the Village of Nakusp, Walker. She used an Ecosystem Garden, a garden setting.

SLGS hopes this project will enhance SLGS all contributed more than required. Columbia Basin Trust Environmental Initiatives program and the RDKC Community Development Fund were the generous funders for the Kohan portion of the project.

Planting with native species is a growing trend in horticulture so, next March, when we all start thinking of getting out in the garden again, SLGS and the Secure the Shore will sponsor a workshop: Propagating and Growing Native Plants in Your Garden. For more information on invasive species and use of native plants in the garden, go to the Native Plant Study Group websites.

Kaslo Rainbow Derby

by Jan McMurray

Did you miss the Kaslo Rainbow Derby? Janan Clareen of South Slocan did!!! His first place fish weighed in at 18lb 10oz and took home $2,992. Doug Howard of Balfour took third and won $1,728 with a fish weighing 18lb 6.5oz. That is almost $9,000 in cash prizes. Congratulations to all the winners – next year it could be you. The Kaslo Hotel and Barren’s Sport Shop would like to thank all the participants and the many sponsors that helped to make this year’s Remembrance Day Rainbow Derby the best yet.
Full house in Nakusp for Ballet Kelowna’s Double Variations

by Cedra Eichenauer

Ballet Kelowna got a warm welcome from a full house – including a row of children who sat on the floor at the front – when they returned to Nakusp November 17. This year marks Ballet Kelowna’s 10th anniversary, and artistic director David LeHay created a program spanning the history of ballet.

The opening number was taken from the peak of the romantic period of ballet, when the ballerinas were stars with reputations and egos as large as any movie star today. ‘Le Pas de Quatre’ was originally choreographed in 1845 in an unprecedented attempt to bring the top four ballerinas of the day together on the stage. The choreographer carefully showcased each star’s strengths so they all got a chance to shine.

This was the dance performed by Ballet Kelowna’s Raelynn Heppell, Clare Bassett, Desiree Bortolussi, and Tarina Paquin. When the curtain opened all got a chance to shine.

The men got their time in the spotlight – two and a half minutes. Jedidiah Duifhuis, Eric Hall, Davin Luce and Kurt LeHay then brought us into the modern era, dancing too evolved.

The final piece of the evening, ‘Double Variations’, was commissioned especially for Ballet Kelowna’s 10th anniversary. The choreographers, composer James Maxwell and dancers were brought together; the choreographers created the piece and the music was composed afterwards, to fit the dancers’ movements, rather than the other way around. The result was 25 minutes of fresh, contemporary ballet, completely owned by the dancers.

Nakusp congratulated for receiving Climate & Energy Action Award

by Jan McMurray

Nakusp was honoured for its initiatives to reduce greenhouse gases and reduce energy consumption at the November 13 council meeting.

Patricia Dehnel, Energy Planner with the Community Energy Association, attended to congratulate the Village for receiving the 2012 Climate & Energy Action Award in the ‘Corporate Operations’ category. Minister of Environment Terry Lake presented the award to Mayor Hamling at the recent Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) convention.

Dehnel said Nakusp’s application for the award was selected by the independent judging panel because of the renewable energy components of the projects (microhydro, solar and waste heat), Nakusp’s persistent approach to acquiring funding and achieving results with few local resources, and the significant inspiration this approach can provide for other small communities.

She outlined the Nakusp projects that led to the award and have resulted in an annual savings of $44,000 for the Village. The hot springs project included the installation of heat exchange units

Carbon monoxide prevention

by Jan McMurray

Natural gas is used safely and reliably in homes across B.C.

Regular inspection and maintenance is the best way to ensure peak performance of your natural gas appliances—and to prevent carbon monoxide (CO) in the home. Since CO is colourless and odourless, you can install a CO alarm for extra piece of mind.

To learn more about carbon monoxide safety, visit fortisbc.com/co.
Nakusp finances made simple as 1-2-3 at open house

Nakusp hosted an open house about the finances of the Village on November 13 in the Emergency Administration (24%); parks and arena (16%); public works (12%); water (11%); sewer (8%); hot springs (7%); fire and emergency service building (7%); miscellaneous (7%).

Taxation on an average house in Nakusp was $1,136. How does that compare with other communities? In Rossland, taxation on an average house is $1,680, and in Montrose, it is $200. Your tax dollars go to schools (32%); municipality (24%); regional district (19%); police (3%); BC Assessment (1%); hospital (3%).

At the end of 2012, Nakusp’s debt will be $1,055,814. The yearly payment on the debt is $96,955. How does this compare with other communities? Masset’s debt is $5.5 million and Hazzledon’s is $13,447.2.

Nakusp’s public works department spends $14,000 per year on drainage issues, $45,000 on road maintenance, $25,000 on sidewalk service improvement, $30,000 on sidewalk replacement, $90,000 on snow removal, $15,000 on airport maintenance, and $65,000 on garbage (paid for by garbage fees).

The fire department spends $7,100 per year on training and $20,000 to maintain the fire truck. To outfit one firefighter with all the required gear, it costs $11,000.

The sports centre costs $271,312 per year. Area K contributes $110,907 and Nakusp taxpayers contribute $92,335. User fees make up the remaining $68,070.

Annual maintenance costs for the waterfront walkways are $45,400; sports fields $35,800; cemeteries $5,000; beach $21,400; campground $8,000.

Water wells have been drilled, and water from the wells does not need to be treated. The surface water system is currently chlorinated and filtered, but this does not meet Interior Health standards. A water treatment plant is being installed to bring it up to standards. This is a $1,629,110 project and is being 100 percent funded with a grant. A hydrogen plant comes with the water treatment plant. Excess power generated will be sold to BC Hydro.

Nakusp sewer treatment plant project back on track

• The sewer treatment plant project is back on track after the termination of the Village’s contract with Delterra Engineering at the end of this fall.

The project will increase the sewer collection service area to a radius of 4.5 kilometers from the sewage treatment plant.

The project is currently under construction, and the completion date is projected for early 2013. When complete, the project is expected to handle all sewers in the Village.

To date, the project has been funded through a capital grant of $275,000 from the water reserve fund, which will be used to irrigate Village green space.

The project is also expected to reduce the amount of sewage sludge generated in the Village.

Council also decided to borrow $275,000 from the water reserve fund, which has about $800,000 in it, to make up the shortfall. Once the project is complete and all the figures are known, council will take out a loan to replenish the reserve fund. This is similar to what was done when the hot springs were upgraded.

An amendment to the financial plan to reflect this internal borrowing will come before council at its November 26 meeting.

Nakusp Junior Girls Volleyball Team wins West Kootenay championship

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Nakusp sewer treatment plant project back on track

The staff report outlines the significant work done by Bamber and Village staff to determine the status of the project and ways to move forward. The report details the project options and makes recommendations on the two immediate issues before council: which engineering consultants to hire to bring a sewer expansion plant project to completion, and how to deal with the fact that the project is over budget by about $275,000.

Council decided to contract the engineering services of Aqua Diversities Inc. and 904 Engineering Inc., two Nelson companies that work together. Out of three proposals, theirs had the lowest fee, and they have an excellent reputation and references. Their plan is to install the Kroll DAF sewer treatment plant that was purchased by the Village in February 2012. Unfortunately, the system had been only partially designed by Delterra. CAO Tynan said the Nelson engineers were very interested in the water reclamation part of the project, where treated wastewater will be used to irrigate Village green space.

Council also decided to borrow $275,000 from the water reserve fund, which has about $800,000 in it, to make up the shortfall. Once the project is completed and all the figures are known, council will take out a loan to replenish the reserve fund. This is similar to what was done when the hot springs were upgraded.

An amendment to the financial plan to reflect this internal borrowing will come before council at its November 26 meeting.

Bamber said he was hoping the project would be completed March 31, 2013, and reminded council that it was a $971,000 project, with two-thirds covered by a grant.

Mayor Hamling thanked Public Works, the CAO and Bamber for the “phenomenal job,” putting in “enormous amounts of hours to get us to this point.”

Mirrors Theatre presents "Sinbad"

Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription Only $10-$30

Nakusp & the Arrow Lakes

The Rice Paddy Take-Out Chinese Food

November 28, 2012

The Rice Paddy Take-Out Chinese Food

Wednesday & Thursday Nights
4 pm - 7:30 pm
250-265-3255
Nakusp, BC

Last Night – November 29

At the PaddyShack

Arrow Lakes Historical Society

BINGO

Sunday December 2nd at the Legion Hall
Doors open at 6. games at 6:30
Proceeds towards the Centennial Building Addition
5050 • Door prizes • Silent Auction

PALS HAS KIT- TENS! Please call PALS at 250-265-3792 or email info@pals-online.ca. If you would like to meet these cuties.

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PET OF THE WEEK

P.A.L.S.

950 Crescent Bay Rd

Sunday December 2nd at the Legion Hall

50/50 • Door prizes • Silent Auction

Nakusp and the Arrow Lakes Forest Inc.

Request for Board and Committee Members

The Nakusp and Area Community Forest (NACFOR) is inviting expressions of interest from the public to help guide the organization as a Board or Committee Member. NACFOR is a community forest corporation, owned by the Village of Nakusp and licensed by the Government of BC to harvest timber in the Nakusp area. The profits from harvesting are held by the organization and will be distributed to the local communities once reserve levels have been met. It is anticipated that NACFOR will begin to distribute funds to the community in 2013.

The Board of Directors meets on a monthly basis and is responsible for the overall management and policy direction of NACFOR and its forestry and community operations. Committees, including the youth, waste management, innovative strategies and fire management committees, will meet on an as needed basis and will advise the Board of Directors regarding policy and operational issues in each of these areas. These are all volunteer positions and no remuneration is provided outside of expenses related to the activities of the organization. All Board positions must be approved by the Village of Nakusp.

If you are interested in becoming involved in a dynamic, community orientated organization, send us your letter of interest or resume to info@nakuspcommunityforest.com.

For more information on NACFOR, please go to our website at: www.nakuspcommunityforest.com.

During the winter when no irrigation is required, the treated effluent will be discharged into the lake. The outfall pipe has already been installed. This project is being partially paid for with a $647,380 grant. The total cost will likely exceed $1 million.

November 28, 2012
The Valley Voice
Valhalla Community Choir Christmas Concert 2012: Francie Oldham’s last one

submitted by Francie Oldham

It all began 27 years ago while I was driving down the Slocan Valley with the car stereo cranked way up and the Hallelujah Chorus blaring away. I was singing full tilt when the thought first came to me – we could sing this song. We have so many talented musicians in the valley that we could do this. Once that thought planted itself, there was no turning back and hence what you see today is what began back in 1986.

Having never sang in a choir, much less directed one, I honestly had no idea what would be involved. I just thought that you just got a group of people together, you learned your individual parts and away you go. Oh, and you find someone to accompany you on the piano. Easy! Well, maybe not so easy, that you just got a group of people together, you learned your individual parts and away you go. Oh, and you find someone to accompany you on the piano. Easy! Well, maybe not so easy, but somehow with the help and support of many individuals within the choir, we were able to pull off a wonderful debut concert on December 19, 1986.

We have had an amazing musical adventure together. Choir members and accommodations have changed, but throughout the years, we have always felt that magical spirit when we created beautiful music together. We have offered our voices at Christmas and Spring concerts, at weddings and funerals, for outdoor carols at New Denver’s Merchant’s Night, and for serenading the Pavilion residents on Christmas Eve. We will treasure the CDs we made up at Steve’s Barn, a permanent record of some beloved voices who sing in a more celestial choir now. We have great memories of touring to other community choral festivals and we have felt the heathy thrill of being rock stars. Sort of. Our groupies are dressed more modestly, it is with all these delightful and very fond memories that I will bid the choir goodbye. I will retire as director of the Valhalla Community Choir after our final Christmas Concert December 14, 2012. I leave with so many mixed feelings and emotions. Choir has been a huge part of my life for so long. I will like to thank the community for all the wonderful support you have given us over these 27 wonderful years that I have been singing with the choir.

The Silverton Gallery presents ‘Celebrate Hanukkah!’ with Allan Merovitz

Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 8 at the Silverton Gallery. The veteran Klezmer singer, playwright, actor and Yiddishist, Allan Merovitz will be with us to celebrate the first night of Hanukkah. The multi-talented artist will treat the audience to a one-man show, where he will regale us with songs, stories, candle lighting and dance. Yes, Merovitz is also a ‘Bachman’, a director of wedding festivities, and will be leading us in Jewish circle dances, as well as bring your dancing shoes (or dance barefoot)! Born and raised in a Hasidic Jewish family in the Ottawa Valley, Merovitz’s first language was Yiddish. With his powerful voice, Merovitz has always been attracted to Klezmer music, and has been touring and performing for years with his own musical shows, reflecting his knowledge and interest in Yiddish repertoire and Jewish tradition. In 1999, Merovitz created a Hanukkah show with storytelling, to accompany a launch tour of the CD ‘Festival of Lights’ with the Dutch group Or Arjaz and he will be using this album to accompany the dances. When not on tour, Merovitz is based in Calgary. Locals may have seen him perform in 2010 at the Starbelly Jam Festival, where he played a wonderful set of Klezmer and Sephardic music and played with local ‘vunderkinder’ Bessie Wopp and Ben Jonson, and Calgarians Frank and Ben Rakow.

We are so fortunate to have Merovitz come to Silverton for this first night of Hanukkah! Latkes and other goodies will be served, and local young musicians may steal the spotlight with a few songs as an opening act.

Tickets are $10 for adults, $5 for kids, and $25 for a family with up to two adults and three kids. Show time is at 7, tickets at the door only. For more information call 250-358-7198.

For more information about Allan Merovitz see http://allanmerovitz.com/home.html.

Summit Lake: more than just a ski lodge

To learn more about CBT programs and initiatives, visit www.cbt.org or call 1-800-505-8998.

Nakusp historian and archivist, Rosemarie Parenti received a Queen’s Jubilee medal in a ceremony, November 21. MLA Katrine Conroy pins the medal on Parent in a ceremony, November 21. MLA Katrine Conroy pins the medal on Parent.

Public Notice

The Council of the Village of New Denver is accepting applications for a representative to sit on the Village’s Heritage Advisory Commission.

The Heritage Advisory Commission meets twice a year to advise Council on matters relating to historic sites and museums in the Village. It is composed of a representative from Council, a representative from the Slocan Historical Society, a representative from the New Denver Kyowakai Society, and a representative from the community. Appointments are for a term of one year. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact the Village Office (250-358-2172) weekdays between 8:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Interested individuals are invited to submit their name, no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, December 10, 2012, to:

Mayor and Council, Village of New Denver
115 Slocan Avenue, New Denver, BC
By Mail: PO Box 40, New Denver, BC, V0G 1S0
Via Email: office@newdenver.ca

Heavy Duty Mechanic Wanted

Yellowhead Road & Bridge (Kootenay) Ltd. is looking for a Mechanic for our New Denver facility. Applicants should hold a valid TQ for Heavy Duty or Commercial Transport and a Motor Vehicle Inspectors Licence.

Resumes can be faxed to 250-352-2172.

26th Annual Community Carol Sing

Wednesday, December 5
Doors Open 6:00 pm
Program Starts 7:00 pm
Nakusp Senior Secondary Gym
Free Admission
sponsored by the Nakusp Rotary Club

Village of New Denver
Public Notice

The roof is on the Summit Lake Ski Hill lodge addition, which will house a new rental shop and storage area.

Summit Lake: more than just a ski lodge

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What's Happening at Waneta Plaza

- Santa Arrives December 1, have your picture taken with Santa Thursday Friday Saturday and Sunday until Christmas
- EXTENDED HOLIDAY SHOPPING HOURS until December 23
  - Monday to Friday 9:30 am to 9 pm
  - Saturday and Sunday 9:30 to 5:30
- Free kids play area, ball pit and Tarzan swing

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- Zellers
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- Dr LeMoel, Chiropractor
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JV Humphries Social Action group builds support for Johnson’s Landing

submitted by JVH principal Dan Miles

The JV Humphries Social Action group continues to be interested in helping in the community, the region and the world. Most recently the group did a family film night to raise money to support the Johnson’s Landing reconstruction efforts. Students raised more than $200 from their event.

Students then went up to JL to deliver the funds to the JL Association. While we were at the hall Roger Atkins did a very thoughtful slide show about the series of events on the day of the slide and the days after. Bob Yetter took us on a tour of the slide area so that we could see the impact on the community. We also spent some time helping to release seeds from slide-alder pine cones to be used in re-foresting the slide area.

We were struck by the devastation caused by the slide and how much is still left to do. Our thoughts go out to the community. We were pleased to help... at least a little. Thanks to all of you who came out and helped with the day.

Deb Boursos accepts a cheque from JVH students to help in the Johnson’s Landing reconstruction. Most recently the group did a family film night to raise money to support Johnson’s Landing reconstruction.
JV Humphries students explore the arts with local mentors

submitted

JV Humphries students recently participated in ‘Explore the Arts’ day. They spent most of the day working with adult mentors coming up with a whole variety of creative results. This was an opportunity to learn beyond the timetable and involve community in our school.

All secondary students were given the choice to participate in a broad variety of workshops as an introduction to the arts. These included: digital photography with Hugh Sinclair; sewing and ‘funking up your clothes’ with Janet Mayfield; publishing online writing with Randy Mayfield; printmaking and design with Robin Wilse; folk music history/writing your own songs with Janet and Terry Marshall; singing with Karen Behn; playing with clay, with Sarah Lawless; and nature journaling with Susan Van Rooy.

JV Humphries students recently participated in ‘Explore the Arts’ day.
Ten Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medals awarded by Member of Parliament

by Jan McMurray

Corky Evans, Aya Higashi and Gary Wright were among the ten recipients of the Queen’s Jubilee Medals on November 16 at the Hume Hotel in Nelson.

MP Alex Atamanenko welcomed everyone to the ceremony and congratulated the recipients. “You are the movers and shakers who keep our communities going and this is one way of honouring you,” he said.

Master of Ceremonies was John Kettle, Chair of the RDCK.

Corky Evans, former Nelson-Creston MLA, was recognized along with Josh Smienk, former RDCK director, for starting the Columbia Basin Trust. Emcee John Kettle said these two showed us “how to make local government work and work for the people.”

Aya Higashi, a Kaslo resident and Japanese-Canadian internee from WWII, was the principal at the school at the Popoff internment camp, and was a teacher in Kaslo for 30 years. At 92 years old, she continues to take on an ambassadorial role in her community.

Gary Wright, mayor of New Denver for 22 years (1989-2011) and chair of the RDCK board for six years (2005-2011), was described by emcee Kettle as “one of the best. His interactions with the provincial and federal governments brought enormous credibility to the region.”

Other recipients included John Voykin, Hans Cunningham, Donna Macdonald, Beverly Maloff, Geoff Yule and Dr. Rebecca McDonnell.

MP Alex Atamanenko was asked to find 30 deserving recipients of the medal. He asked each of the three regional districts in his riding to nominate ten people for the award.

In Canada this year, 60,000 Queen’s Jubilee medals are being awarded to Canadians who have made a significant contribution to a particular province, territory, region or community within Canada, or an achievement abroad that brings credit to Canada. The medal marks the 2012 celebrations of the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II’s reign.
Mosquito study in the Duncan discussed at public meeting

by Jan McMurray

A public meeting on the mosquito monitoring study in the Lower Duncan was held at the Ladner Valley Community Centre on November 22.

Part of the Duncan Dam Water Use Plan, the study’s goal is to determine whether any changes can be made to the operation of Duncan Dam to decrease the numbers of nuisance mosquitoes in the area. The ten-year program (2009-2018) is being done by Culex Environmental Ltd.

As made clear by Richard Brenton, TransAlta Corporation has cancelled its proposed independent power project on the Upper Incomappleux River.

“After having performed due diligence studies, we were able to determine that the original proposal for development was not one that we wished to move forward on,” said Stacey Hatcher, Senior Corporate Relations Advisor at TransAlta.

Local environmental groups mounted a strong campaign against Human. Rodman’s work, which involved much of Argenta, was hired to do field work this year. Jackson also commended Rodman’s work, which involved much more frequent sampling than is usually done. “This is one of the most intensive studies that has ever been done in BC or even in Canada or North America,” said Jackson. “This is an incredibly interesting project and we’re coming up with interesting results.”

Michael Jackson, project leader for Culex, stressed the importance of sound scientific methodology before coming to conclusions. He also stressed that study results so far show the connection between the dam discharge and mosquito populations in wet years only.

All Leake of BC Hydro said, “This is where we are trying to get – more flooding equals more mosquitoes – but now, there are nuances. Can we minimize the flooding by extending the duration of the flood? We can try to provide detailed recommendations to improve the abatement program. Jackson said that with a more targeted approach, the program would be less costly. Leake explained that in 2014, field work will focus on determining what types of vegetation are preferred as breeding grounds for different species of mosquitoes. If certain vegetation types do not harbour mosquitoes, the abatement program could be more targeted and cost-efficient.

Brenton was unimpressed. He said that abatement must be performed in all vegetation types because nuisance and non-nuisance mosquitoes are found in all of them.

“Maybe you’re right,” said Leake, “but we’re going to test that.”

Community members at the meeting let BC Hydro know that they are very pleased that a local person, Sean Rodman of Argenta, was hired to do field work this year. Jackson also commended Rodman’s work, which involved much more frequent sampling than is usually done. “This is one of the most intensive studies that has ever been done in BC or even in Canada or North America,” said Jackson. “This is an incredibly special project and we’re coming up with interesting results.”

Meet Gail.

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Kaslo council, November 13: Kaslo holds first paperless council meeting

by Jan McMurray

• Members of the Kaslo Trail Alliance, representing seven groups with a similar interest, in trails, presented the Kaslo and Area Trail Management Plan. Tom Duchatel spoke to the plan, and asked that the Village endorse the plan. City council referred the plan to the Development Services Committee for recommendation on endorsement to council.

• Council received an email from Columbia Basin Trust regarding the UBCM Wildfire Prevention Program. In 2011, CBT provided support to successful applicants of the program by covering 50 per cent of the local government’s share of the cost. The email states: “Our initial commitment in 2011 was a one-time initiative and at government’s share of the cost. The council.

Kaslo and Area Trail Management Plan.

Alliance, representing seven groups with


The Kaslo Hotel and Barrens Sports Shop wishes to thank all the participants and our many sponsors who helped make the 2012 Rainbow Derby a huge success! We awarded over $8000 in cash prizes alone! Special thanks goes out to:

• An application for Disaster Financial Assistance (DFA) funding to cover $1,200; old fire hall wall parging Hall project $44,500; Gazebo king• Council approved requests from

• Development Procedures Bylaw 2008-07-01 was approved.

• Several recommendations from the Sustainable Economic Development Select Committee (SEDC) were considered. A proposal for directional signage to help visitors find amenities such as the beach, public washrooms, the SS Moyie was referred to the Development Services Committee for recommendation to council. The proposal was prepared by the Chamber and lists 30 amenities and 12 locations for the signage. The project is estimated to cost $14,000.

SEDS had also recommended that the Village, in partnership with Area D, re-join Area Kaslo. Council agreed to inquire whether Area D is interested in this.

The Village will pay the Chamber of Commerce $500 as budgeted in 2012 as a grant for approximately half the cost of the Economic Summit.

In response to the committee’s request to complete its work through 2013, council decided that the Municipal Services Committee would review the committee’s terms of reference and make a recommendation to council.

The following 2012 funds will be set aside to the 2013 budget: City Hall project $44,500; Gazebo king post $2,100; old fire hall wall parging $2,500; roads (paving reserve) $25,000.

People who have been in the store very recently have probably noticed a change in some of the items the store carries. Although Ward will keep a lot of the same types of products, he has a vision for the store to be a boutique-style pharmacy with a focus on holistic health and active living. “There are so many health conscious people in the area, and I’d like to cater to them,” he said.

He plans to bring in books, DVDs, fitness equipment, and a nutritional program. “If you’re not feeling well you will be well received and I’ll be able to expand on that,” he said. He would also like to carry products such as soaps and saunas made by local artisans.

Ward also wants to give the store “a Kootenay vibe” with more earthy tones and wood fixtures, and would like to give the exterior a more heritage feel. He said the architect who worked on the hotel is currently doing drawings for the store.

Ward looks forward to getting involved with the community. “A small town pharmacy, in my mind, is an important part of the community that can serve as a community mentors and children’s programs,” he says. “There are a lot of great organizations in Kaslo that I would love to support and give support to.”

Ward first came to the Kootenays some years ago to visit his brother, an RCPM officer in Creston. “That’s when I decided that I would like to live here.” Originally from Regina, Ward got his BSc in pharmacy at the University of Regina and his degree in pharmacy at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon in 2009. He originally worked for a year at a bigger chain pharmacy in Saskatchewan, but finds owning his own independent drugstore much more rewarding.

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The Valley Voice  November 28, 2012

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Thanks again to all the participants and sponsors who helped to make this year’s Rainbow Derby the best yet! See you all next year!
Slocan council, November 13: Fuel management program discussed

by Barbara Curry Mulcahy

• Stephan Martineau, manager of Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative (SIFCo), and Area H Director Walter Popoff attended as a delegation to discuss the fuel management project for 80 hectares of land east of the village. Martineau explained that more than half the land is at very low risk, but 34.5 hectares require treatment. Although he could not estimate the cost of the site before doing a comprehensive site review, he said work of this sort averages $8,500 per hectare. Grants are available from the UBCM (Union of BC Municipalities) that could possibly pay for all but a few thousand dollars of the project.

Area H Director Walter Popoff said the work must go out for tender, as it is a public project. He said an application for RDCK funding for the project might generate “some resistance by the RDCK board because of a previous situation” but resistance by the RDCK board might generate “some concern” that the project might generate “some interest in the project.”

• The Slocan Valley Historical Society requested that the Village preserve the building for the Slocan Valley Historical Society. Their letter of request said the building could enhance tourism. The Slocan Integral Forestry Cooperative was “amazed” at how the building had stayed the same. “It opened our eyes to the value of it,” she said.

• The Slocan Valley Historical Society requested that the Village preserve and enhance the heritage character of the Silvery Slocan Social Centre. Their letter of request said this building could enhance tourism for Slocan. Mayor Perriere said the people who attended the 70th Anniversary Commemoration of the Japanese Canadian interior were “amazed” at how the building had stayed the same. “It opened our eyes to the value of it.”

• Adrian Wagner of i9design has re-designed the Village website in a WordPress format that will be easy to edit. Village staff is adding content. The website is temporarily at www.slocancitykootenaywebhosting.com.

The councillors who had viewed the site were very pleased with it. Council voted to wait until the December meeting to give feedback on the site and to decide on details of a grand launch, probably in January.

• Council once more expressed its great pleasure with the work of the Slocan Valley Historical Society, and voted to establish an archival service in the Village with the society in charge of it. Councillors were especially pleased with progress on the much anticipated donation of artifacts by Iennis Cooper. Mr. Cooper was very impressed by the second floor of the Village Office, remodelled to safely and securely house the archives.

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• CAO Jack Richardson reported that the assessment of the Women’s Institute Hall had been less expensive than anticipated. There was $1,000 left in that fund.

Council directed staff to get a quote for an assessment of the building, and voted to refer the matter to the Slocan Valley Historical Society.

• Council gave three readings to a bylaw that increases water rates by 6%, noting that municipalities are forbidden from having deficits in their utility budgets—water fees must pay for the water service.

• Operating costs have increased and the Village has borrowed money to meet the difference between the two rates for the use of his property.

• There was a long discussion about the proposed changes to the animal control bylaw. In the end, Council gave first and second readings to a bylaw allowing each residence to have two dogs and eight hens.

Council passed a first and an amended second reading of a bylaw to set standards for garbage collection and standards to prevent people from attracting wildlife to the Village. This bylaw will replace a bylaw adopted in 1968. “Remedies for failure to comply” include charging residents for costs of cleaning up garbage and a fine to violators of up to $2,000 plus costs. “A Designated Officer may enter property...to inspect and determine whether this bylaw is being met.”

• There was no library report as the Library Committee had not met, nevertheless the library was a hot topic.

• Councilor McGreal requested that council permit the library to install two electrical outlets, one for patrons using laptops and the other for patrons using public access catalogue. An electrician would be hired to install the outlets in the floor and the Library Committee would pay for the work.

Council voted to appoint John Patterson, Rudy Markovic and Keith Cumming for another three-year term on the Board of Variance.

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Looking Back to the Future…
I still recall those early years of the 1980s when high inflation and soaring interest rates virtually crippled the economy. I was a ‘newbie’ – a young lady just venturing out on her own, landing her first real job at a local financial institution. No doubt, I was still very naïve about the goings-on in the world, but my experiences in that role taught me invaluable life lessons which shaped me into the financial planner I am today.

Let’s rewind the tape a wee bit.

Back in the 1980s, consumers listened for the latest inflation figures and worried about every bump in oil prices or each mashing from then-central bank governor Gerald Bouey. The reason was because Canada’s price index at that time was rising faster than the mercury in the thermometer outside of any house in Castlegar. 

For 12 years from 1980 to 1991, Canadian prices increased on average by six per cent a year, more than three times the average rate of inflation. Thus, a product or a consumer would purchase for $100 in 1980 would cost that person $189 in 1991, a jump of more than 89 per cent. Prices accelerated even faster during the early ‘80s, advancing at an annual 12 per cent clip.

By the middle of the 1980s, Ottawa had had enough. The federal government clamped down on public spending, and the Bank of Canada hiked interest rates. That combination slowed growth as well as inflation and resulted in some difficult economic times for this country. It is a world to which no one wants to return.

Do I wish it was a better time? Sure. Am I looking to change it? No. Living within your means. And, don’t bite off more from you can chew. Perhaps we can avoid the repeat of the financial fiasco of the 1980s, which destroyed the hopes and dreams of so many Canadians.

Debbie Pereversoff CFP CPCA is a financial planner with Assante Financial Management Ltd. and her co further tightens

The Affalter Financial Group Inc., in Castlegar. Please contact a professional advisor to discuss your particular circumstance prior to acting on the information above.

Also available: gourmet specialty meats. Just sayin’.

What did I have? Thought you’d never asked. I was going to order the pulled pork sandwich, but the Wolf beat me to the punch and said...”you the cheese steak.” A choice cut of very slowly roasted beef, medium rare, carved to your order – all done for you by the Wolf himself – with mustard (I think), homemade fries, a big mushroom dunked in homemade corn dog batter and deep fried. This was alongside a choice of sides and a rolled stuffed jalapeno pepper. What a meal! I ate everything but the last bite of the jalapeno which I eventually covered in whipped cream from my choux pastry dessert, and ate. Tell you what – every time I order this, it goes well with a stray jalapeno pepper. The Wolf buys jalapenos by the case.

Simon Hellyer is going to market his own dates, dips and spice mixes. Watch for them.

I’ve mentioned maybe half of the items he has waiting for you. THE WOLF is open from 11 am to 1 pm, then 4 pm to 8 pm, later on Fridays and Saturdays, closed Sundays.

When in Castlegar, go directly to Wolf’s. Don’t wait. Do it soon. Go there! Bring your best appetite. Enjoy the Kootenay’s best BBQ joint.

WOLF is open from 11 am to 1 pm, then 4 pm to 8 pm, later on Fridays and Saturdays, closed Sundays.

When in Nakusp, go directly to Wolf’s. Don’t wait. Do it soon. Go there! Bring your best appetite. Enjoy the Kootenay’s best BBQ joint.

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ANNOUNCING Events

November 28, 2012   The Valley Voice

Roasted Veggies, Salad, & Dessert. $20.
Chicken Pie, Salad, Chocolate Cake.

- Famed

DEC. 8 - DINNER AT THE CUP
the Lake Dec 1 & 2.

KOOTENAY SPOONS
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Sunday, Dec. 2, 1:00
TURKEY BINGO
the Silverton Memorial Hall. Tickets $15

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LOOKING FOR A YOUNG HEALTHY
FAMILY DOG (or two) in need of a good
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good with people and other animals.
Nakusp 265-3866.

WANTED RUSTY VOLKSWAGON
bus/run with split front windshield. Any
information please call 403-960-7666.

Ladies – small, lightweight trailer with
laundry. 358-7117.

Every tiny ad gets noticed in the Valley Voice

DIRECTIONS

by the Lake, Fri., Nov. 30-Sun., Dec. 2.

Hanukkah!

MOVILE ON PAD in Nakusp. 22' x
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flors, bathroom, kitchen, new windows, steel
top. Roof - 9’11”, clean and solid. Large 6 x 18 enclosed porch, two storage
areas. New skirting. Small raised garden and
furnace. Donlem 230-266-6534.

333 ACRES – SILVERTON: Tired acreage backing on Crown land with hydro and
tel at property line and water license on

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Joanne Conroy gave a brief synopsis of Joanne’s background. She was born in South Porcupine, Ontario. Her father passed away when she was young, leaving her mother to raise two children. “So Joanne witnessed the struggles of a single parent home. She says she is the original latch key kid and knows the trouble they can get into.” In 1989, Joanne began working in Slocan as a childcare worker. The position of executive director of WEGCSS came up, so she applied and was thrilled to be hired.

“She says she is honoured for this recognition, but in her mind, it’s a team award for the school, society and everyone she works with. That’s just what Joanne is all about,” said Conroy. She went on to say that people are very pleased to see Joanne get this award. “She is an amazing woman with an amazing amount of energy and with many years of dedication and community service,” she concluded. Joanne thanked everyone for coming and told a humorous story to illustrate just how happy she was to receive this award. When she was little, she was very proud to come home from school one day with a pencil – but her brother came home with a coin with the queen on it. She was so upset that she broke her pencil.

“It’s an honour to serve this community. I love this community. It’s amazing what one small community can do,” she said. Joanne will be retiring as executive director of WEGCSS in April.

MLA Katrine Conroy presented WEGCSS director Joanne Ellis with a Queen’s Jubilee medal at a November 23 ceremony.
Memoirs sure to shock at Nakusp Library

submitted

Drugs, sex, rock n roll, principles and politics fill the pages of Unrepentant, Gary Wright’s newly-released, darkly humorous memoir of his 1968 escape from the US to Canada, career as a travelling musician, and rise to public office in the Great White North.

Join him (and special guest Corky Evans) for a reading and an afternoon of laughter at the Nakusp Public Library on Saturday, December 1 at 2 pm.

Wright was mayor of New Denver for 22 years, and also served as chair of the RDCK.

As an American college student in the 1960s, the US State Department revoked his passport and placed him on the FBI’s watch list because of his ties to radical political groups.

“One year in one country I am wanted by the FBI; another year in another country I receive a medal for public service, and get a letter of commendation from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Same man, same beliefs. Go figure.”

Unrepentant is a word he applies with a smile to his community as well as to himself, and the book is full of anecdotes of “life behind the scenes” with new-age gurus, roadhouse musicians and regional political figures like current RDCK Chair John Kettle and former provincial cabinet minister Corky Evans.

Evans contributed a deeply moving chapter, recalling his own moving chapter, recalling his own experiences in the American anti-war movement.

The book, published by Friesen Press, is for sale or can be ordered through local retailers, as a Kindle eBook, or direct-ordered through FriesenPress.com/Unrepentant/Gary Lee Wright, Amazon.ca and Barnes & Noble.

Gary Wright at his home in New Denver. His memoir, Unrepentant, has just been released and will surprise anyone who only knows him from recent years as a mayor and RDCK chair.

Gary and friends in 75. Says Gary, “the boring incarnation of the Valhallaugh Rangers... that is me (2nd from right) in an orange and purple velvet jump suit and a bunch of hair. The cast (l to r): Beth Kaplan, Ruby Truly, David George, Jay Samwald, me, Andrew Rhodes.”
New Denver councilors host final council café of the year

by Jan McMurray

New Denver’s council café at the Apple Tree on November 17 was hosted by Councillors Howard Fox and Naline Reynolds, and attended by a dozen or so residents.

The conversation started out with one of the community’s favourite topics – a public washroom in the downtown core. Mayor Ann Bunka was there, and said council had not been able to find a suitable location for a public washroom. Grier Park is out because of the well head, and the said council had also looked at the Bonson Hall and the post office lot. It was pointed out that during the summer, the washroom at the museum and Visitor Centre is open, and it was suggested there be ‘public washroom’ signage at the museum and at the top of the main street. Bunka said she feels there should be a more effective sign at the top street to replace the various small signs there now.

There was also a discussion about bylaws. Bunka said council would like to review all Village bylaws because “some are pretty archaic.” She also said villagers were having a lot of complaints at the Village offices, and that assured people that every complaint is answered.

Tourism came up. A new resident said he feels New Denver has a lot of potential as a mountain biking destination, and related his experience in Ketchum, Idaho, where he and his wife drove a loop of the mountain bike information getting he got from the Visitor Centre and website that he stayed another day. Others were cautious about tourism. Gary Parker said it had seen mountain bike communities become “terrible tourist traps.” He said he likes to think of the area’s trail system as a way to attract permanent residents. Councillor Fox pointed out that according to a study done by George Penfold at Selkirk College, tourism isn’t a big part of our economy. “And it might be gone someday and I don’t want to become dependent on it,” she said.

In response to a query about council’s decision to post signage – of closing 8th Avenue at the highway to stop highway traffic from using the residential area behind the school, Bunka said council was looking at removable speed bumps, but “If there are enough stop signs and speed bumps to slow them down, maybe they’d rather go the right way,” said Bunka. The speed bumps would be removed during the winter for snow removal. Emergency response personnel have advised against closing the street, as “it would be too difficult to get equipment into the area.”

The idea of energy self-sufficiency was popular with the people in attendance, as was a bridge over Carpenter Creek to connect the Orchard with the main part of town. The bridge is one of the projects on council’s radar if a suitable grant program comes along.

When one resident suggested that the Village approach Springer Creek Forest Products to ask about their plans and offer any assistance, others talked about their preference for selective logging, value added opportunities, and tourism.

This was the fourth and final council café of the year. Mayor Bunka said that because the summer café was not well attended, there would likely be three per year in future.

**COMMITTEE**

Energizing the Kootenays’ conference focuses on renewable energy

by Veronika Pellowski

‘Energising the Kootenays,’ a series of workshops on clean energy innovations, was hosted by Selkirk College’s Kootenay division on September 26-27. Using internet technology such as video conferencing and skype, the organizers were able to have world-renowned clean energy specialists such as presenters and resource people at the event. Jacobson, author of a cover-page article in the Scientific American magazine called “Ayun for a sustainable future,” gave an excellent presentation and impressed the audience with his well thought out rationale for the need to focus on clean energy.

Jacobson pointed to the need in all the factors in the all the consequences of continuing to use non-renewable energy sources. Too often, indirect factors such as health care costs and premature deaths are not factored into the cost of using non-renewable energy sources, he said.

People in the Kootenays tend to think of hydro as a primary power source. But 40 percent of Canada’s energy needs are currently being supplied by fossil fuels. Globally, 2.5-3 million people a year die prematurely as a consequence of air pollution brought about by the use of non-renewable energy sources.

Jacobson’s plan for a sustainable future involves re-focussing the world’s energy sources to wind, solar and water power by 2030. He envisions that over 50 percent of the world’s energy needs can be provided by a switch to wind power alone.

And it is already happening. In 2012, Germany and the Scandinavian countries were able to report that more than 50 percent of their energy needs were generated by solar energy. The technology to achieve the 2030 goal already exists. All that remains to achieve the goals is the political and social will-power to see it happen, Jacobson concluded.

McKibben also stressed the need for politicians and social will as key factors in achieving sustainable energy goals. According to McKibben, the fossil fuel industry lobbyists “own” a large share of Canada’s political system, and hold many cards in Canada where environmental controls have recently been abandoned. “Out-spending” the fossil fuel industry, says McKibben, is not possible, so the public needs to use other currency showing the public’s spirit, creativity and passion.

McKibben is working with over 350 organizations (not just “rich white people”) and claims that the demonstrations and civil disobedience that are happening around the globe which are affecting politicians and decision-makers show that people-power can make a difference. McKibben stresses that Canadians can have a profound impact on environmental change, as Canada has control over vast resources. He asks us to think “globally – act locally” by focusing on issues such as community self-sufficiency and transportation.
New Denver youth Sadye Butler headed for Africa in January

by Jan McMurray

When Sadye Butler was 12 years old, she read a book called Back Asswards and Belly Up about a girl who decided to go to Africa instead of college and who went on to do great things with her life.

“That was my first eye-opener that I could travel to another part of the world,” said Sadye, a 2012 graduate of Lucerne School in New Denver.

Sadye has decided to take a gap year and has taken a volunteer job teaching at a primary school in Bwengu Village in Malawi with an organization called Latitude Global Volunteering.

In grade 12, Sadye felt she wasn’t ready for university, and decided she wanted to work as a volunteer. She signed up with Katimavik, a Canadian organization that offered youth volunteer opportunities within Canada. Sadye had wanted to go to Quebec – but then the federal government cancelled the Katimavik program.

That’s when her attention turned to Africa – a place she’d wanted to see since she was 12. She researched every organization she could find, and chose Latitude because their focus is on youth 17-25 years old who are taking gap years, and they were able to set her up in Africa on a seven-month placement.

“This opportunity is unlike anything I’ve ever experienced in my life so I’m really excited to learn something new about myself and another culture,” she said. “When you see World Vision commercials… it will be awesome to make a little bit of a difference in the children’s lives. I just want to go instead of waiting for the world to change.”

Her flight leaves January 2 and she will return July 30. When she first arrives, she will spend an orientation week with the 35 Latitude youth volunteers from all over the world who have placements in Malawi.

There will be another volunteer, from Taiwan, at the school in Bwengu. Although she doesn’t have a lot of information about Bwengu Village, Sadye knows there is electricity, but no running water.

The experience will cost around $8,000 and Sadye has been babysitting and fundraising to save up enough money for it. She has organized a bottle drive and a poetry reading so far. Her current project is a silent auction – watch for her at Christmas by the Lake and KSCU.

Sadye will set up a blog at outreachmalawi.wordpress.com so people can keep in touch.

Sadye Butler had a table at St. Anthony’s Annual Christmas Flea market, November 24.
submitted

The story of the Sinixt Nation is the story of an incredible struggle against prejudice and racism. Finally, today, what seemed an insurmountable barrier of old prejudices is giving way as efforts escalate to bring the truth to the public.

The Nakusp and District Museum has led the fight to give back the Sinixt their rightful place in the Arrow Lakes Valley’s history. With the addition to the Centennial building, a room is being set aside for the museum to house a Native Interpretive Room complete with a large diorama (scale model) of a winter and a summer village scene. If all unfolds as planned, this interpretive room should be ready for public viewing for the 2013 season.

Although some area residents are adamant that Indians never lived here, there is irrefutable and archaeological evidence that they lived here for at least 5,000 years. In fact, the dig at Lemon Creek shows that the Sinixt were here at least 1,500 years prior to any other Interior Plateau culture, validating their claim as being the Mother Tribe to the Interior Salish peoples. The Shuswap Nation can only claim 3,000 years of occupancy while the Coastal Salish can only prove 300 years of occupancy.

Thousands of artifacts have been found everywhere on the shores of both the Upper and Lower Arrow Lakes by as many as 100 collectors. Several archaeological surveys conducted prior to and post inundation by the Keenleyside Dam have shown dozens of villages and camp sites from the border all the way to Revelstoke.

The Native Interpretive Room at the Nakusp and District Museum will tell the story of the Sinixt Nation, from pre-Columbus times to their ‘extinction’ in 1956, to their homecoming to Vallican. It will be well worth a visit.

Centennial building addition to include Native Interpretive Room

Slokan District Chamber of Commerce

Welcome to their annual pre-Christmas Merchant’s Night!

Thursday, December 6th
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Downtown New Denver

Part of Main street will be blocked off to promote foot traffic, carolers...

Sponsored by the Columbia Basin Trust

Late night Shopping till 8 pm

Artisan vendors at The Hidden Garden Gallery & Beside Rory’s on Main

Sales, specials & special activities offered by shops & restaurants

Enter the Merchants’ Draw

For a basket of items from New Denver’s shops!

Pick up a card at any New Denver store. Get the card initialed at each of the stores on the card and drop your completed card in the box at the Laundromat. Draw will take place at 8 pm at the Laundromat.