Marilyn James resigns as Sinixt spokesperson

by Jan McMurray

Marilyn James has resigned as Sinixt spokesperson and has severed her relationship with Robert Watt, appointed caretaker of the Sinixt Nation cultural sites in the Slocan Valley, over the way the recent reburying of the remains of a Sinixt ancestor was handled.

In a press release issued by Marilyn James on October 27, she states, "Robert Watt’s association with the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) and thereby the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that they hold with the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) are at the crux of the division."

The reburying ceremonies were organized by the Sinixt people and elders from both the CCT in the US, and ONA community.

Virgil Seymour, Sinixt man and Arrow Lakes facilitator of the CCT, explained that when a elder found the ancestor’s remains on the Slocan Pool property near South Slocan on February 26 this year, the provincial Archaeology branch contacted all First Nations with claims in the area. The Okanagan Nation Alliance was contacted, and they in turn contacted all of their member bands, including the Colville Confederated Tribes.

The local Sinixt people were not on the list of First Nations who were informed of the remains by the Archaeology branch, but the owner of the Slocan Pool property, Columbia Power Corporation, suggested that they be advised. Audrey Rapin of Columbia Power mentioned that Marilyn James and Robert Watt were among the stakeholders on the advisory committee at the time the corporation acquired the Slocan Pool property from Cominco.

The reburying ceremonies took place September 15 and 16 at the Slocan Pool property.

Seymour says he talked to Bob Campbell, Sinixt headman in the Slocan Valley, about the burial site. “He wasn’t too happy that we weren’t going to use the Vatican burial site, but I told him I was going to leave it up to the Sinixt elders,” said Seymour. “The elders thought it best to re-bury the remains as close to where they were found as possible.”

The local Sinixt people in the Slocan Valley have reburied the remains of 64 ancestors and re-buried them at the ancient burial grounds at Vatican.

Seymour says he contacted Robert Watt to inform him of the date of the reburying ceremonies at the Slocan Pool. When Seymour and others from 31chelum arrived in the Slocan Valley a day ahead of the reburying, they stopped in to visit at the Sinixt house and stayed in the priory at the Vatican site. "Robert was very helpful to us," said Seymour. "We have nothing but respect for Robert Watt.

Marilyn James attended the rebury, but Seymour says she stood apart from the other participants.

James’ press release states that she “confronted Robert Watt” about his “sell-out.” She says in the release, “I have never worked for, associated or collaborated with the CCT or the ONA and I never will. I will not allow my work to be co-opted by other tribal groups with greed in their eyes.”

Robert Watt made this statement to the Valley Voice: ‘I am aware of the letter written by Marilyn James on October 27, 2014, which was posted online and emailed to members of the community. I will not speak against Ms. James to you but I will say that the letter is full of slander. My main concern was that our Sinixt ancestor be put to rest in a respectful and traditional manner by her people. In my heart, I believe this has been accomplished. When dealing with such a serious and sensitive matter, there is no place for politics. At this time, I would like to publicly thank my Sinixt relatives who helped bring our ancestor home and also members of the broader community who conducted themselves in a peaceful and respectful manner.

In her press release, James states that the CCT and the ONA “stood against the Sinixt and their attempt to protect the water and the land” in the

continued on page 2
Atamanenko and Fields to host Smart Meter forum in Winlaw
submitted
Alex Atamanenko, MP for BC Southern Interior, is preparing to co-host a public forum with organizer/educator Daphne Fields to discuss concerns constituents have about the rollout of FortisBC’s wireless Smart Meter (SM) program and what can be done about it.
The forum will be held at Winslow Hall, 5897 Hwy 6 (north of Winlaw) from 7 to 9 pm on November 14.
“Many are not convinced that the microwave radiation emissions from these meters are as benign as they are made out to be,” says Atamanenko.
“Furthermore, the fact that other jurisdictions such as Saskatchewan are removing smart meters due to the number of fires they have started is also a factor in the level of concern I am hearing.”
Invited speakers will include Silverton resident Richard Caniell and retired Ontario naturopathic doctor, Ross Andersen. Caniell, who is calling for a complete moratorium on smart meters, is in a heated battle with BC Hydro’s SM program and is refusing to pay their “extortionary” fees to keep his analogous meter. Andersen, who is presently in charge of “Unplugged Health Solutions” has seen amazing changes in people who clean up their electro-environment.
According to Daphne Fields, there is enough evidence indicating harm to living things from this type of radiation that should give us all pause before adding increasingly higher levels to our public spaces.
“Many places in the world have considered the hazards and lack of economic benefit from wireless meters and are refusing to install them,” says Fields.
Fields believes it is worth looking at the possibility of creating “Smart Meter Free Zones” for the economic advantage it could bring to entire communities if they collectively opted out of the SM program.
Slocan Valley farmer is first to get SPCA certification
submitted
The Slocan Valley’s Jim Ross has become the first livestock farmer in the Kootenays to achieve SPCA certification.
SPCA Certified is an innovative farm certification and food-labeling program dedicated to improving farm animal welfare standards in Canada. The program is an independent, third-party system that brings stakeholders together to further common goals in farm animal welfare.
Ross started farming due to his uncertainty about animal husbandry practices at large commercial entities. To ensure the animals that nourished his family were raised humanely, he felt the best option was to roll up his sleeves, put on his gumboots and learn the skills needed to succeed as an ethical farmer. In 2007, two years after moving to the location, Havesome Hogs farm was born.
Ross started by purchasing pigs from Hutterite colonies in Alberta then growing them out on his farm, but he was saddened that the first stage of those pigs’ lives was in an intensive farming system where their tails were docked, their teeth were clipped and their ears were notched. He wanted a better life for his pigs.
So in 2012, he and his partner, Rachel, bought their first breeding pigs: Charlie, Rory and Ruby. The pigs are Tamworths, a hardly, old English heritage breed that fares well in natural environments. They harvested their first hogs in early 2014. Initially it was tough, but with perseverance, they learned to manage illnesses and injuries with less invasive techniques, providing overall excellent care to their animals. They became very adept at raising pigs, having learned the intricacies of pig behaviour.
“We are writing the fact we see these animals from start to finish. We can guarantee our hogs are treated properly throughout their lives,” says Ross. Now he is challenging other farmers in the area to strive for SPCA certification.
Jim Ross can be contacted at 250-226-0023. More information on SPCA Certified is available at www.spcabc.ca/welfare/farm-animal-welfare/spca-certified.
For more information on what BC SPCA volunteers are doing locally for farm animal advocacy and how you can help, email nelson@spcabc.ca.

New Denver author publishes The Novel World of Angela Crown
by Don Nicholson
New Denver engineer Sala Deib, the creative genius behind the Villa Dome Quixote project, has decided to show us another side of his fertile imagination in his new book, The Novel World of Angela Crown.
Following the brutal murder of her father and her fiance, Angela Crown withdraws into fiction and declares herself a ‘professional reader’, fighting for the rights of fictional characters against the will of their authors.
She takes to stalking authors and assaulting them for their perfidious twisting of their characters’ lives.
Eventually she slips into the world of one particular novel, and leads a character revolt against a sadistic writer. Will she succeed in saving the lives of hundreds of characters, or will the author destroy them all with a stroke of his pen?
Will she ultimately redeem herself through her actions, or will she descend into irredeemable madness?
Deib has given a lot of thought to this book, and the way that he handles the interplay of reality and fiction is masterful.

The Novel World of Angela Crown
by Sala Deib
Book Launch
Villa Dome Quixote, 602 – 6th Ave., New Denver, BC. (250) 358-7242, Saturday — November 15, 2014 — at 3 pm
We look forward to welcoming you!

The Novel World of Angela Crown
Book Launch
by Sala Deib
“The author creates a neat, unique fantasy setup — The text frequency shines — Magical realism spurs on this solid debut.” — Kirkus Reviews
Check Amazon Com for the many 5 star reviews or to read the first chapter
Location: Villa Dome Quixote, 602 – 6th Ave., New Denver, BC. (250) 358-7242, Saturday — November 15, 2014 — at 3 pm
We look forward to welcoming you!

The Valley Voice November 5, 2014

The Valley Voice
November 5, 2014
"Considering the increasing numbers of electromagnetic frequency (EMF) refugees looking to settle in more comfortable locations this would be a strong selling feature," she says.
"This forum is meant to provide an opportunity to ask questions, exchange information and discuss choices and strategies in the face of the mandated meter installation, as well as enjoy tea, coffee, and dessert," said Atamanenko.

The Valley Voice
November 5, 2014
"I’m humbled to be nominated and excited to be part of Tom Mulcare’s team, offering Canadians a real alternative to the Harper Conservatives in the 2015 election," said Cunnings. “I look forward to taking the campaign throughout the riding over the months to come."
School district superintendents sign protocol to prevent violence

by Jan McMurray

The six school districts in the East and West Kootenays are working together to keep schools and communities safe.

On October 31, the representatives of the six school districts signed the East/West Kootenay Boundary Violence Threat Risk Assessment Protocol at Revelstoke, where they were gathered for a meeting of the Kootenay Boundary Chapter of the BC School Superintendents Association.

"This is a document about how we work together with our partners in multi-agency teams to prevent violence in our schools and communities," said Heather Donnill, Director of Learning at School District 10 Arrow Lakes, who championed the process. "School districts are committed to investigating any threats to self and others."

She explained that if a student makes a threat, the police, the Ministry of Children and Family Development and Mental Health will work together with school staff to determine what level of risk the student poses and then what intervention would be necessary and helpful.

"What we know about the high profile incidents in the media is that there are usually a few bits of information. This process is about connecting the dots in order to prevent serious violence," she said.

Sherri Moharz, Superintendent of Integrated Services & Safe Schools for the Ministry of Education, was in attendance for the signing. "I’m excited to be in the Kootenay this week because they have come together to sign a community protocol that is designed to increase information sharing and collaboration among school districts, schools and community partners, to detect and respond to signs of threatening behaviour and to intervene earlier," she said.

This is the first regional protocol in the province. "This makes sense, particularly in the Kootenays, given the crossover of the service areas of the community partners with the school districts," said Moharz.

In addition to School Superintendents, the Southeast District Commander for the RCMP and the Executive Director of Service Delivery for the Ministry of Children and Family Development signed the protocol.

The protocol is part of the provincial ERASE (Expect Respect and a Safe Education) strategy, launched in 2012.

Moharz explained that the ERASE strategy is a multi-level training program for school teams and community partners. Level one training focuses on preventing bullying, and level two training is focused on threat risk assessment. Level three advanced threat risk assessment, will be launched next year.

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RCPM warns of phone scam

In past months, two incidents of fraud or a "Grandparent" type scam have been reported to the Nakusp RCPM. In both instances the victims have been scammed out of thousands of dollars.

The con artists are very believable and persistent; thousands of people have already fallen victim to this scam in Canada. If you believe you are being targeted, report the details of the scam to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre and your local RCPM.

Though the 'Emergency' scam (sometimes referred to as the "Grandparent" scam) has been around for years, the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre warns the public to be on alert after noting a recent increase in the number of complaints.

In the typical scenario, a person receives a phone call from a con artist claiming to be one of his or her grandparents. The caller goes on to say that they are in some kind of trouble and need money immediately. Typically they claim being in a car accident, having trouble returning from a foreign country or they need bail money.

A typical call can go something like this:

Con artist: Hello. grundmas Grandpa

James resigns as Sinixt spokesperson

continued from page 1

Supreme Court of BC during a 2011 lawsuit launched by the local Sinixt against Sunshine Logging and the Ministry of Forests for failure to consult with them about logging on Perry Ridge.

Grand Chief Stewart Phillip of the ONA explained that the CCT and ONA did not take a formal position in that case. They appeared as interested persons, because the issue of standing to represent the Sinixt was at issue.

The Court ruled that a small group of individuals could not represent Sinixt’s interests.

"The Sinixt are not extinct, and Colville Confederated Tribes and the Okanagan Nation Alliance sit together as the Chiefs’ Executive Council to collectively represent our interests and those of thousands of Sinixt descendents on both sides of the border," Grand Chief Phillip said. "Whatever the personal circumstances of this resignation, it is deeply saddening that some individuals would attempt to use the collaborative repatriation and renewal of our ancestors to attempt to launch a political campaign."

In her press release, James says she "will continue to follow the Sinixt cultural laws and practices and uphold the responsibilities as the matriline as well as continue to stand against the colonial political machinery and mechanisms that would maintain our FNLEEXT extinction until we are erased from the land."
Thanks for Winlaw mural

What a wonderful celebration of life we now enjoy through the new mural painted at the Winlaw Mini-Mart by a team of local talented and visionary artists. Stephanie, Pixie, Vanessa, Barbara, and others did such a brilliant job of collaboration and magical transformation. Thank you for all your efforts and commitment to this project, and congratulations for a job well done.

We send gratitude to Peter Kim, family and staff at the Winlaw Mini-Mart for supporting this truly important addition to our community.

Pamela and Sandy Stevenson
Winlaw

War on wolves

Some years ago, and not that long ago the popular saying was, “The cow and the Indian are a dead wolf.” Now it’s, “The only good wolf is a dead wolf.” This war on wolves is the Indian wars all over again; it never stopped. Before foreigners from Europe and Russia came here, there was no problem with wolves, cougars, bears, grizzlies. Only since the arrival of Euro-Canadians has their unreasonable and infantile phobia of Mother Nature did those ‘problems’ get made up. When these foreigners showed up, suddenly bears are a problem, suddenly with no provocation wolves are a problem, cougars will eat children, etc. and as Chief Seattle eloquently and painfully made clear in his statement to the US government, “What you fear you kill.”

People of European heritage have no more excuse to fear Nature. We have been here for hundreds of years too long, we should know better by now. But instead of becoming more wise and harmonious with Nature, we are more and more hysterically and ridiculously frightened of Nature than ever before. Say the word “bear” in a crowd or even to someone on the street and watch them all just freak out, scream, grab their children, yelling that they are going to be attacked and eaten. This is the most pathetic and infantile reaction to a situation that poses absolutely no threat to them or their children. Wolves and bears are peaceful, gentle, loving, kind, generous, highly intelligent. To wolves, family means everything. If you are terrified out of your mind by bears or wolves or any wildlife, please go to a planet where there is no Nature and let the rest of us live in our peace.

Paul Kippy
Winlaw

Suzan Hewat gets our vote

We’ve worked with Suzan Hewat on a variety of municipal committees. We know Suzan to be a person who is willing to listen to alternate perspectives and accept differences. Suzan is committed to personal integrity and collaboration. We know her to be an individual without an agenda. She’s not aligned with a specific interest group nor has she a pet project to promote. Suzan understands the protocols and processes required in local government and can be counted on to respect the often challenging issue of conflict of interest and confidentiality of in-camera sessions.

We also know Suzan has a consistent attendance record in all of her council and committee work. Suzan has demonstrated her knowledge of the Village of Kaslo’s financial capacity to us. She makes decisions grounded in fact and financial reality. We’re voting for Suzan Hewat because we trust Suzan to lead Kaslo Village needs at this time.

Gillian Froose, Anne Malik, Susan Mulkey
Kaslo

Voting

Voting represents your freedom. “Voters” is defined as “a body of enfranchised citizens” in an online dictionary. Yes, it requires a good deal to go and vote. In political terms, you are expressing your fundamental free right to express desired action established through and from your thoughts to direct your local, provincial and federal governments.

You are the power. You are the ones that make the difference as once in, they will lead for a determined duration of time designated by law which are your laws, and you as a majority empower them to do your will. As we have recently and graphically witnessed, people give their lives to protect that right for you. Freedom to vote is precious; however, make no mistake, it can be taken away from us. Every time you exercise your vote, you win.

For those who think differently, I suggest looking at it this way – would you like to be enslaved? Would you like to be brought into a situation of speech not to count at all or even to be allowed? Would you like your thoughts totally suppressed? Male or female, ask of yourself how you would feel if you were not checked to read and write. Would you like to be totally controlled, pillaged and with no freedom at all? Perceived power can do that and much, much more. It’s called human suppression and enslavement.

I ask you to take a look today in Nigeria and other African countries, notwithstanding many other places on earth. Many are not free. When you are free, you as a body are in control, not allowing any one individual and/or appointed group to take away your freedom. As you read this, in many circles in the world, the erosion process of our precious gift of freedom is taking place.

I ask you to study the candidates, the major issues and then vote with your heart, intelligence and knowledge and in the booth tell them what you want. Make your voice heard.

My thanks.

Sandy McLeod, Veteran
Kaslo

Locals look after Peter DeGroot’s animals

After the tragic ending of Peter DeGroot’s life, the animals that were his life were left without a caregiver. After the animals spent four days of the lockdown without food or water, Michael Mills was able to move the cows to shelter and safe pasture at his farm near Slocan. He, also, out of his own pocket, began feeding the pigs and chickens left at Peter’s property. I began to help with the pigs soon after, bringing apples which I foraged off of local and wild trees along the Columbia.

People began to drop by with what they had to feed the pigs and chickens but the grain and hay and bedding still was supplied by Michael. I put cans out at three local businesses and was overwhelmed at the support of the population with donations to feed the animals. I am proud of the locals in their support to ensure that these orphans got cared for while the grieving family of Peter DeGroot has a chance to get their bearings and their feet beneath them to continue and take over this task.

I’d like to especially point out the generosity of two children, Addy Pelletier and Bella Donaldson, who collected bottles and animals and then their bottles in at the bottle depot, dropped the proceeds into the donation jar. This is just an example of the heartfelt generosity of people of our little community pulling together anonymously and generously. Thank you from Mike and I. We now have the wherewithal to continue.

Gene Hird
Slocan

The Valley Voice
Box 70, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0
Phone: 250-358-7218 Fax: 250-358-7793 E-Mail: valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca Website: www.valleyvoice.ca
Publisher - Dan Nicholson Editor - Jan McMurray Food Editor - Andrew Rhodes Reporters - Art Joyce, Katrine Campbell, Barbara Curry Mulcahy
Printed and published in British Columbia, Canada
The Valley Voice is distributed throughout the Slocan and Arrow Lake Valleys from South Slocan/Playmore Junction to Edgewater and Kaslo on Kootenay Lake.
Circulation: 7,600 papers, providing the most complete news and advertising coverage of any single newspaper serving this area.
SUBSCRIPTIONS: CANADA $54.60, USA $84.00, OVERSEAS $126.00 E-Mail Subscription $22.40 (Prices include GST)
Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement #40021919

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

We have now seen the start of terrorist acts in Canada— one Canadian soldier run down and killed by a car and another killed while guarding a memorial.

Now is the time we must act. We can either sit around and ignore the happenings or we can react. One way to react is to attend the November 11 Remembrance Day ceremonies which are held in every village, town, and city in Canada. This will show the solidarity of our citizens against terrorism.

Both of these terrorists who know the authorities but the authorities did not have the powers required to stop them. We must give these powers to the authorities but also ensure that this power is used correctly.

Another way is to allow those who wish to go to Syria, etc. to join the terrorist groups to do so. Let us refuse to let those who survive back into Canada.

I hope this message has made you think and is now up to determine how you react.

Glen Harper
Saskatoon
Food security and municipal elections

The Kootenay Local Agricultural Society (KLAS), which represents 80 members, including 18 Kootenay Mountain Crown certified farms in the Kootenays, would like to encourage Nelson area residents and candidates running in next month’s municipal elections to think about how municipal councils can and should play in supporting a more localized and sustainable food system. Food security and the availability of food and one’s access to it, is an important topic, especially in the face of climate change. The Vancity report “Food Citizentrality and Local Food: Drought & BC’s Food Security” (https://www.vancity.com/SharedContent/documents/press/News/Vancity-Food-Study.pdf) highlighted how dependent British Columbians are on food imports from California. For example, in 2010, 67 percent of BC vegetable imports came from the US, over half of which was produced in California. California’s drought is pushing food prices up and decreasing food exports to BC. The recent changes to the Agricultural Land Reserve and the proposed Site C dam also threaten our precious farmland at a time when we need increased food security. The Kootenay L一座 in Kootenay, a growing farming history and can play an important role in increasing our food security.

If you are concerned about your food security and would like to see local sustainable food production supported, here are some questions you can consider asking candidates:

What role should municipal councils play in planning and promoting sustainable food systems? What would be your priority project related to food and agriculture over your term? A Food Charter sets out a vision for a healthy, safe, and local and equitable food system. If elected, would you support the adoption of a Food Charter in your municipality? Is protecting farmland for future generations important to you? Do you agree that all lands in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) should remain within the ALR? Are there other ways to ensure land is safe, accessible and available for growing food into the future? Food production and transportation is a significant source of greenhouse gas emissions. How do you promote the production of food regionally, in an attempt to mitigate climate change? Would you support the use of municipal lands and infrastructure to support the development of local food systems, for example for farmers markets, demonstration sites, farm incubators, leasing land to farmers, community gardens, food hubs?

Marvin Work Chairperson, KLAS

Peter DeGroat

I am not a citizen, in regards to Peter DeGroat as a local councilor in the city of Saskatoon, and watched over a dozen police cars driving at top speed up the valley that first day. I wondered what could be the need for such a force. This valley is quiet and innocent and unknown to many. It is to the home to many people and known locally as the valley of the lost souls. When we hear sirens, we hear it’s not a death. It is all affected regardless of our relationship with whoever is in trouble. I bumped into a friend who lives in Saskatoon and was concerned about the situation. He told me how she approached the scene and asked the RCMP what was happening. An officer responded by asking if she was a resident and if she should come to the scene and lock the door – that a gunman could be watching them and that they were in danger.

After learning the reasons for the continuous sound of sirens, I became embarrassed and confused. Saskatoon was shown as a pathetic little place filled with rundown矢道士. It is ridiculous how this situation has put Saskatoon on the map in such a negative way, with such a brutally sickening ending to a misunderstood human being. Round to this new lack the lack of it for the national news. None of this story is justified by showing how much force the RCMP decided was necessary, or how and why the shots were fired across the valley. This was not a war, or any rau or war that it was made out to be. What I witnessed through making was a ridiculous number of police officers. It appears the last hours of the situation. They were officers with dogs and armored vehicles and helicopters. No human being would have any hope to surrender and survive.

I knew the majority of people were hoping for an explanation. They heard that a chance to return unharmed and explain himself. Instead, an army of untrained soldiers brought us here to capture this allegedly mentally unstable ex-military bushman who was described as armed and dangerous because a good neighbor complained that he was shot during an argument. And if he subsequently shot the window of a police car, supposedly being an ex-military soldier, wouldn’t he be shot to kill the RCMP did in the end to him for an unexplained shave over his coo? Why wouldn’t he be defended himself or any other?- the one thing he don’t return a harmless warning? Thank you.

Amber Old

Smart meters: BC Hydro’s response unsatisfactory

After the publication of city full-page article about BC Hydro, Executive Vice President Greg Reimer wrote the Valley Voice his response, published 22 October 2014. In it, Reimer totally ignored all the facts set forth in my article (which had also been sent to him in a personal communication) including the falsity of his claim that the World Health Organization ever stated smart meter was safe. Instead he reported, like a tape loop, the identical information Hydro has steadfastly published and created that represents his initial intention to stone all scientific and medical reports that cite health hazards in connection with smart meter frequencies.

In this Reimer and Hydro remind one of the cigarette manufacturers who spent decades ignoring, when they could not suppress, reports on the lethal consequences of cigarette smoke. This is to say that the aims of the corporate agenda lead intelligent people in their employ to become automatons with all the resulting moral obliquity they enjoy.

At the heart of all this is the present Liberal government. Greg Reimer was a former Deputy Minister of Energy before he became the head of BC Hydro. What would Greg Reimer care about the financial problems of low-income individuals, or those aged that have small pensions? His is so far removed from us with his salary of $36,540 per month as to occupy a different sphere, one which is far above concerning himself with the difficulties of persons paying his company $400 a year to prevent Hydro from exacerbating their health. Given his connections to the Liberal Party, it is evident he will, and has, ignored the fact that the Minister of Energy, Bennett, was quoted in my last article as specifically arranging the high cost of opting out of Smart Meters as a means of forcing his citizens to keep the meters. Further to this strategy, I reported that Bennett specifically ordered that the BC Utilities Commission not consider any claim of the opt out demand, but only a ruling on the amount that could be charged. And, like the stooges of government that Bennett made the BCUC, they approved the outrageous, and, as the people who had to pay the outrageous, the politicians who would cause citizens to abandon their resistance.

The ruling of the BCUC in a finding and approval, it is not a law (which is only enacted by the legislatures), yet Hydro and many politicians take a defiant tone, saying, "It's the law," as if there’s nothing they can do about the situation that has generated our bitter complaint and resistance. When, in fact, the politicians have been asked to provide them with this rationale.

Let me say this to the political and personal parties who strongly object to Hydro's decision to move to smart meter. Party's extermination could result by every legal means available. Politicians know their way into media via press conferences and press releases when they seek election. Let them use the same means to put some teeth some force into exposing the cheap strategies and immoral means used by Hydro and the Liberal government through Bennett. It isn't enough to just deport them all, what is wanted is broad, deep exposure in the media and in all public forums.

In my previous letter to Reimer I wrote: “I am prepared to go to court. I am prepared to sit in the dark in a cold house. I am never going to pay you what is not due me. I am never going to buy you a power meter, until this is over, until my health is, I am not going to pay you $565 to restore my electricity, nor accept that you will only reconcile my power that my fuse box, refrigerator and lights if I aceced to your demand this is what your present policy demands.” Unlike the Nazi regime, which announced that “law and the courts have now become the hands of the state,” there is still some real content in democracy and a justice that recognizes real equities that the Liberals have not yet destroyed, but it will only manifest when we demand it as the legitimate rights that belong to our citizenship.

Richard Cannell

Burned on a loan

In August 2004 I made a loan of $36,748 from my personal interest to a friend. The house they were in had been burned down and they needed a place to start over.

This money was will to me, my Dad died from stomach cancer and my mom killed herself nine months later because she loved him so much. They were both 63. This was in 1997. I was so bad about it I went and touched their money.

So, here I had this money to help my friends get a property that had come up for sale. We made out a loan agreement and I had got back $3,500 of it. I never went by and they didn’t give any more back. I even dropped the interest on it because I was told by them I was a *** for putting up that money.

Now, I was told I wasn’t getting any more back. I know it was my fault for doing this. Banks you have to pay back. Friends you don’t. Money transactions can become evil and friendships turn sour.

I wish I hadn’t done this but hindsight is 20/20. I say to you, do not do this if you don’t have to. I just want to be careful what you do when helping somebody. It doesn’t work out.

I’m glad they have their place, have a home, and wish them well in this troubled world. I will carry on in a positive flow.

Utte Sidupp Silverton

SaskPower’s CEO resigns over dangerous smart meter program; should BC’s Bennett be next?

After eight smart meter failures (minor fires with little damage and no injuries), an immediate independent investigation of the Saskatchewan smart meter program was demanded. Installations ceased, and smart meters were ordered removed from homes. In a highly critical report released on October 27, SaskPower was found to have implemented the program without considering public safety a priority. Upon release of the report, the CEO of SaskPower, Mr. Robert Watford, resigned immediately, without severance.

After more than 28 fires and failures that are documented in official agencies’ documents, what has BC Energy Minister Bill Bennett done? Nothing. In fact, he continues to deny these “events” have occurred. His lack of an investigation into the program, the safety of the consumers, or to confirm that the public’s welfare is BC Hydro’s priority? No.

The BC government and BC Hydro should have been accountable and informed the public about the situation. When we asked the government about the situation, the government responded that they did not have the information.

In my opinion, the BC government and BC Hydro should have been accountable and informed the public about the situation. When we asked the government about the situation, the government stated that they did not have the information.

They claim they will fix the problem, but they have not done so. I believe they have not fixed the problem, and they have not done so.

Sharon Noble

Coalition to Stop Smart Meters
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure remains committed to Ferries, not fixed link

by Katrina Campbell

In July, the provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure released a detailed report on the cost of building a fixed link to replace the Gideno/Sheeler Bay ferry. However, the ministry has no intention of undertaking the project, saying that it "intends to continue operation of the ferry." Asked why it would commission an expensive, very thorough report if it had no intention of following through, a ministry spokesman said "At a recent meeting, BACA [the Beaton Arm Crossing Association] met with senior ministry staff to outline their thoughts on a fixed-link crossing. A high-level feasibility study was undertaken to confirm costs associated with this proposal.

"It's very important for our ministry to be aware of, and carefully consider, all other possible options to ensure we are spending public funds as prudently as possible.

"The Upper Arrow Lake Fixed Crossing report was commissioned by our ministry to help formulate and corroborate the ministry's initial high level review in 2011/12.

"The report is an Option 8 submitted by BACA, because the assessment concluded a Beaton Arm fixed causeway/bridge combination crossing north from Stump Point, then re-crossing at Arrow Lake back to the existing Highway 23 to the west to be the most viable.

"The provincial report showed the total cost of this option would be $526,650,000.

BACA president Earl Fiehrich is bemused by the number, because his group came up with a cost of about $210 million for the same route. He says the ministry were "overbidding in many areas." For example, Fiehrich said, "I'm not sure why they'd widen Hwy 31... Segments 15 and 16 are part of Hwy 31, and we have BACX and other costs. The other costs is about $30 million - that's quite a bit of money and we can't see why they did it."

"The ADM report's detail is a pedestrian/bike/underpass at the Beaton Arm causeway. "I fail to see why we need it," Fiehrich said.

BACA's plan called for a 400-metre bridge; the study proposes a 450-metre structure.

"One thing that really strikes me as odd is what they want to do with these intersections - why would they put traffic lights on those corners is beyond me. It's not a huge cost but it seems a little bit excessive.

"They also noted the study called for a 90-metre bridge over Cranberry Creek while the similarly-sized McDonald Creek got only a half-cylinder when it was repaired some years ago.

"If you're looking to build something as cheaply as possible, don't build it if the 226th has already been done," he said. "Build it now and upgrade later if necessary."

"BACA isn't giving up. The association's board has made a submission to the Columbia Power Corporation to have them look at putting power generation at the Sifton Point, and also talked to Neil Smith at Columbia Basin Trust. The board hopes the government will be receptive to a partnership.

"They are also working on a promotional documentary, which they want to go to groups like the Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Governments and the Union of BC Municipalities.

"When we met with the ministry for the first time in 2011, they said it would take ten years to put this together. We're still forging ahead with the idea we can get something done this year."

"The Valley Voice also asked about the seemingly abandoned plan for a bridge at Nodine. In 2005 and 2006, the province said the bridge was part of a 10-year plan (2002-2012). Then-Transportation Minister Kevin Falcon said the government had delayed it until later in the ten-year plan because it would not be financially responsible to move ahead with the project now because of the price of steel.

"Now, however, the ministry says "A review of the Nodine crossing indicates that the present ferry operation still meets the expectations of the community. There are no current plans to install a bridge at this location."

"To look at the full report on Option 8, go to www.hc.gov.bc.ca/publications/reports and click on Highway 23, Upper Arrow Lake Crossing.

"Candidates for Area D Director share their views at All Candidates Meeting by Jan McMuray

At the Kaslo All Candidates meeting on October 30, the two candidates for Area D, Dona Cormie and Alvin Watson - introduced themselves and answered two questions given to them in advance by the Kaslo Island board of directors. They also answered a question from a member of the public about the airport.

Dona Cormie said she was very involved working from Meadow Creek to Ainsworth. She has attended RDCK board meetings and knows "how it works." She described Area D as "the most beautiful and diverse district in the Kootenay Boundary region." She feels the biggest problem is the lack of 24/7 health care. She would like to support the efforts of entrepreneurs, and hopes Meadow Creek Forest Products will once again be a major employer in the area.

Alvin Watson, mother of a five year-old son, travels up and down the lake in her position as Food Security Coordinator for North Kootenay Lake Community Services. Prior to coming to the Kaslo area 10 years ago, she was an organic farmer on the Lower Mainland. She has been on many boards and has learned about listening and consensus decision-making skills. For the past three years, she has been the Area D Alternate Director. "I enjoy working for the community and finding solutions. I am thrilled to put my name forward. I would love to represent you and see this community thrive," she said.

Respect for politicians generally seems to be at an all-time low. What are your ideas to rekindle the respect and participation among citizens for and in the political process?

Dona Cormie said it is easy to cynically look at politicians and think the only way to judge us as is to find us. Are we respectful and honest face to face? You'll be able to tell, it's not hard," she said.

Alvin Watson said she has found the words "politician" and "politics" to be "extremely stigmatized. People think politicians are self-centered and have ulterior motives. I don't relate to any of these attributes," she said. "Being of service to my community is why I'm here." She pointed out that people do not get into local politics for the fame or the money. She feels it is important to instill respect in others. She said she listens carefully to others and focuses on the issues.

If you're elected, how do you intend to balance the interests of such a large and thinly populated area? What is it that you can do to protect your community, your lifestyle, your personality that you believe makes you the right woman for the job?

Dona Cormie said the community is very engaged, and wants to see the region thrive. She feels that politicians can be more interesting if it is refined. "If we ask, 'What is your vision? What are you interested in?' then people want to talk about it. We can combine politics with the arts, culture and sports." She acknowledged that sometimes the focus on the economy can be wrong rather than on similarities and what is working well. She wants to harness the positive and build on what works.

Dona Cormie said she understands and knows the difficulties of a rural lifestyle. "My ability to communicate and network on many levels means I can represent anybody," she said. She has been an independent businesswoman.

What are your views on the future of the airport?

Dona Cormie is "a fan of the airport." She helped to get power to the hangar area. "We should be developing it as a port resource. It could be a great asset for Kaslo and Area D," she said.

Alvin Watson said the airport is very important for the economic growth she has spoken to. She has sat on the Sustainable Economic Development Select Committee for three years, and this is one of the things the committee wants to look at, but "the approach has not been as clear as it needs to be. We need to be really clear about it and clearly research it. The research and feasibility has to be done."
Kaslo mayor and candidates answer questions about the airport and taxes

by Jan McMurray

The Kaslo and Area D All Candidates Meeting was held October 30, sponsored by the Kaslo Institute and moderated by Randy More.

During the meeting, the candidates introduced themselves, and then answered questions that were prepared by the Kaslo Institute board of directors and given to the candidates before the meeting. During the last half, members of the public were given a chance to ask questions of the three mayoral and nine council candidates. Here is a summary of their answers to two of the questions posed by the public.

What are your views on the future of the airport?

Pat Mackle said he thinks development will move slowly at the airport. He feels there is potential for Foremost to use the airport as their base during fire season, and he thinks it serves well as a base for heli-skiing. He said it isn’t economically feasible for the airport to be used in the summer.

Greg Lay said the airport has a lot of value because of the lands beside it. He would like the provincial government to get involved, because it is now a federal responsibility and the cost is high to re-equip airports.

Suzan Hewat said the use of the airport and the use of the adjacent lands for industrial use are two separate issues. No viable business plan has been brought forward for the lands. She said improving the airport is a “great idea,” but she feels the Village needs to first move forward on water and sewer improvements, which would be of greater benefit to citizens of Kaslo.

Romella Glorioso said the straw poll on the Village website showed that 70 percent of community members are in favour of developing the airport, so now the question is how much we want to develop it. She feels the airport is important for attracting tourists who want to heli-ski, and for attracting telecommuters to live in Kaslo.

Lynda Beddow said she is in favour of “small steps” at the airport, as Kaslo has other infrastructure issues. She feels the lands should be developed first.

Louise DePape is in support of ensuring the airport can be used for medical evacuations.

Jim Holland feels the airport is a valuable asset that needs to be developed, “so the question is how and for what purpose.” However, he is concerned about the annexation of the property into the Village. He said that if the airport were left in Area D rather than annexed into the Village, more people would be contributing tax dollars to the facility, and the RDCK’s professional planning staff could help

with development plans.

Dave Collier feels the airport is adequate as is. “There is no problem with mediocrechap,” he said. “A full-blown airport is too expensive.”

Rob Lang said the airport is one of his priorities. He says it needs upgrades because of vandalism, and “we need a group to do the volunteer work to get this thing going.” A group of pilots has submitted a strategic plan to council, asking for an agreement with the Village to manage the airport. “This is the correct way to proceed,” said Lang. “You put a group of helicopter pilots in charge of the arena, golfers in charge of the golf course, pilots in charge of the airport.” He said the airport should be tax exempt. “No one is looking for regularly scheduled flights and winter maintenance is not going to happen in the foreseeable future.”

John Addison said he is part of the group that submitted the strategic plan to council and that is now working on a business plan for the airport. “The priority of this group is to make sure there are no tax implications on Kaslo,” he said. “We want to run the airport for the Village, and not rely on any tax from the Village. What are you going to do to reduce my tax burden?”

Pat Mackle said he would try to “hold the line” on taxes by doing due diligence, but he can’t see taxes going down if residents want broadband, an expanded sewer system, etc.

Greg Lay said he would like to look into the possibility of selling vacant Village lands, creating a reserve fund, and paying the tax bill for the new fire hall from the reserve fund.

Suzan Hewat said she has worked with council over the last six years in budget committee to decrease the “multiplier” for the business tax rate. “We have taken baby steps,” she said, adjusting the multiplier downward by a very small amount each year over the past three years.

Romella Glorioso said she would like to review the Permissive Tax Exemptions granted by the Village every year to see if any of the exempted organizations could be paying taxes. She said that taxes were automatically go up if the Village develops the airport or expands the sewer, as there are grants available for these types of improvements.

Lynda Beddow said “the whole taxation thing needs to be reviewed.”

Jim Holland said taxes are based on services, so the only way to cut taxes is to cut services. He encouraged citizens to come out during budget time and assist council with those decisions.

Dave Collier said he had a lot of learning to do about this, so he wouldn’t speak to it.

Dustin East said he would look at making things more efficient in the Public Works and Administration departments, and would look at ways of increasing revenues. “Are we using the campground to its fullest potential? What do we have that can make money for us? I think there are solutions,” he said.

Kellie Knowle said Kaslo is a creative community and could look at a project such as a microhydro project. “Times need to be looked at regularly,” he said.

Rob Lang said increasing revenue streams has potential. He said there would be no gain in clawing back the Permissive Tax Exemptions. He said he would be willing to sit down with anyone if they were willing to share their tax information with him to see if there is anything that might give them relief.

John Addison is confident that the community can solve this issue together in a collaborative process.

You are invited!!!
Meet your candidate for Kaslo Village Council
Romella Glorioso
Thursday Nov. 6 and Nov. 13
5 pm - 7 pm Seniors’ Hall
Romella invites you to come and discuss the issues raised during Kaslo’s All Candidates and Town Hall meetings. Everyone Welcome!
Visit electglorioso@gmail.com

Strong, Smart & Rural
On November 15th Elect Donna
Cormie, Donna

I am running for the Area D Director because I believe the voters should have a choice in who represents them for the next 4 years.

Contact me anytime at 250-353-9638 or glaciersoapworks@telus.net

AIMREE WATSON FOR AREA D

PLEASE REMEMBER TO VOTE – NOV 5 & 15
What I’ve heard as being essential:
• 24/7 emergency care
• sustainable economic development
• the ability for families to make a living here

WE CAN DO THIS TOGETHER

If you need a ride on election day, please call 250-505-3513

Authorized by financial agent Carole Summer, summer4lamoos@gmail.com

Elect Pat Mackle for Mayor of Kaslo
A council works well with due diligence and no personal interest.

Authorized by Mackie 250-363-7778. mackkaslo@telus.net
Nakusp mayoral candidates in the limelight at All Candidates meeting

by Jan McMurray

Economic development was the biggest topic at the Nakusp All Candidates meeting, which was organized by the Chamber of Commerce to help residents choose between the two mayoral candidates: Guy Duchaine, current councillor and Karen Hamling, mayor for the last nine years.

When Nakusp residents go to the polls on November 15, they will be voting for their mayor only, as the four councillors have been elected by acclamation (Uli Mueller, Tom Zelenik, Len Happee and Bill Tobe).

In their opening and closing statements, the two candidates for mayor outlined their strengths. Hamling emphasized her experience and impressive track record over nine years as mayor, whereas Duchaine said a new approach will bring vibrancy to the village and highlighted his ability to overcome obstacles and get the job done.

Here are some of the questions asked of the two mayoral candidates, and their responses.

What is your vision for ensuring Nakusp’s economic prosperity?

Duchaine said the community should “become very positive about the fact that we have one of the best forests in the area.” He said there is “lots of energy in this community and we all need to do is give them a project,” pointing to the successful BladeRunners program and the upcoming Burning Bright program.

He said he would “encourage Village stuff to get their work done and make sure they are on our team.”

Hamling said she would continue the progress towards economic diversification, working on creating good jobs, keeping young people in the community, and working towards attracting at least 1,000 more people to the area. She will continue to work very hard to make the hot springs into a world-class destination.

She would like to see broadband brought to Nakusp, another 10,000 homes to the community forest tenure, and more ferries and barges being built and repaired in town. She sees a lot of promise in agriculture, as well. “There’s no silver bullet, but let’s keep working together. I’d like to have another meeting with the community, the Village, the NADB and the Chamber, to discuss how we can move forward,” she said.

How do you expect to finance improvements to the hot springs?

Duchaine said that providing more services at the hot springs, such as a restaurant, would attract more people to the facility, thereby increasing revenue. Higher revenues would enable more upgrades. He said there are many grant-funding programs available and “staff knows how to get there.” He acknowledged that residents do not want to pay for the improvements through taxation. Improvements Duchaine would like to see include expanding the trail system and dedicating some of the trails to a particular sport. He’d like to get the high-quality open space, as it is profitable. He also mentioned that the Village is investing in the cedar chalets.

Hamling said she is in favour of a public-private partnership to finance improvements at the hot springs, and feels that “CFE needs to step up to the plate.” She said the community is very lucky to have volunteers working on the trails, and she hopes this continues. “We’ll keep our eyes on federal and provincial funding opportunities to expand the trails and the campground,” she said, pointing out that the campground makes quite a bit of money. The chalets also make more money than the pools, “so we are upgrading those.” She added that website improvements are also in the works.

What do you believe to be the most important issue facing Nakusp in the next 10 years?

Hamling: “The lack of young families and jobs. It will be important for all of us to work together to find the solution to that. We have lots of good people working on this, and something is going to come out of it. We need to thank NADB and the Chamber for all their work on this, and we need to work with them and support them by coming out to their meetings [on economic development].”

Duchaine said he felt more housing for seniors was one of the most important issues, and also mentioned creating jobs for the young people, attracting clean industry into the village, and developing the hot springs to its full potential.

How can you make things happen more easily for community groups?

Duchaine said that when a community group has a plan, “we’re going to back them up and see how we can help them move forward. We can help them because we have the contacts.”

Duchaine said it was important to be open to listening to what community groups want, and to do what is in the best interest of the community as a whole. “I try to do that and I try to be fair. I do listen and I try to help them attain what they want. The mayor has one vote, and has to guide council, and council has very good ideas that help guide projects and move them forward.”

How would you work with other levels of government, who provide most of the funding for development?

Hamling said this is a very important part of the job, and one she does very well. “This is how I’ve been able to get $7 million for infrastructure projects,” she said. Hamling said she cultivates relationships with the Deputy Ministers and Assistant Deputy Ministers, and finds this is the best way to ensure Nakusp’s issues go forward.

Duchaine said he was in government at one time and knows how important it is to present a full plan to senior government officials, and show them how they fit into the plan. “When they don’t pick up the ball, they miss out. They can’t succeed without us.”

Hamling said NACFOR is an independent organization whose properties are owned by the Village. “There are experienced people sitting on the board, and if they proposed to log in the heart of such a protected area, then the Environmental Protection Branch would step in. They have to show their plans and go through environmental assessments, so I would hope that Forestry’s Environmental Protection Branch would tell them that they can’t do that.”

Creative Hands Fair

Saturday, Nov. 29, 2014
10:00 - 4:00
Arena Auditorium
Come out to support PALS and your local area crafters

WEBSHOP SPONSOR: Selkirk Realty
Kelly Roberts
(250) 365-8525
www.selkirkre.org
Slocan Valley Legacy Fund gives $8k to six projects

Are you involved with a group in the Slocan Valley that is committed to making a difference in the quality of life and environment of the valley, recognizes and values the diversity of the valley, realizes that we are a part of an interdependent web of life to be nurtured and sustained, and shares the value of love of place? If the answer is “yes,” consider applying for a grant from the Slocan Valley Legacy Fund, administered by the Slocan Valley Community Legacy Society.

The Whole School welcomes new staff

Submitted

This September the Whole School welcomes three new staff members. The two teachers are Nadine Birch, who has specialized training in outdoor and multi-age classroom education, and Rose Hodzwit, a certified teacher and educational assistant. Josie Corrigan, the new administrative coordinator, will join principal teacher Annmarie Lang.

“We’re thrilled to have such an incredible team this year,” says Tara Harvey, chair of the board. “We’ve created a classroom experience with lots of support that links outdoor education with our class learning.”

Birch is a Kootenay local, originally from Argaeta. She has been an educator since 2004 through a variety of community-based programs, from teaching preschool to adventure therapy to developing and implementing children’s programs focused on environmental and global citizenship.

Hodzwit grew up in a communal living environment and feels perfectly suited to the home-like mixed-age classrooms at The Whole School. She has worked as a teacher, teacher’s assistant and support worker since 2003. She is also a potter.

Corrigan, a trained mediator with an MA in Alternative Dispute Resolution, is well placed in the valley for more than 14 years.

Lang continues to bring her expertise to The Whole School using the Circle of Courage, a positive youth development model based on the universal principle that to be emotionally healthy all youth need a sense of belonging, connectedness, competence and autonomy.

The Whole School combines attachment theory and the Circle of Courage with multi-age, small classroom sizes to support each student to excel at their own pace, and we have never turned a family away for lack of funds,” says Lang.

The Whole School has a vision of sharing the Circle of Courage philosophy with other related child and youth groups in our community. The school strives to create a nurturing and safe environment to enable learning and has chosen to ban all Wi-Fi and cordless phone signals at the school.

For more information contact the school at wholeschoold@gmail.com or call 250-226-7737.

Slocan Valley TV Society ‘tuning in’ to services

Submitted

The new board of the Slocan Valley TV Society, elected at the July AGM, has been busy over the summer getting organized and reviewing the assets of the society. The board has completed all the paperwork necessary to ensure the society is in good standing with the Corporate Registrars office, and signing authorities have been changed.

A tour of the towers was conducted in late September, and needed repairs have been identified. The society is responsible for four towers, one on private land, the other three on Crown land. Access varies from simple to challenging, with some immediate brushing work required on the road to the Pedro towers.

A general meeting of the membership will be held Monday, November 17 at the Passmore Hall, starting at 7 pm. The board will report on progress to date, and community members will be asked for their feedback on the services provided by the society.

The society’s principles and values include supporting our community to be resilient and vital, protecting and enhancing the natural environment, and promoting creativity and innovation. The society supports collaboration between organizations that wish to translate needs and problems into solutions, are innovative, and weave together diverse interests and elements of life in the valley.

The society celebrated its second year of awarding grants this year. A total of $8,000 was distributed to six deserving organizations: New Denver Hospice for the Save the Memorial Gardens project; Village of New Denver/Nickles Ennfram Memorial Centre for a community celebration of the 20th anniversary of the centre; W.E. Graham Community Services Society/Slocan Valley Early Childhood Community Advisory Council for a celebration of six years of Networks for New Parents; Slocan Lake Early Learning Society/New Denver Nursery School for playground improvements; Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy for an adult computer and literacy program; and the Rural Alternatives Research and Training Society/West Kootenay Permaculture Co-op for the development of kootenayfood.com.

With seed money from the Kootenay Savings Community Foundation, the Fund was established in 2011. Gifts to the fund allow donors to make a lasting impact on the valley because the tax deductible donations will always remain in the fund–the principal remains invested while the interest is granted each year to worthy charitable groups. What is given in the valley stays in the valley.

Funding is available for projects created by registered charities and other groups or individuals who partner with a registered charity as their sponsor or partner.

Applications for next year will be available in January, 2015. For further information check out the Legacy Fund’s website www.slocanvalleylegacy.com or, as they say, follow us on Facebook.

NOTIFICATION OF AGM

HILLS EMERGENCY SERVICES SOCIETY (HESS) AGM

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

2:00 PM

HILLS COMMUNITY/ FIRE HALL

(There will be a short fire drill after AGM)

For more info, call 250-358-7716

Village of New Denver
PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF COUNCIL MEETING DATE

The public is requested to take notice that the Village of New Denver’s Regular Meeting of Council originally scheduled for 7:00 pm on Tuesday, November 11, 2014, will take place at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 12, 2014, in Council Chambers.

Slocan Valley TV Society General Meeting

Monday, November 17 at 7:00 pm
Passmore Hall, 3656 Old Passmore Road

An information session to provide an update on the status of the society

Anyone living in the south Slocan Valley who is a property owner is eligible to be a member of the society. Please bring proof of ownership, such as property tax form. Refreshments will be served.

More info: email svtsociety@gmail.com
Find us on Facebook

VILLAGE OF SILVERTON

SILVERTON WINTER GARBAGE PICK UP SCHEDULE

Garbage will be picked up on the following dates from November 2014 to April 2015:

GARbage PICK-UP SCHEDULE

Monday, November 17, 2014
Tuesday, January 27, 2015
Tuesday, November 25, 2014
Tuesday, February 10, 2015
Tuesday, December 9, 2014
Tuesday, March 24, 2015
Tuesday, December 23, 2014
Tuesday, March 10, 2015
Tuesday, December 30, 2014
Tuesday, March 24, 2015
Tuesday, January 13, 2015
Tuesday, April 7, 2015
Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Please note that there will be no garbage pick-up on November 4, 2014. Weekly garbage pick-up will resume on May 5, 2015.

Melisa Miles
Chief Administrative Officer
Kootenay Savings staff donate $24k to charities

To celebrate Credit Union Day on October 16, Kootenay Savings employees and directors, along with the Kootenay Savings Community Foundation, donated the proceeds from the credit union’s Care Wear program, nearly $24,000, to help support worthy causes they hold near and dear to their hearts. Founded in 2004, the innovative Care Wear program gives employees and directors the opportunity to dress casually every Friday. Participants pay $1 per week for the privilege, with the funds raised matching all contributions.

This year, 21 different groups are benefitting from the $23,820 being distributed, bringing the total amount of Care Wear proceeds invested into Kootenay communities to almost $256,000 since the program’s inception. Held annually on the third Thursday of October, Credit Union Day celebrates the role credit unions play in improving the communities they serve. ‘Local Service. Global Good,’ the theme for 2014, emphasizes credit unions’ positive impact in their communities and around the world.

As part of the Credit Union Day activities, Kootenay Savings is also encouraging all credit union members, employees and partners to get involved in the ‘My CU Matters’ movement and remind the federal government and the Minister of Finance of the critical role credit unions play in their communities.

Every year credit unions across Canada inject hundreds of thousands of dollars into local communities through loans, investments, and community projects. This kind of activity is the foundation of strong local economies. But Ottawa doesn’t always understand credit unions and recently the federal government raised taxes on credit unions by $42 million. These tax increases have made it harder for credit unions to grow and support local families, community groups and businesses.

Canada’s credit unions are asking the federal government to announce a new tax measure, as part of the 2015 budget, that recognizes that credit unions are different. To help their collective voice be heard, credit union members and supporters are encouraged to visit the newly launched ‘My CU Matters’ website at myCUmatters.ca and tell Ottawa how credit unions make a positive difference in their communities.

FREE FLU CLINICS

Get your free flu shot at:

Nakusp Senior’s Centre
210 – 8th Avenue, Nakusp
Monday Nov. 3, 9 am - 12:00 noon, 1 pm - 3:30 pm
Drop-in – No appointment necessary

Slocan Community Health Centre
401 Galena Avenue, New Denver
Friday Nov. 7, 9 am - 12:00 noon, 1 pm - 3:30 pm
Drop-in – No appointment necessary

Edgewood Health Centre
322 Monashee Avenue, Edgewood
Monday Nov. 10, 10 am - 12:00 noon
Drop-in – No appointment necessary

Burton Community Hall
120 Burton Main Road, Burton
Monday Nov. 10, 1 pm - 3 pm
Drop-in – No appointment necessary

Arrow Lakes Hospital
97 – 1st Avenue NE, Nakusp
Wednesday Nov. 12, 1 pm - 6 pm
Tuesday Nov. 18, 9 am - 12:00 noon, 1 pm - 4 pm
By appointment only – call 250-265-3808

Slocan Comm Health Centre
401 Galena Avenue, New Denver
Friday, Nov. 14, 10 am - 12:00 noon, 1 pm - 6 pm
By appointment only – call 250-358-7911

Flu shots are safe, effective, and free for many groups including:
- People 65 years and older and their caregivers/household contacts
- All children age 6 to 59 months of age
- Household contacts and caregivers of infants and children 0-59 months of age
- Aboriginal people
- Children with chronic health conditions and their household contacts
- And more...

To view a full list of those who can get their flu shot for free visit www.interiorhealth.ca/FluClinics.

The flu (influenza) is highly contagious. Getting your flu shot protects you and those around you – at home, school and work.

For more information contact your local public health office, or visit www.interiorhealth.ca

Sport and Recreation Council now a reality

by Katrina Campbell

A dozen people gathered in Nakusp on October 25 for the first AGM of the North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council. The mandate of the council is to support sport and recreation groups in the North Kootenay region so they can develop physical literacy, to create environments for sport excellence and to provide opportunities for citizens to be active for life.

After a series of consultation meetings this summer, the council was registered as a society in early September, and members are now available for both individuals ($10) and groups ($25). There is an email address nakspcouncil@gmail.com, a website (www.sport.naka.ca), and a Facebook page with more information.

At the AGM, Rebecca Sargent was introduced as the new co-ordinator. She said the council was needed, and timely. Her passion is for programs for youth, especially those showing ‘at risk’ behaviour.

Four people volunteered to be on the board: Joleen Michniuk, Janis Neufeld, and Crystal Cross, all from Nakusp, and Sarah Sinclair from Kaslo. Two others tentatively put their names forward: Hans Sparerboom from Nakusp and Rick Galbraith from Slocan.

The council continues to receive significant support from CBT, with a grant of $20,000 already approved to support the first year of operation. Another grant application is pending with Mountain Equipment Co-op’s capacity building program.

Kim Palfrey of the Nelson Regional Sports Council, who has been assisting the council’s founding group, talked about the new regional sport centre coming from a partnership between VIA Sport (a 2010 legacy program) and the Columbia Basin Trust. The centre would provide resources and services to support all levels of sport in the region, and be part of a larger provincial network.

The NKSRC has already started work on concrete programs. Before the AGM started, it held a Fundamental Movement Skills coaching workshop, and the council also promoted a pair swap in New Denver last Sunday.

The next event is an all-day Emergency First Aid with CPR C session, November 16 at Selkirk College in Nakusp. The cost is $105; call 250-265-4077 to register. This course is ideal for coaches and recreational leaders.

Advertise in the Valley Voice. It pays!!!

Call 358-7218 for details
valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca
ALFA Guild reports on inaugural summer-long Artwalk event in Nakusp

Submitted

This year Nakusp and area enjoyed a successful artwalk, which was years in the making. The summer-long event was a combination of the former Nakusp Artwalk and the newer Saturday Artwalk and Area Community Trails Society ($3,675 for an outreach at Nakusp and Sicamous Rail Trail parking lot), Nakusp Ski Club Association ($10,000 for T-bar drive motor replacement), Rotary Club ($10,000 for Nakusp waterfront landscape lighting), the Legion ($4,000 for kitchen roof and lounge sound system), the Nakusp Centennial Golf Club ($5,000 for storage shelter), and the Fauquers and District Golf Club ($13,000 for course upgrades). A NACFOR representative reported that the Village and NACFOR will be discussing future fund distribution once the new council is in place.

The Arrow Lakes Fine Arts Guild is already planning the 2015 artwalk, and will be putting out a call for entries for both artists and venues in the near future. The 2014 brochure had 18 venues, including the Nakusp waterfront, and more than 25 local artists. The brochure was beautifully laid out, and well received by locals and visitors.

The board members would like to thank the artists, venues and the sponsors: CKECA, RDCK, Kootenay Rocky Tourism and Columbia Basin Trust.

The ALFA Guild AGM is coming up on November 13, 6 pm at 140 Alexander Rd, Nakusp, Betty Fahlman’s house. There will be a potluck dinner, followed by the meeting. All members and newcomers welcome.

NACFOR awards $50,000 in grants to community groups

by Jan McMurray

NACFOR recently awarded local organizations with grants totaling $52,462, the organization’s 2012 surplus.

Grants were awarded to the Nakusp Cub Scouts ($1,800); the Arrow Lakes Historical Society ($6,000 to prepare four slide show presentations); Nakusp in the making. The summer-long event was a combination of the former Nakusp Artwalk and the newer Saturday Artwalk and Area Community Trails Society ($3,675 for an outreach at Nakusp and Sicamous Rail Trail parking lot), Nakusp Ski Club Association ($10,000 for T-bar drive motor replacement), Rotary Club ($10,000 for Nakusp waterfront landscape lighting), the Legion ($4,000 for kitchen roof and lounge sound system), the Nakusp Centennial Golf Club ($5,000 for storage shelter), and the Fauquers and District Golf Club ($13,000 for course upgrades). A NACFOR representative reported that the Village and NACFOR will be discussing future fund distribution once the new council is in place.

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Kaslo business donates to charities

Submitted

On September 13, the staff at the Western Financial Group in Kaslo held their fourth annual Chili Cook Off to raise funds for charity. They raised $780 and the Western Communities Foundation, Western Financial Group’s charitable arm, provided a matching grant of $500 for a total of $1,280.

The staff chose to donate the funds to North Kootenay Lake Community Services, as they felt the organization encompasses the entire community, providing services to everyone – young families, individuals, youth, and seniors.

The Chili Cook Off was initially started in 2011 as a way to raise funds to send an employee to Nicaragua to build a home for a family in need through the organization Bridges to Community. Now that the Kaslo office has joined Western Financial Group, the funds are donated through the Western Communities Foundation to support local charities. June Ballantyne, finance manager at NKCLS, says the donation will be used to purchase new, safe and reliable car seats for families of young children that otherwise would not be able to afford them.

Recipients of NACFOR grants with NACFOR President Kathy Smith and Mayor Karen Harling: Nakusp Club Scouts Fund and Jack Watt, Morgan and Annaryl Fiskenor and Velerda Folkard, Rosemary Parent (Arrow Lakes Historical Society), Mayor Karen Harling, NACFOR President Kathy Smith, Beth Cawthra and Banca Nordrath (Trails Society), Harry Ewers (Rotary), Stephen Tays (Loggers), Jim Davidson (Nakusp Golf Club), Eric Winters (Kaslo Ski Club).
Humans of Nelson launches at Civic Theatre

submitted

It began when Nelson engineer and part-time photographer Ryan Oakley saw a street photography project called Humans of New York, and was smitten.

It got legs when Oakley summoned enough courage to ask the first Nelson person: “May I take your photograph?”

It became an internet sensation when more than 5,000 people liked ‘Humans of Nelson’ on Facebook, and hundreds of people would watch the page each day for the next posted photograph.

Now, it’s a beautiful hardcover book. Humans of Nelson – the book – launches with a special slide presentation on Saturday, November 15 at the Nelson Civic Theatre. The free event runs from 2 to 5 pm; the slide show begins at 3 pm.

“It’s exciting to launch the book at the Civic,” says Oakley. “It allows me to talk about some of the images in the book by showing them on the big screen, and there’s enough room for everyone who wants to come. I’m so indebted to the people who allowed me to take their photos. This event is a way to say thanks.”

The 232-page book features more than 125 photographs of all kinds of people seen on the streets of Nelson. It celebrates the interactions between humans when trust is established and barriers removed. Humans of Nelson is at times thoughtful and poignant, or playful and funny.

“Everyone I met had a story,” says Oakley. “Sometimes it was hard to find the courage, but then I’d think: ‘Oh, you never know what amazing and positive person you might meet today.’ Everyone I met had something to tell me that made me think, or empathize, or laugh. It’s been a terrific experience.”

Humans of Nelson was financed in part through a Kickstarter campaign that raised $10,000 in just two weeks. Oakley is encouraging people who pre-ordered the book through the campaign to pick up their copies at the launch. There will also be copies on hand for sale — and the popcorn is free.

Photographer Ryan Oakley captures a smile on Baker Street.

Whitebark pine experiment takes aim at blister rust

submitted

A unique tree-planting experiment by the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations started late this summer at Idaho Peak in the Kokanee Range of the Selkirk Mountains near New Denver.

Nearly 1,000 Whitebark pine seedlings were hand-planted by a six person crew in the subalpine near the old wildfire lookout, high above Slocan Lake at an elevation of almost 2,300 metres.

The Whitebark pine is an endangered high-mountain tree. But the seedlings planted at Idaho Peak may be resistant to the destructive white pine blister rust disease, which has killed or infected most Whitebark pines in the Selkirk Mountains.

In 2011, a search for healthy, disease-free trees was conducted throughout the Kootenays. Forty trees were identified for seed collection.

The Whitebark pine seedlings planted at Idaho Peak are from these potentially disease-resistant parents. Each planted seedling is tagged according to the parent tree that it came from.

Survival will be monitored over the next several years. Those seedlings that thrive will indicate a natural resistance to the disease, and the original parent trees will be targeted for future seed collection and restoration efforts in the region.

In addition to the Idaho Peak site, nearly 1,500 Whitebark pine seedlings were hand-planted near the old wildfire lookout on Idaho Peak this summer.

1,000 Whitebark pine seedlings were also planted on Sale Mountain near Revelstoke and 2,000 on Puddingburn Mountain near Crowsnest/Kimberley.

Super specials

- STARFISH LOCK – LOCK LUNCH BAG SET 4 LOCKING CONTAINERS: SALE $14.95
- GENERAL SPC TOOL SET “CANUCS” REG $22.95: SALE $9.95
- ROCKWELL JIGSAW 5 AMP/case REG. $149.95: SALE $97.95
- DEWALT WORKSITE RADIO/CHARGER 18 VOLT REG. $219.95: SALE $149.90
- DEWALT DRIVER DRILL 18 VOLT DC720KA REG. $199.95: SALE $139.95 ea.

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BCSPCA speaking for animals

The Nelson BCSPCA is delighted to congratulate Havesome Hogs on becoming the first farm in the Kootenays to achieve SPCA Certification!

Havesome Hogs

Contact owner Jim Ross to purchase humanely raised pork products:
S2 C24, 2960 Upper Slocan Park Rd
Slocan Park, BC
(250) 226-0023
info@hogs.farm
www.hogs.farm

The Federation of Canadian Artists has just named Frankisl Stroshal’s work “The Celestial Sound” into the fifth annual International Representative Show. This year, the Slocan Valley artist has been juried into five shows in United States and Canada.

Stroshal’s artwork calls directly from nature, replete with a humanistic narrative and unique style. Using an amazing array of mimi split air source heat pumps. The tender for all four halls was awarded to 4th Parallel and will cost $87,938.

The Village of Nelson will get a new roof and insulated ceiling, a heat pump system and required electrical upgrades, new windows and doors, a new wood furnace, a new dishwasher, and a new electric water heater.

These renovations will save approximately $5,800 in annual heating and energy costs.

The Village of Nelson project is estimated to cost $127,000, and $100,000 has been approved from the RDCK Area H Community Works fund. The balance will be funded through reserves, fundraising and potentially other grants.

After these grants, there will be $343,670 remaining in the Area H Community Works fund and the mind.

To view the artist’s work, visit www.frankislstroshal.com.

The celebration of Nelson’s Humans of New York project continues.

COMMUNITY

The Valley Voice | November 5, 2014

The Nelson BCSPCA is delighted to congratulate Havesome Hogs on becoming the first farm in the Kootenays to achieve SPCA Certification!

“Havesome Hogs is a great example of the type of farm animal welfare standards that we look for in our SPCA Certification,” said SPCA’S Harvey Wilson.

The BCSPCA’s SPCA Certification program helps farmers and their workers create healthier working conditions and work environments for their farm animals.

Havesome Hogs was awarded the SPCA Certification after undergoing an extensive farm animal welfare audit conducted by the BCSPCA.

Havesome Hogs has implemented a number of policies and practices to ensure that their farm动物 are treated humanely and that the farm staff have a safe and healthy work environment.

The Nelson BCSPCA is proud to recognize Havesome Hogs for their commitment to animal welfare and the well-being of their farm staff.

For more information on the BCSPCA’s SPCA Certification program, visit www.spca.ca.
RDCK seeks public input on local park planning

submitted

The public is invited to participate in park management planning underway for Crescent Valley Beach, Pass Creek, Waterloo Eddy, and Balfour Beach.

“We need to get public input to develop detailed plans for each of the four parks because each has unique design or land use considerations that we want to review with residents before we move ahead,” said Sangita Sudan, development services manager for the RDCK.

Juliet Anderson Consulting and Ecocap Environmental have been hired to prepare management plans for the four parks, including a design development plan for Crescent Valley Beach to address parking and access issues. Consultants will solicit public input at open houses and with an online survey throughout the fall.

A review of properties and land status began in September 2014 and consultants will identify all ecological, recreation and cultural values for each of the parks before developing new park vision statements. For Crescent Valley Beach, draft design development and costing for parking and other amenities will be presented at the open house. Draft park management plans are scheduled for public review in the New Year with final management plans slated for board approval by summer 2015.

The open houses are as follows: Crescent Valley Beach Thursday, November 6, 7-8:30 pm, Crescent Valley Hall, Balfour Beach, Thursday, November 6, 4:30 pm, Balfour Community Hall, Waterloo Eddy (4:30-6 pm) and Pass Creek (6:3-7 30 pm), Wednesday, November 5 in the Punnell Room at Castlegar & District Community Complex.

For more information about how to participate in RDCK park management planning or to provide input, visit www.rdcc.ca or sdcentralalcounrty on Facebook.

Happy 40th Anniversary Mom and Dad

Love PMS and family

Nelson Library service at Passmore Lodge

submitted

For the month of November, the Nelson Public Library’s outreach service to Slocan Valley residents will move from Winlaw School to Passmore Seniors Lodge.

“Please join us on Thursday, November 20 from 3 to 7 pm to browse the mobile collection and to check out books, DVDs and CDs for all ages. Our friendly librarians can help you sign up for a Nelson Library membership, connect with online library services, or place orders through the provincial interlibrary loan system.”

Library fundraising goodies will be available for purchase, including the beautiful new book bag, Seasonings: a year of local favour in recipes and words cookbook, Nelson’s Chocofiller library bars (one favourite: Journey to the Centre of the Almond), canapé cards with designs from vintage book covers, local artist bookmarks, and Oso Negro coffee.

Members can contact the library to arrange to have items sent to Passmore for pick up. The 24 hour drop box at the Heritage Credit Union in Slocan Park can be used for library returns at any time.

For more information about the Winlaw outreach program and other Nelson Public Library services, contact the Library, 250-352-6333, nelson.bclibrary.ca.

FOOD SPECIALS

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<tr>
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<td>Co-op Whole: Dried - Crushed</td>
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SUNDAY HOURS TO CHANGE!

Starting November 16th, 2014 on SUNDAYS ONLY, the Slocan Park store opening time will change to 5:00 AM. It will continue to close at 9:00 PM nightly. This change does not apply to any other day. Our new operating hours: SUNDAY: 5:00 AM - 9:00 PM M to SAT: 6:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Slocan Valley Co-op
3024. Hwy 6. Slocan Park
Ph: 250-226-7433

Matt Dredger shows off his creation at a pumpkin sculpting workshop, held at Lumiere School on October 28. The class was taught by professional Slocan Valley carvers Peter Vergeer and David Ducharme, and sponsored by the Slocan Lake Gallery Society and BC Arts Council.

Donor Dick Collins personally delivers a new wheelbarrow full of firewood to the Valley Voice offices for Voice editor Jan McFarlan, third prize winner in the Kihin Garden Thanksgiving Fireweed Raffles. First and second prize winners were Bill and Donna Vaughan, and Randy Colter and Sally Hammond.
New website helps find child/youth mental health resources

Submitted
Help for mental health problems in children and youth is now available in one place.
The new KB Searchlight website (www.kootenayfamilyplace.org) is the first local web resource to link all child and youth mental health care services in one place. Opening with a welcoming illustrated map of the region, site visitors can click to find the most appropriate local services, resources and apps for a range of problems, including anxiety, depression, eating disorders, self-harming, substance use and more.

“Timely action is often an important part of dealing with mental health issues,” said Dr. Cindy Lodrask, specialist physician lead. “This website will quickly direct people searching for help to the most appropriate resources in their home communities. It’s a resource for both the public and health care providers.”

GP lead Dr. Lilli Kerby agrees, saying, “As a family physician this resource will definitely be of value as I work with my patients to refer them to the most appropriate local support services.”

The creation of the KB Searchlight website is part of a large Child and Youth Mental Health and Substance Use (CYMHSU) collaborative funded by the BC government and Doctors of BC. The program started last year with the goal of providing timely access to integrated mental health and substance use services and supports throughout the province for children, youth, and their families. Interior Health is the first region to partner with the collaborative.

The website was created by the CYMHSU Kootenay Boundary Project Authority, which is working on redesigning its youth programs to increase youth participation in ongoing in apprenticeship and skilled trades careers.

Construction is also underway on two new multi-million-dollar training facilities on helping to put British Columbians first in line for in-demand jobs throughout the province.

“BC’s growing economy needs workers with the right skills to meet industry needs, in LNG and other high demand sectors,” said Clark. “This Blueprint update shows solid progress on meeting this challenge by building a strong training foundation for BC workers to take advantage of new jobs.”

Since the Blueprint was launched, students now have the opportunity to explore a variety of trades while they earn credit towards graduation through Skills Exploration 10.12. In addition, with a panel of stakeholders, the Industry Training Action Team, one of eight local action teams working at the community level in the collaborative, the teams brings together a wide array of local stakeholders, including families, doctors, mental health counselors, drug and alcohol counselors, community agencies and more.

Tyler Exner, a youth representative on the KB Action Team who in a recent year faced his own serious mental health issues leading to hearing voices, urges youth and families to use the family-friendly website.

“I want to tell kids that it’s okay to talk about what’s going on with them, it made it harder for me, by not talking up sooner when I began to have problems,” said Exner, 22, who is now recovered and staying to work in the field of youth mental health. Exner is eager to share his story and experiences to help other young people.

The KB Searchlight website aims to help facilitate timely and appropriate care for children and youth with mental health concerns.

“Significant progress” on re-engineering skills training

Submitted
Premier Christy Clark unveiled a six-month progress update on BC’s Skills for Jobs Blueprint last week in Nanaimo. The update summarizes a wide range of actions undertaken since the launch of the Blueprint “that opened the door for BC’s fresh talent to enter the workforce for in-demand jobs throughout the province.”

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Area D residents to vote on referendum for local conservation fund

by Jan McMurray

When Area D residents go to the polls on November 15, they will receive two ballots – one to vote for an RDCK director to represent them, and the other to vote on a referendum to establish a local conservation fund.

The Kootenay Conservation Program has distributed a ‘fact sheet’ about the referendum question and the proposed fund.

The question will ask whether voters are in favour of the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) adopting a bylaw that will establish the Local Conservation Fund in Areas A, D and E and a tax requisition up to $106, 500 – or

Winlaw school needs online votes for environmental education program

submitted

Parent of Winlaw school students are seeking your daily online votes until November 10 for the school’s environmental education program. You can vote here daily: http://leaningproject.ust.edu/ideas/412.

The Inspired Minds Learning Project is a Canadian Scholarship Trust (CST) initiative “to help guide Canada’s education and professional pathways into the future.”

CST challenges communities and organizations across the country for new and innovative ideas in growth and development for children aged 3-17. It offers awards of $5,000 to $20,000.

At Winlaw Elementary School, funding would help build a structure for an outdoor classroom, develop field study kits and foster field trips to diverse habitats. This program facilitates environmental education to create experiential learning and stewardship by accessing local resources, developing sustainable education tools and studying diverse habitats.

Duo Diorama in concert at St. Andrew’s

submitted

Kaslo Concert Society presents Duo Diorama on Friday November 21, 7 pm at St. Andrew’s United Church. Duo Diorama comprises Chinese violinist MingHuan Xu and Canadian pianist Winston Choi. They are compelling and versatile artists who perform in an eclectic mix of musical styles, ranging from the great standard works to the avant-garde. It is a partnership with a startlingly fresh and powerful $0.062 per $100 of taxable assessed value of land and improvements – to be collected by an annual parcel tax.

The question is complicated, but due to RDCK bylaw mechanisms, states the fact sheet.

The amount of taxation collected would be equal to $15 per parcel per year for 10 years. After 10 years, another referendum will be held to see if there is continued support.

Refereendums ballots from all three areas will be combined, so the referendum will either pass or fail for the region. Voters will not be counted by individual area.

If the majority of voters in the three areas combined vote yes, the referendum will pass, and Area D Director Andy Shadrack believes the taxation will be collected starting in 2015. The RDCK will administer the fund, and may choose to partner with the Kootenay Conservation Partnership or another organization to help deliver the program, which will be a grant program for projects that focus on open spaces, clean water, wildlife habitat, recreation access and values, wetlands revitalization, working family farms, effective stewardship and collective capacity building.

Requests for Proposals will be widely advertised. All projects will be reviewed by a Technical Review Committee – comprised of experts in biological, ecological, land use and environmental matters – with defined Terms of Reference. Projects will be approved on their merit as determined by established criteria. Elected Directors of Areas A, D and E will make the final decision on the expenditure of funds, based on recommendations from the Technical Review Committee. “Approval of projects will be driven by local values and priorities,” states the fact sheet.

Hillary Elliott

for Mayor of Slocan

Experience

I have represented Slocan for the past 6 years locally, regionally, provincially and federally.

Dedication

I have the time and dedication needed to represent you effectively, fairly and within the budget.

Action-Oriented

I will work hard to act on the initiatives you want to happen and within a timely manner.

Motivated

I am excited to offer my skills and experience to act with energetic innovation and collaboration for Slocan.

Authorized by Hillary Elliott, financial agent, 250-355-9244
COMMUNITY

Nurse practitioner hired for New Denver and Slocan Valley

by Jen McMurray

A nurse practitioner has been hired for the Slocan Community Health Centre in New Denver, starting November 12. She will also be providing outreach services to the Slocan Valley.

Donna Gibbons is an experienced nurse practitioner, relocating to the area from Edmonton with her family. She brings a wealth of experience in primary health care, working with clients of all ages, with a special interest in prenatal care.

New Denver’s Dr. Chuck Burkholder said, “We at New Denver Medical Clinic are delighted to have such an experienced nurse practitioner joining our team. Donna is going to be a great addition and will allow our clinic to better serve the residents of the Slocan Valley, especially those without a primary care provider.”

Cheryl Whittleton of Interior Health explained that Gibbons will be carrying her own patient load. “A Nurse Practitioner is able to provide the full spectrum of primary care,” said Whittleton. “You’d go see her and she can help you with everything that you would a family physician.”

The clinic will be accepting new patients starting in December (250-358-7911).

Whittleton says once Gibbons is fully oriented in her role in New Denver, “we’re going to look at what we’re going to have to do, because there’ve been offers of space in the valley.”

Whittleton explained that Interior Health had had challenges recruiting primary care physicians to the Slocan Valley. “There are valley residents who don’t have a physician, and some have to travel to Nelson and Nakusp,” she said, adding that there is no longer a primary care physician at the Slocan Park Medical Clinic since Dr. Barbour retired. “So when the Ministry of Health announced funding for nurse practitioners in 2012, it was well received.”

Standing ovation for the Servantes Quartet in Nakusp

by Nancy Bertosa

The Wednesday evening, October 22, 2014. We walk into the Bonnington Arts Centre in Nakusp for the second Arrow Lakes Arts Council concert. The stage is set with Latin drums, large and small cymbals, water shells, rainmakers, an alto sax, a tenor sax and a flute. We are anxiously awaiting the performers – the Servantes Quartet.

The concert starts quietly with Patrick Servant (Servantes) and his gentle guitar sound, accompanied by rhythms he records as he goes – operating the recording gizmo on the floor with his feet clad in gorgeous red leather shoes. After a while Patrick is joined by Yves Lacourciere and his flute, Francois Tailandier on drums and Naki for the stick guitar. The musicians jam along, transporting us to a smoky bar in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

There is a lot of talent in this group, obviously a lot of musical training. Patrick plays classical and flamenco guitar. He has composed some original music for the quartet and arranged the rest of their selections. Yves plays the flute, piano, alto and tenor sax. Naki plays the stick guitar – but his instrument is one of a kind. He and his friend designed and built it from 15 kinds of wood. It looks like an electric guitar with a small amp attached to the handle. This instrument can be played like a guitar or a harp or with both sounds at once.

Francois is the most amazing drummer. I have ever seen, using his hands and individual fingers to make rhythms and a variety of sounds on his Latin drums.

Each of these musicians has precision technique achieved from thousands of hours of study and practice, and all of them showed their love for their craft.

There is one word for this dynamic foursome: FABULOUS. The audience erupted in applause to match, with a standing ovation.

Don’t miss the next two Arts Council Concerts in Nakusp – December 14 at 2 pm – a Christmas celebration!

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New Denver’s Hospice Society co-ordinator is “our cup of tea”

submitted

Julie Fry is now New Denver’s Hospice Society’s program co-ordinator. She spent the last few weeks in training with Tanya Thompson, who ably served in the position for the past three years and is now leaving the organization and travelling with her husband thor to Thailand.

Fry brings to the position her personal experience, her enthusiasm for learning, and her strong people skills. Many will remember her as the former owner/operator of the Cup and Saucer Cafe, which she and her husband Mathew started in 2008 in Silverton.

She introduced herself to Hospice as a person who enjoys being involved in the community, “It’s my cup of tea,” and is excited to work with the Hospice board and volunteers in providing care support for the residents of our area at the end of life.

She was welcomed to Hospice at the October directors’ meeting with cookies graciously provided by the Pavilion kitchen – and cups of tea.

The Valley Voice November 5, 2014

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December 18th

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"Living Wills Advance Planning"
presented by Kay Costley-White 10:30 am

Flu Shot Clinic
sponsored by Safeway 11 am - 1 pm
Free Lunch 11:30 am

For more information contact Gary Willman
358-2129
Slocan candidates on youth retention, economic development and survivability

by Barbara Curry Malcolcy

About 50 people attended the All Candidates Forum for the Village of Slocan at the Silvery Slocan Legion Hall on October 30. The event, co-sponsored by the Slocan District Chamber of Commerce and the Valley Voice, was moderated by Gary Wright, former New Denver mayor and RDCK chair.

Slocan has two candidates for mayor, Jessica Lunn and Hillary Elliott, and eight candidates for the four seats on council. Jean Patterson, a councillor candidate, was unable to attend as her husband recently died. She sent a written statement, which Wright read.

The following paraphrases the candidates’ opening remarks and responses to two questions.

Opening Remarks

Jessica Lunn (mayoral candidate): I grew up here and have been a councillor for six years. I have been active in volunteer groups. I want an abundant, creative, thriving community. We need to support our volunteers and groups. I have strong regional relationships, have been elected to the AERBG executive and have chaired meetings.

Hillary Elliott (mayoral candidate): I have represented Slocan in a positive, professional way for almost seven years. I believe that we need to work together as a council and community. I have been Slocan’s representative on the RDCK board and have served on the AERBG executive.

Kevin Millership (councillor candidate): I informed on the mill when it was using its beehive burner and got it shut down. That’s the kind of person I am. I want the Village to have chlorine-free water. I have researched a system that uses hydrogen peroxide instead of chlorine and want to get this system installed here.

Jean Patterson (councillor candidate): I would like to continue working on the microhydro project and the seniors housing project.

Joel Pelletier (councillor candidate): I want Slocan to grow, flourish, and prosper. I want to ensure that we have clean air and water. I am a successful small business entrepreneur and I support small business and a diverse community.

Madeleine Perrié (councillor candidate): I have been mayor for six years and was a councillor for two years before that. I want to see the microhydro project through. We need to get our financial situation in order. Many people want to see the waterfront developed, but our first priority must be financial stability. Affordable housing in another project I want to see through.

I have the energy for this position and am a team player, always working for the interests of the Village.

Barly Van Byen (councillor candidate): I’ve been a councillor and the mayor. I got bruised up a bit but now I’m healed and I’m ready to jump back into the fray again.

Ezra Buller (councillor candidate): I’ve been a resident of Slocan for 12 years. I’m single father completing my bachelor’s degree this year. I’m willing to represent you. I’m not going to tell you what I want done. Council needs the support of the community to have a lively community but it is suffering an economic downturn.

Thomas Littley (councillor candidate): I’ve lived in Slocan for 12 years. I would like to give back to the community. I bring honesty, an open mind, and a commitment to following through. I support clean, renewable energy and self-reliance. I am concerned with climate change.

I would like to see solar panels put on the Village office. I support food security and the community garden. These projects can inspire residents to be more self-reliant. Because Slocan hasn’t been developed yet, we have the potential to create a greener, more sustainable way of living.

Patricia McGreal (councillor candidate): I bring the voice of opposition to council. A council that tends to be basically in agreement leads to a dysfunctional council. It’s a rough road but I believe that it is important that there’s someone to say, ‘Are you sure you want to do this?’

Do you believe that there is an inter-relationship between youth retention, job creation-economic development, and sustainability?

Barly Van Byen: It would be super ideal if we could keep youth in Slocan.

Joel Pelletier: Work from home businesses, festivals, training programs for youth (like the Community Futures program) are all important. Small businesses like RDCK and the RDCK needs the support. They could make their own T-shirts, sell skateboards and local products.

Patricia McGreal: If we retain our youth, then they will create their own jobs. Their community school with a Maker Space has embarked on this. The community garden could expand to provide jobs.

Madeleine Perrié: Slocan is in transition. We don’t know what will happen with the mill site. We need to work together, to be creative.

Kevin Millership: We need to have a council. I see this place turned around in five years. The Village has about a million dollars, enough to see it through. We need to decide what direction people are going to move here.

Joel Pelletier: We need to concentrate on new ways to bring money into the village. We could approach a college like Selkirk to establish a program like environmental studies here. It would bring in students with student loans, fill our housing.

Barly Van Byen: Fantastical ideas as long as they can come through. The mill owner needs to decide for himself what he is going to do with the mill site. Opposition will make him turn against you.

Patricia McGreal: It is important to maintain our own jurisdiction and not to lose to the RDCK. The RDCK can be like a skate shop that you own. I am a crossing the t’s and dotting the i’s kind of person. We haven’t done a lot of belt-tightening. We need to ask: what do we need to do?

Madeleine Perrié: I hope we’re not getting to the point where we have to lose the Village. The microhydro project should be on track fairly quickly. Something will come about. We have to be pragmatic.

Jessica Lunn: We’re facing a new fiscal reality. We lost a good chunk of our revenue. It’s important to adjust and not to rely on the microhydro project. It’s not a given yet. We need to look at alternative revenue sources.

Hillary Elliott: We need to communicate with each other. There are different options: raise taxes, cut services, microhydro revenue, talk to the mill owner. We need to work together and we need to be fiscally responsible.

Ezra Buller: We need to find some new economic avenues to replace lost tax revenues. If we can’t, there might not be a whole lot we can do to avoid dissolution. The mill site is a private piece of land but hopefully we can work with the owner to see if it developed.

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THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF SLOCAN
NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING
2014 GENERAL LOCAL ELECTION

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given to the electors of the Village of Slocan that an election by voting is necessary to elect a Mayor and four Councillors for a four-year term and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

**Mayor – One (1) to be elected**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Usual Names</th>
<th>Jurisdiction of Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELLIOTT</td>
<td>Hillary</td>
<td>Slocan, B.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LUNN</td>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Slocan, B.C.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Councillor – Four (4) to be elected**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Usual Names</th>
<th>Jurisdiction of Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BULLER</td>
<td>Ezra</td>
<td>RDCK Area ‘H’, Brandon, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LITTLEY</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Village of Slocan, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILLERSHIP</td>
<td>Patricia</td>
<td>Village of Slocan, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MILLERSHIP</td>
<td>Kevin</td>
<td>RDCK Area ‘H’, Slocan, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATTISON</td>
<td>Jean</td>
<td>Village of Slocan, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PELLETIER</td>
<td>Joel</td>
<td>Village of Slocan, BC</td>
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<tr>
<td>PERRIER</td>
<td>Madoleine</td>
<td>Village of Slocan, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VAN BYEN</td>
<td>Burly</td>
<td>RDCK Area ‘H’, Slocan, BC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GREAT VOTING DAY will be open to qualified electors of the Village of Slocan on Saturday, November 15, 2014 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at the Village of Slocan Council Chambers - 503 Slocan Street, Slocan.

ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES will be open at the Village of Slocan Council Chambers, 503 Slocan Street on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 and Wednesday, November 12, 2014, between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm.

Elector Registration: If you are not on the list of electors, you may register at the time of voting by completing the required application form available at the voting place. To register you must meet the following qualifications:

- 18 years of age or older
- Canadian citizen
- resident of BC for at least 6 months immediately preceding voting day
- resident of OR registered owner of real property in the Village of Slocan for at least 30 days immediately preceding voting day, and
- not otherwise disqualified by law from voting.

Resident electors will also be required to produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature). Picture identification is not necessary. The identification must prove both residency and identity.

Non-resident property electors must produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity, proof that they are entitled to register in relation to the property, and if there is more than one owner of the property, written consent from the other property owners.
New Denver council on October 28: Energy independence to be researched

by Karrine Campbell

- A request from Arthene Joyce that the council make a public energy forum. Joyce gather input about the community’s heritage priority was, referred to the Annual Report
- CAO Bruce Woodbury presented information on water and garbage, including revenues and expenses.
- Staff will draft amendments to water rates and regulations to reduce base user rates by 10 percent and remove the current 10 percent early payment discount. There will be a five percent penalty if the bill is not paid by February 15, with a further five percent added to delinquent accounts in early July.

The RDCK has corrected the Village’s tipping fee rate for garbage from $27 per cubic metre to $20. According to the owner’s property tax, it is not allocated in this area of the budget and the CAO proposed including this time. He also recommended that, during the five-year financial plan, staff review and adjust future years’ operating costs to reflect potential increases in wages, fuel and hydro, etc.

- Mayor Ann Bunka reported she attended a meeting on the government’s “10-year climate action plan.”
- A Committee of the Whole meeting on Climate and Fire Services will be held November 1 at 10 am. A Committee of the Whole meeting about the Annual Report will be held, in camera, on November 7.

BC Foods Network has concerns about ARC report

Issues of concern include:
- The consultation length of one month, and the invitation-only approach, did not do justice to the extent of the public concern that had been raised around BC about the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and (AMC).
- The fact that the consultation was held in a summer when farmers are at the peak of their work, making it extremely difficult for farmers, the key stakeholders, to participate;
- Participants could easily confuse the activity mentioned (e.g., intergenerational transfer) with the actual question, which was whether or not the activity should occur in the ALR without application to the AMC.
- The value of public participation shows 55 percent support in BC for the ALR as a mechanism to support land for food and water, with 71 percent of respondents believing the laws protecting the ALR should be maintained or strengthened, says Bury. “The top of food and agriculture concern for the public of BC is loss or development of farmland.

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Candlelight and Cake in Nakusp, November 19

submitted

Make your gift giving easy, affordable, and fun this year by shopping locally and joining us for our annual Christmas giftcard party.

On November 19 from 6 pm to 9 pm, Fourth Ave and Broadway Street will once again be festive and candlelit to welcome women to an evening of fun, socializing, and great shopping at the seventh annual Candlelight and Cake ladies night. Debra of Prima Materia Gallery, Heather of the Treasure Trove, Brenda Lee and Mickey of Horse Crown Market, Jennifer of Jennifer Chocolates, and Autumn of Betty’s Edge offer some of the best gift shopping in the whole valley.

Each location presents special seasonal treats and “one night only” discounts to guarantee a fabulous evening for all. Enter the Candlelight Draw for a chance to win one of two gift certificate packages. See what’s new for Christmas and bring a gift certificate.

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The Valley Voice November 5, 2014

OBITUARY

WILLIAM ROBERT “BILL” BARKOW

It is with profound sadness to announce the passing of our dear Dad, William Robert “Bill” Barkow on Thursday, October 30, 2014 in St. John’s Care Centre Hospice in Vancouver, B.C. His optimistic attitude forged his courage and unyielding desire to live during his lengthy struggle with cancer.

Dad was born on April 22, 1930 in Nakusp, B.C., the only son of Merrel and Edith Barkow who predeceased him. He is also predeceased by his darling wife, Vicki (Ohashiya) and sister Gay (McCadden). He is survived by sister Charlotte Humphries (Winston), ON and sons, Robb and Grant (Robin Taeki), daughter Hollis (Howard Hi) grandchild, Kyla (Clayton Suttare), lengthy, great-grandchildren Cushen and Karina. Surviving in law includes Robbe Ohashiya, Sue Yodaichi, Wendy Ohashiya and Victor Schuck. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Dad married Vicki (Ohashiya) in 1953 and raised his family in Nakusp, B.C. He was a devoted family man who maintained strong ties with his extended family and friends. The passing of Mom in 2005 prompted Dad to develop “Vicki’s View” as a lasting tribute to her beloved wife. This anticipated the roots of the Nakusp & Area Community Trails Society which he is a Founding Member.

Dad was a tough “dropout” in the tourism industry until his retirement in 1992. He was a skilled “fast water mate” who navigated the “river drive” in the powerful current of the Columbia River. His meandering passion for the “skeena” Columbia River and the Arrow Lakes kept him active and agile after retirement as he continued to beachcrouch the lake with his own tugboat, the “Arrow Bove.” Dad spent much of his time developing the family vacation property known as “Barkows Narrows.”

Bill had enormous respect and an ardent interest in the history of the Arrow Lakes. He was a colorful vacationer who loved to explore the rich history of the early pioneers that built the community of Nakusp in his earlier years. Bill was a key member of the Kootenay Club and the K-40 and was committed to servicing the community. Bill was an active member of the Nakusp Seniors Citizens Association, the Arrow Lakes Historical Society, AAA, and the Nakusp and Area Community Trails Society.

He was a Past Master and a long-standing member of Star of the West Lodge No. 51.

Dad was a good man who would work hard, loved his family, friends and the community of Nakusp and will be missed deeply. We can all take comfort knowing his legacy will live on in our every life.

To arrange for your Dad’s life will be held on Saturday, November 15, 2014 at the United Church, Nakusp, B.C. at 1:00 p.m. A reception with open mic will follow at the Legion Hall.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to the Arrow Lakes Historical Society or the Nakusp & Area Community Trails Society in Nakusp, B.C.

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Temporary Education Support Program cheques in the mail

Eligible BC families who have registered for the Temporary Education Support Payment program can expect to receive their cheques in the mail shortly. The payment of $40 a day applies to the first 13 school days from September 2 to 18, when until teachers ratified the collective agreement.

Since October 20, approximately 165,000 cheques have been processed and mailed out. Additional cheques will be mailed out as they are processed.

Local government workers' guides now online

The Government of British Columbia says it wants eligible workers to participate in the local government election process and to vote on Saturday, November 15. Voting places are open from 8 am to 8 pm.

To support voters, the Voter’s Guide to Local Elections in British Columbia, now available online at www.scad. gc.gov.ca/ged/elecions.htm, provides answers to questions that might be asked. A few examples include:

- How are local government elections different from other elections?
- What are the different types of local government elections?
- What are the different roles of local government elections?

In addition to being available online, the guide is also available on a CD-ROM.

Secure loads for safer, cleaner roads

Secure loads for safer, cleaner roads

The RDCK would like to remind everyone of the importance of securing loads on trucks and other vehicles. Properly secured loads are considered an offense under the Motor Vehicle Act and may result in fines or charges at RDCK disposal facilities.

It is common to see vehicles carrying material in an unsafe manner. Drivers sometimes forget to secure their loads properly, allowing items to fall off along the way. If you see a vehicle with an overloaded load, please call the RDCK.

Schools

Schools are not required to provide instruction in all areas of the curriculum. If a school does not offer a particular course, it is because the school determined that the course is not needed.

In September, the Ministry of Education released the following information:

- 18 years of age or older on general voting day
- Canadian citizen
- resident of BC for at least 5 months immediately preceding the day of registration
- resident of or registered owner of real property in the Village of Nakusp for at least 3 months immediately preceding the day of registration, and
- not disqualified by the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualifying by law.

To register, a resident must produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature). It is recommended that both ID documents be shown.

Mail ballot voting

Qualified electors may vote by mail if they:

- have a physical disability, illness or injury that affects their ability to vote at another voting opportunity, or
- expect to be absent from the Village of Nakusp on general voting day and at the times of all advance voting opportunities.

Mail ballot packages must be received by the Chief Election Officer no later than 5 pm on Saturday, November 15, 2014.

Anna Marie Hogg
Chief Election Officer
Friends of Kootenay Lake gather to share priorities and information

by Karina Campbell

The people who live around Kootenay Lake are concerned about invasive species, the lack of boat washing and pumping stations, and water quality in general. This was the consensus of the 89 people who attended the second Kootenay Lake Summit in Kaslo October 18. Friends of Kootenay Lake program manager Claire de la Salle says about three-quarters of the attendees were “folks who live around the lake,” with the balance coming from non-profit organizations, industry and government.

The all-day event included four hours of speakers on topics such as fisheries, First Nations history, shoreline restoration techniques, and water level management. Eight organizations set up exhibit tables to share the work they were doing, and a hands-on deno crew drew people to find out how to plant willow stakes to reforest the shoreline.

The Kootenay Lake Summit was designed to “engage community members to identify main challenges for the lake and potential solutions to these problems…[and]…encourage a broader and deeper understanding of the lake’s ecosystem and build co-operative relationships among Kootenay Lake communities.”

De la Salle said one of the main ideas that came forward was for the Friends to help disseminate complex information to the people around the lake. Responsibility for the lake is divided among the provincial, federal and regional governments, and “it’s great if everyone had a good sense of who’s responsible for what, but people are getting frustrated. There’s definitely a role we can play to spread that information, figure out these complex questions…and try to get action.”

Lizzy Hoyt Trio at the Langham, and Castlegar

One of Canada’s finest Celtic musicians will visit the Kootenays this month. Lizzy Hoyt plays the Langham in Kaslo Tuesday, November 7 at 7:30 pm, and the Kootenay Gallery in Castlegar November 9 at 1:30 pm. Lizzy Hoyt is an award-winning vocalist and songwriter, born into a family of professional classical musicians, it is no surprise that she got an early start in the music business. At fifteen, she landed her first professional gig as a fiddler player working with the award-winning Canadian country artist Eli Barst. She worked with Barst for 10 years as a fiddler, mandolin player and harmony singer. During that time, Hoyt also started to freelance as a back up musician for recording artists such as Tracy Millar, Susannah King and Maria Dunn, and completed a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology at the University of Alberta.

Hoyt is now a full-time musician who travels and tours throughout the year. Versatility, excellent musicianship, high energy, story-telling and the ability to connect with her audience are hallmarks of her live show and have gained her a reputation as a first-rate performer. Her gift as a vocalist is highlighted in each of her performances as she sings with lyricism, gentleness, passion and musicianship.

GED high school equivalency program being phased out

One option for adults who haven’t finished high school is being phased out at the end of this year. The General Educational Development (GED) program, resulting in a BC Secondary School Equivalency Certificate, will no longer be offered after November 2014. A Ministry of Education spokesperson explained that there are two reasons for discontinuing the program. First, the number of people participating in the program has dropped by about half from when it started in BC in the 1970s. Second, people are finding the BC Secondary School Equivalency Certificate less and less effective when applying for employment or post secondary school opportunities.

So, after 2014, the GED program will no longer be available, and adults who want to receive a high school diploma can pursue a BC Adult Graduation Diploma (adult dogwood) or a regular high school diploma.

HGG hosts Food for Thought talk

David Everett presents ‘Tarlington across Canada’.

What would it be like to ride a bicycle across Canada? Why would anyone do such a thing?

Get David Everett’s version of the answers to these questions and travel 6,000 kilometers in one hour without leaving your seat at the Kootenay Library, November 16, 7:30 pm.

Admission is by donation to benefit the Library.