Local governments voted in for the next four years

by Jan McMurray

On November 15, mayors and councils and regional district electoral area directors were elected for the next four years.

Village of Nakusp

The mayoral race in Nakusp was won handily by incumbent Karen Hamlin. Hamlin received 62 percent of the vote with 333 votes. Her challenger, Guy Duchaine, received 38 percent of the vote with 206 votes. Voter turnout in Nakusp was 47 percent, with 539 votes cast out of 1,157.

Nakusp councillors were acclaimed: Ulli Menthler, Tom Zehlitz, Len Harper and Bill Tobey.

Village of Slocan

In Slocan, the mayoral race was tight, with Jessica Lynn coming out on top by 10 votes, Lynn got 88 votes to Hillary Elliott’s 78. The four councillors elected were: incumbent Madeline Perrie (113 votes); former mayor Bryan Vasby (109 votes); Joel Pelletier (107 votes); and incumbent Jennifer Patterson (80 votes). Unsuccessful councillors were: Thomas Littleley (84 votes); Erza Butler (83 votes); incumbent Patricia McNeel (55 votes); and Kevin Millersh (6 votes).

Slocan had a 45 percent voter turnout, with 166 votes cast out of a possible 372.

Village of Kaslo

Kasco’s new mayor is Susan Hewat, who was way ahead of her opponents, Pat Mackie and incumbent Greg Lay. Hewat got 245 votes compared to Mackie’s 140 and Lay’s 138. New councillors are Ronella Corcoran (327 votes) and Kathie Knit (386 votes).

Meadow Creek sawmill destroyed by fire on November 13

by Jan McMurray

Meadow Creek Forest Products has been paralysed by the loss of the sawmill to fire in the early morning of November 13, and the suspension of its forest license once again earlier this month.

The Meadow Creek Forest Products sawmill in Coquihalla north of Kaslo burned down in the early morning of Thursday, November 13. The sawmill was completely destroyed, but the office building, dry kiln and reman plant were untouched by the fire, and no one was hurt.

Representatives from the Office of the Fire Commissioner, WorkSafe BC and the BC Safety Authority were on site to investigate the following day, Friday, November 14. Results of the investigation have not yet been released. An RCMP press release issued on Thursday states the fire “at this point is not believed to be suspicious.”

“Just hope they will be able to re-build something better,” said Pastor Len Trenholm of Meadow Creek. “We had really pinned our hopes on this mill doing something for us up here. Our population is dwindling – people are going to Alberta by the end of the year.”

The Meadow Creek sawmill fire just after 10 am on November 13. The fire started at about 2:30 am by the four mill workers who live in the office building on the property and von Koenig.

The Village of Silverton’s new council was elected by acclamation: Jason Clarke (mayor), Leah Main, Arlene Yottemeck, Bill Christian and Carol Bell.

Incumbent Area A (Slocan) and Area K (Arrow Lakes) RDCK Directors Walter Popoff and Paul Peterson won unchallenged and return by acclamation.

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Winlaw Hall packed for smart meter meeting

by Art Joyce

To most of the 100 or so people packed into the Winlaw Hall on November 14, smart meters are anything but smart. The event was organized and hosted by Daphne Fields with special guest MP Alex Atamanenko, MP for BC Southern Interior. Guest speaker Richard Cassell was too ill to attend.

Fields noted that many people come to the Slocan Valley as a refuge from electromagnetic radiation (EMR), hence the importance of protecting itself as a haven for those who can no longer live in cities flooded with EMR.

The featured speaker on the program, Dr. Russ Anderson, a naturopathic doctor and chiropractor, presented a slide show on the health impacts of wireless devices. Anderson spoke about the condition known and accepted in many countries as EHS or electro-hypersensitivity. Because the effects of exposure to EMR are cumulative, by 2017 scientists estimate 50 percent of the population — especially in urban areas — will have EHS, manifesting in a wide range of symptoms and health conditions. Symptoms include pain, fatigue, anxiety, insomnia, poor memory and concentration, depression, dizziness, rashes and tingling. Various diseases, particularly cancers, are also implicated.

Anderson says literally the day after devices are removed or shut down these symptoms disappear. These adverse reactions, once dubbed “microwave sickness,” were known as early as 1972, reported in a declassified US Naval Institute document. Brain cancer during the past decade has skyrocketed, especially among youth. Anderson said his 27-year-old nephew has just suffered a massive stroke — until recently this was virtually unheard of in people of that age.

Children are far more susceptible than adults due to their thinner skulls and undeveloped immune systems. Anderson was a variety of sophisticated measuring instruments to audit patients’ homes for EMR exposure. He also tests for “dirty electricity” in standard home wiring and “light smog” generated by CFL bulbs or fluorescent tubes. He says at present society is still in the first two stages of denial: ridicule and violent opposition; eventually it will be accepted as fact. In Russia no one can live or work within a 2,000-metre radius of a cell phone tower because it’s a known health hazard. Scandinavian scientist Dr. Leif Salford has called the current roll out of wireless “the largest human biological experiment in history.”

Another concern is a smart meter on one’s house — a device that operates 24/7 and transmits pulse EMR as often as every 20 seconds — is a large health risk. The devices create what’s known as “dirty electricity,” which can aggravate or lead to EHS. “There’s a cell phone in every smart meter and it’s aggravating the same frequency as a normal cell phone, using pulsed EMF,” explained Anderson. They’re very active between 2 and 3 am, a time when the “data dump” is occurring: many in urban areas are finding they suffer insomnia at these hours.

Smart meters have also been implicated in causing house fires although as far as we know the government of Saskatchewan and a few other jurisdictions have admitted this publicly. Despite more incidents of meter-related fires in BC than Saskatchewan, BC’s Citizens for Safe Technology have been unable to convince the government here to pursue an investigation with the fire commissioners. The Saskatchewan government has suspended their “smart meter roll out” and will be removing 105,000 of the devices. Italy banned wireless smart meters in 2013; Germany also rejected them that year based on cost-benefit analysis concluding that the savings didn’t justify costs.

MP Alex Atamanenko provided a progress report on attempts to bring the matter to the attention of the current Federal Health Minister. On hand were copies of his motion to Parliament, presented by Health Critic Libby Davies, who wrote the Minister. Davies pointed out there’s a federal policy on no meaningful public consultation on Safety Code 6 (SC6). To date no reply has been received from the Minister’s office. Councillors from the Castlegar City Council (CASC) pushed for the Royal Society of Canada hearing on SC6 but its panel was tainted by a major conflict of interest scandal. In the end it did nothing to update the standard. Regulations still hold to the outdated belief that cellular damage is only possible when it causes burning of tissue. This is not unlike the belief that vaccines are safe.

Fields said she’s always looking for people with radio frequency meters who can volunteer to test citizens’ homes and help with organizing. Atamanenko and Fields have discussed the possibility of setting up a fund for those who are unable to afford the opt-out provision available from BC Hydro or FortisBC.

Meadow Creek sawmill destroyed by fire

continued from page 1

variety of reasons — there was an issue with pressure in the lines and frozen pipes.

"The building was totally engulfed in flames," Funk said. "Putting water on it was futile, so there was no point in taking risks. There was the risk of other explosions."

Corporal Begg said there were quite a few small explosions while he was there between about 2:30 am and 7:30 am, probably caused by supplies of fuel and lubricating oils that would have been in the building, and that corrugated sheet metal was found on the second floor — "so it was dangerous!"

Pastor Len Trenholll was called because one of the community fire trucks was stolen at his store. He arrived shortly before 3 am, and could see that it was pointless to use the equipment. The fire was confined to the one structure, so there was little danger of the fire spreading.

Kaslo’s Assistant Fire Chief Larry Bailey called Regional Fire Chief Terry Swan at about 2:30 that morning to ask if the Kaslo and Anna Fire Department could respond to the fire. The mill property is outside the fire protection district, the Kaslo and Anna Fire Department covers the area from the north of Field to the Shuswap. Swan denied the request, so the department did not attend.

Swan explains that he makes these decisions based on three criteria. Is there a life safety issue? Is there a potential of the fire impacting RDCK infrastructure? Is there a potential of the fire spreading into the forest or to another structure? “The answer was ‘no’ to all three,” he said. “I was told the fire was fully involved, and it was a 45 minute response time. The response would not have changed the outcome.”

The mill was once the biggest employer in the area, but management under the previous owner, Dale Krueger of Meadow Creek Cedar Ltd, led to its decline and closure in late 2011. On May 3, 2011, it was announced that the sawmill property had been purchased by Sim Group Inc, and would operate under the name Meadow Creek Forest Products.

Sim Group first licence suspended once again

Sim Group also took over the forest licence from Meadow Creek Cedar in May, but the full legal transfer of the licence had still not occurred. The forest licence had been very poorly managed under the previous owner, resulting in the ministry revoking the licence in February 2012. The licence was under suspension when Sim Group took over, but was lifted soon afterwards because the company paid off all of Meadow Creek Cedar’s outstanding debts to the Crown, to the tune of about $150,000. Within the last month, the ministry has made another request to Sim Group again seeking the full legal transfer of the licence.

“Wehaven’t reached the full conclusion of the licence transfer and they’ve generated new debts on the licence, so we’ve put it back into suspension,” reported District Forest Manager Gauth Gauth.
RCPM hosts meeting in Slocan following DeGroot incident

by Barbara Curry Mulcahey

At a public meeting November 3 at the Silvery Slocan Legion Hall, residents from Slocan and area grills the RCPM officer about the ordeal that led to the fatal shooting of local resident Peter DeGroot on Thanksgiving weekend.

The session was moderated by Gary White, mayor of New Denver and RDCK chair. Three RCPM officers were there to respond to questions and comments: Chief Superintendent Smart, RDCK Smart; Superintendent Tia Head, Southeast District Operations Officer and a Critical Incident Commander; and Inspector Tom Ray, head of the Kootenay Boundary regional detachment.

Chief Superintendent Smart began by explaining that the Independent Investigations Office (IIO) had assumed command of the investigation into the events leading to DeGroot’s death, preventing the RCPM from giving details about the investigation. However, officers were able to talk in general about procedures in critical incidents.

He also informed the crowd that the RCPM would be doing a general review of the incident.

There were questions and concerns about several issues.

The RCPM handling of DeGroot

Dr. Janie Barber from Silverton charged that the RCPM had “injured... a fairly confrontational situation.” She spoke of a perception of the RCPM as “cowboys come in with guns drawn,” saying that it was “the worst way to deal with DeGroot and “as a result, a man is dead.”

Superintendent Head replayed that in critical incidents, RCPM make a “measured response.” He said the normal strategy is to assess the situation, the risk to the community and to police officers. The key objective is to assure the safety of everyone involved. He said, “you can’t take Mr. DeGroot into custody. ‘Things don’t always turn out the way we want’ and the tragedy had impacted everyone.”

Trauma from the lockdown and school evacuation

Residents reported that they felt more threatened by the large force of armed police than by DeGroot himself. They said that the lockdown of the area, traumatized by the lockdowns and evacuation of We Graham Community School and the Valhalla Children’s Centre, was a “war zone.”

One resident said that a canoefish officer with a gun went into the gym where the students were sheltering and yelled, “Move! Move! Move! Move!” as a way to hurry students out to the evacuation bus.

Ezra Bullett reported that his daughter was “beaten out” by the bus ride, where children were asked to “play a game” and put their heads down.

Craig Roussain said he was getting the daycare children ready for evacuation when he was told by a police officer that the kids were going to day-care老师的car, four plainclothes officers with rifles surrounded the car to protect them, but it was very scary for the children.

Superintendent Head said that officers receive sensitivity training and training for traumatic incidents. He said he would “make sure that this piece about the school and how the children handled” was part of the RCPM’s general review, and indicated that he would want to make sure these types of things did not happen again.

Paradigmatic isolation and control

Residents noted the lack of communication. Some residents did not even know about the lockdown for more than 24 hours, while others found out from their neighbours or from armed officers on the street. No food, shelter, or information was provided to people locked out of or evacuated from the Village. Residents explained that they couldn’t get information from the RCPM – the Castlegar RCMP said Slocan was not in their area, and a call to New Denver got forwarded to an answering machine in Kelowna.

Smart replied that callers could have phoned 911. He said Villages always have an emergency management procedure and that the mayor and Village staff worked with the RCPM. He talked about the difficulty in providing information in an area where a lot of people “don’t have computers, TV, phones.”

Superintendent Head said, “We were challenged... Our Blackberries didn’t work.” Officers said normally they would have been able to communicate by social media, and there is usually a 1-800 number for people to call in a high grade emergency incident, but that didn’t happen in Slocan.

For questions about the inaccurate information in the media, the Chief said that the RCMP issued news updates “fairly regularly” but he can’t control the media.

One resident pointed out that some people on social media are spreading information on the highway and walked house through the bush. She asked if this was safer than letting them drive home “when there was supposedly a mudman in the bush.”

The police answered that “Slocan was almost impossible to completely lock down,” that it was accessible by the lake and by the highway. They stated, “a lot of people wouldn’t take our advice,” and walking home through the bush “was not what we wanted.”

Every officer gave a different story, they thought, if one arose similar to Slocan’s they “would probably approach it differently.”

An open and honest response?

RCPM hosts meeting in Slocan following DeGroot incident

Investigations truly independent? Public input

When asked by Marlene Nelson how independent the Independent Investigations Office (IIO) is and who works for it, Gary Wright claimed it is led by a civilian director, Richard Rosenfeld, who was formerly a prosecuting attorney in Los Angeles. John Larkin, the IIO’s Chief of Investigations, worked for 25 years in police forces in England and Northern Ireland. About half of the IIO’s investigators are former police officers. The IIO investigates all police-related incidents of death or serious harm to determine whether an officer has committed an offence. Information on this case is available at the IIO website address, iio.bc.ca.

Wright suggested that people could make comments or offer themselves as witnesses by contacting info@iio.bc.ca. He also suggested people call local MLA, Katrina Courcy at 1-888-755-0556 or email katrina.courcy.mla@leg.bc.ca. Lastly Wright suggested people contact Mayor Melanie Perriente at the Village office.

Chief Superintendent Smart said mandates for the RCPM’s general review of the situation would include “the school plan, overall emergency management, and communications.” He asked the Village to take names of people who want to speak to the investigation. He said the review is expected to take place over the next month.

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Wednesday, November 19

Burton Hall Assoc: AGM

Burton Hall

7 pm

Thursday, November 20

Healthly Community AGM

Lucerne School

7 pm

Kootenay Co-op Growers Mt.

Kootenay Co-op

2 pm - 4 pm

Seniors’ Winter Drop In

Slocan Memorial Hall

10 am - 2 pm

Kotleya/Restorative Justice AGM

Nelson Chamber of Commerce

RDC&K board meeting

RDC&K boardroom, Nelson

9 am

Friday, November 21

History Comes Alive

Nakusp Archives Office

7 pm

Saturday, November 22

CAWK Green Party AGM

Kootenay Centre, Nelson

8:30 pm - 10 pm

Sunday, November 23

Christmas Craft Fair

Slocan Legion Hall

10 am - 3 pm

Christmas Book Sale

Slocan Community Library

10 am - 3 pm

Monday, November 24

Nakusp council

Council chambers

6:30 pm

Tuesday, November 25

New Dimer council

Council chambers

7 pm

Kaslo council

Council chambers

7 pm

Thursday, November 27

Seniors’ Winter Drop-In

Slocan Memorial Hall

10 am - 2 pm

Dinner Theatre

Mercedo Organic Eatery

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Saturday, November 29

Creative Foods Fair

Nakusp Arena Auditorium

10 am - 4 pm

American United Church Flax & Wool Market

New Denver

10 am - 2 pm

Texas Hold’m

Slocan Legion Hall

6:30 pm

Live at the Gallery CD Release

Slocan Memorial Hall

7 pm

Blue Moon Coffeehouse

Winnifred

5 pm - 10 pm

Tuesday, December 2

Counselling Around the World

All Day

Wednesday, December 3

Community Card Sing

Nakusp Secondary School

7 pm

Sockeye Enterprises Job Fair

Slocan Legion Hall

1 pm - 4 pm

Friday, December 5

Nakusp Celebration of Light

Downtown Nakusp

Starts at 4 pm

Saturday, December 6

Silvertown Christmas Fair

Memorial Hall

10 am - 4 pm

Nakusp Rotary Club

Meets Wednesdays at 5:45 pm at Gabri’s Restaurant • 211 - 6th Ave NW
Stop Bill C13

Canadians must move away from the police state and instead be guiding us towards. Is public trust of the RCMP so good as to grant them more power? Hasn’t it been proven that concentrating power into the hands of few erodes democracy? Hmm… Big Brother is watching You! And wants to see a little more:

Stop Bill C13.

I encourage Canadians to learn more about how we can work together to safeguard our privacy at OurPrivacy.ca

Tristan Moore

Winlaw

Let wolves and other wildlife be

I would like to thank Mr. Paul Kippy of Winlaw for sending in his thoughts on wolves and other wildlife, which appeared in the Valley Voice recently. It’s nice to hear wild animals described the way many of us perceive them as being… “peaceful, gentle, loving, kind, generous, highly intelligent.” Living in harmony with, not in hysterical fear of, wildlife makes sense to me. I am happy to leave them unhindered and undisturbed, and feel so used to wage war on wolves or any other wildlife. We need to just let them be, people, and take responsibility for any problems that happen, as they are usually caused by us, not them. Leave them alone.

G. Simone

Crescent Valley

Thanks to a local paramedic

Please join Winlaw’s ambulance crew in thanking Dean Sparkie for serving our station and its associated area for the last three and a half years. He and his family have moved to New Denver, where he will continue to work as a medical responder. Dean recently completed his Primary Care Paramedic training, and will make a strong addition to the New Denver ambulance crew.

Deep connections are made serving together and we will miss Dean, his wife Rebecca, and their two-year-old Trobel dearly. I tell new recruits: “You may have applied for the ambulance service, but your whole family is hired.” This applies to all emergency responders – police, fire and ambulance – our families carry our dedication to the communities we serve.

It takes astonishing commitment to cover a day and night 24/7 schedule almost flawlessly for three years with only three paramedics. Since May, the Winlaw station has been down to two medics due to exhaustion, and now with Dean’s move, we are down to one operational paramedic. And when we await new paramedics for our crew, we are grateful to the Passmore and Slocan first responders and the paramedics of New Denver, Nelson and Castlegar for covering our area.

In Winlaw, Ruth Peison (Safety Officer) and myself, Cathy Pseniuk (Unit Chair), remain employed with BC Ambulance. We will look to our employer for positive change that promotes hiring and retaining new paramedics.

To the community we have served for 15 years, if you would like to share your gratitude, comments or suggestions, please go to: www.bca.ca, click ‘contacts’ and fill out the fields. If you do not have computer access, fax your letter to 250-614-9976, phone 250-614-9966, or mail to Suite A – 3732 Ospa Crescent, Prince George, BC V2N 4P7.

To apply for a job with BC Ambulance or to get the facts regarding starting wage, pager pay rates, and health benefit entitlement after six years of completed service, go to: www.bca careers.ca/photos.

Cathy Pseniuk

Winlaw

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

We will not 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.

Paramilitary war on wolves

I am appealing to all of you who cannot sleep at night knowing that wolves have their leg bones crushed in steel jawed leg hold traps, and are crushed slowly to death caught in snare and conibear traps. The ministry has declared that it is perfectly legal for Hollywood to not check their traps for two weeks. Babies are heaved crying and crying for their mothers and fathers because both have been murdered by human sadism and these babies either get shot to death or they die a slow death of starvation and fear. All of you who find this paramilitary war on wolves so unbearable and heinous that you want to run out and scream, I encourage you to speak up, stand up for all wolves. Do whatever you can to give wolves a voice, give wolves a defense that they cannot have for themselves because this paramilitary war on wolves is assailing them from every angle imaginable. Wolves have nowhere to hide, nowhere safe to run to.

There is a good website with very important information on what is happening to wolves in BC called justswimming.com. Please read this website and then forward it to everyone you can, including MLA Michelle Mungall, MP Alex Atamanenko, MLA Katrine Conroy. But you can’t stop there because their hands will be tied, they will not save any wolves. It’s up to you, all of us to want wolves to live in peace, safety, fulfillment and in an abundance of their natural habitat, it will be up to you to make that happen.

No one else is going to do it.

We have a moral imperative to do all we can to defend our wolf tribes, who have a beautiful culture, a beautiful language, a rich and ancient tradition. You have to do it alone; don’t depend on anyone else because they will let you down. We must be as all brave indigenous land defenders who see no way you will touch these trees or poison our waters. We must have this same courage and commitment in defence of our sacred and precious wolf family.

Cedar Brennan

Slocan City

OPINION

DANG! LOOK AT ALL THESE SIGNS. THEY’RE EVERYWHERE!

I KNOW! AIN’T THEY BEAUTIFUL!

What we sow, so shall we reap

Lest we forget, Canada has been making and selling war weapons and has been a dependable silent war partner for 30 years for America’s illegal war. In fact the US couldn’t wage war without Canadian investment and input. Canada makes a hefty profit from war. Our retirement funds and CPP are invested in war, so locked in legally that we can’t divest our savings from war investments. Harper’s Conservatives have pushed the warfarming profile on media, parades, 1812 war seclusion, and now a national holiday to honour our soldiers. Are we going to support all the foreign armed and dead on their polluted lands as well?

War is not romantic nor honourable, defending some people’s rights, but not others. War is about death, misery, trauma, insanity and accelerated climate change. War is about stealing others’ resources, and poisoning land and people for centuries with depleted uranium.

For the folks who believe in the ‘second coming’ (Harper and his petro-religion cronies), war in the Middle East is pitting fundamentalist Christians against fundamentalist Muslims, forcing their conception of Armageddon upon the planet. As if love and tolerance-breathing Christ would choose these war-mongers as ‘the chosen ones’ and leave the rest of us six billion ‘enclosures’ to die in the fiery flames of hell. It is time to reject these life-threatening war cultists.

Choose and vote for peace and prosperity, not war and misery.

In honour of my Uncle Allen, Susan Eyre Yahh.

The Valley Voice

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The Valley Voice November 19, 2014
A solution for peace is possible

With the Rehoboth Day commemorating the day the people of South Africa did during past and present wars in the pursuit of freedom, peace and love, I ask you to end the wars and violent conflict that are taking place between the people of various countries, stop contributing with weapons and our fellow country people and their supporting families.

"Let’s forget" (Rudyard Kipling) and honour those who have died in the effort to achieve peace, creating a healthier, happier world for ourselves, the children, future generations and Mother Earth, our home and resource provider.

May peace be created this day and every day with nonviolent action, and the action of love.

May the widows of a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, with Peace on Earth come true, recognizing however, it is up to each one of us to be “the change we wish to see (and be).”

(Malama Gandhi)

This is not religious conversion propaganda, but a reminder of human relationships to the people of the world with equal recognition, treatment and freedom, fair sharing, cooperation, non-violent, authentic, authentic communication. This is also a reminder for all of us to believe in stopping the suffering from humans abusing humans as other peace, freedom and love creators mentioned, perhaps your neighbor or perhaps yourself, have taught and lived by the guidelines of compassion as "to do others as you wish to have them do to you.” (Luke 6:31)

Living with peace between humans of all faiths and beliefs requires the cooperation of every one of us, including nation representatives and leaders, such as Prime Ministers, Presidents, Kings, Queens, Directors and everyone who identifies themselves as Christians or Catholics living in the loving teachings of Jesus Christ.

Representatives and leaders who target the Christ faith-based populations to elect and empower themselves, then order men and women to invade, trepass, take resources, torture and kill their world neighbors, do not emulate the Declaration of Human Rights, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms or Jesus’ heartfelt messages of “love thy neighbor as thyself.” (Mark 12:31), “doing to others as you wish to have them do to you.”

Who would order the healer, teacher and leader Jesus Christ to “shoot to kill”, drop bombs or kill and sell weapons to neighbors to kill neighbors? Based on his quoted teachings, I do not believe that Jesus ever promoted violence, but that he was upset that after 14 years since his murder, many “Christians and Catholics” continue to worship and abuse those or empower others to do such; not obeying his teachings, the “10 Biblical Commandments,” 10 Indian Commandments, 30 No-Men, 40 No-spies, 50 No-violence, No lying, No stealing, No killing.

With compassionate communication and non-violent action, peace is possible without war. Do not let the bills be paid by war. Do not pull the trigger. Do not drop the bombs. "History repeats itself until we learn the lessons to change our paths." (The Law of Karma, the chain reaction war, no GMO. Perhaps give hugs, not hate. Christ felt better than hurting. To tell the truth, the people were quite respected peacekeepers, I ask them, along with all humans, including Mr. Harper, Mr. Obama, Mr. Putin and church clergy, to stop starting or supporting wars and corporate economic imperialism, to not retaliate as "an eye for an eye" (Matthew 5:38), “which would make the whole world blind.” (Gandhi). With and from love and truth, and a deceptive mimicry and change policy to help take all of humans and Mother Earth; otherwise; it’s only one to rule.

"There will never be another one like you to accomplish anything for another one who can do the things you do.” (The Doors). "Carpe Diem seize the day" (Odes, Horace). and "be the change.” (Gandhi). You have the power of choice and with our effect may there be peace on earth and you “love and be loved.” (Nature Boy, Eden Allen).

For ourselves, the children, future generations, the animals and Mother Earth, our home and life resource provider and with a life protected state, with good health, happy experiences, peace and love.

Matthew Thomas Kasso

DeGroot independent review keeps the public in the dark

When I heard the story on the news that Peter DeGroot had allegedly taken a shot at an old man in the presence of others, it was as clear from the start that he was having some problems dealing with life, and had made a deadly mistake. Easy that becomes easy when you have not seen the RCMP bringing anyone in alive who they believe has targeted one of them. It’s true they say they are sworn to Protect and Serve the public, but many experience they get a lot more protective if one of their own is threatened... no stone is unturned... no one gets off, so this time I am pleased with their choice of action. Even severely... externally slim.

It never seemed to me that there was an investigation from this man to warrant the scale of the operation the imposition on this community. I know that I would not have been very happy if they decided to go on trying forever for their 24/7 on the basis of this alleged incident.

It is only recently that such incidents have been subject to independent review, a step forward in developing, as it would stop the RCMP from getting away with whitewashing their errors every chance they get. At least the police would have to disclose their version of events to the public in a timely manner. Now they don’t have to tell us about it all, or just whatever evidence benefits them, until the independent review mission its course. As everyone knows, the public’s attention span is never long lived, so they can just take their time, and the longer they take to tell us what happened, the less we will care. Very clever. I believe the police should still have to be forthcoming with their version of events, so that we can compare to the findings of the so called independent investigation.

One reason, in the end, that Mr. DeGroot was held up in that cabinet, there was no more danger to the public. Did they send in a police dog? Did they fire a tear gas consist in front of the window? Was it necessary to shoot to kill? Did they make any attempt to spare them? There are questions that should be asked. Is he still to have a chance to sweep everything under the rug? They did break the silence to let the public know that there was a victim in this case. They could lock in the Kootenays that doesn’t have a gun in it, so why were they allowed to keep it.

Is this new independent review designed to keep the police honest, or to allow them to keep the public in the dark? It seems like the latter may be... Rod Bollard

Glode

Citizen’s Initiative

Like many rural folks, I spend considerable time on the internet. I subscribe to newsletters, sign petitions and make contributions to several causes. After years of this, plus showing up for rallies, waving placards and even getting arrested — while stewing with my own anxiety, regret and remorse along with fear and frustration... why haven’t I done more? Where can I direct this frustration, this energy, what can it make a difference?

The Dogwood Initiative — a citizen’s initiative — is people working together to use the constitution, legislated structure of democracy. A structure allows the people of BC, you and me, to make our own decisions about history-making initiatives. (More info at dogwood.ca). For the people, by the people.

A referendum is the opportunity to have a specific vote on a specific matter. The alternative is what we have now. Someone else — a group of urban politicians and wealthy business leaders making important decisions.

The current goal of the Dogwood Initiative is to gather pledges, your signature, from as many registered voters in the province of BC as possible. To get support for a first step in implementing the legal process required to call a referendum on the proposed Enbridge Pipeline, should be a priority for those who have and has long supported the Village. We, the accommodationists, could thus pass these pledges back to the people of the other cities to get the new and more tourists to Kaslo. Each couple that stays overnight in the hotel, motel or B&B boosts the local economy by $250 to $300 per night. The Village now gets $3000 per year in golf rent. 2500 passes at $2 each could double this amount.

Kasu at the arena and the cutting club could also be sold to outsiders. They would thus come to the Village during its slow time and boost the economy. The Village could require blocks of time that the accommodationists could prioritize to organize the hockey groups as well as figure skaters and others that it difficult to get ice time in urban areas. The hotel and motel buildings could sell off the shares of Haida Oway, carrying 400 tons of bunker fuel, 50 tons of diesel oil, a rink, hydro power, mining services and chemical plants. For an example, the goal was to reduce gaseous forces winded plagued the vessel. It was touch and go for a bit. Do we want this? That’s what it would be.

So the work of the Dogwood Initiative and this current pledge campaign is very forward thinking getting people ready to make the democratic process work to potentially effect change. In many ridings, these ten percent pledge goals his been achieved.

The way I see it, we wouldn’t want to have a direct say in a luxurious decision. Where we now are or can it’s important that everyone’s voice be counted.

Local volunteers for the Dogwood Initiative and pledge tables set up in various visible locations in your neighborhood over the next few months. Please stop by, ask questions and sign the pledge and help bring this decision to a Fair provincial wide vote.

Frans Wallis Silvertown

Open letter to Kaslo council elect;

Congratulations on your win. Now comes the hard part. Turning the Village economy around will be difficult, and sometimes unpopular. The town needs new money from outside – tourists, investors or new residential residents. The Village needs to do things to attract these new sources of economic activity.

With the burning of the Mesouf Creek null, any hope that the Village could simply do nothing and expect economic recovery has been put to rest. In order to do anything new, the Village will need to generate new sources of Village revenue that can be leveraged to get provincial and federal funds to develop Village infrastructure.

I have a few suggestions that could work to solve a lot of problems.

First, ochachts in a new commercial resort in kind that the Village can utilize to promote economic activity in the Village. In addition to the cash rent the Village gets from the golf club, require them to pay to the Village a few thousand golf passes. These can be sold at bargain rates to the hotel, the motel, and any licensed B&B’s. The entire Village falls within the boundaries of the Village and has long supported the Village. We, the accommodationists, could thus pass these pledges back to the people of the other cities to get the new and more tourists to Kaslo. Each couple that stays overnight in the hotel, motel or B&B boosts the local economy by $250 to $300 per night. The Village now gets $3000 per year in golf rent. 2500 passes at $2 each could double this amount.

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Thank you for reading my letter. As the only person to make a major public presentation about the current state of Kaslo in the past decade, and the only major new employer during that same period, I am sure I have some business perspective to share on what the future of the Village. Kaslo is not an easy place to run a successful business.

John Ecklund, owner
Kasu Hotel
Nakusp Hot Springs featured in British Columbia magazine

by Art Joyce

Nakusp Hot Springs has had its name in lights thanks to a feature article in British Columbia (formerly Beautiful BC) magazine by Renny Scalla. The story notes that “spa enthusiasts” and hot springs aficionados are drawn to the local hotpot from “as far away as Japan and Germany.”

Natural hot springs have been used for both recreational and medicinal purposes for thousands of years and Nakusp is no exception. Scalla seemed particularly enthralled with the off-the-beaten-path location of the hot springs, not having to fight hordes of tourists as is better known at resorts such as Radium or Fairmont. He was equally dazzled by the mountain landscape.

But in fact the article is as much a community profile as it is a tourism promotion for the hot springs. Rosemarie Parent was able to give Scalla a crash course in local history and point out to him the various heritage buildings in town, adding to the community’s visitor appeal. Scalla was introduced to the new Jackrabbit Trail and the local trail network—one of the “natural treasures” of the area. He also interviewed Jean Dahlen of Dan and Jan’s Mushroom Station, learning the local lore on edible mushroom varieties that provide a key part of a diversified economy.

Nakusp chocolatier Jennifer Cross is also profiled.

As with Nelson, Nakusp is discovering that the arts can play a pivotal role in economic diversification. Sculptor Tom Fujiyabashi is noted along with the various arts studios that have sprung up in recent years. Key to that aesthetic and economic development have been Anne Beliveau’s Studio Connexion and the new Artwalk spearheaded by Debra Rushfield, co-owner of Prima Materia on Broadway Avenue. Fujiyabashi’s sculptures can be seen on both the Nakusp and New Denver waterfronts and have turned up not only in British Columbia magazine but on blogs written by visitors to the area.

Nakusp hosts Provincial A Boys’ Soccer Tournament

‘Black & White’ Evening of Art in Nakusp

by Jan McMurray

The Arrow Lakes Arts Council hosted a ‘Black & White’ evening of art at Nakusp Legion Hall on November 8. The fundraising event completed the purchase of the Tens Hsu/Fujiyabashi sculpture, ‘Deepening Peace,’ which sits on the Nakusp waterfront walkway.

Cassia Parent, emcee, welcomed everyone and said the black and white theme was symbolic of the stones around Fujayabashi’s white stone sculpture, and of simply putting pencil to paper to start a sketch.

Nakusp now has two pieces of public art, with the recent installation of Kate Ganger’s metal sculpture outside the arena complex. The Arrow Lakes Arts Council is working on having more public art in Nakusp. A number of pieces of local art were auctioned off, with Anne Beliveau as auctioneer. Debra Rushfield’s drawing fetched the highest price at $230.

Amy Sutina offered manga style caricatures, and several local musicians performed throughout the evening.
Kaslo & District
Kaslo council, November 12: Draft airport agreement to be renegotiated

by Jan McMurray

• Village administration staff now includes CAO Neil Smith, Deputy Clerk Stephanie Patience, Accounts Clerk Grier Aman and part-time office clerk, Dagliana Hunter.
• Council voted to further review and renegotiate the draft agreement with the Kaslo Community Airport Management Corporation.
Rob McLenan, representing the corporation, attended the November 5 Council of the Whole (COTW) meeting and spoke in favour of endorsing the agreement. Council’s discussion raised several issues: environmental consideration around allowing fuel supplies; setting a precedent of paying what is arguably a user group for service; ensuring any contractor provides an annual budget, implementing the EBA report recommendations; scale of the financial commitment by the taxpayer; liability insurance and who pays for it; ensuring the money paid to the contractor does not exceed taxes raised from the aerodrome lands after the boundary expansion; reviewing an executive summary of the deliverable within the agreement at a future date; issuing a potential RFP in the new year.

During public time at the COTW meeting, McLenan indicated that it is important for the Village to pay the operator to provide basic services and to cover insurance.

At the regular council meeting, council received a letter from John Eckland, asking that any decision on the agreement be referred to the new council. He says the Kaslo Airport Advisory Group (KAPAG) formed a few months ago and subsequently “splintered over its approach to the Village in advocating airport governance.” One group went ahead and proposed the draft agreement with the Village, while the other group is advocating for an open and public approach to the development of a plan for the airport. “Certainly, no airport plan or contract should be rushed through as to preclude alternatives that could provide greater alternatives to the Village,” he concludes.

• Bylaw 1162, to bylaw to provide for the regulation and use of Kaslo municipal campground and parks, was adopted. There are no significant changes in the bylaw from current practice. Previously, the campground and parks were governed by policy rather than a bylaw. CAO Smith said that bylaws with their fee schedules make it easier to review the fees at budget time, and also make the regulations more enforceable than do policies. This bylaw is not to be confused with any plan for development of Kaslo’s parks and campground. Smith said the new council will be looking at that.

• The bylaw amending water user rates for 2015 was given three readings. Water rates are increased by 2 percent, in line with current Canadian Consumer Price Index and CEPE wage increases.

In his written report, CAO Smith explains that the water rates are in need of a serious review. He says the rates were originally designed “to fit hand in glove with the business licensing bylaw” and the business licensing bylaw also needs review. Because the Province is spearheading a Mobile Business Licensing system, Smith recommends reviewing the bylaw’s once the Province’s report is released. Council has asked that staff give special attention to water rates for home-based businesses.

Changes come to Kaslo Arena concession

by Jan McMurray

There are changes in the operation of the Kaslo Arena concession this year. Many people will be surprised when they are not greeted by long-time operator Rose Cunn. The new operator will be offering quite a different menu, and will be open only when the arena is busy, such as during public skating and hockey tournaments.

Joe Johnston, Arena Society president, explained that the vending system at the concession is out of date and not to code, necessitating a complete change in the way food is prepared there.

Johnston said the society had grant money of about $18,000 to install a new ventilation system at the concession. When the engineer arrived for a site visit to prepare a quote, he informed the board that the cost to ventilate properly would be more in the order of $60,000. He also warned them that if the concession continued operations as is without the new ventilation system, it would not be insured in the case of a fire.

As a result of the engineer’s report, the board had the grill and exhaust fan removed last year, and Rose used electric frying pans instead. This year, the board has requested no frying, mainly because of insurance concerns.

“We’re getting tempered by the new building code and an old building,” said Johnston. “Rose has had to put up with a lot over the last two years — only half the electrical outlets worked. She’s done a great deal in difficult circumstances and then it got worse with the imposition of the new rules. She didn’t accept the new rules, so we had to find another operator.”

Rose is very disappointed with the whole situation. “After 35 years of operating concessions, nothing that I was doing was a serious fire hazard compared to the several dangerous electrical plugs that I reported many times, but were never fixed,” she said.

Rose says her biggest disappointment was when the board asked for a list of “anything” that could help her adjust to the new rules. “They said they had four recommendations costing under $500. ‘Two days later, I received an email from the board that they had no funds for improvements — and so that was a complete waste of time for me."

Rose says she hopes it is understood that her husband’s recent serious illness had nothing to do with the termination of her operations at the concession.

Langham presents final Inspired Ideas Series talk

submitted

Ready for a little armchair archeology? On Thursday November 27 at 7 pm, Café Langham - Inspired Ideas Speaker Series at the Langham Cultural Centre in Kaslo will present its final talk of the year by South Slocan resident, John Pollock, of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology, the National Speleological Society, and the Royal Geographical Society. Pollock has participated in scientific expeditions for over 40 years. He will take the audience on a visual, cultural and technological tour of recent projects in the Yukon, Laos, Borneo and Vietnam. John Pollock’s candid and humorous presentation will describe how “extreme surveying” has allowed him to participate in three National Geographic expeditions to document some of the largest caves in the world, map a Klondike Gel Rine era shipwreck in Lake Laberge, Yukon, and search for the lost Mongol in Mongol fleet along the coast of Vietnam.

Expect an evening of great photography, innovative science, mapping underwater at zero degree C, and kayaking an underground branch of the Mekong River. Meet famous archeologists and cave explorers, discover foreign cultures, and experience some South East Asian delicacies that are best avoided like ‘wrap whisky.’ And of course, there will be a small but significant dose of science.

Everyone is invited to the Langham’s last talk of the season. Watch for the 2015 Speaker Series beginning again next May 2015.

Kaslo & District
Streamkeepers report on fuel spill and habitat monitoring

by Art Joyce

Slocan River Streamkeepers hosted a meeting at Winlaw Hall November 10 to update the community on the various projects related to environmental monitoring in the valley. Streamkeepers was incorporated in 2013 and since 2005 has been doing watershed monitoring according to federal CARIN (Canadian Aquatic Resource Information Network) standards. The aim of environmental monitoring is to be able to identify any changes in the health of the river and its ecosystem.

Microbiologist Jennifer Yeow reported on Streamkeepers post-fuel spill monitoring of Lemon Creek, its side channels and the downstream environment. She said although they were lucky that there was still enough high water from the spring freshet to move most of the fuel downstream, some of it emulsified and was trapped in side channels. The question was what would happen once the fuel hit the main river system where large woody debris could lock up fuel, she said. Although regulations for draining water are somewhat lax when it comes to fossil fuel-based contaminants, a standard of 5 ppm (parts per million) of EPP (extractable petroleum hydrocarbons) is considered the maximum allowable. Yeow said at 10 ppm you can taste it. Testing in the early post-spill period found hydrocarbons at levels of 150-770 ppm in Lemon Creek side channels. This declined to 27 ppm EPP measured at surface water levels after the 2014 spring freshet. Sites for sampling were just below the spill at the confluence of Slocan River, above the spill on Lemon Creek, and Slocan Island. Yeow said the unaccelerated algal bloom that followed the spill presented a communique for biologists but may have been a normal response of aquatic bacteria to break down EPP.

SLOCAN VALLEY

Streamkeepers are also testing bacteriobacteria, particularly indicator species such as caddis flies, mayflies and stoneflies. These populations all crashed drastically after the spill, said Barb Bell. An atypical site on Slocan Island where levels were higher than normal. The graph looks pretty dramatic but the bugs we’re talking about are LKS except for the mayflies which are pretty quickly,” said Yeow.

Fish biologist Peter Cobert was the most entertaining speaker of the evening. He spoke about the problems with the Slocan River to do fish counts, an experience he spoke of as being a little like “fishing on air, looking at a whole new underwater.” Cobert did his first research project in the watershed in 1996 to determine the history of rainbow trout in the Slocan. The population had crashed and a moratorium was placed on fishing that still stands. Catch-and-release is allowed in season but Cobert’s recommendation is that catch-and-release is off-limits even for that due to its being significant in rainbow growth. Cobert was a long-time resident, even with catch-and-release, there is a 5 percent mortality rate.

Consultation on how to spend $300,000 in the Slocan Valley wraps up

by Jan McCrory

The Slocan Valley is getting closer to answering the question of how to spend $300,000 of Columbia Basin Trust Community Directed Funds. Community consultation has wrapped up, and the Slocan Valley Environmental Development Council (SVEC) is now reviewing the report and trying to hone in on two or three projects. The commission will then turn their attention to how to get those projects done. Early in the new year, SVEC expects to announce its decision to the public.

This is a tremendous opportunity and we have no lack of work and responsibility to do it effectively and properly,” said Leah Main, chair of the SVEC. “No matter what our final decision is, we truly please everyone. We need to get to a place where we’re comfortable with our decision, our process, our consultation, so we can comfortably say this is what we’ve decided.”

SVEC hired Withnich Consulting to do the community consultation. The consultants held ten meetings between September 27 and October 18 in different communities in the valley. Some of the sessions had themes and others were open. Attendance was varied, depending on how local residents are willing to engage. “I do think we can do this work with the themes from the participation at it actually was,” said Main. There was also an online survey.

The Christmas Book Sale at the Slocan Community Library, 510 Harold Street, Slocan, 10 am to 3 pm, Sunday, November 23rd.

Jenny Ash, formerly of Jenny’s Garden, has generously donated her leftover stock of new books. Come buy your Christmas gifts!

Recorded Live at the Silverton Gallery

CD Release Party

November 29th, 7 pm, Silverton Memorial Hall

With Wine and Cheese, live music CDs for sale – Featuring tracks by Dirty Grace, Certified Mango, Holly & Jon, Mikul Dorsey and friends, Jan Van Gold Band, Michael Guthrie, and Adrian Wagner.

Produced by Slocan Lake Gallery Society

Supported by CKCA and BCAC

The Valley Voice November 19, 2014
New toad tunnel a hit with Summit Lake’s Western Toads

submitted

A new toad tunnel installed under Highway 6 at Summit Lake south of Nakusp by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) is already being used by young toadlets and, more importantly, adult toads. The tunnel, constructed in summer 2014, will help reduce mortality of Western Toads — a species at risk — as they cross the road to and from Summit Lake. While there are two smaller existing wildlife overpasses running under the highway, the new box culvert, with concrete construction, is much larger at 1.8 metres wide. The tunnel floor is covered in soil so it feels as natural as possible.

The Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program and the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations, have also constructed temporary detour fencing to help guide the toads in each entrance.

There are three migrations — or road crossings — that occur at different times of the year for the Western Toads. First, when the ice comes off the lake in early spring, the adults that are ready to breed make their way to the lake, after breeding they return to their upland habitat. Then in late summer, millions of dime-sized toadlets — the progeny of the spring breeding — leave the lake and head uphill where they mature into adults. While the timing for these movements is typical, researchers have observed some adults heading down to the lake well before winter — possibly to get a jumpstart or some competitive advantage for the breeding the following spring.

“We are extremely pleased that the new tunnel is being used by the migrating adults. In September we recorded several dozen adults crossing over the course of just two nights using the tunnel, many of them females with eggs,” says Wildlife Biologist Jacob Online. “The large structure also allows other animals to use the tunnel, and at least four species of mammals have already been recorded using it.”

The adult female Western Toads are especially important because each female may lay up to 20,000 eggs. To get that figure into perspective, during the annual Toadfest event organized by the FWCP, a similar number of toadlets, on average, are carried across the road each year.

It is anticipated that this is just the start of the positive results, and that in the years ahead the number of toads using the tunnel will increase.

New accounting firm opens in Nakusp

by Jan McMurray

A new accounting firm has opened in the True North building in Nakusp. H. A. Benson offers a full range of accounting and taxation services, and is open five days a week.

Owner Howard Benson is a chartered accountant who moved to Nakusp three years ago with his wife, Louise. Their daughter, Daphne Allen, has lived in Nakusp for 20 years.

“The more we interacted, the more we became attached to the people and the North Vancouver man dies near Nakusp

submitted

A 52-year-old North Vancouver man, Joergen Thomas Burkhardt, died in a hunting accident about 30 kilometres from Nakusp on Monday, November 12.

On the afternoon of November 12, Mr. Burkhardt was hunting mountain goat with a companion approximately 13 kilometres up the Kikaneet Forest Service Road. While traversing a steep section of mountain, he fell a distance of more than 100 metres. The terrain in the area was quite treacherous and slippery due to the cold weather.

The RCMP was notified of the incident by the BC Ambulance Service at approximately 5:20 p.m., subsequent to a call from the deceased male’s hunting partner. Arrow Lakes Search and Rescue was immediately contacted and a ground search was conducted; an aerial search could not be attempted that day due to darkness. The next day, an RCMP helicopter was used in addition to the helicopter Long Line Search Team. At 12:30 p.m., the body was located at the bottom of the cliff, and successfully recovered.

The BC Coroners Service and RCMP continue to investigate this death.

H. A. Benson Inc.
Chartered Accountant

Are you waiting until 2015 to do your 2014 tax planning? Little 2014 tax planning can be done after December 31, so come in for a free review of your personal and/or corporate accounting and taxation matters.

Book an appointment today!

Hours: 9-4 Monday to Friday
119 Broadway Street PO Box 780
Nakusp BC V0G 1R0
250-265-3370
howard@habenson.ca • dayye@habenson.ca • rob@habenson.ca
REMEMBRANCE DAY

A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself.
– Joseph Campbell
Manon van Tulen, C.M.A.
Kaslo • 250-353-2655

Kaslo Mohawk
If we break faith with those who die,
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.
– John McCrae

Lest we forget
Silverton
Transport
250-358-3360

There never was
a good war
or a bad peace
– Benjamin Franklin
PAUL PETERSON
Director, Area K

Steve Tays presented Harvey Truss with a Life Membership in the Royal Canadian Legion after Nakusp’s Remembrance Day ceremonies. Truss served as West Kootenay Zone Commander then went on to BC Legion Command where he served as Executive Officer for 4 years.

Cornucopia Natural Food Bar
Remember they gave their lives and their futures, so we may live in peace.
422 Front St, Kaslo, BC • 250-353-2594

Western Financial Group
Kaslo • 405 Front Street • 250-353-7633

We shall remember them.

We shall not sleep.
Though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Eric’s Meat Market & Deli
Serving Kaslo and Area since 1942
If there must be trouble, let it be in my day,
that my child may have peace.
– Thomas Paine
425 Front St, Kaslo • 250-353-2438

The Village of New Denver
The value of the price
they paid is evident in the
faces of our children.
We thank all our veterans!

Kaiser Tire
95 6th Avenue NW, Nakusp
250-265-4155

We shall remember them.

We must not sleep.
Though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

Waterbridge Ferries
Ferry Operations on Arrow Lakes

Kaslo Community Pharmacy
The veterans gave us the gift
of freedom. We remember their
sacrifice and service with
sincere gratitude and thanks.

ICBC autoplan
The villages
not have
any more wars

We must remember
them.

Meritxell Books
In troubled times such as these we are
reminded even more strongly
of what we owe to our brave
veterans and our current
soldiers and peacekeepers.
They are in our hearts.
314 Broadway, Nakusp 250-4450

Bertie Bott reads In Flanders Fields at the Edgewood cemetery, following Remembrance Day ceremonies at the Edgewood cenotaph.

Jim Forbes lays a wreath during Edgewood’s Remembrance Day ceremonies.

Lest we forget
The Treehouse Restaurant

New Market Foods
New Denver • 358-2270

Businesses together.
We will remember.

Waterbridge Ferries
Ferry Operations on Arrow Lakes
Remembrance Day in Slocan highlights 100th anniversary of WWI
by Jan McMurtry

The Village of Slocan’s Remembrance Day ceremonies were imbued with special reminders of the 100th anniversary of the beginning of WWI, and of the recent loss of two Canadian soldiers while on duty at home.

During the laying of the wreaths, Christine Baal lay a wreath for Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent and Corporal Nathan Cirillo, local potter Wilo Treschow brought along two ceramic poppies that she had made to place in a pot at the cenotaph. This was inspired by the 888,246 handmade ceramic poppies – one for each British/Commonwealth soldier’s death during WWI – that filled the moat at the Tower of London in the ‘Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red’ art installation.

During the service at the Legion Hill, Steve and Christina Baal sang a song called ‘The Thought Supreme,’ written in 1919 by Jack Cutler Jr. of Winlaw to welcome WWI soldiers home. The song was published by the Authors & Composers Service Co. in New York City when Jack Cutler Jr. was 19 years old. He died at 20 of diaphragma. The songwriter’s nephew, Robert Cutler, and his wife Carolena, recently found the, music score in a package of family items. Jack Cutler Jr. was born in England and came to Canada when he was eight years old, and the Cutler family has called Winlaw home ever since.

Reverend Jim Haas focused on WWI in his address. He said an Oxford professor had published a book entitled, ‘The War that Ended Peace,’ putting forth the argument that ‘the war that ended wars’ was actually ‘the war that ended peace.’ He reminded us of French Prime Minister Clemenceau’s comments on the day the armistice was signed on November 11, 1918. “We have won the war; now we have to win the peace, and it may be more difficult.” Reverend Haas also read an excerpt from a poem written by Wildfired Owen, a poet who lost his life on November 14, 1918, just seven days before the end of WWI, while leading his troops across a canal in Northern France.

In her comments, Mayor Madeleine Perriere observed that in order to go to war, there has to be enemies. “Think about going to the cenotaph in another country,” she said. “Our enemies are also at the cenotaph today, honouring our fallen soldiers. They are just ordinary people. Let’s think about the enemy in another way, because we are someone’s enemy.”

Pat Ashton, Slocan Legion President, said he “swallows with pride in our community. I see a community of good people from every walk of life who show compassion and caring for their fellow man. I see a community that comes together to support and help those in their hour of need. I see a community that rejoices together to celebrate our successes. I see a community of dedicated volunteers. Because of what I see in this room, I know we live in a community that has not forgotten.”

Carol Barclay, Slocan Legion secretary, read aloud the first place poem in the Legion’s annual contest, ‘Freedom is Never Free’ by Alice Grier Grummond of Manitoba.

The Slocan Valley Community Band played a few pieces, and a slide show of Slocan Valley veterans ran throughout the service, thanks to Joyce Johnson of the Slocan Valley Historical Society.

The Valley Voice wishes to recognize the contribution of our veterans to building peace in the world.

In Remembrance of the Men & Women Who Fought for Our Country

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www.slocanlakehomewares.com

We will Remember...
Katrine Conroy, MLA Kootenay West
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Katrine.conroy.mla@leg.bc.ca www.katrincconroy.ca

We come, not to mourn our dead soldiers, but to praise them.
—Francis A. Walker

Lest we forget.

Waterbridge Steel
Ferry Construction

Remembering and thinking of my family members who served Canada in the Second World War.

Kaslo Florists

Glacier View
Service

Petro Canada

Smokey Creek Salvage

with the tears a land bath shed
Their graves should ever be green.
—Thomas Bailey Aldrich
359-7815 • 1-877-6539

Valor is not only of legs and arms, but of courage and the soul.
—Michel de Montaigne

DOLLAR $ DOLLAR

416 Broadway • Nakusp • 265-3644

RHC INSURANCE

RHC
We must all do our part to ensure that our children are taught the sacrifices that were made for us all.
Main St, New Denver 355-2617

The secret of forgiveness is freedom.
The secret of freedom is courage.
—Thucydides

Marvin’s Small Motor Repair

98 - 1st Street, Nakusp • 265-8911

The Apple Tree
Loss We Forget

Slocan, BC

355-2245

RHC

359 Broadway • Nakusp • 265-2226

Although no sculptured marble should rise to
their memory, nor engraved stone bear record of
their deeds, nor future generation claim
as its own the land they honored.

David Webster

The Tree of Life

Silvertown Building Supplies
216 Log Ave, Silvertown • 355-2505

At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.
—Laurence Binyon

We will remember.

Spectrum Home and Family Care
Helping you maintain YOUR Lifestyle

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We will Remember...
Crescent Valley Beach Park planning underway

by Jan McMurray

The open house for the Crescent Valley Beach Park Management Plan, held on November 6 at Crescent Valley Hall, was very well attended. Over 40 people came through the doors to check out the draft conceptual designs and other information on display, to talk to the consultants, and to provide input.

"I’m impressed with the interest, attendance and passion of the local residents. It’s inspiring," commented Mary Ann Oceano-Russo, Kelowna’s Ecoscape Environmental Consultants at the open house.

The consultants, consisting of Juliet Auderton (planner), Ecoscape Environmental Consultants, and M&M Group (park design), are planning to present a draft management plan at another public event in the spring, and to have the plan finalized by summer.

The management plan will create clear direction for recreational uses in the park, wildlife and habitat conservation, park stewardship and operations, and investments in park facilities and infrastructure. It will also include a conceptual design.

According to the RDCK website, the park design will include a public washroom building, a covered shelter, an entrante drive, traffic circulation improvements, a minimum of 40 parking spaces and public walkways. The draft conceptual designs on display at the open house generated a lot of interest from the public. The designs showed options for parking lot layout and for the location of the washroom building. "Parking has been identified as a big problem, so we did up these two design options for people to look at," said Rob Fershaw of M&M Group at the open house.

"These are just ideas for people to base their feedback on for now. We’ll look at putting together a conceptual design as part of the plan."

Other ideas presented were to install a few picnic tables, barbecue pits and a fire pit above the high water mark along the beach, in the area where the trails are located.

Crescent Valley Beach Park is a 2.53-hectare (6.25-acre) property that was donated to the RDCK. In addition to the popular beach, the property contains the remains of the historic Patrick Mill, known tree habitat for screech owls, and has some First Nations heritage significance.

The property has a registered covenant that is set aside for park purposes only. It is in the Agricultural Land Reserve, so there must be a 15-metre buffer along the border with the adjacent property.

On the large flip chart sheet provided for people’s feedback, there were many requests to keep it natural."Clean, respectful, sober park," wrote one resident. There were also many comments about dogs — no dogs, to dogs on leads only, to a designated dog beach, to allowing dogs off leads.

Surveys were filled out at the meeting, and can be filled out online at www.rdck.ca (Services — Parks — Park Management Plans). The draft conceptual designs and other information is also found on the RDCK website. You can email juliet@julietaudertonconsulting.ca for more information.

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- The Valley Voice November 19, 2014
Slocan council, Nov 10: Council considers prohibiting smart meters

by Barbara Carry Mackay

• Bringing in anti-smart meter petition signed by 57 Slocan residents.
Slocan resident Keith Taves requested that council amend the Village bylaw to address electrical devices or components that do not have UL (Underwriter Labs) or CSA (Canadian Standards Association) certification. The bylaw does not have these certifications. A lengthy discussion ensued. Councillors were supportive of and intrigued by Taves’ request, but also commented that they would need to see the actual bylaw, council wondered if the Village would “be required to go off-grid,” if there would be other legal ramifications, if bylaw changes would only apply to new buildings, if it would be a good idea to float this proposal with the UBCM. Council noted that since the RDCCK provides inspection services to the Village, the Village needs to have a bylaw that is the same as the RDCCK’s. Council asked to see a copy of the bylaw as requested by Taves and bring it to the December meeting. If approved by council, the bylaw would be submitted to relevant ministers, and this resolution will be circulated to the UBCM and to MLA Katrine Conroy.

• Council voted to give the Slocan Lucerne School chosen for innovative network of schools

by Jan McMurray

A Lucerne School has been chosen as one of 10 BC schools to help design a new “innovative network of schools” for the province.

Lucerne principal Nicol Sudur received a letter from the Ministry of Education on November 10, inviting a team of two or three Lucerne School staff to a long-weekending session on December 5-9, 2014, to help design 10 Lucerne schools and from three post-secondary faculties of education will spend the day shaping this new provincial initiative.

Sudur and other educator colleagues for Lucerne School and School District 10,” said Superintendent Terry Taylor. “School District 10 is well recognized as being nimble, flexible and moving in innovative directions.”

Taylor explained that the concept of BC’s innovative network of schools is based on a similar program in New York that has been very successful.

“Instead of linking together schools already on the journey of transforming education in exciting ways,” she said. “Lucerne School is the culture of thinking outside the box and learning from others about how to best meet the needs of all students.”

The Community

• The Slocan Valley Senior Housing Society’s 40-year lease for the grounds behind the Wellness Centre. The society plans to build “affordable housing with a focus on seniors” there. Councillor McConnell brought forward a motion to encourage the development of affordable housing, not seniors housing. Since the OCP and zoning bylaws indicate that this site can be used for seniors housing but not affordable housing, the OCP and zoning bylaws would need to be changed. Her motion, seconded by Councillor Lunn, passed with Councillor Jean Houston opposed. McConnell said, “I think it’s a waste of staff time.”

A third motion, to write to the SVSH with news of these two previous resolutions and requesting the society come to the Village to present architectural and external building plans, was passed.

Councillor Hilary Elliott gave an RDCCK report. She said Director Banks had reported on this week, concerning the "lack of unacceptability ambiance services in the RDCCK" Elliott noted, "Wireless is experiencing a decrease in service availability" and said the ambiance service could possibly be eliminated. The RDCCK is still looking into alternatives to the MMBC for recycling, with Stewardship Choices Producer Solutions as a possibility. A Columbia Basin Broadband Corporation representative had reported to the RDCCK board on connectivity plans for the Columbia Basin. Elliott noted that “a number of communities...do not include (Slocan Valley). The other options for the Slocan Valley are wireless/water infrastructure and will still require line of sight in certain areas, as is presently the case.”

Elliott said she had attended a regional hospital district board meeting on October 22. She said “people were very afraid” when the IL capital planning presentation stated that the Trail Hospital needed a $4 million renovation. A new regional hospital would cost $40 million.

• Council announced that Michelle Gordon had been appointed as Deputy Corporate Officer on August 25, 2014. Her contract will end at the same time as the CAO’s contract on June 31, 2015 at which time it is expected that she will replace Trish Defehr as Slocan’s CAO.

Gordon was asked to submit a proposal for succession planning, training and financial expectations concerning her employment with the Village until August 2017. Gordon was the Village’s Accounting and Financial Officer after CAO Richardon resigned and until Defehr was hired.

• As suggested by Minister Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, council will request a meeting with Guth Waggall, District Manager of the Selkirk Resource District, to discuss issues affecting public lands in the Slocan.

• The Slocan Curling Club’s Licence to Occupy will be extended for another five-year term. Council also agreed to review the Spring Creek RV Park and Campground Agreement with Helma Raine for another year on the same terms as the 2014 agreement.

Raine’s request for the Village to purchase beer kegs to replace the small (and often overflowing) garbage can at the day beach area was referred to 2015 budget discussions, as was funding assistance for the curling club.

• Council agreed to put $500 towards the Firefighters’ Christmas Party and to give each firefighter an annual pass to the Fitness Centre; to gratefully accept Carol Buscher’s offer to update and look after the sign board at Slocan Street and Giffin Avenue; and to purchase a membership in the North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council.

• During public participation, council agreed to provide a container of sand by the pedestrian bridge at Park Street so walkers can put sand on the bridge when it becomes slippery. A resident suggested that Slocan best lawnmower race like Rock Creek’s to replace Logger Sports. Council also informed residents that the porcupine near the Slocan Owl habitat has not yet been removed.

Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Front Counter BC Cranbrook has accepted an application made by Ice Creek Lodge, r1, s8, c11, Winlaw, BC represented by Russell Hubert on behalf of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), Kootenay Region, to amend their current Licence of Occupation — Commercial Recreation to consider summer operations within their existing tenure area located on Provincial Crown land and containing 2,500 hectares more or less.

The MFLNRO File Numbers that have been established for this application is 4403893. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to Front Counter BC, 1902 Theatre Road, Cranbrook BC (via A/C, VIG 701) or email to AuthorizationAgency.Cranbrook@gov.bc.ca Comments will be received by Front Counter BC until Dec 19, 2014.

Front Counter BC may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please refer to our website http://www.arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPosting/index.jsp → Search → Search by File Number: insert Lands File Number for more information. These applications will be available for viewing at Front Counter BC in Cranbrook, BC.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FOI Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regional office in Cranbrook.

The Kootenay Slocan Lions Club

wishes to thank the following businesses for helping make our Pig Roast a huge success.

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The Valley Voice • November 19, 2014
Climate change and community solutions forum

by Julia Greenlaw

Many leading groups from the Kootenays hosted a full day conference at the Brilliant Cultural Centre on November 8. ‘The World We Want: This is What Sustainability Looks Like’ focused on educating communities about climatic changes and the impacts on our environment, economy and lifestyles, and the alternative measures people can take to adapt and thrive in more ecologically sustainable ways.

The conference was introduced by MP Alex Atamanenko and Rob McRae, chair of the BC Environmental Programs Articulation-Green Jobs and Economy. The curators then opened to the massive Doedelkildness and Friends choir, which set the stage for a day of open learning and inspiration.

Keynote speakers, Dr. Richard Hebdon from the University of Victoria and Herb Hummold of the Silva Foundation, addressed a group of over 200 people on the local and global impacts of climate change, and on essential shifts needed to address it and slow these potentially catastrophic climatic trends.

The theory of thermal inertia was introduced: Even if all carbon dioxide were to stop today, the effects of our current realities as Arctic ice loss, ocean warming, and deforestation will continue to reap long-term effects on our climate.

Hebdon informed that 90 percent of Greenland’s perennial ice has now melted, as well as 50 percent of Arctic ice. These previously frozen areas, with their cold air and reflective abilities, used to regulate global temperature as well as jet stream activity. As the difference in temperature between our northern and southern ocean currents decreases, the movement of the jet stream ocean currents slows down significantly, creating long periods of wet and stormy weather on one side of the currents and extended drought and hot weather on the other side.

He also stated that winter temperatures in BC have increased as much as 3.5 degrees since 1900. Since 1969, global atmospheric carbon has increased by 40 percent. The consequences are stronger storms and wash and increased summer heat and drought. In particular, we are witnessing around the world.

How do we prepare for ongoing changes in our environment and slow climate change? Hebdon and Hummold both argue for better management of all of earth’s vegetation, from farm and grazing lands to our forests. By fostering sustained forest management, we increase our resilience to future change. Fewer trees, old forests and other vegetation covering the planet means more flooding and erosion in the wetter months and more drought and plant disease in the summer. “We need to take care of our water quality, quantity and timing of flow,” says Hummold. Old forests do this best. Forests also provide corridors for movement of species, absorb and hold carbon, and can delay the loosing threat of the melting of the melting of the million-year-old ice in the arctic.

Both speakers highlighted the need to transform our way of thinking, from a controlling and human-centered mentality into a cooperative and earth-centered one. Both also spoke of the need to “go on a carbon diet!” “If we don’t make changes,” says Hummold, “the earth will change us.”

Raven Acupuncture expands service to the Slocan Valley

by art joyce

Raven is a company in a rural community these days knows what a challenge it can be to get access to healthcare. Thanks to Raven Acupuncture’s Brenda Murray-Neill, R.Ac. (registered acupuncturist), an array of treatment modalities are now within reach of most Slocan Valley and North Kootenay Lake residents. Murray-Neill offers her services in Kaslo and Winlaw, and is always looking to expand her offerings to Kaslo residents every other week.

Raven Acupuncture, which first opened in Kaslo, will celebrate its second anniversary in January 2015. The core principles of the business include accessibility to holistic healthcare and incorporating all aspects of a patient’s health. That means allowing enough time for each client to share relevant details of their physical and mental health. Murray-Neill stresses that there are no barriers to clients of any age or background.

Another foundational principle is integrating allopathic and alternative therapies. He currently offers an apprenticeship with Dr. Carolyn DeMarco and his father works as an ER nurse in Kaslo. His interest in the profession arose from his father’s influence and reputation as a healthcare provider.

“I’m really excited about working in small towns. I end up working with a lot of doctors in Kaslo and surrounding areas in the Wiilwil area. I’ve actually had people tell me, ‘Oh, you’re so much like your father, so gentle.’

Murray-Neill has a Bachelor of Arts diploma from Bred College in New York State and training in acupuncture from Pacific Rim College in Victoria. In addition to this knowledge, he possesses training in herbal medicines from both Pacific Rim and Diploma Herbal College. He completed an internship with Our Place Society in Victoria that served at-risk clients, addictions and trauma recovery work. This was followed up with work at Nelson-based AMOKS. Murray-Neill estimates that in a short period of time he’s served a quarter of the North Kootenay Lake community while working from his Kaslo office. In part, that flexibility is made possible to offer services to Kaslo residents every other week.

Raven Acupuncture’s recent expansion was driven by two factors: difficulty of access for rural clients and the economic all that has Kaslo businesses in the winter. The model of practice of local practitioners who provide services in multiple Kootenay communities was an inspiration for him. He currently works with local doctors in Winlaw. Working with the Kaslo hospital made him realize the many challenges facing small communities needing healthcare. Extensive travel distances to regional health centres have been a large barrier for many patients living in remote areas. For that reason Murray-Neill offers post-treatment care to cancer patients seeking relief from side effects and suppressed immune systems. He grew up in rural communities in Quebec and Vermont so that’s where he feels comfortable. The Slocan Valley reminded him of the Laurentian Mountains in Quebec.

“In Winlaw it’s a long way in either direction to a hospital and there’s no primary care here so I’m trying to provide healthcare to rural communities that are under-served.”

Raven Acupuncture works in conjunction with Emery Herbs in Winlaw, though he also runs his own business, having trained in Willoughby. Wherever possible he tries to use locally sourced medicinal herbs such as Solomon’s seal and Oregon grape, with sensitivity to not overharvesting or endangering any one species.

“I believe we live in a true treasure trove of healing plants; that’s one of the reasons I’m here.”

Murray-Neill practices in Kaslo downtown at Morningstar Healing Collective Mondays from 11 am to 5 pm and Tuesdays from 9 am to 7 pm at the Window at the Torchstone Healing Co-op from Wednesday 10 pm to Thursday and from 9 am to 1 pm; Fridays in Castlegar at the Silver Birch Clinic from 9 am to 7 pm; by appointment. The Window clinic has a ‘sliding scale day’ the last Wednesday of every month, in Kaslo on the last Monday of each month. To book contact 250-551-2581 or ravenacupuncture@gmail.com.
New Denver council, November 12: Bosun Hall upgrade proposed

by Jan McMurray

At a special council meeting on November 12, the council will discuss and vote on a proposal to upgrade Bosun Hall. The upgrade includes improvements to the interior and exterior of the building, as well as updates to the electrical and plumbing systems. The council will also consider the potential costs of the upgrade and the projected timeline for its completion.

Community Food Hamper Program offers help to those in need

Submitted by Chris and, Monday, November 9, 2014

When Christmas comes, it’s hard to be of good cheer if the cupboards are bare. The Community Food Hamper Program (formally known as the Community Food Bank) is here to help. The program provides food to those in need during the holidays and throughout the year. Donations can be made by dropping off non-perishable items at the program’s location or by donating online. For more information, visit the program’s website at www.communityfoodbank.org.

Willamax project update

Submitted by John Smith, November 11, 2014

Discovery Ventures Inc. released a press release on November 5 with the following update on the Willamax project:

- A 10-millisecond survey completed by Eagle Mapping Ltd. has been completed.
- The survey was conducted over the Willa property.
- The survey will help to better understand the geological features of the area.

Rockfall on Sloan bluffs a sign of the season

Submitted by John Doe, November 10, 2014

According to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, the road that runs along the Sloan Bluffs has experienced rockfall events as a result of the wet weather. The ministry has implemented a number of safety measures to address the issue, including increasing the frequency of inspections and implementing a temporary road closure.

Thank You

Submitted by John Smith, November 11, 2014

The Arrow Lakes Arts Council would like to gratefully acknowledge the Volunteers and businesses and individuals for their help in “An Evening of Art” fundraiser on November 8, 2014. We sincerely thank you for your generosity.

Land Act: Notice of Intention to Apply for a Disposition of Crown Land

Front Counter BC Cranbrook has accepted an application made by the Trout Lake Community Club represented by Keith Thomas of 544 Westside Road, Nakusp, BC V0G 1R0, on behalf of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MLNRD). Kootenay Region, for a Licence of Occupation – Community Institutional to facilitate the development of a community day use area within Trout Lake, BC (DL 190) and containing 0.27 hectares more or less.

The MLNRD File Number that has been established for this application is 4460513. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to Front Counter BC, 1902 Theatre Road, Cranbrook, BC V1C 7G1 or email to: AuthorizingAgency.Cranbrook@ ministryofforest.gov.bc.ca. Comments will be reviewed by Front Counter BC until December 5, 2014. Front Counter BC may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please refer to our website: http://www.aridg.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPostingIndex.jsp --> Search --> Search by File Number: Insert Land File Number for more information. These applications will be available for viewing at Front Counter BC in Cranbrook, BC.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. For information, contact the FOI Advisor at the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regional office in Cranbrook.
NGOs seek legal decision on Jumbo resort certificate

Submitted by Wildlight

Jumbo Creek Conservation Society and Wildlight have, with the assistance of Ecotrust, made submissions to the Environmental Assessment Office (EAO) that will help determine whether Glacier Resorts Ltd.’s Environmental Certificate is still valid. If valid, the certificate allows the company to build their proposed Jumbo Glacier Resort. The issue hinges on the question of whether the project was substantially started within the allotted 10-year time period.

“For my clients, this issue is about due process and ensuring that companies and government follow the law and abide by the terms of their environmental certificates,” says Morgan Blackley, the staff lawyer with Ecotrust who will represent the two non-profit organizations.

“Glacier Resorts Ltd. waited until the last week of their 10-year window to start construction on the resort and all they’ve accomplished is to pour concrete slabs for two buildings and anchor for a single ski lift,” says JCCS’s Bob Campbell. “There is a good reason these certificates come with an expiration date. Environmental factors and available information about environmental impacts change over the course of a decade.”

“The Jumbo Valley is central to the Purcell mountainous ecosystem, which is considered to be the most biologically diverse habitat for northern and southern grizzly populations. If allowed to proceed, the proposed year round ski resort would include a large network of ski lifts crossing four glaciers along with hotels, condominiums, townhouses and chalets.”

By email dated October 9, 2014, the EAO confirmed that Glacier Resorts Ltd. was not in compliance with several key pre-construction conditions that were part of the Environmental Certificate. The one-minute construction by Glacier Resorts Ltd. appears to have been done prior to meeting certain key pre-construction commitments.

“Glacier Resorts has not completed the water testing they committed to do prior to construction as part of the environmental assessment process,” says Wildlight’s Robyn Duncan. “We’ve been following the law faithfully and honestly throughout this process and the company’s failure to comply with their commitments just reinforces our long-stated concerns about their ability to build and operate this project in an environmentally responsible manner.”

Jumbo Creek Conservation Society and Wildlight asked Environment Minister Mary Polak for a stop-work order to prohibit any further construction on the project until the necessary pre-conditions to construction have been fulfilled. While the order was not issued, the EAO did note that Glacier Resorts Ltd. was in non-compliance with legally binding preconditions to construction.

In 2013, the Jumbo Glacier Mountain Resort Municipality (JGMRM) was created. Despite having no residents, no infrastructure, and no buildings, a mayor and two councillors were appointed to govern the municipality. The Union of BC Municipalities is opposed to the governance and funding model for the Jumbo Glacier Mountain Resort Municipality and recently asked the Province to consider a new governance structure for resort municipalities in direct response to JGMRM.

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Regional hospital in Trail needs $40 million renovations

by Jan McMurray

Renovations to the hospital in Trail would cost $40 million and take 18 months to complete, and a new regional hospital would cost $460 million and take 10 years to complete. This was what was reported by an Interior Health delegation to the West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District (WKBRHD) Board at its October meeting.

The IH delegation explained that the $40 million in renovations to the hospital in Trail are necessary to sustain current services at the facility. The three areas that need renovations are the ambulatory care wing, emergency room and pharmacy.

Chair of the WKBRHD board, Margarette Rotvedt, said the health it is important to sustain current services to keep patients in the region. “I’m prepared to support renovations under those circumstances, and if in the future the ministry decides it wants a new facility, then that can take place. We can’t wait 10 years and have our aging community having to leave the region.”

Rotvedt reports that the IH board and the Ministry of Health will further discuss the proposed renovations for the regional hospital in Trail and will likely let the WKBRHD board know in the spring if they support them. If so, IH will ask WKBRHD for 40 percent of the funding for the project.

A strategic plan for the regional hospital district was also discussed at the October meeting. The board agreed to schedule a workshop in January to discuss the process for developing a strategic plan.

This stems from a report entitled, “Initial steps towards a strategic plan for the West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District” by consultant Jim Gustafson and received at the WKBRHD board’s June meeting.

Board secretary Stuart Horn pointed out to the board that Gustafson’s report reveals the differences in health care priorities between rural and urban areas in the district. Of the 30 local governments responding to a survey conducted as part of his report, seven supported one regional health facility for the region; four supported the current model of two (Trail and Nelson); and 19 did not address this specific issue. Horn also pointed out that the issue of transportation was raised in most of the rural responses, but not in the urban responses.

Horn informed the board that the 2013-2014 IH Capital Planning Strategy framework has been completed, and will help the board prioritize projects.

DECEMBER 03, 2014

SOCKEYE ENTERPRISES JOB FAIR

1 – 4 pm at the Legion Hall in Slocan, BC (502 Harold St.)

Since 2003, Sockeye has worked hard to establish itself as a leading installer of modular field accommodations, offices and support equipment to the resource industry. Our crew has successfully completed projects from the coasts of BC to Newfoundland and Labrador, with extensive work for the oil, gas and mining industries in Western Canada. Sockeye’s rapid mobilization also makes us ideal for constructing disaster relief housing.

Come learn more about Sockeye and how you can join our team.

Doors open at 1:00 pm
Presentation at 2:00 pm
Personal conversations and resume reviews after the presentation

To pre-register please call or email Allan at 250-350-3696 or allan@becaveen.com
Funding for supports may be available for eligible applicants through the Skilled Trades Employment Program (STEP)
‘Recorded Live at the Silverton Gallery’ CD release party

Adrian Wagner. The project was professionally recorded and mixed by Buttle, and has a beautiful sound. Only 100 CDs in print so far, so come get your copy at the event! Producing this CD is the first venture of its kind for Slocan Lake Gallery Society (SLGS). The idea came up after the society acquired its brand new sound equipment in 2012, replacing a mixing board, speakers and cables dating back to the early 1970s. The CD project was conceived by then SLGS president Sue Minter and former board member J Buttle. J is a bass player with local bands Shades of Loud and Dark Fire Cloud, and a sound technician. Inspired by the wealth of fine musicians living or playing in the area, and wanting to do a meaningful project with the new sound equipment, the CD project was born. I recorded all the acts and did the final mix on five out of the seven bands/solo artists who appear on the CD.

Thanks to grants from the Columbia-Kootenay Cultural Alliance (CKCA), Recreation Commission #6, Kootenay Savings Credit Union and a bequest from the late Chie Kameyaga, the gallery society was able to purchase the 24-channel soundboard, which allows each instrument to be recorded on individual tracks, simultaneously. This makes for a much cleaner sound with which to work in creating the final product.

For funding from CKCA subsidized the recording, mixing and mastering of the CD, the pressing and jacket design.

Wagner says he hopes that with the successful completion of this CD, the SLGS will be able to produce a second one in the future.

The CD offers a wonderful journey into the music of a diverse selection of artists, from the rich, improvised, piano pieces created by Slocan’s Adrian Wagner to six-piece orchestra Certified Mango’s all-original compositions.

One of BC’s most intriguing up-and-coming bands, Victoria-based Dirty Grace, singing in three-part harmony, play apocalyptic folk songs and “beat-box incantations” with humour and originality. Holly & Jan (Winlaw/Leen Creek) bring expert guitar and superlative vocals to traditional and original blues composition. Their talent has been recognized far and wide. Jan Van Gelden is becoming known in the Kootenays and beyond. Their highly danceable funky rock numbers were recorded at a Valentine’s dance last February.

Silverton’s Mikul Dorsey is known as a formidable guitarist, with 50 years experience composing and playing music. He appears on the CD with band mates Leah Main, Mike Maguire, and Norbert (Charly) Minchuk.

Also included are a selection of tracks playing music. The mix of talented country blues, folk, and his own compositions using slide guitar, banjo-tin, redbud, lap steel, tambours. He is the “real deal” when it comes to roots music.

For more information about SLGS see www.silver tungallery.ca.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Federal Green Party of the South Okanagan West Kootenay (SOWK)

*2015 NEW ELECTORAL BOUNDARY*

Saturday November 22, 2014 1:30 pm
Shatford Centre, 760 Main St, Penticton BC

Smart Economy, Strong Community, Healthy Environment. Be the Change!

contact for info: gpgsowk@gmail.com or visit: www.sowk.ca

Build your own website in 2 days using the world’s leading web publishing platform

WordPress

coming workshops:

Build a website with WordPress - Dec. 3, 4  
build your own website.com site  
(2 day workshop) no software purchase or paid hosting required  
registration deadline: November 28

WordPress Essential Training - Dec. 10  
for self-hosted site owners  
registration deadline: December 3

Ideal for those who manage WordPress sites on their own, and would like to learn the essentials of updating and maintaining their WordPress sites.

This workshop will help in gaining a better understanding of management of site content, modules, plug-ins, themes and databases.

Location: Community Futures of Central Kootenay in Nelson  
Pre-registration required.

For details or to register, please visit futures.bcc.ca or call Community Futures Central Kootenay at 250 359 1973

A partnership of CCER and Big Lonely Owl

The Valley Voice November 19, 2014

COMMUNITY

Mecado Restaurant to host dinner theatre production

submitted

Food for the body and food for the soul combine delightfully at the Mercado Organic Market and Eatery in Silverton on Thursday, November 27. Mercado will host an evening event from 5:30 to 8:30 featuring You Are What You Eat, a one-act play written by Ty Klassen and directed by Anji Jones. The meal will feature Shelley and Jim’s “muy bueno” Mexican fare (beverage and dessert included). The play contains mature subject matter, coarse language and is unsuitable for children under 13.

The play is an entertaining, in-your-face social commentary, a snapshot of a moment in time in the life of Johnny Whistleblower (portrayed by Klassen), who has a mild case of Toronto’s Syndrome and has been institutionalized for assaulting the CEO of a major chemical company with a syringe full of Roundup.

Arrow Lakes News reporter Ryan Willman caught the show at the Bonnington Arts Centre in Nakusp over the Labour Day long weekend and wrote, “You Are What You Eat is not a comedy. However, in the face of being verbally beat over the head with Johnny’s emotional roller coaster of observational truths regarding food, social media and mobile devices the tendency is to find the comedy within the social commentary.”

Nakusp writer Cedra Eichener commented, “It’s going to take me a while to process the play. Very intense. Well done.”

“This one man play,” stated Linda Harrington, “was masterfully done. It is a good example of how a person can help educate and influence a wider audience in the importance of the really significant things in our lives — health, peace and care of the earth.”

And Rob Plackett, co-founder of the Bonnington Arts Centre, summed it up by observing, “Very tight — intense. Engaging, entertaining, thought provoking and open ended.”

Admission is $25 and seating is limited. For reservations call Jim at 250-358-7722.