US State Department to include ecosystem function in Columbia River Treaty negotiations

submitted

As the US and Canada prepare for negotiations on the Columbia River Treaty, the US State Department has announced that it will include ecosystem function in its negotiating position.

The basis for the State Department's decision is the 'US Entity Regional Recommendation for the Future of the Columbia River Treaty after 2024,' issued in December 2013 by the Bonneville Power Administration and the Army Corps of Engineers. The recommendation includes ecosystem-based function as a primary purpose of the treaty, alongside hydropower and flood control.

Northwest conservation groups and the fishing community have praised the US State Department for the decision, which came in a letter dated May 20 from the State Department to the Northwest Congressional delegation.

The letter states: "Based on the Recommendation [by the Bonneville Power Administration and the Army Corps of Engineers], we have decided to include flood risk mitigation, ecosystem-based function, and hydropower generation interests in the draft US negotiating position. We hope to approach Canada soon to begin discussions on modernization of the Treaty."

All four Northwest states, 15 Columbia Basin tribes, fishermen and environmentalists support the US Entity Regional Recommendation. Religious leaders have joined in support of Tribes and First Nations, based on the Columbia River Forestload Letter.

"Canada and the United States together have stewardship and justice responsibilities to manage the river as a single ecosystem system," said John Osborn, a Spokane physician and a coordinator of the Ethics & Treaty Project. "In a time of climate change, the international effort to modernize the Columbia River Treaty can be summarized with just four words: "One River, ethics matter.""

First Nations invite the public to salmon ceremonies and community meetings

The public is invited to attend upcoming salmon ceremonies and community meetings held by indigenous people in the region.

This year, the ancient salmon ceremony takes on growing significance. In May, the US State Department announced that modernizing the Columbia River Treaty and adding ecosystem function as a primary treaty purpose is a priority for the United States. Ecosystem function opens the door to restoring salmon to the Upper Columbia region, and other waters in the Basin now blocked by dams. Tribal people continue to pray for their place, their river, their fishery.

The salmon ceremonies will be held at Bridgeport on Friday, June 10 starting at 5:30 am; Kettle Falls on Monday, June 13 starting at 10 am; on Tuesday, June 14 at Millennium Park in Cashmere, starting at 10 am. The entire ceremony lasts less than an hour, and is followed by a meal and traditional Indian giveaway. Because this is a sacred ceremony, photography will be restricted during parts of the ceremony.

The Tribes will also host community meetings to give an update on their salmon restoration efforts and to show a short video, "Treaty Talks," documenting peoples' connections to the Columbia River. These events will be at Grand Forks on June 22, Nelson on June 23, Nahant on June 24, and Revelstoke on June 25.

Kettle Falls was an important salmon fishing site on the Columbia River and a place of great sustenance for indigenous people. They called this sacred place around the falls 'non-stre-kn,' meaning 'deep, sounding waters.'

The Grand Coulee Dam blocked the return of the salmon and permanently flooded Kettle Falls, and with it the formal talks with Canada to modernize the half-century-old Columbia River Treaty for tomorrow's Northwest," said Pat Fowl, representing Save Our Wild Salmon, "Conservationists and fishermen applaud the State Department for taking this needed step."

The Columbia River Treaty went into effect in 1964. In 2024, "called-upon flood control" takes effect, replacing "assisted flood control." This means that flood-risk responsibility, now shared by Canada and the US, shifts to the United States. Canada would only provide assistance if the US requests help. Such a change could have major impacts on the US reservoir levels, hydropower production, water supply, irrigation, and salmon. As written, the recommendation includes a public process to explore innovative ways to manage river flows and flood risk.

Blackfeet, Coeur d'Alene, Tulalip, and Pend Oreille tribes. The salmon ceremonies are hosted by the Colville Confederated Tribes, Okanogan Nation Alliance, Upper Columbia United Tribes and the Ichisholm Language and Culture Association.

I these local businesswomen were among the 58 nominated for the fourth annual Influential Kootenay Women in Business Awards. L to R: Mariana Blandino at Wildfire Home Gallery in Kaslo, Dagmar Hurt of Kaslo Kayaking and Vandalist Photo Design Studio, Hana Cahal of Sunnyvale Naturals in Kaslo, Janice Gudmundson of New Market Foods in New Denver. Rose Carm of the Kaslo arena concession was also nominated but is missing from this photo, taken at the awards luncheon on May 29 at the Best Western in Nelson.
Health care dominates discussion at Kaslo council’s June 9 meeting

by Art Joyce and Jan McMurray

Health care in Kaslo has re-surfaced as a hot-button issue. The newly formed Kaslo and Area Medical Care Society believes the community must pursue a fee-for-service clinic model, and is frustrated that council’s Health Care Select Committee is pursuing the Interior Health (IH) clinic model.

At the June 9 council meeting, council defeated a motion calling for council to replace members of the Health Care Select Committee who are not in favour of seriously analyzing the fee-for-service model. The motion was put forward by Councillor Glorioso.

Glorioso’s motion followed the June 2 Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting, where James Morris, former Kaslo pharmacist and president of the recently formed Kaslo and Area Medical Care Society, requested that council’s Health Care Select Committee be terminated. He followed up with a letter, citing the reasons for his request: the committee has not made progress in retaining full-time local doctors, has not seen that the IHA’s oversight of the clinic is counter-productive, and has not acknowledged that 24/7 emergency won’t happen under the current clinic model.

“We’re courting tragedy in the current situation,” Morris told council on June 2. “The current model has faltered time and time again. There’s no site manager, a long chain of command and constant personnel changes. This has gone on for a long time and we’re still just on short-term contracts with doctors. IHA has put this on us, saying there’s going to be no 24/7 ER—is that good enough for us?”

John Eckland and Sandy McLeod, directors on the board of the new society, and Cezanne Moss also made statements at the June 2 COW meeting, calling for the Health Care Select Committee to either pursue fee-for-service based 24/7 health care or disband.

While debating Councillor Glorioso’s motion at the June 9 council meeting, Mayor Hewat and Councillors Holland and Lang all said they felt that the two groups should be able to move ahead with their work. “I don’t understand why it has to be one group or the other,” said Holland. Mayor Hewat agreed. “There doesn’t have to be animosity,” she said. Lang said the select committee has done “wonderful work” and he thought it would be “a real insult to ask them to step down.”

Councillor Knoll said he was concerned about “ruffling feathers” of select committee members, and said the committee has done a good job. However, he said Glorioso’s motion would give some members of the select committee a chance to step aside and would create an opportunity for the committee to explore another avenue.

Councillor Glorioso said council should set up the select committee to solve “a very critical issue in our community—the lack of 24/7 emergency services.” Glorioso sees fee for service as the only solution and believes council should direct the select committee to investigate the model.

According to the terms of reference for the Health Care Select Committee, which Glorioso read aloud, members serve until they resign or are replaced by mutual agreement.

Mayor Hewat pointed out that Glorioso’s motion was not in line with the terms of reference. “If we say, ‘you are off the committee if you don’t tow the party line,’ that to me is not mutual agreement,” she said. Councillor Holland also said he thinks it would be setting a bad precedent to tell the committee to do council’s bidding or members will lose their seats.

Hewat also pointed out that no one knows exactly what the select committee has done because some of it has been done in camera.

After the motion was defeated, with Councillors Glorioso and Knoll voting in favour, and Councillors Lang, Holland and Mayor Hewat voting against, CAO South commented that this underlined the importance of regular reports and clear recommendations to council from its committees.

“These situations are arising because there is not enough communication. I am encouraging all committees to report regularly, to come as a delegation, to actually put forth recommendations,” he said.

During public time, James Morris said council passed a resolution in October 2013 stating that they had no confidence in IH to run the clinic, but then formed a select committee with the idea of keeping the IH clinic. “Why wouldn’t council do what it said?” he asked.

Councillor Holland said the intent of the 2013 motion was to have political clout and to demonstrate broad-based community support when meeting with Dr. Halpenny and the Minister of Health at UBCM. He spoke of the “melt-down” in communications with IH in 2013, and of the importance of creating a stronger partnership with IH. “Now we are having good solid communications with IH. IH is making moves towards doing what they can to get us to a model of health care that we want,” he said.

Morris replied, “The IH really is the problem for us and to keep working with them is just moving us down the road with no end in sight. We should take the position that we have tried this and we are not going further.”

Ward Taylor pointed out that all council members had said they wanted to restore 24/7 care during the election. “How can you back a committee that guarantees no 24/7 emergency care?” he asked.

Councillor Lang said he believes it will be “an evolution” back to 24/7 service in Kaslo. “We need doctors to move here and then we can start to develop the model we want,” he said.
Low water projected in the Arrow Lakes Reservoir this summer

by Ian McMurray

In this very dry year, water levels in the Arrow Lakes Reservoir are expected to remain extremely low throughout the summer. BC Hydro representatives provided information at a session in the Seniors Hall in Nakusp on June 10.

Currently, the reservoir is at about 1425 feet, and the forecast maximum is 1426 feet. Last year, the water level peaked at 1440 feet on July 3.

This is the third driest year so far in the Columbia Basin in the 55 years on record. It was the driest two years were 2001 and 1977.

The water supply forecast in the entire Columbia Basin (including the US) is currently about 69 percent of normal. It is much drier on the US side than in Canada. Under the Columbia River Treaty, this below-normal forecast triggers additional releases from the Arrow Lakes Reservoir, resulting in lower reservoir levels.

Peter McCann of BC Hydro explained that in very dry years, there is "proportional draft," where water is released from all the reservoirs in the entire Columbia Basin and Snake system. "Everyone has to chip in, and they will all be well below normal," he said. The proportional draft accounts for about 15 feet of the draft in the Arrow.

Also in very dry years, the "Non-Treaty Agreements Dry Release Provision" is triggered. Because the Mica dam was built higher than required under the Columbia River Treaty, there is 1.5 million acre feet of non-treaty water. The US and Canada agreed to use this water to protect fisheries. McCann explained that the US can ask for 0.5 million acre feet of this water to be released during low water years to benefit their salmon. On May 8 this year, the US requested the release. "The effects of that are felt at Arrow," said McCann. This will result in about four feet of draft from the Arrow reservoir by July 1.

However, McCann was quick to say that the US asked for additional releases and Canada declined them. "We said no to the extra water because we need it at the Arrow Lakes. That forces the US to release some of their water from the GrandeCoulee Lake Roosevelt for fish. Because we said no, they have to use some of their own flexibility to resolve the fish problem. They are trying to keep Roosevelt as high as possible for recreation and we are trying to do the same for the Arrow." Another reason the Arrow Reservoir is low is because of lower than normal inflows while generation was down at Mica in January and February. Mica generation was down due to the mild winter and resulting lack of demand for electricity, and due to work being done on the spillway in the Peace. BC Hydro was generating heavily from the Peace system in order to have zero risk on the spillway, so Mica got really full this winter," said McCann.

Many residents want high water for recreation and for the local tourism economy. "The town really struggles during low water years, because tourists don't come or they don't stay," said one citizen.

However, some are pleased to see the reservoir at this level, as it is good for the ecosystem. There is more habitat for birds and other wildlife, and a possibility of riparian re-vegetation.

Boat ramp update

The Nakusp boat ramp has been completed to 12.6 metres (129.8 feet). BC Hydro and Columbia Power Corporation are still investigating whether in-water techniques can be used to finish the low water portion of the ramp in spring 2015. Divers visited in April 2015 to identify hazards they would face during underwater work.

ULRIKE ZOBEL, LAWYER PRACTICE RESTRICTED TO: CRIMINAL & FAMILY LAW

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

208 Broadway St, Nakusp, BC
250-265-4372 • 1-877-265-4372

www.ulrikezobel.com

Serving the Arrow and Slocan Lakes

Passmore poultry abattoir could close after this season

by Art Joyce

Passmore Poultry Packers, the Slocan Valley’s only slaughterhouse, expects Alex Berland and Jodi Morton to close the doors at the end of this season unless someone comes forward to take over the business. Both Berland and Morton are in their mid-60s and don’t have anyone in their family able to carry on the business. They are reaching out to their customer base to find a way to continue what they see as a vital aspect of the valley’s agricultural infrastructure and food sustainability.

"We started the abattoir as a community service, not to get rich," explains Berland. "Agriculture in this part of the world has languished and been neglected for a long time, we don’t want to go down."

The business was started in 2010 in response to changes to controversial agricultural regulations introduced by the Gordon Campbell government that centralized licensed abattoirs, driving up costs and threatening small farmers. The Liberals backed down somewhat on farm gate sales but red meat still can’t be processed locally. Berland and Morton are only licensed to process poultry. In order to keep costs feasible, local farmers need to get their poultry slaughtered at a local facility. That way, they don’t have to deal with farm gate sales, but can dispose of their stock with one supplier.

Meanwhile the ‘locavore’ food movement has blossomed across the country, with even some mainstream fast food chains responding to consumer demand by making commitments to avoid chemically raised meat. The Kootenays have always had a strong local food economy and Berland says the Kootenay Co-op estimates it can only fill about ten percent of its customer demand for locally raised meat. The economic implications are obvious. Berland says their 70 clients produced 10 tons of finished poultry last year. In addition to the six jobs Passmore Poultry Packers provides, plus the Provincially inspected that inspects every chicken or turkey to meet health standards, there’s the downstream economic benefits.

"Our catchment is Nakusp to Kootenay Lake to Revelstoke," explains Berland. "Very conservatively I estimate the value of that 10 tons at $12,000. That’s the profit for the feed store, people who put flocking in, and other agricultural suppliers in the area that chickens farmers go to buy the things they need."

Berland and Morton are already meeting with potential buyers for the business and are open to any proposal that will keep their doors open after they retire, including the co-op model. Berland stresses however that any new owner would need to secure strong leadership and organization and a well-articulated proposal. While he and Morton are more than willing to offer the benefit of their experience and expertise, they have no interest in setting up a co-op themselves.

"We’ll make very favourable terms for someone to take it over for us. We’re very committed to seeing it happens. We’re prepared to stay on for one or two years to provide advice. This is one piece of the puzzle that makes a rural lifestyle more feasible."

In addition to the high health standards the abattoir is required by law to meet, Berland says they have set the bar high for humane treatment of animals. State-of-the-art equipment is used to eliminate the suffering animals often experience at large commercial operations.

"People want to see the way animals are being treated and know they’re being treated right. If there’s some NSMfy stuff going on, people can come and see for themselves what the real life operation is. We’re welcome that kind of interest."

Passmore Poultry Packers can be contacted via their website: www.passmorepackers.ca or via email: mortonj@tercom.ca
Rosebery-Summit Lake Rail Trail proposal is workable

I am writing in support of the proposed management plan for the Rosebery-Summit Lake Rail Trail. I think it’s a workable compromise among all the user groups and it recognizes that the major stakeholder is the environment and its protection, and where that is threatened, it has a much higher priority than human recreational demands.

Smirle O’Donnell
New Denver

Take the Summit Lake-Rosebery Trail poll

Almost 20 years ago, the desire to control the Summit Lake to Rosebery Rail Trail was begun, and with your support by responding to the poll question in this issue, it can finally be realized.

I’m very thankful for the continued efforts of those who have been involved in this important community project that is so important to the kind of lifestyle, tourism and recreation we can sustain and support.

Eric Faulk
Hills

Heartache over Silverton Inn vandalism

So reading the classified ad from the latest Valley Voice (our awesome little town newspaper run by two amazing beautiful souls plus other amazing beautiful souls), it kind of made my heart ache a bit when I was reading about all the damage that was done to our very good and loved Silverton Inn.

The stories of those walls could tell! I drank many drinks made by not only my friend but the best bartender in these parts, Nina. Anyways, this should not be happening in this town – and this degree in a building filled with so much history... We all know this.

What’s most scary to me though is the fact that someone tried to burn it down. That would be a sad day for our area. The theft of the stones, in my opinion, doesn’t just affect history – it affects the whole town.

Now Mooc has come back, which is great considering he is offering a service that is greatly needed – lower income rentals. So yes, some good has come out of the bad, but I still can’t help but feel like the hotel is or has been damaged in a sense.

Tanya O’Neil
New Denver

Unhappy with Rosebery-Summit Lake trail proposal

My letter of October 2013 included a strong opinion regarding motorized access to the southern section of the Rosebery-Summit Lake Rail Trail. The specific focus here is on access to the lakeshore area below the former Girl Guides Camp. The May 20 Management Plan Proposal contains nothing to confirm one of its “Rationales for Recommendations”: “Protection of recreational opportunities that support the pattern of established local uses.”

Despite reference to the base as “well-used by locals” its access will be compromised by this Trail Use Recommendation: “...the entire trail will be managed for non-motorized recreational use with limited ATV use...”. The follow-up exceptions are the Girl Guide Camp near Hills... and “This section of the trail will continue to accommodate local access to the popular beach... contain NO guarantee of vehicular access. In fact it is then stated: “Existing motor vehicle access through this section could be maintained, but there is limited parking” which suggests this option is already discarded (my emphasis above).

We are the suggestion of allowing local ATV users access via a parallel system: “These ATV-user memberships will be limited in number and available only to those who are residents of RDCK Area H North and current users of the rail trail, or who have disabled or elderly family members who could not otherwise enjoy it.” This discrimination against and excludes those not having the wish to have ATVs who have always accessed by car, van or truck, and continues to both ATVers and non-ATVers. I won’t say an ATV to visiting family or guests can launch a kayak at the Girl Guide Camp beach.

Also included “…dogs are to be kept under control at all times” – known wassaied words for dog owners. I don’t have a dog but family members do, and I have never encountered a dog problem with theirs or other users. And “trail closures” for “…extended periods of remediation” and “…involved as needed!” for grizzly bear seasons? No Trail Management expects users to “…be responsible for their own safety...” Cee – thanks for that much freedom!

It’s not the potential through passage I personally want preserved, it’s access to the outdoors resources in general for whoever desires it, through courtesy and care from all users sharing and enjoying the trail. This means for example existing access points could be improved, not merely maintained (through maintenance would be good), such as the Girl Guide Camp driveway, and the limited parking carefully worked on to enlarge it appropriately. Or just leave it as is. Not simply ban highway vehicles and thus the access.

RDCK Director Walter Popoff has said the “…intent is to make the (Rosebery-Summit Lake) trail available for public recreation.” It is now! But exclusively non-motorized designation is the intent if the BC Recreation Manual mandate is adopted (quoted verbatim in the report): “Wherever possible, single-use trails are the best choice for both trail builders and trail users”, and further that “in most cases, motorized and non-motorized use on the same trail is not recommended.” Clear enough?

Stephen L. Phillips
New Denver

The Valley Voice
Box 70, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0
Phone: 250-358-7218 Fax: 250-358-7793 E-Mail: valleyvoice@valleyvoice.ca Website: www.valleyvoice.ca

Published and printed in British Columbia, Canada

The Valley Voice is distributed throughout the Slocan and Arrow Lake Valleys from South Slocan/Playmor Junction to Edgewater and Kaslo on Kootenay Lake.

Circulation is 7,600 copies, providing the most complete news and advertising coverage of any single newspaper serving this area.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: CANADA $54.60, USA $84.00, OVERSEAS $126.00. E-Mail Subscription $22.40 (Prices include GST)

Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement #40021181
Winne from the lakes

Will you vote yes and make a comment on rail trail poll

The conversation about "multiple use" of trails is not new to any area in BC, and the arguments on both sides haven't changed substantially since the beginning. This is especially true in the discussion about the proposed Rosemary to Summit Lake trail. In the last 20 years, nothing has changed in the motorized versus non-motorized controversy.

Years of consultation and negotiation amongst the BC government, the RDCK, and various recreation and trails groups, a proposal has been issued for residents to decide whether to go forward with a plan which would give an official trail designation to the segments of the old railway bed which follows the shore of Slocan Lake north from Rosebery to Hills, then along Bonanza creek up to Summit Lake. Copies of the document have been available locally in New Denver, Silverton, Hills, Rosebery, and Summit Lake (see June 3 Valley Voice article), and the poll document with a ballot will be in the June 17 Valley Voice.

The document includes a detailed description of the trail, and will be of special interest to those who are or have been involved, or who may be a very limited motorized use, by ATV only (no motorcycles), and the ballot will ask if the voter would endorse the proposal. In addition, there will be a space for comments.

The community volunteer committee drafting the document has dedicated hundreds of hours of time to realize the vision of a recreational corridor, and made every effort to accommodate the local trail users.

My personal opinion is that the trail should be non-motorized, with the exception of maintenance or emergency vehicle use. Anyone wishing to use the trail is invited, as long as they leave their motorized recreation equipment behind. However, given the choice of a single trail or no trail vote (which would leave the trail open to unrestricted usage), I will vote a definite yes. I will, however, express my feeling in the comment section that with the two exceptions stated, this trail is one special place in the province where hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians can enjoy the marvelous natural beauty and solitude which is our heritage here. I urge anyone else agreeing with my non-motorized sentiments to vote yes, and comment on the ballot as well.

Dick Callison
New Dur

Response to Brendan Bendis

Let me get this right. When George Bush decided to invade Afghanistan in violation of international law, and proceeded to carpet bomb the country, he was not a war criminal, but if anyone shot back at his troops and neglected to wear a military uniform, they would be a war criminal. If Canada was invaded, and I shot at the invaders, I would be a war criminal and a terrorist...not them. Apparently, my only option would be to join the other Bendis. I sit on my friends and let them take over, because that is what the Geneva Convention says.

In addition to according to Mr. Bendis, if a Canadian citizen living in a "free" country support anything other than our western point of view, "common sense" dictates that they would lose their Canadian citizenship revoked and be deported.

I am not sure I would feel particularly lucky to live in that kind of free country. We do seem to be heading in that direction, and Stephen Harper, who we would not recognize Canada when he was through. I can only hope he is through sooner than many others.

Rod Bertozzi
Glade

Open letter to Minister Oakes re: Jumbo OCP

The Valhalla Wilderness Society (VWS) is proud of the fact that the BC government continues to undermine some of our society's most fundamental democratic values with the development of a so-called "Official Community Plan" (OCP) for the Jumbo Glacier Mountain Resort Municipality. An OCP can only be developed with input from residents who elect their municipal government. Given that there are no residents in the Jumbo Glacier Mountain Resort Municipality and no elections took place, you should stop this flawed OCP process. It is shameful that the BC government wastes taxpayers' money to fund this virtual municipality to the tune of $200,000 per annum, while at the same time severely undersubscribing BC parks and cutting back on park ranger positions.

VWS, together with many other environmental organizations and thousands of British Columbians, has been fighting fordecades to keep Jumbo Wild. The Jumbo Pass area is home to blue-listed species such as grizzly bears, wolves, bull and elk and trout as well as mountain goats that are sensitive to human encroachment. These beautiful mountains provide critical habitat and connectivity for a number of species, including the Central Purcell grizzly bears whose survival depends on large intact wilderness areas.

Clearly, the so-called OCP is already failing short of its stated goals, including "to protect and enhance environmental values and assets" and "to foster cooperation with First Nations." VWS calls on you to end this charade of a municipality with no residents and to stop wasting taxpayers' funds to subsidize a corporate development that should never have been approved by your government in the first place.

Craig Pettit, Director
Valhalla Wilderness Society

Fate and fortune

A lucky chance of fate happened when the Memorial Hall had accidentally been double booked on Friday, May 29, and we were given permission by the Mayor of Silverton to use the Silverton Gallery for our celebration ribbon-cutting event.

What an amazing evening it was. People started flocking in at 7pm for the best front seats, and the gallery ended up packed, all seats taken with a total of 99 people attending, and over $1100 raised.

The evening was packed with vibrant eclectic music and song from our wonderful community musicians. Delicious cakes, and pizza made and donated by Sandra from the Cup and Saucer, helped to make a very successful evening.

I am sure, if the universe had anything to do with it at all, it was perfectly planned and to top it all off, a beautiful rainbow appeared over the gallery just after people entered.

With this encouraging start, widespread support from the community to help with fundraising is needed to meet the costs of bringing the gallery up to current fire code, so that restorations can begin.

A fundraising committee is in place and the BC government's Peer to Peer Grant can explore ways of meeting the costs, and applying for grants. If anyone has ideas or inspirations that could help, please contact me, Jonice Jackson, or Penelope Locke at the Office of the Government of BC.

Once the Fire Code improvements have been implemented, the gallery can open for art exhibits, community events, and fundraising. Unfortunately, for this western town, the area was logged and the cool wet habitat no longer exists. This western toad is indeed a blue-listed species that is managed under federal guidelines worldwide is a known scientific fact. The toad’s hibernating instinct takes it back to its original wetland, in some cases a pond where it was born. How can these small creatures return once a machine has run through their habitat? The only prevention is to leave the habitats intact as protected areas.

We need more protected areas throughout the valley and it is our submission that the remaining areas of the valley become protected as small regional parks or at the very least protected buffer to the existing provincial parks. The functions of the forest and the role they play in mitigating climate change and the water they provide, and the protection of water are natural values that outweigh any logging benefits. Much of the economic value of logging does not benefit those of us who live in and love the Slocan Valley.

We are very fortunate in the Slocan Valley to still have some of the last remaining habitats for species at risk. We need progressive planning that values the forest as natural capital and creates a new economy based on this natural capital. We must continue destroying the homes of these endangered species by doing so protecting the water essential to all species, including Homo sapiens.

Marilyn Burgess
Perry Ridge - Skagway Association

Have your say on the Rosebery-Summit Lake Rail Trail

On April 22, a couple of us were working on the Rosebery-Summit Lake Rail Trail management plan attended the AGM of the Niskup and Area Community Trail Society to give an update on our project and to hear what was happening up that way. There were about 30 people in attendance, and we all introduced ourselves.

The Niskup community has a management agreement with Ree Sites and Trails BC for the rail trail along the Rosebery-Summit Lake section. The Niskup section has wide-open motorized access, a decision made two years ago at a public meeting there.

Before we had the opportunity to speak, reps from the Niskup ATV club made a presentation requesting that the trail society write a letter of support for unrestricted motorized access along the entire rail trail, all the way to Rosebery. Clearly they had heard about our project. There was good discussion of the request around the table, and, in the end, it was turned down for two reasons. We sat and listened.

The first point raised was that the people of Niskup were not interested in what happens on the Rosebery-Summit Lake section, just as Niskup residents had decided on their end of the trail. The Rosebery-Summit Lake section has extensive recreational use along the valve and within the area covered by the official Community Plan for RDCK Area H North.

The second point raised was that, unlike the Niskup-Summit Lake section, the Rosebery-Summit Lake section has many ecologically sensitive areas related to fish, birds, and other wildlife (tends to grizzlies) to and regionally-important wetland areas, and that not enough was known about these areas to give the land use approval for unrestricted motorized access.

It was a good discussion, and we were relieved with the decision not to support unrestricted access.

It’s true that in the 1890’s a railway was built along this route and that the train ran for nearly 100 years, not often in its final decades. When the CPR decided to build, however, we should be pretty sure that not a lot was considered beyond how to get to the rich mines of the Silverton Slocan as quickly as possible. We like to think we’ve come a ways since then in making land-use decisions, especially when it comes to known ecologically sensitive areas.

In the next two weeks, we who live in the north Slocan have an opportunity to make a choice about the future of this special rail trail. We can set in motion a management plan that can give us improved knowledge and understanding of what’s there and how to best take care of it and enjoy it. Then we can make better-informed decisions about the rail trail. That will be the basis for our continued success, especially for the remarkable range of creatures that inhabit it.

Please take the time to read through the management plan and give it consideration.

The decision is ours. Have your say.

Richard Allin Hills
Voices from the Valleys

LETTERS

Wooden doors and windows and the building code

Last year changes to the BC Building Code required only certified manufactured products to be installed in new construction. This has been detrimental to custom window and door manufacturers throughout BC, as the process to test, certify and insure each individual model of window and door is very expensive.

However, there was a loophole left in the code allowing “site-built” products. This was worded to accommodate window and door configurations which are not commercially available from large manufacturers. Hooray! We can still build high-end custom one-off products for special projects and clients! With local value-added wood?

A few days ago I received a survey from the BC Building Code informing of proposed changes to no longer allow “site-built” products. As they recognize this became a loophole.

In the name of rigorous compliance and performance, the BCBC is systematically removing local value-added wood products from new house construction. House construction? Yes that’s right, these requirements only apply to residential and small buildings, so box stores, commercial and industrial buildings can still use uncertified products. BCBC would not want to burden these guys with the cost of using high-performance materials.

I see many government initiatives for helping small business. I see media and social attention for BC craftsmanship. People appreciate local value-added wood products!

In the name of “risk” that these products may be permitting a less rigorous compliance path that could result in lower levels of structural strength, wind resistance and rain penetration resistance.” The BC Building Code is squashing small business throughout BC, and destroying a legacy of high-end custom wooden doors and windows made throughout the province with BC wood.

As a local business manufacturing wood products and building high-end homes, these new changes concern me. Window and door manufacturing is not a large component of our sales, but in rural areas every job counts? Right?

I ask all levels of government employees and elected representatives to please show us you care about BC small business and BC value-added wood manufacturing. Make policy changes now while these businesses are still established. Once they are gone they will not return.

David Madden
Principal, Madden Timber Construction Inc
Nakusp

Site C dam

I was eight years old when WW II ended. We lived in Holland.

I had never seen bananas, oranges, chocolate, or peanut butter. Bread was a solid, grey lump of rye my mother cooked in a coffee tin submerged in a pan of boiling water for four hours on the little pot-belied stove. And yes, we did eat tulip bulbs.

Because my mother was a good cook, they were delicious.

We survived because there was a dairy farm across the road from us, and because my father, a lawyer, had many clients from big farms who often paid in kind. That last year of the war, my father used to put on his wool-lined boots and his winter coat, and bicycle around farm country with whatever we still had to trade: a bit of coffee, a silver ornament, bed sheets, tobacco. He was often gone for a week, sleeping standing up, one arm slung over a rope strung across the room, in a pub or cafe with the many others who were on the same mission.

In cities, adults, children, and infants starved to death.

Public transportation? Usurped by the Germans for troop transport, for transporting people to ‘labour’ camps, and to bring food and ordnance to the German army. As a result, there was no coal, our main source of heat. That last year of the war, the Germans cut off the electricity and natural gas. Then, they also cut off the water.

In those days, with a population a third of what it is today, Holland was still predominantly agricultural. It was a small country. It is also quite flat. It is not difficult to bicycle the width of it from the North Sea to the German border in a day. The same cannot be said of British Columbia.

What does this have to do with the Site C dam?

In a global catastrophe, oil, electricity, and transportation are the first to disappear. Without oil, transportation disappears. Without transportation, the oil supply dries up. And without transportation, the food supply in our supermarkets runs out in a matter of days. Without electricity, the cash register doesn’t work, the banks are closed, and the gas pumps don’t work.

It doesn’t matter whether the catastrophe is a war, a terrorist take-over, a depression, a pandemic or an ecological disaster. In Haiti and in the areas hit by the tsunami, hundreds died for lack of food and lack of transport. In Nepal, thousands. And those were only local catastrophes.

We are increasingly dependent on places like California and China for our food supply. In the event of a catastrophe, we are dependent on local food supplies. We have several rich food baskets: the Lower Mainland, so much of which has now been covered by urban development; the Okanagan, which is dependent on mechanical irrigation; the Columbia Basin used to be another rich agricultural valley, now under water, drained and flooded in 1918. The Peace River basin is another valley rich in agriculture, hunting, trapping, and timber. The Site C dam will flood a further 100 km of that.

Granted, a major source of reliable electricity is an economic boon. But you can live without electricity. You can’t live without food.

Ebbe de Boer
Fonquier

The evolution of energy

FortisBC will soon be exchanging electricity meters in your area

Advanced meters are just one way we’re working to improve the efficiency and reliability of your electricity service.

Benefits of new advanced meters:

• Monthly billing
• Choose your billing date
• Fewer estimates
• Online tools to help you manage your electricity use

For more information, visit fortisbc.com/ami or call 1-866-436-7847.

FORTIS BC

FortisBC uses the FortisBC name and logo under licence from Fortis Inc. (IS-126-46-08(2015))
Slocan council, June 8: Screech Owl Walk Project underway
by Jan McCormack

- Project Manager of the Owl Walk & Tourism Enhancement Project, Stevan Whitby, provided a written update. Melissa Wamanakon has been hired as the program assistant for the communications and design guru and is working on a website. Slocan residents Wendy Ganzini and Dave Burling have been hired to clean up the site, help with construction of the trails, and install interpretive signage. Whitby is looking for two other volunteers with El attachment. Demolition of the old cabin has begun. People are welcome to visit the site, but are asked to stay on existing pathways for safety reasons.

- Terms of reference for the Wellness Centre Sign Project committee were approved. The sign is to be installed no later than December 31, 2015 and the budget is $10,000. The committee, made up of one member of council and four others, will provide recommendations to council on the design, development and installation of the sign. Three volunteers are still needed to sit on the committee with Councillor Van Byson and Dick Kelly.

- The CAO reported on the microhydro open house. Several comment sheets have been returned so far. Five of them indicated support of the project and two were neutral. CAO Dave Burling also provided council with a list of questions asked by members of the public at the open house, as recorded by Don Guziek of Nelson Hydro, who attended the meeting. Staff was asked to prepare a report that answers the questions.

- Council agreed to provide Fortis BC with a letter of support for the revision of its LED lighting tariff for customer-owned streetlights. Councillor Perriere said some of Slocan's streetlights are owned by the Village and others are owned by Fortis BC and the Fortis lamps are not energy efficient. Fortis will be asked to look at boundary changes: will they effect the outcome?

Submitted

A local non-partisan citizens' initiative is hosting an informational meeting 7 pm, June 25 at the Lac somen School library, in New Denver. All are welcome.

The purpose of the meeting is to examine how the boundary changes that have created the new South Okanagan West Kootenay (60) federal electoral district could impact our riding in the upcoming federal election.

This new district (60) includes Grand Forks, New Denver, Silverton, Area H, Castlegar, Trail and all the way to Penticton.

Information and statistics will be presented to show how the electoral district's votes from the 2011 federal election would be redistributed in the two new ridings to deliver a dramatically different outcome a Conservative win.

The local citizens' initiative plans to implement strategies and solutions to rectify the impact the boundary changes could have on us. Please attend if the outcome of the upcoming federal election is important to you.

at replacing its lamps in Slocan with more energy-efficient models.
- Council noted that the Legion and Curling Club had been informed about the Canada 150 Infrastructure Grant Program. Councillor Van Byson said he would also inform the River Club. During public time, a citizen asked if WE Graham Community Service Society and other groups would be eligible. Mayor Liam replied that all non-profits are eligible, but that the application deadline is coming up soon, so they have to have a "shelf-ready" project. Council passed a resolution to send letters of support to community organizations that wish to apply for this grant.
- Public Works supervisor Tim Hill gave his report. Another water leak on Arlington Road was fixed on May 21. An aluminum gateway has been ordered for the breakwater. Cody Gannier has been hired part-time.
- This year’s Spring Clean-Up, West cost $1,622, down slightly from last year’s $1,867 and down significantly from 2012’s $6,465.
- Council received the Bylaw Enforcement Policy for information. Bylaw enforcement is complaint-based in Slocan. Mayor Liam noted that if residents would like to make a complaint, they need to do so in writing. Complaint forms are available at the Village office.
- Council reviewed the Animal Control Bylaw and decided to leave it as is.
- Councillor Perriere commented that a half pipe at the skatepark would be helpful for beginner skateboarders. Mayor Liam suggested that the approach WE Graham Community Service Society with the idea.
- During public time, Rita Meur, president of the Slocan Valley Seniors’ Housing Society, read a statement about an individual who is planning and visiting people in the community to talk about an old dispute he has with two of the society’s board members. This dispute has nothing to do with the housing society. She said the society board is sorry that this is happening, and that the man is wasting people’s time.

Councillor Perriere said she appreciates the society’s work very much. “You are an outstanding group of people. We are behind you 100 percent,” she said. Mayor Liam echoed Perriere’s comments and added, “I think you are doing a good job.”

New commercial salvages 24 HR TOWING

3453 Yeaman Rd, Slocan Valley

Smoky Creek Salvage
24 HR TOWING

403-798-2999
359-798-0996
1-877-798-6930
3453 Yeaman Rd, South Slocan

Call for Proposals

The Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission (SVEDC) has received funding of $300,000 over three years from the Columbia Basin Trust, to be granted to stimulate economic development in the Slocan Valley. These funds may be used for one or more projects serving the Valley. SVEDC has decided on a two-stage application process. The first stage is a Letter of Intent: a brief proposal to determine basic suitability. This letter should outline your idea to stimulate economic development to benefit the whole Slocan Valley from Summit Lake to the Junction.

Following a public input process last year, a number of economic development needs were identified by Slocan Valley residents, which will guide our decision-making process.

Anyone considering submitting a Letter of Intent should first review the “Setting Priorities for the Slocan Valley Directed Fund” report found online via a link on the home page at www.slocanvalley.com

Your Letter of Intent should outline your project idea, how your project will positively impact one or more of the areas of interest identified in the study, your track record doing similar work, and your society, charitable group, co-operative or business would be the best party to take on the project. Projects must 1) have long-term and valley-wide impact even if implemented in limited areas; 2) use local resources whenever possible; and 3) promote collaboration. Your Letter of Intent should explain how SVEDC funds would be applied in a multi-year business model. This letter should be no more than 3 pages.

All Letters of intent will be reviewed and once a fit has been established by the SVEDC, a short-list of organizations will be invited to submit a full proposal.

Requirements and timeline for the full proposal will be provided to those on the short-list. Successful applicants will be selected for funding after proposals are reviewed by SVEDC.

The SVEDC has a conflict of interest policy for advisory committee reviews which will be followed in the event a member is affiliated with an organization or business that submits a proposal.

Interested parties should submit their 3-page Letter of Intent via email by Friday, July 17th, 2015, to:

Secretary, Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission
C/O Box 25
Winlaw, BC V0G 2J0
And/or e-mail: slocanvalleyedc@gmail.com

trust in the structure and validity of your project.”
- Daphne Fields addressed some of council’s questions about the Water Quality Monitoring Project (WQMP) that were at the last council meeting. She explained that SCRAPA will be working with the Slocan River Streamkeepers on water quality monitoring on Springer Creek. She said that both WQMP and the Slocan River Streamkeepers were happy when SCRAPA showed interest in the program, as one of the mandates of the WQMP is to build capacity of watershed groups in the Basin. “It’s definitely not a moneymaker,” she said, with most of the funding going to a group in Vancouver that keeps track of all the data. She also clarified that Abram Davis is personally opposed to the microhydro project, but that “the other people [involved in SCRAPA] don’t have an opinion.”
New Denver council, June 9: Council unhappy with last-minute changes for Valhalla Pure building

by Kattie Campbell

Council spent nearly an hour debating the latest Development Permit Application from All One World Distributors for the new Valhalla Pure building at 130-6th Avenue. In the end, the mayor and councillors decided to approve the changes, but not before they expressed concerns about the process.

Council first granted a Development Permit on October 7, 2014, on plans submitted on September 17. At the applicant’s request, that permit was amended on December 10 to accommodate changes to the planned construction. Since then, there have been more changes to the construction plans and interior features, requiring a new Development Permit.

The Village received a new application on April 23 of this year, which was considered by council at its May 12 meeting. At that time, council adopted a resolution to defer consideration until May 26 pending receipt of updated elevation drawings.

At the May 26 meeting, council杈ion was deferred again until June 9.

The new requests encompass moving exterior door placement to accommodate an electrical service room, adding another second-floor window, signage, exterior lights, revising entry designs, removing fake rock on the timber frame, adding concrete pavers, and delaying landscape completion.

The sticking point for some councillors, however, was the “retail window construction.” The original plans showed ordinary windows, which the owners call an oversight. The “windows are actually installed on solid walls, and graphics such as mountain scenery will be installed behind the glass,” said New Denver councillors.

Council and the CAO objected to “alterations after the fact” and that the building doesn’t conform with heritage design guidelines. The original plan had multiple storefront windows on both sides; now there are none.

Councilor booze Worby said the owner didn’t cooperate between the designer and the engineer, and that “nothing is double construction-wise,” that it was a matter of increased cost which the owner chose not to incur.

Councillor Heather Fox suggested council hold a session on what they had learned from this, and how to improve the process.

Fox and Councillor Nadine Raynolds reported on their attendance at the “Keeping It Rural” conference hosted by the Southern Interior Beetle Alliance will be announced at the future council meetings. The group talked about what had been done, not just what could or should be done. One example from Nova Scotia was setting up a network in which RSPF and TPSA investments were pooled and used to finance local small businesses; this was set up and run by an organization similar to the Community Futures.

In Alberta, farmers and the community bought a spar line and used it to get their grain to market. One man, from Nebraska, said rural areas should not look at a “growth” model but instead work towards a “vibrant” model.

Raynolds called it “a breath in the 21st century” with people working at the regional level to keep it alive.

Busk, who had just returned from the Federal of Canada Municipalities AGM in Edmonton, reported that the New Denver Council of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities had been elected to the BC Caucus of the FCC board, one of five reps from BC.

The West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District board decided to write to the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure asking them to reconsider extending funding. Councillor Henning von Krogh said. The board will dedicate $100,000 from its reserves to find a preliminary design and cost estimates. They will also request the province to upgrade the emergency department at Arrow Lake Hospital. This is subject to Interior Health accepting the offer.

The WKBHRD disagrees with IH’s method of determining protection catchment areas around its facilities. CAO Woodbury, “IH doesn’t understand the limitations of the numbers they use. They use municipal boundaries and don’t count the rural areas surrounding the villages.”

Von Krogh said the board had asked IH some time ago for a rural strategy and came up with 12 points it wanted covered. IH offered a PowerPoint presentation on the provincial rural strategy, which the board refused.

“IH can be frustrating at times,” he said.

New Denver becomes BC’s seventh Bear Smart Community

After many years of dedicated efforts to implement Bear Smart practices within the community, the Village of New Denver has officially received Bear Smart Community status from the Ministry of Environment.

Everyone is welcome to come out and celebrate on June 26 at 10:30 am at the Knox Hall in New Denver (521 6th Ave). There will be an official plaque presentation by Mike Sadler, Provincial Wildlife Conflict Manager. Cake and refreshments will follow.

“Bear Smart designation acknowledges that the Village of New Denver has reached a certain level of protection against human/bear conflict,” said Brie Lillies, local WildSafeBC community coordinator. New Denver now joins six other BC communities that have achieved this designation: Lions Bay, Squamish, Kamloops, Whistler, Port Alberni, and Nanaimo.

The program is a voluntary, preventative conservation program designed by the Ministry of Environment in partnership with the BC Conservation Foundation and the Union of BC Municipalities. The goal of achieving Bear Smart Community status is to address the root causes of human/bear conflicts, reducing the risks to human safety and private property, as well as the number of bears that have to be destroyed each year.

Bear Smart designation has been made possible by contributions from Columbia Basin Trust, BC Ministry of Environment, Regional District of Central Kootenay, Conservation Foundation, Slocan Valley Bear Smart Program, Valhalla Wilderness Society, Bear Aware, WildSafe BC and the Village of New Denver.

Community-driven initiative will require continuous and cooperative efforts to further reduce human-bear conflicts.

For more information contact Brie Lillies at 250-354-8120 or newdervillawildsafebc.com.

Read more about the Ministry of Environment’s Bear Smart program here: www.env.gov.bc.ca/wild/docs/earsmart/bearsmart_bearsmart.pdf.

Calls from Canada Revenue could be a scam; RWMRN warn submitted

The Nlaka’pamux RCMB is warning of a phone and email scam where a fraudster states they are a Canada Revenue Agency representative and pressures the potential victim into paying a non-existent debt.

RCMP have received a number of complaints. People are being called by someone claiming to be from the tax agency who uses threating and coercive language. The operation also leaves a warrant for them and that if they don’t pay the money the police will show up at their home.

The agency states they have been emailed a link to a website to links to the CRA’s and asked to enter personal information.

Canada Revenue Agency will never ask for information about your passport, health card or driver’s licence. It will never also pressure you to provide any personal information, or ask you to do the same.

If you want to confirm a call is real or is the CRA, call them using a number listed on their website http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/.

BEAR HELP INFORMATION & ELECTRIC FENCING ASSISTANCE – Slocan valley and beyond

Got bears? We can help.

Rural area (Slocan Valley) contact: Evelyn Kirkaldy, WVS Bear Smart Coordinator 359-6811 or email: eekirkaldy@icloud.com

New Denver and Arrow Area (Lillooet) contact: Brie Lillies, WildSafeBC Community Coordinator Cell: 250-354-8120 Email: wildsafebc@telus.net Website: www.wildsafebc.com Facebook: Facebook.com/wildsafebcnewdenver Help both Farmers and Bears!

Get installation help, advice and high-quality cost sharing on electric fencing from Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions. 50% cost sharing for bear-proof bins may be available in some RDOX areas.

Contact: Gillian Sanders (250) 353-1137 or email: gillian@bearcachingproject@gmail.com

WANTED TO BUY: CEDAR AND PINE POLES

Brian Major 250-938-3900 Please contact: Gormans Pole Division 250-547-9296

Say Yes

The Valhalla Hills Nordic Ski Club encourages everyone to say YES to accept the proposed plan for the rail trail between Rosebery and Summit Lake.

We believe that the plan will:

* Protect this ecologically sensitive area.
* Preserve the rail trail as recreation corridor.
* Allow for continued enjoyment of the rail trail for cross country skiing.
* Create exciting extension to the very popular Valley Trail.

Valhalla Hills Nordic Ski Club is a membership-driven club that promotes XC skiing in the North Slocan with ski trails, children’s programs, and events.

COMMUNITY

WASAKANII

The Valley Voice June 17, 2015
New executive director chosen for Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival

by Jan McMurray
Paul Hinrichs has been chosen to fill the very big shoes of Jani Holland as executive director of the Kaslo Jazz Etc. Festival. Holland, the festival’s founder, will retire after working with Hinrichs on this year’s 24th annual event.

Hinrichs certainly has a lot of relevant experience for the job. Over the past five years, he has been bringing music to Nelson venues with his business, On the Road Management and Productions. He also served several years on the board of the St. Anselm Jazz Festival and the Nelson Marketfest.

“Running a festival is the crowning achievement for a concert and event planner, and I feel I’m ready for that,” said Hinrichs. “I’m very familiar with the artistic director side of things, but the executive director is a bigger commitment—there is more at stake at the board, the finances. To be here learning from Jani is remarkable.”

Hinrichs is excited about the changes in the festival format this year. The festival will be free to attend during the day, with ticketed events starting at 7 p.m. each night. “You want to have as many people on the grounds as possible and anytime you can open things up for free without taking a financial risk is great!” he said. “The festival has to adapt, and these changes reflect what people want. We’ll get people in for the first time—people who wouldn’t have come otherwise.”

The workshops that have happened at venues like the Langham will not take place this year. “That’s part of the trade-off for the free programming,” explained Hinrichs. “We want as many people to come down to the park and see the shows and everything that’s happening on the grounds.”

The grounds will be much the same as ever, with the floating stage in Kaslo Bay, the upstage, the vendors and the

Crew builds new
submitted

Three new nesting areas for the Western Painted Turtle – an iconic wetland reptile of southern BC – have recently been created near Argenta. The nesting habitat, which will be closely monitored, will increase nesting opportunities and help reduce road mortality and predation of this blue-listed (vulnerable) species.

A number of partners worked together to get the job done. It was coordinated by the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP) together with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations; Yellowhead Road & Bridge (YRBD), the local highways maintenance contractor, donated staff time, materials and equipment; and the Youth Crew from The Nature Trust of British Columbia were involved in mapping the site and placing the materials.

“The new habitat should provide significant help to these turtles, especially when combined with the planned additional monitoring,” said project lead Ross Clarke of BC & Climate Environmental Services. “Even though nesting habitat built 15 years ago adjacent to Argenta Slough has been good, turtles continued to nest on more marginal nesting habitat on the shores of Argenta Road. These newly-created nesting areas will help disperse the adult females and move them away from the road edges where the risk of being killed is higher.”

Nesting predation is also a key issue with the local population of Western Painted Turtles. Last year, of the 17 nests dug by females, mostly alongside the road, 15 had been plowed on, with skunks suspected as the main culprit. Dispersing the nests, as well as improved nest monitoring and protection being funded by FWCP, should reduce the high predation rate and improve the chances for the hatchlings.

Providing quality nesting habitat is a key component in supporting the turtles. They use the nests for all but a handful of weeks in the year. The females lay their eggs in May or June and, while the hatchlings come out of their shells in the fall, they remain within the nest until the following April or May.

Encouraging nesting activity away from the roads, keeping the nesting habitat free of invasive weeds, and protecting freshly-dug nests, will all help ensure that Western Painted Turtles remain part of our wetland landscape for the future.

“The very evening the work was completed in May we observed tracks from a couple of female turtles travelling over the newly created nesting areas,” added Clarke. “We anticipate they like what they see and that hatchling survival rates will improve in the future, and for that we would like to thank all the partners involved and their donation of resources.”

The FWCP is a partnership between BC Hydro, the province, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, First Nations, and public stakeholders to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife impacted by BC Hydro dams. Improving wetland habitat, and the species that depend on them, is a high priority activity for the FWCP.

Call before you dig
1-800-474-6886 or *6886 on your cell

Whether you’re planting a tree or installing fence posts, it’s possible to hit a natural gas pipe or underground electrical line. Know where your underground utilities are. Call before you dig.

For more information visit coopsafetyprogram.ca
Smart meter forum held in Slocan Park

by Art Joyce

A smart meter forum hosted by Daphne Fields was held in the Slocan Park community hall the evening of June 12 to discuss the health issues related to these radio-frequency (RF) emitting devices. Various opt-out strategies were also discussed. About 50 people attended.

Fields hosted the event in advance of the FortisBC rollout of the smart grid in the Slocan Valley planned for this August. Special guest John Rutherford travelled from Kelowna to relate his experiences informing 250 of his neighbours of their right to refuse the meters.

Rutherford said a summary of the health risks associated with RF devices from scientific studies around the world. A video compendium of trailers from documentaries on the topic was shown. In May of this year, a group of scientists met in Brussels to discuss the petition to the UN and the World Health Organization for safer exposure standards. The appeal was signed by 190 scientists from 39 countries, stating that current safety standards are inadequate to protect public health.

Fields reviewed the various countries and states where thorough assessments of wireless smart grids have resulted in a refusal to allow utilities to install them. They included Maine, Saskatchewan, Germany and Italy, which uses a wired smart grid. France has banned Wi-Fi from all schools and kindergartens.

In May of this year, the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) passed a resolution calling for an immediate halt to mandatory installation of smart meters on private residences within RDOS and for the removal of all smart meters that had recently been installed in the district.

Saskatchewan ordered its utility company to remove smart meters after a number of them were linked to house fires. BC has had many more such fires but refuses to acknowledge the link despite mounting evidence. A report on smart meter-related building fires is due out shortly from BC Citizens for Safe Technology. Austrian citizens are allowed to opt out of the smart grid. Some US states also allow an opt-out at no charge. Fortis was directed by the BC Utilities Commission to allow customers an opt-out at $18 every two months. Fortis had already suggested an option for an extra $32.40 per month.

However, BC Hydro customers can keep their old analogue meters, while Fortis customers must pay for a radio-off smart meter.

Rutherford explained that after he learned about the health risks, he took it upon himself to follow Corix smart meter installers and learn homeowners about the risks. He asked nine families out of ten people to opt out of the Corix service.

Silverton's Leah Main elected to FCM board

by Jan McMurray

Leah Main, Slocan Valley councillor and RDCK director, was elected to the board of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) on June 7 during the annual convention in Edmonton.

"I'm really excited," she said. "What a tremendous opportunity to meet with colleagues from across the country and work on issues we all have in common."

Main says she will be a voice for rural and small communities on the 80-member board and looks forward to participation on an equal footing with the larger, more populous centres.

The RDCK has had a representation on the FCM board since 2002, except for the last six months. Former mayor of Nelson, John Dooley, was the last RDCK director on the FCM board. When he lost the election last year, an opening was created. "The opportunity presented itself and I just had to jump at it," she said. "I see the FCM as a really exciting organization."

Main described the FCM as "a direct lobby group to the federal government." She said the FCM board works with the federal government on developing policies and programs of interest to local governments. Examples are infrastructure funding models, transit funding models, and a national housing strategy.

Main was one of nine people running for seven seats on the BC caucus at the convention. "I spent a lot of time handing out campaign materials and talking to people, but the support I got from RDCK directors in particular, and from Silverton Mayor Clarke and from other individuals from throughout the Kootenay Boundary was phenomenal," she said. She added that the Kootenay booth at the trade show was an excellent place to campaign from.

Main will attend four FCM board meetings during her one-year term, in Fredericton, Ottawa, Sherbrooke and Winnipeg.
Sufferfest: only $10?

Sufferfest is a vibrant, fun-filled three-day trail running and mountain biking event held on Labour Day weekend (September 5 – 7) in Kaslo, New Denver and Nakusp. In its sixth year, the event has grown from humble beginnings to a world-class marathon event that attracts athletes from Western Canada and the US.

As well as having the capacity for top-level athletic competition, Sufferfest makes a real effort to include races suited to beginners (monthly youth and seniors) by offering shorter courses with all the same hype and energy of a longer marathon. This allows an entry point for people who want to train and be active, but aren’t yet fully committed to the ‘full’ path of Sufferfest.

As well, there’s big news for the kids’ and youth races! Both biking and running events have been expanded to include three options: the River Rambler 2k, the Quick ‘n’ Nixable 5k (running and biking options), and the Fast and Furious 7k (biking only).

Youth are welcome and encouraged to compete in any of the adult races, to challenge themselves off the school track. It’s a big leap to step up to the start-line with experienced adults, but youth often have an advantage of endurance and flexibility. With a little bit of summer training, youth can cross that finish line in great shape!

Saturday morning in Kaslo, there are tried and true trail races in the line up, as well as the exciting new addition of the Malford Mountain Marathon, an amazing 50k alpine run. Competitors can also choose from the classic 25k Spanish Moss run, the challenging and beautiful 12k South River Extension run, or for those wanting to ease themselves into the Sufferfest experience, the 6k Bridge Loop run.

Sunday morning, Kaslo’s Front Street will again be the scene of the exciting mass start line of the epic 100k Galena Ghost Ride, a mountain bike race from Kaslo to New Denver to kick off day two of the three-day event. New Denver’s races feature mountain bike trail races for all levels of ability. Nakusp’s races on Monday feature Cyclocross and adult and junior category Duathlons (running and biking combo races).

As for the ‘Only $10’ part – registration for kids and youth 14 years old and under is only $10, no matter which event they enter, including adult races. It doesn’t get much better than that!

Join the fun, participate, volunteer or be a spectator. Visit www.kaslonakusp.com or check us out on Facebook.

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION
SANDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Sandon Historical Society requires construction of a wheelchair-accessible boardwalk in front of the museum and two adjacent replica buildings.

Interested contractors, please contact Dan Nicholson, Sandon Historical Society president, for complete plans. Email: sandonmuseum@netzero.com. Complete plans are available for viewing at the Valley Voice offices during business hours, 406 6th Ave., New Denver, BC.

A mandatory site visit will take place June 25, 2015 at 3 pm. at the Sandon Museum in Sandon, BC.

For more information email: sandonmuseum@netzero.com

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

Take notice that Cooper Creek Cedar Ltd. from Salmo, BC has applied to the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MLNR0), Kootenay Region, for a License of Occupation for roadway purpose situated on Provincial Crown land located near Slocan and containing 1.86 hectares more or less.

The Lands File for this application is 4405595. Written comments concerning this application should be directed to Front/Valuero BC, 1902 Theatre Road, Cranbrook BC, V1C 7G1 or email to: AuthorizationAgency.Cranbrook@gov.bc.ca. Comments will be received by MLNR0 up to July 5, 2015. MLNR0 may not be able to consider comments received after this date. Please visit the website at http://arf1.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPostings/index.jsp -> Search -> Search by File Number: 4405595 for more information.

Be advised that any response to this advertisement will be considered part of the public record. Access to these records requires the submission of a Freedom of Information (FOI) request. Visit http://www.gov.bc.ca/foiandinformation to learn more about FOI submissions.

GARBAGE CAN DAN
JUNK REMOVAL

Residential, commercial, first estate clean-ups of house hold waste, furniture, appliances, yard waste, construction waste, metals, electronics and everything you need gone quick! Our trucks carry 4 x fullsize pickup box per run.

We Serve Nelson, Cranbrook, Slocan Valley, Kaslo, North Slocan and Slocan Lake.

CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATE.
250-226-235 (7589)

NEED A NEW OR PRE-OWNED VEHICLE?
PLEASE CHECK OUR INVENTORY AT www.nelsonchrysler.com

NELSON CHRYSLER 1-800-663-7794
803 BAKER, NELSON

NELSON CHRYSLER JEEP

JEEP

PG0349
Fifteen years on the sunny side – local health food store celebrates

by Louis Becker

Tucked in the middle of Kaska’s sometimes bustling, sometimes sleepy Front St is Sunnyside Nudarids – a small health food store selling everything from vitamins and hearty soups, to prayer flags and fresh juice. Founded in 2002, the store recently celebrated 15 years of providing the community with knowledgeable advice, healthy food, supplements, and a place where everyone feels welcome.

“We aren’t a typical business,” says co-owner Hans Cullen. “We want to create an atmosphere where people feel rested, comfortable and willing to share.”

If one asks a local, like guitarist Kevin John, it would seem they’ve been quite successful.

“There’s food there you can actually trust is good for you and I can trust Hans for advice on health issues,” he says. “She’s just an excellent community resource.”

Both Cullen and her business partner Steve Estok spent the first half of their lives in what is now the Slovak Republic before moving to Canada in the early 1990s. Since then they have always worked in the health food industry, watching it grow from a fringe market to a booming part of local and global economies. In the mid-1990s, both moved to the Kaska area and continued their work of promoting healthier lifestyles by offering education and products to the public. Then, in 2000, along with co-owner Paula Griffuels, they decided they wanted to work for themselves and so Sunnyside Nudarids was born.

“When we opened the business with Paula there was no juice bar, but no one was open seven days a week and no one was supporting the local economy,” says Cullen. “We believe we have to build up a sustainable, local economy based on small business.”

Right from the beginning this idea hinged on providing an outlet for local growers and creators to sell their wares and it present there are over 20 regular, local suppliers, who bring everything from soap to seeds through Sunnyside’s doors.

“When you look at your supper and you see the carrots from Vince, the green beans from Rachel, the bread from Sylvia, you become aware that you are eating the energy of your own people,” says Cullen. “I see my community on my plate.”

When asked how the last 15 years have been Estok smiles.

“It’s gorgeous. It’s exactly what we wanted to do. There have been hard times but nothing that’s been too overwhelming. We are here by choice,” she adds. “We don’t necessarily bring money, but if you are happy then you can offer more to others.”

“We are into cooperation and coexistence,” agrees Cullen. “We want to promote a healthy mental and physical lifestyle because when we take good care of ourselves we can give more to our community.”

Words like cooperation, sustainability, local and community come up a lot when talking to Estok and Cullen. They are the connections on which Sunnyside was built and the atmosphere of the small, intimate store reflects it. Pictures of families and friends cover the few walls where there aren’t retail items and although you may not get the fastest service you’ll certainly come away wiser and taken care of.

“We are involved in the cultural and social life of our community,” says Cullen, who can often be heard promoting ticket sales for local events or explaining to youth that there really is no supplement for a good night’s sleep. “Personal involvement with our clientele is a big part of our success.”

As if one Hanra is handed a note from manager Peter Estok. After reading it carefully she folds it up and apologizes for the interruption. It’s a health update from one of their clients, she explains, and so, she can’t share it with anyone.

Trust and confidentiality are of the utmost importance when it comes to building relationships in a small community.

“We aim to maintain a size where we can stay with our values and objectives,” she says. “If we get too big, we can’t be as involved on a personal level.”

Good Fences Make Good Neighbours

Protect your livestock, chickens, bees, and fruit trees from bears

Electric Fencing Demonstration:

When: Sunday June 28th, 10am-noon

Where: Nakusp Senior’s Hall (210 8th Ave)

Cost: FREE!

Please RSVP to Bree Lilley, WildSafeBC Community Coordinator for New Denver, Nakusp, and Area K

Email: newdenver@wildsafebc.com or Phone: 250-354-8120

Workshop leader Gillian Saunders has helped to install more than 110 electric fences to successfully protect livestock and/or fruit trees from both black and grizzly bears. Correctly installed and maintained electric fencing provides a cost-effective and easy solution to prevent or stop bear conflicts. Beekeepers have successfully used electric fencing to protect beehives from bears since the 1980’s, and when used correctly this tool will also protect small livestock such as chickens, other poultry, goats, sheep, pigs, calves, or any other bear attractant. This workshop will discuss different electric fencing designs for permanent and temporary fences that can be adapted to your particular needs.

The Grizzly Bear Coexistence Solutions fencing project offers a 50% cost share on bear electric fence installation or upgrade. Join us at the demonstration to learn more, or email grizzlyfencingproject@gmail.com.
Lucerne graduation ceremony celebrates two young men on June 6

by Jan McMurray

The Lucerne School gym was decorated in western style to celebrate the two 2015 grads: Jordan Deskoiff and Ethan Griesen.

Principal Nicol Sahr welcomed everyone to the ceremony. She described the two grads as strong young men who recognize their own talents and gifts.

Rachelle Champagne, kindergarten/grade one teacher, introduced them as they walked through the salon style archway and down the aisle to the stage. Jordan Deskoiff is on the New Denver and Area Fire Department, received the Youth Award at Silverton’s July 1st celebration last year, and is passionate about horses and rodeos.

“He always gets back on the bull,” said Champagne, adding that this also describes his work ethic. He plans to pursue the electrical trade at Selkirk College.

Ethan Griesen proudly represented the community as Mr. New Denver 2014, and is currently running for BC Ambassador. Champagne described him as “stylish and creative” and said he imagined his bedroom was full of electronic paraphernalia and spiky, shiny things. His talent is in building and re-designing old computers and will be attending the Digital Arts and New Media program at Selkirk College in the fall.

School board chair Pattie Adam wished the grads the best of luck in all their endeavours. “You take a piece of the community with you and you leave a piece behind,” she said.

Superintendent Terry Taylor joked about career paths for the two young men, suggesting they start a moving company called “Two Young Men with Big Hearts” because the name described them so well. Or perhaps they should venture into the world of fashion—they each have their own distinct style. She concluded by saying the two grads had already made the world a much better place and “we can scarcely wait to hear what a difference you make in the days and years to come.”

Jordan and Ethan gave the class history. Elementary school was full of memories of field trips to Bonanza Creek, the Badlands and the Trout Lake loop on bicycle. When they became high school students, Jordan said, “I picked up a cowboy hat and Ethan took a trip back to the 80s to pick up some eyeliner and leather.”

Teacher Katrina Sumrall was the guest speaker. She spoke of the love and support shown by the young men’s families and friends during all the preparations for the grad. She said it was important to the grads and their families that they follow the Lucerne School tradition for the ceremony even though there were just the two of them.

Ethan and Jordan made brief thanks to the grads’ families, teachers, the school board and Katrina for all her work on the grad.

Scholarships and bursaries were awarded, and Terry Taylor and Nicol Sahr presented the grads with their diplomas.

Sahr gave the final words. “We encourage these young men to reach out to their personal potentials,” she said. “Life is about learning to draw without an eraser. The pictures your life will create you can’t erase. You can try, but there’s always a faint line left behind. So honour the people and environments you leave behind and the ones you are going into. New Denver will always be here for you.”

I would like to congratulate the 2015 graduates from Lucerne Secondary School, Mount Sentinel Secondary School and Nakusp Secondary School. I hope that you have a safe and fun graduation celebration.

Katrine Conroy, MLA
Kootenay West
1-888-755-0556
katrine.conroy.mla@leg.bc.ca
www.katrineconroy.ca

Congratulations
Grades

Remember to believe in yourselves and follow your dreams.
You will help determine Canada’s future!

Alex Atamanenko, MP
BC Southern Interior
1-800-667-2393 www.alexndp.ca
Congratulations to The Lucerne Class of 2015 and best wishes for your future from

214-6th Ave, New Denver

Best wishes to Jordan & Ethan
The Lucerne Class of 2015

Congratulations from Steve & the staff at
SILVERTON BUILDING SUPPLIES
250-358-2293

IRLY BUILDING CENTRES

Congratulations to the Lucerne Class of 2015 from
VALHALLA PURE
New Denver

Congratulations to the Lucerne graduating class of 2015 from

Lucerne Scholarships and Awards presented

Arrow Lakes Teachers' Association – Ethan Grierson;
Cinta Baki Arts Scholarship – Ethan Grierson, Columbia
Power Corporation Bursary – Ethan Grierson; Randy Dunn
Memorial Scholarship – Jordan Deakoff; School District #10
Dogwood District Authority Award – Jordan Deakoff and
Ethan Grierson; New Denver

Women’s Institute Scholarship – Jordan Deakoff; Lane Haywood
Memorial Bursary – Jordan Deakoff; Kootenay Savings
Credit Union Scholarship – Ethan Grierson; LACE Bursary – Jordan
Deakoff and Ethan Grierson; Sandy
Harris Memorial Scholarship – Jordan Deakoff; Andrea Mengler
Memorial Scholarship – Jordan Deakoff and Ethan Grierson;

Katrine Conroy, MLA Bursary – Jordan Deakoff; Royal Canadian
Legion Branch 101 New Denver/Silverton – Jordan Deakoff;
Slocan Lake Early Learning Society – Jordan Deakoff and Ethan
Grierson; Colin Wilke Memorial Scholarship – Ethan Grierson;
Lucerne Teachers’ & Principal Attitude & Achievement – Jordan
Deakoff and Ethan Grierson.

RHC Insurance Brokers
RHC INSURANCE BROKERS
NEW DENVER • 250-358-2817

Congratulations to the Lucerne Class of 2015!

We wish you every success in your future
deleutres!

Village of Silverton

Congratulations to the
Lucerne Grads!

Best wishes to the Lucerne
Graduating Class of 2015

ESSAY Enterprises
OFFICE & BUSINESS SERVICES
1007 Josephine St. New Denver
Ph: 250-3405 • essay@direc.ca
Fax 358-2607

Congratulations, Graduates!

To the
Graduating
Class of 2015

Vince DeVito

411 Hall • Nelson, BC • 250-352-6261
www.vincedevito.com
Nakusp Secondary School graduates receive Scholarships and Bursaries

Arrow Lakes Arts Council - Eclipse Galloway; Royal Canadian Legion Branch No 20 - Hans Cunningham, Mikel Guidon; Kira Streliev; Brier McLean; Eclipse Galloway; Adriel Goodman; Legion Ladies Auxiliary - Devin Fisher, Brier McLean; Royal Canadian Legion Branch No 203 (Edgewood) Scholarship - Eclipse Galloway; Royal Canadian Legion Branch No 203 (Edgewood) Bursary - Eclipse Galloway; School District No. 10 Dogwood Scholarship - Eclipse Galloway; Trustees Mission Statement Bursary - Taylor Eichele; Rosetree Savings Credit Union - Lindsay Cann; Hospital Employees Union Bursary - Kira Streliev; Nakusp & District Chamber of Commerce Bursary - Kira Streliev.

Congratulations to the Nakusp Grads

Hub International Barkerville Insurance Brokers
Wishing the Graduates of Nakusp Secondary School every success as they move forward into a new stage of life.

202 Broadway • Nakusp
250-265-3631

Nakusp Secondary School 2015 Graduates

Congratulations to the Class of 2015

Bon Marché
DOLLAR S DOLLAR
416 Broadway Street Nakusp

Shaggyz Hair Care
Tracy and staff would like to congratulate the 2015 Graduates. Best Wishes!
92 Broadway • Nakusp

H. A. Benson Inc. Chartered Accountant
(250) 265-3370

NAKUSP GRADUATION

Congratulations Graduates!

NAKUSP Medical Clinic
Nakusp

Congratulations to the Nakusp Secondary graduating class of 2015

Saddle Mountain Good Luck to all the grade of 2015! Best wishes from the doctors & staff at medical clinic Nakusp

SD1O Schools District Board of Education

Nakusp’s Class of 2015 gets warm send-off

by Art Joyce

Milestones like high school graduation are in a very real sense “the first day of the rest of your life,” and Nakusp Senior Secondary grads this year got plenty of help to send them on their way.

Principal Natasha Miles opened by acknowledging that we live on land that is the ancestral home of the Okanagan-Shuswap First Nations on the west and north, the Kumsheen on the east, and the Sinixt on the south. Miles said ancestry is an important thread in our lives connecting us not only to our past but our present and future. It gives us valuable insight into our character and that of our families. She alluded to her own English background, comprising of Kentish, Cornish and Welsh ancestry. Miles said it was a challenge learning how to pronounce some of the surnames of this year’s grads but it alerted her to the diversity in this community — Polish, French, Czech, Scottish, English, etc.

Board of Education Chair Patti Adam emphasized that “each and every one of you is great in your own way.”

Terry Taylor, Superintendent of School District 10, focused her talk around the theme of “grit,” a quality she defined as the capacity to surmount life’s inevitable obstacles and stick to one’s goal despite disappointments. She said an attitude of growth, rather than a fixed mindset, will serve graduates well in life.

“Grit trumps talent,” she said. “Life is hard and full of challenges. Grit, not giving up, creates strength and resilience. I’m not going to tell you the future is easy for you but it is bright. You have the grit, tenacity and passion to make a success of your lives.”

Mayor Harlanig took the microphone in her hand to directly face students for her comments. “I’m going to quote Forrest Gump, whose mother told him life is like a box of chocolates — you never know what you’re going to get. There’s no such thing as failure unless you fail to learn from your mistakes. Go out there, learn, grow, then come back to this community that has raised you — your community — and teach us.”

MLA Katrine Conroy offered congratulations to the parents and grandparents, without whom the grads would not be here today. She also acknowledged the vital role of school staff and volunteers over the 13 years it takes to bring a child to graduation. Conroy “confessed” to having graduated high school 40 years ago and said she never imagined then that she’d be an MLA one day.

“Don’t take no for an answer,” she urged. “Maybe in 2051 one of you will be MLA.”

NSS teacher and counsellor Tessa Wiseman introduced each of the 20 grads with personal anecdotes and their favourite quotes. Some standouts include: “I’ll hand it in on Wednesday.” “It doesn’t matter what others do but what you do.” “Life is an improvisation. You have no idea what will happen next and you’re mostly just making things up as you go along.” This last quote, from comedian Stephen Colbert, is from a hilarious grad speech he gave at Northwestern University in 2011. In it he refers to his early failures as a student and his circuitous route to his famous TV show. “If we’d all stuck with our first dream, the world would be overrun by cowboys and princesses,” he said.

To help grads with their post-secondary education or vocational plans, a total of 82 scholarships and bursaries were awarded, totalling $6,700.
Proposal for expanded lunch program at Lucerne presented to school board

by Jan McMurray
At Lucerne School in New Denver, healthy, local food has become a top interest. This is how John Greenlaw of the Healthy Community Society introduced the society’s proposal to expand the lunch program at the school when he spoke to the school board on June 9.

Currently, the Parent Advisory Council sponsors a weekly soup program. Greenlaw explained that the society would like to provide lunch three times a week to students, staff and community members. The lunches would include produce from the garden and greenhouse at the school, as well as other locally sourced foods.

Students from the ‘Café Connections’ class would prepare the lunches one day a week, and a hired chef would work with interested students to prepare the lunches two days a week. The lunches would be prepared in the food room and whisked out into the main foyer on a large trolley. So as not to compete with local businesses, the lunches would be subsidized for students, but not for community members.

Greenlaw said that to serve local food throughout the winter, the society would want to stock up in the fall. This would necessitate increased storage capacity at the school. Greenlaw also said that the community’s food hamper program is in need of space. She asked for the board’s support to create a cold room, have some minor renovations done in the food room, and to accommodate the food hamper program at the school.

Greenlaw told the board that the Healthy Community Society is looking into grant opportunities to support its proposal. She said that $150,000 has been raised in grants for the community food program since 2007 when the garden was built at the school.

The Healthy Community Society is the driving force behind the garden and greenhouse at the school, provides a weekly breakfast program with the help of students and a committed group of community volunteers, runs an after school garden club, holds the annual Harvest Festival and Harvest Dinner, has organized gardening workshops, and is producing a book about gardening and food with students and elders in the community.

Co-op breaks ground on bulk fuel facility
submitted
Slocan Valley Co-operative Association has finally started construction on its new bulk petroleum and fuel oil facility in Castlegar. The groundbreaking took place on May 22, attended by Mayor Lawrence Chermoff of the City of Castlegar, as well as the Co-op’s board of directors, general manager Chris Sapien and bulk petroleum supplier Dan Urynowicz. The facility is projected to open in 2015.

With an anticipated sales of $12 million, the new site will provide additional sales to strengthen the Co-op’s bottom line, which is given back to its members through equity and cash. Over the past five years, members have earned in excess of $775,000 in cash and equity, and continue to share in the rewards of a locally-owned company.

If you are interested in becoming a Slocan Valley Co-op member, or are interested in bulk petroleum delivery or the new fuel oil facility in Castlegar, please contact Urynowicz at 250-493-2313 or Sapien at 250-226-7433 for further information.

Customers don’t have to be a member to enjoy the services of Slocan Valley Co-op, but with a lifetime membership fee of $25, those who join will reap the benefits of ownership.

The 2015 Slocan Valley Short Story Contest

Grades 11 and 12
First Prize ($100)
Gift of a Smile by Alaya Verishine, Mt. Sentinel School
Second Prize ($50)
A Wrong Step in the Right Valley by Lella Derias, Mt. Sentinel School

Grades 9 and 10
First Prize ($100)
Home by Adriana Burton, Mt. Sentinel School
Second Prize ($50)
A New Chapter by Terra-Mae Box, Mt. Sentinel School
Third Prize ($25)
Stories by Shasta Barkman, Mt. Sentinel School

Grades 7 and 8
First Prize ($100)
Trivial and the Things by Caleb Martin Ruebsaat, WE Graham Community School
Second Prize ($50)
The Falling by Mikah L’Ecuyer Morison, WE Graham Community School
Third Prize ($25)
The Rats by Bruce Opp, WE Graham Community School

Thanks to
Our Judges, Anne DeGrace, Terry Fallis, Rosa Jordan and Derek Choukalos
Our Volunteers, Yuval Hager and Adrian Wagner
And the teachers who advised us and encouraged students.
Vitamin D has several important functions. Perhaps the most vital are regulating the absorption of calcium and phosphorus, and facilitating normal immune system function. Getting a sufficient amount is important for normal growth and development of bones and teeth, as well as improved resistance to certain diseases. Remember that we cannot obtain vitamin D from the sun from September to May in our region due to the angle of the sun’s rays.

Exposure to the sun is important and measured timeframes has a number of health benefits unrelated to vitamin D production, such as:
- enhancing mood and energy through the release of endorphins;
- treating skin diseases, such as psoriasis, vitiligo, atopic dermatitis, and scleroderma.

UV radiation also enhances skin barrier functions;
- melanin regulation through the “third eye” of the pinnae gland photoreceptors;
- standard treatment for tuberculosis 100 years ago, long before the advent of antibiotics;
- can be used to sterilize your amputs and eliminate the cause of most body odour;
- treating Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD);
- treating oral, nasal, and sinusitis.

Absorbing the sun’s rays in a healthful and safe way is crucial. There are definite risks in over exposure to the sun and heat of the sun. Knowing how to sun bath in a way that builds wellness is key.

Five strategies for safe and healthy sun exposure:

1) Nutritional sunscreen: What we ingest determines how our skin responds to sunlight. Skin cells must be strengthened and nourished internally with real food and water to receive the full benefits of interacting with the sun. We can create an internal SPF with an antioxidant-rich diet of sun-grown foods, herbs, and fats loaded with nutrients. The powerhouse antioxidants in foods include: blackstrap molasses, garlic oil, omega fatty acids, alpha-lipoic acid and umbelliferone, CoQ10 in nuts, resveratrol in grapes and cacao, carotenoids in carrots and squash, astaxanthin in wild salmon, and of course Vitamin C in berries, citrus, and certain herbs such as strawberry leaf. Our nutritional sunscreen must be “applied” at every meal, all year long, to provide maximum benefits.

2) Make time for your sun bath. Start slowly but sure to expose your skin to the sun. Melanin, the tan skin pigment, produced in the skin, prevents sunburn in the summer. Melanin is an ancient biological mechanism of photo-protection designed exclusively to support our relationship with the sun. Melanin transfers 99.9% of all absorbed UV radiation into heat that is easily dissipated, allowing us to avoid radiation damage that contributes to cell damage. The best time of day for sunning is morning to solar noon. The amount of time you bathe in the sun depends on the condition of your skin and your natural skin pigmentation. If your skin starts to feel warm, seek shade. Start with a few minutes a day and build up.

3) Think sunscreen or barrier instead of sunscreen. Using a sunscreen stops the much-needed UVB rays from their important vitamin D work. Most of the sunscreens on the market contain various suspicious chemicals with names beginning or ending with methyl, propyl, butyl, ethyl, trieth, and/or deeth. Why would you want to filter the glorious sunshine through an array of chemicals? Sunscreens create a false sense of security by disabling our skin’s early warning system, the sunburn. By disabling this system we tend to stay too long in the sun, not only burning but struggling with heat exposure as well. Uncoupled zinc oxide effectively blocks and reflects, rather than absorbs, the sun’s rays and it won’t paint the skin white. Consider barrier clothing as an option for sun protection. Don’t forget your hat!

4) Sun exposure and eye health. Our eyes need the sunlight, too. When the full spectrum of light rays is absorbed in the retina, it sets in motion the hormones and neurochemicals that help us stay happy and healthy. This process works even when we are in the shade, but not if we are wearing sunglasses. Children also need to be outside in the sun for healthy eye development. Sunlight triggers dopamine production in the eye, which stimulates normal growth.

5) Recover your skin. The skin’s outer layer is a thin coating of cells that provides natural anti-bacterial, anti-viral, and sunscreen protection. Using synthetic lotions and creams, exfoliants and harsh soaps interfere with this sensitive layer. Using natural oils, plant-based extracts plus following a dry skin brush regimen will help nourish this layer and build its resilience. Remember not to shower off after being in the sun, allow those great UVB rays to continue their vitamin D work as long as possible.

Emery Herbs Dispensary Sunscreen Essentials are stocked and on the shelf including the ever popular Bug’s Away, Sting Soother and Sunscreen Survival Spray. Need something more specific? We create customized formulas specific to your needs from our vast and varied inventory.

Colleen Emery, Master Herbalist and owner of Emery Herbs in Winosaur, is passionate about offering access to information that enables individuals and families to be self-sufficient and take charge of their personal wellness.

Save the date for the 2015 Slocan Narrows Archaeological Project (SNAP) Open House in the Slocan Valley. Learn what the site is all about and see what Selkirk and Hamilton College students have unearthed this summer.

The Open House marks the end of the 2015 Archaeology Field School, operated by New York’s Hamilton College for both Selkirk and Hamilton College students. The six-week intensive program explores archaeological excavation techniques, ethnography, linguistics, and oral traditions of the Interior Pacific Northwest and Upper Columbia Plateau.

Interactive guided tours will be held throughout the day and a BBQ will raise money for the Slocan Valley Heritage Trail Society.

Archaeology Open House

at Slocan Narrows Pithouse Village

July 12, 2015

Selkirk College selkirk.ca/snap
Slocan Branch celebrates Legion Week with barbecue

The Slocan Valley Branch #276 of the Royal Canadian Legion wishes to thank the folk of the Slocan Valley for supporting our fundraisers and the members and friends who helped at the fundraising events. In celebration of Legion Week June 23 to 30, everyone is invited to join us on Sunday, June 21, starting at 6:30 pm for a barbecue at the Slocan Legion Hall in Slocan (our mosaic jar starts at 3 pm if you wish to arrive earlier!). Our volunteer firemen, first responders and technical rescue society will host a beer garden at the hall.

Thanks to you and a community generous grant, we were able to donate the following during 2014-2015: $100 BC Senior Games, $500 West Kootenay Science Fair, $2,531 New Dexter Pavilion, $2,083 Technical Rescue Society, $2,500 food bank, $775 Historical Society, $250 Legion Track and Field, $700 school swim bus, $500 school bursaries, $200 Hallowe’en Hoot, $525 Whole School, $500 Veterans Transition Program, $500 veteran homes, $175 Veterans’ Ex-Service League, $1,500 Seniors Program, $2,300 Curling Club, $400 Kiwanis Foundation, $1,000 cancer patients, $250 Kids’ Help Phone, $2,000 literacy, $300 fire department, $200 Unity Feast, $500 student trip, $155 New Parents Program, $100 Spirit of Christmas activities, $200 Valkyra Children’s Centre for a total of $22,425. Our hall is also donated for the use of funerals and benefits.

Some of the purposes and objects of the Slocan Valley Legion are:
- to raise and co-ordinate funds for assisting needs in our Legion area and beyond;
- to constitute an association of those who have served or are serving in Her Majesty’s Armed Forces;
- to perpetuate the memory and deeds of the fallen and of those who will die in the future;
- to educate public opinion regarding national duties to the dead, the disabled and others who have served and their dependents.

Applications to become a member of the Royal Canadian Legion are available by phoning 250-355-2672, or drop by the Legion in Slocan on Sunday afternoons, or go to the legion website www.legionbc.com. Check out benefits that are offered to Legion members. Dues are only $40 per year at Branch #276.

Wage subsidies available to local businesses

by Jan McMurray

Businesses can get wage subsidies for new employees through Kootenay Career Development Society (KCDS) in Slocan and Nelson, and through Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services (ASLCS) in Nakusp and New Denver.

Bob Wright from KCDS and Marilyn Rivers from ASLCS came to the Lunch & Learn sessions in the Slocan Valley June 4 and 5 to apprise local business owners of this opportunity.

Wright says he loves his job because he gets to match unemployed people with employers who are offering full-time permanent work and give away federal money – and everyone is happy. It’s a wonderful program. If anyone is going to hire someone full-time permanent, they should explore the option of wage subsidy.

The program offers 50 percent of the new employee’s wage for six months. The employer must be offering 35-40 hours of work per week, and must provide a job description, orientation and a training plan. Wright and Rivers can help the employer with these requirements. More than one person can be hired through the program.

To be eligible, the potential employee must have been unemployed by EI in the past three years, or in the past five years in the case of parental leave. Rivers said there is some flexibility in the requirements. For example, she has discussed putting together a full-time job for a prospective employee using two different employers. Both employers and potential employees are encouraged to contact Wright or Rivers to learn more about the wage subsidy program and other employment services.

“Our goal is to get those dollars out here working for our communities,” said Wright.

Wright explained that this federal government program is being delivered on a contract basis in our area by the two non-profit organizations, KCDS and ASLCS.

Contact Bob Wright at 250-352-6200, 10877-952-6200 ext. 302 or bob.wright@kcds.ca. Contact Marilyn Rivers at 250-265-3318, ext. 217 or 1-855-265-3318 or marilyn.rivers@aslc.com.

The Lunch & Learn sessions are sponsored by the Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission and the Slocan District Chamber of Commerce in response to the Business Retention and Expansion Project in the Slocan Valley.

SATELLITE TV & AV TECHNICIAN
Installation, service & repair - quality equipment
Shaw Direct / Bell / Telus / Xplornet, etc.
Home & business, audio/video systems, etc., with experience, data wiring
KOOTENAY CABLE TECH
“Connecting the Kootenays”
James Freedman - TIF WORKS
(250)225-7235 (w) (250)393-6395 (c)
tjamesfreed@gmail.com
www.tifworks.ca

RDCK Resource Recovery Facilities CANADIAN DAY HOURS OF OPERATION
All Waste Facilities will be CLOSED on Wednesday July 1, 2015
Rosebery TS will be open on Thursday July 2, 2015
9am to 3pm (alternate day of operation)

For more information contact:
Recycling Council of BC Hotline at 1-800-667-4321
RDCK at 1-800-208-7325 Office Hours: 8:30am – 4:30pm
Mon. to Fri. (except holidays) or http://www.rdcc.ca

North Slocan Trails Society
Supports the Rosebery Summit Lake Rail Trail Management Plan proposal and encourages Area H north residents to complete the household survey.

northslocantrailsociety.com
Author dee Hobsbawn-Smith visiting to launch new book

by Art Joyce

Food, big sky, horses, love, loss, redemption. How Canadian is that? To find out, check out one of the readings by Saskatchewan-based author dee Hobsbawn-Smith, who will be visiting the north Slocan Valley as part of her Western Canada tour. She will read from her new collection of short stories from Thirddown Press, What Can’t Be Undone. A versatile writer, Hobsbawn-Smith will also feature readings from her 2013 poetry collection from Hagos Press, Wildness Rising in, and Foodshed: An Edible Prairie Alphabet, based on her experiences as a chef and restaurateur. Local launch dates include the Nelson Public Library on Tuesday June 23, 7 pm, and at Kootenay Hall, New Denver, Wednesday June 24, 7 pm.

Hobsbawn-Smith began her career in the food industry, training as a cook in Vancouver in the early 1980s, moving to Calgary in 1983 to work in specialty restaurants. Deciding to take it a notch, she then trained under grande dame Madeleine Kamman in France. After further training in Ireland and Calgary, she earned her Red Seal certification as a chef. She ran a high-end catering company in Calgary before opening her own restaurant, Foodsmith, in 1992.

“We served mostly local food given our focus on our menu as one of our ‘first locavores’ restaurants in Calgary, way ahead of the locavore zeitgeist,” says Hobsbawn-Smith. “I changed the menu daily and made everything from scratch.

Although critically acclaimed, Foodsmith was not a financial success, and she was forced to sell in 1997. She was unable to address health problems and in need to devote more time to raising her two sons. Her career interest in food led her naturally to write three popular cookbook series starting with the first one in 1997, and eventually to her ‘foodie’ magazine Opus, Foodshed. For that book Hobsbawn-Smith drove all over Alberta to interview 75 food families involved in local production, exploring concerns such as succession planning, labour, land and water issues, GMOs, chemical vs. natural farming, CSAs, government support, environment, etc. Foodshed went on to receive three place honours in Les Dames D’Escoffier’s 2014 MFK Fisher Award for Excellence in Culinary Writing, open to women writers in Canada, the US, and the British Isles.

“Feeding others has always fed something in me, and it contributes to my sense of community, as does Slow Food, which I have been involved with for 15 years.”

Hobsbawn-Smith began her career as a freelance writer in the mid-90s, writing for the Calgary City Palate, a highly regarded locally and foodie magazine. In 2001 she began writing a weekly column for the Calgary Herald named as The Curious Cook, which was widely admired and respected by chefs, restaurateurs and consumers alike, and which was syndicated to newspapers across the country. It spawned her fourth book, Shop Talk, the definitive resource guide for cooks. The book was killed in 2008 due to budget cuts.

By 2005 her interest turned to writing poetry and short stories, something she’s been quietly working on for over two years. Her first novel, the critically acclaimed Sink or Swim. The novel was winner of the 2013 BC Book Prizes for Breakthrough Novel and was longlisted for the prestigious Orange Prize. The novel is about a woman who around the age of 40 makes a radical life change and moves to a winter haven in the Okanagan Valley.

Kaslo recognized for age-friendly initiatives

by Jan McMurray

Kaslo is one of 11 BC communities recently recognized by the Province for its age-friendly initiatives. The recognition is part of the Province’s Age-Friendly Community Network (AFN). The recognition includes a letter of congratulations, an Age-friendly BC Recognition award poster and a $1,000 to seed a new project or celebrate.

The ability of older people to face and respond to change, including new health or social challenges, can be a key indicator of the effectiveness of Age-friendly Community initiatives. The recognition is also an opportunity to thank the people who have led these initiatives.

Kaslo has been recognized for its age-friendly initiatives, with the $1,000 to seed a new project or celebrate.

WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

This management plan can proceed if the public supports it. An anonymous, numbered yes/no poll will be delivered to all households from Enterprise Creek to Summit Lake, including New Denver and Silverton, as an insert to the June 17 Valley Voice. Please mail your completed poll to the stamped, addressed envelope provided by JUNE 30.

Thank you for participating — enjoy the trail!

Question? Email roseberysummittrailtrailtrailtrailtrailtrail@gmail.com

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

ANNUAL MUNICIPAL REPORT PUBLIC MEETING

MONDAY, JUNE 22nd at 5:00pm
Slocan Village Office, Council Chambers
503 Slocan Street, Slocan BC

The Village of Slocan would like to invite the public to attend a Special Meeting of Council, for the purpose of giving consideration to the 2014 Annual Municipal Report.

Council will consider comments from the public regarding the report; those who are unable to attend the meeting are invited to submit their comments by mail, e-mail or fax before 4:00pm on Thursday, June 18, 2015.

The 2014 Annual Report is available for inspection at the Village Office during regular office hours (Mon – Thurs, 8am – 4pm) or by visiting www.slocancity.com.
Nakusp Secondary School golf team goes to the provincials

by Ian Murray

The Nakusp Secondary School Golf Team went to the provincials at Black Mountain in Kelowna June 1-3.

"It was a great experience for them," reported Pat Dion, NSS teacher and the team’s sponsor. "Four out of the five had never been to the provincials before."

Doug McNairn, grade 12, was the one member of the team who had previously attended the provincials. Other team members are Brier McLean (grade 12), Angus Jackson (grade 11), Brodin McLean (grade 10), and Alex Roberts (grade 9). Dion explained that the Nakusp team had qualified second in the region, but when one of the teams couldn’t go to the provincials, the NSS team had the opportunity to attend.

He thanked Linda Hankie for coming out and giving them pointers during the season, as well as a great deal at the driving range. Marvin and Kathy Roberts donated the team shirts, and the Nakusp Golf Club donated the hats. "We had matching shirts and hats at the provincials, thanks to the community," said Dion.

Two of the team members graduated this year; three will be returning.

Survey aimed at Nakusp non-resident property owners

submitted

The Nakusp and Area Development Board is inviting non-resident owners of property in Nakusp to fill out a short, non-intrusive, confidential survey at http://surveymonkey.com/NADB. To thank you, we will send the first 25 respondents two passes to the Nakusp Hot Springs. The survey is open until August 1.

The purpose of the survey is to find out more about the reasons for buying the properties - are they vacation homes, future retirement homes, or rental or investment properties? Are the owners aware of what Nakusp has to offer in terms of goods and services and amenities? Are owners aware of Nakusp events? The answers to these questions will give us an idea of how we’re doing in communicating about the resources available, such as the Nakusp Directory, and to assist in developing resources for the future.

The Nakusp and Area Development Board (NADB) is an incorporated nonprofit society whose purpose is to further the development of this region in the tourism, social, educational, forestry, heritage/arts/culture and economic sectors.

The current focus is economic development. The NADB board includes representation from Nakusp Village Council, Nakusp and District Chamber of Commerce, Community Futures, WCB, Sellick College, and business owners and other community members.

Lucia Mann releases new book

submitted

*A Veil of Blood Hangs Over Africa: The Birthplace of Slavery* is the new novel by Fauciate author Lucia Mann, the fourth in her series about slavery.

It has been historically documented that certain transatlantic slaves did not shed a tear during or after capture. Instead, they sang full-throated, cheerful songs to soothe the sorrows of their hearts.

"Only an aching heart is relieved by tears," one young Mandinka slave proclaimed. "My heart is not aching... it is grieving for the loss of a rightful life to walk freely on the land of my birth."

This profound statement did apply in 1840 to a sobbing, pregnant 18-year-old captured from a remote Upper Volta village in West Africa six years after the abolishment of slavery in the British colonies.

Her West African name was Mabali. Her slave name, Marie. Her daughter, Nathalie, was stolen from her by the slave name Nettie. *A Veil of Blood Hangs Over Africa* is their story.

Lucia Mann is a former British journalist and the author of the previous African-set novels devoted to slavery and racial prejudice: *Africa’s Unfinished Symphony*, *Beside an Ocean of Sorrow*, and *Rental Silence*.

Her new book will be available in July at Home Hardware in Nakusp.

Village of Nakusp

2016 Permissive Tax Exemption Applications

The Community Charter allows Village Council to exempt certain properties from taxation. All non-profit or charitable organizations are eligible for an exemption. Applications will be considered by the Mayor and Council at a regular council meeting. Eligibility criteria may be obtained from the Village Office.

The deadline for receiving new applications for the 2016 Permissive Taxation year is July 1st. 2015. Organizations that received a permissive tax exemption for 2015 will receive the 2016 exemption and need not re-apply.

For more information and application forms, please contact Clyde Bersky, Director of Finance, at the Village Office: 91 - 1st St NW or cf@nakusp.com or 250-265-3689.

Nakusp & The Arrow Lakes
Kaslo council, June 9: Liquid Waste Management Plan stage 2 gets go-ahead

by Jan McMurray

• Kent Wilt of Interior Health’s Healthy Communities Initiative attended as a delegation. She explained that IH partners with local governments to work on initiatives that contribute to healthy communities, like food security and poverty reduction planning. She said that IH has staff to help with this, and a website (www.plush.ca) with useful resources. There have been grants available in the past, which the Village of Kaslo has accessed in partnership with North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society. Another round of grants may be announced soon, she said.

• Council decided to enter into a contract with True Consulting for phase two of the Liquid Waste Management Plan. Up to $40,000 from Community Works Fund reserves will pay for the project. The CAO said the project work would involve some hard discussions on “the concept of expanding the sewers into the community into something manageable and affordable,” based on the options presented in phase one. Councillor Kaill pointed out that expanding the sewer system would not happen anytime soon. The CAO agreed that timelines would be important, and the Village would have a chance to build a reserve fund over the next few years. The Kaslo infoNet Society was planning to do some of their infrastructure work in tandem with the Village sewer expansion, but council has advised KIN not to wait for that.

• The CAO reported that Public Works would like to set aside funds for future paving projects, and recommended that the unexpected revenue of about $20,000 from gravel pit sales and leases for the RDCK transfer station be included in a Capital Transportation Infrastructure Reserve Fund. Council agreed.

• Councillor Glinoszo reported that she attended the Emergency Response Committee meeting May 27 where she mentioned that the Village is trying to find funding for house number signs to help the fire department and other emergency responders find residences. The signs cost $35 each. CAO Smith said he had discussed this with RDCK staff and the Village could apply for RDCK Community Development Funds to pay for the signs. Mayor Hewart said she’d like to refer the matter to the upcoming Shared Services meeting with Area D Director Aimee Watson, as Area D residents need the signs as well.

• Councillor Holland reported on a Friends of Kootenay Lake (FOKL) meeting he attended. Claire de Salle of FOKL will lead a walk with Kaslo’s Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Committee to look at habitat restoration and fisheries issues. Holland said there were biologists at the FOKL meeting who said the collapse of the kokanee in Kootenay Lake and Slocan Lake is thought to be caused by predation, but this is not based on fact. No studies have been done or are expected to be done, with the funding cuts in recent years. If mitigation is undertaken based on this assumption of predation it turns out to be mute, there could be an impact on other species.

• A letter from Ann Breslin in favour of the brushing work on the waterfront was forwarded to the Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Committee.

• A letter from Earl Pfeifer about the tax bill and power bill was referred to the Committee of the Whole Finance.

• The CAO let council know that Village staff would be discussing Kaslo West Road maintenance with the RDCK over the summer. The Village’s part of the responsibility for the road came with the boundary expansion.

• Council will review application and administration fees for subdivision approvals after the CAO pointed out that the fees in Kaslo’s bylaw are very high.

• The Public Dock and Boat Launch Bylaw and the Municipal Ticketing Bylaw Amendment were adopted.

• Councillor Glinoszo put out a reminder to all chair and secretaries of council committees that their meetings are public and should be advertised or posted as per the Community Charter. She added that the Community Charter (section 90) outlines when meetings can be conducted in camera.
Steve Szabo
19 November 1937 – 5 June 2015

Steve was born in Joseph and Ethel Szabo on November 19, 1937 in Bergen, New Jersey. He grew up in Kalaasia, Hungary. By age 18, he started his own money. In 1956, at the age of 19, he left for Canada by passenger ship. After making his way to the West Kootenay area and working at the Silverton Mine for a few years, Steve settled in Nakusp. He worked various jobs until starting as an apprentice heavy-duty mechanic at 24. By 2004, he owned Szabo’s Mechanics Ltd. and worked on equipment up and down the Arrow Lakes, including the tugboats, until retiring in 2001.

Steve enjoyed life to the fullest during his retirement. He had a passion for gardening, fishing, camping, boating, hiking, swimming, tennis, learning computers, traveling, photography and much more. He loved to share his knowledge and will be greatly missed. We will miss hearing him say “I’m not perfect, but I’m so close it scares me.” Steve’s family wants to thank the emergency services personnel for their compassion during this difficult time. A heartfelt thank you to all the family friends, Dr. Norm Lee and staff at the Saddle Mountain Medical Clinic and the members of the community. In lieu of flowers, we kindly request a donation to the Arrow Lakes Hospital in Steve’s memory. Online condolences may be expressed at www.rafleff.ca.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Valley Funeral Home.

Nick Wyley Oschoff
Sadly the family of Nick Wyley Oschoff, of Castlegar (formerly of Kelowna), wishes to announce his passing, with his loved ones at his side, at Kelowna General Hospital on Thursday, May 27, 2015 at 94 years of age. Nick was born in Kelowna, B.C. in 1921. Nick loved music and enjoyed playing his piano, sax and violin. Nick loved picking honeybees and won trophies in the B.C. Senior Games. Nick left to be with his parents, Joseph and Ethel, brother Leslie, sisters Elizabeth and Mary, and sons Paul and Peter.

BLOGS

The Valley Voice June 17, 2015

Support the Valley Voice with a voluntary subscription
Only $10.30
by Jan McMurray

Kaslo Ecstatic Dance and Morningstar Studios presents a day of yoga, ecstatic dance and belly dance on the solstice – Sunday, June 21 at Kaslo Bay Park from 9 am to 7 pm.

Mina Palmer of Kaslo Ecstatic Dance, event organizer, facilitates ecstatic dance sessions monthly at Morningstar Studios in Kaslo. Palmer describes ecstatic dance as “a conscious, nonverbal dance form that is based on free movement.” The accompanying music is electronic, but she makes it clear that this is a “conscious dance event” and not an electronic music festival.

Palmer and her family have been to a similar event in Hawaii, and they were so impressed that they wanted to bring it to Kaslo. They organized an event last year at Kaslo Bay Park, and Palmer says it worked well, inspiring them to do it again this year.

Palmer says she sees Kaslo as “a retreat mecca” and envisions the event growing to a three-day retreat showcasing the healing arts.

The June 21st event will begin with creating the sacred space, and then participants will warm up with some yoga. “Yoga often goes with ecstatic dance, and in this case, we’ll be building it up from a yoga class with two teachers – Stacey Arseneau and Gemini Luna,” she says.

Following the yoga, there will be the opening circle with guided meditation led by a psychologist from Nelson, and then three hours of ecstatic dance with two DJs. A potluck picnic will take place at 2 pm. From 3 to 6 pm, there will be an intensive bellydance workshop with Gemma Luna. Children’s events include a ribbon workshop with Giselle from noon to 1 pm, and a bellydance workshop from 4 to 5 pm. Tickets will be available at the event entrance and cost $10-$20 (sliding scale). Gemma Luna’s intensive bellydance workshop costs $30.

For more information, visit koosotomylakaldeance.wordpress.com or kasloorningstar.com/ecstatic-dance-events.

---

High-end violin concert in Silverton
by Richard Iechennah

Lovers of serious violin music had a feast with Eina Budhadhir and Susan Rober-Gordon June 7 at the Silvertone Memorial Hall. The credentials of both musicians were reported on in the June 3 Valley Voice. We have heard Susan’s very competent and enthusiastic piano playing in many previous years during the Valhalla Summer School of Music. Erin we heard two years ago, in her childhood years, but not in the last few years in which she continued her violin studies in Montreal. Her gusqui-guest performance in her home valley Slocan after all those years was a highlight in serious music making in this part of the woods.

We heard two sonatas for violin and piano, one by Claude Debussy and one by Beethoven. Debussy’s generally warm airy structures, interspersed at times with bizarre high spikes from the violin, contrasted with warm ground accord from the piano. These were quite in contrast to Beethoven’s down-to-earth, determined and tonal harmonies, romantic in the adagio even if given to self-doubt, which is always overcome by joyous celebration. The lid of the wonderful grand piano should have been lowered for the fast movements in Beethoven, it was a tad loud over the violin. But Erin did win the battle.

Erin proved her master craft with the violin in J.S. Bach’s Sonatas for Solo Violin in C-Major, a milestone in any violinist’s career. The adagio is a piece of music that shows what kind of sounds a violin can make; it’s like a test for the violin, sounding to one unfamiliar with it too abstract to be music at all. The fugue with the difficult appoggiaturas is a milestone for both player and instrument. Both showed to be first class. It is amazing how two hands on one instrument can play such an interwoven spectrum of themes and lead them to a glorious synthesis. Bravo Erin!

Erin thanked the audience for the standing ovations in an encore with a barcarolle polonaise by Danielpol Wawrzewski (at his time considered the Chopin of the violin).

We heard not only first class music, we also saw a graceful young woman play with utmost concentration and intensity some of the most intricate violin music with ease and perfect composition.
Linda Mennie opens the Hidden Garden

submitted

New Denver’s own Linda Mennie opens the Hidden Garden Gallery’s summer season June 22 with a show titled ‘Installations’. Linda, who works in mixed media, has been an artist all of her life. She spent two years studying at Langara College and Emily Carr College of Art and Design and has spent the rest of the time exploring on her own. She makes installations, collages, assemblages, paintings and clay sculptures. This show is a combination of these media.

The main piece displayed at the show is ‘Tee Hug 5’, born from walking the Moss Trail in her garden and her work at Artel Studios. ‘Tee Hug 5’ is about community because it literally took a community to create it. The piece is obviously about trees but it is also about the interconnectedness of all things.

Another piece entitled ‘oh! is made from toilet paper rolls.

“Tissue paper rolls are in everyone’s life,” Linda says. “I process them and make them into paper again and then paint on them. I am deconstructing the toilet paper rolls and reusing them. It’s a return to my roots as a painter and I am even using my old paint.”

There will be other new assemblages, installations and paintings in the show at the Hidden Garden Gallery June 22 to 27. The reception will be Wednesday, June 24 from 7-9 pm with music by Glenn Mitchell and an artist’s talk by Linda.


In 1987 Rosie Lukenda enrolled in the Alberta College of Art and Design and exhibited her photographs in the college gallery shows each year until graduating in 1991. She moved to Los Angeles and continued to expand her portfolio through 2001. While in California she was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease at the UCLA medical center.

In spite of her health issues, Rosie says she didn’t feel helpless because she still had her photography. Upon her return to Canada she regained her creative energy with a show at the Alphabet Gallery in Nakusp in 2010 supported in part by a grant from the Columbia Basin Trust. This was the first viewing of her work in the Kootenays and led to a show at the Hidden Garden Gallery in 2011. Her photographs have been shown at Gabri’s Fairy Tale Café in Nakusp and her cards are currently being sold in two stores.

Rosie’s new work uses a method she had never tried before: she shoots the photos on her iPad and edits them using Snapseed. Rosie’s reception will be Monday, June 29, 6-9 pm with music by Adobe.

---

Community:

**Come to Silverton the Beautiful for our Canada Day Celebrations July 1st, 2015**

- Pancake Breakfast Silverton Memorial Hall...7 am - 10 am
- Canada Day Parade Starting at Silverton Resort to Dewis Park Parade Line Up begins at...10:30 am • Parade Starts at...11 am

**Don’t Miss the Kootenay Kittle Pipe Band** in the parade at and Creekside

- Children’s Games Dewis Park...11:30 am
- Bavarian Gardens and Concession Creekside/Curling Arena Starting June 30th... 4 pm - 9 pm July 1st.... 11 am - 6 pm
- Bocce Tournament Creekside/Curling Arena Contact Dave 358-2245 to Enter Your Team PLAY FOR THE HAMBLY CUP Starting June 30th... 4 pm - 9 pm July 1st.... 9 am - 6 pm
- Antique Machines Creekside...All Day
- Flea Market Creekside...10 am - 2 pm Tables $10...Call 358-7907 to Reserve
- Dog Show Silverton Gallery...2 pm Dressed Dogs - Come & Join the Parade at 11 am
- Entertainment Creekside...All Day
- O’Canada, Cake Creekside...1 pm
- Silent Auction Curling Arena...10 am - 4 pm

---

**Canada Day Fireworks**

For more information call 358-7283 or 358-2894 www.silvertoncommunityclub.ca

Canada

---

SILVERTON BUILDING SUPPLIES

216 Lake Avenue, Silverton
Phone: 358-2293
Toll-free: 1-800-332-0688
sbs@silvertonbuilding.ca

Available at: [Silverton Building Supplies](http://silvertonbuilding.ca)