Local voters list errors concern election volunteers

by Art Joyce

As trust in our current electoral system wasn’t already at an all-time low, local volunteers have reported that current voters lists are riddled with errors. However, the unprecedented length of the election campaign period could turn out to be an advantage in this case. Elections Canada Media Relations Officer Dianne Benson says there’s a standard ‘revision period’ for voters lists in the run-up to an election, giving ample time for corrections to be made. A revised Preliminary Voters List is issued twice before the final list used for polling day.

Barb Yeomans, who has been volunteering for the NDP to update the voters list, said the list as it arrived from the Castlegar riding office was “a mess.” People were missing who had voted here for decades, including her husband, Dick Collison, who found he had to re-register. The online registration site for Elections Canada wasn’t exactly cooperating either. It took this reporter two tries to register online but for Collison, it took five attempts plus telephone coaching from the Trail Elections Canada office. Eventually, the online registration worked.

“Don’t assume because you’ve been voting here for 25 years that you’ll be on the list, or that your address will be correct,” says Yeomans. Benson says the revision period began September 1 with gathering updated voter information from high mobility residences such as apartment buildings, disability or nursing care homes and then universities. Revision closure dates are September 27 for schools, nursing homes and high mobility residences. The revision period closes October 13. The list is comprised of information gleaned from Revenue Canada, vital statistics, driver’s licenses, provincial electoral rolls, moving information and prior data from Elections Canada.

“That provides the preliminary list of electors,” explains Benson. “When the election writ is dropped that’s what we have, and then the revision period begins.”

People who are registered get a voter information card a week before September 21 and it gets mailed to each person with a request for any updating of information that’s needed. A week later, Canada Post delivers a reminder card to every residence regardless of whether you’re on the current list or not. Elections Canada has an online system for e-registration – just type in your postal code to see if you’ve registered. If not, just enter your information to register. If you’re not comfortable doing it online, you can contact a Returning Officer.

Benson was unsure why the local voter’s list for the new riding of South Okanagan West Kootenay would have been so confused. “Is it that list or the one that’s available at the launch of the election, the Preliminary Voters List?” she asks. She said some candidates and parties are using their own electoral lists and merging them with the one from Elections Canada, which could lead to errors.

There are four occasions when lists are distributed. First, MPs and registered political parties are issued an annual voters list every year in November. Then at the launch of an election, the parties and confirmed candidates get an updated list. Returning Officers distribute upon request one printed and one electronic Preliminary Voters List to each candidate. Finally, these are the two revised lists issued prior to the election 19 days before polling date, then a revised list the 11th day before polling. The official list shows up by the date of election.

But it’s not just incomplete listings and errors that are showing up, according to Yeomans. The polling boundaries are a jumble, sometimes across the same street. “Why does that matter?” she asks. In her experience as an election scrutineer, she’s found that it can make a difference on polling day. Some who are sent to the wrong poll and only find out after waiting in line for 10 minutes may not be inclined to drive to the correct poll to vote.

So Yeomans and a group of other volunteers are carefully updating the voters list for each polling within our part of the riding, which covers from Summit Lake to Enterprise Creek.

According to a CBC News report dated September 2, this election is particularly challenging for both Elections Canada and voters, with the recent redrawing of boundaries creating 38 new electoral districts across the country. In addition, some 60 MPs are retiring, leaving the field open to many new or unknown candidates. The age-old vote-rigging tactic of gerrymandering ridings, however, is said not to be an issue in Canada. “Unlike in the US,” explained the CBC report, “where state legislatures often cobble together disjointed federal districts of varying size and population to serve the interests of the state’s majority party, Canada’s approach to redistricting is free of political interference. Boundaries are set by provincial commissions comprised of a judge appointed by the chief justice of the province and two experts appointed by the Speaker of the House of Commons. The process includes input from the public.”

The returning office for South Okanagan West Kootenay is located at Pentiction Plaza, 301 Main St. Suite 401, Pentiction. It opens 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday 12 noon to 4 p.m. For more information call 1-866-540-7022 or the Trail Elections Canada office at 250-368-2025.
Health Care Assistant program coming to Kaslo

submitted
One of Selkirk College’s most popular programs is expanding its reach into smaller West Kootenay communities

in an effort to help fill in-demand jobs in regional health care. The Health Care Assistant program puts graduates on the front lines of health care, assisting clients with personal care and mobility. Based out of the Selkirk College Trail campus, the program has an employment rate for students of more than 95 percent.

Starting in January 2016, an additional cohort will be offered out of the college’s Kaslo Learning Centre.

“We have been hearing from health care providers in the north end of our region that this program is sought after by residents of Kaslo, New Denver and Nakusp,” says Rhys Andrews, Dean of Instruction for Selkirk College’s Health & Human Services. “In order to provide better access to those who desire to enter the sector, we are offering this special cohort.”

The program is designed to provide students with opportunities to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to function effectively as frontline care providers. Under the direction and supervision of a health professional, graduates provide person-centered care aimed at promoting and maintaining the physical, emotional, cognitive and social well-being of clients/residents.

In the 26-week program, Selkirk College offers the provincial curriculum in a blend of face-to-face and online delivery of theory content. The certificate program is comprised of 15 weeks of theory and 10 weeks of practical experience.

“Bringing this program to the Kaslo region will provide more access to those who are simply not able to travel great distances to attend class,” says Dawn Lang, Selkirk Community Education & Workplace Training Co-ordinator in Kaslo. “This is a tremendous opportunity for the individuals in our region to embark on a career that has great potential.”

The Kaslo-based program will run from January 4 to June 30, 2016. There are opportunities for academic upgrading to meet the requirements for entry and potential training subsidies for Columbia Basin residents. The Selkirk College counselling department is available to discuss options. Find out more about the Health Care Assistant Program at selkirk.ca/programs.

The Valley Voice  September 9, 2015

Annual General Meeting
YOU’RE INVITED

Come meet our Board, ask questions about our work in the Basin.

☐ Friday, September 18, 2015, 4 p.m.
☐ Emergency Services Building 300 – 8th Avenue NW, Nakusp, BC

cbt.org 1.800.505.8998 Connect with us

Columbia Basin trust

The Great 2015 Round-Up: household hazardous waste be gone!

submitted

The Regional District of Central Kootenay has announced six upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Round-up events. This is the time to clean out your garage, shed, garage and under the kitchen sink to get rid of hazardous chemicals such as pesticides, oils and cleaners safely. Find the event nearest you and join in the round-up. This community event facilitates disposal without drop-off fees of household hazardous waste only.

No industrial or commercial hazardous waste will be accepted.

“The public has made it clear they value these events, so it is great news that we have been able to budget for an increase in the number this year to six events across the region,” says RDCK Joint Resource Recovery Committee Chair Gary Jackson.

The events will be held at:

- Castlegar and District Community Complex, Saturday September 12, 10 am - 2 pm
- Vavenby, Kaslo, Saturday September 19, 11 am - 2 pm
- Nelson Landfill Recycling Depot, Sunday September 20, 10 am - 2 pm
- New Denver, Kaslo, Saturday September 26, 11 am - 2 pm
- Silverton Public Works Yard (by the recycling barn), Sunday September 27, 11 am - 2 pm.

Check the RDCK website www.rdcck.ca for updates and a complete list of acceptable waste.

For information on BC’s product stewardship programs, including depot locations, visit: www.recyclebc.ca or 1-800-667-4321.

Two Nakusp men charged with crystal meth trafficking submitted by the RCMP

Two Nakusp men have been arrested and charged with possessing crystal meth for the purpose of trafficking.

Alon Or (31 years old) and Matthew Bergman (22 years old) were arrested September 3.

- The Nakusp RCMP have recovered a compound bow, believed to be stolen. The bow can be claimed at the Nakusp detachment.
- A description and proof of ownership will be required.
- The Nakusp RCMP has a few bicycles needing to find their rightful owners. To claim, come to the detachment with a description and proof of ownership.

The evolution of energy

FortisBC is currently 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.

2015 Hills Garlic Festival

September 13, 10 am-5 pm

Centennial Park – New Denver

Garlic – Produce – Crafts – Food

Live entertainment by Mountain Station, Gabriel Palatchi Trio, Flydini the Magician

** Enter the Garlic Poetry Contest **

** Admission: $4.00 **
No charge for children 12 & under

Advance tickets: $3.00 at Friday Market starting August 28 – Get them early – limited supply

- Use the Shuttle Bus to/from the Valhalla Inn
- Vehicles with 5 or more passengers get 1 free entry at the gate

Remember: No dogs please!

www.hillsgarlicfest.ca
Candidates asked to take a look at issues vital to Canada’s future

Submitted

Federal election candidates will have an opportunity to focus on issues of peace, security and climate change in two all-candidates forums slated for September 16 and 17.

The three important and often intertwined topics are of increasing importance to Canadians in the 21st century. Co-hosted by Selkirk College’s Mir Centre for Peace and the Nelson-West Kootenay chapter of Climate Lobby (CCL), the forums will take place in Nelson (Kootenay-Columbia) and Castlegar (South Okanagan-West Kootenay).

Kootenay Community Voters Challenge takes off

By Jan Murray

The Kootenay Community Voters Challenge is on, and Nelson, Nakusp, Kaslo, and Area D are all in the race so far.

The winning community will be the one that has the largest increase in voter participation in the upcoming October 19 election over the last federal election in 2011.

Nelson City Council agreed to invite all communities in the East and West Kootenays to take up the challenge, after organizers of the citizens’ initiative attended a Nelson council meeting July 20 with the proposal.

“What we are really wanting in Nelson Library hosts voter registration evening

Submitted

Voter turnout was just 61 percent for the 2011 federal election, according to Elections Canada. A local group aims to get those numbers up for the October 19 election, and the Nelson Library has come on board to help people find out if they are registered to vote, and to help those who register if they’re not.

On Wednesday, September 16 from 5 to 8 pm, Elections Canada personnel and library staff will be on hand for a friendly, social evening in support of democracy.

“We want to help make it easy,” says Chief Librarian June Stockdale.

“We all have busy lives, and sometimes it is hard to look after those details. We’ll put the coffee on, and the Elections Canada folks will be happy to register people.”

On July 22, a non-partisan group asked Nelson City Council to take up the challenge to encourage people to vote, and to challenge other communities to see who can receive the most of this is to create a community conversation about why it is important to be voting,” said Mike Chapman, Nelson resident who came up with the idea for the challenge. “The particular issue that touches each of us is different – daycare costs, tuition fees, minimum wage, climate change, housing, health care – but it’s the politicians at one level or another that make those decisions.

Chapman encourages people who vote to talk to those who don’t – especially people between the ages of 16 and 25. An Elections Canada chart shows that more than 60 percent of eligible voters aged 18-24 didn’t vote in the federal election, and voter turnout the most. The voter registration event at the library is one response to that challenge.

“We’ve learned there are many ways to vote,” explains Stockdale. “In addition to voting day, you can also vote at the local Elections Canada office, in advance polls on October 15, or by mail ballot. Elections Canada personnel can explain all that – and of course, make sure you’re registered.”

People interested in registering during the library event should come with either one piece of picture ID with a current address, or two pieces, one of which includes a current address, such as a utility bill. Full ID requirements and other information is available at

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spaces still available

First Day of School Sept 9th

5614 Highway #6 - Windlaw

2015/16 Kindergarten & Multi-age Elementary

New Registrations Still Accepted

For more information call our School Coordinator

(250) 226-7737

Attention Trail Users

Trail work is underway on the rail trail between Rosebery and Hills. The trail crew will be brushing the rail corridor, removing slide debris, managing water flow in wet areas. Work is scheduled to continue until the end of October.

We ask that trail recreationists use extra caution when approaching the crew at work and wait for their signal to pass safely. The rail trail may be temporarily closed when heavy machinery is present. For more information visit North Slocan Trails Society Facebook page.

This work is made possible by funding from Columbia Basin Trust and BC Recreation Sites and Trails
VOICES FROM THE VALLEYS

Thanks to emergency responders

I’d like to commend our emergency responders. While walking back from the Orchard, I almost collided with a large tree in between Mountaineer and the bridge where my friend, Fred, had taken a fall. He was being attended by Sara Rainford, Alvis Bouillet, Leonard Casley and Jordan Deakeoff. Their calm and caring demeanor and the efficiency with which they prepared him for transport was greatly reassuring both to Fred and myself.

We can be proud of the high level of compassion and professionalism exhibited by our emergency responders.

Tonya Baechtold
New Denver

Fossil fuel party’s end

Let’s not think of it as global warming – that’s an incomplete picture. Instead, consider the enormous amounts of energy being unleashed into the atmosphere. Every day fossil fuels discharge the energy equivalent of 400,000 atomic bombs.

At this trajectory we’re heading for an increase in global temperatures of 4-6°C. Never mind the economy; with these projected temperatures life is incompatible.

Luckily, solutions abound. Currently, there is enough solar energy production to equal 48 nuclear power plants. Oil companies want carbon to be taxed. This is the most effective step, because it acknowledges the creative force of global markets, unleashing their trade potential. The best economic model for this is ‘Fee and Dividend,’ a progressive tax on carbon that returns the dividend into the pockets of Canadians.

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

We will not knowingly publish any letter that is defamatory or libelous. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters signed with pseudonyms, except in extraordinary circumstances.

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

OPINION

Political will essential to Canadian green energy economy

The transition to a low carbon future drives questions about the Canadian economy. Can a green national energy industry keep pace with our present resource-dependent system? Increasingly, the answer from the marketplace is a qualified yes – if the political will is there.

In December 2014, the Globe and Mail reported that the green energy sector in Canada was employing more people than the oil sands. Innovative Canadian companies like Morgan Solar, Hydrostor, and Woodland Biofuels are poised to provide scalable technologies. What’s needed is a strategic and sustained commitment from government.

A price on carbon is the critical first step. A fee and dividend system that applies an incremental cost on carbon while returning proceeds to Canadian families unleashes the creative power of the market. Moving government subsidies towards renewables provides investors with the confidence to make major capital commitments. The pieces of the puzzle are there; we only need the will to make it happen.

Paul Campbell
Kaslo

Raffle fundraiser runs into red tape

A group of Slocan women recently made a quilt to raise funds for the proposed seniors’ housing project in Slocan. Imagine our surprise when, applying for a raffle licence at the court house in Nelson, we were referred to the Gaming Branch in Victoria. We were informed this would not be granted. We were quoted all the reasons for this decision and it was suggested the only legal way to do this would be to hold an auction or a contest with the quilt as a prize. This would be a one-day event. Due to the small population in our area, this would be financially unacceptable for the effort involved.

It seems the rules and regulations have been put into place without considering for small communities. Is this day of cutbacks from government sources, rural areas have had to pick up the slack to fund so many projects which better our communities. They do so admirably!

Our hands are being tied by these rules. Is there anything we can do about it? Let’s get some discussion going and maybe we can facilitate some changes.

Dawn Anderson
Slocan

Pepper spray for geese?

Shortly after Jazz Fest, I was in Kaslo Bay with my dog and her pup and watched a local woman running the goose pond. I propped it to see whether or not she was going to see if for her garden. It is mostly reclaimed grass since a wonderful flock of honkers grazed in Kaslo Bay.

No, she said, she was having a wedding on the weekend and hoped to deter the geese by spraying a cayenne solution (i.e. pepper spray). I watched as her partner sprayed where the bride would be walking in a few days, unable to comprehend what to do.

I asked if they had considered all the sensitive dog noses that run over this area and suggested the post sign, which I assume she did.

Frankly, the more I thought about it the more upset I became. I spend a lot of time in the bay and enjoy watching how the goslings handle all the critters and human traffic. Because of the spraying, I avoided the place for a couple of days. The goose pond on my return is negligible. I hear the flock was seen in town... the geese are gone. I wonder how many suffered from the cayenne. Did your dog get hurt or nose after walking through the pond?

How do you feel about this, Valley Voice readers? What is public opinion? I’m curious. Is this permissible? What do you say?

Gabriela Grabowski
Kaslo

Law reflects numbers

Thus, in the 70s, our provincial government led by Dave Barrett created a whole bunch of very good new laws, including the Agricultural Land Reserve Act, which reflected public opinion. Also in the early days of federal Canadian government, admirable immigration laws were passed, giving a system that was admirable. However, those days are not now. And if good laws are not simply taken away, they’re ‘amended with.’

This was evident when Harper called our immigration system ‘generous’ but all the while was making it the least generous by creating obstacles to allowing that good system to happen. For example, by posting officials at airports to turn away persons suspected of wanting to come in as refugees, and, when here, creating bureaucratic barriers to their processing.

It is a lie, then, when he says “we have a generous system?” If we say, “Yeah, I have a great water system – super good pipes etc.” but don’t mention that there is no water… well, it’s a lie.

There is a “lawful process” which may become legal if there are members, numbers of people who are tired of buying into a disingenuous, hollow system. Regarding the smart meter roll out, a process taking its lead from Kelowna Safe Meters which says they are “using foundational principles in commerce to create financial liability against the individual owning home, to then be leveraged,” and “that no one is doing this to get a financial pay-off of continued on page 5
FortisBC answers questions re: advanced meters

I had the opportunity to speak in person recently with a number of customers in the Slocan Valley, where we’ve been safely installing advanced meters since the end of August.

Many of the FortisBC project team were available at booths in the Village of Slocan on August 31 and at Slocan Park on September 1 so that we could answer questions in person. We were happy to do so and were pleased with the warm reception we received and also to address some of the main questions we heard.

We were asked how long the radio-off option would be available. The radio-off option, which allows customers to receive an advanced meter with the wireless signals disabled, was approved by the BC Utilities Commission and will be available indefinitely.

We were also asked about locks installed to prevent access to our electricity meters. We want to remind our customers that obstructing access to our electricity meter with any device that limits our ability to meter or access it is a security issue and may result in additional charges or customs fees.

It’s important we be clear: refusing to accept a new meter (standard or radio-off), or blocking access to our meter, will result in electricity service being disconnected and not reconnected until a meter choice is made and reconnection fees are paid.

We also want to know why we’re installing wireless meters. Installing advanced meters is an important step to ensure our customers have access to services and information that they expect, like virtually eliminating bill estimates, more flexible billing options and more useful and timely online account information.

They also have important financial benefits for our customers. Advanced meters make it less costly for customers to detect the electricity they use, which can help you by preventing electricity theft and reducing meter reading costs. They are the most cost-effective and beneficial way to update electricity meters to meet changing federal guidelines.

We remain committed to providing you with a safe and reliable electricity service.

I encourage customers who have questions about these meters to call us at 1-866-356-7847 or visit our website.

FortisBC Project Director, Electric Advanced Metering Infrastructure, FortisBC

Noisy motorcycles

I haven’t spoken to anyone who is against motorcycles in general. Here are some of the reasons to support our tourism businesses (and our rural community) in helping to keep our valley as quiet as possible.

The desire for vacation quiet is a huge niche market for which we have little competition. Why compete for outdoor lovers that do (that every other jurisdiction fights for), and that will further damage our core marketing tool (quiet)?

Vancouver newspaper frequently have articles about the many quiet values. Visitig pedestrians meet on the trails I use often reflect on the values of their quiet experience. Musicians know that in silence, the soul of music is found.

Current noise regulations for motorcycles cannot be enforced because the very weak standards that can only be successfully prosecuted with tests in an elaborate facility. As a BC motorcycle businesssman around 1970, I was part of an industry committee that met with the Motor Vehicle Ministry to address noise compliants of the time. The distributed exhausts that many clubs had a large business and the politics of the police voice were forceful. They didn’t want to consider imports and insisted on North American built bikes. The law created allowed all products to pass the noise test at normal cruising throttle – it just got red of ‘straight pipe exhausts’! The laws are now very outdated and are politically irresponsible on the part of our government.

Associating the appeal of danger and risk with a product was a successful marketing tool for one manufacturer – it was based on psychological research. Attracting the attention of the young and not creating images of power, and this unruly behaviour causes fear amongst some. Motorcycle in North America has been influenced this way for over 50 years.

Petitions can influence the future but motorcyclists need not fear any changes because an act that usually retroactive are difficult to enforce and are now to be slow by law. But then, the internal combustion engine

Water issues and the Water Sustainability Act

This past week we received a letter from the Kootenay Boundary Regional Assistant Executive Director, Garth Gaggill, asking water “license holders to help water conservation efforts by voluntarily reducing their licensed allocated water use by 30%.” Attached to the letter were pages explaining “Why we are experiencing these low water flows” and “How low are water flows” with further insight into “Fish and Aquatic Ecosystems,” “Groundwater,” “Agriculture” and in addition, giving a list of eight “Water Conservation Tips.”

It happens that we live on property which is enhanced by the flow of a small, year-round creek, the use for which we have a water licence. We use the water from that creek for all our needs, and check the flow and the level of the creek regularly. Why wouldn’t we? It is our lifeline to the human basic need of water.

The drought which has caused enormous problems for people all over the province apparently is caused by “below normal snowpack,” “dry (lower than average precipitation), hot (higher than average temperatures) spring and summer with the heat and sunshine causing rapid evaporation.”

At no point in the letter was there any mention of clearing forested areas, thus reducing the water retaining capabilities of the forest. At no point was there any mention of the huge amount of water taken by a huge corporation for sale as drinking water in small plastic bottles. At no point was there any mention of “fracking,” which takes up to many thousands of litres of water per day to flush out gas from the earth.

I am certainly willing to do my part to reduce the use of water at this time and in the future because this is a problem that is not going away anytime soon. In fact, water conservation should become the norm, not a reaction to an immediate problem. It has been only 12 years since the last time the Province “burned up” because of drought conditions. The number of years between these drought trends will become smaller and smaller as our climate changes. Because we personally live in such close proximity to our water source, we are aware of the possible consequences of not conserving water. Millions of people do not have that opportunity. Why should they be here? You turn on the tap or flush the toilet, water on, waste gone.

It’s a hard sell to educate people about water consumption and what factors diminish its flow. It is especially difficult when the Province itself shows little aptitude for taking responsibility for water. The Province continues to award permits for clearcutting forests. The Province continues to give permission to corporations for diverting huge amounts of water daily (315.5 litres annually), bottling it, shipping it and living fat on the profits. The Province continues to let all gas and oil companies use the tracking method of releasing gas from the earth (7 billion litres annually)... probably because it’s all about the ECONOMY and JOBS, the fiefdoms of governments. Sure we need jobs but we also need to learn to think outside the current economic box. Necessity is the mother of invention... and WATER is a necessity.

Oh, but wait, apparently the BC government has recently had a ‘heads up’ on the water issue and is currently drafting the Water Sustainability Act, a first attempt at regulating water use since 1903! Under this Act, large-scale users of water without limit and without cost will pay an annual fee and 85 cents for every 1,000 cubic metres of groundwater use. According to Mary Polak, BC Minister of the Environment in a telephone interview, “There’s no question that this Act will not cover every single aspect of water protection and water use. (Why not? I ask) It’s not intended to. It’s intended to govern the allocation of water – who gets how much, who gets to use what and when, and the powers of government to deal with issues of scarcity, drought, etc.”

The government has shown little real interest in finding the balance of water industrially in the past; why does creating an Act apparently empty of much bite make it any more restraining? The government can still give licenses for huge corporations that ask. It can also police and fine the individual user for not following whatever rules are included in the Act.

This Water Sustainability Act is years behind in its regulatory intent. The provincial powers that be are currently showing little restraint about water conservation, by continuing to allow the cutting of forests, continuing to allow large corporations to bottle and sell water and allow the use of millions of litres of water to blow LNG out of the earth.

Why should the average person be concerned about water conservation?

It would appear that the Province just doesn’t realize how connected forest is to water management, drought weather conditions, industrial bottling and “fracking” and just simply giving it away. In fact, the government just doesn’t seem to how close to “necessity” we really are with regard to water.

How can you have input with the government about this Water Sustainability Act until November 15, 2013.
New Denver council, August 25: Suffest changes requested

by Katrina Campbell

Mike Kooiman of the Suffest (now called Slocan Valley) Society attended as a delegation to Slocan Valley Health cutting services, particularly lab services, and of curbside to ambulance services, Colin Moss is researching these rumours.

Council directed staff to co-ordinate with BC Ambulance Service and BC Public Health to attend the next council meeting on a date to be determined.

A Public Works purchase of a 2013 CMC Sierra 1500 to a maximum of $30,000 was approved. Staff will negotiate the deal.

Council approved the fire department’s request for purchase of a pressurized air cylinder filling station at a maximum of $10,000. A quote is currently being received on a drainage system to a maximum of $5,740.40 plus applicable taxes. The station is an expansion-proof cabinet, “like a bomb-disposal unit”, explained CAO Bruce Woodbury.

A Committee of the Whole meeting was called for September 3 to discuss the Interim Memoral Health Centre operation.

David Giesbrecht spoke of the need for a new health centre. The reduction in the number of health care providers in the region is not sustainable.

Edith Stur and Bill White asked for a new nursing home in the area.

Jason Whalen of RSNA, The St. Joseph’s Cancer Society, spoke of the need for a cancer screening in the community.

A motion to endorse the Draft Community Health Plan for the Interim Memorial Health Centre was passed.

Mayor Ann Bunka said there were 14 delegations at the last RDCK board meeting; from the Castlegar Hospice Society about its residential hospice project; Interior Health’s Chuck Brummitt regarding the rural community paramedic program, allowing responders to integrate into the hospital system; and from Nelson’s Community Vote Challenge to increase voter turnout on October 19.

The board hopes that someone from Multi-Material BC (MMBC), the recycling organization which has been recently named by small municipalities, will appear at its September meeting.

Councilor Fox attended the Chamber of Commerce July meeting. She reported that 353 people went into the Visitor Centre in July just to use the washrooms. The Chamber board is concerned about numbers of Interior Health cutting services, particularly lab services, and of curbside to ambulance services, Colin Moss is researching these rumours.

New Denver council, August 25: Suffest changes requested

by Katrina Campbell

Mike Kooiman of the Suffest (now called Slocan Valley) Society attended as a delegation to

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Village of New Denver
NOTICE OF TAX SALE

The following described property and improvements thereon shall be offered for “Sale by Public Auction” at the Village of New Denver Municipal Office, 115 Slocan Ave, on Monday, September 28, 2015 at 10:00 am unless the delinquent taxes and interest thereon are sooner paid:

Lots 25 & 26, Block 36, Plan NEP557, District Lot 549, Kootenay Land District: 402 6th Avenue
Lots 5-9, Block 33, Plan NEP557, District Lot 549, Kootenay Land District, Lot 4, Block 41, Plan NEP557, District Lot 549, Kootenay Land District, EKC PEA (See 1591641)(2D00) (Lots 9-8)

The Donations Store is having our seasonal Tooanie Bag Sale
Just fill a grocery bag with clothing for $2.00!
A great time to get those “back to school threads!”

Please help us get ready for the next season by evaluating your clothing donations - is it clean? wearable? and seasonable? Our volunteers work hard to sort and organize, please consider this when deciding what to bring to the Store. Thank you for your contributions, we keep the Bosun Hall operating!
Eight reasons to love Kootenay Carshare submitted by Kaslo Carshare members

This fall marks the eighth anniversary of the Kaslo branch of the Kootenay Carshare. Here are the top eight reasons why Kaslo Carshare members love it.

It reduces transportation costs. When people join, they often sell a vehicle and cash in their insurance, and they no longer have repairs, maintenance, gas, and insurance costs.

Carshare rates are reasonable. There is a $5 monthly fee, a kilometre rate and hourly fee according to the size of vehicle. Economy cars are $2.75 per hour plus 20 per kilometre; the truck is $4.10 per hour plus $0.35 per kilometre. The Kootenay Carshare website provides a ‘trip cost calculator’ so you can do trip cost estimates before you book.

It’s a co-op. Members purchase a $500 refundable membership share and become part owners of the business; you get the money back when you stop being a member.

It’s easy. Kaslo has two small cars (one is pet friendly) and a 4x4 truck. Members go to an online calendar to make bookings for as short as half an hour to up to 28 days. Vehicles are returned (clean and at least half full of gas) to the same location; keys are located on the vehicle.

It’s regional. Membership in Kaslo allows you to use cars in Nelson, Revelstoke, Kimberley, Rossland, Pembina and Golden. You can also be a roaming member for any carshare co-op in BC including Vancouver, Victoria and Kelowna.

It’s greenish. People sharing cars means fewer cars on the road. Fewer cars on the road means fewer greenhouse gas emissions and less traffic. For every Kootenay Carshare car on the road, at least five private vehicles are removed. Offering a ‘rideshare’ a booking reduces the costs further.

It’s safe. All vehicles are regularly maintained, with good snow tires in the winter.

It’s good people. Carshare people are always helpful, and easy to be co-owners with.

The Kaslo Carshare will have a booth at the Kaslo Saturday Market on September 19. If you want more information, to learn about other benefits or sign up to be a member, stop by and say hello. Check out www.carsharecoop.ca for policies and more.
Herbal Musings
with Colleen Emery

Ode to garlic
Garlic (Allium sativum), the pungent kitchen herb known for its ability to ward off vampires and the like, is a staple in most people’s diets. Not only is garlic a main feature in our culinary world, it demands presence in our medicinal herbal apothecary for its ability to produce numerous health benefits. Combine all these wonderful components and you get a super-food that can be grown and sourced locally and stored for long periods of time with ease.

Garlic, a member of the lily family, cousin to onions, leeks and chives, is arranged in a head called a “bulb.” Averaging about two inches in height and diameter and consisting of numerous small, separate cloves, garlic comes beautifully wrapped by nature in paper-like sheaths that can be white, off-white, or have a pink-purple hue. The taste of garlic is like no other – it hits the palate with a hot pungency that is shadowed by subtle background sweetness.

Native to Central Asia, garlic is one of the oldest cultivated plants in the world and has been grown for over 5,000 years. Ancient Egyptians were the first to cultivate this plant that played an important role in their culture. Garlic was not only bestowed with sacred qualities and placed in the tombs of pharaohs, but it was given to the slaves that built the pyramids to enhance their endurance and strength.

Garlic was introduced into various regions throughout the globe by migrating cultural tribes and explorers. By the 6th Century BC, garlic was known in both China and India, the latter country using it for therapeutic purposes. Garlic provides numerous health benefits, including heart health support, anti-inflammatory properties, antibacterial and antiviral benefits, anti-cancer support.

Garlic can be used both as a preventative medicine to ward off potential viral and bacterial invasions or to keep your cholesterol levels in check and in a healthy medicine to tackle these conditions in their immediate concern. A fantastic addition to the culinary or apothecary cabinet is to create an aconitum of garlic. An aconitum is a herbalist’s word for a vinegar extract of herbs. Follow the recipe to create a simple, cost effective way to make a medicine that has countless uses.

WITCHES’ BREW aka FIRE CIDER

A favourite with the Herb Club at Emery Herbs, Witches’ Brew (or Warlocks’ Brew as the case may be) combines easy to access kitchen herbs to create a delicious way to keep the vampires at bay.

SUPPLIES NEEDED
- Organic, raw apple cider vinegar
- 3 parts garlic, peeled and chopped
- 2 parts onion, peeled and chopped
- 1 part ginger, fresh or dried, shredded
- 1 part brown and yellow sweetened seed
- 1/2 part hot peppers of your liking (optional)
- 1/2 part black peppercorns
- 1/2 part honey

The mixture is then “soured” over time in a mason jar. Pour the apple cider vinegar over the contents to cover. Cap, label and shake daily for 3-6 weeks, storing in a cool, dark place. Strain through layers of cheesecloth or fine mesh fabric, filtering out all herb matter. Pour into amber bottles and label for storage.

Use as a salad dressing ingredient, combine with oil for a topping on rice and other grains, and take 1 teaspoon in a glass of water as an invigorating tonic. Skull life is about 6-9 months.

Want to make an even more delicious medicine? Try combining one part of your Witches’ Brew with one part raw honey, slowing heat to meld together.

This unbelievably delicious combination is called an oxymel in the herb world. It is recommended to check in with your local health practitioner for guidance if you are pregnant or breastfeeding or have any outstanding health concerns prior to introducing new supplements or herbs to your routine.

Save the date! On Saturday, September 20 from 10 am to 1 pm, Colleen Emery will be teaching Natural Strategies to Boost the Immune System, hosted by Slokan Recreation.

This workshop is a comprehensive, strategy-based workshop on many of the techniques to incorporate that build and maintain healthy immune system functions. Everything from common childhood illnesses, vaccine awareness to food sensitivities and gut health will be covered.

Colleen Emery is the owner and Master Herbalist of Emery Herbs Dispensary, Healing Suites and Teaching Centre in the heart of Wintona, BC. Colleen is passionate about empowering individuals and families to take charge of their wellness through fostering traditional skills and connection to the natural world.

**Nakusp & District Fall Fair**

**Homemade is Best**
September 12, 9:30 - 3:30
Nakusp Elementary Gymnasium

All exhibits to be brought to the school gymnasium on Friday September 11 from 3 pm to 6 pm. Judging will take place starting at 7 pm. Exhibits have to be picked up on Saturday between 3:30 and 4:30 pm.

Highlights:

**Trashion Wig Display**
Create your own wig out of trash,
1: The trashion wig will be displayed on a table without the persons name on it.
2: Each person will be issued one secret ballet when entering the fair. A ballet box will be by the wig display. Ballets will be counted at 3 pm and an announcement of the winner will be made.

Raffle! Door prizes!
Visit our website for more information and complete program.
arrowlakesartscommunity.webs.com/
Register now for free workshop on copyright for artists

Outreach, ArtistsLegalOutreach.ca, a group of volunteer lawyers and law students committed to working with artists and arts organizations, ALO offers resources, workshops and clinics across BC. This workshop is offered by the West Kootenay Regional Arts Council (WKRC) in partnership with Kootenay Studio Arts at Selkirk College, with the generous support of Columbia Basin Trust and the Province of British Columbia.

For further information about this workshop, please contact WKRC at 250-352-2421, 1-800-850-2787 or e-mail wkracassistant@telus.net.

Thank You Valley Voice!

Your support is always appreciated

The Corporation of the Village of Slocan
P.O. Box 50  Slocan B.C.  (250)355-2277
cao@villageofslocan.ca

NOTICE OF 2015 TAX SALE

The following properties will be sold at the Annual Tax Sale on MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2015 AT 10:00AM at the Village of Slocan, Council Chambers, 503 Slocan Street, Slocan BC, unless the delinquent taxpayers with interest are paid prior to the sale:

1017 Hume Street, Slocan BC, V0G 2C0
Roll #216145
Lot D, Block 40, Plan NEP496, District Lot 292
PDI: 027-074-684

Property transfer resulting from municipal tax sales are subject to tax under the Property Transfer Tax Act.

Michelle Gordon
Chief Administrative Officer

Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy
Community Literacy Coordinator

The Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy (CBAL) is looking for a Community Literacy Coordinator for Slocan Valley. We are a Columbia Basin wide literacy organization committed to providing inclusive and accessible literacy programs for people of all ages. Ideal candidates will work well with the CBAL team, have an understanding of literacy and a passion for working with people.

Abilities and attributes:

• Outstanding communication and interpersonal skills
• Strong organizational and planning skills
• Comfortable presenting to a variety of audiences and facilitating small groups such as Mother Goose, basic computer classes, etc.
• Experience in creating, planning, and implementing programs
• Ability to work effectively with a variety of parents, children, volunteers, professionals, and community members
• Knowledge of literacy development, adult learning, and community resources
• Inclusive, sensitive and respectful approach to collaboration
• Budget development and management
• Administrative skills
• A clear Criminal Record Review, completed prior to hiring
• Willing to work flexible hours
• Proficiency using computers and programs such as Word, PowerPoint and Excel

The ideal candidate will work well with the CBAL Regional Manager and fellow coordinators in neighboring communities, and be able to effectively lead a team of staff in the Slocan Valley area. Post-secondary education or background/training in supporting learning, teaching, or facilitating groups for children, families or adults will be definite assets. Applicants must have access to a home office and a vehicle.

This is a part-time position at approximately 15 hours per week with the potential for additional hours for facilitation. Contracts typically run Sept. 1st to June 30th.

Please send resumes to dprofil@cbal.org by September 17th at 4 pm.

For more information, call Desneiges Profili, West Kootenay/Boundary Regional Program Manager at 250-512-1249.
Opera Jorinda to feature dance and puppetry

Submitted

Jorinda puppet master Simone Varrey was dreaming about what might happen at the opera’s production team meeting last January.

"Over Christmas I’d finally found the time to do a painstaking analysis of every word of composer Doug Jamieson’s libretto in order to block out each movement that the opera’s puppet character would need to make in order to animate the story line," Varrey explained. "Now I knew it wouldn’t work. There were just too many movement essentials to the story line that couldn’t be done using puppets."

The team had two choices: rewrite the story line to eliminate the problematic movements or find some way other than puppets to animate the four principal characters.

"Re-writing the story line was a non-starter because all the opera’s music had been created to fit the libretto as it was," recalled Jamieson. "I would have had to rewrite some entirely new musical sections if we changed the story line."

"You could almost taste the relief when Simone then suggested using dancers wearing masks for the principal characters and puppets for everything else," said the opera’s producer Marty Hornswill. The team was left with a big new task: finding a skilled choreographer and four versatile dancers who could not only bring these characters to life but do so in close artistic collaboration with the singers, who would be simultaneously voicing the thoughts and emotions of the same four characters.

The choreographer they found was Slava Dovgal, the founder of dance school Dance Fusion. The dancers were chosen next. Hirunno Ida has the signature role of the Witch, in the role of Jorinda is Carly Brandel. The hero, Jaren, will be danced by Mackenzie Hope while the comic role of the Witch’s toady, Grunegalla, will be performed by Lindsay Clague.

Community Opera’s world premiere production of Jorinda will be presented at Nelson’s Capitol Theatre beginning November 12. Written and composed by Nelson-based composer Doug Jamieson, the opera is loosely based on a Brothers Grimm fairy tale and features soprano Allison Girvan as Jorinda, mezzo soprano Breanne Wipp as the Witch, tenor Roger Ley as the hero, Jaren, and also Sydney Black as Grunegalla.

It’s a mystery at the Slocan Community Library

Submitted

The full season of the authors’ readings at the Slocan Community Library will kick off at 1 pm on Sunday, September 27 when Deryn Collier, author of Confined Space and Open Secret, appears at the library.

These suspenseful novels feature protagonists Corcoran Bin Furin, who retires to Kootenay Landing in search of the tranquility of small town life, but interactions with his neighbours and the town folk lead pretty quickly to riveting, page-turning intrigue.

Confined Space was shortlisted for the Arthur Ellis Awards for the best first crime novel.

Since the release of her second novel, Collier has firmly established the Forin Series, as her books are becoming known, to be required reading for anyone of the genre.

The mystery collection at the library has always been well appreciated by patrons and fiction fans in general will enjoy meeting Deryn’s characters. In fact, as Peggy Blair, author of The Beggar’s Opera has said of Open Secret, “You feel like your best friend has moved out when you turn the last page.”

Collier is well known throughout the area. She was raised in Montreal, graduated from McGill University and now lives with her husband and sons in Nelson. The fall series will continue on Sunday, October 25 at 1 pm when Tom Wayman and Ernest Hekkena, a return visit for both of these authors. They will share recently published collections of short stories; Tom’s feature the Slocan Valley, and Ernest thrills with tales based on his childhood.

Or are they?

All readings at the Slocan Community Library are free.
Eloise Charet launches *Never Without Our Children* in New Denver

by Jan McMurtry

New Denver resident Eloise Charet-Callies launches her new book, *Never Without Our Children*, at Brown Hall in New Denver on Friday, September 11 at 7:30 pm.

“This is a story of love and hope, and we need some of that today,” said Eloise in an interview.

In 1974, when Eloise and her sister, Anna, were 23 and 20 years old, they went to Cambodia as volunteers to run the Canada House orphanage in Phnom Penh. In April 1975—40 years ago—the sisters escaped in the bloody Khmer Rouge takeover, returning to Canada with over 50 orphans from Canada House and about 20 from war-torn Vietnam. Most of the children were placed with families in Montreal, where they landed.

Eloise Charet will launch *Never Without Our Children* at the Brown Hall on September 11 at 7:30 pm. The book is about her incredible experience running an orphanage in Cambodia, and escaping the Khmer Rouge genocide with over 50 orphans.

The New Denver Hospice Society accepted an “honour quilt” from the New Denver Quilt Guild, a work of love by 14 people over two and a half months. The beautiful quilt will be draped to the caskets, providing dignity as people who have died begin their final journey from the Pankon.

COMMUNITY

This incredible story was recently produced as a documentary by Radio Canada television, and has aired a few times in the past two years. Eloise, Anna, and one of the orphans, Kim Rounchan-Fillion, travelled to Cambodia with the film crew in 2012 for the production.

In Eloise and Anna’s ongoing search for the children they numbered, they have so far found 26 of them. The group has had a reunion in Montreal every year for the past three years.

“I wrote the book to give them all their stories,” said Eloise. “They all tell us that they have always wondered about their past, and are so happy to find out and to be reunited with the group. It’s very powerful for all of us.”

Eloise has just come back from New Denver from Montreal, where she attended the third annual reunion of the ‘Canada House kids’ in July and launched the book in August. The first book launches were held in Montreal, and in Eloise and Anna’s hometown of Montebello, Quebec.

“The is so good to be home. I’m really looking forward to the book launch in my community,” she said. Copies of *Never Without Our Children* will be available at the launch for $25.

FALL SPECIALS

1. “SIRO CREME” CORK FLOORING HARO KOBODEN REG. $3.98/SQ FT. SALE... $2.10/SQ FT
2. LAMINATE TILE 12” X 12” CLICK CHARCOAL REG. $2.12/SQ FT. SALE $1.29/SQ FT
3. HARDWOOD ENGINEERED OAK FLOORING REG. $5.55/SQ FT. SALE... $3.89/SQ FT
4. CLEARANCE TABLE TOPS, HAND TOOLS, RAKES/SHOVELS/SOILS ETC. SAVE 50%
5. FOAMASTIC ORANGE LINED GLOVES REG. $12.99 SALE... $9.99
6. SHOP VAC STAINLESS STEEL 15 L 3 HP REG. $72.99. SALE... $49.99
7. BELIZE TABLE LAMP 100 W FABRIC SHADE REG. $77.99. SALE... $58.99
8. 2X6 DECKING CEDAR RADUIS EDGE $1.75/L FTR STK KD SELECT T&G $1.44/L FTR

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September 7 – 19, 2015

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Seamus Gray - Vallican
Rielie Oswald - Kaslo
Natasha Smith - Krestova
Richard Taylor - Johnson’s Landing
Vindy Toogood - Nakusp
Kate Tupper - Nakusp
Peter Velisek - Vallican

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Sunday September 13
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Household Hazardous Waste Round-Up Events

September 19
11:00am-2:00pm
Kaslo—Viny Park

September 26
11:00am-2:00pm
Nakusp

September 27
11:00am-2:00pm
Silverton Public Works Yard
(near recycling bins)

Product Care

Residential Household Hazardous Waste Only
- No Explosives, Ammunition, Flares, Radiocative Materials, or Bio-Hazardous Waste. No Commercial or Industrial Wastes will be accepted.

Visit www.recycle.bc.ca or call 1-800-268-7325

Sponsored by Hidden Garden Gallery Society & B.C. Lake District Society
Supported by BC Arts Council & Regional District of Central Kootenay

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Interview with Kaslo & Area Health Care Select Committee Chair Andy Shadrack

by Art Joyce

With Kaslo’s health care situation in continuing crisis, the recent formation of the Kaslo & Area Medical Care Society, and the recent hiring of two new doctors, it seemed a good time to speak to Kaslo & Area Health Care Select Committee Chair Andy Shadrack. The understandable tensions of a community suddenly finding itself without 24/7 emergency services has left those with the same goal — adequate health care services for the community — feeling polarized. This has in no small part to do with Interior Health’s centralized model of managing health care as with community tensions. Much admired for his work as Regional District Area D director, Shadrack has found himself feeling publicly “pallienced” for his recent handling of committee proceedings. Shadrack spoke to the Valley Voice with the permission of Mayor Hawat.

There’s been some concern about the way the Health Care Select Committee has been handling its meetings. The perception seems to be growing of a tightly controlled flow of information to the public.

The crisis that Kaslo finds itself in dates back to 2012 when the physicians had decided they could no longer respond to the one-in-two situation, meaning being on-call every second night. And that’s become the issue, and it’s not just limited to BC or Canada, it’s an issue in the UK as well. A lot of the time I’ve spent working over the past four years has been around specific contract issues and the hiring of new doctors. Under the Community Charter certain information is prohibited from being disclosed, especially under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act. For example, I can’t talk about why Dr. Allen left. I can say two new doctors have been hired on an FTE (full-time equivalent) 70/30 basis. As members of the committee we play an advisory role to IHAs in hiring decisions. I and the committee are not the people hiring — IHAs takes the lead on that. It’s way different than when I arrived here when we had local hospital boards making many of those kinds of decisions. We’re basically limited to whatever resources IHAs will allow us; we don’t have authority over finances anymore as the way a hospital board used to have.

At present, what is the role and responsibilities of the committee in terms of actual hiring decisions? The responsibility is to report and recommend to council. Throughout the past few months I’ve been giving counsel briefings about how the negotiations for hiring doctors have been going. We have two council members on committee, Councillors Giroso and Kasul, and the mayor is there ex-officio. The mayor sat ex-officio on all committees. The committee minutes are reported to council and the open portion of the meeting is put on the Village website; the in-camera stays in camera. The two doctors, Dr. Fontaine and Dr. Allen, arrived last September. The committee met with both; Dr. Allen then left. Now again we’ve hired two doctors and once they’ve settled in, I’m pretty confident there will be a discussion among colleagues. I’m not very aware that many people in the community don’t want bank’s hours — joggers, miners, people working in tourism and therefore need access to medical services in the evening and on weekends.

Does the committee see a cooperative role developing with the new Kaslo & Area Medical Services Society? How might that unfold?

At the June 29 meeting I was specifically instructed to write to the president of the society and invite them to a meeting of the committee at which we’d have representatives of both. The purpose would be to outline the joint letter to the society and they have not yet taken up that offer. We thought it was a good idea that it be a full meeting because of the array of people and the experience we have on that committee. I’ve simply observe that Councillor Giroso seconded that motion. My original email to President Morris was, “Let’s meet,” and that offer stands.

Is the committee opposed to pursuing a fee-for-service clinic? Some have argued that the fee-for-service for this model was too hastily abandoned to provide a true test of its sustainability.

I don’t know of anyone on the committee who is ideologically committed to contract for fee-for-service. In the fall of 2013 we spent three months looking at that and then there was a three-month grace period when IHAs held off hiring while doctors tried to put that together. So it was really a six-month trial period. A doctor tried to make that work but could not put together the required number of doctors. And then we were faced with the situation where we had four half-time doctor positions sharing two FTES and the last of these doctors was giving another notice so we’d have no doctors at all. Then IHAs came in in spring 2014 and said, the situation’s getting pretty desperate, we have to do something. The committee decision wasn’t unanimous, but I was Chacko’s voice in this decision and therefore I try to follow the decisions of the majority. The committee voted to work with IHAs on hiring two doctors to fill two FTES. I think we’re lucky to have the three doctors we have now — Dr. Fontaine, Dr. Monai and Dr. Smit. Doctors Monai and Smit are on a three-year contract. I sat on the health committee of UBCM for two years, and I’m not convinced that fee-for-service is feasible at this time. Why is it not feasible at this time to have fee-for-service? The doctors I talk to say there wouldn’t be enough patients to make fee-for-service worthwhile. It’s not really making that decision — it’s doctors telling me that. When we had the trial period, the doctors assessed the situation and determined they couldn’t make a living thing it. If there’s another group of doctors who say no, that’s wrong. I can make a living doing it, then that changes the picture. Maybe this new society can prove me wrong — good on them if they can.

I think there’s a need to stabilize the clinic, show that we’re a core group of physicians that are going to be there on a regular basis, to build up the number of people who use the clinic. Maybe in some future date, we could look at fee-for-service. Committee and council are simply trying to keep that clinic and the array of services we have operating and the long-term care facility as well. Has there been any clarification of the committee’s terms of reference? There understand there may have been some revisions to the terms of reference, I haven’t seen them. They would be referred to the committee, who will discuss them at its next open meeting. At the September 1 committee meeting, we talked about the new paramedic program and possibly bringing them here.

It’s worth the drive to Kaslo!

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Nakusp council, August 24: BACA asks council to advocate for bridge

by Katrine Campbell

Early Fredrick and Emie Calandra from the Britton Arm Conservation Association (BACA) attended as a delegation to promote building a bridge to connect the Nakusp and Seho Islands. They asked the Village to become more involved with other provincial government agencies to make this happen.

They reported they met with Norm Parks from the Ministry of Transportation and discussed proposals for the proposed bylaw for the special tax. The BACA has been discussing the need to rebuild Hwy 31 with streetlights and wildlife fencing: eliminating this would save $75 million from the $400 million the government estimates the crossing would cost. They talked about possibly generating power from the Sidnukw Crossing with a floating generation system.

“The final link will have economic development,” Fredrick said. “It needs a push from local governments, and we don’t feel that is happening.”

Councilor Pat Petersen, Kathy Smith and Michelle Dietzner attended as a delegation to request the Village consider taxation in support of BACA, the Protecting, Animal Life Society (PALS) and the Protecting Animal Life Society (PALS). Council agreed that it would support exploring taxing in support of BACA and approved the alternative approval process to seek authorization for taxation. The AAP means it would proceed unless 10 percent of electors objected, in which case it would go to referendum.

Council deferred the report from Nakusp council, as it is not in accordance with the Community Freedom Act.

Fires in the Forest: film screening and artist talk tour

Filmaker Miriam Naedeba and photographer Jim Lawrence will embark on a regional tour this fall with steps in Nakusp (November 20-21), Slocan, Cranbrook, Kimberley, Invermere, Penticton, Greenwood and Rossland. The tour will also include a screening of Needles, a new film and artist portrait film EYES IN THE FOREST: THE PORTRAIT OF Jim Lawrence.

The film has screened at over 30 administrative assistant, was received for information and the proposal will be included in the 2016 budget for consideration by council.

A report from the Anowactsan Senior Citizens' Society for tax extensions was deferred until after the November meeting.

Nakusp Savings Credit Union manager Joanne Cowan wrote to council, asking the Village to relocate the Nakusp Savings Credit Bank to the downtown area of the new building. The construction of such a building would decrease the costs of the maintenance of this area.

Council approved a Development Variance Permit for 395 Marshall Road, to reduce the minimum parking standards to allow a possible subdivision on access to the back lot.

The council meetings of October 13 and November 9 were cancelled. The CMH asked for reconsideration in order to keep moving forward on outstanding issues, new issues, daily tasks and the additional workload created by the early departure of the Director of Finance Clyde Berkyn.

Council agreed to include the costs of Wrap Around Nakusp Trail enhancements, including installing signs and repairing trail damage, for consideration in the 2016 budget discussion. In June, members of the Trails Society asked the Village for this assistance.

A report on developing a recreation programming plan, prepared by the Director of Operations, Hot Springs Director and the Tourism Director, was discussed.

The Village of Nakusp is currently seeking Casual Employees for various departments (Village Office, Public Works, Awna Parks, and Hot Springs/Chalets). If you are interested in working for the Village of Nakusp, please forward your resume to the Village of Nakusp - Box 280, Nakusp, BC, V0G 1R0. E-mail: ltylror@gmail.com

For more information, please contact the Village office at 250-265-3698. We thank all who apply, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council

North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council

September Events: 9th Billiards Lessons: 7-9 pm, 10th & 17th Games Night 6-10 pm, 11th & 18th Drop In 7-10 pm, 15th Harry Potter: 5-9 pm, 20th Creative Expression 7-9 pm, 22nd Lisa’s Music Jam 3-5 pm.

North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council is looking for Board Members! Do you have ideas for how to develop your sport and recreation program? Do you want to help develop a new area with a contact? Contact us for more information.

Become a member of the North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council for a grant support, promotion, and more! - nksrc@gmail.com

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www.shons.ca

North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council

Nakusp Youth Centre For more info on the Nakusp Youth Centre: 250-265-2201

September Events: 9th Billiards Lessons: 7-9 pm, 10th & 17th Games Night 6-10 pm, 11th & 18th Drop In 7-10 pm, 15th Harry Potter: 5-9 pm, 20th Creative Expression 7-9 pm, 22nd Lisa’s Music Jam 3-5 pm.

Nakusp Youth Centre is looking for Board Members! Do you have ideas for how to develop your sport and recreation program? Do you want to help develop a new area with a contact? Contact us for more information.

Become a member of the North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council for a grant support, promotion, and more! - nksrc@gmail.com

North Kootenay Sport and Recreation Council - nksrc@gmail.com

Your local information source for sport and recreation in the Kootenays

PUBLIC NOTICE

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT SALE

The Village of Nakusp has the following vehicles available for sale on an "as is / where is" basis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># Mileage</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Upset Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>149</td>
<td>196,553 km</td>
<td>Ford F-250 4x4</td>
<td>Regular Cab Long Box Pickup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>131</td>
<td>61,757 km</td>
<td>Dump Truck</td>
<td>2003 GMC 5500 Dump Truck w/ 10' hydraulic front plow and sander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>143</td>
<td>152,000 km</td>
<td>Ford F-250 4x4</td>
<td>2003 Ford F-250 4x4 Regular Cab w/ 8’ Service Box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>142</td>
<td>5078 hrs</td>
<td>Cat 420D Backhoe</td>
<td>2003 Cat 420D 4x4 backhoe with 11’ Snow Blade, 40’’ Bucket, 24’’ digging bucket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>153</td>
<td>6387 hrs</td>
<td>Sweeper 2200</td>
<td>Sweeper 2200 Street Sweeper, JD Diesel powered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>170</td>
<td>720 hrs</td>
<td>Bobcat 722</td>
<td>$500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bids packages are available online at civicinfo.com. Sale items and bid packages are located at the Village of Nakusp Public Works yard by 8:00 am to 3:00 pm, Monday – Friday, September 8 – 24th – except for the Bobcat, which is located at the Hot Springs Chalets, 8500 Hot Springs Rd. The Public Works yard is located at 1515 Rockland Rd. Check in with the Public Works Office or phone for more information. Questions regarding the surplus equipment may be directed to: Warren Leich, Director of Operations, 250-265-3556. Questions regarding submitting a bid may be directed to: Laurie Taylor, CAO, 250-265-3689.
Village of Kaslo receives warning about waterfront work

by Jan McMurray

The Village of Kaslo has received a warning letter from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) regarding the brushing work done on the waterfront early this year.

An FLNRO investigation into a complaint about the waterfront work found that the removal of vegetation and large organic matter from the foreshore was done without provincial authority as required under the Water Act.

"The Village’s hands have been slapped for historical and long-standing non-compliances which have become commonplace over a very long period of time," said CAO Neil Smith. "Council has recognized that something needs to be done and has been given time to do that. Council is wrestling with how to fund that in this next year."

Smith reported that the Village will be applying for a beach grooming permit to remedy the Water Act non-compliance. The permit application will involve developing a maintenance plan for the waterfront area that will have to be approved by the ministry. In the warning letter, the Province asks the Village for a "comprehensive, ecologically focused management plan for all your foreshore properties" and for an invasive species control program on the foreshore lands. FLNRO acknowledges in the warning letter that by forming the Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS) Committee, the Village has clearly shown its intent to address its waterfront issues.

Smith reports that the FLNRO investigation also found that the only Land Act non-compliance on the waterfront involves the Logger sports grounds. The grounds are on Crown land, and no permission has been granted for Kaslo Logger Sports to take place there. The Village recognized this some time ago and has applied for tenure over the grounds.

"The biggest challenge in the tenure and beach grooming permit is that long-standing practices by the Village and other user groups may not survive," said Smith. For example, he said the beach ministry may not approve things such as bringing in sand for logger sports.

Smith added that the Village is waiting to get a chance to buy from the ministry about the requirements for the waterfront maintenance plan for the beach grooming permit. "If it involves an easement or ability to access the beach, then there may be minimal maintenance on Kaslo's beaches for some time," said Smith.

Also pointed out in the letter, the Water Act non-compliance has been too much focus on what staff and contracted service providers have been doing, but they haven’t had any guidelines or plans to work with. "Until now, contractors have been building in a negative light," said Smith.

Retirement of Kaslo physiotherapist leaves in doubt

by Art Joyce

The recent retirement of Kaslo physiotherapist Elizabeth Scarlett has left the future of these services in doubt in Kaslo. Scarlett felt unable to comment on the situation beyond a note posted on the Kaslo community Facebook page, pending an internal meeting with IHA management.

Scarlett’s note read: "I regret to announce Kaslo Physiotherapy will be discontinuing its service upon my retirement on August 31. Without consultation, Interior Health wishes to reduce the treatment space, causing my replacement physio to decline working in Kaslo. Have enjoyed providing outpatient physiotherapy service at the Primary Health Centre for the past 11 years and I hope Interior Health will do what is necessary to restore this essential service. Please call 250-233-2291, option 5 to get info on physiotherapy options in Nelson."
Slocan Valley outreach: your mobile library

submitted

The Nelson Public Library's Slocan Valley outreach program is gearing up for the fall. The first mobile library session will be at Passmore Senior Lodge on Thursday, September 17 from 3 to 7 pm and everyone is welcome. Be prepared for spontaneous outbreaks of scribble and pinhole by outreach regulars. Area H South residents can sign up for a library card and check out items from the rotating collection of books, CDs and DVDs for all ages. The outreach librarian is on hand to answer questions about services including e-books, language learning and travel databases, Zinio online magazines, and more. Want a book and can't make it to Nelson? Contact the library to ask to have it sent to Passmore on the third Thursday of each month. And don't forget that the Heritage Credit Union in Slocan Park has a return drop box for library items that is open 24/7.

On Thursday, October 15 from 3 to 7 pm, the library outreach will be co-sponsoring a free program on 'The Beauty of Book Clubs' with the Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy and Slocan Valley Recreation. Are you a member of a book club? Do you know all the services the library can provide? Or perhaps you are looking for a book club to join? Explore the options and find out more about local book clubs and resources, including book clubs sets that can be ordered through the library.

Passmore Lodge is located at 3650 Old Passmore Road. Watch for the sandwich board on the highway. For more information, contact the Nelson Library, 250-352-6333, library@nelson.ca.

Families: learn what to expect on a dementia journey

submitted

A diagnosis of dementia affects an entire family, and more and more families are being affected. Already, one in 11 Canadians over the age of 65 has Alzheimer's disease or another dementia and the incidence is growing.

That's why the non-profit Alzheimer Society of BC is offering free education sessions locally for family members who are caring for a person with dementia. 'Understanding Dementia' will provide basic information about dementia and the impact the disease has on the individual, caregivers and families.

"Caregivers will learn what to expect throughout the journey with dementia," says Julie Leffler, the society's Support and Education Coordinator for the West Kootenay. Participants will explore how dementia affects the brain, and how it can change behaviours.

The first workshop, in Nakusp, is on Thursday, September 10. It runs from 2 to 3:30 pm at Selkirk College, 311 Broadway Street.

Credit unions help connect parents

submitted

Parents and families can now go into any credit union in British Columbia to kick-start their post-secondary education and training savings with the $1,200 BC Training and Education Savings Grant. All they need to do is sign up for a Registered Education Savings Plan at a participating branch and the one-time grant of $1,200 per eligible child will be deposited into the RESP upon approval of the application.

There is no barrier to low-income families since no matching or additional contributions are required to access the $1,200. The Province is also working to ensure that low-income families and children in care are able to tap into the grant.

The second is in Kaslo, Friday, September 25, 10 am to noon at Kaslo Seniors' Hall, 304 4th Street. The workshops are free, thanks to a unique partnership between Kootenay Savings and Nelson and District credit unions and the Province.

Kootenay Spirit Festival returns to Nelson next week

submitted

The second annual Kootenay Spirit Festival, a celebration of yoga, dance, meditation and music, happens in Nelson September 18-20. Concert tickets and day and weekend passes are on sale now.

Events are hosted in various studios, venues and parks; participants are encouraged to walk and cycle between events and enjoy the vibrant downtown and beautiful mountains.

Nelson provides an ideal location to celebrate mindful living, love of nature and engaged community.

There will be an expanded Spirit Market at Lakeside Park with local vendors. As part of the festival's mission of accessibility within the community, it will again offer a free concert, acro yoga, hoops and - new this year - a kids' zone. In an effort to provide fun for the whole family, the focus this year includes teens and young adults and there will be programming by and for youth. The Kootenay Spirit Festival includes 38 workshops, five diverse concerts, a wellness market, an ecstatic dance event and amazing peeps including you!

To purchase tickets or for more info go to: www.kootenayspiritfestival.ca. #kootspirit, #nelsonbc, www.facebook.com/events/141106222533874/
Good showing at Rosebery Regatta

by Ian McMurray

Over a dozen boats entered the Rosebery Regatta this year, but judge Dan Nicholson says the bribes were surprisingly sparse considering the very good showing.

Commodore Tony Fry was at home nursing an illness, so his father, Matthew Fry, stepped in as Acting Commodore.

Ignoring the many suggestions from the crowd about categories for the races, Matthew declared that there would be three boats all in, and then the final race between the top two boats from each heat.

After the first heat, there were several complaints. With just too many boats being launched all at once at the starting line, they got tangled up with one another and didn’t get off to a good start. People demanded categories so there wouldn’t be so many boats launched all at once, but Matthew would have none of it.

“Stop complaining! It’s not supposed to be fair,” he told the crowd, blaming the bad launch on “the drunken sailors.”

Then politics started creeping into the event. When Leah’s bright orange boat won the second heat, some in the crowd got excited that it was an omen of the orange party winning the election. In the final race, the bright orange boat got hung up on a bright green boat—a sign that the two parties should form a coalition, said some in the crowd. Alas, neither the orange nor the green boat won. However, just before announcing the winners, the Sea Shanty Choir was singing, ‘Harpooner, it’s time for you to go’.

The winners were: Sakara Azzopardi, Commodore; Molly Fry, Rosebery Cup; Judith Malz, Most Classic Boat; the Yaremchuk family, Most Colourful Boat; Jonathan and Ruth, Most Creative Boat.

Many thanks to the judges – Alison Gaha, Jason Clarke and Dan Nicholson. A thankless job this year, as it turns out.

The Valley Voice is the corporate sponsor of the Rosebery Regatta, which takes place every Labour Day at Rosebery Bay.

Open Houses - Sunday September 13

(Same day as the Hills Garlic Festival)

Bill Lander, 250-551-5652

1111 Kildare St. - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm - $475,000

Beautifully designed 3 storey, 3 bedroom and 2.5 baths on a large subdividable lot. Spacious living area, full basement and 2 detached studios. Private third story master with ensuite. Seconds from the lake.

811 Kildare St. - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm - $260,000

Views of the Valhalla’s from the master bedroom, living room and sun deck. Low heating costs. Excellent finishings. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, finished garage. Commercially zoned.

104 Josephine St. - 11:00 am to 1:00 pm - $312,000

Views of the Lake in New Denver’s orchard on a single lot. 2 bdrm, 2 bath with detached guest room. Fruit trees.