by Jan McMurray

BC Timber Sales has started work in the Edgewood Face area.

The people of Edgewood, particularly about 20 families whose water supply comes from the creeks on Edgewood Face, have been protesting against the proposed logging in their domestic watershed for many years.

“We have managed to stave off the efforts of BCTS to log the hillside above us for many years, so we are feeling a bit defeated and also a bit bewildered at the moment,” said resident Frank Appleton.

Road building began October 19 and is ongoing.

Water users received a letter dated September 29 from BC Timber Sales, notifying them that they were moving forward with the proposed forest development because of the threat of mountain pine beetle in the area.

Residents question this, as they see no evidence of the beetle. Appleton says he walked the area with Doug MacPherson of BCTS in 2007 and no active beetles were found.

A Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations spokesperson told the Valley Voice that this timber sale is within a stand of predominantly lodgepole pine that definitely has mountain pine beetle present. “Although it’s true that the majority of trees have not yet been attacked, we believe that setting a priority of harvesting susceptible pine types, before other areas and before mature trees of market value had been removed from the private property. The property owner has accepted the compensation offered by BCTS.

On October 21, a resident discovered that the fallers had cut trees on his property. Doug MacPherson and Todd Phillips of BCTS and Ray Hascal of Galena Contractors, the company building the road, came to the site and determined that the fallers had indeed crossed the property line, and that five mature trees of market value had been removed from the private property.

The ministry spokesperson.

On October 24, a truck carrying a load of bridge timbers that had been treated with creosote, arrived on site. “Creosote is a known carcinogen that has been banned for bridge use in BC for the past ten years,” said Appleton. He said the protesters did not interfere with the unloading, but blocked the truck’s exit. The trucker called in Ray Hascal, who arrived on site and told the protesters that creosote-treated timbers are not banned from use on temporary bridges, but that he would ask BCTS to provide a steel bridge. “We had another minor victory the next day, when the creosote-treated timbers were hauled away and a steel bridge was brought in,” said Appleton.

Also on the minor victories front, BC Timber Sales has revised its plans since the original proposal was presented to water users in 2007. The original road-building plan included four crossings of Robinson Creek and one of Ferguson Creek. “Now it seems BCTS has responded to our howls of protest over the road and has come up with a route that crosses Robinson Creek twice, and Ferguson Creek not at all,” said Appleton.

The road construction involves extending MacKillop Road, which goes through a residential area. Local people are concerned about industrial traffic on this road. The ministry spokesperson told us that “BCTS is aware of the very legitimate concerns of some residents about traffic and is engaging in discussions and considering options regarding this.”

The spokesperson reports that only road construction will occur this fall. BCTS expects to tender a timber sale license on Edgewood Face during the summer or fall of 2012.

Galena Contractors Ltd. out of Nakusp was commissioned to construct the first half kilometre of the road. The remainder of the road construction – approximately three kilometres – will be advertised for tenders within the coming weeks. “The first section of the road involves an important creek crossing over which BCTS wanted close attention. This contractor was selected directly because of their extensive expertise and local availability,” said the ministry spokesperson.

Indeed, Appleton said when he inspected the work on October 28, “it was gratifying to see Ray Hascal himself running the big hoe on the right of way clearance, and doing a very careful job of it.”

The BCTS response to the residents’ concerns about their water supply is: “Detailed professional assessments related to terrain and hydrology have been completed and an environmental management system is being closely followed. Ensuring the least risk to water quality is a primary focus in all of the planning and operations.”
Local elections: School District 10 board of education

by Jan McMurray

Three candidates are vying for the two trustee-at-large positions on the board of education for School District 10.

The board has five positions. Three are for trustees who represent one of the three zones in the district. These three positions have been filled by acclamation: Pattie Adam (central zone - Nakusp), Quinn DeCourcy (southern zone - Burton and Edgewood) and Carol Bell (eastern zone - New Denver).

We interviewed the three candidates running for the two at-large positions.

Lora Lee Brekke

Why are you running?

I am running for a position as a school board trustee because the education system is very important and we need to keep education an important issue, as kids are our future. I chose to run for an ‘at large’ trustee position so I can represent the entire school district and be a voice for all of the children in our district.

What would you bring to the position?

I have previously served two terms as a board of education trustee, from 2002-2008. While on the school board during that time, I served three terms as vice-chair, served as our board’s representative on the Provincial Council, served one term as vice-chair on the Kootenay-Boundary trustees board, and served on several committees. I have an education background, having majored in education in college, and taking a Teacher’s Assistant course in college. Education has always been important to me.

Why should people vote for you?

I have a strong interest in representing our children as a trustee. I believe in giving our children a good education. With a solid education, they can face life after school. Our children need a good education.

Ganishka Silverfox-Dann

Why are you running?

I feel there should be an aboriginal presence on the school board. We have Métis and Native kids in our district with blonde hair and blue eyes; most people expect to see a dark skinned dark haired child when they think of a aboriginal person. I think it’s important that the school board realizes this presence. I am running to ensure that each child be able to share their nationalities and traditions as each child carries this role of wonderful information that can be shared by all.

What would you bring to the position?

I moved to New Denver 17 years ago and have lived in Nakusp for the last seven years. I was school trustee in Inuvik, Northwest Territories for four years and my main background is in working with aboriginal groups as a community development worker. I was a special advisor to the school board in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut; and the Yukon. I have a lot of experience with school-aged children and their families who have been abused. It is very important that children who have been abused sexually, physically, emotionally or spiritually be recognized, whether they are native or non-native.

Why should people vote for you?

To better ensure an aboriginal presence on the school board. I’m the elder for the Nakusp and area and this is the next step I have to take to make our communities complete for others and myself. It would be an honour and a privilege to serve School District 10. I was involved in the signing of School District 10 Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement that was signed by the board of education, the Aboriginal communities, and the Ministry of Education. I’m honoured to live in a school district that teaches to everyone, not just Aboriginal students. I am running to ensure the stigma of being Aboriginal is understood. We all have something in common we can share with each other.

Judy Struck

Why are you running?

I am running for another term as trustee because I believe being part of a system that helps give our children the best education they deserve.

Police harvested 352 marijuana plants Oct. 23 in the culmination of a month-long investigation of a grow operation on Cedar Creek Road in Winlaw.

Slocan Lake and Nakusp RCMP executed the drug search warrant at a Winlaw residence and found the plants in an outbuilding on the property.

The plants were in various stages of production. A small amount of cocaine was also seized from inside the home.

While police were at the property the home owner returned, but upon seeing the police immediately fled the area in a vehicle.

“On scene members gave chase of the suspect and called for the assistance of a police dog after it was found the suspect had fled the vehicle on foot into a forest close by,” said Const. Alan Van Hussen of the Slocan Lake RCMP.

However, the man was located in the woods close by and arrested by the police dog could arrive.

The 47-year-old Winlaw man has since been released.

For your convenience, we will cut, wrap and freeze your order to your needs.
Will Parker seeks Area H office

by Timothy Schafer

Although a raw rookie on the municipal political stage in the Regional District, Will Parker, candidate for Area H director, has already been involved in politics and community affairs.

Born and raised in the Slocan Valley, he grew up surrounded by a multitude of outspoken and radical political people: US draft dodgers, back-to-the-land folk, Doukhobors and scores of artists and other anti-establishment people.

He was also heavily influenced early on in his life by his grandmother Carpendale, who was very involved in the valley’s politics.

But when he began to consider his own foray onto the Regional District of Central Kootenay Area H stage for the November 19 elections, he was nervous about running for director against incumbent Walter Popoff. At the same time, he couldn’t think of a reason not to run.

“I just felt like it was a good time to run … it’s about honouring a commitment and all of the things I said I was about for most of my life,” he said. “I really feel like I have something to contribute – to board dynamics, to communication and to increasing accessibility to young people and inspiring energy in this area.”

He is not dissatisfied with the job Popoff has done; in fact, he spoke highly of the job the first-term director has done. But he wants to carry a different voice to the board table.

Parker was hesitant to pull apart issues he saw happening in the area and in the Regional District as a whole, but he hinted at creating a better atmosphere for the economy to flourish.

The major issue Area H faces relates to the economy, said Parker, and there need to be decisions made to support local business and create jobs in the area.

Area H incumbent, Walter Popoff, has unfinished business

by Timothy Schafer

There is unfinished business in Area H, at least according to incumbent director and candidate in the upcoming election, Walter Popoff. He pointed to four main issues that propelled him to want to throw his hat back into the regional ring, including development of a Slocan Lake Management Plan.

Will Parker is seeking the Area H Director’s seat.

In serving his first term of office – he was elected in 2008 – Popoff says he became even more deeply immersed in the workings of the Slocan Valley, and feels the lake management plan, establishment of a soil removal bylaw (to address gravel pits), community hall retrofits and the Sandon Heritage Conservation Plan need his further attention.

The Slocan Lake Stewardship Society has had most of the science done for the lake and now the group will be going forward with a study to examine the objectives, issues, scope of work and the methodology for the development of a management plan, said Popoff.

“Along with the major stakeholders, we will develop a guide for future development to have minimal impact on fish habitat, animal habitat, water quality and consideration of community and social values,” he said.

Born in Nelson and raised in the Slocan Valley, Popoff was employed with Telus Communications as an engineering technologist and was headquartered in Nelson until his retirement in 2002.

Over the years, he has been involved as a volunteer in many different organizations in the Slocan Valley, including the Advisory Planning Commission in Area H for eight years (six as chair), and the senior citizen’s counsellor with Interior Health for the Slocan Valley.

Running on the slogan of accessible, responsive local government that reflects community values, Popoff pointed to several accomplishments in his first three-year term of office.

Although still somewhat controversial, he was instrumental in allowing South Slocan to comply with an IHA order to provide treatment to their drinking water, raising an unprecedented $685,000 in grant money and installing a new water tank and treatment plant.

Soil removal bylaw

Popoff wants to see the establishment of a soil removal bylaw to address the issues of gravel pits in Slocan Valley residential neighbourhoods.

The chief inspector of mines does not have a mandate to consider the merits of the proposed gravel pit from a zoning or a land use planning perspective, said Popoff, and extraction of gravel cannot be prohibited by local government.

“However as local government we would be working on a soil removal bylaw to regulate processing, which is defined as drying, stockpiling, crushing, sorting, screening and washing of sand, gravel and rock to produce finished aggregate products,” he said.

Water, water everywhere

Work in the realm of water continued for Popoff during his term. He provided support and funding to Slocan Park CARE Society for the protection of their watershed on Rudcliff Ridge, supported the Mount Sentinel and Pend d’Oreille Ridge Water users in protection of their watersheds, and allocated funding to the Denver Siding water system to assist with upgrades.

Other accomplishments

• Provided funding to the Hills Recreation Commission for the completion of their fire/community hall.

• As a result of subdivision requiring parkland dedication, secured additional parkland property to protect sensitive riparian area at the confluence of Slocan and Little Slocan Rivers.

• Negotiated one of the lowest taxation agreements in RDCK for a library service in the southern portion of Area H.

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Serving the Arrow and Slocan Lakes.
Bears
My final thought for this season’s bear controversy:
If we people of the New Denver area cannot out-smart a bunch of bears...
What does that tell us?
Andrew Rhodes
New Denver

Happy endings for the 99%
How does that proverb go? “When the rake is found, the boy who just yesterday looked so suspicious, today seems just like any other normal boy...” That ladder? It was just in the merry-go-round of being borrowed and I had forgotten who borrowed it.
Three cheers for getting it right in the end. And yet another madge in the direction of – if we have to assume, assume for the best. It’s always different than what we alone can imagine.
The 1%? As someone who grew up with them, they seemed to can imagine.

Daphne Fields
Slocan

Smart Meter initiative
An initiative is being launched under BC Recall and Initiation Act to stop the mandatory installation of smart meters in British Columbia. The executive of StopSmartMeters.ca has gathered a board of consultants and advisors, and in October 2011 will begin a pre-registration program for British Columbians opposed to the ongoing installation of smart meters. See [http://www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/](http://www.stopsmartmetersbc.ca/). The completed pre-registration will enable a swift and successful official petition and an initiative vote similar to the HST campaign.
A further announcement will be made in a few weeks, letting people know when and how they can begin pre-registering for the petition. Please keep watching for this announcement.

There is apparently also a new bill at the BC legislature. Bill 3 which was introduced October 4 and has already second reading, eliminates many of the privacy protections in the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. See http://www.timescolonist.com/opinion/bill%20could%20open%20your%20private%20information/55792/story.html.

C. Postnikoff
Nelson

Your child deserves the best – part 2
Since 2001, the Arrow Lakes School District has lost 60.9% of Special Education Teacher time; 100% of Teacher Librarian time; 65.8% of Counsellor time. These changes have occurred due to BC Liberal government changes to the 2001 teacher’s collective agreement.
The BC Liberal government is making choices about your child’s education. It affects your child’s learning conditions, and their future options. Your child’s learning conditions are strengthened when the standards are set in the teacher’s collective agreement as working conditions.
As teachers, we are working to negotiate with the BC Liberal government and their bargaining agent, BCPSA, for better classroom learning conditions as well as better working conditions for local teachers. We are part of this community and want to work with your children to help them become the best they can be.
Your child deserves the best. Please support BC teachers as we work towards a new collective agreement, so we can be the best for your child.

Nicol Suhr, Arrow Lakes Teachers’ Association president
Nakusp

A Molly
Hughes thanks
On behalf of my spouse Dr. Marlene Finstad and our recent trip to New Denver to leave or contribute money. Molly Hughes “footnote”, we need to acknowledge all of the assistance and courtesies we received from meetings with your Museum Society, officials of both New Denver and the Regional District, along with the pleasure of being able to stay in the fine Molly Hughes Cottage (Cabins on Bigelow Bay). To the helpful ladies of the New Denver thrift shop, a special thanks for creating the artificial flower arrangements and vases for us to have on hand for our cemetery family visit. Our only disappointment – despite searching hard, we could not even locate, let alone photograph, one of your controversial town bears.

Appreciatively,
Sue Moberly
Qualicum Beach

Well wishes to Rutabaga’s
I would like to give big congrats and good luck to Susan and Mark on their new life’s venture, Rutabaga’s Whole Foods.
Having known Mark, I know that the New Denver community is in good and capable hands. Mark has long been an advocate of locally raised and distributed food, being one of the founding members of the Vallican/Winlaw food co-op, the precursor to the Kootenay Co-op in Nelson.
And as fuel prices continue to increase, I agree with him that it will be incumbent on the local community to supply the majority of its own food to remain viable. I am sure with the help of the greater New Denver community, they will be able to satisfy in putting nutritious, wholesome and affordable food to each table.
Again, good luck and good wishes.

Leon R. Pendleton
Edgewood

War toys
$40 billion on war toys and counting to be spent over 30-odd years by Stephen Harper, the warmongering prime minister, who has voted to include Canada in every war since the war in Iraq.
Our schools are underfunded, parents can’t buy homes or find affordable daycare; not enough doctors; infrastructure in this country is crumbling at a phenomenal rate; students being forced to live in poverty to get an advanced education – but this prime minister can find more than $40 billion to feed the world’s obsession for war toys.
In six short years, we have gone from the Lester Pearson Peace Prize Canada to the regime changing interventionist Canada and we are still not done with our war making capacity. Estimates are as high as $460 billion over the next 30-odd years of war preparedness.
What are we preparing for, Armageddon? What is the hidden agenda? We can’t buy a seat on the UN Security Council and our support of Israel is without qualification. Since Stephen Harper unleashed General Rick Hillier to soften Canadians for this expenditure, he has been relentlessly marching toward this end while most Canadians are trying to make ends meet and are distracted by small shiny things.
Where is the outrage for changing the very nature of Canada? We as Canadians should be ashamed.

Leon R. Pendleton
Edgewood

Democracy in action!
FortisBC plans to seek approval from BC Utilities Commission sometime this fall to implement mandatory wireless smart meters for its 166,000 plus customers in the Okanagan and Kootenays.
Changes to our electricity supply require proper, independent oversight protection provided by the BC Utilities Commission as the regulatory body with the responsibility to safeguard our interests. Its function is to review and approve a business plan and provide hearings for public input.
If smart meters are given approval, FortisBC can look forward to wireless devices that produce radiofrequency electromagnetic fields (REF). Unlike cell phones and other wireless devices, smart meters are not optional and cannot be turned off. They radiate 24/7!

The Organization has classified all REF emissions as possibly carcinogenic. This radiation penetrates all living things. Human bodies make ideal antennas. For people who are already electrically sensitive it is going to be a living nightmare. We will be receiving constant radiation from not only our own meter but from our neighbours’ and from the collector tower somewhere in the neighbourhood. Scientists have found that the more prolonged the exposure received, the greater the risks of developing ill health effects. We all have the potential of becoming electrically sensitive if we have long-term exposure. FortisBC is mandating a recognized carcinogen to be added to our homes.

FortisBC has alternatives to the wireless smart meter. Itron, the manufacturer, clearly states that the utility company has free choice if we have long-term exposure.

Some of us that are FortisBC customers still have to make our voices heard. Demand that the BC Utilities Commission (commission.secretary@bcucl.com) notify you when FortisBC submits its application and then send your concerns to them to be placed in the public record. Demand safe technology. Demand wired meters! Sign the online petition at www.citizensforalltechnology.org. Send your concerns to your local MLA.
Together, the people of this province have the power to stop this!

Linda Louise
Winlaw

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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 libellous. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters signed with pseudonyms, except in extraordinary circumstances.
Opinions expressed in published letters are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Valley Voice.

The Valley Voice
November 2, 2011
LETTERS

Smart meters will affect community internet

The installation of Hydro smart meters in the Kootenays will signal the start of a guerrilla war in the 902-928 MHz radio band. Thousands of rural residents in the Kootenays who have been left in the dark by communication monopolies depend on 900 MHz transceivers for their internet access and even basic telephony where Telus has refused to build new lines. These very low-powered 900 MHz networks are installed by community internet societies which are funded by the taxpayers and supported by the BC Connecting Communities agreement imposed on Telus. These citizen-built networks will be trashed by smart meters, transmitting consumer data over the same radio frequencies used by internet societies.

The Liberal government has absolved BC Hydro of any need to make the business case for smart meters before the BC Utilities Commission. Because smart meters use the 900 MHz frequency band designated by Industry Canada as unlicensed, Hydro is not required to prove the safety or examining consequences of large industrial mesh networks that smart meters require.

Smart meters have been rejected by many North American utilities because of the infrastructure cost and doubtful benefits of collecting usage information from their customers. The Liberal government and Hydro seem hell-bent on spending $0.9 billion hanging these devices on millions of homes and businesses in British Columbia.

Low-powered 900 MHz transceivers work in rural areas because of low radio noise and the ability of 900 signals to penetrate nearby foliage. Radio noise generated by smart meters will bounce off reflectors installed for radio-sensitive people. The “fooled” smart meter will transmit user data to another smart meter in the mesh, creating even more noise. Internet societies will be forced to close their 900 networks and rebuild with higher frequency microwave transceivers.

Hydro is not allowing anyone to opt out of smart meters. You can stop this madness now by sending your local Hydro office prior notification stating that you do not consent to them entering your property to install smart meters. Seeking legal remedy after the fact may be more difficult. Google ‘smart meters’ to find more info.

Ed McGinnis
Valgaus

Bear petition may offer solution

The survey that I conducted in front of the New Denver post office on September 19 must have caused some concern for the Valhalla Wilderness Society bear committee. Results of that survey were 28 percent to put up with bears and take extra precautions, 54 percent to promptly remove bears from town and 18 percent undecided. Anne Sherrod claimed my survey was undocumentable, Richard Caniell said it was unbiased and the general conclusion was that I’d like to see all bears shot, locally in town and even out in the wilderness! My actual feelings are reflected in choice B on my survey, which suggests: “Remove bears from town with experience.”

Bears in the backout don’t affect my property or lifestyle in town, and they’re just line one where they belong. Bears when trapped in town I’m quite happy to see them shot, but that is the job and choice of the Conservation Officer from Castlegar.

Anymore, the Valhalla Wilderness Committee has been doing a petition in front of the post office and at stores for some time now, and after reading it twice I decided it’s actually pretty worthwhile and I even signed the darn thing. The gist of the petition is that bears should be live trapped quickly, then moved to a distant suitable location.

Although I’m skeptical about the success rate and doubt the Conservation Office has funds to do this with sufficient effort, it does seem to meet option B of my survey, which is to promptly get the bears out of town before they become habituated. The VWS petition goes on to admit that the real problem bears that become bold likely will face extermination.

What I want to see is a community where everyone can function in a relaxed yet responsible manner, being mindful of not creating needless bear attractors but also not needing to fear that a bear may be lurking in the next back alley, or lavender either. Last summer was a bear circus in New Denver with 14 individuals reported and 11 documented shootings, plus however many got sniffed in rural areas.

Reasonable measures of prevention are acceptable to most folks here, including me. Total repress of daily activities is not realistic, and it seems only the Province can respond to bear presence so I do agree with the idea of rapid response bear removal for later release, even though I think it’ll take a lot of luck and a good spanking for the bear!

It all comes down to territory. We may well live in bear territory, but this is our rightful chunk of it and let’s ensure that the bears are found only in their own vast backcountry domain.

Peter Roulston
New Denver

The Occupy movement: an inside, local scoop

Wow, am I ever excited and grateful to find the umbrella issue – not Wall Street, but the planetary money matrix and the control exerted subversively through the institutions of life as we experience them; moment by moment, thought by thought, day after day.

We all hear what we want to hear and it isn’t any different for the mainstream media. As usual, at the forefront of their coverage is the now global Occupy movement is chaos, sensationalism and anything related to fearfulness. And so the hijacking of what’s really happening continues. The reports make it look like a bunch of angry degenerates blaming the banks and Wall Street for their woes in life.

Being the leader-less leader movement that it is, means that many perspectives are getting their day in court.

Occupy Nelson is not a bunch of campers at City Hall. Occupiers are the hundreds in the parade who took their support to everyday chats in the community that informs others, that promotes dialogue, that permits others to know now there is an outlet for their dissatisfaction. Actual Occupiers are everywhere in the streets where I interviewed them. The camp is more for public presence for lack of a marketing budget.

Men and women in the 1% are also in support of the 99% as seen at westandwiththe99percent.tumblr.com.

“I inherited more than $1 million when I turned 25. I’ve given some of it away but I’m still in the 1%. I stand with the 99%”

“All I want is your vote, your mind and a little bit of your time, so we can have a better world.”

-Amy Goodman, host of Democracy Now

A film by Journeyman.tv, The Revolution Business, shows an inside look into the birth of Otpor, a training school for creating revolutionaries. Otpor, born in Serbia, shows an inside look into the birth of Otpor, a training school for creating revolutionaries. Otpor, born in Serbia, shows an inside look into the birth of Otpor, a training school for creating revolutionaries. Otpor was successful in bypassing electoral democratic process, and seizing power. More Occupiers are every day.

We need a radical redistribution of wealth. I am the 1% I stand with the 99%.

“Being the leader-less leader movement that it is, means that many perspectives are getting their day in court.”

Your Vote Counts... Elect Kathy Provan for Mayor of Silverton

Community • Vision • Accountability

Chairman: Ray Weight & Henning Von Krogh

Moderator: Bill Roberts

All Candidates Forum

New Denver

Thursday, November 10
Bosun Hall
7-9 pm

Mayor elected by acclamation: 
Ann Bunka

Councillor candidates: Dennis Butler, Anita Dunims, Heather Fox, David Hodsall, Wanda Palmer, Nadine Raynolds & Henning Von Krogh

Moderator: Bill Roberts

Let's Talk the Valleys

November 2, 2011

The Valley Voice

All Candidates Forum

Silverton

November 2

Silverton Memorial Hall
7-9 pm

Mayor candidates: Carol Bell & Kathy Provan
Councillors elected by acclamation: Jason Clarke, Ross Johnson, Christopher Love, Leah Main

MAYOR CANDIDATES & COUNCILLORS WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE

Moderator: Bill Roberts

All Candidates Forum

Nakusp

11 Remembrance Day. They will reassemble the camp afterwards.

Marc Heroux

Your Vote Counts...

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Co-sponsored by The

Valley Voice & SLOCAN DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

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

**PUBLIC ELECTION**

**VOTE**

**1. MAYOR – One (1) to be elected**

Surname  |  Usual Names  |  Jurisdiction of Residence
---|---|---
BELLO  |  Carol  |  Silverton, BC
FROVAN  |  Kathy  |  Silverton, BC

VOTING DATES AND LOCATIONS

GENERAL VOTING will be open to qualified electors of the Village of Silverton on:

- **Saturday, November 19, 2011**
- All qualified electors must register at the time of voting by completing the application form in their mail ballot package.
- **203 Lake Avenue Silverton, BC**

ADVANCE VOTING will be available to qualified electors as follows:

- **Wednesday, November 9, 2011**
- **8:00 am to 8:00 pm**
- Silverton Village Office – Council Chambers
- **203 Lake Avenue Silverton, BC**

ELECTOR REGISTRATION

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

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

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

Non-resident property electors must produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity, proof that they are entitled to register in relation to the property, and, if applicable, written consent from the other property owners.

MAIL BALLOT VOTING

Qualified electors may vote by mail if they:

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

REQUESTING A MAIL BALLOT PACKAGE:

Before 4 pm on November 17, 2011 you must submit the following information to the Village Office in by mail P.O. Box 14 Silverton, BC VOY 280, telephone 250-358-2472, fax 250-358-2321 or email administration@silverton.ca:

- Full name
- Residential address
- Address of the property in relation to which you are voting (for non-resident property electors)
- Method of delivery of your mail ballot package:
  - pick up at Village office, OR
  - regular letter mail through Canada Post to residential address, OR
  - regular letter mail through Canada Post to an alternate address that you provide when requesting the ballot package.
- If you are not on the list of electors, to ensure you receive the correct registration application form in your package, you must indicate whether you are going to be registering as a resident or non-resident property elector.

The Village will send out mail ballot packages commencing on or about October 31, 2011. To be counted, your mail ballot must be received by the Chief Election Officer no later than 8 pm on Saturday, November 19, 2011.

Elaine Rogers
Chief Election Officer

Silverton council, October 18:

- Power between Silverton and Slocan discussed at UBCM

by Jan McMurray

- Council granted the use of the Silverton Gallery grounds for Christmas by the Lake on December 2.1 and 4.
- Councilor Bell reported on her attendance at the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) convention. Of note was a meeting about extending the power lines between Silverton and Slocan, attended by representatives of the Ministry of Energy and Mines, BC Hydro, Area H Director Popoff, Slocan Councillor Hilary Elliott and MLA Katrine Conroy. Silverton’s acting CAO is now gathering power outage statistics for the last five years, and Director Popoff will take this information to the minister.
- Bell also reported on a workshop in Nelson hosted by the Ministry of Environment regarding “Extended Producer Responsibility.” The responsibility for the recycling of packaging will shift from taxpayers to producers and consumers. A time frame is being established for the various products.
- Councillor Main reported that YRB would be creating a pull-out in front of Silverton Transport with a picnic table, bear-proof garbage can, and the trees Silverton has purchased through the Trees Canada program. YRB is donating all labour and material except the trees. Main said Councillor Johnson initiated the project.
- Property owners on Turner Street won’t be asked the Village to address their concerns about water safety at Cooper’s Beach, which is becoming increasingly popular for both boaters and swimmers. They support the bylaw prohibiting the landing of powered crafts at the beach, and a designated swimming area marked with a buoyed perimeter rope. Council referred this to the Facilities and Recreation Committee to discuss with staff.
- A new clause in the campground bylaw to discuss with staff.
- A letter from Penelope Stuart asks if the lane running parallel to the lake could be named ‘Penny Lane.’ This was referred to staff and will be brought back to the next meeting.
- Bylaw 471 – 2011, Council Remuneration and Expenses was given third readings, with Councillor Barber opposed. The bylaw sets the annual remuneration for the mayor at $1,000 and for councillors at $1,600.
- Acting CAO Elaine Rogers reported that the funding application for wildlife interface preparedness work has been submitted.

RDCK to create a new park: Crescent Valley Beach

by Timothy Schafer

A 6-acre chunk of very popular, but once private, Slocan Valley land was donated to the people of the Regional District of Central Kootenay at the October 20 regular board meeting.

Crescent Valley Beach is a popular summertime recreation area used extensively by residents and tourists for swimming, rafting and kayaking.

Area H Director Walter Popoff said he was pleased with the board’s decision to accept the lands and reiterated the value of the property to Slocan Valley residents.

“It is a cornerstone of Slocan Valley culture and, hopefully, everyone will have the opportunity to enjoy this property now and forever,” he said.

In accepting the land, the board also adopted a purpose and operations statement for the park (to view the document, visit www.rdck.bc.ca).

The land was transferred to the RDCK in early 2012, planning work will be initiated with the intention of creating a parking lot and safer highway access to the park.

“The next step there is getting all of those vehicles off the road,” Popoff said about the peak summer use the area sees. “We’ll be trying to source funds for that.”
Slocan council, October 17: Monthly instalment plan for Village taxes

by Timothy Schafer

Slocanites could soon pay their Village taxes on a monthly instalment plan.

Council passed first and second reading on a monthly-preauthorized tax and utilities prepayment plan for taxpayers incurring charges during the following year's taxes and utilities.

"As we got through tax time we realized there were a few property owners … that seemed to be having problems paying that money in for their taxes," said Slocan's CAO Jack Richardson. "Sometimes it's hard to come up with that one lump sum at tax time."

The plan is renewable annually, with the cycle commencing in July of each year. People can subscribe to the plan by submitting an application in a form prescribed by the Village.

Monthly instalments are determined individually for each person in the following manner: one-twelfth of the last property tax invoice, net of homeowner's grant; one-twelfth of the previous year's utilities invoice, net of any penalties; plus a percentage addition to compensate for an anticipated increased in property taxes.

The monthly payments were instituted to help the Village balance its budget, Richardson said. Richardson.

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Often it's hard to come up with that one lump sum at tax time," said Slocan's CAO Jack Richardson. "Sometimes it's hard to come up with that one lump sum at tax time."

The monthly payments were instituted to help the Village balance its budget, Richardson said. The monthly payments were instituted to help the Village balance its budget, Richardson said. Often it's hard to come up with that one lump sum at tax time."
The future is uncertain for the Regional District’s wildland urban interface fuel treatment program. Last year, the Province funded Kootenay projects – fuel treatment strategies mitigate wildfire risk in the urban interface and preserve old forest structure – for the total shot of $5 million.

However, the provincial government has begun to download the program onto municipal governments, requiring local governments to pay 10 percent of the program costs under $100,000 for next year, and 25 percent of the costs over $100,000.

That cost could spell the end of wildland fuel treatment, a necessary adjunct to continued safe rural living from the potential spread of forest fires in the West Kootenay, said Area D Director Andy Shadrack.

On September 19, Shadrack chaired a meeting with several of the companies that carried out the projects, including community forest groups. “I don’t know how we’re going to continue beyond this year,” he said.

“This year’s projects will go ahead, but the question is, ‘what will we do for future years?’” The Province needs to make up its mind over whether the Regional District can use money left over from last year to fund their percentage share of what they have to cough up this year, said Shadrack.

Shadrack proposed at the October 20 RDCK board meeting to allow directors to use Community Development (Hydro in lieu of taxes) funding to get people back to work on carrying out the fuel prescriptions if and when the Province released some funding.

It was voted down as not being a “priority,” leaving few options for the continuation of the fuel treatments, said Shadrack, the least desirable of which is to tax for the service.

On one hand voters are saying not to raise RDCK’s mill rate, said Shadrack, Chief Administrative Officer Jim Gustafson, then it would require a referendum for the RDCK to fund their percentage share of what they have to cough up this year.

That cost could spell the end of the continuation of the fuel treatments, said Shadrack.

“Use of social media tools will lead to greater accountability and responsiveness to the public,” reads a Social Media Policy report from RDCK’s Lauren Rethoret and Meeri Durand, presented to the board of directors at its October 20 meeting.

The Province released some funding. “I don’t know how we’re going to share photos, videos and links to blogs, wikis, podcasts and websites to share photos, videos and links to websites,” said Area E Director Mark Durand, presented to the board of directors at its October 20 meeting.

Training begins this year and RDCK social media websites will be made available for use in 2012. Redefining the RDCK, and develop a Twitter account for use by RDCK staff for dissemination of information, emergency information, employment information and health and safety information.

“Use of social media tools will lead to greater accountability and responsiveness to the public,” reads a Social Media Policy report from RDCK’s Lauren Rethoret and Meeri Durand, presented to the board of directors at its October 20 meeting.

The trial will consist of training the RDCK and develop a Twitter account for use by RDCK staff for dissemination of information, emergency information, employment information and health and safety information.

There are difficulties in creating a tax service for this work, said RDCK Chief Administrative Officer Jim Gustafson, since it would require a referendum for the entire regional district.

Five projects on the list for this year – in Area B, E, and K – will go ahead.

The Valley Voice
November 2, 2011
Planning for new ways to recycle packaging and printed paper

by Timothy Schafer

The onus for waste is shifting and West Kootenay folk have a say in how that happens.

At issue is the latest Recycling Regulation Amendment, which now includes packaging and printed paper (PPP) as a product category since May 19 of this year.

In one year, by November 19, 2012, producers of packaging and printed paper in BC have to create a stewardship plan detailing how they will finance and manage the recycling of PPP. These plans must be implemented by May 2014.

On October 14, representatives from the BC Ministry of Environment and Multi-Material BC, a not-for-profit agency representing producers of packaging and printed paper, were in Nelson to begin gathering input on how to manage the recycling of PPP in communities across BC.

For those who could not make the Nelson meeting – the only one scheduled for the southeast – to lend their voice to the plan, there is still a chance to be heard. Placespeak (http://www.placespeak.com/topic.php?id=321) is an online tool that gives people a voice and assures proponents are getting information from all the right places.

Packaging and printed paper were chosen after public discontent made it apparent something had to change. With 262 letters to the Minister of Environment in the last five years, over 20,000 inquiries to provincial recycling hotline (2010) and increasing costs to local government, the Province changed the recycling rules.

Printed paper includes yellow pages, newspapers, etc., while packaging includes anything a product is wrapped or shipped in, as well as the marketing information provided with the product.

Multi-Material BC includes the Retail Council of Canada (RCC), Food and Consumer Products of Canada (FCPC), Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers (CFIG), Canadian Restaurant and Food Services Association (CRFA) and the Canadian Newspaper Association (CNA).

The current focus of MMBC is determining the current state of the municipal recycling system in BC to inform the development of a range of options for consideration.

Activity-to-date

• Formally incorporated MMBC with interim Board of Directors
• Informal meetings and discussions with local governments, private sector companies, and other organizations currently involved in residential recycling
• Issued RFP in July to assess capacity and cost of current system and identify potential options for developing a program plan
• Early in the process with no key decisions expected until next year

Action plan for extended producer responsibility

Phase 1 (by 2015)
• packaging and printed materials
• electronics and electrical
• mercury-containing products (including lamps)
• household hazardous and special wastes
• automotive products
Phases 2 (by 2017)
• construction and demolition materials
• furniture, textiles and carpet

North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society lands accreditation

North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society has received accreditation.

The Council on Accreditation (COA) has bestowed the North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society with accreditation due to their high performance standards.

COA is proud to recognize North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society as one of the outstanding providers. The agency has 22 programs and 30 staff members, making it one of North Kootenay Lake’s larger employers.

COA accreditation is an objective and reliable verification that provides confidence and support to an organization’s service recipients, board members, staff and community partners.

The accreditation process involves a detailed review and analysis of both an organization’s administrative operations and its service delivery practices. All are measured against national standards of best practice.

COA reviews and accredits the entire organization, not just specific programs. Founded in 1977, COA is an independent, not-for-profit international accreditor of the full continuum of community-based behavioral health care.
PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given to the electors of the Village of Nakusp that an election by voting is necessary to elect a Mayor and Four Councillors and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

**MAYOR – One (1) to be elected**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Usual Name(s)</th>
<th>Jurisdiction of Residence</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HAMLING</td>
<td>Karen E.</td>
<td>Nakusp, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUHR</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nakusp, BC</td>
</tr>
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**COUNCILLOR – Four (4) to be elected**

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<th>Usual Name(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DUCHAINE</td>
<td>Guy</td>
<td>Nakusp, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEPPNER</td>
<td>Len</td>
<td>Nakusp, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUGHES</td>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Nakusp, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MUELLER</td>
<td>Ulli</td>
<td>Nakusp, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARKINSON</td>
<td>D. Robert</td>
<td>Area ‘K’, Regional District of Central Kootenay, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ZELEZNİK</td>
<td>Tom</td>
<td>Area ‘K’, Regional District of Central Kootenay, BC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MAIL BALLOT VOTING**

MAIL BALLOT must be received by the Chief Election Officer no later than 8 pm on Saturday, November 19, 2011.

**ADVANCE VOTING**

Nakusp & District Sports Complex Auditorium
200 – 8th Avenue NW
Nakusp, BC

**GENERAL VOTING**

Nakusp & District Sports Complex Auditorium
200 – 8th Avenue NW
Nakusp, BC

**A SPECIAL VOTING OPPORTUNITY**

The Best Lumberyard

The Valley Voice
November 25, 2011

BY VOTING

Nakusp council, October 25: Village in tip-top financial shape

by Timothy Schafer

The third quarter financial report for the Village is rosy.

With most departments operating at or below budget, and revenue overall up $185,000 to date over the projected figure, the dollars and cents of the Village’s coffers was given a ringing endorsement by council.

“The overall message is … there isn’t anything having a big overall effect on the bottom line of the budget this year, and all departments need to be commended for the management of their budgets,” said Acting CAO Linda Tynan. The Village is slightly under budget overall in spite of one specific challenge, said treasurer Don Willems. The Nakusp Hot Springs have seen a decline in revenue over the last few years and that decline continued in 2011, said Willems. Given that decline, the Village has done a very good job on holding the line on expenses, he said.

In one year, the surplus of $64,000, including debt servicing costs, was further reduced to $15,000, after a corresponding rise in operating expenses from $353,319 (actual) in 2010 to $396,359 (budget) in 2011. However, the third quarter figures show the hot springs at only 67 percent of their budget with only one quarter of the fiscal year left. The $426,737 in overall revenue the hot springs brought in last year was higher than the $306,454 the facility has brought in so far this year, about eight percent less than where it should be at this time.

“This year, despite that decline in revenue, they are at least holding their own with their budget,” Willems said. Taking care of business

Nobody likes unfinished business.

So when the issue of Nakusp Village council’s list of 14 items of unfinished business came up, Mayor Hamling took exception.

“It’s just been one of those times when we were just hit with a whole bunch of things that have to take priority because they affect people’s taxes and their lives,” she said. “The rest of these items we are dealing with as quickly as we can.”

The unfinished business included the chicken bylaw proposal, permissive tax exemption policy review, the memorial tree policy, and four industrial. Council hits a bump in the road

The raceway known as Eighth Avenue and Broadway made a pit stop council October 25.

Councillor Joseph Hughes resurrected a desire to see a plan put in place to deal with people racing down the section from the Emergency Services Building to the cemetery downtown.

However, council had directed Village staff to work with Nakusp-RCMP to find a way to increase enforcement in the area without having to install speed bumps. The area is currently identified as a playground zone, with signage located adjacent to the area indicating a 30 kilometer-per-hour zone from dawn to dusk. The upper part of Eighth Avenue is also designated a school zone.

“Personally, I think that RCMP assistance, signage … is not going to make the difference, because, unfortunately, I think that it comes down to irresponsible individuals that frankly don’t really care,” said Hughes.

Signs work in school zones because people respect that. There is also no fence around the park, unlike the school, he said. As Councillor Ulli Mueller had done five years ago, he asked council to consider speed bumps in the area.

“I don’t think it is an impossible thing in a community to have to deal with three or four speed bumps,” he said.

A staff report said the installation of speed bumps has an impact on other vehicles as well, including emergency service vehicles, recreational vehicles and Village equipment (underbody plows). The estimated cost for a speed bump is $800. The matter was referred back to staff for more information.

Mending bridges and boardwalks

The Nakusp and Area Community Trails Society has scored a major coup.

After completing a survey of all bridges and boardwalks on the Hot Springs Trail to determine what kind of repair and replacement they might need, they sent their data to the Province.

The society counted seven bridges and several new boardwalks that were in need of repair. To their surprise, reported Councillor Ulli Mueller, the society was told they would receive new bridges for the trail. The bridges will be prefabricated in Castlegar and airlifted by helicopter to the site next spring for installation.

The society will have to install them. “It’s really nice when you see members in a community stand up and say this needs to be done … and then doing it,” said Mayor Karen Hamling.
Nakusp resident expands business to include permaculture

by Jan McMurray

Ty Klassen’s garden and yard care business in Nakusp is expanding, and is now called ‘Permaculture Plus.’

“I am expanding into helping people to design, implement and manage food-producing, energy-efficient ecosystems,” said Klassen.

He was first introduced to permaculture last year through Selkirk College in Nakusp with teacher Valerie Kraft. He has since taken a workshop with Rob Avis from ‘Verge,’ a permaculture business in Calgary, and a two-week course at the Kootenay Permaculture Institute near Winlaw with Gregoire Lamoureux.

Klassen is now offering free one-hour consultations with potential clients. This involves visiting the property and asking a number of questions that determine what the potential clients’ needs are in terms of developing their land.

“This is a good time for me to do consultations and prep work so I can spend the winter doing the designs and then be ready to go in the spring,” he said. “Winter is a good time for dreaming something into being.”

The ‘Plus’ part of ‘Permaculture Plus’ includes garden and yard care, which Klassen has been doing in Nakusp for two years now; snow shoveling; and writing, editing and research. Klassen was assistant editor at a community newspaper in Winnipeg before he came to this area.

It was WWOOFing that brought him to the Kootenays. Under the Willing Workers on Organic Farms program, Klassen worked at different farms in the area for about four years. “It exposed me to a broad range of experiences with many wonderful teachers who have been living close to the land for quite some time. It gave me a lot of tools to inform my work,” he said.

Permaculture is about creating an ecosystem that people are a part of and where everything is connected and in balance, explained Klassen. Energy is constantly recycled so it never leaves the system, and every element in a permaculture design ideally has more than one purpose. Cooperation is key.

“We cooperate with the land and it gives us what we need,” said Klassen. “Once you’ve designed a system to function with maximum efficiency – if you plan it and implement it properly – there is way less maintenance in the long run.”

Klassen’s extensive community work includes helping to create and maintain Nakusp’s community garden. Valarie Kraft helped the volunteers to create one permaculture section in the garden behind St. Mark’s Anglican Church.

“I put my heart into everything I do,” said Klassen. “I believe that what I do on a small scale will have a ripple effect and will benefit the whole.”

Contact Klassen and Permaculture Plus at 250-265-3344.

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Custom Cutting & Sausage Making, Curing & Smoking of Bacon & Hams Mobile BBQ Services & Hog Roaster Rentals

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Phone/Fax: 250-226-7803
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BAKERY

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Columbia River Treaty

Learn about our past. Think about our future.

YOU’RE invited

November 2, 2011 The Valley Voice

COMMUNITY

Permaculture Plus

Helping you design, implement and manage your own food-producing, energy-efficient ecosystem

For free 1 hour consultation call Ty Klassen

250 265 3344

A socially conscious business

Creating landscapes for the future...

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Carpentry Foundation

- 24 weeks | Nakusp

This program consists of a classroom-based technical component and a shop-based practical component. Graduates of the program earn up to 450 hours of practical workplace credit and the Level One technical training component of the Carpentry apprenticeship.

Individuals who are presently employed or unemployed may be eligible for funding.

REGISTER TODAY for January 30, 2012 entry.

For details call 1.866.391.6691, or 1.250.265.4077 or visit selkirk.ca/trades.
COMMUNITY

Lucas Meyers presents DECK in Kaslo and Silverton

DECK examines the fine line between perfectionism and obsession, chaos and freedom and why a piece of 2x6 lumber isn’t really two inches by six inches – not even close.

‘DECK: How I instigated then overcame an existential crisis through home improvement,’ written and performed by Lucas Myers, is coming to the Langham Theatre in Kaslo Friday, November 4 and 5 at 7:30 pm and the Silverton Gallery on November 18 at 7:30 pm. DECK stars Cliv, a meticulous single parent of two who has been forced to reassess his future after taking major losses in the recent recession. He embraces a new start as a small-town, eco-conscious, back-to-the-lander. His attempts at self-sufficiency are hijacked by a bad house buy and he is forced to try his hand at home improvement.

Enter Corey, the charismatic carpenter who takes Cliv under his wing and offers to lend a hand. As Cliv is drawn into Corey’s world of free-wheeling free living, Cliv begins to lose his grasp on reality and is consumed by suspicions of Corey’s true motives.

DECK is a darkly hilarious take on the modern milieu of a small town, semi-urban environment.

Please note: This performance is not suitable for children.

Warning: power tools, physics and partial nudity.

Advance tickets ($10) available for the Kaslo show at Sunnyvale Naturals and Willow Home Gallery; and for the Silverton show at the Cap and Sancer. If there are any ticket sales left, they will be available at the door ($12).

USES FOR POPPY DONATIONS

Money donated during The Royal Canadian Legion’s annual Poppy-Remembrance Campaign is placed in Poppy Trust Funds. Some of the many ways this money is used to improve life for people in your community include:

- providing assistance to needy ex-service members and their dependants
- supporting medical training and research, and the provision of community medical appliances which will assist in the care of veterans.
- funding the purchase, construction and maintenance of housing and care facilities for elderly and disabled persons
- providing bursaries to children and grandchildren of veterans
- supporting drop-in centres for seniors and funding meals-on-wheels services

Royal Canadian Legion – Nakusp

Remembrance Day
in honour of those who served
Friday, November 11
10:00 am
In the Legion Hall

A parade to the Cenotaph will be followed with a short service, 2 minutes of silence and the laying of the wreaths. 408 Helicopter Squadron will be in attendance. A helicopter will be at the airport for interested individuals to see.

All members of the community are cordially invited to attend. There will be tea and coffee for the adults, and hot chocolate for the children, served in the Hall after the parade!

Stop and take time to Remember!

RDCK discovers gaffe in greenhouse gas emissions calculations

For the remainder of 2011 and through 2012, the RDCK will continue its carbon emissions reductions by: making further efficiency improvements to its fleet; amending existing policies to support emissions considerations in management and purchasing decision; and evaluating the efficiency of key buildings and investigating associated opportunities to reduce natural gas emissions.

Simplified resource road rules to benefit industry, users submitted

West Kootenay folk are invited to comment on a policy project for better regulation of natural resource roads. The Natural Resource Road Act Project aims to establish a single legislative framework for the use, construction, maintenance and management of resource roads. This simplified process will create certainty about rules and regulations, and provide consistency for all sectors and resource road users.

A discussion paper has been prepared to inform stakeholders and to encourage feedback on proposed principles and key policies for consideration. This discussion paper is available online at: http://www.for.gov.bc.ca/mlrms/

In addition to online feedback, face-to-face meetings will be held with stakeholders from a range of sectors. Submissions are being accepted until Thursday, December 15 and will be used to help develop the Natural Resource Road Act.

Quick facts
- BC has an estimated 450,000 kilometers of resource roads.
- Although resource roads are different from public highways, they also provide access to dozens of rural communities and isolated settlements.
Secure the Shore project on Bellevue wraps up

The final seeds were sown last week in New Denver’s Secure the Shore restoration project. The seed mix, including lupines, pearly everlasting and native grasses, was spread over all bare soil on the site. Project manager Caitlin Perry wrapped up the project with volunteers who will monitor the health of the plants and manage a summer watering program.

On October 7 and 8, 18 volunteers, including seven Lucerne students, planted 48 native shrubs (mock orange, ocean spray, Saskatoon, hazelnut, Nootka rose, snowberry, Oregon grape) and 15 trees (mountain ash, larch, paper birch, aspen and pine).

Working on the steep slope was a challenge. Soil had to be lowered down to the planting holes by a bucket brigade. A number of the native shrubs and trees installed on the area above the Mori Trail were tagged by volunteers with a dedication to a special person in their lives. Hungry workers enjoyed coffee donated by the Apple Tree as well as snacks and hot cocoa.

Most of the shrubs were planted on the steep slope below Bellevue Street and most of the trees were planted on the lower site where damaged trees were removed this spring. The selection of mainly deciduous native plants should stabilize the damaged slope, discourage invasive species, re-establish song bird habitat, and provide a pleasing show of blooms each summer.

Restoration on the Kohan Reflection Garden shoreline is planned for spring 2012.

Secure the Shore thanks all the volunteers who brought their enthusiasm and skills to the project. Eileen Senyk of Benchmark Environmental Services, Castlegar, provided a thorough and professional Ecosystem Restoration Plan.

Columbia Basin Trust, BC Hydro Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, Villages of New Denver and Silverton, KSCU Community Foundation, RDCK Community Development Fund, and Slocan Lake Garden Society were the generous funders.
VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER

NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given to the electors of the Village of New Denver that an election by voting is necessary to elect four Councillors, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

COUNCILLOR – Four (4) to be elected

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Usual Names</th>
<th>Jurisdiction of Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BUTLER</td>
<td>Dennis</td>
<td>722 9th Avenue, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUMINS</td>
<td>Anita</td>
<td>713 Josephine Street, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOX</td>
<td>Heather</td>
<td>1219 Kootenay Street, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HODSALL</td>
<td>David</td>
<td>612 10th Avenue, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PALMER</td>
<td>Wanda</td>
<td>516 8th Avenue, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAYNOLDS</td>
<td>Nadine</td>
<td>310 Kildare Street, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VON KROGH</td>
<td>Henning</td>
<td>308 5th Avenue, New Denver, BC</td>
</tr>
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</table>

VOTING DATES AND LOCATIONS

GENERAL VOTING will be open to qualified electors of the Village of New Denver on Saturday, November 19, 2011, between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 p.m. at the following location:

VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
115 SLOCAN AVENUE, NEW DENVER, BC

ADVANCE VOTING will be available to qualified electors on Wednesday, November 9, 2011, between the hours of 8:00 am to 8:00 p.m. at the following location:

VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER MUNICIPAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
115 SLOCAN AVENUE, NEW DENVER, BC

ELECTOR REGISTRATION (list of electors used)

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

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

Voting is open to all eligible electors as defined under Section 299 of the Local Government Act. Inability to read or write is not a disqualification. If you are not on the roll, you may register on election day.

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

Non-resident property electors must produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove that they are entitled to register in relation to the property, and, if applicable, written consent from the other property owners.

MAIL BALLOT VOTING

As authorized by Section 100 of the Local Government Act, voting and registration may be done by mail for those, who are being duly qualified electors, meet the following criteria:

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

REQUESTING A MAIL BALLOT PACKAGE:

Before 4:00 p.m. on November 17, 2011 you must submit the following information in writing to the Village Office in New Denver, by mail (PO Box 40, New Denver, BC, V0G 1S0), by fax (250-358-7251), by email (newdenver@netidea.com), or in person (New Denver Municipal Office, 115 Slocan Avenue, New Denver, BC):

1. Full name,
2. Residential address,
3. Address of the property in relation to which you are voting (for non-resident property electors),
4. Method of delivery of your mail ballot package:
   (a) pick up at Village office, OR
   (b) regular letter mail through Canada Post to residential address, OR
   (c) regular letter mail through Canada Post to an alternate address that you provide when requesting the ballot package,
5. If you are not on the list of electors, to ensure you receive the correct registration application form in your package, you must indicate whether you are going to be registering as a resident or non-resident property electors.

The Village will send out mail ballot packages commencing on or about October 31, 2011. To be counted, your mail ballot must be received by the Chief Election Officer no later than 8 pm on Saturday, November 19, 2011.

Carol Gordon
Chief Election Officer
Village of New Denver
by Jan McMurray  
• Bill Billups, on behalf of the Kaslo Boat Club and WoodWorks BC, attended to promote the use of wood in the proposed new fire hall emergency services building in Kaslo. The Kaslo Bay Marine Club and Kaslo Boat Club have contributed $5,000 each for this purpose. The money was raised from the sale of firewood and was available to anyone with a firewood permit. Mr. Billups, representing WoodWorks BC, attended to promote the use of wood in the proposed new fire hall emergency services building in Kaslo. The Kaslo Bay Marine Club and Kaslo Boat Club have contributed $5,000 each for this purpose. The money was raised from the sale of firewood and was available to anyone with a firewood permit. Mr. Billups, representing WoodWorks BC, attended to promote the use of wood in the proposed new fire hall emergency services building in Kaslo. The Kaslo Bay Marine Club and Kaslo Boat Club have contributed $5,000 each for this purpose. The money was raised from the sale of firewood and was available to anyone with a firewood permit.

Another funding application will go to Parks Canada’s National Historic Sites Program, for $97,448, with council committing $48,725 as matching funds. Much of the Village’s share is unexpended from the 2011 budget and the 2012 budget, and the Village is unable to commit some 50% of the total amount requested, which is $205,000. Councillor Cormie added that the Village’s share may be the only matching funds available from the Province for the new fire hall emergency services building in Kaslo.

The minutes noted that the Village will respond to the letter from the Nechako Valley Environmental Club, expressing concern that heritage guidelines be followed in the renovations. The response will advise that council shares those concerns.

The Committee of the whole was recommitted on Monday, November 7, 2011. The Village agreed to pay for a one-year lease of the site, the decision will be up to the RDCK Board.

The decision was made by the RDCK’s Central Subregion Resource Recovery Committee if the recommendation is to retain the existing site. If the recommendation is to develop a new site, the decision will be up to the RDCK Board.

The existing site near the airport, the Jones property across from the Pine Ridge subdivision, and a property on the Back Road were evaluated in the study. At the end of the study, there is an evaluation summary that gives each site a score on a list of criteria. The existing site scores highest with 88 points, followed by the Back Road property with 78 points, and the Jones property with 75 points. Perhaps the biggest advantage of the existing site is that it has the capacity for wood grinding and composting, whereas the Back Road property has no such capacity.

By the end of the study, there was no consensus among the consultants to recommend one of the three sites or another option for the new site. The Ministry of Transportation has agreed to budget $70,000 for this upgrade and the Ministry of Transportation has agreed to budget $70,000 for this upgrade and the Ministry of Transportation has agreed to budget $70,000 for this upgrade.

The biggest problem with the existing site is road access. The current road needs upgrading between the airport and the transfer station. The RDCK has budgeted $70,000 for this upgrade and the Ministry of Transportation has agreed to budget $70,000 for this upgrade and the Ministry of Transportation has agreed to budget $70,000 for this upgrade.

The RDCK is willing to give the Village an annual fee to help maintain these two roads, but feels that the Village should shoulder the responsibility of owning the roads. The RDCK needs secure road access to the transfer station, a Memorandum of Understanding would have to be drawn up between the Village and the RDCK if the existing transfer station site is chosen.

The Jones property and the Back Road property both scored higher than the existing site for easy access and for road maintenance. However, residents of both areas said they felt increased traffic resulting from a transfer station in their neighborhoods would be dangerous. The consultant said that the Ministry of Transportation would require a traffic study for these two sites, and if more infrastructure were needed as a result of the studies, the cost of developing the sites could increase dramatically.

The minutes noted that the Village will respond to the letter from the Nechako Valley Environmental Club, expressing concern that heritage guidelines be followed in the renovations. The response will advise that council shares those concerns.

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The Committee of the whole was recommitted on Monday, November 7, 2011.
**Ecotourism business proposed for Slocan City**

by Timothy Schafer

Winlaw’s Christine and Valenito Berger are planning to build an adventure tourism business on their property in Slocan City at 611 Slocan Street.

At the October 17 council meeting, they sought council’s approval in principle for the ecotourism business, which they say will benefit Slocan and help the region become known as a world-class destination for adventure tourism.

Council directed staff to meet with the applicants to further discuss such issues as access, servicing and extending services across the undeveloped Village lane, and to report back to council.

“If any new business opportunity within the Village should be given positive consideration,” reads a staff report back to council.

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“The Bergers would be offering tours for all different skill levels throughout the Slocan Valley, such as bike tours, hiking tours and river excursions.”

**RCMP continue to focus on drug busts**

In January of 2011, a judge ordered the forfeiture of $15,000 cash — seized during an outdoor grow operation investigation — as offence-related property to the Crown. A recent drug investigation also revealed a house in Winlaw contained a clandestine lab. It was using a “dangerous extraction” technique when police discovered the “cannabis grow kits” used to extract weed oil from marijuana plant material.

Constable Foley said RCMP remain committed within arm’s reach of ammunition in seven drug investigations.

“The presence of firearms is, unfortunately, not a rare occurrence since many marijuana growers are at risk of being ripped off by competing rivals,” said Constable Foley, “including their own local and non-local marijuana growers and drug traffickers.”

Many “grow rips” occur in the forests of a home invasion which typically involves masked or unmasked subjects forcefully breaking into a home, whether the occupants are there or not, Constable Foley added.

“Cultivators, therefore, often protect themselves using the most reliable means: guns and other weapons.”

**Slocan holds OCP public hearing**

The public hearing for Slocan’s Official Community Plan (OCP) was held October 20. About 25 people were in attendance.

Most of the questions raised at the meeting had to do with zoning rather than with the OCP. Trish Richardson, who sat on the OCP committee, expressed her intention of bringing the zoning bylaw into the meeting and building bylaw parameters. Another resident later commented that she does not want changes in town.

The OCP states that value added forestry will be very few changes.

Malin Christensson, who sat on the OCP committee, expressed support for the OCP document, especially the new section, “Agricultural and Food Security,” and the possibility of having chickens in town. This section states: “Investigate the keeping of chickens for personal use in residential areas, with restrictions, therefore, other local marijuana growers and drug traffickers.”

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“Cultivators, therefore, often protect themselves using the most reliable means: guns and other weapons.”

**NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING 2011 GENERAL LOCAL ELECTION**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given to the electors of the Village of Slocan that an election by voting is necessary to elect a Mayor, four Councillors for a three-year term commencing December 2011 and ending after the general election in 2014, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Mayor – One (1) to be elected</th>
<th>Usual Names</th>
<th>Jurisdiction of Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GATES</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>Slocan, B.C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERRIE</td>
<td>Madeleine</td>
<td>Slocan, B.C.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Surname</th>
<th>Councillor – Four (4) to be elected</th>
<th>Usual Names</th>
<th>Jurisdiction of Residence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ZWER</td>
<td>Glenda</td>
<td>Brandon, B.C.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELLIOTT</td>
<td>Hillary</td>
<td>Slocan, B.C.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PATTERSON</td>
<td>Jean</td>
<td>Slocan, B.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>VERGIN</td>
<td>Nick</td>
<td>Highway 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>MCOREAL</td>
<td>Patricia</td>
<td>Slocan, B.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LUNN</td>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Slocan, B.C.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

GENERAL VOTING DAY will be open to qualified electors of the Village of Slocan on Saturday, November 19, 2011 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at the Village of Slocan Council Chambers - 503 Slocan Street, Slocan.

ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES will be open at the Village of Slocan Council Chambers, 503 Slocan Street on Wednesday, November 9, 2011 and Wednesday, November 16, 2011, between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm.

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

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

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

Non-resident property electors must produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity, proof that they are entitled to register in relation to the property, and, if applicable, written consent from the other property owners.
RDCK grapples with Slocan Lake floodplain relaxation request

by Timothy Schafer

Owners of a private property within Valhalla Provincial Park boundaries will have to wait a little longer for a Regional District board decision on their request to have a floodplain setback relaxed so they can build closer to the shore of Slocan Lake.

The Regional District of Central Kootenay Rural Affairs Committee has referred the controversial matter back to RDCK staff for a site review, said committee chair and Area D Director Andy Shadrack.

“Some information came to light and staff wanted to go and check the site in relation to the reports that have been received," he said. “There appears to be a contradiction in one of the reports and the information supplied to the Regional District, so we have to look at it [again].”

The owners applied for the setback relaxation in August.

The 1.72-acre Area H property owned by Richard and Endang Turner of Oyama, south of Vernon, is within the boundaries of Valhalla Provincial Park. Having no road access or power, it is characterized by steep southwest shoreline with site restrictions related to topography, approximately three kilometres north of the Village of Slocan.

The property slope is at a 30-degree gradient for most of the land above Slocan Lake. As a result, placing a structure on the property would require manual labour and the use of solar power, so maximization of southern exposure is important.

In a report dated October 19 to the RDCK’s Rural Affairs Committee, Senior Planner Meeri Durand recommended the floodplain setback be changed from 15 metres to five metres, as the owners had requested, subject to approval of a site remediation plan.

It was felt that if the owners had to place a structure somewhere else on the property, it would result in further land clearing and modification, Durand said in the report. The structure had to be exposed to maximize alternative power generation.

Durand said a professional report dismissed impacts to Slocan Lake as negligible as long as appropriate mitigation measures were taken, and these would be included in the development permit.

“The relative isolation of this property and adjacent properties would indicate the circumstances of this application are unique and cannot be construed as setting a precedent,” Durand said in her report to the committee.

But the request has sparked some opposition, from public and private concerns. The Slocan Lake Stewardship Society is against allowing the request, even though a site report notes that the beach has been disturbed and no longer provides fish habitat.

“To use the illegally degraded state of the beach as a reason to allow development is to reward those who have disturbed it,” said society president Therese DosCamp in a letter to RDCK’s Rural Affairs Committee. “It is far more appropriate to recommend restoration of the foreshore than to recommend the relaxation of rules that protect the foreshore from further disturbance.”

Area H Director Walter Popoff also opposes approving the setback, citing the 7-metre freeboard wave allowance – for wind setup and wave run-up on the shore – to be too low. He said it is more appropriate to set the allowance at two metres, the height of the waves that caused significant damage to the Silverton breakwater on May 28, 2001.

“This … would be more reflective of the actual wave action during the high windstorm on Slocan Lake,” he said.

A report on the property states the slopes are well drained and stable, and the proposed building site is above the flood construction level for the lake.

Senior Habitat Biologist Tola Cooper with Fisheries and Oceans Canada feels a reduction in the setback is not acceptable, especially with the riparian area already lacking.

“This may set a precedence that will result in increased impacts along the lake,” Cooper said.

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Public hearing set for allowing single family homes on waterfront

by Timothy Schafer

The will have another say in the insurance tangle snaring single-family homeowners on Nakusp’s waterfront.

A public hearing has been set for November 21 at 6:30 pm on amendments to the Official Community Plan (OCP) and zoning bylaws to allow single-family homes on the waterfront.

Council gave two readings to the amendment bylaws at the October 25 council meeting.

A change in the policies and procedures of local insurance and mortgage companies is affecting waterfront residents with single-family dwellings, currently deemed an unallowable use in the Lakeshore Development zone (LD1), which extends along the waterfront from the boat launch on Nelson Avenue west to Eighth Avenue.

The many single-family dwellings that were built years ago in this zone are grandfathered or “legally non-conforming.”

As a result, many homeowners have had difficulty obtaining mortgages, and insurance to the maximum value of their properties.

At an October 12 public meeting to gauge public opinion on moving forward on the amendments, there was “large representation” of 30 people, said Village Acting Chief Administrative Officer Linda Tynan, and there was no opposition.

“If anything, the message we heard was maybe what council should be doing is in 2012 when you revisit your OCP and zoning bylaw is look at limiting the number of commercial developments,” she said.

The intent of the LD1 zone was to ensure waterfront properties would not be developed into private residences, making the waterfront inaccessible to the public.

Adding single-family homes to the list of allowable uses means that residential homes can be built on any lot in the LD1 zone.

SANDON CREEK INVESTIGATION CLEARS SILversMITH POWER

by Jan Mcmurray

The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRIO) has completed its investigation following the discovery of dead fish in a dried-up Sandon creakbed on September 24.

Sandon Creek and its tributary, White Creek, had both run dry below the dam that diverts water to the Silversmith hydroelectric plant. All the water from the creeks was being diverted.

The investigation found that Silversmith Power and Light was diverting significantly less than their licence entitlement – 50 percent less for Sandon Creek and 70 percent for White Creek.

A ministry spokesperson explained that the licence does not require Silversmith to leave any minimum flows downstream of their diversions.

“Information thus far suggests that Sandon Creek is a steep boulder stream that does not normally support fish presence. The Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations will complete a fish inventory on Silversmith Power and Light was found to be diverting far less than their entitlement. Action under the Water Act is not warranted.”

When asked why the creeks went dry, she explained that the tributary flow downstream usually brings more water to Sandon Creek and prevents it from drying up. “However, because of the dry fall, the tributary flow was not enough to keep the lower reach of Sandon Creek wet,” she said.

Silversmith Manager Hal Wright told us that this section of Sandon Creek often dries up during a dry autumn, while some former Sandon residents told us they had never seen this before.

The ministry spokesperson said that Sandon Creek does not have a fish population and the ministry does not have any data to substantiate either opinion.

Falcons split season openers

The ice was ready at the rink on Saturday, October 15 as the Midget Rep Nakusp Falcons had their first two league games.

The Falcons took to the ice versus the Leafs again at 4 pm. The Leafs went up 2-0 during the first period, but the Falcons battled back. Kellan Nishida scored, assisted by Mitchel Hascarl and Nathyn McInnes. The Leafs got two more unanswered goals, winning the game 4-1.
Falcons tally two

In a two-game sweep of their Grand Forks opposition, the Midget Rep Nakusp Falcons beat their league rivals 15-2 in the southern Boundary city. 

On Sunday, October 22, the Nakusp Midget Rep Falcons travelled to Grand Forks for a weekend of league games. The Falcons played in the new Centennial Building along with Josh Rivers, with the new team, between the pipes for the first time.

The team came out strong, scoring three goals in the first period. Jacob Balksie, assisted by Mitchell Zorn, opened the scoring and AJ Hughes got his first goal of the season, unassisted, while Kellan Nishiwa scored, assisted by Nathyn McInnes and Mitchell Hascarl. 

Grand Forks managed to put one past goaltender Cam MacPherson late in the third period.

The only potential risk is the potential development variance permit for the Village, Linda Tynan replied. She said the risk is mitigated because the library and the museum are both on board to do some fundraising for the project as well.

Although the permit was approved, council did waive the $150 development variance permit fee for the construction because there was significant staff work required in putting the information together, including the lane closure. 

The lower floor of the Centennial Building will become shared storage with the Village, archives and the library, with the museum receiving some space for a native interpretive centre. The upstairs is expected to include an archives office.

The main entrance will be wheelchair accessible. Each floor will have a lobby and there will be a lift for the elderly, handicapped and patrons in wheelchairs. In addition, there will be a wheelchair accessible washroom on the top floor.

The archives will have about 1,000 square feet of the new space, with the proposed addition extending into the adjacent lane (closed by council bylaw) by five-and-a-half feet. The society is finalizing a contract with Lonestar Construction to start work this fall.

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BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT
TWO SON TWIN GIRLS, Miri and Clara, were born to Mimi Brown and Mark Simms in Victoria on September 17, 2011. The twins join three existing siblings, Jack Kelley and Sawyer & Rhea Storms. Mom is also excited with her second set of twin grandchildren in 16 months. Miri says he looks forward to collecting the child tax credit and Canada Pension concurrently.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
1st of NOVEMBER - KASLO HOTEL PUB & RESTAURANT HAS NEW WINTER HOURS. Monday to Thursday 4 pm to close (dine till 9 pm). Friday to Sunday 11 am to close (dine till 9 pm) 250-352-7114.

FOR ALL MY SUPPORTERS
Due to the awful typesetting and a 'new' shipment arrives, I will personally send an apology. Thank you for your patience. I owe Mayo and Clara, were born to Mimi Brown and Mark Simms in Victoria on September 17, 2011. The twins join three existing siblings, Jack Kelley and Sawyer & Rhea Storms. Mom is also excited with her second set of twin grandchildren in 16 months. Miri says he looks forward to collecting the child tax credit and Canada Pension concurrently.

Classified ads

Business opportunities
UNEMPLOYED and thinking of starting
your own business? Community Futures offers the Small Employment grant, business loans, counselling and training in the Arrow and Slocan Lakers area. For more info leave a message at 250-367-6011 ext. 201 or email Nakupa@futures.bc.ca.

Card of Thanks
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CLASSIFIED ADS
Sunday, November 6 at noon at Silverton Gallery. Memberships will be available prior to the meeting.

CANCELLATION-ADAM SHARKI
Dreams Project performance Friday November 4 at Silverton Gallery will be postponed until a later date. Apologies. 

QS-BOSUN-BE it a Wonderful Life radio play. Bosun Hall, Friday, November 25, 7:30 pm. Admission by donation $10. 358-2181 for info. Please dress warmly.

LEARN TO HANDSPIN and create your own yarns. First year classes in Nakusp every Monday in November, 3-4 pm at NaCoMo. Join the Spinners’ Circle and keep traditional craft skills alive. Nominal fee, Registration: Marilyn Boxwell, 265-0075.

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The Valley Voice November 2, 2011

ONE BED CABIN on the waterfront in Nakusp. No smokers, no pets.quiet. November 4 at Silverton Gallery will be postponed until a later date. Apologies.

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**SLOCAN LAKE RECREATION COMMISSION #6 requires two Directors, one to replace Donna Jean Wright representing the Village of New Denver and one to replace Linda Laktin representing the Village of Silverton. These terms end December 31, 2011. If anyone is interested in either of these positions, please forward your name and application to Recreation Commission #6, PO Box 293, New Denver, BC, V0G 1G0. One of the stipulations is you have to reside in the area and/or be a property owner in the area in which you wish to represent. Deadline is November 10, 2011.**

**THE SLOCAN LAKE AREA SOCIETY is looking for an ice maker for the upcoming season. If you are interested in this, please make your application to Slocan Lake Arena Society, PO Box 445, New Denver, BC, V0G 1G0. The deadline is November 10, 2011.**

**OUR SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER is retiring and we are now accepting applications for this position. This is a part time position, 20 hours/week. The responsibilities include bookkeeping duties for the Society, maintaining membership records and general office duties. Applicants must have: Current Driver’s License with 2L alcohol tolerance, accounting knowledge. Meetings are every third Thursday of each month at 7pm. Please apply to Slocan Lake Arena Society, PO Box 445, New Denver, BC, V0G 1G0.**

**SLOCAN VALLEY RECREATION**

**1015 FLAVOUR:** Next gathering of kids is Tues., Nov. 8, 10:00 am to 12 noon at Slocan Park Hall.

**NATURAL BUILDING WORKSHOP:** With Tim Reilly and Peggy Frith, Wed., Nov. 9, 7:00 pm at Slocan Park Hall.

**WET FELTED SLIPPERS** - With Elly Boer, Sat., Nov. 19 at the Threads Guild Building.

**DARK CHOCOLATE HOLIDAY TRUFFLES** - With Lorraine Robinson-Carlstrom, Tues., Nov. 29, Valhalla White Community Centre.

**CHRISTMASTEAFOUR SENIORS** - Sat., Dec. 3, 10:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Slocan Park Hall.

**ADULT BASKETBALL** - Mondays at Mt. Sentinel and Wednesdays at Winlaw School.

**MT. SENTINEL VOLLEYBALL** - Every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 7:30.

**WINTER REC’ GUIDE** - Want to be part of the fun? New ideas always welcome.

**250-226-0008**
HELEN MARIA BUERGE

September 12, 1922 – September 11, 2011

This space could be yours for $11.00 + GST per issue.

HELP US HELP YOU

We're in the Valley at: 1-250-226-7339
www.playmorpower.com

Slocan Valley Market

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SCHUMAN (nee Schols), MARY
Mary Schuman, 86, a long-time resident of Silverton, BC, passed away peacefully on October 6, 2011 after a long illness at her home in the arms of her son, Al Schuman.

Mary was predeceased by her parents Henry and Elizabeth, brother Jack and granddaughter Tina. She will be lovingly missed and remembered by her loving husband Al of 63 years, her 94-year-old sister Elizabeth (nieces and nephews), her children, Sharon (Doug), Shary, Diana (Stuart), grandchildren Pam, Charlene, Michael (Nicole), and Wade, her great grandchildren Leila, Kaylee, Christina, Blaine and Holden, Wex, brother, grandmother, great grandmother and friend were roles she filled with love and caring and her passing has left a great void in many hearts. Thanks for the many happy memories.

At the request of Mary no formal service will be held at this time. A celebration of life will be organized for September of 2012.

The Schuman/Nelson family would like to thank the community for their compassionate care and support during the passing of our loved one. We would also like to thank the community for their care and support over the years and the many condolences and kind words of sympathy and support during this difficult time.

For those who wish to be in lieu of flowers, we request that a donation be made to the Kidney Foundation at www.kidney.ca in memory of Mary.

PAULA ROBERTA CONRAD

Paula was a mother of four children and seven grandchildren. She was the wife of Alexander Mengler.

Paula was predeceased by her husband.

Slocan, BC • ph: 355-2211; fax: 355-2216

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The Valley Voice
November 2, 2011

Eric achieved several times the Artist of the Year Award with the Wildlife Federation of BC and Ducks Unlimited of Canada. In 1993, the Dunbar Mint published eight collector plates with the motives of wolves that he painted. He loved music and laughter and being with his friends.

Eric was predeceased by his father, Gerhard in 2007 and brother, Gary in 2009. He will be sadly missed by Rachelle, his son Leif, his mother Eva and brother Brian, and by many relatives and friends who loved him.

Rest in peace, Eric.

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The Valley Voice
November 2, 2011

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Empowering women with knowledge

submited

An empowering step women can take is to invest time in learning more about financial matters, and sometimes confusing world of financial matters. Regardless of income level every woman can benefit from more knowledge about her options and what financial services and programs are available to her.

To support women in this learning process, Habondia’s Community WISH Project has teamed up with Peggy DeVries, a Certified Financial Planner, to deliver free seminars on tax issues for women 55-years and older on financial and estate planning. These participant-directed seminars, designed to answer the questions participants bring, are an opportunity for women to gain more understanding. This project, funded by Status of Women Canada, aims to ensure that women have access to financial information that is relevant to their circumstances.

Topics in the past have included information about the differences between government programs available to low-income and senior women; RRSPs, TFAs, RDSPs, and RRIFs; determining financial needs after retirement; various types of insurance; planning ahead in the event of widowhood; steps to creating a financial plan; and other questions as asked by the participants.

Women of all income levels are encouraged to bring the financial questions for this two-hour seminar.

W. E. Graham Community School Library in Slocan is the location to be at on Wednesday, November 16, from 4 pm until 5 pm.

Free presentation to private groups of more women is also available by prearrangement. Please contact the WISH office at 250-352-6688 to arrange dates, times and locations.

The Circle of Habondia Lending Society, a recognized BC non-profit society, has been supporting the financial empowerment of women in the West Kootenay area since 1998. The organization’s mandate is to alleviate poverty; promote personal, self-generated empowerment through the advancement of education; promote social, personal and financial security; and promote economic sustainability and abundance among women and families in the region.

Contact us at hubondia@gmail.com or visit our website at www.habondia.kics.bc.ca

Register now for Kaslo Rainbow Derby

submitted

Friday November 11, 2011 – that’s the start of the Kaslo Rainbow Derby. Do you feel lucky?

Book launched by Slocan Valley’s Marcia Braundy

by Moe Lyons

On October 23, Dr. Marcia Braundy launched her new book Men & Women and Tools: Bridging the Divide at the Vatican Whole Community Centre.

Only $40 could win you 50 percent of the pot! A hot spaghetti dinner is included, along with a chance at thousands of dollars in door prizes.

Published by Fernwood Press, one of Canada’s leading social change publishers, the book examines the resistance men have to women becoming skilled in trades and technology. It

The derby runs from sun-up Friday morning to Sunday noon for the last weekend of the month.

Terry Jones started the Kaslo Rainbow Derby in the early 70s and ran it until 1985 when the new owners of O’Herin House have been holding the Derby for the past 15 years, but he has decided to pass the rod onto some new angels. Baren’s Sport Shop and the Kaslo Hotel are taking it over and making it bigger.

“Kootenay Lake has had a rough couple of years of fishing, with small and unhealthy fish, but we started to see a huge change last year and it’s even better this year,” said Karissa Stroshein, one of the derby winners. “Some great fish have been caught; the Woodbury Derby winners were all over 20 pounds.”

The November derby falls on the perfect weekend for fishing according to the Prime Time Lunar Tables. Tickets can be purchased at Baren’s Sport Shop, the Kaslo Hotel, Gill & Gift, Grey Creek Store, Woodbury Resort or online at www.kaslorainbowderby.weakby.com.

Snowbirds: ‘Uncle Sam’ is after you too!!!

Well, I couldn’t believe the number of calls I received after my “Red Alert: Uncle Sam is After You” column appeared in this newspaper! There is no doubt that there are Americans living in Canada who are definitely being affected by the strong-arm tactics being deployed by the IRS and US governments.

So while this US income tax filling and Foreign Assets Reports are weighing heavy on your minds, I’m going to turn the tables and give some of our Canadian-born citizens something to squirm about.

If you take a look outside, we’re enjoying the final weeks of autumn before you know it, Old Man Winter will be making his presence known. Many of our neighbours and friends are ‘getting out of Dodge’ and preparing to head south to bask in the sunshine for their annual winter retreat. But, do any of them realize that ‘Uncle Sam’ is after them too?

Let’s look at an example of a typical Canadian ‘snowbird’ couple.

Jack and Jill had been making a winter escape to the United States for many years, in search of warmer weather. Each year they would spend about five months in a cozy park model trailer in Yuma, Arizona, soaking up the sun, playing golf and definitely not missing the miserable snow back home.

They loved it so much they might have stayed longer, but they knew that as Canadian citizens they could only be there for a total of 182 days a year in the US...

On New Year’s Day, as they prepared to cross the border, they were having a pleasant conversation with the representative of the US Customs and Border Protection. He proceeded to have them by asking why they had not filled their IRS Form 8840 for the past two years? The surprise turned to shock when the border guard told them that, as a result, they are now subject to US tax on their worldwide income!

The 8840 is a tax exemption form, which allows Canadians to have a ‘substantial presence’ in the US but still pay their taxes in Canada. The full name of the form is Closer Connection Exception Statement for Aliens.

Don’t be too confused – no, you’re not considered “an alien from outer space” – but, in the eyes of the US, your Canadian citizenship defines you as being “an alien.” The form asks you a series of lifestyle and personal questions to determine if you have a ‘closer connection’ to Canada or the United States. Depending on how you answer those questions will determine which country gets your taxes.

For most Canadians who have a permanent home in Canada, who have most of their banking, investments, health care, driver’s license, car and voter registration, cultural and religious affiliations in Canada, there is usually no problem in establishing a closer connection to your home country.

In that case, there is no requirement to file a US tax return, but there may be a requirement to file the IRS Form 8840 by June 15 each year.

So when it came to Jack and Jill, they had to determine if they have had a ‘substantial presence’ in the US by calculating the number of days spent in the United States over the last three years. Jack and Jill typically enjoy Christmas at their home in Canada and would leave for the United States on January 1 each year.

In 2010, they had to count the number of days they had been in the US from January 1 to when they returned to Canada on April 30. This amounted to 120 days inclusive. They had also made five weekend jaunts for shopping trips to Spokane and this added an additional 10 days that they were in the States for a combined total of 130 days away in 2010.

They then had to calculate how many days they were in away in 2009. The calculation for this was 1/3 of the days spent in the US throughout 2009. Jack and Jill did the same amount of travel on an annual basis, so the calculation would be 130 days x 1/3 = 43 days away.

Jack and Jill had to go back one more year to 2008 but this time they had to take the number of days away and multiply it by 1/6 to get their number. As in all of the previous years, the exact same 130 days were spent in the US, which was calculated as 130 days x 1/6 = 22 days away.

Jack and Jill then had to calculate the total number of days Habondia. In 2010, 2009 and 2008 by adding 130 + 43 + 22 = 195 days spent in the United States.

According to the IRS, if the total number of days was greater than 182, then the filing of the form 8840 is mandatory, one required for each spouse. If the total happened to be 182 or less, then submitting the form is optional.

One of the most commonly asked questions has to do with people that have to filing anything with the IRS – they don’t want the IRS to know about them. I understand the IRS for all sorts of arguments against making your presence known. Some people think this is just the first step in developing a database of future taxpayers, and the IRS will change the rules as soon as they get enough names.

Other people seem to have skeletons in their closets that they want to stay hidden. The penalty for noncompliance can be the IRS forcing you to pay tax on your worldwide income, then you trying to get appropriate Canadian and US tax credits so you are not taxed twice on that income.

My personal feeling is that anyone who continues to cross the border each year is going to eventually be asked about form 8840. The IRS and the US Department of Homeland Security are getting closer to linking their computer systems, if for no other reason than anti-terrorism measures.


Make a photocopy of your forms and carry them with you when you head for the border.

Enjoy your time in the sunny south – and say a “big Hello” to Jack and Jill for me!!!

Debbie Pereversoff CFP CPCA is a financial planner with Assante Financial Management Ltd. and co-founder of her company, The Affolter Financial Group Inc., in Castlegar.

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Dietmar Hahne has been the owner of Barren’s Sport Shop for 15 years. He surprised them having a pleasant conversation with the Border guard told them that, as a result, they are now subject to US tax on their worldwide income!

Little is the start of the Kaslo Rainbow Derby. Do you feel lucky?

Marcia Braundy’s work and to share a personal moment as she autographed a copy of her book.

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CBT co-hosts Columbia River Treaty information sessions in Nakusp

submitted

Will the Columbia River Treaty stay as it is? Or will it be modified, or even cancelled? This is the question both Canada and the United States are exploring in the run-up to the 60-year anniversary of the treaty in 2024.

The CRT, an international agreement between Canada and the United States to coordinate flood control and optimize hydroelectric power generation on both sides of the border, has no official expiry date, but has a minimum length of 60 years, which is set to expire in September 2024.

Either country can terminate the agreement effective any time the future is met in September 2024. The CRT is an international agreement between Canada and the United States to coordinate flood control and optimize hydroelectric power generation on both sides of the border, with no official expiry date, but with no minimum length of 60 years, which is set to expire in September 2024.

neither country on the future of the current treaty, given the importance of the issues, and the approaching 2014 deadline, both countries are now conducting studies and exploring future options for the CRT.

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Working with the Village of Nakusp and the Regional District of Central Kootenay, CBT is bringing in experts on the CRT and international water management from across Canada.

“The information session will help people who live in the Canadian portion of the Columbia Basin better understand what the CRT is, how it works and what considerations exist for the future,” said Neil Muth, CBT President and CEO.

The sessions will be held at the Nakusko & Area Community Complex & Arena, 208th Avenue NW. The open house starts at 2 pm and runs until 7, with a free dinner for participants from 6 to 7. Then, the CBT will make presentations from 7 to 9 pm.

CBT is hosting similar sessions in other communities as well as online information sessions via the internet. CBT has also prepared documents, videos and other resources to help residents learn more.

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