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The Valley VOICE

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"Your independently owned regional community newspaper serving the Arrow Lakes, Slocan & North Kootenay Lake Valleys."

Kootenay residents take strong stand at Water Act Modernization Meeting

by Dan Spring

Residents from all over the East and West Kootenays met with Ministry of Environment (MoE) officials at the Prestige Hotel in Nelson last Friday, April 16, to discuss the upcoming Water Act Modernization (WAM), a topic which has already stirred significant contention in the region. The MoE is on a mission to collect opinions on how to "modernize," but between the lines ministry officials seem to be saying Kootenay residents might expect a meter on every stream and the full commercialization of our water supply over the next century.

Understandably, the day-long conference featured some expressions of outrage. The main frustration seemed to be that the ministry and locals were using the same words to speak different languages. The dichotomy centred around the MoE's four goals for modernizing the Act, presented at the beginning of the meeting. The goals include protecting stream health, improving water governance, more flexibility and efficiency in water allocation, and regulating groundwater extraction. Some of this sounds good, but people weren't so sure after pressing officials for details.

As the meeting opened, locals expressed a particular interest in stream health. "I have been in a maximum security prison for trying to protect the watersheds," said local veteran environmental activist Tom Prior. "I don't know how you can talk about protecting water without talking about protecting the forests."

Most audience members expressed support for Prior's perspective. The early consensus seemed to be that stream health, and consequently source protection of the watershed, was the building block for all other discussions over water. The Ministry of the Environment's concern for stream health was based on something else, however.

According to the MoE-supplied discussion paper, the pressure for modernization of the Act is based on a government prediction that population will boom in BC while water supplies dwindle in heavily populated areas.

Zita Botelho, MoE Manager of Water Strategic Initiatives, took the floor to explain how these concerns inform the government's goal of "flexibility and efficiency."

"Currently we have a first-in-time, first-in-right system," she said, "but that was created when the environment was different and we weren't facing climate change. Part of the issue is that we allow for a framework that can change ... allocation is really the heart of the Water Act. ... Options for flexibility include a change in license conditions based on new information."

Glen Davidson, a director at the MoE's Water Stewardship Division, spoke further on this topic during the following question and answer period. "We have a huge amount of water [in BC], but it is not well distributed the way we want it," he explained. "Some places have lots of water. There is a huge opportunity in BC."

The audience was shown a map of BC, which clearly depicted a water deficit throughout South Central BC and Vancouver Island. "I am surprised," Davidson said, "that here it is so different from the Okanagan. There they want provincial intervention." People at this meeting, however, expressed a strong desire to govern their own water.

Later, during a break, when asked if we should expect bulk water transfers from water-rich areas like the Kootenays to dry regions of Canada and the US, Davis responded, "Under the [current] Water Act, bulk transfers to other provinces or countries are illegal. Fifty years from now, if the stakes are high enough and it's worth enough, government might look at that. I can't say what might happen." Regardless, even under the current Act, bulk water could be transferred today to south central BC.

The thirsty south central BC region includes parts of Liberal MLA John Slater's riding of Boundary-Similkameen, which stretches like a pipeline from just west of the Arrow Lakes to the Okanagan. MLA Slater was present, although he didn't speak to the crowd. When asked in an interview during a break if he felt water – which government is beginning to think of as a valuable resource – should be protected

from industrial activities such as logging and mining, he said, "We need to work more closely with the Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Mines. When they have a project on their tables they just go ahead and do whatever they want."

Slater and Davidson's mindset goes directly to the centre of the communication problem. For people living in the water-rich Kootenays, efficiency doesn't mean people want meters on their water boxes so that they can save water that will be later sold as a commodity. Yet, to be fair, a vocal minority at the conference was sold on meters as a way to protect domestic supplies from overuse by golf courses. Others were not convinced.

"This [water metering], to me, is the first step to selling water to people," local DJ Adham Shaikh said during the question and answer period. "It is the next level of complete control of everything."

Similarly, people at the conference spoke clearly about their desire to protect water sources from logging and mining, not so that the government could industrialize the water supply, but so that the environment and the quality of drinking water could be preserved. However, locals were told these topics were not on the table since they were the

purview of other ministries.

Meanwhile, officials admitted that Independent Power Projects (IPPs) – which are the purview of the MoE – are still going forward despite massive public concern over both water quality and endangered species. Again, this spoke volumes about how differently locals and the MoE perceive the concepts of stream health and local input. The implications were not lost on those in attendance.

"IPPs come in and suddenly their rights trump the rights of people who are on the creeks already," said Slocan Valley resident Shanon Bennett. "If we are losing streams to these big corporations, we have a right to be included in that discussion."

Other agreed vehemently. "If we are modernizing our Water Act, and we are being told that IPPs are off the table, then why are we here?" said one. "Are we here to protect ourselves from ourselves?"

Certainly locals and government also found common ground at the meeting. By the end of the day, Deputy Minister of the Environment and Climate Action Doug Konkin issued a formal statement to the *Valley Voice*: "I hear frustration about source protection and the Act doesn't cover that. I assure you

we will go back and tell the government that this is what we heard, that this is the number one concern."

At the end of the meeting, locals expressed themselves strongly with recommendations to government. They want to see the precautionary principle applied to stream health and new legislated watershed reserves. Bulk water transfers from the Kootenays are not acceptable. They recommend that WAM be broadened to include industry activities, and that the Act be administered locally, with local decision making.

Yet, in a world already wracked with steadily depleting water resources, WAM is a response to worst-case climate scenarios envisioned by the BC government. It remains to be seen how much of what the government envisions is fear and how much will come to pass. One thing is for sure. The Kootenays can't hope to escape scot-free.

For more information visit: <http://blog.gov.bc.ca/livingwatersmart>.

To register your opinion on WAM, send an email to livingwatersmart@gov.bc.ca or send a letter to: Water Act Modernization Submission, Ministry of Environment, Water Stewardship Division, PO Box 9362, Stn Prov Gvt, Victoria, BC V8W 9M2.



Earl Frerichs, Nakusp's Citizen of the Year 2009, with MLA Katrina Conroy at the grand opening of the Arrowtarian Villa, phase four. More on the Citizens of the year on page 7.

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CBT announces Affordable Housing Resources Program

submitted

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partnering to support Basin communities and organizations in taking action on local affordable housing concerns through CBT's new Affordable Housing Resources Program.

Through the partnership, communities and organizations are able to evaluate options relating to existing housing projects, assess potential housing projects and develop plans, and understand how to work with a housing developer.

The program will link communities and organizations with experienced affordable housing consultants and with other communities or organizations that have relevant experience. The cost of accessing these resources will be subsidized by CBT.

"CBT is launching this program in response to requests from Basin communities and organizations for access to housing expertise and resources, as well as information sharing around housing issues," said Neil Muth, CBT President and CEO. "We know that affordable housing issues can be complex and

challenging. This program will help communities get the information they need to make sound decisions in determining their next steps, whether that help is needed in developing new projects, or managing existing ones."

This program will not duplicate supports that are already available to communities or community organizations through other channels, and where appropriate, may complement existing supports. Given that the program is new, CBT and BCNPHA will seek feedback from communities and community organizations on the program and

will improve the program as needed.

To learn more about the program or to access affordable housing experts, call 1-800-505-8998 or email housinghelp@cbt.org. Learn more about CBT's other social initiatives and the Social Strategic Plan at www.cbt.org/social.

BCNPHA is a provincial, member-based organization that represents the non-profit housing sector, and provides leadership and support to housing providers in order to facilitate a high standard of affordable housing throughout BC. Learn more about the BCNPHA at www.bcnpha.ca.

Historic NDP GMO Bill passes crucial vote

MP Alex Atamanenko's private members bill regarding genetically engineered seeds has passed second reading in the House of Commons and will move to committee for further study.

Bill C-474 calls for an analysis of potential harm to export markets prior to approving new genetically engineered seeds. If it becomes law, farmers will be protected from devastating financial losses such as those experienced when Canadian flax shipments were rejected by European markets last summer because they were GMO contaminated.

"Despite intense lobbying efforts by the biotech industry and the Conservative government to nip this bill in the bud, the opposition parties voted instead to protect the

economic interests of farmers," said Atamanenko. "I couldn't be happier that Parliament has made this historic decision."

This is the first time a bill to change the rules on GMOs (Genetically Modified Organisms) has passed second reading in the House.

Atamanenko believes that the government's science-only approach to how GMOs are regulated is irresponsible because it completely ignores market considerations.

Columbia Basin Watershed Network has new members

submitted

The Columbia Basin Watershed Network (Watershed Network) is pleased to welcome Kaslo resident, Grant Trower, Winlaw resident, Colin Mackintosh and Rosebery resident Richard Johnson as part of the steering committee. Trower,

"It was the government's lax regulatory process that allowed genetically engineered Triffid flax to shut out Canadian flax exports from its key markets and hurt farmers," explained Atamanenko. "For the first time, Parliament has a chance to seriously consider a regulatory mechanism that will ensure farmers are never again faced with rejection in our export markets because we allow the introduction of GE technologies that they have not approved."

Mackintosh and Johnson will look at how the Watershed Network can support local watershed groups, organizations and individuals interested in watershed stewardship. "The steering committee wants to build a network that supports the growth and development of local watershed groups throughout the Columbia Basin," says outgoing committee member Helen Sander.

"Being on the steering committee means we will be setting priorities and strategic direction for the network so it can really make a difference and support people who are actively working on watershed issues," says Jennifer Yeow, past chairperson of the Watershed Network.

Other steering committee members who will bring their expertise, knowledge and energy to the Watershed Network include Heather Leschied of the Lake Windermere Project/Wildsight, Lee-Anne Walker of Elk River Alliance, and Jim Duncan of Mainstreams Environmental Society.

The Columbia Basin Watershed Network is funded by the Columbia Basin Trust. For more information about the Watershed Network visit www.cbwn.ca.




PUBLIC INPUT SESSION

Project Proposal Presentations
Project applicants for Columbia Basin Trust's Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Programs are presenting their proposals to the public on the following dates.

April 10	1-3 pm	Area H - Winlaw Community Hall
April 12	6:30 pm	Slocan - Village of Slocan Council Chambers
April 13	7 pm	New Denver - Village of New Denver Council Chambers
April 17	10-2 pm	Burton - Burton Community Hall
April 19	7 pm	Edgewood - Edgewood Legion
April 20	7 pm	Silverton - Silverton Fire Hall
April 22	7 pm	Arrow Park - Ansell Residence - 3860 Rock Island Rd.
April 28	7-9 pm	Area K & Nakusp - Advanced Poll - Nakusp Public Library
May 2	12-4 pm	Area K & Nakusp - Nakusp and Arrow Lakes Community Complex
April 28	7pm	Area D & Kaslo - JV Humphries School
April 29	7pm	Area D Affected - Lardeau Valley Community Hall

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Shaping Slocan's Future Public Forum #3!

April 27: This Is It!

Join us again or come out for the first time!

The Sustainable Slocan Project is hosting a third and final forum so you can choose which economic development projects are priorities. Then we'll figure out how to make them happen!

Come and share your thoughts, ideas and votes at 2 sessions:

#1: 11:30 am - 1 pm: Local Business Web Listing Session, WE Graham Learning Centre
Drop in for 15 minutes and put your business listing on Google Maps and other search engines. We'll build a map of local businesses and services. Bring any info you want to post (address, phone, website, digital photos/videos, etc.)

#2: 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Public Forum #3, School Library

The main event! Vote on and discuss actions to move the Slocan community economic development strategy forward! Your last chance to shape the future of Slocan through this process! A lively evening, indeed! Food and free childcare provided!

Hosted by Sustainability Solutions Group
More project info: www.sustainableslocan.ca

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RDCK to take on ownership of Arrow Lakes water systems

by Jan McMurray

If residents agree, BC Hydro will turn over the water systems in Burton, Fauquier, Edgewood and West Robson to the RDCK on January 1, 2011.

Referendums will be held in each of the four communities, asking property owners if they are in favour of the transfer of their water systems to the RDCK. But first, public information sessions will be held at the community halls in Burton (April 26, 5:30 pm), Fauquier (April 27, 5:30 pm), Edgewood (May 4, 5:30 pm) and Robson (May

3, 5:30 pm). BC Hydro and RDCK representatives will be in attendance.

These are the only water systems that BC Hydro owns, having built them in the 1960s when these communities were re-located after being flooded out due to the construction of Hugh Keenleyside dam. Area K Director Paul Peterson says BC Hydro wants to transfer ownership of the systems to the RDCK because drinking water delivery is not a service that Hydro normally provides, and because RDCK is eligible for provincial government grants for

water systems and Hydro isn't.

Peterson says BC Hydro has approached the RDCK a few times over the years about taking over the water systems. "This time, they've made an offer I can't refuse," he said. "I firmly believe this proposal is in the best interest of our communities."

BC Hydro is offering to pay water rates for all existing water customers whose accounts are paid in full as of November 30, 2010 and who have registered for the 'water rate holiday.' BC Hydro will pay for these people's water

as long as they own their properties. New property owners in these communities will have to pay for their water.

BC Hydro will also pay the water bills for all existing community halls, schools and churches in these communities as long as they continue to be community buildings. Currently, these community buildings are billed for their water. Hydro will also set up the Fauquier Golf Course with an alternate water source for irrigation.

BC Hydro will upgrade the four systems at their own cost (estimated

at \$2.5 million) this year. Then, if the referendums are successful, BC Hydro will hand over ownership of the upgraded systems plus a total of approximately \$2 million in reserve funds for the systems to the RDCK. The reserve fund for Burton would be \$197,719; Fauquier \$717,871; Edgewood \$118,631; West Robson \$965,779.

The upgrades and reserve fund amounts were determined by an assessment done of the water systems by the engineering firm, Urban Systems. "Urban Systems' review of each water system is consistent with BC Hydro's planned upgrades," explained Jennifer Walker-Larsen of BC Hydro. "In addition, the engineer's reports assessed the condition and expected life span of water system equipment. Results of this assessment were used to determine appropriate amounts for the replacement reserve fund that BC Hydro is offering for each water system."

One of the conditions of the transfer is that the systems have to be financially self-supporting. Currently, water fees do not cover operating and maintenance costs, so BC Hydro plans to just about double water rates before the transfer occurs. A Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity will be submitted soon to the Comptroller of Water Rights for Burton, Fauquier and Edgewood, and has already been submitted for West Robson.

Walker-Larsen says BC Hydro believes the transfer would be beneficial for all parties. "BC Hydro believes that residents will benefit from transfer of the water system to the RDCK. In addition to the benefits to residents who register for the water rate holiday, the water system infrastructure is a valuable asset that provides a critical service to property owners and residents within the service areas. BC Hydro believes that transfer of the water systems to an organization with more experience in the provision of drinking water will result in more cost-effective and efficient service. A transfer would also allow these systems to be expanded and built upon as needed to meet future community needs."

Sinixt film *Bringing Home the Bones* premieres in Nelson and New Denver

submitted

A labour of love by husband and wife team Max and Virginia Frobe, the film *Bringing Home the Bones* will have its premiere screening at Nelson's Capitol Theatre on April 23. The movie will also be screened at New Denver's Bosun Hall on May 1 at 7:30 pm.

The story follows the Sinixt nation's efforts to repatriate their ancestral graveyard at Vallican. Cast and crew were all sourced from within 35 miles of Nelson. The Slocan Valley, with its stunning scenery, is a star in its own right.

The movie was inspired by the book *A Twist in Coyote's Tale*, by Celia M. Gunn. In the week following the premiere in Nelson, Gunn will participate in the Lucerne School and Community Writers Festival. She will speak to high school students in New Denver and Nakusp, and will make an illustrated presentation based on *A Twist in Coyote's Tale* at Nakusp Library on April 29 at 7 pm. She will read from her book at the Writers Festival coffeehouse at Silverton Hall on April 30 at 7 pm.

In the summer of 1987, a young Englishwoman named Celia M. Gunn and her three children camp beside a large clearing in the forest at Edgewood. Below them the Rebirth of Mother Earth Medicine Wheel Gathering unfolds: a crescent of tipis, colourful people, a sacred fire circle, a lone drummer. It's here that she is introduced to the compelling story of the Sinixt people by Bob Campbell, Laughing Thunder, who is now headman of the Band. And it's here that Gunn begins her memoir, *A Twist in Coyote's Tale*.

Over the next six years, Gunn is drawn into the extraordinary revival of this Native North American Nation, declared extinct by the Canadian government in 1956. The remaining Sinixt are determined to continue their traditions, release their ancestors' bones from the BC Provincial Museum in Victoria, and return them to their ancient traditional village site at Vallican in the Slocan Valley.

Employed by the government as coordinator of the Archaeological Park at Vallican, Celia acts as a liaison between the Heritage Trust, the Vallican Archaeological Society and the Sinixt people. Gunn and Sinixt member Jacqueline Finley later become delegates

at the first World Archeological Congress on the repatriation of the dead at the University of South Dakota in 1989. Here they learn of the global proportions of a fundamental and emotionally charged issue, as indigenous peoples

worldwide come together to ask for respect for their beliefs, and demand the repatriation of thousands of ancestral remains on public display or sequestered in museum basements and private collections.



Director Virginia Frobe checks out a shot of actress Tracy Cameron playing the role of Celia M. Gunn and Trinity De La Falcon as Bob Campbell in the movie *The Sinixt: Bringing Home the Bones*.

The future of library services for rural Nelson

submitted

Is access to library services important to residents in the rural areas surrounding Nelson? If so, how can the Nelson Library best meet the needs while ensuring high quality services are affordable and sustainable?

Having spent the last five months talking with residents in Regional District Areas E, F and H about these questions, the library board is ready to seek feedback on options for delivering library services to these communities.

"While most people have told us that access to library services is important, we heard a variety of ideas about how to best meet the needs of the outlying communities," explained Mike Lazier, member of the library board. "Residents have asked us to present some options and explain the benefits and costs of each approach."

The library board and Regional District Directors for Areas E, F and H are hosting four public meetings to discuss the issues and options: April 26 in Nelson upstairs in the Chamber of Commerce building, April 27 at Taghum Hall, April 28 at Redfish School and May 6 at Slocan Park Hall. All meetings start at 6:30 pm.

So why the focus on the rural areas surrounding Nelson and why is this an

important issue at this time?

Only 1.4% of BC residents must pay user fees to access library services and one quarter of these people live in Areas E, F and H. Some residents said user fees are a financial barrier that prevent people from accessing library services, which are critical to building a literate society, a strong community and the workforce that is needed for a knowledge-based economy.

Others feel that user fees are preferable as compared to supporting the library through local taxation. However, legislation does not allow the library to charge a user fee to people who come into the library and use the resources on-site. Also, current fees do not cover the real costs of providing the services, yet increasing fees will only further restrict those who can access the services.

"With demand for library services significantly growing, the library board needs to explore options for sustaining high quality services over the next 10 years while ensuring all residents can access the services," said Lazier. "We are encouraging people to participate in these meetings and help us determine how best to proceed."

More information is available online at <http://nelson.bclibrary.ca/services-programs/regional-library-service>.

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VOLUNTEERS CREATE LEGACIES

Volunteer Week April 18-24

The Board and staff of Columbia Basin Trust would like to thank the many dedicated volunteers in the Basin who devote their time and energy to strengthening our communities and helping create a legacy of social, economic and environmental well-being - *thank you!*

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Voices from the Valleys

Food editor flattered

They say that imitation is the highest form of flattery, and I understand the truth of that after having read the brilliant spoof of my column in the last issue of the *Valley Voice*. Imagination, originality, creativity and humour all in one ad!

High marks go to Gary Wright for the text and to DJ Wright for taking the splendid photo of Robby Ochsendorf with a bag over his head.

As for Robby himself...Hey Robby old buddy, I've never seen you look so good! Hold onto that bag!! Thank you all for supporting my column.

Andrew Rhodes
Valley Voice Food Editor
New Denver

The intolerants

Kaslo is becoming a place for the rich and intolerant. This might be a good thing but for the fact the rich and intolerant are two separate groups that don't get along.

The intolerants believe in a culture of entitlement and perceive the rich as anyone (usually Albertans or developers) who own property here and go to a warmer climate to escape our winters. The rich are usually hard-working people who bought homes or hired someone to build one because they like it here.

The intolerants have a mission, so have set about devising additional building regulations through our official community plans, raising property taxes and utility fees all in an effort to prevent additional rich people from relocating here. They also want affordable housing.

Well there is no such thing as affordable housing. All houses have costs associated with them in the way of taxes and maintenance, so any additional costs imposed to punish the rich will be borne by all. Eventually the costs will become so high that ordinary people won't be able to afford homes, and rentals will become unprofitable too. Ultimately the properties will be sold to the highest bidder.

Unfortunately, the intolerants haven't figured this out because they are dreamers. There's nothing wrong with

that. Others have dreams too but they got off ground zero with their dreams.

Patrick Mackle
Kaslo

Kootenays send clear message at Water Act meeting

The Water Act Modernization (WAM) meeting surprised the facilitator by the excellent attendance and the well informed participants. I felt privileged to be among so many knowledgeable valley folk who had done their own homework. There was little dissension amongst us. The precautionary principle was in evidence in all our deliberations (we voiced our distrust and dissatisfaction with other ministries).

We all felt that the Water Act should supercede the power of other ministries; that watersheds should be legislated as reserves; and that locals need principled participation with other government bodies concerning their drainage. We agreed that the lack of integrated government personnel and equipment facilities (like computers) is preventing scientific evidence from being used; that costs for enabling this legislation should not be downloaded on local government; that there should be no more watershed logging; that the current allocation system (FIRFIT) isn't broken, so any changes need to put people and environment first; that science used must be holistic. Water must be treated as a human right; all water, present and past, is interconnected. We know that there should be no water sold or transported; that fish need protection; that water is OURS and the Commons are OURS. We were unified too in thinking "investors" do not equal good management or stewardship.

Quietly placed throughout the paperwork were those investor words, which clearly indicated the mandate of the Liberal government, and the plans of the federal government to sell our water and open the irreversible floodgates of NAFTA. We weren't having any of it, and let them know.

If our message is ignored, we will know that the government has just done

another Public Relations presentation, and used our time, energy and costs to do it. We gave them what they wanted in our sincere suggestions both for and against each point we covered.

Please send your thoughts to them before April 30 at livingwatersmart@gov.bc.ca Those who attended this meeting did so on most everyone's behalf in this valley. With your support we may be able to stop the deforestation of our watershed, and protect the water for the seven generations to come.

Eric Faulks
Hills

Wild salmon facing extinction

While some may debate that farmed fish are a more dependable food source than wild fish, a person must realize that farmed fish eat a diet of 'undependable' wild fish. Oily marine fish, such as anchovies, are harvested worldwide to the point of scarcity to feed the farm fish. Previously, oily marine fish fed whales, millions of wild fish populations, millions of birds, and mammals – creatures that really don't have anything else to eat. Death, even extinction of these wild species, for the sake of eating farmed fish, leaves a bad taste in my mouth.

ISA virus and drug-resistant sea lice, colouring, antibiotics and hormones make the over-crowded, sea-penned, 'only for profit' farmed Atlantic salmon an extra special tasty treat.

We should thank all the migrating salmon living their life cycle from mountain stream to deep ocean and back again, feeding the eagles, osprey, ravens, seagulls, bears, wolves, martens, otters, emerging fish of all species, people, and fertilizing the forests by way of the scavengers, for sacrificing their lives and their 100,000-year lineage to the contagious virus and sea lice, so we customers can eat the less nutritious, doctored Atlantic farmed salmon.

We should also thank the BC Liberal government for making the decision to ignore the urgent warnings of all the independent scientists and the appeals by the BC First Nations, commercial and sport fishermen, biologists, and the thousands of concerned citizens of impending wild fish stock extinction.

Thank you to the wise federal and provincial politicians, who in spite of the Sockeye Conference 2010 findings ("The one run that is producing more and more fish per spawner is the Harrison and a recent DFO study found that while most juvenile Fraser sockeye travel north past 60 fish farms, the Harrison go south around southern Vancouver Island and do not encounter salmon farms.")

are increasing the number of licenses granted to the Norwegian fish farmers, who hold a monopoly on the fish farms and who have already succeeded in contaminating the Norwegian and Chilean coasts with the virulent ISA virus and the drug-resistant sea lice.

Even though Canada was warned by the former Attorney General of Norway, Georg Fredrik Rieber-Mohn, about the catastrophic wild salmon demise in Norway ("we had an open goal to save wild salmon but we missed the target," ... "If you want to protect wild salmon then you have to move salmon farms away from migration routes."), our government knows best what is good for BC, Canada, and the world's ecosystem.

The federal DFO in all their wisdom ensured the Atlantic cod fishery was damaged beyond recovery and we can trust that they will enable the extinction of the wild Pacific salmon fishery as well.

Super Natural, Short-Sighted Profit for Multinational Corporations. Yum?

Don't like this scenario? Join the thousands of us protesting the demise of the wild salmon for corporate profit. www.salmonaresacred.org. Contact your local MLA with your concerns.

Susan Eyre
Passmore

Kaslo Saturday Market

Much has been heard lately about government cuts to arts funding. To get the full picture, it's interesting to see how the arts support communities. The North Kootenay Lake Arts & Heritage Council (NKLAHC) supports the economy of Kaslo and the surrounding area in the following ways:

1. In the past year, NKLAHC has spent more than \$10,000 in Kaslo for goods and services. It is a NKLAHC policy to buy locally.
2. NKLAHC spends more than \$1,500 annually on advertising to encourage tourists to come to Kaslo.
3. NKLAHC creates, installs, and maintains downtown banners at no cost to the Village. This project, which promotes Kaslo and its business core, represents a \$2,000 annual benefit to the Village.
4. NKLAHC makes available \$1,000 annually in scholarships for local students.
5. NKLAHC administers more than \$7,000 annually in grant funds, distributed to local artists and community organizations.

Most of NKLAHC's funding comes from memberships, CBT Community Initiatives grants, and the generous citizens of Kaslo and area, who support

our fundraising efforts. NKLAHC has also received grants from the Village of Kaslo, the CKCA, and the Association of BC Arts Councils. Currently, NKLAHC receives no regular annual funding from the provincial government or the Village of Kaslo.

The Saturday Market in Kaslo is a major annual project of NKLAHC. With regard to this project, NKLAHC holds a business license from the Village, pays rent to the Village for use of Front Street Park, is a member of the Kaslo and District Chamber of Commerce, and is a member of the BC Association of Farmers' Markets.

From time to time, we hear that a few Kaslo business owners feel that the Saturday Market is "unfair competition."

Of course, the Saturday Market competes with a few other businesses, in the same way that virtually every Kaslo business competes with some other Kaslo business.

Based on conservative estimates, the market competes with a few Kaslo businesses for 4% of their business hours. Most Kaslo stores are open 52 weeks a year, five days a week, seven hours a day. This equals 1,820 business hours per year. The Saturday Market is open 19 weeks a year, one day a week, four hours per day. This equals 76 business hours per year. When we compare 1,820 hours to 76 hours, the spectre of "competition" seems silly.

Most business owners understand that the "spin-off effect" more than compensates for this minimal competition. Customers who shop at the market also patronize other Kaslo stores. The BC Association of Farmers' Markets reports that the economic impact of farmers' markets in BC is \$118 million, with \$58 million spent at neighbouring businesses and suppliers. Market vendors typically run out of fresh produce and baked goods early, at which point they refer shoppers to stores that carry similar products. By selling products from local farms and local artisans for one day a week in the summertime, the market advertises local goods that are sold year-round at Kaslo retailers.

The Kaslo Saturday Market is a link in a chain of West Kootenay markets – New Denver on Friday, Kaslo on Saturday, Harrop-Procter on Sunday. Shoppers "make the circuit" of the markets, thus arriving in Kaslo on a prime business day.

Market vendors eat and shop, too!

In summary, business at the Kaslo Saturday Market is good, and the Saturday Market is good for Kaslo business.

David Stewart, President
North Kootenay Lake
Arts & Heritage Council

EDITORIAL / LETTERS POLICY

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

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

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

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

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

The Valley Voice

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New Denver council, April 13: CBT grant applications adjudicated

by Michael Dorsey

• Mayor Wright opened proceedings by welcoming presentations by the applicants of Columbia Basin Trust's Community Initiatives Program funding. Of 14 applicants, seven were there to present their project proposals to council.

After the presentations, council discussed how it would go about awarding the funding. In past years, council has divided the available funds amongst all applicants. It was noted this year that the concept of 'funding-in-completion' would enable projects dependent on the total amount requested to move forward.

After a lengthy adjudication process, Council approved four applications and dispersed the remaining monies to help a fifth.

The approved applications are: Search and Rescue - Winch, Gin Pole and Gen Set - \$2,000; Hidden Garden Gallery - "Deepening Peace," a sculpture by Toru Fujibayashi - \$1,500; LACE - Bringing Back the Bosun, Phase One - \$2,000;

Community Fruit Harvesting Project - \$1,250; PALS - Animal Rescue Program - \$42.

Council awarded the last \$42 to PALS on the basis that even a small amount would address their request for \$200.

Following the awards, Lynda LaFleur, CBT, and members of the public complimented Council on their process.

• Turning to regular business, Mayor Wright reported that RDCK's West and Central Waste Management Committees are looking at amalgamation, and noted three new GIS Service Bylaws are coming out. Council will receive drafts of these bylaws soon.

• Council received a letter from Ray Nikkel (SLUGS), following up on discussions regarding the service area and composting at the Kohan Reflection Garden. Nikkel reported placing four composting "silos" approximately 3-4' high, in new locations as close to the alley as possible. The service area will have a berm bed built, and existing rocks removed at that time. The area

will be used for wood mulch and other material storage, which will be moved to the garden beds as needed.

• Councillor Murphy reported that the April 21 meeting of the Recreation Commission will be changed to accommodate the public meeting regarding the helipad. The Rec Commission will award grant monies at their next meeting - date to be published soon.

Council then gave first and second readings to Bylaws 646, 2010 (OCP Amendment) and 647, 2010 (Zoning Amendment). The public hearing will be held April 26 at 7 pm at Knox Hall for these amendments, which would allow seniors housing to be set up on IHA property near the Slokan Community Health Centre. The current proposal for the housing development involves losing the heli-pad used for emergency medical evacuations.

• Council approved a request from Joan and Neal Wood regarding the 10th annual New Denver Street Fair, to close the 300 block of 6th Ave on July 25.

Council also approved the

following requests:

- from Sylvia McDonough, to place an oval cement slab beneath the memorial picnic tables in the Day Park portion of Centennial Block;

- from Valerie Piercey-Wilson, regarding landscaping between 219 2nd Ave. and Centennial Park (referred to Staff and Public Works to determine shrubs, etc.);

- from Ellen Kinsel, Hills Recreation Society, regarding landscaping around the gazebo, and washroom odour mitigation. Mayor Wright and Kinsel will continue discussion, and siting Garlic Festival food vendors away from washroom locations may be examined;

- from Rory Pownall, requesting closure of the sidewalk to allow for restoration of the Valhalla Trading Post Building. Council will either close or relocate the sidewalk, and referred this request to staff and Public Works for permission to proceed within safety guidelines.

• Council then authorized staff to designate attendees to conferences, in relation to Patricia Dehnel's (RDCK) invitation to attend the

Carbon Neutral Planning Workshop in Castlegar April 28.

• Council received a package from Richard Canniel, Chair, Valhalla Committee for Environmental Health, regarding dangers of cell phone use.

• Accounts Payable for March were \$40,224.33 General, and \$1,484 Water.



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This cat likes to hug! As a kitten, Lil' Runt was ignored by his mother, and had to be hand fed. He is the most affectionate kitty. He loves to be carried around and doted on. He is a mostly indoor cat. Lil' Runt is 10 years, neutered, vaccinated, healthy. He needs a new family to love and care. Call KAAP at 250-551-1053 for more information or visit: www.homes4animals.com

www.homes4animals.com

Lucerne and Community Writers Festival gets bigger and better

submitted

The eighth annual Lucerne School and Community Writers Festival is the biggest yet. Six professional writers will come to work with students from six schools at this year's festival, April 26-30. Don't miss the chance to see the authors and students read at the festival's grand finale coffeehouse at Silverton Memorial Hall on Friday, April 30 at 7 pm.

"This is the biggest number of authors and the biggest number of participating students we've had yet," says Terry Taylor, festival committee member and Lucerne teacher. "The Lucerne School and Community Writers Festival just keeps getting bigger and better."

All of the authors will do workshops at Lucerne School in New Denver, and some will travel to Nakusp, Burton and Edgewood to perform and teach in the schools in those communities. Nakusp Public Library will also host two of the authors - Murray Kimber on Monday from 10 am to noon and Celia Gunn on Thursday evening at 7 pm, while the Burton Scalping Knife Scribblers host a reading by Stuart Ross on Saturday, May 1, 1-3 pm at the Burton Reading Centre.

LV Rogers Secondary School students from Nelson will participate for the first time this year. They have been working with Terry Taylor's English students at Lucerne via the internet, in an 'Online Literature Circle,' and will come up to New Denver to join Lucerne students in a full-day residency with Stuart Ross on Friday, April 30.

Then on Friday night comes the highlight of the festival. The coffeehouse at Silverton Memorial Hall at 7 pm will feature reading performances by the festival authors as well as by Lucerne and LVR secondary students. On the evening before, Thursday, April 29, Lucerne elementary students will read their work at a coffeehouse at Silverton Memorial Hall. Both coffeehouses will be recorded by Kootenay Co-op Radio this year, another first for the festival.

Returning authors this year are Stuart Ross and Nikki Tate. First-time festival authors include Celia Gunn,

Richard van Camp, Murray Kimber and Mitchell Scott.

The kids love Stuart Ross, truly "one of the cool uncles of Canadian poetry," as described by George Murray of *The Globe & Mail*. He will be at Nakusp Secondary on Monday and at Lucerne the rest of the week. Ross says his writing residency in New Denver "will encourage students to view the writing of poetry and fiction as an adventure, and to view the blank piece of paper as a mad scientist's laboratory."

Nikki Tate was a big hit last year, and returns to work with elementary school students from Lucerne on Thursday and Friday. Tate has written several bestselling children's books and is a born performer. She also loves animals and the outdoors - no wonder she's back! She is well known for her inspiring workshops and sensational storytelling.

Celia Gunn is author of *A Twist in Coyote's Tale*, the true story of her experience working with the Sinixt people in Vallican and in Colville, Washington. Gunn currently lives in her native England, but lived in Vallican in the late 1980s. A film adapted from her book, entitled *The Sinixt: Bringing Home the Bones*, will premiere at the Capitol Theatre in Nelson on April 23 and will also show at the Bosun Hall on May 1 at 7:30 pm. Gunn will work with high school students at Lucerne on Monday and Nakusp Secondary on Thursday.

Richard Van Camp is a member

Arrow Lakes Arts Council celebrates Arts and Culture Week

submitted by Marilyn Boxwell

Arrow Lakes Arts Council joins with BC's community and regional arts councils along with its 19 local arts, cultural and heritage member group affiliates, in celebration of the 11th annual Arts and Culture Week in BC, April 18-24.

Each year since 1999 communities throughout British Columbia have celebrated the contribution made by the arts, cultural and heritage sector, enhancing quality of life without our various communities.

Among the special activities that will take place will be the launching of the ever-popular ArtWalk, honouring the

of the Dogrib (Tlicho) Nation from the Northwest Territories and currently teaches creative writing for aboriginal students at the University of British Columbia. He is also CBC Radio's Writer in Residence for the North by Northwest Program. Van Camp will lead workshops for students from all five schools in the district, and is sponsored by the Arrow Lakes Aboriginal Education Council.

Murray Kimber, illustrator and author, won a Governor General's award for illustrating *The Highwayman* by Alfred Noyes. Now living in Nelson, Kimber lived in Mexico for four years after graduating from the Alberta College of Art and Design. He will be at the Nakusp Public Library on Monday from 10 am to noon, at Nakusp Secondary on Tuesday, and at Lucerne Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.


Mitchell Scott is publisher/editor of *Kootenay Mountain Culture Magazine*, based in Nelson. He is an adventure storyteller and has written for many magazines and other publications. "I have a mountain affliction, one I can't escape. Not to feel alone, I try to pass this affliction on to as many people as I can," he says. Scott will work with Lucerne students on Thursday and Friday.

The festival committee (Lucerne teachers Terry Taylor, Katrina Sumrall and Paula Rogers) has cultivated strong partnerships with the Nakusp Public Library, West Kootenay Library Federation, Burton Scalping Knife

impressive talents of district-wide artists and artisans. Nakusp and area merchants continue to express their enthusiasm and support by providing venues in order to help increase visitor as well as local community awareness of the talent in our area.

A descriptive ArtWalk brochure which lists participating artists and contact information on one side, with a map pointing out various merchant locations on the flip side, will be distributed during Arts and Culture Week. Brochures may be picked up, free of charge, from the Chamber/Visitor Information Centre, Nakusp Public Library and from area merchants.

Writers, Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy, School District 10, and Arrow Lakes Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement Council this year to bring authors to our schools and region. Many thanks to all these sponsor groups.



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Slocan council, April 12: Physician recruitment presentation made

by Laura J. Craig

• Darryn Collier, who was involved in successfully recruiting a physician to Creston, attended the meeting on council's request. She outlined the steps taken in Creston, and acknowledged that "it's not easy to recruit a physician, but it's not impossible." She told council to expect the process to take 12-18 months.

She advised council to identify the lifestyle benefits of the community and what kind of physician would enjoy residing and practicing in Slocan; to identify the specifics of the practice in the community (i.e. staff, income, schedule, closest back-up, etc.); to use the internet to search for a physician and to promote

the community; and to promote the community and the practice to qualified and referred candidates.

• Council received 13 CBT Community Initiatives grant applications for a total of \$18,040. Slocan has \$3,768 available in grant funds.

Council heard brief presentations from the applicants, and then voted to have a special council meeting to decide how they'd like to see the grant money allocated. Council's recommendations on the distribution of the funds are to be submitted to the RDCK, which administers the Community Initiatives program, by May 5.

Applications were submitted by: Royal Canadian Legion #276

Slocan Valley for renovations to the hall in Slocan; the Slocan and District First Responders for first responder training and equipment; the Slocan Community Library for large print and high interest/low vocabulary books; the Slocan Valley Archers Society for equipment; the Slocan Valley Heritage Trail Society for marketing the rail trail; Terry Moore for the Slocan Market musicians project; WE Graham Community Service Society for Slocan History Project, stage two; the Slocan District Chamber of Commerce for a mobile food trailer; the 1999 Doukhobor Heritage Retreat Society for a project to include an artisan village with the Whatshan Music Festival; the BCSPCA for its Spay and Neuter Initiative - Nelson and area; the Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network for its school program, Wild Voices for Kids 2010; the Kootenay Lake Hospital Foundation for the CT scanner; the SelfDesign High, SelfDesign Learning Foundation for a PeaceCamp.

• A motion for the Village of Slocan to support two projects in partnership with the Villages of Silverton and New Denver and Area H North was passed. The projects are: the construction and operation of a Viking Long Boat and a branding exercise for the Slocan Lake subregion. These two project ideas came out of the 'Subregional Strategy for Community Sustainability' process, led by the BC Rural Secretariat and attended by representatives of all communities involved.

Staff will write a letter of support for both projects, and the Village will work with the subregional communities to apply for funding for the projects.

• After reviewing the proposal from Gail Morris and Sandy Heatherington to create a gardening business on Village land, council agreed that the best location would be the two on Harold Street beside the gallery.

• The Slocan Business Development Association asked

that the highway entrance sign to the Village be upgraded. Council agreed to allocate \$3,000 to the project.

• Council adopted Policy No. 2020-13 Fitness Centre and Library Surplus Funds. This policy is for holding over surplus funds generated by the library or fitness centre. It ensures that funds generated by these organizations that are not required to fund their operating expenses are held over at year-end to the benefit of each organization.

• The adoption of the Sale of Village Lands Policy No 2010-12 was opposed by Mayor Madeleine Perriere. Council will return to it.

• The CAO was instructed to discuss the possibility of a joint Bylaw Enforcement program with the Villages of New Denver and Silverton, and report back to council with the findings.

From 2005 to the present, the Village of Slocan has spent \$30,000 on the enforcement of the Animal Control Bylaw, but the number of complaints has not decreased.

• Public Works reported vandalism at the RV park prior to March 19 that destroyed two exterior doors and frames of the information centre and storage shed. On April 1, a fitness centre window was destroyed, and the beach washroom and the highway sign south of town were vandalized with graffiti. Repairs are in progress and replacement windows have been ordered.

• Council is considering the use of shipping containers as buildings. This is becoming common in many jurisdictions in the province. A motion to look into it further was carried.

• Council passed a resolution to participate in the New Denver May Days parade with the fire truck. John Van Bynen will be asked to drive.



VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BYLAW NO. 646, 2010 AND BYLAW NO. 647, 2010

KNOX HALL
521 6TH AVENUE, NEW DENVER, BC
7:00 P.M., MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2010

Pursuant to Sections 890 and 892 of the Local Government Act, a public hearing will be held to consider the following bylaws of the Village of New Denver: "Village of New Denver Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 646, 2010" and "Village of New Denver Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 647, 2010".

The purpose of Bylaw 646 is to amend the land use designation for the following lands:

1. Amend Schedule "B" of Bylaw No. 611, 2007 by amending the land use designation for the following lands from "Public & Institutional" to "Multiple Family Residential":

Lot 1, Block L, Plan EPP6314, District Lot 549, Kootenay Land District

The purpose of Bylaw 647 is to amend the land use zoning for the following lands:

2. Amend Schedule B of Bylaw No. 612, 2007 by rezoning the following lands from "P2 - Public & Institutional" to "R2 - Low Density Multi-Family Residential":

Lot 1, Block L, Plan EPP6314, District Lot 549, Kootenay Land District

This parcel is shown outlined in black on the accompanying map.



The above is a synopsis of the proposed bylaw and is not deemed to be an interpretation of the bylaw. Copies of the aforementioned bylaws may be inspected at the Village of New Denver Municipal Office, New Denver, BC, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays, from the date of this notice to the 26th day of April, 2010.

Carol Gordon, CMC
Administrator

Slocan Lake Golf Club



Golfers!



HST will apply to membership fees as of
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Contact Jim Hildebrand 250-358-2230 or
Box 297, New Denver, V0G 1S0

2010 Dues are the same as last year - check
your 2009 receipt for the amount

Thank you to All the Volunteers

Freedom Quest - Mike and Bonnie

ANKORS - Chloe

JHA - Vanessa

Toumbi, Lori. And Bernie

Youth planners and

Organizers - Nathan,

Eric, Kaija, Kaylie,

Levi & Jerome

Community Volunteers

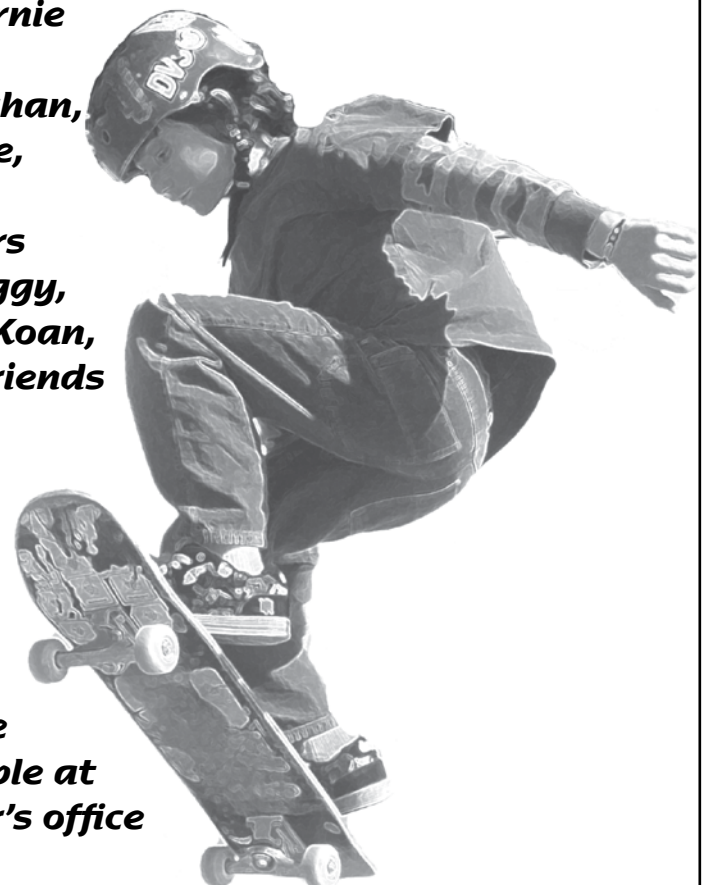
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Steve, Heather, Koan,

Gary, Raven & friends

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WEGCSS Coordinator's office*



Nakusp Library hosts Celia Gunn for a reading and slide show

submitted
Celia Gunn, author of *A Twist in Coyote's Tale*, will read from her book and show slides at the Nakusp Public Library on Thursday, May 29 at 7 pm.

A Twist in Coyote's Tale describes how Gunn participated in the return of the Sinixt to their ancestral homeland in the Slocan Valley. Filled with fascinating detail about this important First Nation, *A Twist in Coyote's Tale* is a heart-warming, reflective narrative of the six-year personal journey of a young

woman, intertwined with the renaissance of a people whose right to exist has been difficult.

In the summer of 1987, a powerful dream motivated Celia Gunn's first encounter with Bob Campbell, headman of the Sinixt First Nation. This meeting was to change her life. Living at the time in Vernon, Celia was hired as a teacher at the Whole School and moved to Vallican. Her love for the Slocan Valley is evident in evocative descriptions of the landscape, as she relates how

the Sinixt were called home by their ancestors. Celia worked with the Vallican Archaeological Park Society, local people who had been acting as stewards of the unique ancient Sinixt village and burial ground at Vallican since 1984. Due to her research into the ethnography and archaeology of the area and her personal contacts among the Sinixt, Celia was hired as coordinator in 1989.

When Celia worked with the Sinixt, the memory of their roots had been kept alive by their elders. Privileged to

witness the often tearful reaction of a disinherited people as they returned to their ancestral land, Celia also relates her experiences on the Colville Confederated Reservation in Washington State, where she became close to some of the Sinixt elders and went on to work on cultural preservation projects.

In *A Twist in Coyote's Tale* Gunn shares what she is learning both about herself and about traditional Native American wisdom. Reading like a novel, her memoir begins and ends with a powerful dream. According to Native American tradition, dreams are sacred because they indicate one's path in life.

Celia Gunn was born in England in

1950. After completing her education, she lived for four years in Israel before emigrating to Canada in 1975, where her three children were born. She has worked in education and publishing. Today, Celia lives in the West Country of England, where she is applying what she learned from her extraordinary experience with the Sinixt into honouring her own indigenous British roots. For information about her current activities, visit www.earthskywalk.com. *The Sinixt: Bringing Home the Bones*, a film adapted from the book by Frog Mountain Films, will hold its world premiere in Nelson on April 23. It will show at Bosun Hall in New Denver on May 1 at 7:30 pm.



Bill Tobey of the Nakusp Rotary Club congratulates Gene Nagy, recipient of Nakusp's Lifetime Achievement Award for 2009.

Nakusp Citizens of the Year announced

by Jan McMurray

Nakusp's Citizens of the Year 2009, Gene Nagy and Earl Frerichs, will be honoured at a banquet on May 1 at the Legion Hall. Tickets are available at Barton Insurance.

It is very fitting that Gene and Earl be honoured together, as they jointly took on the job of project manager for the 14-unit Arrowtarian Seniors Housing Project, phase four, which just celebrated its grand opening on April 17. This was a full-time job for both men, and because they did it as volunteers, they saved the project an estimated \$60,000. The project was completed under budget.

Gene, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award, has held executive positions on the Arrowtarian board and the phase four Arrowtarian building committee. He has been active in the Dog Creek Water Users Community, was an advocate for keeping Halcyon Home open, and has been involved

in organized soccer since 1973 as a coach, assistant coach, referee and referee instructor. His contribution to the development of soccer in Nakusp has been invaluable. Gene is a supportive, loving husband and proud parent, grandparent and great grandfather.

Earl, recipient of the Citizen of the Year Award, initiated the \$1,000 club, which raised \$49,000 locally for the Arrowtarian Villa project. Earl and his wife, Sandi, moved to Nakusp from Calgary in 2003 and support the Nakusp Legion, Senior Citizens Centre and historical society. Earl serves on the board of water distribution and fire protection for Bayview Estates. He is also very involved with his church. He was a Calgary Kinsmen for many years, and sat on the executive of the Model T Ford Club of America, Foothills Chapter, for many years. A curler since the 1970s, Earl sat on the board of directors of the Westwinds Curling Club. His volunteer work at

the Calgary Stampede earned him the title of Alumni Volunteer.

The Nakusp Citizens of the Year Awards are sponsored by the Rotary Club.

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Thinking about going back to school, but need some help financially? If you're active in your community, you may qualify for a College Community Service Award.

Columbia Basin Trust is offering a \$2,000 award for up to 22 Basin residents planning to attend college full-time in a recognized undergraduate program at one of the participating colleges.

This award is based on community volunteer service, not on academic achievement. Eligibility criteria, applications and guidelines can be found at www.cbt.org/ccsa or by calling 1.800.505.8998.

Application deadline is June 30, 2010.

Selkirk College, College of the Rockies, College of New Caledonia, Okanagan College

www.cbt.org • 1.800.505.8998

COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM MEETINGS IN FAUQUIER, BURTON & EDGEWOOD

BC Hydro is proposing a transfer of BC Hydro's community water systems in Burton, Fauquier and Edgewood to the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK). The transfer would result in the water system being owned and operated by the RDCK. BC Hydro and the RDCK will be hosting an open house to provide information to residents and property owners within the water system service area. Resident and property owners will also soon receive an information package by mail. A referendum of residents and property owners will be held by the RDCK to decide if the transfer will go ahead.

The Burton water system services all properties bounded by McCormack Road and Main Road in the community of Burton. Lakeview Park Road west of Highway 6 is also serviced. Cariboo Creek Estates is not in the service area.

The Fauquier water system services all properties within the Willow Street loop in the community of Fauquier, including Spruce and Maple Streets and the Highway 6 service road.

The Edgewood water system services all properties in the community of Edgewood, bounded by Cemetery Road on the north and Eagle Crescent/Lakeshore Avenue on the south.

BURTON MEETING

Date: Monday, April 26th, 2010
Time: 5:30pm to 9:00pm
Place: Burton Community Hall
Presentations will start at 5:30 pm.

EDGEWOOD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, May 4th, 2010
Time: 5:30 to 9:00pm
Place: Edgewood Legion
Presentations will start at 5:30 pm.

FAUQUIER MEETING

Date: Tuesday, April 27th, 2010
Time: 5:30pm to 9:00pm
Place: Fauquier Community Hall
Presentations will start at 5:30 pm.

If you would like additional information, please call Jen Walker-Larsen at 250 814 6645 or email to jennifer.walker-larsen@bchydro.com.

bchydro.com

BC Hydro
FOR GENERATIONS

Nakusp Citizen of the Year Banquet
May 1, 2010
5:30 pm
The Legion Hall

Tickets available at Barton Insurance Brokers - \$20 per seat

New Denver residents get rare up-close look at Gray Wolf

by Art Joyce

New Denver area residents got the opportunity of a lifetime when Gary Allan brought a Gray Wolf to Bosun Hall the evening of April 14. The wolf, named Tundra, was obtained from breeders in Alberta and is part of the Allan family. About a third of the audience were children, excited to see a live wolf up close. Even experienced woodsmen can spend a

lifetime in the bush and never see one. The presentation was sponsored by the Valhalla Wilderness Society.

Allan held Tundra on a leash while she paced the room, checking everyone out. At 85 pounds (38.5 kilograms) she is a large specimen of Gray Wolf and even for a tall, robust man like Allan it was a strain to keep control. Tundra is domesticated and posed no danger to the audience—Allan frequently presents

her to school groups. He explained that wolf cubs begin to bond with the pack already by three weeks of age so that's when he brought her home. That way, the wolf bonds with its human owner and family instead, who become the wolf's 'pack.' Allan made it clear he was not encouraging others to have wolves as family pets as they are 'high maintenance' and belong in the wild.

Wolf cubs when born are blind and deaf and have no defences – they are totally dependent upon their mothers. Tundra was small enough to be carried in Allan's hand and had to be bottle-fed. Juvenile pup development is from 21 to 77 days. The females will grow at 2.6 pounds per week, males at 3.3 pounds. Due to their high protein requirements, pup mortality is 30-50 percent, from starvation, drowning, or being killed by other wolves or by bears. At five months Tundra was already 60 pounds (27.2 kilograms). They learn how to hunt by catching field mice and ground squirrels and will travel 50-80 kilometres in a day to hunt. Their sense of smell can detect prey from two kilometres away. Packs will defend their territory by killing intruding packs in order to protect their food supply.

Wolf packs can number up to 20 but typically are between 5 and 14. Only one pair breeds and that is enforced by the dominant male/female pair. Subordinate pack members care for the pups. This is known as eusocial behaviour. Seldom

will they over-breed due to this self-regulation. Larger packs may have more than one breeding pair. Wolves are sexually mature at 22 months, and females only come into heat once a year. Gestation is 63 days. Wolves are incredibly smart and learn quickly. They are considered a top predator and usually kill only old and injured prey.

Allan explained that Yellowstone National Park found that when wolves had been extirpated, the elk had overgrazed the trees, basically eliminating the beaver population. When wolves were reintroduced from Canada, bringing elk population back into control, beaver colonies returned, also increasing by 75 times the aquatic bird life. Biologists found that of all the wolf culls done in the 1980s and '90s, only one had even modest success. Wolf breeding actually increases when

pressure is put on them by culling.

"In my opinion, they've allowed the caribou population to get so low in some areas you're not going to get those populations back," said Allan. "Just killing wolves isn't going to bring back the caribou."

Allan cautioned the children never to approach animals in the wild. He recommended they download the free video game Wolf Quest, a role playing game that puts the player in the role of wolf trying to survive in the wild. A First Nations man in the audience said his people view the wolf as another tribe. Allan believes attitudes have changed toward wolves from 20-30 years ago when wolves were killed as pests or for their fur.

For more information visit www.whospeaksforwolf.com or www.wolf.org.

Notice of Application for a Water Licence (Section 10)

I, Sydney Bernard of 6024 Forest Road, Winlaw, BC V0G 2J0, have applied for a water licence to use water out of Winlaw Creek, which flows westerly and discharges into the Slokan River and give notice of my application to all persons affected.

The point of diversion will be located 1 (one) km from Slokan River.

The quantity of water to be diverted or stored is 500 gallons. The purpose for which the water will be used is domestic use. The land on which the water will be used is Lot A, District Lot 8784/Kootenay District Plan NEP.23291

Anyone having concerns or comments with regard to the above proposal, please contact me at the above address in order that we may discuss the issues and arrive at a mutually acceptable arrangement.

Objections to this application may be filed with the Assistant Regional Water Manager c/o FrontCounter BC at 1902 Theatre Road, Cranbrook, BC V1C 7G1 within 30 days of the date of the publication of this notice.

Join Lucerne School and Celebrate Earth Day April 22, 2010

Earth, Fire, Water, Air

6:30 am – Walk the Highway
Silverton – New Denver
Road Clean up

9:15 - Meet at the school

10:00 – Centennial Park
Clean up and Fire Building

10:45 – Nature by the Water

11:30 Drum & Parachute Games in the Park

Everyone Welcome

Trash Art Challenge

April 23 & 24
Passmore Hall
TRASHFORMATION GALA:
Friday 7 pm – 9 pm
with Courtney Anderson
Costumes encouraged!
Saturday 11 am – 3 pm
Entries due: April 22

Entry forms:
www.slocanvalleyarts.ca
or call 250-226-7768

Anyone can enter!
Imagination is the Limit!

Cash prizes in TWO CATEGORIES for both youth and adult:
• Masks/Costumes • Anything Goes
• Plus People's Choice prize award

Send entry form(s) to:
Slocan Valley Arts Council,
Box 18, Winlaw, V0G 2J0



Gary Allan packed out the Bosun Hall the evening of April 14 with his presentation of his wolf Tundra, whom he raised from three weeks of age. The once-in-a-lifetime chance to see a wolf up close was a huge hit with kids, who made up probably a third of the audience.

Children's entertainer Rick Scott comes to the Whole submitted

The Vallican Whole Community Centre presents a Rick Scott family concert on Saturday, May 15 at 4 pm. Scott combines music and humour in lively participatory concerts for all ages. Doors, treats and playtime at 3 pm.

For over 35 years Scott has performed in nine countries and released 18 recordings, including seven children's CDs. He's been honoured with three Juno nominations and Parents' Choice, NAPPA Gold, Children's Music Web, iParenting Media and Canadian Folk Music

Awards.

Rick first performed at the Vallican Whole back in the '70s when it was just a floor awaiting walls and a roof. Scott's original band Pied Pumkin helped raise funds to finish the building. Now a grandfather of eight, he's delighted to be bringing his music back to its roots in the beautiful surroundings at the Whole.

Tickets are available in advance at Jennie's Book Garden in Winlaw, and Otter Books in Nelson, \$5 kids and \$10 adults.

For more information call the Vallican Whole at 250-226-7957. To see Scott's website visit www.rickscott.ca.

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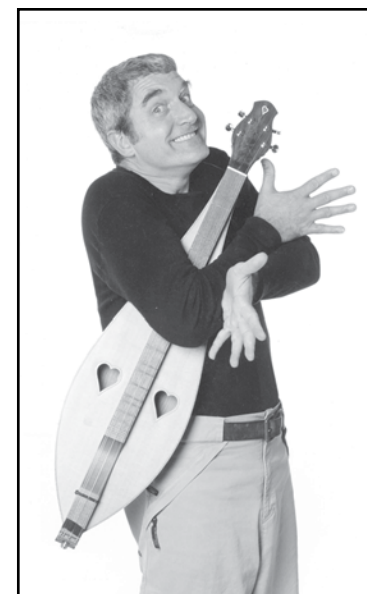
Free

Time: 12:30 pm to 3 pm on Mondays during the month of May

Location: Lucerne School in the Preschool/StrongStart room

To Register Call Charlene Alexander, ECE @ 250-358-7768

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Award-winning children's entertainer Rick Scott, also of Pied Pumkin, will entertain parents and kids alike at the Whole School on May 15.

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Underwater Archaeological Society of BC places plaques in Silverton

by Art Joyce

As historical plaques go, they may not be the easiest to see, so the *Valley Voice* is giving readers a sneak preview. The Underwater Archaeological Society of BC (UASBC) recently brought in a special team to mark the underwater sites of the CPR railway compressor barge and ore cars in Slocan Lake near Silverton.

The team of Bronwen Young, Eric Young, Dwayne Blaeser, Darren

Muntak, Bill Meekel, and Sandra Peacock, all members of UASBC, arrived in Silverton April 16 to begin preparations for the dive that will place the plaques on the historic underwater sites. The society keeps a database of all such sites in BC's lakes and rivers and has published a guide, *Historic Shipwrecks of the West Kootenay District*, to explain their history, available at local museums.

The ore cars are in fairly shallow

water near the Silverton boat launch. In the winter of 1904 the barge had been loaded at New Denver with rail cars containing some 800 silver ingots and silver ore concentrate. After setting out, a storm erupted on Slocan Lake, causing the barge to break free, making it as far as Silverton. Once there the rail cars broke through the barge's end posts and sank. A hard-hat diver was sent to try to reclaim the lost silver but with diving technology still in its infancy, many had to be left

behind. Another diver returned to the site in 1931 and was able to reclaim 57 more ingots. Since then the site has become popular with divers, including UASBC members. The four main cars are close to shore at between 14 and 22 metres depth, while a fifth car lies in about 41 metres of water about 65 metres west. The site was previously mapped by the same UASBC team that is installing the plaques. Such mapping is critical because over time, as wooden components decay and siltation occurs, visibility can become increasingly obscured.

The CPR compressor barge is partially sunken on the west shore of Slocan Lake almost directly across from the Silverton boat launch. The plaque now installed on the barge explains that it was an eight-car transfer unit named for the Ingersoll-Rand compressor that sits on its deck. Barges were the workhorses of the 'freshwater highway' that once extended from Revelstoke to the border, completing area rail links. They provided low-cost transport and were pushed or towed by sternwheelers or steam tugs. The barge was sold to a mining company and later abandoned and tied up at New Denver. In the 1970s it broke loose and started to fill with water. The tugboat Iris G pushed it over to the western shore of the lake where it lies upended and partially visible above water.

Dive team member Darren Muntak, who also owns Outback Marine Services, explained that the plaques would be lowered from a special float barge about the size of a small Zodiac craft, using a winch system. Divers will guide each plaque to where they will be affixed to the site. According to the team, Slocan Lake has many more underwater historical sites mapped by UASBC. There are still more in Kootenay Lake and the Arrow Lakes.

Team member Eric Young said these sites are registered with the BC Archaeology Branch and protected by the BC Heritage Conservation Act. Divers are welcome to visit the sites but nothing may be removed or disturbed. "Take only pictures, leave only bubbles," is the byword.

For more information visit www.uasbc.com or visit your local museum.

PHOTO CREDIT: SEAN ARTHUR (ART), JOYCE



Underwater Archaeological Society of BC dive team members (L to R) Darren Muntak, Dwayne Blaeser, Bronwen Young, and Eric Young display the plaques they will be placing on two historic underwater sites near Silverton.



Members of the Underwater Archaeology Society of BC dive team place a plaque on a sunken CPR ore barge near Silverton.

School District No. 10 considering staff cuts to balance 2010/11 budget

by Jan McMurray

School District No. 10 Arrow Lakes is having a closer look at its budget, now that all the information is in from the Ministry of Education.

"We need to find about \$300,000 to balance the budget for the 2010/11 school year," reported Board of Education Chair Pattie Adam.

At its February meeting, the board passed a motion to consider the closure of Burton Elementary School for September 2010, leaving only three months for public consultation. At a public meeting held in Burton on March 3, Burton community members asked to be given a one-year consultation period. Adam says there is a motion on the agenda for the board's upcoming April 27 meeting to extend the consultation period until April 2011.

"If we have a year to consult with the community, we will have to see if we can come up with a plan to make the school sustainable. The community has to figure out a way to attract kids. It's no small task, but it's do-able," commented Adam.

In order to balance next year's budget, the board is looking at reducing staff. "All the cuts we're looking at

directly affect the kids because there's nothing else left to cut," said Adam. The \$300,000 savings could be found by cutting teachers (2.5 to 3.5 FTE positions) and special education assistants (to the tune of a savings of about \$110,000).

The board will also look at possibly implementing a four-day week throughout the district starting in September 2011. Burton and Edgewood have been on the four-day week since parents and staff approached the board and asked for the shorter school week two years ago.

"It's nice when it comes from the community, so you know it's what they want," said Adam. "We're looking at it for the rest of the district as a cost savings measure. We're starting the conversation and gathering more information. We'll approach the PACs and maybe have an info evening and find out what everyone thinks."

If Lucerne, Nakusp Elementary and Nakusp Secondary switched to the four-day week, an estimated \$74,000 would be saved in bus driver and custodian costs, and fuel and utilities.

In other School District No. 10 news, the March break will be two weeks next year.

LOVERS LOVE THE SPRING

Allison **Girvan**, soprano
 Roger **Ley**, tenor
 Christoph **Martens**, piano

Friday, May 7, 2010
Silverton Memorial Hall

with guests ... **Choir Fire**

Admission by donation

Presented by the Valhalla Community Concert Series - a program of the Valhalla Fine Arts Society

UPGRADE WORK PLANNED FOR ALL FAUQUIER COMMUNITY WATER SERVICE AREA PROPERTIES

BC Hydro is notifying Fauquier residents that upgrade work is planned for spring 2010 that will affect all developed properties within the community water service area. This work is expected to begin in April, Water System contractors will be installing a backflow valve at the water system curb stop for each property, located at the property line. The additional equipment will help protect water quality by preventing water already in the line from flowing back to the water source.

The work will involve using heavy machinery to excavate a small pit that will allow the additional equipment to be installed. Water service to each property will be shut off during the work, expected to take roughly one day or less at each property. Contractors will minimize disruption to lawns and landscaping to the extent possible.

BC Hydro is completing this upgrade work and other water system projects in your community to ensure the community water system continues to provide drinking water that meets or exceeds Canadian Drinking Water Standards. All BC Hydro water system contractors are certified by the Environmental Operators Certification Program for backflow valve installation and testing and small water system operation.

For more information on planned water system upgrade work or to contact BC Hydro about the backflow valve installation at your property, please call Jen Walker-Larsen at 250 814 6645 or email to Jennifer.walker-larsen@bchydro.com.

bchydro.com



BC Hydro
FOR GENERATIONS

RCMP report on gunshot incidents in Slocan Valley

submitted

The Slocan Lake RCMP detachment received a number of calls Tuesday evening March 20 of possible gunshots being fired in the Village of Slocan. A further complaint was received that the window of a residence had been shot.

RCMP responded and confirmed that a small calibre weapon, possibly a .22 calibre rifle or .22 handgun had been used to shoot the window. Neighbouring detachments were

contacted and set up roadblocks on Highway 6, both north and south of Slocan, but neither the suspect(s) nor suspect's vehicle were located.

The following day numerous other reports of damage in the Slocan area were also received by RCMP, including other windows that had been shot, property that had been spray painted (the Slocan Lake boat launch washrooms and Welcome to Slocan sign) and two parked/unattended vehicles that had

windows smashed, though not by gunshots.

RCMP members from the Kootenay Boundary General Investigation Section (GIS) were called in the next day to assist in investigations. A total of 15 different properties or vehicles were victimized, including six private residences along the 7000-8500 block of Highway 6 that had windows shot and damaged. Within the Village of Slocan, two other residences, and three Harold Street businesses, as well as a school and church had windows shot at.

These incidents are believed by police to be random in nature, not targeted. Slocan Lake RCMP are seeking the public's assistance

in identifying the suspect(s) and locating the suspect vehicle, possibly an older, smaller vehicle, light in colour, with a noisy exhaust and round tail lights.

The Slocan Lake detachment has learned that 'wanted' posters have been placed in Slocan and surrounding area regarding these incidents of vandalism. RCMP wish to clarify that these posters have inaccurate information, were not authorized by police, and the specific content used is not an acceptable investigational technique. The poster notes a possible vehicle description as well as a specific address and phone number for a potential suspect. While the RCMP are seeking the public's assistance, this method is

not to be used, as it could lead to vigilante style justice or compromise the ongoing investigation. It should also be noted that the suspect(s) were armed when the vandalism occurred, and anyone approaching a building or residence to deal with the suspect(s) could be subject to serious bodily harm.

Slocan Lake RCMP wish to emphasize that this is a police investigation and only they have the training and expertise to resolve these matters. Please leave the arrest of any suspects and securing of firearms to the police.

If you have any information on this matter, please contact RCMP at 250-358-2222 or call CRIMESTOPPERS.

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Dance only \$15.00
Doors @ Beer Garden @ 5:30 pm
Dinner @ 6:00pm
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A co-presentation brought to you by SP CARE Society and RARTS

All proceeds raised go toward independent on-the-ground baseline studies and continued monitoring of potentially impacted streams and water sources. These studies provide needed information and research, and set a precedence for water and land stewardship in our communities.

Michael Guthrie to play the Langham

submitted

Multi-instrumentalist Michael Guthrie will perform music from his latest CD at the Langham Saturday, May 1 at 8 pm. Please join us before the show for wine and cheese from 5:30-7:30 pm. It's the perfect opportunity to check out the exhibits in the art galleries, kick off Asian Heritage Month by visiting the Japanese Canadian Museum, and celebrate more than 35 years of creativity at the Langham Cultural Centre, which was founded by Guthrie.

Michael Guthrie's musical influences include (but are not limited to) folk, jazz, blues, pop, Flamenco, country and rock. He says he likes most forms of music, as long as it comes from the heart. Guthrie likes to explore different instruments, as well as different musical styles, which is what led him to perform all the instruments on his latest CD. "And I couldn't afford to pay other musicians," he says with a chuckle. From 1973 to 1979 Michael and his late wife, Darellyn Guthrie ran a coffee house in Kaslo, the Village Green Café, where the Langham Cultural Centre got its start.

According to reviewer Kurt Myhaver, Guthrie's "multi-styled soundscape of dynamic textures, ideas and groove" demonstrates a "versatility and musical wisdom... sometimes provocative, sometimes universal."

We look forward to sharing the evening with you and celebrating our good fortune here in Kaslo – that we get to live in such a rich and vibrant arts community. As economist John Kenneth Galbraith said, "Those communities that are richest in their

artistic tradition are also those that are the most progressive in their economic performance and most resilient and secure in their economic structure."

Krestova creates community garden

by Jan McMurray

Krestova's community garden was created last year with funds from the federal New Horizons for Seniors program.

The community grew a communal borscht garden and celebrated at the end of the season with a borscht feast.

Senior members of the community mentored younger community members, and students from Mt. Sentinel's Quest program also got involved.

"It was very intergenerational," says

Advance tickets are \$10 at Willow Home Gallery and Sunnyside Naturals, \$12 at the door. For more information visit www.thelangham.ca or www.moorafa.com.

Sharon Nazaroff, who applied for the grant. "People from age 2 to 85 were out there gardening."

Nazaroff says she came up with the garden project idea as a way to bring back the Doukhobor community feel to Krestova. "The Doukhobor elders brought those community skills to the garden project – it was a wonderful, uplifting experience," she said.

Ideas for the garden this year are welcome. Contact Sharon at 250-359-7081.



Krestova's garden yielded a healthy potato crop last year, thanks to help from Mt. Sentinel Quest students and parents and Krestova community members.



WE Graham Community Service Society Coordinator Joanne Ellis (left) welcomes new Office Manager Deb Corbett. She has been very involved in community over the years, most recently volunteering her time for local seniors' luncheons, the food bank, and numerous youth workshops.

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Castlegar Ministry of Forests and Range office to close

submitted

The Ministry of Forests and Range recently gave 15 employees at its Castlegar office their pink slips. All management and clerical staff and several of the professional and technical staff have been given letters indicating their positions are now redundant. The Arrow Boundary (Castlegar) District Office will be closed.

The Arrow Boundary Forest District, which currently extends north of Nakusp and west of Grand Forks, will cease to exist and will be amalgamated into a new forest district with headquarters in Nelson. Because of their proximity to each other, both the Castlegar and Nelson (Kootenay Lake) offices were considered in the decision regarding which office to close. Despite its more central location and its closer proximity to forest industry clients, the decision was

made to close the Castlegar office and eliminate positions there.

MLA Katrine Conroy has spoken out about the cuts. "With 30,000 jobs lost in forestry since the BC Liberals took over and the closure of 71 mills, it is clear that the BC Liberals have failed completely in their approach to forestry," she said, adding, "Closing a centrally located office with no local input that provided professional support to the area seems very short sighted."

Forest Minister Pat Bell claims that these cuts are necessary because harvest levels are down, but Conroy says this attitude shows a serious lack of understanding of the scope of responsibilities that lie within the ministry. "The Forest Service's mission is to protect, manage and conserve forested land," she said. "Over 90% of British Columbia is Crown land, owned

by the people of British Columbia, and it is the responsibility of the Forest Service to act as stewards for this land, regardless of the level of harvest."

Conroy also points out that there are currently many forest health issues that need attention. "Cutting staff at this time is incredibly short sighted," she said.

Federal MP Alex Atamanenko joins his provincial counterpart in voicing his concerns over these cuts. "Unemployment is expected to increase this year in BC, and the provincial government is now complicit in this. Forestry communities have been hammered by the softwood trade deal, the downturn in the housing market and the bad economy. Now the government says that the forestry sector isn't as active, so we don't need as many government staff. Where is the vision for job creation and an

innovative economy that works for rural communities?" he questioned.

No jobs have been declared redundant in Nelson; however, further work force adjustments could begin as early as this summer to meet 2011/2012

budget reductions.

A number of field staff will remain in a field office location in Castlegar, reporting to the centralized office in Nelson. The field office will not be open to the public or industry clients.

Stuart Ross returns to inspire students during Writers Festival week

submitted

Lucerne School in New Denver likes Stuart Ross so much, they're welcoming him back this spring as writer-in-residence April 27-30 as part of the Lucerne School and Community Writers Festival.

Ross will also conduct workshops with students at Nakusp Secondary on April 26 and the Burton Scalping Knife Scribblers on May 1, and will be one of five guest writers at the annual Lucerne School and Community Writers Coffeehouse on Friday, April 30 at 7 pm at Silverton Hall.

Ross is a poet, author and writing instructor and helps create outlets for young writers. "Stuart is by far one of the best writing workshop leaders for teens I've ever seen," said Terry Taylor, Lucerne English teacher and a festival co-ordinator.

Stuart says his classes include lively workshops where the students focus on producing new work with a variety of approaches. He reads from his own work, answers questions, and opens students up to the possibilities

of publishing their own literary magazines and chapbooks (small, often self-published books of poetry or stories, usually saddle-stitched or stapled together).

"This will be my fifth year coming to New Denver and parts Kootenayesque," says Ross. "I feel so incredibly fortunate that this has become a part of my life, and I always feel so welcomed. One of the greatest aspects of my visits is that I learn as much as I teach. When you spend 50 years in Toronto, you can lose track of other incredible ways of living in Canada, and ways of thinking and creating, too."

Ross, active in the Toronto literary scene since the mid-1970s, has been visiting classrooms since the 1980s. He's conducted countless workshops for teens and has led Poetry Boot Camps across Canada. He's given hundreds of readings and has appeared at many festivals. Ross is the fiction and poetry editor for This Magazine, a Canadian magazine that's been publishing for 42 years.

Of his most recent book of short stories, author Derek McCormack says "Hank Williams haunts the stories of *Buying Cigarettes for the Dog*, but Randy Newman is the book's presiding spirit...with deadpan style and Tin Pan Alley timing, Ross has given us a hilarious, harrowing book."

Ross's visit is sponsored by the Kootenay Library Federation and School District #10 with support from the Canada Council for the Arts.

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Lucerne School and Community Writers Festival

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Kaslo climate change adaptation strategy seeks public input

by Art Joyce

The Kaslo Climate Change Adaptation project held its first public meeting at JV Humphries auditorium the evening of April 9. The project is complementary to the Regional District's climate sustainability planning, focusing on societal adaptation to climate change rather than carbon reduction or mitigation strategies. Project coordinator Tim Sander explained that obtaining community input is seen as a vital part of the project. "This will make the project far more complete than it would otherwise be," he said. "It's people like yourself who need to be involved because you push local businesses and councils to make changes."

The project team includes Michelle Laurie of the Columbia Basin Trust's Communities Adapting to Climate Change initiative. It forecasts a worst case scenario for climate change based on a 'no change' baseline, i.e. it assumes that societal output of carbon will remain the same or even increase. Based on scientific as well as community input it will then create an adaptation strategy to manage future climate change related problems in Kaslo/Area D. The adaptation project will

assess how climate change will affect agriculture, and how that impacts local food production; as well as how it will affect the availability and quality of year-round accessible water. For Kaslo and Area D this could mean adopting strategies such as increased flood protection and wildfire buffer zones near communities, among other things. Built into the strategy will be the flexibility to expect and plan for surprises rather than counting on a single adaptation model.

In a crude poll of the audience it was clear that human-induced climate change is considered a given. This message was reinforced by project scientist Mel Reasoner, who showed a series of slides from the latest scientific data. The El Niño summer oscillation (ENSO) as well as short- and long-term oscillations over decades and centuries are factored into data trends. The University of Victoria Pacific Climate Impacts Consortium has provided the data for this project, overlaying global climate model air temperature with local data.

Reasoner explained that global warming trends have both temporal and spatial variability, meaning that temperatures can

fluctuate up or down in time and place but that overall the trend is clearly upward. There was only one year in the 20th century (1998) that was warmer than the 2000-2010 decade. Data from Cranbrook, Golden, Creston, Kaslo and Revelstoke show a warming trend of 1.5 degrees Celsius over the past century, roughly twice the global average, with more rain and less snow. Over the same period there has been an increase in precipitation of 20-30 percent. Most of the warming is happening in the winter rather than summer. Glaciers over the past century have receded, and some estimates conclude that there will be no glaciers left in Glacier National Park within 20 years. "We're tracking at or above the worst case scenario, when you compare the data of actual versus projected emissions," explains Reasoner. "The trend is upwards, it's just a question of how much."

We can expect increases of 1 to 1.3 degrees C by the 2020s, 2.4 to 3 degrees by the 2050s, 3.3 to 5 C by 2080s. A 3 degrees Celsius increase in West Kootenay communities

would result in an average annual temperature similar to Osoyoos today. Although this will mean the number of growing days will increase, it doesn't necessarily mean we'll be growing peaches here. By 2040, there will be an 11.5 percent drop in April 1 snowpack levels in the northern part of the Columbia Basin, 35 percent in the southern portion. An earlier snow melt each year means less water in summer.

According to a study published last year in Science magazine, the tree mortality rate in the Western US has doubled over the past 50 years due to global warming. This will have a major impact on the Columbia Basin. By 2050, the Basin's suitability for Douglas fir to thrive will be seriously degraded, possibly not viable. This will affect moisture retention in the

soil as more trees die off, creating erosion and greater avalanche and flood risks.

The meeting then broke into workshop groups seeking input from the roughly 30 members of the public who participated. In one exercise, people were asked to note changes they have noticed in the environment due to climate change. Area D Director Andy Shadrack said at a meeting in Meadow Creek, one resident noted that the Lardeau River is at its lowest level since he moved here in 1962. Others pointed out that the formerly robust local mushroom industry has all but disappeared. In the impact mapping exercise, the audience was asked to add their observations to the chain of causation from climate change specifics through resulting ecological impacts and finally to

how those will affect us.

Shadrack concluded the meeting by urging residents to fill out surveys and return them. When asked if the adaptation strategy meant abandoning the goal of carbon reduction, he noted that the RDCK has signed onto the Carbon Neutral Kootenays initiative. Shadrack said he urged the committee to "go deeper" and push for a 12 percent reduction in GHG emissions by 2012, a goal that has been adopted by the Regional District. This will have the added benefit of saving taxpayers money on carbon fines.

The public is asked to fill out a questionnaire noting changes observed locally in climate, at areaadaptation@columbiawireless.ca. Gardeners who have kept diaries of gardening and weather trends are also invited to submit.

Oso Renewable Energy offers local solar energy

by Art Joyce

Valley residents looking to 'go green' with their home energy needs now have a local supplier. Oso Renewable Energy proprietor and Hills resident Kip

Drobish offers residential solar electric and thermal systems. Although Oso focuses on solar, Drobish can also provide energy efficient appliances and micro hydro equipment, but says that wind power is not viable in these mountain valleys.

Drobish lived off-grid with solar in Montana starting in 1993 and has operated a renewable energy business since 2006. Since becoming a landed immigrant and moving to the Kootenays full time in 2008, he and his family have modified their home in Hills to accommodate both solar hot water production and grid-tied solar electric (PV) with battery backup. He has completed 17 installations in the past 18 months, 12 of them solar domestic hot water. Drobish is Canadian Solar Industry Association and Solar BC certified to install solar hot water systems.

"The most common thing people say to me here is that there's not enough sunshine. My response to that is that our annual average sun is a little over 3.6 hours of sunshine daily. Germany and Japan have about 2.5 hours of daily sunshine and are leading the world in solar energy installations."

Drobish says the increase in solar energy use in those countries has much to do with consumer incentive programs. Recently in Canada there have been provincial and federal incentives for solar

hot water systems, which has prompted some locals to install these on their homes. The federal program is fully subscribed and has no more openings. Solar BC, a project of the BC Sustainable Energy Association partly funded by Natural Resources Canada, continues to offer grants up to \$2,000 until the program is fully subscribed, probably sometime this summer.

Clients have the option of installing a solar domestic hot water system heated either by evacuated tube or flat panel systems. Drobish is a certified installer for Canadian-made Enerworks solar systems. These sophisticated solar systems include digital energy monitoring calculators that break down energy use by total savings of cash, kilowatt hours, total reduction of impact on the BC Hydro grid, and carbon offset levels. Drobish can supply three other types of solar hot water systems using evacuated tubes or panels.

As BC Hydro rates continue to increase, many homeowners will find solar a more and more attractive alternative for reducing energy costs. Solar technology costs have dropped by as much as 40 percent in recent years, as the industry expands by 30 percent annually.

Drobish can do site-specific solar energy evaluations for homeowners to calculate the available annual solar energy harvest. He combines an on-site optical instrument plus online RET screen calculation software available from Natural Resources Canada. This helps with placement of solar panels for maximum benefit, or assessing whether a site is suitable for solar harvesting.

A solar open house will be held at Drobish's home in Hills on May 30 at 113 Reibin Road from 11 am to 1 pm. There will also be a demonstration at this year's New Denver May Days.

For more information contact Oso Renewable Energy at 250-358-2660 or kip@netidea.com, www.ososolar.com.

Regional District of Central Kootenay



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES Manager of Utility Services and Utilities Technician

The Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) has two challenging new career opportunities within the Environmental Services Department.

MANAGER OF UTILITY SERVICES

The RDCK is seeking an experienced professional for the newly created position of Manager of Utility Services. The Manager of Utility Services will be primarily responsible for the delivery of services related to water, wastewater, and storm water management. In addition to possessing exemplary technical expertise with respect to the operation and management of water and wastewater systems, the ideal candidate will possess strong project management, supervisory, budgeting and administrative skills.

UTILITIES TECHNICIAN

The Regional District of Central Kootenay is also seeking a senior level technician experienced in water and wastewater facilities and operations. The Utilities Technician will be responsible for performing skilled operations, maintenance, inspection, and monitoring of the regional district's water and/or wastewater systems, including sampling, data collection, data entry and preparation of supporting documentation. The Utilities Technician serves as the Certified Operator for several small water and/or wastewater systems operated by the RDCK.

A detailed Job Description for these positions is available on the RDCK website at www.rdck.bc.ca.

The RDCK offers a competitive salary and comprehensive benefit package.

Applications are invited in the form of a detailed resume with a covering letter detailing qualifications and experience relative to the position. Applications, clearly stating the title of the position for which you are applying, will be accepted by the undersigned until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 10, 2010.

The RDCK is an equal opportunity employer.

Uli Wolf, General Manager, Environmental Services
Regional District of Central Kootenay
Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC V1L 5R4
E-mail: uwolf@rdck.bc.ca
Phone: (250) 352-8163 / FAX: (250) 352-9300
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Each spring, hundreds of **Gerrard rainbow trout - the largest rainbow trout in the world** - spawn at the outlet of Trout Lake (45 minutes north of Meadow Creek). Come see the mighty Gerrards for yourself!

Visit fwcp.ca for a map and a daily count of how many spawning Gerrards you might see.



Thanks to MOE and HCTF for monitoring the Gerrards



Nakusp council signs off on sustainability plan

by Art Joyce

Council discussed at its April 13 meeting the final wording to the Village's sustainability plan, revising the vision statement to read, "Nakusp is an affordable, environmentally responsible, family-minded community..." Council went through the draft plan checklist of sustainability actions and decided to change "incorporate LEED standard into permit system for new development," to "encourage" meeting LEED standards. (LEED, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an international 'gold standard' for 'green' buildings and design.) "Infill commercial or mixed-use buildings by reducing surface parking," was eliminated as not relevant to Nakusp. Council further decided to commit only to "investigating" a district biomass energy plant, but has committed to purchasing 10 high efficiency woodstoves that will be made available locally. A public meeting will be set up at the Farmer's Market in June to explain the Village's sustainability plan.

Mayor Hamling presented her report, noting that, "One of the biggest things I've been getting flack around town over is crosswalks. The seniors want those crosswalks." Bruce Lintott from the Ministry of Highways advised the mayor that only two new crosswalks will be built - at CIBC and the Post Office. He said that more pedestrians are killed in crosswalks than anywhere else and each crosswalk requires taking out up to 16 parking spaces. "And one of the biggest complaints I hear from the public is lack of parking downtown," the mayor added.

Bylaw 586-2, a bylaw to amend Bylaw 586, updating charge-out fees for equipment, received final adoption. The mayor called for council discussion prior to final adoption of Bylaw 517-9, a bylaw to amend the Ticket Information Utilization bylaw to address the Smoking and Idle Control regulation. Mayor Hamling was concerned that the phrase "idling the vehicle excessively" could be open to interpretation if tickets are contested. It was agreed that setting a time limit to idling might be the best solution. The mayor wants an educational program the in community first, followed by having staff place notices on car windows, then going to fines. The RCMP, Fire Chief and CAO are authorized to issue tickets. "I think we're after the ones leaving their cars

running when they go into the coffee shop or grocery store or RVs wanting to keep air conditioning on," said Hamling. Four signs have been posted on each of the entrances to town by the Ministry of Highways. Councillor Heppner said, "they don't work because they're idling right by the sign." "It will when we start ticketing," answered the mayor. Final adoption tabled to next meeting pending wording amendments.

Ken Nishida requested a waiver of Development Cost Charges (DCCs) for his proposed subdivision. CAO Lafleur spoke to the Inspector of Municipalities office, which said council doesn't have the authority to waive these charges. DCCs were established to offset the ongoing costs to municipalities of maintaining subdivision infrastructure, not installation costs. Council can only make exceptions where there is non-profit housing and DCC regulation is set by a BC legislature Order in Council. Councillor Mueller said the developer

could consider doing it as a strata title instead. Lafleur said if Nishida builds more than three units then he has to get a permit for subdivision. Council will write Nishida informing him that DCCs can't be waived and suggesting he consider strata title.

Council discussed the Emergency Services (EMS) building update. CAO Bob Lafleur said concrete should be poured soon, and added that all the tenders have been awarded except for some of the millwork. Some businesses in Nakusp were bidders but were far too high, beyond five percent above average bid. Among local businesses to receive contracts were Bergevin Electric, Burton Woodworks, and Home Hardware.

At a meeting with BC Hydro, the mayor asked for the \$50,000 debris management fund to be rolled into the 2011 budget, since the current debris situation is minimal. Mayor Hamling asked if any funding is available from BC Hydro for the EMS training centre


but was told there is none, so the Village will be short about \$20,000 and will have to do some fundraising.

Councillor Heppner asked that council send a letter of support for a new model of ambulance coverage and expressing concern for the current shortfalls in local service. The Nakusp unit has been on call for New Denver and Burton and not enough people are stepping forward for training. Council agreed to write the letter.

Councillor Leitch reported via teleconference that "there's not much action" for the community forest because "prices are low on everything except timber framing fir." The NADB has decided its meetings will be quarterly instead of monthly.

Councillor Mueller reported that the Chamber of Commerce will meet next week at Selkirk College to unveil the new tourism brochure and website.

Mayor Hamling introduced to council the Village's new Treasurer, Don Willems.



**Nakusp Legion
LA/Vet Honor
Night-May 15th**

to honor all Ladies Auxiliary members and all veterans, including veterans that are not Legion members

"Everyone" must get a ticket-LA members and veterans are free but they still must have a ticket-a free one.

All individuals who would like to help honor these important people, can get their tickets at the Lounge or Office after April 15th.

For more info call 250-265-3033

Nakusp to be profiled as a sustainability success story

submitted

The Village of Nakusp has been identified by the provincial government as one of a small number of leading edge local governments using greenhouse gas modelling tools to inform their community-wide GHG reduction activities. The Province has invited Village council to collaborate with its BC Climate Action Toolkit project, developing text and webcast 'success stories.' These stories will profile the GHG modelling tool the community has used and the experience of working with it. Nakusp's participation in this project will enhance the capacity of local governments across BC and elsewhere

to use greenhouse gas modelling of community form tools.

The BC Climate Action Toolkit is a resource website for local governments, managed in collaboration with UBCM, the Smart Planning for Communities program, and the Province of BC. One topic that needs more exposure in the Toolkit's 'Success Stories' section is the use of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions modelling tools (that model the impacts of community land use decisions) to help set GHG emission reduction targets, policies and actions as part of Bill 27 (Green Communities) requirements.

For more information visit www.toolkit.bc.ca.

Free seminar offered on HST for local businesses

submitted


Businesspeople are invited to a free information seminar on the HST. It will be held in Nakusp on Thursday, April 29 at Selkirk College.

Topics covered will include: how the tax works, applying the tax, self assessing, collection and reporting, point-of-sale rebates, where to get help, and May 1 implications on transitional rules.

Pre-registration for the seminars is necessary. For the Nakusp session, call 250-265-4234. For Castlegar, contact jmather@futures.bc.ca, 250 352 1933 ext 100 or 250 365 6313. For Trail, contact kristi@communityfutures.com or 250 364-2595, ext 24. For Nelson, contact info@discovernelson.com or 250 352-3433.

For more information, visit www.cra-arc.gc.ca.

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May 6, 2010, 7:30 at the Nakusp arena
Tickets can be purchased at the **Broadway Deli - Nakusp, Ann's Natural Foods - New Denver, and at the door on the evening of performance for \$39.00.**

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**Village of
Nakusp**

**JOB POSTING - HOT SPRINGS CASHIER
2 POSITIONS - 1 Casual, 1 Regular Part-time**

GENERAL OUTLINE:
Working evening and week end shifts. Duties are diversified and include greeting the public, admissions, maintaining hygiene and cleanliness standards, monitoring aquatic activities, operating the concession and janitor/labor work. Positions are available tentatively from May through Thanksgiving.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
Include grade 12, class 5 drivers license and a dependable vehicle, occupational first aid, food safe Level 1, WHMIS, BC Super host, medical certificate and criminal record check. A more detailed job description is available from the Village.

RATE OF PAY:
As per the Collective Agreement, Compensation will be \$13.55/hr for the Casual and Probationary period, and \$14.61/hr for the Regular Part Time position.

Please forward your resume and verification of all certificates to Mr. Bob Lafleur, CAO, Village of Nakusp - Box 280, Nakusp BC. E.mail blafleur@nakusp.com The Village thanks all who apply however only those chosen for interviews will be contacted.

Dated April 12, 2010 (This posting will remain open until the positions are filled)

Kaslo council, April 13: City Hall Conservation Committee disbanded

by Jan McMurray

The City Hall Conservation Committee was disbanded as a Select Committee of council. The City Hall restoration project will now be the responsibility of the Development Services Committee. There will be a single-purpose Development Services Committee meeting on April 26 at 4 pm to discuss how the committee will manage the project. Library representatives will be invited.

All members of the disbanded City Hall Conservation Committee will be given a certificate in recognition of their service, and will be encouraged to continue as an independent community organization. Councillors Cormie and Frary were opposed to disbanding the committee.

The Kaslo City Hall project funding agreement with Columbia Basin Trust has been amended to extend the deadlines. The Village now has a full year (until March 31, 2011) to secure the building permit for the project.

Mayor Lay reported that the cost of installing a sprinkler system in the fire hall is \$18,000, according to Fire Chief Badry. Badry suggested the possibility of alarming the fire hall instead, at a cost of \$3,000-\$4,000. The Fire Committee struck to investigate a new fire hall facility will be reporting by mid-May.

A questionnaire on the Saturday Market will be sent out to all Front Street businesses and property owners, and property owners within a 60-metre radius of the commercial core. The questionnaire has two questions: "From your perspective as a Front Street business owner, what are the pros and/or cons of the Saturday Market?" and "Do you have any thoughts on how to change the Saturday Market so it would better enhance your business?" A summary of the responses will go to the Development Services Committee.

Councillor Leathwood explained that she took the lead on the questionnaire after being approached by four downtown business owners with concerns about the market. "Our

first priority is to the taxpayer," she said. She also said that market representatives would be invited to a Development Services committee meeting to discuss the results of the questionnaire.

Councillors Cormie and Frary were opposed to sending out the questionnaire.

Minutes of the Development Services Committee meeting of April 1 were received. John Eckland, Kaslo Hotel owner, and David Stewart of the North Kootenay Lake Arts and Heritage Council attended to speak to the need for public washrooms in the downtown core. They presented plans for washrooms in Front Street Park (Saturday Market location). Councillor Hewat asked for an overall park plan, and Chair Leathwood noted that Nelson closed its public washrooms because of liability and cost, and that the campground washrooms will be the Village's first priority. At a special budget meeting March 30, council decided to transfer the \$40,000 attributed to Front Street washrooms in the draft budget to campground washrooms.

Plans for Front Street Park will be developed by the Spirit Square committee, John Eckland, the North Kootenay Lake Arts and Heritage Council and the Chamber of Commerce. The plans will be submitted to the municipality for consideration.

Two signs directing the public to washrooms at the SS Moyie, Kemball Memorial Centre and Vimy Park will be erected on Front Street.

The three economic priorities to be submitted to the Rural BC Secretariat

Kaslo Saturday Market to begin ninth season

submitted

Sweet fresh fruit, locally grown vegetables, the fragrance of freshly baked bread and treats, beautiful pieces of art and collectibles created by local artisans, the weekly Art in the Market craft table, and melodies by local musicians: it's all available at Kaslo Saturday Market. In 2009, market goers were so hooked by this weekly experience that by the end of the season many people wondered how they'd spend their Saturday mornings when the market closed for the season.

Winter is over and we're pleased to announce that the Kaslo Saturday Market will begin its ninth season on June 5. The market has grown from an average of nine vendors in 2006 to an average of 23 vendors in 2009. We have expanded the market to 19 Saturdays this year, from June 5 to October 9, Thanksgiving weekend.

'Shopping local' and 'food security' are new buzz words for many, but the Kaslo Saturday Market has been promoting these practices for years. The market continues to attract locals and tourists to the downtown every

are Kaslo municipal campground, tourist signage and Kaslo airstrip industrial park.

Council received a letter from a property owner near the Kaslo Bay Estates (KBE) development. She states that development should not be allowed to proceed in the southeast section of the KBE property, as she feels it will most likely destabilize the road and her property. She asks for an independent study of the KBE project and the surrounding area, including her house. The letter was forwarded to Kaslo Bay Estates and referred to the Development Services Committee. Council also agreed to require Kaslo Bay Estates to submit a geotechnical report on the stability of the property, specific to the proposed development, prior to any more approvals for further development on the site. Councillor Leathwood was opposed.

The Village was not successful in its funding application under the Age-Friendly program to design a model for age-friendly affordable housing. Partners in this project are the Kaslo Housing Society and North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society.

Councillor Frary reported that the affordable housing group does not feel very hopeful about grants, and some Kaslo Housing Society funds may be spent to hire a project coordinator so that a conceptual site plan and business plan can be done for Kaslo's project.

Council officially ended the Wildfire Interface Focus Group at

Saturday during the summer to explore the many attractions and businesses that together create a festive atmosphere on Front Street.

Local community markets contribute a sense of social and economic vibrancy to communities, and provide an avenue for community development. According to a study done by the University of

What's up with Kaslo Logger Sports?

submitted

Three gorgeous and gleaming 80-foot tall cedar climbing poles for everyone's favourite tree climb competition – that's what's up. You are all invited to join us at this year's Kaslo Logger Sports 2010. The show is on Sunday, May 23, starting at 10 am.

The cedar trees were generously donated by Kaslo and District Community Forest Society and erected with the help of Fortis. YRB and the Village of Kaslo generously donated gravel, equipment and man hours. This is the first of many improvements to come to the Logger Sports grounds in Kaslo. The committee is in the process

of purchasing a combination registration/storage unit, attempting to arrange for power to the grounds and looking at ways to re-construct the log rolling pond.

What about seating, you say? Of course everyone is looking for better seating because the show has become so popular with over 1,000 fans attending last year's show. There was 'standing room only!' Three brand new sets of bleachers are ready to be transported to the grounds – these will seat an additional 100 spectators. Columbia Basin Trust can be thanked for contributing towards those bleachers. There is a plan in the works for amphitheatre style seating along the natural embankment of the

the April 1 Development Services Committee meeting. A Fire Smart board will soon form, with public education and neighbourhood firesmart programs as its main objectives. Rather than being a committee of council, the new Fire Smart board will be a community committee, with a Village appointee.

Council was informed of mineral exploration work proposed for this spring on Leontowicz Slope in Retallack. Alan Davidson of the Ministry of Environment advises that the exploration work appears to be well away from the area that poses landslide risk, and that could affect Kaslo's back-up water supply (Kaslo River). The Village will respond to the Inspector of Mines, expressing approval for the work, subject to full cost recovery for any municipal water system infiltration gallery damage in the Kaslo River.

Councillor Cormie took this opportunity to raise the issue of the growing log jam in Kaslo River. Council agreed to re-send letters to all parties previously contacted to call attention to the log jam.

Campground overflow will be permitted during May Days on the beach adjacent to the Kaslo Loggers Sport site.

All Kemball Memorial Centre tenants who have not signed a minimum six-month lease agreement for 2010 will be informed that they will be subject to a 20% rental increase effective May 1. The Village will contribute \$1,350 per month to the Kemball Memorial Centre Operating and Maintenance

budget for 2010.

A quote from Barry Leathwood for \$4,100 to stucco Kemball Memorial Centre fencing was accepted.

Councillor Leathwood reported on the arena. There is no need to replace the ice plant as previously thought, and the budget to retrofit the plant is within the fundraising capabilities of the arena board. Both the arena and the curling club will benefit.

Council agreed to accept a quote by Golder Associates for \$5,550 plus GST for a geotechnical report on Water Street in conjunction with the LocalMotion design plan.

Library Chair Catherine McCormick wrote to ask about the installation of the bathroom fan and the bike rack. This was referred to Public Works to complete.

The Village will withdraw the proposed service agreement with the Chamber of Commerce. The Municipal Services committee was delegated to define the terms of a conditional grant to the Chamber instead.

The Village will contribute a \$50 sponsorship to the Kaslo Golf Club Men's Night.

Kathy Freeman's resignation as Kaslo's Emergency Social Service Director was received.

A resident was given permission to remove two cottonwood trees from the boulevard adjacent to 625 8th Street South. He states that the trees are dangerous and the roots are damaging his septic drainage field.

The Kaslo Saturday Market's business license is held by the North Kootenay Lake Arts and Heritage Council. If you are interested in being a performer or vendor at the ninth annual Kaslo Saturday Market, contact Jen Sibley at kaslomarkets@shaw.ca or 250-353-7592. Spaces are limited so best to register soon.

grounds, but it is a huge project requiring more funding, and unfortunately will not be completed for this year's show. Work should commence on this project in the summertime, probably in conjunction with the pond.

You will all remember the great win of the TSN/Kraft community challenge contest, resulting in \$25,000 being awarded to Kaslo Logger Sports. Rest assured the money is safe and sound in the bank and will be used wisely to get the best multi-functional grounds possible. Many, many people in the Kootenays and BC and Canada and all over the world helped out with that win.

Come on down and see what's up. This year's show will feature five Canadian championship events, including two tree climb competitions, and promises to be bigger and better than ever.

For more information contact Kathy Freeman, Logger Sports Sponsorship Co-ordinator at 250-353-2675, sodasprings@netidea.com.

Advertise in the newspaper that everybody reads - the Valley Voice

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Climate change project apologizes for error in newsletter

Kaslo/Area D Climate Change Adaptation Project apologizes in full to the Kaslo Golf Course for an error printed in the March newsletter. It was stated that 15% of the treated water is used by the golf course. This is incorrect and came from notes made during a tour of the water facilities which were erroneous.

It is not possible to calculate an accurate annual figure due to incomplete data; however for 2008-10 the golf course water usage was around 1.7% of Kaslo's annual total. Due to out-of-season closures, the golf

course will have zero effect on winter/spring water consumption which is a period of potential water shortage.

The Kaslo Golf Course Society (not for profit), is fully aware of the sensitivity surrounding water use and availability, and has worked hard to minimize water use. The Adaptation Project looks forward to working closely with the society in helping them adapt to the changing climate everyone is experiencing. The project has chosen two priority areas 1) water availability and provision, 2) food provision and growing potential. It

has met with food growers, water users and has held a public meeting in Kaslo.

"This highlights the importance of accurate data and good communications," said Tim Sander, coordinator. "We are working hard to work with all communities and interest groups and we sincerely apologize for our error. Access to and the use of natural resources is a sensitive issue. We seek solutions and will not 'finger point.' The outcome of this Adaptation Project is for the good of everyone."

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Roulston**

Rambles at Rosebery

Slocan Valley's lakeside community (hamlet?) of Rosebery has had considerable attention paid to it over the past couple of years with the private dock dispute, the development of Rosebery Parklands Regional Park and the rather visible Rosebery Highlands properties. The large log dump area remains idle and neglected but the local restaurant is very busy all through the summer season and

the RDCK transfer station is a flurry of activity every Wednesday and Saturday.

Most folks speed past the prominent sign for the Rosebery Highlands property development, often passing or being passed by someone on this distinctive straight chunk of highway. But I have fond memories of the early '80s when Highway 6 slithered down the narrow rock cut to Rosebery Bay, then veered into 'downtown' Rosebery past Goat Mountain School which is now the place with all that fantastic Mexican food.

Last Sunday I visited Rosebery with my friend Rosalie to explore both lowlands and highlands. Plenty of fine parking at the north end of the Galena Trail close to the Wild Rose restaurant. From here we rambled around the old 'Y' of the rail grade to end up out on the

lakeshore on the north side of Wilson Creek. Things are pretty brushy here with mounds of driftwood strewn about to navigate through as you follow the shoreline. Amazing to see are some immense cottonwood trees that have been partially chewed through by beavers which have a big lodge around the back of Rosebery Bay. The effect beavers can have on the landscape is amazing and I for one have always had an admiration for the earnest efforts of these furry little fellas.

We walked along the shore past small beaches and the ruined old CPR landing slip and soon spied the little wooden dock that has spurred such an uproar in Rosebery after the guy put it in where he apparently shouldn't have. I think it's a great little dock and we

enjoyed some thermos tea while sitting on it. Just another tempest in a teapot.

Anyhow, we clambered up to the highway and booted up to the transfer station turnoff. Immediately to the right is a freshly built road that leads to the west edge of the large area of property development and from the crest of the hill the scene down the lake is very impressive. From here you can scan Wilson and Dennis Creeks, Goat Mountain and Idaho Peak, way down the lake and a good chunk of Valhalla Park. The huge clearing on this hill is visible from all down the valley so of course you can see tons of stuff from here.

Unmanaged parts of the clearing are quickly growing back in and a local fellow later told us that a herd of 32 elk were glimpsed up here at one point. There's enough poop around to make it all seem like an elk feed lot but I'd worry about elk moving into Rosebery to stay within a few more years. Furthermore, if elk start showing up on that fast stretch of highway, any car collisions would likely be fatal both ways.

Knowing that the elk likely won't listen to my lecture, we hiked across the slope to the wide streets and surveyed lots that constitute this future subdivision. We passed fire hydrants, water pipes and power cable junction boxes and neatly graded residential sites. The place feels oddly like some generic suburban investment opportunity and I'm sure

this place is fashioned for particularly discerning newcomers, so I guess I wish them all luck.

Finishing the walk back down to the highway we paused at a neat bench on an open lawn with some shrubby plants and plastic trellis. Things are very tidy but not very Kootenay-like so maybe I just lack depth in my measure of what home sites should resemble. This is an ambitious development though, and it's real easy to visit and do a short or long walk. It's all promoted as being for sale, so it oughta be okay to do the Rosebery Ramble.

Peter Roulston owns the Bicycle Hospital in New Denver and seems to have mixed feelings over wild animals. 250-358-2133.



**Financial
Forum
with Tim
Affolter**

Beware of fraudulent schemes to 'unlock' RRSPs

This is one of those items that falls under the heading of, "If it sounds too good to be true..."

A report by Jade Hweon, in the April 2010 edition of *Investment Executive*, indicated that the BC Securities Commission has recently flagged schemes in which people purchase securities that promise high returns AND the ability to avoid paying taxes on RRSP withdrawals. The plan obviously uses two powerful hooks: more cash and fewer taxes.

Targeted individuals are first separated from their advisors by getting clients to transfer their money to a self-directed RRSP at an online discount brokerage. Here the scammers can perform their dirty work knowing that no advisor will be questioning the purchases or raising red flags about the risks.

Without an advisor in the loop to foil the scheme, victims are then told what to buy. The purchases are shares of private companies or offshore entities, or sometimes positioned as more secure bonds, notes or mortgages. The crooks

sometimes then use the client's money to pay out immediate 'dividends' or incentives, which are apparently tax-free. This appeals to cash-strapped individuals, who see the plan as a way to get some quick money out of their RRSPs without paying tax.

Like all investment scams, at the end of the road, the client is left with a basket of worthless paper as the thieves make off with the loot on the other side of the trade.

If you are contacted by someone claiming to be able to show you a way to get funds out of your RRSP without paying tax, make sure you keep your financial advisor firmly in the loop. As an advisor myself, I know that our business is built on trust established over many years in long-term relationships with our clients. Someone suggesting that you need to dump your current advisor to get into their plan knows that second opinions from a professional advisor will likely kibosh their scheme.

As the old saying goes, "Buyer, beware!"

There are, of course, perfectly legitimate and legal ways to 'melt down' your RRSP or RRIF into other tax-favoured investment vehicles. Tax preferences can be obtained, for example, in TFSAs, capital class funds, 'T-series' funds, and universal life insurance, to name a few.

Some people will be comfortable with aggressive planning strategies, such as resource limited partnerships and 'leverage' plans. This latter category requires you to borrow money for

investment and use the interest paid on the loan to offset the taxable income from the RRSP. Many people, however, are not comfortable with these aggressive manoeuvres, and should avoid them even if they do deliver tax advantages.

Still other strategies utilize the tax credits from charitable donations to wipe out tax on RRIF withdrawals. These plans carry the double benefit of eliminating tax in your estate while at the same time establishing a private foundation or benefiting your favourite charity.

Try not to let 'the tax tail wag the dog' when evaluating different strategies presented to you. While managing and minimizing tax liabilities, both currently and in your estate, is a vital component of our planning work with clients, you must ensure that anything you undertake is within your comfort zone, or 'risk tolerance.' Never proceed with a plan until you can explain it back to your advisor, and make sure you can still sleep at night when markets move in the wrong direction for your plans... as they will inevitably do at some point!

Your financial advisor will likely be able to recommend legitimate strategies, but even if you hear about it elsewhere, trust your advisor to provide an objective second opinion after scrutinizing the plan. Realize that it is your responsibility to ensure that you understand the risks of any plan undertaken.

Tim Affolter CFP, CLU, ChFC is a Chartered Financial Consultant with his company The Affolter Financial Group Inc. in Castlegar.

Periwinkle Children's Centre to open expanded daycare

submitted

Periwinkle Children's Centre is opening its doors full-time to children age two-and-a-half to five years for the best kind of play, social and educational experiences and child care possible.

"This very necessary service for Kaslo families will comply with the exacting standards of BC child care licensing regulations, and our new staff is enthusiastic, trained in early childhood specifics and caring nurturing individuals," said Debra Barrett, manager. "We are pleased to have caregivers Melissa Calder, Debbie Perrault and Betty Gutierrez join our team."

Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) supported the centre earlier this month with \$35,000 towards the centre's redevelopment into a group day care facility in recognition of the growing community need for such services.

"CBT actively engages with

communities in order to take action on issues residents identify as priorities, and we realize that the need for quality child care is a growing one in many Basin communities," said Lynda Lafleur, CBT Community Liaison. "We were pleased to see how Kaslo came together to find a solution and we hope families enjoy the expanded services at Periwinkle."

CBT funding will be used for a successful start-up and for renovations to increase building space. The new plan includes a glassed-in greenhouse room, an added quiet area for napping, office space, a laundry area and enlarged dual purpose entryway and mud room. Barrett said the character of the heritage building will remain the same. The building has been in use for child care since 1982 when the dilapidated park pavilion was revitalized.

Periwinkle is located in a beautiful spot adjacent to Vimy Park in Kaslo

– near beaches, river walks, the gazebo and playground, and open fields. An emphasis on exploring the environment and natural sciences will be part of the daily programming, as the school believes in the comment made by David Suzuki that "children who play and learn in nature become adults who care for and respect their environment as well." The centre will provide lunches to the children, but a Food Sustainability project will be part of the centre's future efforts, which will entail providing quality food on a small budget.

Parents are invited to contact Periwinkle to register their children for full or half days five days a week, including summer months. Call 1-250-353-2222 or drop by during the week of April 19. Please be prepared with your child's Care Card number, your dentist's and doctor's contact information and a small photo of your child.



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ARTS

CALLING ALL ART INSTRUCTORS! Oxygen Art Centre is looking for engaging, innovative, and creative course offerings for the 2010 Fall Class Schedule. Class proposals from artists of any medium (visual, written, performance, video, etc.) for any age group are welcome. Please send bio and course descriptions, including preferred day and time, to anitalesque192@hotmail.com. Deadline: May 7, 2010.

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DO YOU HAVE A GREAT BUSINESS IDEA? Community Futures welcomes our two new business counsellors to the Arrow and Slokan Lakes area. CF provides program info, business counselling and training. Wednesday appts. available in Nakusp and New Denver by calling 265-3674 ext. 201 or email Nakusp@futures.bc.ca.

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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

UNEMPLOYED and thinking of starting your own business? Community Futures is offering the following free workshops: Coming up with a business idea, April 14 at the Nakusp Outreach office; the Self Employment Program Orientation, April 21 at the New Denver Outreach office and April 28 at the Nakusp Outreach office; and a Business Plan workshop May 12 at the Nakusp Outreach office. To register call 265-3674 ext. 201 or email Nakusp@futures.bc.ca.

COMING EVENTS

LAKE LORE GALLERY Regular events: Sat. yoga 9:30-11am, choir 3-4:30; Tues. music lessons available in piano, guitar, bass guitar, harmonica and theory. Call ahead to book time 250-355-2955. Wed - ceramic classes (hand building) 11 am-2 pm, drawing from the model 1-3 pm, meditation 7-8 pm; Thurs. Open Stage 7-10:30 pm. Every second Fri. Free Spirit Dance 7 pm. Also accepting artist submissions for next show. 4:30 and 6:00 pm seatings. Adults \$15; Children \$1 per year of age. For info, call Carey at 226-7702.

KASLO HOUSING SOCIETY AGM, Thursday, April 29, 7 pm, Kaslo Seniors' Hall. All members please attend. New members welcome.

TRASH ART CHALLENGE: Friday April 23, 7-9 pm and Saturday April 24, 11 am to 3 pm. Passmore Hall. Check out the creative possibilities of 'trash.' Vote for your favourite. Some art for sale. See www.slocanvalleyarts.ca or call 226-7768 for info.

Personal Classifieds start at \$8.00
Call 250-358-7218 for details

HAND & SOUL HEALING CENTRE is hosting another HEALING & WELLNESS DAY on Saturday, April 24 (10 am -4 pm). Mini-talks and sessions in chiropractic, rebalancing massage, cranial-sacral, yoga, guided imagery & music, MARI readings, astrology charts, mandalas, reiki, tarot readings, family constellations, foot reflexology, crystal chakra healings, brain gym, and chanting. Drop-in and by donation.

NEW DENVER GARDEN FESTIVAL - Potential vendors for the 3rd annual festival, please contact Donna Jean at 358-7200 (home) or 358-2847 (Garden Graces) to reserve a space for \$10. Only 4 left. Profits go to the SLUGS.

CUP & SAUCER SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER - April 24th - 5:30 & 7:15 seatings. A repeat performance of SEAFOOD LASAGNA (prawns, scallops, cod, cheese, spinach & white sauce) with an abundant salad and lemon tart to finish. Alternate lasagna available. Call 358-2475 for reservations.

PASSMORE SENIORS Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast, Passmore Hall. Sunday, May 9, 2010, 9:00 to noon.

WATERCRAFT COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION April 22, 7pm, Bosun Hall. Presentation by Chris Marrie, Boating Safety Officer, Transport Canada Marine. Of interest to all who value the lake. Sponsored by Slokan Lake Stewardship Society and Slokan Lake Boating Association.

ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST - Sunday, May 9, 2010, 8:30 am to 12 noon. Slokan Legion Hall, 502 Harold St., Slokan. Cost \$8.00; Children 6 & under \$4.50. All welcome!

11th ANNUAL SPRING MARKET: Get ready for The Whole School's 11th Annual Spring Market from 11 am to 4 pm at our beautiful new location - 5614 Hwy #6. Live music, kids crafts & games, BBQ concession, plant sale, local vendors and a lot more! Only \$2.00 per adult at the door (door prizes!). If interested in vending, call Tamara (250) 355-2855. If interested in performing, call Jordan (250) 355-2796 or call The Whole School anytime (250) 226-7737. See you there!!

CASTLEGAR GARDEN & NATURE FESTIVAL, Saturday, May 15, 10:00 - 4:00, Twin Rivers Park/Millennium Walkway. FREE: vendors, speakers, plants, gardening, and our wild environment. 250-399-4439 or castlegargardenfest@shaw.ca. **AUTHOR CELIA GUNN** will read and show slides from her book *A Twist in Coyote's Tale*, a story of the Sinixt, at Nakusp Public Library on Thursday, April 29 at 7 pm. Everyone invited. Free.

SCRABBLE GAMES at Slokan Community Library every Tuesday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. 710 Harold St., Slokan City. Phone 250-355-2853.

MOTHER'S DAY PIE BINGO at Slokan Park Community Hall. May 8, 6:30 pm. Everyone welcome.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS NAKUSP Local AGM - Monday, May 10 at 7 pm at the Community Services (Outreach) Board Room.

MIRROR THEATRE AGM - Thursday, May 13 at 7 pm at the Burton School.

NAKUSPEVERYBODY CLUB is having their AGM on Friday, May 14 at 1:00 pm. Call Janet 250-265-4588 for directions.

Personal Classifieds start at \$8.00
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NIKKEI INTERNMENT MEMORIAL CENTRE is accepting applications for two student summer jobs for senior high school or university students who will be carrying on with their education this fall. Applications close April 30. Apply to: NIMC, Box 273, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0.

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NOTICES

FOR INFORMATION ON AA OR ALANON MEETINGS contact in New Denver: 358-7904 or 358-7158; Nakusp 265-4924; Kaslo 353-2658; Slokan 355-2805; Tarry's 226-7705.

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WANTED

VENDORS WANTED for May Day Market, May 24, 2010, Centennial Park, New Denver, Noon to 4 pm. Info from anitastudios@telus.net or Shelley 358-2456.

GARDENERS & ARTISTS WANTED for the Slokan Valley Art and Garden Tour, June 20, Slokan to Crescent Valley. No fees. Deadline April 24. Call Pam Sims at 250-355-2988.

MUSICIANS TO HIRE: Duos, trios, acoustic and electric. High energy. Crowd pleasing musicians to play at Kaslo May Days, May 22-24. Call 250-353-7311 or e-mail kaslomaydays@netidea.com

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HANGING BASKETS - Sun., April 24, Four Seasons Greenhouses. Noon to 2:00 p.m.

TURBO-KICK - Wed. at 6:30 pm at Brent Kennedy School.

IT'S NOT EASY BEING GREEN - What's it take to get there? With Val Mayes & Gary Yakimchuk. Sat., May 8.

MADABOUTMORELS - Spend some quality time with the 'fun guy.' Sat., May 15 with Tyson Ehlers.

CREATIVE JOURNALING - With Kim Howard. Sat., May 8 at Slokan Park Hall.

QUEST FOR FIRE - With Chris Morasky. Learn how to make fire from whatever you have. All ages welcome. Sun., May 16.

226-0007

OBITUARY



STEVEN D. POZNEKOFF - It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Steven D. Poznekoff on March 21, 2010 at his home in Calgary, Alberta.

Steve was born in Nelson, BC on December 15, 1976 and lived his childhood in Kelowna, Hawaii, and Toronto. He returned to BC in 1991, where Steve graduated from Mount Sentinel Secondary School in South Slokan in 1995.

After moving to Calgary, Alberta, Steve successfully completed his carpentry apprenticeship program and received his inter-provincial journeyman certificate. As a member of the Carpenters' Union, Steve was a very hard worker who had an incredible work ethic. His dry sense of humour and his ability to listen and empathize made him a valued advisor and confidant to his many friends and co-workers.

Steve leaves behind him a loving mother, Nina Poznekoff of Krestova, BC, and will be lovingly remembered throughout BC and Alberta.

A service will be held at the New Life Assembly, 602 - 7th Street, Castlegar, BC on Saturday, April 17, 2010, at 10:00 am. Interment to follow at Krestova Cemetery, with a luncheon at Krestova Hall. Bill Clark of Carberry's Funeral Chapel is entrusted with arrangements.

Whole School invites public to spring market

submitted

Bring your entire family out to the Whole School's 11th annual Spring Market on Saturday, May 8 at the school's new home - 5614 Highway #6 - in beautiful downtown Winlaw. This will be a fun family event from 11 am to 4 pm with kids' games, a magician, face painting, BBQ concession, live music, Mother's Day crafts to make and local vendors with beautiful handmade goods.

A favourite every year is the plant booth where we can stock up on starts for the garden and the fabulous silent auction with unique handcrafted items donated by local artists. There's also a penny raffle for the children and even a jelly bean jar - if you

Credit and debt workshop offered in Nakusp

submitted

Unsure how to manage your debts? Wondering what your options are? The Kootenay Boundary Credit Clinic is holding a free workshop in Nakusp on Saturday, May 8, from 9 am to noon at Selkirk College. The workshop can help you to take charge of your debts and use credit wisely. Learn the tools you need to move beyond stress and fear to take control of your financial situation.

Workshop topics will include what to do if you are struggling to pay your debts, legal information about bankruptcy, debt default, debt collection and student loans; tips to improve your credit rating, and information about the different types of credit available.

Pre-registration for the May 8 workshop is required. Call 1-877-565-0013 or register online at www.kbcredit.org. Credit Clinic staff can also provide one-on-one information on issues related to debt and referrals to other supports.

can guess how many, it's yours. Tons of good old-fashioned community fun for only \$2 per adult, children 12 and under free. Come on out and enjoy the spring afternoon with friends at the Whole School.

To rent a vendor table, call Tamara at 250-355-2855. If you would like to play music at the market, call Jordan 250-355-2796. For more information about the 11th annual Spring Market or the Whole School, call the school coordinator at 250-226-7737.

HELP WANTED

SUMMER STUDENT EMPLOYMENT - Sandon Museum - Sandon Historical Society. Must be returning to school in the fall. Basic duties include greeting the public, taking admissions, introducing the history of Sandon and answering basic tourist questions. Some cleaning and record-keeping involved. Send resumé and cover letter to Sandon Historical Society, Box 52, New Denver V0G 1S0 For more information, call 250-358-2479

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Kaslo's Wardner Trail not part of interface treatment proposal

by Jan McMurray

Although Wardner Trail was one of the areas listed on a recent funding application for wildfire fuel treatment, the trail corridor itself is not part of the proposed treatment area.

"We used that name on the application - you have to use a name that identifies the general area you want to treat," explained project proponent Jeff Mattes of Progressive Forest Management. "The trail itself does not in its entirety fall into any potential treatment area. The area under consideration is adjacent to private property and takes in very little of the actual trail."

Mattes walked the area with Sean Kubara, one of the citizens opposed to treatment of the trail. After this walk, Kubara sent out an email to other concerned citizens stating, "...I can advise that the proposed fuel reduction treatment will not include the Wardner Street Lookout Trail proper, except at the very beginning before the fork where the Lookout Trail veers left and the Connector goes straight on. If funding is received there will be a public input process..."

Mattes said he did not know when they would hear about the funding. He said applications had gone in to UBCM

(Union of BC Municipalities) and JOP (Job Opportunities Program) for six new treatment areas, listed on the funding application as: Kaslo - West (Village of Kaslo owned lands), Kaslo - North (Provincial Parks - UREP Reserve), Kaslo - Airport (Village of Kaslo owned lands), Mirror Lake -

South (Crown lands), Kaslo - Wardner Trail (Village of Kaslo owned lands) and Lardeau/Davis Creek Provincial Park (Crown and Provincial Parks).

If funding comes through, Mattes said they would go through the same public consultation process that they went through for the Pineridge and

Back Road projects. This involves contacting all property owners, residents and water licencees in the vicinity of the proposed treatment area to notify them of the project and invite their comments. Once a draft prescription is written, a field trip is scheduled, where neighbouring

residents are given more details about the planned project operations and have the opportunity to provide more input.

"I am always available by phone or email to answer people's questions about these fuel treatment projects," said Mattes. He can be reached at 353-7154 or jeffmattes@uniserve.com.

Kaslo soccer season starts up with three youth divisions

submitted

Soccer season is on in Kaslo.

After registration day last month, a pair of dedicated soccer parents entered the data into their computer and did the jumbling and figuring required to come up with divisions. The two older divisions needed to have enough players to be able to play exhibition games with other leagues. With that as the focus, three divisions were created: U13 (birth year 1997-2000), U9 (2001-2002) and U7 (2003-2005).

Kaslo also has a women's/beginner team and a men's/co-ed team. The women's/beginner team is rousing up enthusiasm for their second season. They practice on Thursdays 6-7:30 pm, starting April 29. The men's/co-ed league is getting ready to host a six-on-six tournament on May 15, practicing Tuesdays and Fridays from 5:30 pm until sundown.

Practices for youth soccer will commence the week of April 26 with the U9 practicing on Wednesdays 4:45-6:15 pm, followed by the U13 from

6:15 to 7:30 pm, and the U7 practicing on Thursdays 4:30-6 pm. Registration forms are available online at www.kaslosoccer.ca or at Barren's sports

shop in Kaslo. If you have extra gear that you would like to donate or swap please contact Kaslo Youth Soccer at gearswap@kaslosoccer.ca.

FLIKS film series presents Italian comedy in Kaslo

submitted

FLIKS presents the Italian comedy Mid August Lunch at the Langham Friday, April 23, 7:30 pm.

In this multi-award winning Italian dramatic comedy, Gianni is a middle-aged man who lives with his widowed mother in an old house in central Rome. Living under the tyranny of this impoverished aristocrat, his life drags on between housework and going to the bar.

The day before the August bank holiday the condominium manager asks him to take his mother into his home for the weekend in exchange for a reduction to his rent debt. Gianni is forced to accept. Then the landlord shows up with an aging aunt as well.

Feeling overwhelmed Gianni goes to his doctor who is reassuring but then foists his own elderly mother on him, since he is on shift at the hospital. Gianni goes through 24 hours of hell. But when at last it's time to say goodbye, the

women have other ideas...

Mid August Lunch will also play at Nelson's Capitol Theatre April 28 at 7:30 pm, Runtime is 75 minutes, rated PG.

For more information, visit www.FLIKS.ca or call 1-866-FLIKS.ca.

Kaslo Concert Society presents soprano Noémi Kiss

submitted

Kaslo Concert Society is pleased to present a recital by Noémi Kiss on Saturday, May 8, 7:30 pm at St. Andrew's United Church in Kaslo.

Her repertoire is wide-ranging, from Renaissance songs through European Baroque to contemporary music. Kiss has performed in many of Europe's concert halls. No stranger to

the Kootenays, Kiss was soloist in a recent performance of *The Messiah* by the Nelson Choral Society. In Kaslo she will be accompanied by Victoria pianist Robert Holliston. Tickets are \$22 and \$20, available at Figments in Kaslo or at the door. Children admitted free in Kaslo when accompanied by an adult patron. For more information contact David Stewart 250-354-5368.

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358-2177 Silvertown & Winlaw

New Denver mayor's message: input sought on helipad

by Gary Wright

Village and area residents still have two great opportunities to ask questions and provide input regarding the proposed construction of eight new housing units adjacent to the Slocan Lake Community

Health Centre. Prior to the formal public hearing scheduled for Know Hall at 7 pm on Monday, April 26, our Hospital Auxiliary has arranged a public meeting at Silverton Memorial Hall at 7 pm, Wednesday, April 21.

The general concept of developing a continuum of care at our rural health campus is a great one. It has widespread support. That's why new Denver council has actively promoted the project to the Interior Health Authority, who

will donate the necessary land, and BC Housing, who will pay all the construction costs. This initiative will bring over a million dollars of paid public infrastructure to the community. The problem for us is that we have learned the 'final' construction plans will result in the loss of our medical evacuation helipad. What will that mean? Could the helipad be closed in the near future anyway, leaving us with neither housing nor local air-evac? Will ambulance service be improved to make up for the loss of the pad?

to work with qualified professionals to develop a program to prevent accidental backflow into our water system. Necessary bylaws and home/business installation timetables are being drafted based very closely on similar work being done in Nakusp. Thanks, Nakusp, for taking the local lead on this.

Interior Health Authority and the Village of New Denver have signed a lease renewal for the gym and fitness building on the Health Centre campus. The popular centre is open to health care staff, clients and anyone else who takes out a membership for only \$20 a year with the Regional District's Recreation Commission 6. The commission manages the centre on the Village's behalf. If you're not a member already, and would like to join, contact Donna Jean at 250-358-7200.

Intense and serious discussion among the participants are ongoing. A range of options are being discussed. Please consider attending both meetings.

As part of its commitment to provide residents with safe and pure water, council has asked staff

Lucerne School's Think Tank plans for the future

submitted by Natasha Miles

Community spirit and pride was evident on Monday, April 14 at Lucerne School when a group of 35 invited participants met together in the evening to brainstorm ideas for the future direction of the school.

The event kicked off with a delicious meal prepared by the secondary school's Foods class. Natasha Miles, the school principal, shared information about projected student enrollment up until the year 2014. Having had several years of declining enrolment, the school will see enrollment stabilize again at about 75 students.

Charlene Alexander, preschool teacher and StrongStart Centre coordinator, said there had been an increase in numbers of preschool-

aged children over the past couple of years. "People with young families are moving into our community," she said.

Students, PAC members and staff worked in groups to brainstorm ideas for school growth in learning, while Pattie Adam, chair of the Board of Education and Walter Posnikoff, superintendent, listened to the creative ideas being generated and took notes.

The K-12 ethos of caring and social responsibility was recognized by many at the meeting. Working groups keenly discussed strengthening the use of technology, the idea of expanding the 'Into Learning' elective weeks, developing 'Silvery Slocan' skills for students to have workability skills in the local economy and looked at ways for home schooled students

to have opportunities to be involved further at Lucerne. Considering the location of Lucerne School, it was not surprising to hear that sustainability was considered integral to the curriculum of the future at Lucerne.

The evening ended with a question that many in New Denver have been asking behind the scenes. It came from Danika Hammond, a grade 9 student, who is part of a community committee investigating international student recruitment for the school. "Is the school going to close?" she asked principal Natasha Miles. "No," was the clear answer. "This evening shows that the community is behind our school; our school needs our community and our community needs our school."

Internet service to expand in Burton and Rosebery

by Jan McMurray

Two of our local internet providers – Burton Internet Society (BIS) and Red Mountain Internet Society (RMIS) – have received \$50,000 grants from the Ministry of Citizens' Services under the Connecting Citizens Grant program.

Burton plans to expand its internet service to residents south of Burton, and Red Mountain plans to expand its service in Rosebery.

The Burton wireless system currently provides service to Burton, Arrow Park and West Arrow Park residents. The system includes one tower at Burton Hall, one tower on the other side of the lake, and a solar site.

Rosalie Cranna from BIS reports that David Holman of In the Air Networks out of Kelowna will do a site survey to determine how best to provide service south of the Burton townsite.

Cranna says the society will also look into upgrading the existing facilities with a backup wind generator. Part of the grant funding has also been earmarked for the development of a community website for Burton, Cranna reports.

Larry Lavan, president of RMIS, said the society currently has 20 clients in Rosebery and plans to add 20 more. Besides expanding service in Rosebery, RMIS will also upgrade its equipment at the POP (point of

presence – the interface with Telus fibre), resulting in faster download speeds.

The RMIS tower in Rosebery is on the Rosebery Highlands property. "We are grateful to Rosebery Highlands Developments for allowing us to use that property and to Bergevin Electric for their assistance in getting power to the tower built on Rosebery Highlands land in 2008," said Lavan.

Lavan added that RMIS is aware of "the perceived sensitivity to microwave radiation in New Denver." He says the Rosebery tower is placed near clients, allowing RMIS to use 0.2 watts of power, 20 times less than Industry Canada's legal limit of 4.0 watts.

Tiller's Folly puts on lively concert in Nakusp

by Cedra Eichenauer

A sizable audience gathered at the arena auditorium in Nakusp on April 9 to enjoy a lively musical mix of Celtic, bluegrass and more by Tiller's Folly. This was the fourth concert in this season's Arrow Lakes Arts Council series.

Bruce Coughlan held the centre with his powerful guitar playing and compelling vocals. He is an accomplished song writer and collector of songs. Laurence Knight provided additional vocals and a solid underpinning on both bass guitar and electric stand-up bass. Nolan Murray pulled rich golden threads on his mandolins and fiddle. Few would be surprised to learn of the many awards Nolan has won after hearing him play.

The program for the evening was a mix of Coughlan's own songs, traditional tunes from both sides of the Atlantic, songs learned from other musicians, and good-natured humour, both spoken and musical.

Much of the evening's content was Canadian. Two of the original songs were in honour of historical Canadian events: one was a composition commemorating the bicentennial of Simon Fraser's historic voyage, originally performed on Parliament Hill two years ago. The other was to mark 100 years of flight

in Canada in 2009.

Tiller's Folly is about to embark on their fifth tour of Scotland, and their performance reflected a strong Scottish influence. Coughlan enjoys giving his own twist to songs he has learned. They played a bluegrass arrangement of a song he picked up in Scotland, and a rowdy sing-along pub

song he had rearranged after careful examination of its heart-felt lyrics.

Many in the audience found it hard to sit still. A couple of children danced at the back of the hall, and many audience members clapped along. With any luck, organizers were listening to the band's gentle teasing about coming back to Nakusp.



The Mining Association of BC honoured the winners of the 2009 Mining and Sustainability Awards on April 1. Award recipients were Roca Mines MAX Molybdenum Mine in Trout Lake and David Parker, vice-president of sustainability at Teck Resources Limited. Scott Broughton, CEO of Roca Mines, is on the far left.



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The Village of Nakusp is inviting applications for the operational contract for the Municipal Camp Site. This contract will require that an attendant is available (on site) 24 hrs a day during the camping season. Details of the contract, including duties, responsibilities and remuneration are available at the Village Office.

Applicants must be mature and reliable and are subject to a criminal record check.

Please submit your application (including a minimum of 3 references from previous employers) prior to 4:30 PM, Monday, April 26, 2010. The contract will take effect immediately upon its award, and no later than Friday, May 14th.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, as it applies to the management of Municipal Property, application information will be made public.

**Additional information can be obtained from
Bob Lafleur, CAO at 250-265-3689**

The HEALTHY HOUSING SOCIETY would like to THANK YOU for contributing to the success of the BUILDING A HEALTHY ECONOMY IN THE NORTH SLOCAN VALLEY project

We are very pleased that our 'Building a Healthy Economy' process inspired several community projects. Action groups are progressing with the North Slocan Community Greenhouse project, an educational centre, services for seniors, and targeted recruitment. For more information, contact Jan at 250-358-7218 or valleyvoice@netidea.com.

Many thanks to:

- Columbia Basin Trust Community Development and Community Initiatives funding programs
- Advisory Committee members
- Meeting participants, survey respondents, interviewees
- George Penfold, Selkirk College Regional Innovation Chair in Rural Economic Development
- Special thanks to Mike Stolte, *Centre for Innovative and Entrepreneurial Leadership*

The final report lists all of the ideas and insights from our community through this process.

Final report available at www.mikestolte.com

Nakusp Concert Series presents Hoja acappella group

submitted

The Arrow Lakes Arts Council is presenting Hoja as the fifth concert for the 2009-2010 Concert Series. Hoja will be performing on Saturday, April 24 at the Bonnington Arts Centre at 8 pm, doors open at 7:30 pm.

Hoja is a Canadian acappella group formed in the summer of 1998 and originally based out of Saskatoon. Each member of Hoja sings a variety of different voice parts

including bass lines, lead vocals, tenor and baritone parts, instrument sounds such as guitars and trumpets, beatboxing and drum noises, and assorted sound effects. Audiences are often amazed to learn that every sound during the performance is created live by the singers on stage – there are no backup tracks.

Over the past decade, Hoja has recorded five CDs (selling over 25,000 units) and performed for more than 3,000 audiences from BC

to Ontario. Their repertoire is filled with favourite songs from the '50s to the present that span every style of music – from doo wop to rock, country to disco – no genre is safe from Canada's acappella heroes.

In the summer of 2009, the group relocated to Calgary. They plan to release their sixth professional CD in 2010.

The Arrow Lakes Arts Council would like to thank the Margo's

Sunnyhill Lodging for hosting Hoja as part of the Hospitality Host program for this year's concert season.

Tickets are available at the Broadway Deli or at the door the evening of the performance.

Nakusp Minor Hockey Awards

The Nakusp and District Minor Hockey Association held its annual awards night on April 11.

Esso medals and Nakusp Minor Hockey trophies were awarded as follows.

Midget Rep

Medals: Most Sportsmanlike - Jacob Balske; Most Improved - Mitchel Hascarl; Most Dedicated - Mitchell Zorn.

Trophies: Most Defensive Player - Brody Simpson; Playmaker of the Year - Ryan Bateman; Best Goalie - Cameron MacPherson; Best All Around Player - Kristopher James.

Atoms House

Medals: Most Sportsmanlike - Reese McCrory; Most Dedicated - Jackson Herridge; Most Improved - Anthony Maxinuk.

Trophies: Most Defensive Player - Kobe Nishida; Best Goalie - Brody Herridge; Best All Around Player - Ryan MacDonald; Playmaker of the Year - Jacob Laplante.

Pee Wee House

Medals: Most Improved - Jake Williams; Most Dedicated - Jordan Deakoff; Most Sportsmanlike - Ashlee Herridge.

Trophies: Best Defenseman - Logan Hascarl; Best Goalie - Dugan McInnes; Best All Around Player -

Logan Mengler and Dane Bateman; Playmaker of the Year - Kira Streliev.

Bantam House

Medals: Most Sportsmanlike - Avery Palmer; Most Improved - Quinton Fahlman/Brett Mengler; Most Dedicated - Nathan Hawe.

Trophies: Most Defensive Player - Kylie Gardner; Playmaker

of the Year - Maxwell McCoy; Best Goalie - Josh Rivers; Best All Around Player - Connor Reimer.

Coach of the Year - Rusty Reimer

On Ice Officials of the Year: Junior - Immanuel Ens-Palmer; Senior - Jesse Hornby and Paul Roberts.

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Nakusp's Coach of the Year went to Rusty Reimer, Bantams coach.



Nakusp novice hockey players received certificates at the Nakusp Minor Hockey awards night, April 11.



Nakusp's PeeWee House team with their banner at the hockey awards night.