The Valley VOICE

Free!

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

Job action over: teachers and students go back to school, October 24

by Jan McMurray

Teachers across the province returned to work on October 24 after a 77% "yes" vote, accepting mediator Vince Ready's settlement package.

The package includes $40 million in government funding towards harmonized salary grids, one-time government funding of $40 million towards the teachers' long term disability coverage, $5.2 million government money towards recruitment and retention of teachers on call, increased teacher representation at the Learning Roundtable to discuss learning conditions for students and $20 million extra towards the issues of class size and special needs students. Ready has also been appointed by Labour Minister de Jong to develop a new bargaining process and is to report back by December 31.

Teachers were out of the classroom for 11 school days, from October 7 to October 21, after the government passed legislation that extended the imposed January 2002 contract until June 30, 2006. Although the teachers' union was fined $500,000 for contempt of court on October 21, many other union members as well as parents, students and community members showed support for the teachers' action during the two-week period.

At least 40 of the 60 school boards across the province passed a motion or wrote a letter in support of the teachers. Locally, however, teachers' associations were disappointed with the response from the boards. At school board meetings for School Districts 8 and 10 held October 11, the boards dealt with requests by their teachers' associations to show support for the teachers' stand on the issues.

The board of trustees for SD#10 decided to write a letter to Minister of Education Shirley Bond in response to a written request from the Arrow Lakes Teachers' Association (ALTA) dated September 16. ALTA's request was that the board "call upon the government to meet immediately with the BCTF in order to help resolve the issues in dispute and avoid disruption of the schools."

The trustees' letter to Bond states that they "would prefer that the BCTF, BCPSEA and the Provincial Government reach a negotiated settlement in regard to the current labour dispute.

However, the district hopes for a speedy end to the current dispute in order for classes to resume."

Von Krogh emailed the board on October 19 to say that: "Teachers do not find strong support in the letter." He also mentions that even a BCPSEA document summarizing the motions passed on collective bargaining by school boards across the province lists SD#10's motion under the weakest category of "Other."

Tom Newell, president of the Nelson and District Teachers' Association (NDTA), also representing the Creston Valley Teachers' Association (CVTA), appeared before the board of SD#8 to ask it to join the list of boards throughout the province that had spoken out against Bill 12, which imposes a settlement. More than 80 teachers were also in attendance at the meeting. They walked out when the board voted down a motion to urge the government to repeal Bill 12, resume bargaining and use binding arbitration in impasse situations.

In a telephone interview, board chair Norm McCarvell explained why the motion was defeated. He said the motion was "not a solution to the labour impasse at all." He said the impasse was not something that could be resolved locally. "Bargaining is a provincial issue between BCTF and BCPSEA and the board should not comment on specific aspects of the bargaining."

The board sent a letter to all teachers in the district to clarify its position. The letter states, "In this provincial impasse, we are still, locally, the employer" and "The board does not wish to undermine the efforts and role and of the BCPSEA of which the board is a member," pointing out that this would be similar to the board asking the teachers' associations "to take a position which undermines the positions and roles of the BCTF."

A letter from Newell to the trustees shortly after the October 11 meeting states: "The teachers played by the rules, bargained in good faith (no matter what your many updates from BCPSEA tried to spin to you) and then when we would not accept 0-0-0 pay increase and no improvement to learning conditions, you, our 'bottom up employer' fails to stand with us." It concludes by saying, "Our feedback to you is not wanted. You are not listening."

Slocan's first Oktoberfest celebration on October 22 was enjoyed by all, young and old. Becky Hill delighted many children with her face painting and Bella was no exception.

Concerns about Arrow Lakes ferries aired at Nakusp meeting

by Jan McMurray

Western Pacific Marine, the company that has the government contract to operate the ferries on the Arrow and Kootenay Lakes, held public meetings recently in Balfour and Nakusp.

On October 23 in Nakusp, CEO of the company Graham Clarke urged the approximately 20 people in attendance to voice their concerns about the ferry service. He explained that this would help him make a well-informed, accurate and compelling argument to the Deputy Minister when lobbying for improvements.

"There's no guarantee that anything will get done, but the more information I have, the better equipped I am to make the argument," he said.

Nakusp and Arrow Park residents at the meeting were happy to oblige Clarke. They spoke about the waits at Galena/Shelter, and not just in peak season. Company management and members of the public all acknowledged that the trend is an increasing demand for the service, which does not make for a favourable forecast on wait times.

Another big concern is the disruption to business caused by the change in schedule. Joe Williams said that his former business lost a lot of money when the service was cut back because he could no longer get across to the Revelstoke side by 6 am as required by his contract. It was also mentioned that many loggers arrive at the ferry landing at 1:00 and 2:00 in the morning to wait it out. They are losing money while they wait, as is the government.

It was pointed out that former MLA Blair Suffredine had said that the ferry schedules were going to be put back into place, but were not at Galena or Arrow Park, the two ferries that have the biggest economic impacts on the valley.

A man who uses the ferries so often that he knows the crew and how much overtime they work suggested they go back to two shifts with 20- or 24-hour service and cut out the overtime. Clarke guessed that it would cost the company more to hire another crew, as employees currently earn time off when they work overtime, but said it could be "within grasp" if government could be convinced.

Other suggestions to alleviate wait times were to publicize peak demand times on the Nakusp Chamber of Commerce website, post a phone number on existing signs that people could call for ferry information, and publicize ferry waits on Nakusp's local radio station.

Another problem identified was that sometimes the ferry sails without a full load even though there are cars waiting. This happens when the ferry is already carrying its limit of three trucks, a truck is next in line, and ferry workers cannot see the cars in line behind the truck. A suggestion was to put a camera on a post so that staff could see the line-up on a screen in the ferry.

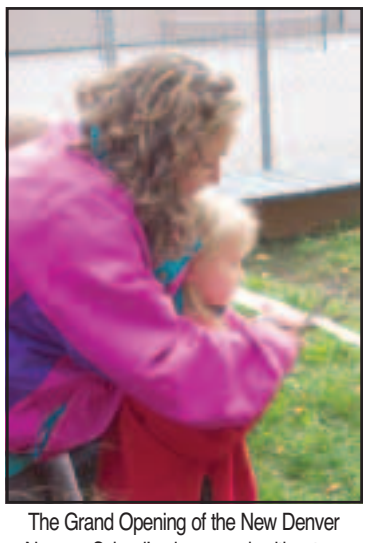
Clarke was quite surprised to learn that the washroom facilities were locked during the winter. People also pointed out that the washrooms were an awfully long walk for those in a long line-up. Although the washroom is the responsibility of Highways, Clarke promised to talk to government about it and said he would arrange for Port-a-Potties at the very least.

Arrow Park residents were assured that the problem of sudden interruption in service, which has happened twice in the last two years, would be "going away."

Western Pacific Marine is in the second year of an eight-year contract to operate the ferries. The contract is for the core service only, with the extra ferry running during the May and Thanksgiving long weekends, and from the third Friday in June until Labour Day. In the case of an emergency, the company is required to provide 24-hour-a-day service and is paid by the Ministry on a unit basis. Clarke said the contract constrained them on everything except fuel costs.

David Batchelor, the company's senior managing engineer out of Revelstoke, said that although one extra sailing was scheduled for the Sunday evening of the Nakusp Music Fest, the demand was not there. However, the Monday after the festival was very busy. Also, when Hwy 1 is closed, the Galena/Shelter ferry does not see much of an increase in traffic. Batchelor says most trucks prefer to wait for the Trans Canada to re-open than travel down our valleys.

Clarke recommended that the communities appoint a "stakeholder" to represent them for each of the three Arrow Lakes ferries. He is open to hearing from any of his customers and encourages anyone with information — especially empirical evidence that there is an economic impact to the reduced ferry service — to email him at boss@boattours.com.



The Grand Opening of the New Denver Nursery School's playground, with a tree planting in honour of the school's founder, Gay Houston, was held October 4. Thanks to grants from KSCU and the Ministry of Children and Family Development, the playground was completed this past summer. Early Childhood Educator Charlene Alexander cuts the ribbon with the help of one of her playschoolers.

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Conference held locally on US/Canada north-south highway

by Jan McMurray

The vision of a highway that would improve trade and tourism, beginning in Eastern Washington State and running through the West Kootenays to the Trans Canada Highway at Revelstoke, was the topic of a conference held October 19-21 in Rossland.

With the project in its conceptual stage, the purpose of the conference was to bring together stakeholders early on in the process. Although the vision is big, the focus at the conference was on a small part of the project — improving the border crossing at Waneta so that it would be suitable for commercial traffic.

Area H Director Don Munro attended the conference and asked about the longer-term goal of extending the highway to Revelstoke. Because Hwy 6 through the Slocan Valley is the only existing route to Revelstoke, some citizens had assumed this would be the route and approached Munro to voice their opposition. Munro said he told conference goers "to forget the Slocan Valley right now" and that former MLA Blair Suffredine had mentioned the possibility last year, which is probably part of the reason he is no longer our MLA.

Conference hosts assured Munro that they had never considered the Slocan Valley for the route, and that the plan was to build a new highway from Robson through the Arrow Lakes to Fauquier, where it would hook up with Hwy 6 to Nakusp and on up to Revelstoke.

Arrow Lakes Transportation Infrastructure Association (ALTIA) representative Helmut Klughammer also attended the conference and was pleased to have gained support for ALTIA's goal of building a causeway at Galena Bay. He says ALTIA has no official position on the north-south corridor, but wants to be involved. "If the Americans want it, there's not much we can do except be involved and provide input. It is best to be involved," he said.

The outcome of the conference was to set up a committee of four Americans and four Canadians with a co-chair. The committee's objectives will be to provide support for ALTIA's causeway project, to initiate an education program to avoid misinformation such as the Slocan Valley example, and to lobby governments for support for a low level crossing at Waneta.

Conference sponsors were the Cities of Trail and Castlegar, Trail and District Chamber of Commerce, Selkirk College, Columbia Basin Trust, the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, Kootenay Savings Credit Union, DCI Chambers, AM Ford, and two American companies (Amec and AC Global Systems). The conference was hosted by Lower Colmbia Community Development Team and the North South Columbia Corridor Committee.

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PEOPLES PHARMACY
New Ownership
Jodi and Troy Clark, the new owners of Peoples Pharmacy in Nakusp, would like to take this opportunity to announce the change in ownership and to thank the community of Nakusp and areas for their incredibly warm welcome and overwhelming support.
Peoples Pharmacy is dedicated to helping people live better lives with exceptional pharmaceutical care and services.

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Broadband for the Valley? EDC Says "Yes"

Last spring, Telus and the Province of BC created a program called Connecting Communities intended to bring Broadband connectivity at an affordable price to identified communities lacking this service.

SVEDC (the Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission) submitted an ISP (Internet Service Provider) application on behalf of "the community of Winlaw."

This application had to be submitted by October 15th in order to secure the PoP (Point of Presence). According to the Connecting Communities timetable, Winlaw will be connected sometime in the last three months of 2006.

The program guarantees a preferential rate to the service provider for a period of three years – this is very important for our communities, which are already struggling with economic imbalances and the high costs of transportation, communications, etc.

It is the responsibility of the community to get the signal from the point of presence to community residents ("the last mile"). SVEDC, acting as Community Champion, with the support of the regional district and Area-H Director Don Munro as well as numerous businesses and individuals in the community, has partnered with CMON (Columbia Mountain Open Network) to develop a last mile proposal and a sustainable business plan to insure that Slocan Valley residents and businesses will have modern, effective telecommunications in the foreseeable future.

SVEDC looked at the geographic boundaries of the community of "Winlaw" and quickly realized that such a tiny community (population 273) would have an almost impossible task to make a sustainable business case for Broadband – it costs money to build the physical infrastructure, and no one is going to go into this venture with a guarantee of losing money.

In consultation with Connecting Communities representatives, the SVEDC-CMON partnership proposed to define the community as "Winlaw and Area," extending roughly from Crescent Valley to Lemon Creek, which has a population of over 4,000 thus making it possible to build a business plan that can actually work.

What will it look like?

Broadband can be delivered to the home or business in one of three ways:

- DSL;
- fibre optic technology;
- wireless.

DSL (usually serviced by the major telecommunications company, in this case Telus) and Fibre (which is very expensive to build) are both best suited to heavily populated communities.

Wireless technology, although it does have some limitations, is the solution that offers best coverage at best cost for a thinly populated, rural community, and this is the option SVEDC-CMON has chosen to meet the last mile challenge for Winlaw and Area.

A basic site survey of the broadly-defined community indicates that Winlaw and Area can be adequately served using four towers (similar to the TV towers we are already familiar with) using repeaters to send the signal through the whole lower valley.

Individual homes and businesses will need a small antenna (again, similar to satellite TV antennas) to receive the signal, which can then be sent to your computer(s) using either a wired or wireless connection.

Over the next months, SVEDC will be fine-tuning the process of developing this wireless network, including the finer engineering details such as precise location of each tower; looking at options (including available grants) for financing the physical build; and the potentials for connecting to existing networks in surrounding communities, eventually extending the range to cover rural areas in the north valley.

Ongoing community support is crucial, and SVEDC anticipates hosting a variety of forums where people can discuss the possibilities and participate in the development of this service. Until these forums are established, SVEDC welcomes comment and input from the entire community. Please feel free to send comments and questions via email to svedc@netidea.com or by mail to SVEDC, Box 38, Silverton, BC V0G 2B0.

What the heck is Broadband?

Simply put, Broadband is an internet connection that is faster and "fatter" than dial-up – it can transfer *large amounts* of information (both incoming and outgoing) *very quickly.*

Most Slocan Valley residents currently have dial-up connections – you use your phone line to connect to the internet, giving you a very basic connection that is sufficient for some web surfing and email. But a dial-up connection is "too slow and too skinny" to handle many services that are now the communications standard: streaming video and audio; transfer of LARGE files (particularly those containing graphics, pictures, sound, video, etc.); VOIP (computer-based telephone service) – and just try doing two things at once online with dial-up!

Why do we need it?

Do you share family photos with far flung members of your family? …want to watch a movie that the local video store doesn't have, and you don't want to drive in to Nelson to rent it? …need to share a concept drawing with a colleague working on a project, or send finished drawings to a client? …need to consult with a medical or professional specialist who lives 500 miles away? …are you an online business that either orders or sells from a catalogue?

These activities take lots and lots of time using dial-up, when they are possible at all. Sometimes a file is just too big to send: you've been sitting there an hour already, and it's still sending, or downloading, and your connection gets broken. *Darn, just lost that client … guess I didn't want to see that movie anyway … won't be able to submit my song to the CBC songwriters contest … can't finish that mapping assignment for school.*

Why does the Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission care?

We each choose to live here for very personal reasons, and up till now have been willing to "pay the price" for not living in a city or a suburb. *But now our businesses are suffering, our options for how we earn our livelihoods are shrinking as cities and suburbs benefit from 21st century telecommunications, and we can't compete:*

- Our resident architects, scientists, artists, sociologists, merchants, publishers, and other "knowledge workers" are all at a disadvantage to their colleagues in the cities – because we don't have Broadband.
- Our children need or want to take courses that local schools can't offer for lack of resources; they could take these courses online, participating in video classrooms where they, the teacher, and other students could see and talk to each other in real time – if we had Broadband.
- Many of our communities are shrinking, our ability to communicate effectively with our families, our colleagues, our potential employers and employees lags behind most of our province and our country. People who *want* to live here – our own children, as well as potential new residents – oftentimes can't, because we lack what is now the most basic method of communication: Broadband.

Mobile MRI arrives in area, will be shared by Trail, Cranbrook & Penticton

submitted

The mobile MRI for which Kootenay residents have been fundraising has arrived. The $3.1 million machine has been in Trail since mid-October, undergoing acceptance testing while staff have been receiving applications training.

"It is great to have the mobile MRI here," says Carol Markowsky, Kootenay Boundary Chief Operating Officer. "It means that Kootenay Boundary residents will no longer have to travel out of our area for this diagnostic service."

Combined with the Picture Archiving and Communications System (PACS) installed in Trail this spring, images taken in Trail can be read by a specialist there or at any other facility in Interior Health, if need be, without the patient having to leave this area.

The mobile MRI will be shared by Trail, Cranbrook and Penticton on a rotating basis, transported free of charge by Mountain Transport in a specially designed truck and set up on a docking pad constructed at each hospital.

The Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital & Health Foundation raised $375,000 towards the purchase of this equipment. The other funding sources are the South Okanagan Similkameen Medical Foundation, the East Kootenay Foundation for Health, the BC Ministry of Health Services and the 2003 First Ministers' Accord on Health Care Renewal Diagnostic/Medical Equipment Fund.

An open house for the new MRI will be held at Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital October 27 from 4 pm to 7 pm. Everyone is welcome!

Regional District: What have you done for me lately?

In Canada, we all grow up with an understanding of what villages and towns and cities are—and how their councils work. It is harder to explain the nature of regional districts because they are a relatively new provincial creation meant to help municipalities and rural areas provide and co-ordinate local programs at a local level.

Maybe the best way to illustrate the value of regional government is to provide a quick list of just a few of the things that have benefited us in the north valley this past year because of the efforts of our hardworking district members and dedicated staff.

• $23,000 in GST rebates to New Denver for its street paving project

The federal government no longer charges local governments GST, after intensive lobbying by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). The district encourages all its directors to attend the FCM and UBCM annual meetings, to help set important policy directions like these. As you can see, even in purely monetary terms (which, after all, is only one way to look at the world), the benefits from participation are more than worth the costs. Remember, even good people in Ottawa seldom sit around thinking of ways they can help the Slocan Valley—it's up to us to co-operate and lobby regionally to make our voice heard.

• Public transit to our regional hospital

Co-ordinated transit will begin early next year to link our residents with the hospital and doctors in Trail It's the result of great work by the Interior Health Authority, your regional district, Arrow and Slocan Lakes Community Services, BC Transit and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

• High-speed internet and 'broader band' Information Technology access

Our regional district's Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission, under chair Derek Murphy, has been very active and successful in supporting the work of the CBT's Columbia Mountain Open Network, Telus and the provincial government in moving forward the timeframes to deliver broadband capabilities to our rural area by (in my estimation) years.

• Columbia Basin Trust grants to local organizations

These grants came to more than $250,000 this year, and are distributed by the CBT through the regional district. Dozens of our local non-profit groups have received CBT grants since the Trust's establishment—which in itself came about in large part through the lobbying and with the administrative expertise of our own Central Kootenay Regional District.

• The best bank rates for public projects in Canada

Whether local governments are seeking money for paving in New Denver, capital projects in Silverton, a new community complex in Nelson or a water system in the Creston area, regional districts are the conduit for loans from the Municipal Finance Authority—an arm of the UBCM, and one with an international AAA rating.

• Our recycling service

• Our transfer station and public landfill

• Our septic disposal service

• Our excellent joint fire service between New Denver and Area H

Red Mountain and Silverton residents may be able to join in the near future, with benefits to all parties.

• Our great recreation program

Our recreation commission (headed by chair DJ Wright) not only disburses grants-in-aid, but manages Bigelow Bay Regional District Park (and added a paved wheelchair/buggy path this year) and is the go-to group in renovating the Slocan Community Health Centre gym.

• Groundskeeping for our public cemetery

• Low-cost building inspection for Silverton, New Denver and area residents

• Galena Trail management

Chair Jeff Bustard, volunteer district commissioners and a great part-time employee/volunteer have made this trail an asset for tourists and locals to enjoy.

• TV and radio service

We voted by referendum to fund our volunteer TV Society to provide service at about 10 per cent of the cost of comparable cable providers. The money comes through regional district.

• Denver Siding water service

Everybody needs good water.

No human construct is perfect. District government can be slow and cumbersome. Provincial legislation to modernize and streamline regional government is overdue. Until something better comes along, it is nonetheless a wonderful tool to help local communities who want to work together to do so.

—Gary Wright, Chair, RDCK

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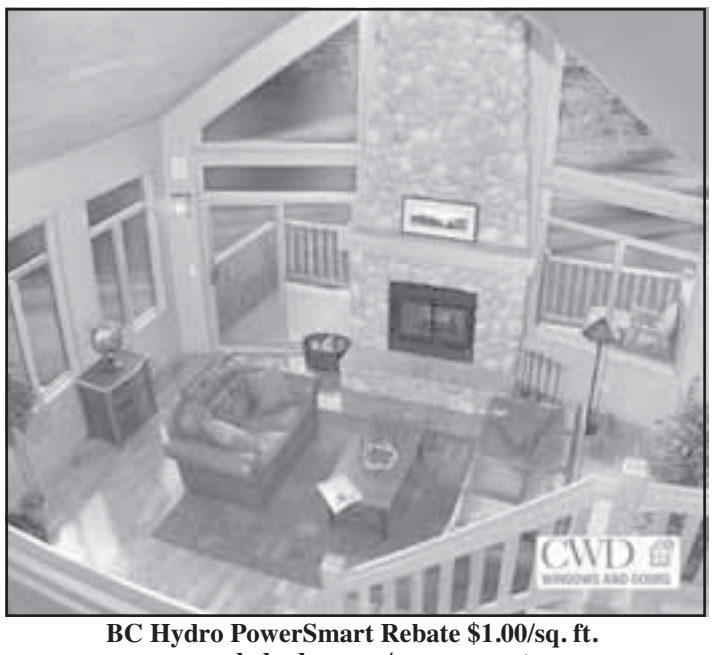

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We are following up on regional information sessions held around the province this past spring to obtain insight into your values and preferences around specific resource options. This information helped to design energy portfolios (resource mixes) that could meet the province's future energy needs.

We invite you to a second round of regional information sessions to hear about the activities undertaken to date in preparing the 2005 IEP and to obtain your feedback on the resource strategies.

Please drop in for a chance to review the displays, ask questions and hear from the 2005 IEP team.

The following information session is scheduled in your region:

Cranbrook
Monday, November 7
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Prestige Rocky Mountain Resort
Van Horne Room
209 Van Horne Street South

We look forward to seeing you. For more information, please call 1 888 224-9376 (1 888 BCHYDRO), or email 2005iep@bchydro.com, or visit www.bchydro.com/iep.

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Community Meeting
Thursday, October 27th
Royal Canadian Legion - Kaslo
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GUEST SPEAKERS:
CRIME STOPPERS KOOTENAY/BOUNDARY
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
POWER PIONEERS VICTORIA
RCMP - KASLO
COMMUNITY RESOURCES
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE GROUP

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TALKS FROM OUR LOCAL RCMP
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INTRODUCTION OF POWER PIONEERS

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Voices from the Valleys

Musing on the teachers' job action

I'm trying hard to convince myself that the teachers' job action wasn't a big waste of time. It's a hard thing to do. I don't see many winners in this whole thing. Teachers lose, government loses, parents lose and students lose. *The Valley Voice* got to sell a couple extra pages of advertising, which is never a bad thing, but hardly justifies going through the exercise.

The teachers didn't get a single thing that they wanted. Their wages are still frozen. They have no more control over their working conditions (class sizes and composition) than they did going into the strike. They have a commitment from the government to talk about these issues, but no commitment to do anything about them. Let's face it, the government would have talked to the teachers anyway.

The Liberal government comes across looking like a gang of bullies, ready to legislate away people's collective bargaining rights at the drop of a strike vote. If they want to call education an essential service, then they should be prepared to deal with it the way they deal with other essential services - through bargaining, mediation and ultimately arbitration. Essential service levels need to be established so that some labour action can go ahead as part of ongoing negotiations. Bill 12 was an affront to many people across this province, not because we thought that teachers are underpaid, or because we thought that class sizes were too large, but because it was so heavy-handed and completely unfair. The fact that the government then branded the teachers as a bunch of wild-eyed anarchists and outlaws for withdrawing their services only hardened the opinion that this government cared nothing about our rights.

Parents are feeling let down by both teachers and government. They know that class size and composition affect the quality of education received by their children. They want teachers back at work, but not giving their kids a substandard educational experience. Many parents supported the teachers in their job action, because they realized what was at stake.

Students may be the biggest losers of all, not because they missed six days in the classroom. I'm confident that not all eduction goes inside the walls of a school. I'm just concerned about the lessons that they've learned over the course of the last week. Let's see... Bullies always win. You can't fight city hall. When faced with an unjust law, capitulate. It's okay to make a little noise, but only if you can afford the fine. You can't have any effect on government policy. Don't bother organizing, it isn't going to improve your lot in life.

Our public schools have always taught our children to be quiet, not ask too many questions, and to be punctual. I only hope that my children don't ever feel so powerless that they learn to accept injustice simply because it is delivered with threats of fines and jail time by an authority figure.

Dan Nicholson, publisher

Gas prices high because of consumers, not Liberals

This is in response to Mr. Gouk's letter in the last edition titled "Liberals want higher gas prices."

Mr. Gouk, we are not in the midst of a hidden Liberal agenda as you tried to imply in your letter. We are simply facing reality. We have been depleting our non-renewable, finite energy supplies at ever increasing rates for over 150 years. Even in the face of finding less and less we continue to consume more and more. As evidence of this we are now exploiting the last places on our planet for oil and natural gas — off-shore (BC), polar regions (Greenland), protected areas (ANWR) and non-conventional sources (Alberta tar sands).

Mr.Gouk, the problem with energy is not with the high prices it's with the leadership that decides how the energy will be used. A responsible leader would be extremely concerned with the issues over our energy supplies and consumption habits. A responsible leader would be working on a plan to help navigate their constituents through these problems. A responsible leader would NOT be indulging in a misguided, ill-informed blame game campaign.

Mr. Gouk, you are in the driver's seat, kindly pull over and stop leading this constituency down the wrong road... you have us headed straight for a dead end.

Dan Crawford
Kaslo

The Valley Voice welcomes letters to the editor on any topic of interest to our readers. All letters must be signed and have a daytime phone number.

We will not publish anonymous letters, nor may you use a pseudonym, except in extraordinary circumstances. We will not knowingly publish any letter which is defamatory or libellous.

Please type your letter, and e-mail it if possible. Many handwritten letters are impossible to read. Any letter may be edited for brevity.

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

Thanks for support

Once again, I would like to say thank you to many people, this time for supporting my Wild Imaginations show at the Hidden Garden Gallery. Thank you to everyone involved, including staff, friends for being there, and Sue Mistretta for being so patient with me. Also Larry Anderson and Larry Lavan for their music, and George for coming with me. I was very nervous. I met quite a few friends, and there were people I did not know. It was a wonderful event. I sold nine of my pictures for $25 each. I have another show next year if Sue helps me. I also want to say thanks to all that came. Without you, it would have been a failure. Thank you for coming. I'll see you next year, same place, only a different day and time.

Love, Ann Mott
New Denver

Open letter in reply to the Premier

Correct me if I'm wrong, Mr. Premier, but I was under the impression that Canada had compulsory, universal education to provide every one of its citizens with an education. I was under the impression that teachers were the professionals best qualified to provide that education. I was under the impression that schools were the best place to learn basic skills like literacy and numeracy.

In your letter to me, you mention programs to improve literacy in schools, workplaces and communities. You mention adult literacy programs and Literacy Now programs. Nowhere do you mention teachers.

But if we had the teachers to teach our children and the resources for them to do so, we would not need adult literacy programs. Of the five students I described to you, one is a suicide risk, one is an alcoholic, one is dead and one is a drug addicted sex trade worker with hepatitis C. All are illiterate. These are teenagers, Mr. Premier. I knew them. They were not stupid. They needed help in elementary school, not post-humously.

Fifteen per cent of any student body has learning disabilities. Without adequate remedial methods and qualified specialist teachers, these students grow up illiterate. They are not stupid. I am learning disabled myself, but with the right methods and the right teachers, I ranked in the 96% in language skills on my LSAT. With the right education, many of those with learning disabilities become high achievers. Where are the specialist teachers for the 15% of our students with learning disabilities?

Perhaps another 15% (or more) has ADHD. These highly distractible students need a stripped down environment and mediated learning, or direct instruction. Where are the specialist teachers to provide this?

We have slow learners with no head for academics who would make excellent construction workers, meat cutters, mechanics, fallers and chefs. Where are the vocational programs to provide them with these skills?

Teachers know how to teach. Why does this government refuse to provide them with the tools and the resources to do so?

Elsje de Boer
Fauquier

Village of Nakusp supports library

I'd like to correct a misconception from the October 12 article on the Nakusp Library. The article states the library "receives no funding from the municipality. The Regional District of Central Kootenay supplies the library's budget from taxes it collects." The implication is that the Village of Nakusp does not support its own library. This is false!

The Village taxes its residents to support the library. The funds we collect are sent to the regional district. They combine our funds with those collected from taxation of rural residents, and send the library one cheque, covering both Village and rural taxes. The residents of the Village and the region are equally supportive of the library.

I was quoted in the article as confirming that the Village provides no funding. This statement refers only to the fact that the Village does not provide any additional grants over and above direct taxation to the library.

The Village now charges the library an annual rent of $5,000 for the entire building. Before the expansion, we charged an annual rent of $3,000. The space available has increased by over 200%; rent has increased by 67%. The rent we charge is calculated to cover our direct costs of running the Centennial Building. There is a clause in the lease to credit the library if our costs are less than the rent we charge.

Therefore, I want to confirm that the Village is very supportive of our library. We also appreciate all the work done by the library's board, staff and volunteers. We have a facility we are proud of.

Richard Mahoney,
Clerk/Treasurer
Village of Nakusp

Support the teachers

Let's first examine the word 'contract.' As far as I know this is a written or spoken agreement between persons or parties, to do various things, in various ways, sometimes for remuneration. When a so-called contract is imposed by one party, there is no agreement, and consequently no real contract. It is merely an imposition of one party's will, over another, and is clearly abuse.

Sadly, in Canada, various provincial governments have resorted to this means of settling labour disputes, and the current BC government seems to specialize in this. Also sadly, some of the public and judiciary have gone along with this type of ruling, rationalizing these actions as acceptable in certain situations, regardless of some fellow citizens being abused and used.

In tearing up existing contracts, and imposing other 'contracts,' freezing teachers' assets, threatening heavy fines, or even criminal charges with the aid of a coerced judiciary, (who well know who appointed and pay them), erodes our society, and our moral obligation of justice for all.

I am well aware that strikes are not the best way to solve the problems, and that many of the public are adversely affected by this action, but look further than your inconvenience, and see the greater ramifications of these actions by the government.

Support your teachers. They really have the best interests of your children in mind, and their objection to Bill 12 is clearly in the best interests of all of us.

Frank Miles
Kaslo

Referendum needed on option agreement

Re: Columbia Basin Trust option to take complete control of columbia Power Corp., and thereby reap 100% of the profits from electricity generated at the Keenleyside, Brilliant and Waneta dams.

CBT has had five years in which to exercise this option. It was brought before a tiny minority of Basin residents who attended a symposium in July, after CBT received approval to extend the deadline on the option to the end of November.

So we end up with a decision-making process that coincides with the entirely predictable timeframe for municipal elections and local government changes, not to mention the unforeseeable distraction of a teachers' strike.

Unfortunately, we have also ended up with an inadequate decision-making process. CBT set up a website on the option agreement and a series of public meetings in ten basin centres this month — meetings which would attract a small minority of Basin residents. (Some of us are fortunate in having local newspaper reporters who have provided details on this option deal and thank goodness for that.)

The details of this deal should have been presented to Basin residents in newspaper ads. Instead, the ads for the meetings gave only the promise that Basin residents could get the details at the meetings (or at the CBT website or

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Voices from the Valleys

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by way of a request to CBT offices).

In the meantime, CBT has set up an independent review committee to assess the deal, but it will not report until the end of October, after all the public meetings have been held. The CBT says that there may be another round of public meetings (in the midst of all the municipal election meetings).

If the CBT really wants Basin residents to express an opinion on this deal, it should give full details in newspaper ads and give residents a chance to vote on the question in a referendum.

Why doesn't the CBT pay the regional districts in the Basin to conduct a referendum on the deal? The regional districts know how to do it: present the facts and get a meaningful response from constituents.

Jane Lynch
Kaslo

Gouk's gas price theory defies belief

It defies belief how Jim Gouk can link a report entitled Transportation and Climate Change, prepared in 1999 and originating in Ottawa, to higher gasoline and heating oil prices today.

Gouk insists that the Liberal Party of Canada needs to have the price of these commodities rise to $1.40 per litre. Given Gouk's distaste for all things Liberal and liberal, (an opinion formed by me when he represented Nakusp in Parliament), it is not difficult to make the leap — implicit and explicit — in his letter.

I wonder how he justifies the fact that his ideological soulmates in Alberta (Ralph Klein's Conservatives) are doing so well from petroleum prices, and his other ideological soulmates in the Bush administration are reaping the undoubted benefits of high crude prices, while the majority of US residents are suffering alongside residents of Europe, where the average price of fuel is $3 per litre.

As a third generation Liberal, I had no idea that our influence had spread so far and wide. If I really believed that, it would give me a lot of pleasure, but of course, I don't, anymore than I believe Gouk's contention that the Liberals need to buy another election. In the 138 years since Confederation, the Liberals have been in power for 83 and a combination of the miscellaneous rag-tag right-wing parties, including Unionists, Conservatives and Progressive Conservatives, (could any name be more confusing?), for 55. This works out to, roughly, a 3:2 in favour of the Liberals. This even includes the near disaster Conservative years of Mulroney, which saw the introduction of GST and the Free Trade Agreement, and Diefenbaker, who effectively set back the Canadian aerospace industry for decades by his spiteful destruction of the Avro Arrow, not to mention the scandals involving Gerda Munsinger.

Little wonder that Canada has been either first or second choice of OECD and the UN as one of the top countries in the world for quality of life standards, due in no small measure to its style of government.

History has demonstrated that even if the country turns against the Liberal Party in the coming election, it will not be much of a wait before it is crying for their return. After all, when you are the NGP (Natural Governing Party) of Canada, it's hard, but not impossible, to be the Opposition for a few years.

John Perkins
Nakusp

Hard questions for Kaslo candidates

The Village of Kaslo election looms without any hard questions being raised. Here are some I have constructed, intended for three of the mayoral candidates: Bob Douglas (incumbent mayor), Donna Cormie (village councillor), Jimmy Holland (village councilor). I encourage you to make use of them. If you would like my opinionated answer to any of them, just call me.

Do any of you live within Village limits?

Yes or No, were you involved in decisions around the Kaslo Airport Industrial Park Project?

Why was there no public record from council's meetings or any Village committee in regards to the 10% private investment stipulation for the softwood lumber federal grant, until after the front page story appeared in the Vancouver Province?

Where was council intending to get the $20,000 (private investment amount) from?

Why is there a new road to the transfer station on the south side of the airport which has never been used and to this day is blocked at either end? How much did this road cost and who paid for it?

Why was this road not built to the requirements necessary for trucks hauling the containers from the transfer station? Did council ever receive anything in writing from the RDCK Waste Management Committee stating that the Kaslo transfer station would be closed or moved to a different site?

Why was the Village's delegation policy rewritten immediately after individuals came forward from the public to denounce the clearcutting of Village land and the lack of public process around the industrial park project?

Recently, a right-of-way has been cleared to bring hydro to Kaslo's airport. Who will be paying for this service to be installed? How much will it cost?

The Village has itself stated that the current water reservoir liner is five years past its expected lifespan. I am sure you are aware that for the past two years council has included the reservoir liner replacement in the five-year financial plan as a high priority infrastructure project.

Why then, did the Village decide not to pursue a provincial infrastructure grant so that the Village could purchase a new water liner for the water reservoir?

Why would Luke Crawford take it upon himself to apply for this grant on the Village's behalf without their permission?

Why did council receive correspondence from Mr. Crawford which included the infrastructure grant application he had submitted to the Province along with a detailed explanation of what the Village needed to do to complete the application, and council took no course of action to pursue it, but instead discussed what an opportunity council had just lost out on and what they should do next time free money comes knocking at their door.

What factual evidence do you have that Kaslo's water and sewer infrastructure can handle the expected unprecedented growth rate to occur from the Kaslo Bay condo development? Can you stand before us today and promise us that the water and sewer infrastructure is capable of handling this huge increase in demand?

Mayor Douglas, during council's deliberations on bringing Village water to the Allen subdivision and determining whether the subdivision should be amalgamated into the Village limits, did you excuse yourself from chambers due to a conflict of interest, arising from the fact that you own and live in one of the households belonging to that subdivision?

During your current term on council, how much money in grants has the Village received through applications submitted by council?

Donna Cormie, it is well known that you wish to see the Village purchase the provincial building. Can you tell us, how many renters there currently are in the building and the cumulative total brought in each month from rent?

Luke Crawford
Kaslo (353-2002)

Canada must uphold Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes Act

On Wednesday October 19, I watched Justice Minister Irwin Cotler being interviewed on CBC TV on the Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act and listened to him describe how his department was going to use this Act to arrest and charge a man from Rwanda, who is residing in Canada, with war crimes, torture and participating in genocide, while he was in his former homeland of Rwanda. I applaud Minister Cotler for this action as Canada is a country that has very strong views and laws pertaining to war crimes, international human rights and international humanitarian law. This is what is supposed to happen in Canada. This is the kind of Canada I want to live in.

Last week, Amnesty International, and the International Red Cross condemned Canada for instructing our soldiers to hand over Afghan prisoners to US military forces, when it is undisputed that US forces have been found guilty of using torture against Prisoners of War, (that the US insists on calling, unlawful combatants, a term they feel exonerates them from abiding by International Law regarding the treatment of prisoners), in Afghanistan, Iraq and Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

At the same time, the fact that Canada's Joint task force 2, (JTF2) is taking prisoners, or is even in a combat role in Afghanistan, is a decision that was made without any Parliamentary debates. For this reason alone our troops should be withdrawn. But...

Yesterday it was reported in the media that a US Airborne unit working with a US Psy-Ops unit in Afghanistan killed, then set on fire, two Taliban fighters. They purposely faced them to the west when they burned the bodies and then recorded a message, that was then broadcast from loudspeakers on their Humvees, stating what they had done and calling the Taliban and Al Qaeda "cowards" and "girlie fighters" among other things. It will be clear to any rational, reasonable person that if our soldiers are fighting alongside and handing over prisoners to US forces that are committing these war crimes and desecrating human bodies that Canada will be seen internationally as condoning & supporting these horrible actions. We must not make our soldiers be party to these illegal and inhumane acts.

In light of these facts, I must insist that Minister Cotler continue to uphold both Canadian law (Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act) and international laws and agreements that Canada is signatory to, and assure the Canadian people that Canada will arrest Condoleeza Rice when she lands in Canada next week and charge her with war crimes and torture as a member of the Bush administration, which is responsible for the actions of the US forces in Afghanistan and Iraq. Further I insist that the possible future visit of Dick Cheney to the Alberta Oilsands result in his arrest and that he be charged with war crimes.

Canada cannot pick and choose who it will charge or not charge with war crimes, torture, crimes against humanity or human rights violations. The rest of the world is watching to see how we deal with these issues.

As Lawyers Against Wars (LAW) co chair Gail Davidson stated, "The law is very clear on torture. Under international and domestic law, Canadians have a responsibility to prevent torture and to prosecute those who commit torture. Torture can only be committed by or through state officials. It is a crime universally condemned by Canada and other nations as one of the most egregious violations of both international human rights law and international humanitarian law. Torture is a war crime and a crime against humanity. *The prohibition against torture is absolute, torture cannot be justified by any circumstances*. [my emphasis] No nation holds torture to be legal."

Personalized versions of this letter were sent to PM Martin, Justice Minister Irwin Cotler, Defence Minister Bill Graham and Foreign Affairs Minster Pierre Pettigrew.

I asked that each of them respond to my letter and to the Canadian public stating what they are prepared to do to uphold our values and our laws.

I hope many who read this will do the same.

Shalom, Salaam, Peace

Grant Clubine
Winlaw

On school board support for the teachers

Teachers in School District #10 asked the board to write a letter of support for a negotiated settlement to this dispute rather than a legislated one. That is the best option for stable quality public education. It is not going out on a limb and it would support teachers.

How did we get to the place we are in now? Let's go back a few years.

In 2002 the government changed the groundwork for teacher bargaining by making education an essential service. They legislated a salary increase for three years. They provided funds for just the first year. School boards had to cut programs and services to fund years two and three of the contract. Clearly, the government did not adequately fund its own imposed contract. Instead, school boards were made the scapegoats for government cuts.

In 2004 the 'contract' expired. Teachers returned to the bargaining table. After over a year of non-productive bargaining following Labour Relations Board guidelines, teachers announced in September they were beginning two weeks of non-disruptive job action. This included no attendance at staff meetings. If no progress in bargaining was made, the plan called for rotating provincial strikes beginning Monday, October 24.

How did the Liberal government respond? Bill 12 was introduced and passed October 7, 2005, only three days after teachers stopped meeting with principals. Bill 12 legislated the teachers' contract to extend to June 30, 2006 with the government's comment: "This Bill settles the dispute."

The Liberal government made education an essential service. When teachers tried to work within that mandate, Bill 12 changed the rules. Bill 12 is not a negotiating tactic. It is legislative bullying. Teachers are out of class as a political protest to unjust legislation. As of October 21, 2005 a total of 10 school days have been lost. Bill 12 has not worked.

How have other school boards reacted? By Wednesday, October 19, 38 of 60 school boards had written letters in support of a negotiated settlement. This represented 465,111 students out of 599,708 (ministry data 2004-05) representing 77.5% of the students in the province who are enrolled in public education. In addition, 7 out of 9 directors on the board of BCPSEA (BC Public School Empoyers' Association) sit on boards that have adopted motions in support. By Wednesday evening this number had risen to 40 boards, or 66.6% of school boards and so the percentage of represented students has also risen. In a BCPSEA document received October 16, 2005 school boards and their position with regards to negotiating a settlement were listed. The Arrow Lakes and 10 other boards were listed in the category "other." It seems clear that BCPSEA does not view our school board as clearly supporting a negotiated settlement. As the board letter states, the district "would prefer a negotiated settlement. However..."

School boards are elected to provide the best possible education for our children. They are not elected to simply comply with the government. They need to speak out and publicly state concerns and needs to provide the best possible education for our children. Over the last term what have you heard from our board? Students, teachers and the board are in the most serious situation we have ever faced. It may be time for special meetings to discuss these matters. The board needs to speak out. They were elected to speak out for our children's education.

What would teachers like? They would like the board to demand that the government repeal Bill 12. They would like the board to write a letter to the government stating that a negotiated settlement is in the best interests of all parties. They would also like to have trustees visit them on the picket lines.

What do teachers want most of all? Teachers, one and all, want to be back with their students in the classroom. How can this be achieved? It is an old story. We want to negotiate.

I would also like to add that trustee elections are November 19. Ask the candidates some hard questions. How have they spoken out publicly to defend and improve public education? How have they made you aware of concerns they have? How have they made the government aware of their concerns? They are answerable to us, the electorate, not the government.

I only hope this dispute is over before this letter is printed. I would like to thank the public for their terrific support, for the waves as you drive by, for the toots of car horns, for the treats you are bringing to our picket lines, for your kind words and for supporting for teachers working to defend public education. Thank you.

Henning von Krogh
President, Arrow Lakes
Teachers' Association.

Area H sees same two candidates in municipal elections, Nov. 19

The two people running for Area H director also ran against each other in the last election. Munro has served two terms.

Don Munro (incumbent)

During the past six years as RDCK director, I've worked to help individuals and groups create new opportunities, solve problems and develop projects and services to improve the quality of life in our valley.

Safety and security are areas of concern for residents and I have worked to support our volunteer fire departments, emergency planning, improved highway and river safety.

I've also worked to support and facilitate economic development, Rails to Trails, recreation programming, community halls, programs for youth and for seniors, the valley bus system and environmental protection.

I feel that gaining the respect and support of my fellow RDCK directors, municipal councillors and provincial representatives has enabled me to protect and promote interests of our residents.

I ask for your continued support on November 19.

Walter Popoff

There are many important issues facing Area H and it is not up to the director of Area H to determine what the most important issues are. It is the residents of Area H that determine what is important to them, and the director's responsibility is to bring resolution to the issues. Some of the residents made it known improvement of their water systems and protection of their water sources is important. I feel the current director, after serving two terms in office, has become complacent by taking things for granted and not consulting with the residents on issues. The residents of Area H deserve better representation.

Winlaw Creek Woodlot – W1832

Proposed Woodlot Licence Plan - Arrow Boundary Forest District

Notice is hereby given that the holders of Woodlot Licence W1832 will hold a public viewing of our proposed 2006 to 2015 Woodlot Licence Plan for Woodlot W1832 on November 3, 2005 at the Spicer Center in Winlaw B.C.

The proposed Woodlot Licence Plan shows the location of areas in W1832 where timber harvesting will be avoided, areas where timber harvesting will be modified, and areas where timber harvesting will proceed as per usual. The Plan also proposes strategies to address wildlife habitat values, and non-pesticide based measures to control the spread of invasive plants. The Plan is available for review by the public before approval is considered by the Ministry of Forests.

The Woodlot Licence Plan will be available for review and comment on May 7, 2002 at the Spicer Center in Winlaw from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Representatives from Woodlot Licence W1832 will be available to discuss the proposed Plan.

If any interested parties are unable to review the proposed Plan during these times, arrangements can be made to view the plan at a time convenient for them. For those unable to travel to Winlaw, the plan can also be viewed online at http://www.winlawwoodlot.ca/ .

The licencees may be contacted at:

Winlaw Creek Woodlot info@winlawwoodlot.ca
Box 24
Winlaw, B.C.
V0G 2J0

Concerns and comments about this proposed Woodlot Licence Plan must be provided to the Licensees in writing on or before November 26, 2005.

Supporting the Early Years Research Project

We are looking for parents who would be interested in providing feedback on our programs. In exchange for a spring interview we will provide a monthly newsletter, free workshops, child and travel subsidies to programs and workshops, and notification of current programming. If you are interested in giving us your feedback, please call either Nancy or Julia at 265-3674. The following are programs that are offered:

Mondays
- Edgewood Elementary, 11:45 am - 2:00 pm, *Ready, Set, Learn* (FOR 3-5 YEAR OLDS AND PARENTS)
- New Denver Lucerne School, 11:00 am - Noon, *Mother Goose* (CALL 358-7768 TO REGISTER - 10 WEEKS)

Tuesdays
- Nakusp Stepping Stones Children's Ctr., 10 -11:30 am, *Early Childhood Playgroup*
- Edgewood Elementary School, Noon - 1:00 pm, *Mother Goose* (CALL 269-7260 TO REGISTER - 10 WEEKS)

Wednesdays
- Nakusp Public Library, 10:30 am, *Story Time*
- New Denver Lucerne School, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, *Learning Adventures for Families (LAFF)* (CALL 358-7222 TO REGISTER)

Thursdays
- Fauquier Communication Ctr., 10 am - Noon, *Parents and Tots*
- Arrow/Slocan Lks. Comm. Services, Nakusp, 1:00 - 2:00 pm *Mother Goose,* (CALL 265-3674 TO REGISTER)

Friday
- Nakusp Halcyon Home, 10:00 - 11:30 am, *Gym Playgroup*
- Fauquier Community Hall, 6:30 pm, *Family Movie Night* (LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH)

Saturday
- Nakusp Stepping Stones Children's Ctr., *Learning Adventures for Families (LAFF)* (ALTERNATING DATES CALL 265-3674)

Thank you…

The Hills Recreation Society would like to extend a hardy and heartfelt thank you to all those who helped make the Hills Garlic Festival a success on September 11. In particular we would like to thank the following:

- the mayor, council, and people of the Village of New Denver, especially the residents of the Orchard, for welcoming the Garlic Festival into Centennial Park again
- co-ordinator Liza Ireland for another outstanding job of organizing the Garlic Festival
- all the volunteers from Hills and elsewhere who cheerfully contributed their time and energy
- Centennial Park campground attendant Isabel Reitmeier for her generous and supportive assistance throughout the weekend
- the Lucerne Grad Class of 2006 for their good-spirited work throughout the Festival
- the New Denver Volunteer Fire Department and others who kept a watchful eye on the day's events
- all the growers, craftspeople, entertainers, and vendors who brought their produce, wares, and talents to the Garlic Festival and who contributed to the Hills Rec Society raffle baskets
- the community at large for supporting the Garlic Festival as a fun event and a fundraiser for the Hills community.

Thank you one and all!!

A chess tournament just for kids

by Craig Lawrence

If you're between the ages of 7 and 12 and have a hankering to play chess, then the Slocan Valley Recreation Commission is hosting another great afternoon that they think kids may just want to 'check' out!

The Beginners Luck chess tournament is a fun-based round-robin event where every entrant really does walk away a winner. It's the fifth year the event will be taking place, and it's always a great time for kids. Entrants play other players of a similar skill level throughout the afternoon. Don't worry whether you're good enough or not, because by the end of the afternoon it'll be the fun of the game that will carry the day.

The tournament is the brain-child of local educator Chris Laurie, who has been digging deep into his bag of tricks for the past several years to get kids inspired with the magic of chess.

The tournament happens November 5 at the Slocan Park Hall from 1 to 4 p.m. The entry fee is $5 in advance and $7 at the door. Don't be surprised if Chris sneaks in some great chess variations during the breaks for those wanting a little deeper insight into the game.

If you're thinking of coming or have some questions, phone Slocan Valley Recreation at 226-0008 by November 1 (just so they have enough prizes for everyone).

Internet society gets infrastructure grant

The Red Mountain Internet Society has been successful in obtaining a $20,000 Community Network Infrastructure grant to help bring faster internet access to Silverton. The grant must be used exclusively for Silverton, but "it places us nicely to network to the other communities." says Larry Lavan.

$10,000 will be used to pay for the tower and two of the 12 needed infrastructure radios. Six more radios will be needed to reach most people in Silverton, and four for Hills and for Enterprise Creek. The second half of the grant will go towards the radios for Silverton, an uninterruptable power supply and computers, and a shed with six-inch thick walls to hold them.

"[Although] we use radios," he says, "the effect is the same as living in New Denver and getting ADSL."

No trees will have to come down, but thick branches need to be removed so they won't block the signal.

Asked where the rest of the money needed will come from, Lavan says "Silverton is covered fairly well by the existing grant. As to Rosebery, Hills, Enterprise Creek and the top of Red Mountain, our society will need $5,000 to $10,000 of infrastructure to reach most homes and businesses in each of the four areas. This can be obtained by fund raising and grants, since the province is committed to getting high speed internet to as many people as possible, especially to students."

A Red Mountain internet feasibility study and site survey will be the first step to getting a grant "because the society has very good installers. We want to thank Vince and David for their effort in easily proving at Silverton village hall in August that we could give high speed internet and Skype™ telephone and even video conferencing to the village."

Lavan says Hills and Enterprise Creek could come online by November 2006, when Telus is ready for the Silverton point-of-presence, if the society works with the province.

Anyone with TV antenna towers left over after installing satellite dishes is asked to donate them to the society for the outlying areas.

Author from Portugal reads in Silverton

by Art Joyce

For Portuguese author Paulo da Costa, being a global citizen means sharing stories from a culture half a world away. Da Costa read to about 25 people packed into Horsefeathers Gallery in Silverton the evening of October 14. The storyteller's spell was evident on the crowd, who demanded more of his eloquent slices of life in a small Portuguese village, and poems read in the sensuous lilt of his native language. He was introduced by gallery owners Donna Hicks and Barry Barker, who befriended the author while living in Calgary.

Born in Luanda, Angola and raised in Valle de Cambra, Portugal, da Costa said he was "condemned" to be a writer when his fifth grade teacher praised a story he had written.

"I knew I wanted to do something that changed peoples' consciousness."

Ironically, da Costa was first published outside his own country—in Canada—and in his second language, English. But not before a harrowing, five-year struggle, when every Canadian publisher turned down his collection of short stories, *The Scent of A Lie*. Finally Ekstasis Editions of Victoria published the book in 2002, which went on to win the 2003 Commonwealth First Book Prize for the Canada-Caribbean Region and the W. O Mitchell City of Calgary Book Prize. His writing has been translated into Italian, Spanish, Serbian, Slovenian and Portuguese, in 24 countries.

Da Costa now lives on BC's west coast and translates the works of Canadian authors such as Patrick Lane into Portuguese. The day of the reading, he had just received notification that Granta, a literary magazine of international scope, has named him "one of the most promising writers in the English language."

No surprise there—da Costa's prose is lean and precise yet delicately poetic, bringing the battered human spirit to light intact in dignity and grace. His characters are caught in the contradictions of what he calls "the chasm of centuries of tradition and religious mores, petrified into customs…"

Although critics see him as writing in the genre of magic realism, da Costa disdains labels.

"People who read me in both languages say it's two different people."

He writes from the paradox of a culture that has itself been colonized throughout history but has yet to come to terms with its own imperialist past.

Despite the awards and success, da Costa has gone independent for his latest works of prose and poetry. He formed his own publishing house, Livros pé D'Orelha (an idiomatic Portuguese expression meaning roughly "a whisper close to your ear") to publish a collection of poetry, *Notas de Rodapé*, and *The Midwife of Torment & Other Stories,* resurrecting many of the characters from his first book. His latest works are sold directly from his website, www.paulodacosta.com, not only books but CDs, because of his belief that writing must be not just read but heard.

When asked why he chose the independent route, da Costa spoke at length about the exploitation of cultural workers by global publishing corporations. He sees as unjust a status quo in which publishers, agents, and distributors reap 90% of the profits, leaving many authors unable to earn a living from their writing. "We have to take control of the means of production."

Slocan council, October 12: Former mayor asks questions about annual report

by Don Currie

•The architect responsible for the design of the Wellness Centre briefed council on the final plans for completion of the project. Bob Inwood of Mainstreet Consulting Associates said the clinic room was near completion and public and staff restrooms and laundry facilities were underway to government health standards. Bacteria resistant flooring materials had been obtained at reduced cost and interior furnishings and colour schemes selected. The wheelchair ramp approach is constructed. Inwood, an expert on heritage buildings, said there were four buildings in Slocan, including the school building used for the Wellness Centre, that may qualify for heritage funding.

Administrator Eunice Ludlow said IHA logistics supervisor Cathy Hammond has been asked for contributions of equipment for the Wellness Centre but is unable to make a commitment until the facility is complete. Ludlow also indicated there was interest from three doctors to use the facility. Councillor Madeleine Perriere proposed that the plans be displayed for public viewing at the Oktoberfest on October 22.

•Works foreman Jerry Simmons reported that the double-wide old fire department clubhouse had been relocated to the Valhalla unit crew site and new water lines were installed that will permit winter use. The sewer line is operational and power will be connected soon. Simmons reported that all dead and dying trees were removed from the RV Park. New trees will be planted to maintain separation of sites. Trees have been cut into 12- and 14-foot timbers and posts for Village construction projects. Thirty-two pallets of paving brick at reduced cost has been purchased for the next phase of sidewalk upgrades to Harold St. The foreman reported that the four-inch water line from Springer Creek to the ballpark sprinkler system had been installed and would be extended to the curling rink.

•Fire Chief Tim Hill reported there were four call-outs for the Slocan Volunteer Fire Department (SVFD) and First Responders including a car accident, a heart attack incident and two fires. Hill said five SVFD members were attending training sessions at Pass Creek and he would be attending an Emergency Preparedness planning meeting. Councillor Perriere expressed concern about debris from the Slocan Motel fire that was taken to private property where it was burnt and the fire department had to be called to contain the fire. Administrator Ludlow said she had spoken to the insurer about the incident. Fire Chief Hill said council should discourage dumping on private property.

•Councillor Gates reported that RDCK was seeking member municipalities' support to raise $40,000 to develop marketing of the Canadian portion of the International Selkirk Loop (ISL). The ISL is an American/Canadian co-operative effort creating a 450-km scenic drive through northern Idaho, northeastern Washington and the Central Kootenays. The ISL has been designated by the US Department of Transportation as the first and only International Scenic Byway. Gates said the nine member municipalities would share the cost proportionately from Community Tourism Funds and that Slocan's share would be $2,000. Gates said Slocan is not directly in the loop and recommended that council withhold participation until more information about extending the loop to the Slocan Valley was available.

•Councillors Gates and Perriere reported that they had met provincial ministers in charge of seniors' housing and the construction of boat ramps at the recent Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) convention.

Perriere reported that Minister Ida Chong, in charge of seniors' housing, advised council to approach the IHA for financial support. The minister commented that the Wellness Centre and the Village's previous application for SICEAI funding showed local initiative which would strengthen the request for funds from IHA. Councillor Septav said a renewed application for seniors' housing funding required the Village to specify the type of housing the Village was seeking so it would complement seniors' facilities in New Denver and Passmore. (*The Valley Voice* has learned since that the Slocan Seniors' Housing Committee, a volunteer group, has requested a meeting with council, calling for council to assume direct leadership of the project to get funding and to re-activate the whole community in support of the project).

Councillor Gates said the minister responsible for boat ramps advised council to earmark the $100,000 donation from Canfor as green funds, as council could then raise $200,000, which would cover the full cost of the project. Gates also said that the minister had advised the parties interested in the paddlewheeler project (New Denver, Silverton, Slocan and the RDCK) to prepare a detailed business plan. Gates estimated the cost of a business plan to be in the range of $10,000 to $30,000.

•Joyce Johnson of Slocan and Frances Brown of Nelson, in a letter to council, requested that a memorial wall be constructed in the Slocan cemetery where individuals could place plaques to remember relatives and loved ones buried there in unmarked graves. Burial records for the cemetery were lost years ago in a Village office fire. Administrator Eunice Ludlow reported that she had met with a representative of Japanese Canadians interned in Slocan during WWII, 17 of whom are buried in the Slocan Cemetery. Councillor Joanne Ellis said there was $6,000 in cemetery funds and that council should come forward with a plan to improve the cemetery. Joyce Johnson, who was at the meeting, volunteered to return with proposals.

•Council denied its support to an application to the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch of the Ministry of Public Safety by the Blue Moon Saloon to extend hours of sale.

•Susan King and George Bondaroff, owner operators of Swan House Bed and Breakfast, sent council a copy of the September/October issue of Canadian Homes and Cottages featuring an article on their six-year heritage home restoration and renovation project. The couple said they would sponsor an open house in the near future and hoped the exposure for the Village will one day, "enable our Village to join the communities in bloom circuit." Council thanked the owners of Swan House for the information and sent a letter of congratulation for their achievement.

•During question period Jean Patterson asked what wages were being paid to the bylaw control officer. Administrator Ludlow said the Village was billed a fixed amount by Corps of Commissionaires and the Village did not pay wages directly to the bylaw control officer. She said the Village was billed at the rate $16 per hour for two hours per day for a total of $311 every two weeks.

•Len Mortensen, former mayor, appeared as a delegation with a series of questions about revenue and expenditures in the annual report. Mortensen said that in fact there were two reports and he wanted clarity on the accuracy of dates attached to when budgets were set and when expenditures were actually made. He cited a drop in revenues from $758,707 in 2003 to $652,763 in 2004 and that total expenditures in 2004 added up to $793,781 which meant the amount by which expenditures exceeded revenues was actually $141,018 not the $69,333 as stated in the annual report. He also queried figures on total capital expenditures which he said came to about $482,000 and wanted to know how council could pay for the discrepancy in expenditures over revenues and the rise in capital expenditures without accessing reserves.

The ex-mayor also posed a series of questions about the location of the boat ramp, with his main concern being safety, and wanted to know if all options had been considered.

He also wanted to know when tax levies were decided and where this was recorded in the minutes. Mortensen objected to budget and tax decisions, requiring four readings to be decided *in camera*. He said that he had been charged $1800 in taxes on properties that he owned in town and if the tax notices had been sent without proper procedure he "wanted his money back."

Councillor John Gates said some of the amounts Mortensen referred to spanned three years. Councillor Ellis said the boat ramp expenditure could not be included in total capital as nothing had yet been spent on the project.

Ludlow said the financial statements had been audited by a firm of chartered accountants and the annual report, a requirement of the Community Charter, was based on the figures from the audited financial report. She was adamant "that not one penny has been spent from reserves," and in fact the reserve was growing at the rate of $15,000 yearly. Ludlow said that everything in the budget including tax levies corresponded with bylaws and that in camera meetings were convened with the advice of Andre Carrel, municipal consultant, when necessary.

Mayor Van Bynan proposed that if Mortensen wanted to know the financial picture "down to the last penny" a meeting should be arranged between Elaine Rogers of Rogers and Co. responsible for preparing Village accounts for audit, Andre Carrel and Mortensen and anyone else who was interested.

The Valley Voice, in a phone conversation with Elaine Rogers on October 20, was told that there was an error in transferring figures from the audited financial report to the annual report. She said the figure for General Government was actually $154,101 and not $225,786 as cited in the report. She said when this error was taken into account the amount by which expenditures exceeded revenues was $69,333, as reported in the annual report. She said Berg, Naqvi and Lehmann, Chartered Accountants had audited Village financial records for 20 years and that all present and past elected representatives would know of their work.

VILLAGE OF SLOCAN
NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given to the electors of the Village of Slocan that an election by voting is necessary to elect four Councillors for a three year term commencing December 2005 and terminating December 2008, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

Councillor - Four (4) to be elected

Surname	Usual Names	Jurisdiction of Residence
Septav	Marc	Slocan, BC
Perriere	Madeleine	Slocan, BC
Gates	John	Slocan, BC
Ellis	Joanne	Winlaw, BC
Patterson	Jean	Slocan, BC

GENERAL VOTING DAY will be open to qualified electors of the Village of Slocan on Saturday, November 19, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at the following locations:

Women's Institute Hall 602B Harold Street, Slocan, BC

Voting Divisions (if voting divisions established) N/A

If you require further information please contact the Village Office at 355-2277.

Elector Registration (for voting day only registration)

There is no need to pre-register to vote as the registration of all electors for this election will take place at the time of voting. You will be required to make a declaration that you meet the following requirements:

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

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

Non-resident property electors must produce a non-resident property elector certificate and 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity.

Non-resident property elector certificates can be obtained from the Chief Election Officer at the Village of Slocan office during regular office hours prior to 4:00 pm on Friday, November 18, 2005. On advance voting day certificates can be obtained from the Chief Election Officer at the Village of Slocan office. On general voting day certificates can be obtained at the Women's Institute Hall during voting hours.

OR

Elector Registration (list of electors used)

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

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

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

Non-Resident property electors must produce a non-resident property elector certificate and 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity.

Non-resident property elector certificates can be obtained from the Chief Election Officer at the Village of Slocan office during regular office hours prior to 4:00 pm on Friday, November 18, 2005. On advance voting day certificates can be obtained from the Chief Election Officer at the Village of Slocan office. On general voting day certificates can be obtained at the Women's Institute Hall during voting hours.

Advance Voting Opportunities

Advance voting will be open at the Village Office, 503 Slocan Street, Slocan, BC on Wednesday, November 9, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm. The only persons permitted to vote at an Advance Voting Opportunity are those who, being duly qualified electors, sign a statement that:

- the elector expects to be absent from the Village of Slocan on general voting day,
- the elector, for reasons of conscience, will be unable to vote on general voting day,
- the elector will be unable to attend a voting place on general voting day for reasons beyond their control,
- the elector has a physical disability or is a person whose mobility is impaired,
- the elector is a candidate or candidate representative, or
- the elector is an election official.

Special Voting opportunity N/A

Additional General Voting Opportunity N/A

Eunice Ludlow
Chief Election Officer

New Denver Council, October 11: Fire Department looks at new foam system

Delegation: Doug Fischer spoke on behalf of the Fire Department. The Fire Department has been looking for a foam system for their engine. They have been using a pail system which is time consuming and inefficient. A system on the truck would deploy quicker and be easier to use. The foam system is approximately $5000.00 plus installation. The Fire Department would like to use fire reserves to acquire this. Operating expenses on the foam system will be less expensive than with the pails, as less foam gets used. Council moved that Administrator Gordon meet with Captain Fischer or Chief Casley to get exact costs and prepare a by-law to release funds.

Verbal Reports: At the Union of B.C. Municipalities Mayor Wright and Councillor Casley met with the Ministry of Transportation regarding concerns of the Enterprise Creek bridge and asked that attention be paid to conditions and placement. Wright and Casley also met the Minister of Health and extended an invitation for him to visit the Slocan Community Health Centre.

Councillor Murphy reported on the Air Quality surveys. Over 60 were received (20%). Almost half of the respondents thought there was an air quality problem. Murphy will give a final report with numbers and recommendations at the next meeting October 25th.

Public Lands and Safety: Councillor Casley reported the campsite revenues were roughly equal to last year's. He also reported the Fire Department got a container for practice at the old dump site and is now looking to secure the site.

Public Works and Water: Administrator Gordon reported on the Certificate of Compliance for the Village yard. A portion of this yard was cited as a possible contaminated site in a previous study in l999. Council requested a further study and this recent study showed the site not a danger. Gordon contacted the Ministry of Environment for a Certificate of Compliance (though this site had never been formally declared a contaminated site). She was told to contact the authors of the recent study to see if their findings were enough for the Ministry's Certificate, did this, and was advised no. Council was told a new assessment of the whole property would be needed. Council felt due diligence had been done to follow up on the original study and did not proceed with another costly study.

Gordon also reported on a discrepancy in the billing for the paving, and contacted Selkirk Paving. They had contracted out the measuring and billing and corrected the mistake. The paving costs will be approximately $318,000.00 which is $8000 more than budgeted. There will be no contribution to the Reserve Fund this year to cover the difference. Council thanked Gordon for her attention to detail and also forwarded thanks to Public Works for their diligence and effort.

Representative Reports: Councillor Bunka apologized for forgetting to inform the Silvery Slocan Historical Society of Council's approval of sale of the leased piece of property to the Apple Tree. She has contacted Directors to apologize and explain the rationale of the sale. Even including this small parcel the lot size would have been too small to rebuild the Museum should it be lost. A motion was passed that the money from the sale go into the Heritage Fund.

Old Business: Council received a letter from Lynda Saunders regarding the Air Quality Survey. Councillor Murphy will reply with thanks for her concern and suggestions.

Council received a copy of a letter to Regional District of Central Kootenay from UBCM regarding Community Wildfire Protection Planning Grant Application.

New Business: A request for a grant-in-aid was received from the Chamber of Commerce. This grant would be used for the Banner Project and for the Visitor Information Centre. Administrator Gordon will advise the Chamber of the information needed for the grant-in-aid.

A request for relaxation of Sign Bylaw #582,2004 was requested by Joan Morgan, Villa Dome Quixote. This matter was referred to the Ministry of Highways for comment because it is on an arterial highway.

A request to purchase lane was received from Judy Hobbs and Vern Prier. Councillor Casley declared an interest and excused himself because his family is a contiguous owner. Council in the past agreed to sell a portion of lane, however Hobbs and Prier are now requesting to purchase a larger portion. Staff was directed to contact contiguous owners.

A request was received from Marguerite Thring for preliminary approval to subdivide Parcel A, Block l6, DL 549, KD Plan 557. This was approved.

Accounts payable of $41706.50 General and $4146.32 Water was approved for September.

Council decided on and approved purchase of a wreath for Remembrance Day.

A letter was received from Trevor Harrop with concerns regarding the recent paving. He noticed discrepancies in the road surfaces. Staff was directed to advise him of the report from Mike Simpson, Public Works: "The overall paving job was to specs and standards of the contract. Members of the paving company explained the quality of the asphalt was of a highways standard, which is more durable and stronger to traffic abuse. This means a coarser rock was used - 5/8" compared to 1/2". The asphalt looks more porous. This new asphalt will pack more over time and probably look tighter next year.

Council passed a resolution to support Nakusp's request that the Water Comptroller and BC Hydro re-evaluate the decision on the eligibility of the Nakusp boat ramp within the Columbia Water Use Plan and for BC Hydro to acknowledge their obligations and responsibilities.

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REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the electors of the Regional District of Central Kootenay that an Election by Voting is necessary to elect Directors for Electoral Areas B, D, H and I for three year terms commencing December 2005 and terminating December 2008, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom the votes will be received are:

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
One (1) to be elected in each Electoral Area

Area	Surname	Usual Names	Residential Address
B	KETTLE	John	Creston, BC
	MOORE	Ralph	3008 Beam Rd, Creston BC
D	GREENLAW	Larry	Meadow Creek, BC
	SHADRACK	Andy	Kaslo, BC
H	MUNRO	Don	3922 Indian Pt Rd, Vallican, BC
	POPOFF	Walter	3871 Gage Rd, Cres Valley, BC
I	MORRIS	Owen	1378 Lookout Rd,Thrums, BC
	VOYKIN	John	2161 Oak Rd, Pass Creek, BC

GENERAL VOTING DAY:
GENERAL VOTING DAY will be **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2005** between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm for QUALIFIED ELECTORS of the REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY at the following locations:

ELECTORAL AREA B

Erickson Elem School	3523 Highway 3, Erickson, BC
Canyon Elem School	4575 Canyon/Lister Rd, Canyon, BC
Lister Comm Hall	3461 16th St, Lister, BC
Johnson Residence	105 Silvercrest Rd, Kitchener, BC
Yahk Comm Hall	8790 Railway Ave, Yahk, BC
Creston Comm Complex	312-19th Ave N, Creston, BC
Regional District Office	202 Lakeside Dr, Nelson, BC

ELECTORAL AREA D

Kaslo Community Hall	201 A Ave, Kaslo, BC
Ainsworth Comm Hall	Highway 31, Ainsworth, BC
Lardeau Vly Comm Hall	Highway 31, Meadow Ck, BC
Argenta Comm Hall	Argenta Rd, Argenta, BC
Regional District Office	202 Lakeside Dr, Nelson, BC

ELECTORAL AREA H

Hills Comm Hall	Highway 6, Hills, BC
New Denver Mun Office	115 Slocan St, New Denver BC
Silverton Memorial Hall	203 Lake Ave, Silverton, BC
Slocan W I Hall	602B Harold St, Slocan, BC
Winlaw Comm Hall	5897 Hwy 6, Winlaw, BC
Passmore Comm Hall	3656 Passmore Old Rd, Passmore
Cres Vly Comm Hall	1382 Hwy 6, Crescent Valley, BC
Regional District Office	202 Lakeside Dr, Nelson, BC

ELECTORAL AREA I

Pass Creek Comm Hall	1989 Pass Ck Rd, Pass Ck, BC
Tarrys Comm Hall	2016 Highway 3A, Tarrys, BC
Castlegar Complex	2101 6th Ave, Castlegar, BC
Regional District Office	202 Lakeside Dr, Nelson, BC

ELIGIBLE ELECTORS:
The *Local Government Act* sets out the qualifications for electors entitled to vote at Local Government Voting and if you qualify, and you are not on the list of electors, you may register at the time of voting by completing the required application form available at the voting place. To register you must meet the following qualifications:

Qualifications for a Resident Elector:
Must meet all of the following requirements:
(a) on General Voting Day you must be eighteen years of age or older;
(b) you must be a Canadian citizen;
(c) you must have resided in British Columbia in accordance with Section 52 of the *Local Government Act* for at least six months immediately preceding the day of registration;
(d) you must have resided within the area in which the vote is taking place in accordance with Section 52 of the *Local Government Act* for at least 30 days immediately preceding the day of registration;
(e) you must not be disqualified by the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment from voting on General Voting Day or be otherwise disqualified by law.

Resident electors not on the Voters list and wishing to register on voting day will be required to produce **2 pieces of identification** (at least one with a signature). The identification must prove identity and residency.

Qualifications for a Non-Resident Elector:
Must meet all of the following requirements:
(a) (b) (c) and (e) above **plus**
(d) you must have been the registered owner of real property within the area in which the vote is taking place for at least 30 days immediately preceding the day of registration;
(d)(i) the only persons who are registered owners of the real property, either as joint tenants or tenants in common, and are individuals who are not holding the property in trust for a corporation or another trust;
(f) you must not be entitled to register as a resident elector for that area;
(g) if there is more than one registered owner of the property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector.

Non-Resident electors not on the Voters list and wishing to register on voting day must produce a **NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTOR CERTIFICATE and 2 pieces of identification** (at least one with a signature) to prove identity.

In order to obtain your **NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTOR CERTIFICATE,** contact the Chief Elections Officer or appointee at the Regional District of Central Kootenay office during regular office hours up until 4:30 pm on Friday, November 18, 2005.

Notes:
On Advance and General Voting Days, NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTOR CERTIFICATES will **ONLY** be available at the **REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY OFFICE** during **voting hours**, and **ONLY** upon presentation of a **PROPERTY CERTIFICATE OF TITLE and PROPERTY OWNER'S CONSENT FORM (if applicable).**

Pursuant to the Local Government Act, no corporation is entitled to be registered as an elector or have a representative registered as an elector and no corporation is entitled to vote.

ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES:
ADVANCE VOTING will be open at the various stations listed below on **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2005** between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm:

ELECTORAL AREA B

Yahk Comm Hall	8790 Railway Ave, Yahk, BC
Creston Comm Complex	312-19th Ave N, Creston, BC
Regional District Office	202 Lakeside Dr, Nelson, BC

ELECTORAL AREA D

Kaslo Municipal Office	413 4th St, Kaslo BC
Regional District Office	202 Lakeside Dr, Nelson, BC

ELECTORAL AREA H

Slocan Municipal Office	503 Slocan St, Slocan, BC
Silverton Memorial Hall	203 Lake Ave, Silverton, BC
New Denver Mun Office	115 Slocan Ave, New Denver, BC
Regional District Office	202 Lakeside Dr, Nelson, BC

ELECTORAL AREA I

Castlegar Complex	2101 6th Ave, Castlegar, BC
Regional District Office	202 Lakeside Dr, Nelson, BC

The only persons permitted to vote at an Advance Voting Opportunity are those who, being duly qualified electors, sign a statement that:

- the elector expects to be absent from the area on General Voting Day;
- the elector, for reasons of conscience, will be unable to vote on General Voting Day;
- the elector will be unable to attend a voting place on General Voting Day for reasons beyond his/her control;
- the elector has a physical disability or is a person whose mobility is impaired;
- the elector is a candidate or candidate representative, or
- the elector is an election official.

Randy Matheson Chief Elections Officer

For Sale

New Denver Building Lot
One block from the Slocan Lake, Carpenter Creek and Downtown New Denver. 65ft by 130ft. lot on a cul de sac. Flat and backed by mature trees. Lots like these are becoming fewer and fewer.
$99,000 $1 Reduced!
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250-551-5652 cell
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Fax: 358-2331

Silverton council, October 11: Wiseman questions EDC appointment

by Jan McMurray

•Interim fire chief Ron Provan reported that New Denver and Silverton departments were planning a live burn as a joint training session. He made a public apology because Vern Hartman's name did not appear as a Silverton Volunteer Fire Department member in the special Fire Prevention Week issue of *The Valley Voice*.

•Mayor Wiseman announced that the Red Mountain Internet Society was successful in its $20,000 application for a Community Network Infrastructure Grant. He said the point of presence had also been applied for.

•Wiseman also presented some facts about the RDCK in his report: directors get $463 per month for being a regional director; electoral area directors get an extra $98 per month; they get $300 per month car allowance; they receive $107 to attend a meeting, plus expenses (meal and travel); RDCK board chair receives $1962 per month; RDCK board chair Gary Wright made a motion that Leah Main receive a contract through the Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission for $20 per hour for 25 hours a week to a maximum of $5,000; Wright called Wiseman to tell him the board turned down Roy Duncan's request for a Leave of Absence as Silverton's RDCK director because they were concerned about the money being paid to Duncan when he was not attending meetings. Wright also said that the board was considering not granting Silverton's CBT community initiative funding because of this.

Wiseman added that *The Valley Voice* reporting is "full of rumours and postulations."

•Councillor Dorsey responded to Wiseman's comments about the RDCK from the meeting of September 27. He listed services provided to the municipalities by the RDCK: waste management, building inspections, transit, regional parks, hospital boards, fire services, recreation commissions, CBT initiative funds, 911 services, emergency services, cemeteries, mapping, economic development commissions, grants to TV Societies. He said that connections and decisions made at regional conferences could "spring back with more money and more services, so we should participate."

•Councillor Huether reported that the Gallery Society and Historical Society were very happy that the lease with the Village was signed after three or four years. She said the historical society had moved the tram tower from the Inn to the Outdoor Mining Museum. Both societies are working on getting grants to hire students next year and are considering sharing a student.

•Council received a letter from Tim Wiseman concerning his appointment to the Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission (SVEDC). The letter states that Wiseman agreed to serve as a community representative to the commission for the period June 2004 to December 2004. He says he attended only one meeting on June 11, 2004 and refused to attend any others because several members and secretary Leah Main displayed a lack of organization.

At the September 24 RDCK board meeting, Wiseman's SVEDC 2005 appointment was rescinded due to lack of attendance. Wiseman's letter says he is "very upset at the Village of Silverton Council for having the disrespect of appointing me to the SVEDC for 2005 without informing me or even asking me..." He demands an explanation and an apology from the mayor and council, as well as communication with RDCK and SVEDC for this. He also said that the Village of New Denver sent a list of recommended committee members for 2005 to the RDCK in November 2004 and Wiseman's name appears on the list. Wiseman said he was very upset with Wright, who apparently put Wiseman's name forward for the SVEDC for 2005 without his permission or communication from the Village of Silverton and then made the motion to rescind the appointment. Wiseman said he felt like he was set up.

Councillor Dorsey asked that the minutes of the meeting when the appointments were made be brought out. Wiseman read from the December 14, 2004 minutes, "that the appointments remain the same as the 2004 appointments with the exception of the EDC: no alternate and Board of Variance: Subject to Acceptance." He said that the motion came from himself and the intent was to have no one sit on the SVEDC.

Dorsey said that the SVEDC "does some good work and we should get someone else if you are unhappy."

•Accounts payable of $27,797.14 were approved.

The Vallican Whole early childhood program now has a skookum new playground, installed this past summer. The project was completed with the help of a provincial government grant, Jerome Liboiron (Sutherland Excavating), Ennis Fence, and many families. Tara Harvey and Suzanne Neham spearheaded the project.

slocanlake.com
SLOCAN DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Prepare your questions for the candidates!
chamber@slocanlake.com

ALL CANDIDATES MEETING
for Village of Silverton
November 1, 7:00 pm,
Memorial Hall
(sponsored by the Slocan & District Chamber of Commerce)

What's New at the Slocan Community Health Centre?

Mental Health Services: Randy Thiessen 265-3777
- Addition services
- Geriatric Assessment
- Counselling

Home And Community Care: Lynda Rolfe 358-7804
- Home Support services
- Home Nursing Care
- Assessments for Residential Care

Flu Clinics November 3rd, by appointment only, with the Public Health Nurse Linda Nero, and Drop in Friday November 4th in the Pavilion Activity noon 9am-12 noon or 1pm-6pm.

For information on these and other services, please drop in to the Centre at 401 Galena in New Denver weekdays 09:00 to 15:00, or call 358-7911.

Emergency Services 24/7 358-7911

Diagnostic Services:
Laboratory - Tuesday through Friday 08:00 - 10:00 no appointment needed
Xray, ECG, Holter - Mon, Wed - Fri 08:15 - 11:00 appointments at 358-7911

Interior Health

SCHOOL DISTRICT #10 (ARROW LAKES), EASTERN ATTENDANCE ZONES

NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given to the electors of the School District #10 (Arrow Lakes) Eastern, Attendance Zones that an election by voting is necessary to elect One School Trustees for a three-year term commencing December 2005 and terminating December 2008, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

School Trustee - One (1) to be elected

Surname	Usual Names	Jurisdiction of Residence
BREKKE	Lora Lee	603 9th Ave, New Denver BC
SUHR	Hans	502 Nelson Ave, Nakusp BC

GENERAL VOTING DAY will be open to qualified electors of the School District #10 (Arrow Lakes) Eastern Attendance Zones on Saturday, November 19, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at the following locations:

Silverton Memorial Hall	203 Lake Ave, Silverton, BC
Village of New Denver Council Chambers	115 Slocan Ave, New Denver, BC
Hills Community Hall	Hwy. 6, Hills, BC

Elector Registration
If you are not on the list of electors, you may register at the time of voting by completing the required application form available at the voting place. To register you must meet the following qualifications:
- 18 years of age or older
- Canadian citizen
- resident of BC for at least 6 months immediately preceding voting day
- resident of OR registered owner of real property in the Eastern Attendance Zone (New Denver, Silverton, Rosebery and Sandon (Enterprise Creek to Bonanza Creek including the rural area) for at least 30 days immediately preceding voting day, and
- not otherwise disqualified by law from voting.

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

Non-resident property electors must produce a non-resident property elector certificate and 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity.

Non-resident property elector certificates can be obtained for the Village of Silverton at the Village office during regular office hours prior to 4:00 pm, the Village of New Denver at the Village office during regular office hours prior to 4:00 pm, and the Regional District of Central Kootenay at the RDCK office during the regular office hours prior to 4:30 pm on Friday, November 18, 2005. On advance and general voting days, certificates can be obtained by presenting the **CERTIFICATE OF TITLE** and the **CONSENT FORM** from all other owners of the property (if applicable) and **2 PIECES OF IDENTIFICATION** (at least one with a signature) for the Village of Silverton at the Silverton Memorial Hall, Village of New Denver at the Village of New Denver Council Chambers, and RDCK at the School District #10 Board Office in Nakusp during voting hours.

Advance Voting Opportunities
Advance voting will be open at the Silverton Memorial Hall, 212 Lake Ave, Silverton, BC, Village of Silverton Council Chambers, 421 Lake Ave, Silverton, BC, Village of New Denver Council Chambers, 115 Slocan Ave, and New Denver, BC on Wednesday, November 9, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm each day. The only persons permitted to vote at an Advance Voting Opportunity are those who, being duly qualified electors, sign a statement that:
- the elector expects to be absent from the Eastern Attendance Zone (New Denver, Silverton, Rosebery and Sandon (Enterprise Creek to Bonanza Creek including the rural area) on general voting day,
- the elector, for reasons of conscience, will be unable to vote on general voting day,
- the elector will be unable to attend a voting place on general voting day for reasons beyond their control,
- the elector has a physical disability or is a person whose mobility is impaired,
- the elector is a candidate or candidate representative, or
- the elector is an election official.

Special Voting Opportunity
A special voting opportunity will be open at Slocan Community Health Care Centre, 401 Galena Ave. New Denver, BC from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Saturday, November 19, 2005. Only those qualified electors who are patients or resident at the time of voting may vote at this special voting opportunity.

Rhonda Bouillet
Chief Election Officer

Scarecrow festival knocks the stuffing out of the valley!

Even scarecrows sometimes find themselves homeless. This one is camping out in the vicinity of Shoreacres.

Scarecrows of all sizes and shapes dotted the lower Slocan Valley in the past few weeks, bringing a smile to many a face. Some were part of Slocan Valley Recreation's annual festival and some just showed up. Scarecrows could be found from Shoreacres to the Village of Slocan.

"All the scarecrows were great this year," says Craig Lawrence, recreation co-ordinator. "I always get a little nervous wondering what will show up and every year I get knocked out by how creative people can be."

Awards this year were handed out as follows.

The Flynns' whimsical scarecrow display "The Ozbornes" won the Family Theme Award.

Peoples Choice Award

Linda Out for her incredibly creative use of brooms next to Jennie's Books!

Family Theme Awards

To the Flynns in Slocan Park for 'The Ozbornes'. What a great use of pumpkins.

Really Weird Award

To the Chatten family for their manically decorated Volvo. A true testament to creativity.

Most Life-Like Award

To the Bachelders in Winlaw, where the scarecrows were so real even the Rec dog went over for a pat!

Creative Kids Award

Goes to Kelee Mobey and her friendly creation in the CSCU.

Honourable mention for their great efforts are also extended to: Theresa Gregor, Shirley & Julian Pooachoff, Eggcetera Feeds, David Kermociev, Emily & Anna Wilder, and the Mercers.

Thanks everyone. It's not too early to start thinking up an idea for next year!

Familiar race in Area D election

Current director Larry Greenlaw will run again against Andy Shadrack, his opponent during the 2002 elections. In 2002, it was very close between these two, with Greenlaw receiving 52% and Shadrack receiving 48% of the vote.

Larry Greenlaw (incumbent)

The most important issue facing Area D at this time is the election.

It is very important for the people of Area D to elect a non-partisan, unbiased candidate who will represent everyone's interests and concerns.

All of the issues concerning Area D are and always have been very important to me. This is my home.

There are many things that I have been involved in and worked on. The people have told me that my greatest accomplishment has been to provide them with equitable representation and fair allocation of funding throughout the entire area.

Andy Shadrack

I have the time, energy and commitment to serve the diverse needs of all residents in Area D. My opponent is appreciated for community services he has provided. I believe we can go further by enhancing those services with additional provincial and federal funding for the entire regional district.

I have the knowledge, experience and vision to help the regional district and Area D residents develop a long term plan for our community in health/transportation, housing, municipal and recreational services, and for our economy. As your director I would enjoy bringing people together to work on that future.

Mask-makers Paul Gibbons and Tsuneko Kokubo ham it up at their sale at the Hidden Garden Gallery.

Sleddogs to play Wylie's in Nakusp

The sleddog concept had originally been nothing more than one prairie born, singer/songwriters roadmap designed to escape the monotonous world of day to day solo projects and artist targeted songwriting. By the early winter of 2004 the current musical foursome was assembled for the first time in an underground garage on the south slopes of Kelowna, activating the initial plan; the electrifying chemistry was instant. In a relatively short time these small town Canadian boys have put together an extensive catalogue of vocally driven tunes, with catchy hooks and intelligent lyrics. Growing up with the airwaves and turntables of the 70's and 80's, the band is influenced by a wide variety of artists with a stronger than normal Canadian makeup. A typical sample of a sleddog CD collection looks like this: The Guess Who, Bowie, The Hip, The Eagles, Rush, Tom Cochrane, April Wine, Harlequin, Simon & Garfunkel, Sheryl Crow, U2, Neil Young, Bruce Cockburn and Sam Roberts. The sleddog sound is vocally dominated, supported by driving retro-grooves and innovative sculptured guitar riffs. Principal songwriters, Kenny Byrka and Arlen Park continue to churn out material for the band to work into their growing repertoire. Having spent a number of years writing for publishing, being prolific is not a concern for these guys.

"About 2 in every 5 songs is a sleddog song, the rest might be reworked at a future date but it's simply easier to create something fresh and more appropriate for the sleddogs sound which has been evolving as we continue to experiment with our sound…there is currently enough material for at least 4 albums. When Arlen and I present a song to the guys we know whether it will happen or not within a few minutes…Mike is great at assessing the new material and finding ways to help in term of arrangements and overall dynamics…Eric always supports the song…no worry about ego trip drum fills with him"

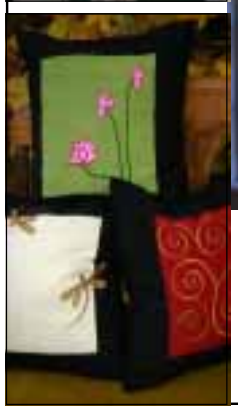
With the first CD now completed, the sleddogs have been unleashed into the entertainment marketplace. Their contagious set list of radio friendly originals, their highly skilled musicianship, wit and charismatic stage appeal have been the main reason for their ever increasing fan base and much talked about performances. The four piece band consisting of Kenny Byrka (bass, vocals and keyboard), Arlen Park (rhythm guitar and vocals), Michael Donley (lead guitar and backing vocals, and Eric Funk (drums, percussion and backing vocals), credit their rising popularity with their prolific writing abilities and their cohesive band chemistry.

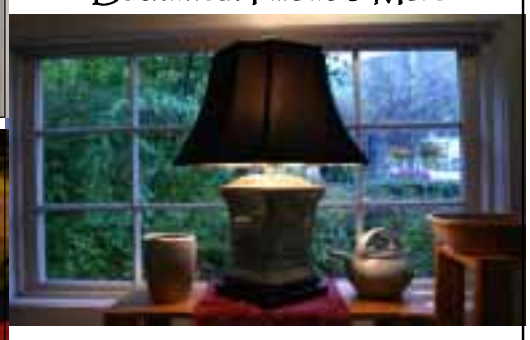
"We are on the same page in every way…we just wanna keep writing great songs and performing our material any where we can so that people get a chance to make a decision on this whole project…at the end of the day your fan base will tell you if you rock or you suck…you can't turn rock fans onto your sound if you sit in your basement waiting for the musical gods to make things happen…we don't need to be kicked in the ass, all of the dogs are extremely ready to dig into this thing and make it happen "

The sleddogs are a highly marketable commodity on their way to becoming a national and international success in the music world.

Raven's Nest

Hemp Clothing
Pottery, Lamps, Pajamas, Jewelry,
Hemp Oil Cosmetics,
Buckwheat Pillows & More





310 - 6th Ave (Main St)
New Denver, BC
Phone 358-2178
Hours 9:30—4:30
Closed Mondays

Cleaning Out Your House?

Keep in mind the Slocan Valley Threads Guild!

The SVTG is now accepting donations for our Mid-April YARD & YARDAGE SALE of

YARDAGE: fibres, yarns, old sheets, fabrics and drapes; crafting tools, books, magazines and supplies; sewing tools and notions, etc.

Also YARD Goods: plants; seeds; gardening tools and ornaments.

This is the SVTG's annual fundraiser. Call to have your donations picked up.
Lynnda 352-3085; Sharon 226-7703; JC 355-2475

The Slocan Valley Threads Guild meets at Perry's Siding the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Next meeting November 9th. Calling all those interested in Fibre Arts, various levels of experience welcome.

Silverton voters have choice in November 19th Village election

Eight people are in the race in Silverton, with two vying for the office of mayor and six for the four councillor seats.

John Everett and Ken Poznikoff are the two mayoral candidates.

Two sitting councillors (Michael Dorsey and Linda Laktin) are running.

John Everett (candidate for mayor)

Silverton council has been in turmoil for the last two years with a number of changes to council and its employees. It is now time to bring the community together and move forward through open and transparent government. We need to concentrate on building our community, protecting our quality of life and the environment while finding ways to entice new families and promote local business. Part of that process is improving the communication infrastructure.

I am running for mayor because a number of local citizens encouraged me to run. After some serious consideration, I felt it was important that people have a choice. My background working for a large not for profit society in finance and fund development gives me the experience of working with diverse groups and many levels of government.

Ken Poznikoff (candidate for mayor)

Not available to answer our questions before deadline.

Bert Butchart (candidate for councillor)

In my first year in Siverton I am hearing about the ongoing problem of our schools and keeping our young people here and employed. One of the suggestions is business by internet. Although this is a good suggestion, it is by no means the only solution. We on council should try to investigate all means of attracting new business and investment in our community.

I would like to see a little more pride in our village, such as the beautification of our main street, the upgrading of our campground, and I believe we could use a band shell to take advantage of our beautiful summer celebrations outdoors.

Carol Bell (candidate for councillor)

I think it is the responsibility of every person to do whatever they can to serve their community. I have been active in the larger community since arriving in 1991. I believe I have the time and capacity to evaluate policies, make decisions and act in the best interests of the residents of Silverton. I plan to familiarize myself with Silverton Village policies and procedures and with what the important issues are.

Michael Dorsey (candidate for councillor)

Silverton needs to attract and sustain an improved business and tourist economy, and with the co-operation of groups, home-based businesses and storefront merchants. I would try to bring better communication services, and more incentives for the citizens.

During the first half of my tenure as councillor (three years), I worked with RDCK and adjacent municipalities on hospital issues, and expanded and combined fire services for the area. I served on committees for Waste Management, Land Use, Economic Development, and Parks & Trails. I have supported the Village's upgrades in technology and equipment, and have been working to bring broadband to Silverton.

Stephanie Griffiths (candidate for councillor)

Silverton is my home. Participation in this election is important to learn about the municipality that I live in. It is important to be an effective community member and community voice. I am dedicated to learning the issues that face Silverton and the upcoming council members. I can offer fair representation and action on their behalf. I am willing to commit my time, energy and ability for the duration of this term. I am running because it would be an honour to be elected to serve my community.

Linda Laktin (candidate for councillor)

As a long-time resident, I would like to continue to see a healthy and stable community.

Kathy Provan (candidate for councillor)

My decision to run as a councillor for Silverton is motivated by a desire to contribute to the community. In the past four years, I have been involved in many community projects, societies and committees. I have attended nearly all of the council meetings and believe I am fairly well versed in most public issues facing Silverton. Co-operation and economic strategies are important issues that the Village needs to address. I would like to see more dialogue between Village council, various interest groups and local residents to develop a co-operative atmosphere and an exchange of ideas.

Familiar faces run for Slocan council

Mayor John Van Bynen, who was acclaimed in a byelection early this year and sworn in on March 29, has been acclaimed once again. All incumbent councillors are running again, and Jean Patterson has submitted her name to make it a race.

Joanne Ellis (incumbent councillor; candidate for councillor)

The most important issue facing Slocan is long-term viability as a small rural municipality both in terms of our ability to attract low impact businesses and new residents who can earn a living. Long-term planning through the creation of an Official Community Plan, finishing the boat dock, the wellness centre, and working towards seniors housing while attracting sustainable businesses are areas we can work on together to create a healthy community.

I would like to continue to work with council and citizens to complete the initiatives that we started.

John Gates (incumbent councillor; candidate for councillor)

This council has worked very well as a team and has accomplished a lot in the past term of office. I am proud to be a part of it.

I think that economic diversification is the main issue facing Slocan. How to attract green, environmentally friendly small businesses is the main problem. We have been looking at putting in a small hydro plant on Springer Creek. This, along with fairly inexpensive land and a reduced tax rate for a specific length of time, is a way of attracting businesses. Also, access to higher speed Internet services, which we now have, means anyone could conduct business from here. The wellness centre with a doctor in the village and the health facility in New Denver play an important part in making our community a desirable place to live.

Jean Patterson (candidate for councillor)

The most important issue facing our new village council is planning. Careful planning is needed to decide what infrastructure best suits our future needs, make the best use of staff time, beautify our village and make lasting repairs.

Remember, council's job is to spend taxpayers' money wisely. Talking to citizens, other councillors, staff and visitors to hear ideas would be my way of starting. The information would be discussed, making sure council covers all the angles, so we'd finally make good decisions. If we all work together, we can have a village everyone is proud of!

Madeleine Perriere (incumbent councillor; candidate for councillor)

Slocan is in a transitional phase. I want to continue the improvements in the village such as the clean up, the planning for the future, increasing tourism with the trail and the paddlewheeler, plus seniors' housing. Also we need to explore new ways to generate revenues.

The best accomplishment of this past council is that we worked as a team. I believe we are looking at the big picture instead of isolated projects, and we improved communications with the people in Slocan. We had lots of public meetings and always valued the input of the citizens.

Marc Septav (incumbent councillor; candidate for councillor)

Not available to answer our questions before deadline.

Our new Fall Giftware has arrived !

Come in and Check out our brand new giftware lines and have a great Cappuccino or Latte while you shop.

Relaxus Ionic Mist Lamps * Great Winter Slippers * Cool Clocks and Watches * New Crystals * Kids T-Shirt Painting Kits * Plush Toys * Nite Shirts * Safety Vests * Organdy Lamps * Candles * Jewelry * Caps * Travel Mugs * Gym Balls * Stress Busters

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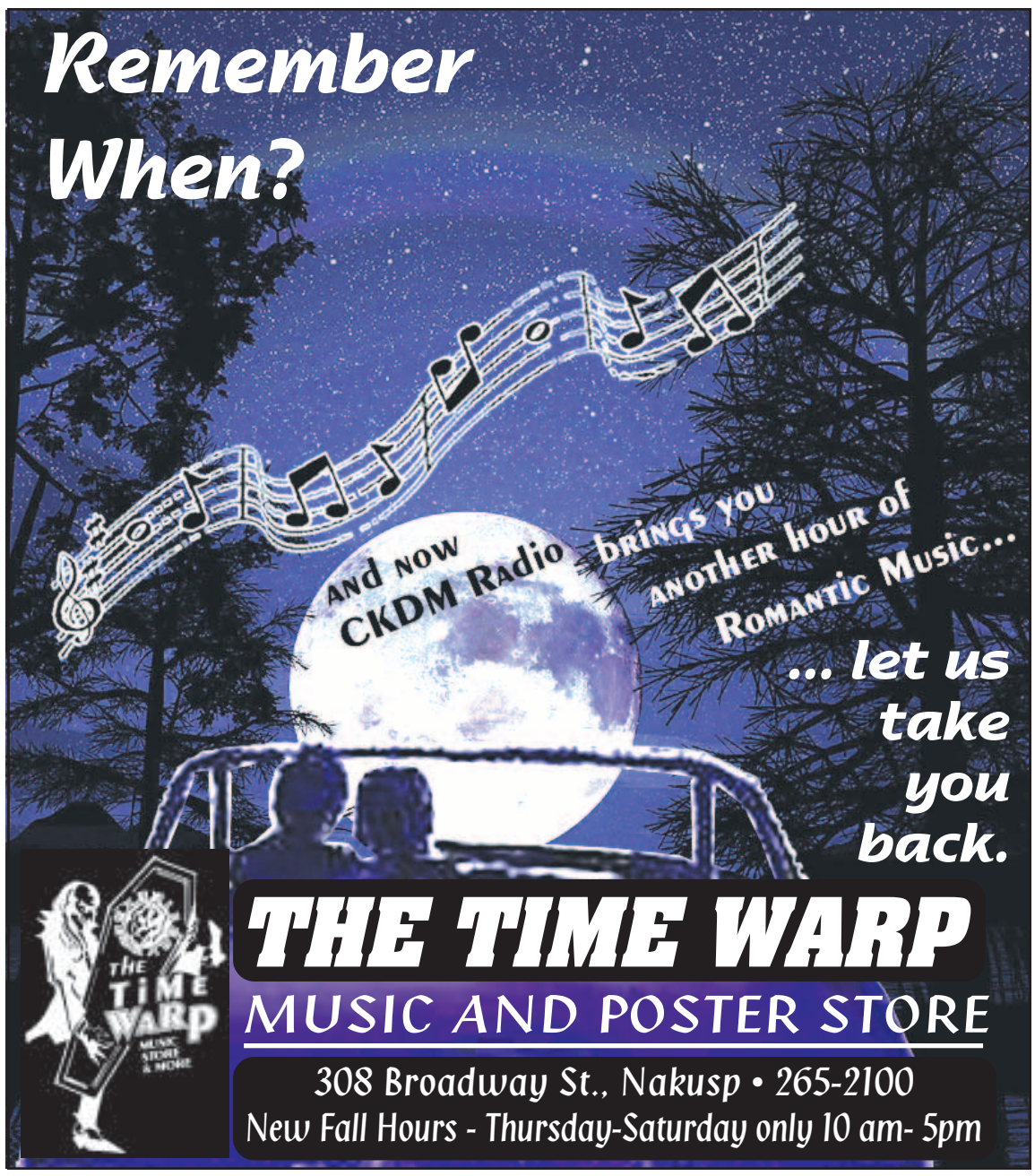


ALAC presents *An Intimate Evening with Michael Kaeshammer*

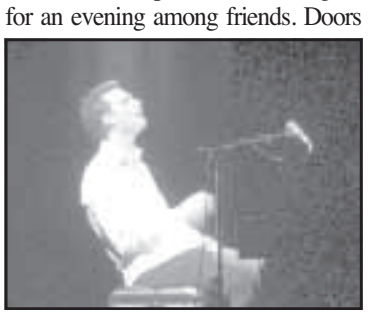
Four years ago Nakusp was surprised and thrilled to hear a rising new star performing boogie-woogie piano. Michael Kaeshammer has since gone on to wow many audiences throughout Canada, the US and Europe. The Arrow Lakes Arts Council was thrilled to pick up an opening in his tour in BC this fall and so he is returning to the Bonnington to perform in a 'special event' concert on Monday, November 7. This concert is not part of our concert series so all seats will be unreserved. As Kaeshammer's concert sold out last time, you need to get your tickets early.

Kaeshammer is one of the most exciting young jazz pianists in the country today. Still in his mid-20s, he has released a series of award winning, critically acclaimed recordings and has developed a large, international following through his dynamic live performances.

As a charismatic performer who was classically trained in Germany, he fell in love with boogie-woogie piano at the age of 13. By the time his family moved to Canada four years later, he was a veteran of the German club, concert and jazz festival circuit.

With each new recording he releases, he digs deeper into the jazz tradition while carving out his own unique musical vision. On his latest CD, *Strut*, Kaeshammer follows-up the New Orleans-inspired *No Strings Attached* with an even deeper, funkier and more playful exploration of the music's roots.

Come and join us on Monday, November 7, 8 pm in the Bonnington for an evening among friends. Doors open at 7:30 pm. Tickets are available at the Broadway Deli or at the door the evening of the concert. ALAC offers special tickets for piano students at $10; get your coupon from your teacher or call Marilyn Massey at 265-4087.



Jazz pianist Michael Kaeshammer plays the Bonnington Arts Centre November 7.

The Arrow Lakes Arts Council presents:

In performance at the
BONNINGTON ARTS CENTRE

An Intimate Evening with Michael Kaeshammer

MONDAY, NOV. 7th at 8:00 pm

Tickets are $15 Adults and $12 Seniors/Children

Special $10 rate for piano students with coupon

Available at Broadway Deli or at the door.

Doors open at 7:30 pm.

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Seven candidates go for SD#10 trustee seats

The election of School District No. 10 trustees is set up slightly differently this year. There will be one trustee voted in from each of the three zones and two trustees at large.

Pattie Adam, the incumbent trustee for the central zone (Nakusp) has been acclaimed, but the race is on for the four other seats.

Bill Hilton (At large)

I believe the most important issue facing our school district is the funding shortfalls created by declining student enrollment. Schools and our education system are cornerstones of every community regardless of size. Rural districts struggle with pressures on their budgets whereas city districts don't. I feel it is important to keep this issue at the forefront of discussions with the government to keep our schools open and the learning playing field level.

I am running for trustee because I firmly believe that the education of our children is one of the most important building blocks in our society today.

Paul Peterson (At large - incumbent)

The Funding Allocation System to school districts is extremely flawed and doesn't go anywhere near addressing small rural districts' needs. The past two provincial governments have done little to nothing to address this problem because in their political agenda these districts are not in areas that elect governments. The votes are in the larger urban areas. As a single trustee there isn't anything I can do except make some noise and not buy into the political rhetoric of any BC Government and the BCTF. Working with the board as a whole and other boards to keep the message clear is all we have. "The kids come first and deserve equity whether they live in Fauquier, Rosebery or Vancouver."

Judy Struck (At large - incumbent)

Even though the school board has no control over it, declining enrollment is always an issue in a small district. Juggling staff and courses to best serve our students is a huge challenge. Providing the best education has to be our first priority. In my experience as a trustee, I have always kept that in mind when making decisions that affect students. I hope to continue this practice in the future.

Lora Lee Brekke (Eastern Zone - incumbent)

The most important issue facing School District #10 is declining enrollment and, as a result, the per-student funding we receive. There are many approaches to providing programs for the students — sports, specialized learning, elective programs for high school students — that I would like to see the board work with the different groups to develop. The current board has included high school students in our committee meetings so they can have input. I would like to see more parent involvement in the Parent Advisory Councils at each school so that they can gain more knowledge about their schools.

Hans Suhr (Eastern Zone)

As a member of this valley, I believe in public education. I see education as an important tool for developing citizens who will benefit our society in future years. It is imperative to maintain educational excellence and effective communication with all stakeholders to realize this goal. My extensive work experience with various legislation and government regulations along with my ongoing university education in the field of labour relations and human resources affords a level of insight into the dynamics of the employment relationship and government system which I believe would be of asset to the people of this valley.

Edward McGinnis (Southern Zone)

The most important issue facing School District #10 is continued underfunding of public education by the provincial government. The funding formula does not adequately compensate school districts for the added costs of a widely dispersed and decreasing student population. There is immense pressure on the superintendent and school board to lay off classroom teachers or replace them with low paid hourly assistants. Professional services for kids has been cut to bare bones levels.

Important educational choices are being made, not on the basis of what is best for public education, but according to the fact of shrinking budgets and steadily increasing costs. I would restore transparency here and lobby for better support for our children and public education.

Quinn DeCourcy (Southern Zone)

I think the biggest problem the school district faces is underfunding.

I have worked with the Southern Zone Parent Advisory Council for the last year and I have children in the system, so I'm interested in what goes on and am motivated to do a good job.

SCHOOL DISTRICT #10 (ARROW LAKES), SOUTHERN ATTENDANCE ZONES

NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given to the electors of the School District #10 (Arrow Lakes) Southern, Attendance Zones that an election by voting is necessary to elect One School Trustees for a three-year term commencing December 2005 and terminating December 2008, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

School Trustee - One (1) to be elected

Surname	Usual Names	Jurisdiction of Residence
DeCOURCY	Quinn	1420 Innonoaklin Rd, Edgewood, BC
McGINNIS	Edward	7826 Starlite Rd, Fauquier, BC

GENERAL VOTING DAY will be open to qualified electors of the School District #10 (Arrow Lakes) Southern Attendance Zones on Saturday, November 19, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at the following locations:

Burton Elementary School	219 Burton School Road, Burton, BC
Fauquier Communication Centre	344 Spruce Street, Fauquier, BC
Edgewood Elementary School	409 Monashee, Edgewood, BC

Elector Registration

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

- 18 years of age or older
- Canadian citizen
- resident of BC for at least 6 months immediately preceding voting day
- resident of OR registered owner of real property in the Southern Attendance Zone (Burton, Fauquier, Edgewood (Arrow Park Cenotaph to Wauchope Creek including the rural area) for at least 30 days immediately preceding voting day, and
- not otherwise disqualified by law from voting.

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

Non-resident property electors must produce a non-resident property elector certificate and 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity.

Non-resident property elector certificates can be obtained for the Regional District of Central Kootenay at the RDCK office during the regular office hours prior to 4:30 pm on Friday, November 18, 2005. On advance and general voting days, certificates can be obtained by presenting the **CERTIFICATE OF TITLE** and the **CONSENT FORM** from all other owners of the property (if applicable) and **2 PIECES OF IDENTIFICATION** (at least one with a signature) for the RDCK at the School District #10 Board Office in Nakusp during voting hours.

Advance Voting Opportunities

Advance voting will be open at Fauquier Communication Centre, 344 Spruce Street, Fauquier, BC the on Wednesday, November 9, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm each day. The only persons permitted to vote at an Advance Voting Opportunity are those who, being duly qualified electors, sign a statement that:

- the elector expects to be absent from the Southern Attendance Zone (Burton, Fauquier, Edgewood (Arrow Park Cenotaph to Wauchope Creek including the rural area) on general voting day,
- the elector, for reasons of conscience, will be unable to vote on general voting day,
- the elector will be unable to attend a voting place on general voting day for reasons beyond their control,
- the elector has a physical disability or is a person whose mobility is impaired,
- the elector is a candidate or candidate representative, or
- the elector is an election official.

Rhonda Bouillet
Chief Election Officer

SCHOOL DISTRICT #10 (ARROW LAKES) CENTRAL ATTENDANCE ZONES

NOTICE OF ELECTION BY ACCLAMATION

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given to the electors of the School District #10 (Arrow Lakes) Central Attendance Zones that an election by acclamation for School Trustee for a three-year term commencing December 2005 and terminating December 2008, and that the person nominated is acclaimed:

Surname	Usual Names	Jurisdiction of Residence
ADAM	Pattie	119 7th Ave NW, Nakusp BC

Declared at 4:00 pm
at Nakusp, British Columbia
this 24th of October, 2005

Rhonda Bouillet
Chief Election Officer

Nakusp council, October 13: Stop work order for waterfront wall

by Jan McMurray

•Council discussed concerns about a retaining wall that has recently been constructed along the waterfront without a building permit or a development permit, and that is partly on Village property. Council voted to put a stop work order on the construction and asked staff to clarify with the owners whether or not they had permission.

Councillor Curran was very concerned about the integrity of the wall, which he said was already leaning to one side. He said he suspected the footing or planter that the wall sits on would not be able to take the weight. "If something were to happen to that wall, I believe we would be liable," he said. Curran reported that he had spoken with the building inspector, who believed a stop work order should be issued until an engineering study was done.

Councillor Dahlen said she spoke with some residents who had done work on the waterfront and who had to follow strict guidelines. The Village has special guidelines for any development along the waterfront and requires an application for a development permit to make sure those guidelines are adhered to.

Councillor Hamling asked if staff had been consulted. Clerk/treasurer Richard Mahoney said that they were asked about the wall in late spring or early summer, but did not see plans or drawings. He said they investigated it with the building inspector and determined that a building permit was not required. "At that stage, we didn't talk about a development permit at all. That was my oversight," he said.

Mayor Cowan said that "there are two sides to every story" and "let's find out if they had permission to use that portion of the wall." He said that the property owners received a letter from the Village regarding unsightly premises Their intent was to clean up the property.

Councillor Hamling said, "I don't think we would ever have approved it if drawings had come forward."

•Council decided not to enter into a five-year ice rental agreement with the Danny Gare Hockey School. At the last council meeting (Sept. 22), council received a request to rent the ice to the school for $2750 for the one week it runs in August for the next five years. This would match the price the school pays for ice time in Nelson. Resident Gord Roberts also attended the last meeting as a delegation to say he believed that the Village should not be subsidizing the school. Council asked staff to provide a cost analysis and more information for this Oct. 13 meeting.

A revenue/expense sheet showed that the school costs the Village about $3000 each year. Superintendent Jason Chernoff reported that the school's use of the rink was taking its toll on the concrete slab, which was built for ice for the six-month period between November 16 and March 16. He said the slab was 26 years old, had a maximum lifespan of 30-35 years, and that it would cost between $350,000 and $610,000 to replace. Mahoney reported that there were no funds allocated for this. Hamling asked that this be brought forward to budget discussions. Curran and Dahlen also pointed out that there was no comparison to Nelson, as the ice there is used much more. Opening the rink in August in Nakusp means that there is a month when the ice is not being used. Hamling said, "I don't think Minor hockey and Figure Skating would be too happy unless we're subsidizing them to the same extent." She said she was not in favour of entering into an agreement unless there was cost recovery for the Village.

•Council voted to contribute up to $4000 of its recently announced tourism funding to the International Selkirk Loop (ISL) project, as long as Nakusp is included in the promotion of the ISL. The ISL is a driving tour that goes through northern Idaho, Washington and southern BC. The project, put forward by the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK), is to establish a Canadian office for the ISL Tourism Society and to hire a Canadian Operations/Marketing Director. The funding is being distributed through the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM). Nakusp's allotment is $19,091.54.

•Council amended Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 596, so that only the non-business portion of properties owned by non-profits would be exempted, and gave it three readings.

The bylaw allows for tax exemptions for non-profit, athletic and service club organizations as well as for Halcyon Home and the day care centre. Last year, the Straight Arrow Youth Ops Society (SAYOPS) was granted the exemption for the Green Door property. This year, council received a letter from eight Nakusp businesses opposed to the exemption for SAYOPS because it is "running and operating a profitable business in competition with many of the local businesses." They say they feel it is only fair that SAYOPS pay taxes just as they do. Cowan said he thought SAYOPS was doing good work, but that its pizza business was in direct competition with other businesses. "Part of the reality of business is taxation."

Hamling pointed out that with the Legion, there is no tax relief for the lounge, but there is for the hall. She said that perhaps an arrangement like that could be made for SAYOPS, as the youth centre side of the building was used for non-profit purposes. Council amended the bylaw accordingly.

•Karl Bender attended as a delegation on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce. to present concerns about the Village discontinuing its annual $6000 fee for service to the Chamber. He distributed a report with financial information and statistics on the Visitor Information Centre and said, "I hope the Village recognizes the importance of the Chamber and especially the InfoCentre." He said the Chamber wanted the fee for service reinstated and the opportunity to be involved with such decision making.

Hamling explained that the whole thing was a misunderstanding. She said that when the Chamber proposed to lease the campground, most of council understood that the lease would be in lieu of the $6000. Later in the meeting, council voted to re-instate the $6000, acknowledging the valuable work the Chamber does and the income it generates for the community.

•Resident Stan Fellows attended as a delegation to speak about water restrictions. He said he read about the possible installation of water meters in Nakusp and felt the Village wasted a lot of water with its sprinklers. In response to his questions, Chernoff said that the Village has about 175 sprinkler heads, regulated by automatic timers, that put out 5-25 gallons per second. He said the Village followed the same restrictions as the residents by watering every other day during the dry period, and for just 22 minutes. He said the gardens were an exception because of tourists, and were watered every day if needed. Chernoff said it was a particularly difficult season because the Kuskanax was too low to draw water from and said the Village was working on bringing a well behind the arena into operation rather than pursuing the water meters.

Fellows also spoke about dogs running loose on the waterfront. Councillor Dahlen said that the Village had a contract with the RDCK for an animal control officer, who should be dealing with this. Councillor Hamling suggested the Village look into the 'doggy doo bag dispensers' that New Denver has. This will be part of budget discussions.

•Chernoff reported that Rod Power of RC Power & Associates had visited the hot springs site on October 4 to view development sites and establish values for those areas of the property. Also, a contract with Kala Groundwater Engineering Ltd. has been signed for source enhancement work. Chernoff explained that the work is necessary because there are drainage issues. Cold creek water is mixing into the main source. An enclosure is needed to protect the source from vandalism.

•Mayor Cowan reported that he and Councillor Dahlen had met with the Minister of Transportation at the UBCM convention about the Needles Bridge. "He said quite frankly it doesn't look good," said Cowan. "He has a hard time putting out that much money for 400 vehicles per day." Cowan said he reminded him that the bridge was a promise and a commitment 40 years ago and by today's premier as well. "It may be time to take a more political avenue," he said, noting that there is a videotape of the premier making the promise and suggesting that the local MLA could bring it forward in the legislature. Council will write to Evans to ask him to do this.

•Cowan also reported that he had met with the Minister of Forests at UBCM regarding Community Forest. He said the number of communities that have operating community forests is very small and that the annual allowable cut ranges from 3,000 to 20,000 m^3. "So 10,000 cubic metres might not be the slap in the face that we thought and it might open the door," he said, referring to a discussion in the spring with then MLA Blair Suffredine, who indicated that Nakusp might get 10,000 m^3.

Councillor Hamling said that the community forest group had concluded that 10,000 m^3 from the area examined, which has a lot of hemlock and sensitive areas, was not viable and asked Cowan, "Are we comparing apples with apples?" Cowan said they should look at the MacDonald and Caribou Creek areas and said the Ministry was looking at a land rental system instead of a stumpage rate. He also suggested partnering with Canadian Mountain Holidays because they will be doing ski run work.

•Councillor Curran reported on a discussion regarding the Fighting Back Fund (FBF) at a Nakusp and Area Development Board meeting. The group had wanted to know if the FBF would be willing to drop the court case if the Province promised to seek no legal retribution. Cowan reported that the FBF's legal counsel had submitted a writ to the Crown and were waiting for a response before reimbursing funds.

VILLAGE OF NAKUSP
NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given to the electors of the Village of Nakusp that an election by voting is necessary to elect a Mayor & four Councillors for a three year term commencing December 2005 and terminating December 2008, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

Mayor - One (1) to be elected

Surname	Usual Names	Jurisdiction of Residence
Cowan	Bill	Nakusp, BC
Hamling	Karen	Nakusp, BC

Councilor - Four (4) to be elected

Surname	Usual Names	Jurisdiction of Residence
Bender	Karl	Burton, BC
Curran	Wally	Nakusp, BC
Dahlen	Janis A.	Nakusp, BC
Gillette	Herb	Nakusp, BC
Heppner	Len	Nakusp, BC
Janzen	John Isaac	Nakusp, BC
Mueller	Ulli	Nakusp, BC
Roberts	Gord	Nakusp, BC

The following question will also be submitted to the electorate within the Village of Nakusp:

"Are you in favour of changing the official name of the Village of Nakusp to the Village of Nakusp Hot Springs? Yes or No?

GENERAL VOTING DAY will be open to qualified electors of the Village of Nakusp on Saturday, November 19, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at the following location:

Nakusp Sports Complex Auditorium – 100-8th Avenue NW, Nakusp, BC

Elector Registration

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

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

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

Non-resident property electors must produce a non-resident property elector certificate and 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity.

Non-resident property elector certificates can be obtained at the Village of Nakusp office at 91-1st Street during regular office hours prior to 4:30 pm on Friday, November 18, 2005.

If you qualify as a non-resident property elector and do not register in advance of voting day, you must apply for a "Certificate to Register" at the voting place and provide the following information at the time of application:

- Proof satisfactory to the official that the person applying will be entitled to register in relation to that real property at the time the person votes, and
- If applicable, the written consent from the other registered owners of the real property required, and
- A copy of the registered certificate of title, and
- Two pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) are now required from electors registering on voting day to prove both residency and identity of the elector.

Advance Voting Opportunities

Advance voting will be open at the Nakusp Sports Complex Lobby, 100-8th Avenue NW, Nakusp, BC on Wednesday, November 9, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm. The only persons permitted to vote at an Advance Voting Opportunity are those who, being duly qualified electors, sign a statement that:

- the elector expects to be absent from the Village of Nakusp on general voting day,
- the elector, for reasons of conscience, will be unable to vote on general voting day,
- the elector will be unable to attend a voting place on general voting day for reasons beyond their control,
- the elector has a physical disability or is a person whose mobility is impaired,
- the elector is a candidate or candidate representative, or
- the elector is an election official.

Special Voting Opportunity

A special voting opportunity will be open at the Arrow Lakes Hospital at 10:00 am and at the Halcyon Community Home at 9:00 am on November 19, 2005. Only those qualified electors who are patients or staff of Arrow Lakes Hospital or Halcyon Community Home at the time of voting may vote at this special voting opportunity.

Richard Mahoney
Chief Election Officer

Nakusp will elect council and vote on Village name, November 19

There is lots of interest in the upcoming election in Nakusp, with a total of ten people running. All five current council members are in the race.

Karen Hamling, who has a total of 10 years experience as councillor, is challenging incumbent Bill Cowan for the mayoral chair for the second time in a row. Cowan won by 49 votes in the last election and has served two terms as mayor.

Eight people are running for the four councillor seats.

At the polls, Nakusp voters will also vote yes or no to the following referendum question: "Are you in favour of changing the official name of the Village of Nakusp to the Village of Nakusp Hot Springs?"

Bill Cowan (incumbent mayor; candidate for mayor)

The most important issue facing Nakusp is a lack of young family income jobs which impact incredibly on school, hockey, figure skating and curling enrollment. This declining enrollment impacts the commercial core, affecting many secondary income jobs.

We have an opportunity to start some major residential development which would support 20 or more full-time young family income jobs. However, we need the desire of council to see this happen.

We also have the opportunity for development at the Nakusp Hot Springs that would generate many jobs, primary as well as secondary, and at the same time open up another four-month season for tourism in snowmobiling, cross country skiing and snowshoeing.

Karen Hamling (incumbent councillor; candidate for mayor)

The most important issues are the economy and growth of Nakusp and how we control growth, protect what we have and what is important to the community. People choose to live here because of the lifestyle it offers.

As mayor, I will keep council informed and work with council as part of a team. We will set goals and objectives to give us direction — something that has not occurred in the past six years. We will engage the community in a planning process to give direction. The last Official Community Plan was completed in 1993.

As a councillor representing the community, I insisted that the name change go to referendum so that the community can make the decision and not council.

Karl Bender (candidate for councillor)

The most important issue for Nakusp council is the wellbeing of Nakusp and its residents. To achieve this, we have to provide the right infrastructure, such as water and road accessibility to the village all year round. We must be ready for future development. We must make sure we can still provide the services that we do today in five years time by maintaining everything the Village owns: the arena, the rollerskate park, the park. I would like to work on a 5-7-year business plan for the Village so that we are ready for a prosperous future. As president of the Chamber of Commerce for two years and director for three years, and businessperson for 25 years, I feel I have a lot to offer.

Wally Curran (incumbent councillor; candidate for councillor)

I have been a Nakusp councillor for two years. I have represented myself well within the community and outside the community at AKBLG, UBCM and numerous other meetings.

A single councillor doesn't accomplish lofty goals; it is teamwork by a group of four councillors and the mayor. In a lot of instances, I work to be the voice of reason within the group to help us all work toward strong unified decisions.

A major issue facing Nakusp is controlled growth. We work hard to find the right areas for residential and commercial development, i.e. expanding our boundaries, working with Land & Water BC to open up some land for residential and commercial development. This process is ongoing and will likely continue with the next council.

Janis Dahlen (incumbent councillor; candidate for councillor)

Having been on council for the past two terms (six years), I see the re-vision of our Official Community Plan of most importance. The OCP has not been updated since 1993 and our village has seen a lot of growth and many changes in the past 12 years. To start this process, we need to involve the community. Through public meetings, we would establish a concrete vision of where Nakusp wants to go in the future. A revised OCP would give council a new policy framework which will serve as a basis in future decision making.

"Community goals and objectives established by the community for the community."

Herb Gillette (candidate for councillor)

If I were to be elected councillor, I would take the people's concerns to council. We have to get more people interested in what is going on in the Village. I would invite people to phone me or visit me to let me know their concerns.

I don't believe in too many *in camera* meetings. Sometimes council has to have them, but there shouldn't be too many, and the outcome of them has to come out into the open.

This will be the third time I have run for council. I am very interested in my town. Everywhere I go, I promote Nakusp.

Len Heppner (incumbent councillor; candidate for councillor)

During my two terms as councillor, I have dealt with various concerns such as a central handicap parking space, lowering the curbs on the sidewalks so that people in wheelchairs and women with baby strollers can access the sidewalks easier, and several major drainage issues, just to mention a few. If re-elected, I will continue to represent the people of Nakusp in the same open, fair and approachable manner as in the past.

John Janzen (candidate for councillor)

I am running for council because I think every citizen has a moral obligation to contribute to their community and I feel I could effectively contribute to Nakusp by sitting on municipal council. With my family grown and gone and full time employment not being a necessity, I now have the required time to be an effective councillor. This, along with my 20+ years working at the manager level in government and knowledge of local issues gained from nearly 25 years as a Nakusp property owner, I feel, as a councillor, I should be able to propose cost-effective and practical solutions that will make all citizens of Nakusp proud of their community.

Ulli Mueller (candidate for councillor)

As a long-term businesswoman and active community volunteer, I recognize planned community growth and development as our most pressing immediate concern.

My aim is to ensure that the benefits of development flow to all our residents. We need more affordable housing, especially for youth, young families and seniors. We must find ways to attract and retain jobs.

Recent sub-division proposals, ideas for development of our Hot Springs, the lack of affordable rental units and seniors' housing and care in our community are examples of the kinds of issues which will need to be addressed.

Our Official Community Plan (the rules for building and development in Nakusp) needs to be updated to deal with these changing times.

Gord Roberts (candidate for councillor)

I think the biggest issue facing Nakusp right now is electing a council that will work together with the people of the village towards common goals. Council has to work hard to diversify our economy. We lose more high paying jobs every year, whether in the forest industry, health care or education. We need to invite industry to our village to replace these jobs so our kids will have the same opportunity to raise their famillies in Nakusp as we did.

I am running for council 'cause the chicks dig it!

New Denver council acclaimed

The Village of New Denver is not having an election for the first time in the 18 years that Carol Gordon has been Chief Administrative Officer. The entire council has been acclaimed.

Gary Wright will begin his seventh term as mayor of New Denver when he gets sworn in yet again on December 5. Wright has been mayor since 1989. Gordon Brookfield, councillor since December 1990, will stay on and Ann Bunka will be back for a second term. New to the council are former publisher of *The Valley Voice* Bonnie Greensword and former editor of *The Valley Voice* Katrine Campbell.

Watch out, New Denver!

SD# 8 Trustees acclaimed

Long-time School District No. 8 trustees from the two electoral areas we cover have both been acclaimed. Penny Tees, trustee since 1990, continues in Slocan Valley/ Bonnington, and Pat Cattermole, trustee since 1993, continues in Kaslo/Area D.

Peterson acclaimed for Area K

With no challenger, Paul Peterson will serve a second term as Area K director. This is the third time he has run for the position.

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL KOOTENAY

KOOTENAY LAKE WEST
TRANSIT SERVICE

NOTICE OF ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Directors of the Regional District of Central Kootenay proposes to adopt **"Kootenay Lake West Transit Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1783, 2005"** which would authorize the establishment of a transit service to serve Electoral Areas and municipalities on the west side of Kootenay Lake, namely, Electoral Areas D, E, F, G, H, I, J and K and the municipalities of Castlegar, Kaslo, Nakusp, Nelson, New Denver, Salmo, Silverton and Slocan, and further, authorize a maximum taxation of $81,000 to cover the cost of providing this service.

AREA: The service area may be more particularly described as the "Kootenay Lake West Transit Service Area" and comprises Electoral Areas D, E, F, G, H, I, J and K and the municipalities of Castlegar, Kaslo, Nakusp, Nelson, New Denver, Salmo, Silverton and Slocan.

TAX IMPLICATIONS: The annual cost of providing the service shall be recovered by means of a property value tax to be imposed on the basis of the net taxable value of land and improvements in the service area in accordance with Sections 803(1)(a) of the Local Government Act to be collected under Section 806.

The maximum amount that may be requisitioned annually for the service shall not exceed $81,000. or $0.024/$1000. (Residential Rate of $0.017/$1000.) of the net taxable value of land and improvements, whichever is greater.

EXAMPLE OF PROPERTY TAX:

ASSESSED VALUE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY	TAXATION @ RESIDENTIAL RATE ($0.017/$1000.)
$70,000	$1.19
$100,000	$1.70
$150,000	$2.55
$200,000	$3.40

Please note:
Property classed "Utility" pays 3.5 times the residential rate indicated above.
Property classed "Business" pays 2.45 times the residential rate indicated above.
Property classed "Residential, Recreation & Farm" pays the residential rate indicated above.

ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS: Under Section 86 of the Community Charter, approval of the electors within the "Kootenay Lake West Transit Service Area" is being obtained by means of the Alternative Approval Process. Therefore, eligible electors within the service area **opposed** to establishing this service may petition against the adoption of Bylaw No. 1783 by signing an Elector Response Form which may be obtained from the Regional District of Central Kootenay Office.

At least 10% of electors must petition against the adoption of Bylaw No. 1783 prior to the deadline date which is at least 30 days after the last publication of this Notice in order to prevent the Board from proceeding with the Bylaw without the assent of the electors.

ELECTOR RESPONSE FORM: The Elector Response Form **must** be in the form established by the Board of Directors and is available from the offices of the Regional District of Central Kootenay during regular office hours or from the RDCK's website at "www.rdck.bc.ca."

WHO MAY SIGN THE ELECTOR RESPONSE FORM: Electors, either resident or owning property, within the boundaries of the "Kootenay Lake West Transit Service Area" are the only persons entitled to sign the Elector Response Form. An elector is a person who meets the requirements and qualifications defined by the *Local Government Act* as described in detail on the Elector Response Form. The Board of Directors has resolved that a fair estimate of the total number of electors in the subject area is 36,850. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 86(1)(c) of the Community Charter, 3,685 or more electors must sign the Elector Response Form to prevent the Board of Directors from proceeding with establishment of the service without the assent of the electors.

DEADLINE: The Elector Response Form must be received by the undersigned before 4:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, December 7, 2005.**

If you have any questions regarding this proposal or would like to request an Elector Response Form, please feel free to contact the undersigned. Information relating to this notice will also be available on the Regional District's website at www.rdck.bc.ca under "Public Notices."

Dated at Nelson, B.C. this 20th day of October, 2005.

Dawn Attorp, Manager of Corporate Administration
Regional District of Central Kootenay
Box 590, 202 Lakeside Drive, Nelson, BC V1L 5R4
Telephone: 352-6665 Toll Free: 1-800-268-7325 FAX: 352-9300

Peter Kanigan, B.A.
NOTARY PUBLIC
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Saturdays by appointment
tfn

Four candidates run for mayor in Kaslo elections, November 19

Kaslo has four candidates for the mayor's seat and five running for councillor. All five current council members are running again, with two (Donna Cormie and Jim Holland) challenging mayor incumbent Bob Douglas. Patrick Mackle, mayor from 1993-1996, is the fourth mayoral candidate.

Donna Cormie (incumbent councillor; candidate for mayor)

Planning for the future is the most important issue facing us in Kaslo. The development happening all around us in the West Kootenay is an indication of what we can expect here. We will have to direct the changes that are coming our way. Kaslo already has an Official Community Plan. We will need public meetings to open dialogue between council and interested citizens. During my three years as councillor, I have connected with people and organizations who are eager to help us move forward. I am happy to have been involved in getting power to the Kaslo Airport, which I believe will be a major asset to Kaslo and Area D.

Bob Douglas (incumbent mayor; candidate for mayor)

I would like to continue as mayor because there are things we have started during my tenure on council that I would like to see finished, such as the McDonald Creek water system, airport development, the emergency plan for Kaslo and Area D, the joint RDCK/RDKB composting project and getting the golf course off of treated water.

One important issue facing Kaslo at the moment is the offer to purchase the provincial building. I am against the purchase because the building has a cracked foundation and needs a new roof. Also, BCBC has not accepted our offer and asked us if we would consider throwing in five years free rent for the government agent.

Jim Holland (incumbent councillor; candidate for mayor)

The most important issue facing Kaslo is the need for long-term planning. We need to have a comprehensive review of the Official Community Plan (OCP). This 20+ year vision should have key measurable goals at 5, 10 and 15 years so that we can assess our successes; focus on the shortcomings; make adjustments as needed; and stay on the path of long-term planning. I would like to see a committee that would function in an open and public process and make recommendations to council, which would then be the foundation of the OCP review. This review would also be an open and public process. This "visioning" is not an easy task and will need the dedication of both the elected officials of the community and its citizens.

Patrick Mackle (candidate for mayor)

The economic boom that we are experiencing in Kaslo is expected to continue for the foreseeable future. We are also in the enviable position to see a reduction of almost $200,000 in our taxes next year. Proper planning can keep taxes down and at the same time use our money wisely when it comes to running the Village. Consequently we don't have to go begging to the provincial government for their money that comes with strings attached.

Kaslo needs leadership that will provide a sensible approach to planning and reasonable spending decisions and I am the person to provide it.

Suzan Hewat (incumbent councillor; candidate for councillor)

I feel the most important issue is to upgrade and maintain our current infrastructure. I feel that this can be done either through taxation (as much as anyone hates to see this, it is sometimes necessary), grants or possibly through a community bond issue. I feel we need to be proactive in this regard rather than reactive.

I am the newest member of council (since January 2005). I have used my initial term in office to familiarize myself with all that a councillor's job entails. I see our accomplishments as a council as a team effort. We are five people working for what we hope is the common good of our residents.

Richard Jones (candidate for councillor)

I serve as director of Kootenay/Boundary Crime Stoppers of BC; director of Mirror Lake Water Users Group; member of Kaslo Community Consultative Group. I retired to the Kaslo area (formerly District Manager for the mining sector of Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. Canada).

My platform: Work with the citizens of Kaslo to communicate their thoughts to council, and receive answers in a timely manner. Citizens deserve the right to see their tax money spent wisely. Insure that the bylaws of our community are upheld. Promote our local police force in order to uphold the law against drugs and abuse in our area. Promote local shopping. Promote our health care for all. Promote tourism in our community.

Molly Leathwood (incumbent councillor; candidate for councillor)

I think the most important issue facing Kaslo is providing a community that will attract families as well as seniors or early retirees. As a teacher and parent of young children, I think it is important to be able to keep the facilities we have in Kaslo, including the school, the arena, etc. I hope that we can retain Kaslo's uniqueness as well as encouraging development and progress. I do not want Kaslo to become like some other communities where people buy houses to live in for only parts of the year, and the community becomes unaffordable for families to move into.

Pete Vass (candidate for councillor)

I'm running for council because I love this place and want to be part of the solution. I ran for mayor in the last election.

I think the most important issue facing Kaslo is that the 911 system is broken. When we needed an ambulance, it took 32 minutes to get from the station to the cemetery. I will be in contact with our MLA to make sure an investigation from the top down answers two questions: What went wrong? and Who got fired? I want to ensure this never happens again.

Shannon Ross is running for council but was not available to answer our questions before deadline.

SCHOOL DISTRICT #10 (ARROW LAKES), EASTERN, CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN ATTENDANCE ZONES

NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY given to the electors of the School District #10 (Arrow Lakes) Eastern, Central and Southern Attendance Zones that an election by voting is necessary to elect Two at Large School Trustees for a three-year term commencing December 2005 and terminating December 2008, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

School Trustee At Large- Two (2) to be elected

Surname	Usual Names	Jurisdiction of Residence
HILTON	Bill	4852 Hwy 6, Burton BC
PETERSON	Paul	132 Burton Main Road, Burton BC
STRUCK	Judy	206 3rd Avenue NW, Nakusp BC

GENERAL VOTING DAY will be open to qualified electors of the School District #10 (Arrow Lakes) Eastern, Central and Southern Attendance Zones on Saturday, November 19, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at the following locations:

Silverton Memorial Hall	203 Lake Ave, Silverton, BC
Village of New Denver Council Chambers	115 Slocan Ave, New Denver, BC
Hills Community Hall	Hwy. 6, Hills, BC
Nakusp Arena Sports Centre Auditorium	200 8th Ave, Nakusp, BC
HMC Services Highway Maintenance Building	5960 Highway 31, Trout Lake, BC
Burton Elementary School	219 Burton School Road, Burton, BC
Fauquier Communication Centre	344 Spruce Street, Fauquier, BC
Edgewood Elementary School	409 Monashee, Edgewood, BC

Elector Registration

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

- 18 years of age or older
- Canadian citizen
- resident of BC for at least 6 months immediately preceding voting day
- resident of OR registered owner of real property in the School District #10(Arrow Lakes) Eastern, Central, and Southern Attendance Zone for at least 30 days immediately preceding voting day, and
- not otherwise disqualified by law from voting.

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

Non-resident property electors must produce a non-resident property elector certificate and 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity.

Non-resident property elector certificates can be obtained for the Village of Silverton at the Village office during regular office hours prior to 4:00 pm, the Village of New Denver at the Village office during regular office hours prior to 4:00 pm, for the Village of Nakusp at the Village office during regular office hours prior to 4:30 pm, and the Regional District of Central Kootenay at the RDCK office during the regular office hours prior to 4:30 pm on Friday, November 18, 2005. On advance and general voting days, certificates can be obtained by presenting the **CERTIFICATE OF TITLE** and the **CONSENT FORM** from all other owners of the property (if applicable) and **2 PIECES OF IDENTIFICATION** (at least one with a signature) for the Village of Silverton at the Silverton Memorial Hall, Village of New Denver at the Village of New Denver Council Chambers, Village of Nakusp at the Nakusp Arena Sports Centre Auditorium and RDCK at the School District #10 Board Office in Nakusp during voting hours.

Advance Voting Opportunities

Advance voting will be open at the Silverton Memorial Hall, 212 Lake Ave, Silverton, BC, Village of Silverton Council Chambers, 421 Lake Ave, Silverton, BC, Village of New Denver Council Chambers, 115 Slocan Ave, New Denver, BC, Nakusp Arena Sports Centre Auditorium, 200 8th Ave, Nakusp, BC and Fauquier Communications Centre, 344 Spruce Street, Fauquier, BC on Wednesday, November 9, 2005 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm each day. The only persons permitted to vote at an Advance Voting Opportunity are those who, being duly qualified electors, sign a statement that:

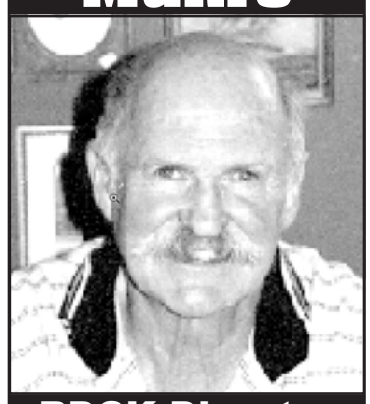
- the elector expects to be absent from the School District #10(Arrow Lakes) Eastern, Central, and Southern Attendance Zone on general voting day,
- the elector, for reasons of conscience, will be unable to vote on general voting day,
- the elector will be unable to attend a voting place on general voting day for reasons beyond their control,
- the elector has a physical disability or is a person whose mobility is impaired,
- the elector is a candidate or candidate representative, or
- the elector is an election official.

Special Voting Opportunity

A special voting opportunity will be open at Halcyon Community Home Society 83 8th Ave NW, Nakusp, BC from 9:00 am to 10:00 am and Slocan Community Health Care Centre, 401 Galena Ave. New Denver, BC and Arrow Lakes Hospital, 97 1st Ave NE, Nakusp, BC from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Saturday, November 19, 2005. Only those qualified electors who are patients or resident at the time of voting may vote at this special voting opportunity.

Rhonda Bouillet
Chief Election Officer

RE-ELECT
Don Munro



RDCK Director Area H Slocan Valley

Don's priorities for the next three years

✗ Continuing to support the work of community groups through fair and equitable allocation of grants.

✗ Continuing to improve Valley transit by expanding to provide mid-day and evening bus service. Initiating bus service to Krestova once the 3 year provincial freeze on expansion expires in March, 2006.

✗ Continuing to support the Economic Development Commission to promote economic growth, stability, diversity and the acquiring of high speed internet access for all Valley residents.

✗ Continuing to support our volunteer fire departments in helping to ensure safety for Valley residents.

✗ Continuing to work to ensure that residents have safe drinking water.

✗ Continuing to work toward a safer highway and river system for both residents and visitors.

✗ Continuing to work closely with the many Rails to Trails volunteers to make our trail a world-class experience.

✗ Continuing to maintain a reasonable rate of local taxation.

For continued responsive and responsible representation
RE-ELECT
Don Munro
ON NOVEMBER 19

Kaslo council, October 11: Public meeting to be held on provincial building

by Jan McMurray

•Real Estate Consultant Gary Cockrell sent council a detailed analysis of the appraisal for the provincial building done by BCBC. The report's conclusion states: "Even if this were a good investment, which it is not, it is an extremely complex one and well beyond Village Council's ability to analyze not to mention the voters, on such short notice with zero hard information." Council voted to hold a public meeting to inform citizens about its offer to purchase the building.

•Council received a memo from Deputy Clerk Susan Van Zandt with an updated quote on the cost of installing single phase power to the airport hangars. The total project cost estimate comes to $32,534.48 and only $26,500 was budgeted. Council voted to amend the 2005 budget to make up the shortfall, with the additional costs to be taken from the airport reserve account.

•Another memo from Van Zandt explains that the Kaslo Jazz Etc. Society owes the Village $2,000 because it committed in 2000 to pay the Village $3,000 over six years for power installation at Kaslo Bay Park. The Village has received $1,000 from the Society ($500 in 2000 and $500 in 2001) towards this project. Council directed staff to contact the Society to request payment of the account. Councillor Holland, Executive Director of the Society, excused himself due to a potential conflict of pecuniary interest for this item.

•Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Rae Sawyer emailed Jay Wollenberg of Coriolis Consulting to request a meeting with him. Discussion topics would include the development, sale and subdivision of Village-owned property and the review of Kaslo's Official Community Plan. Wollenberg emailed back with some idea of what his services would cost the Village. Council directed staff to research funding assistance available for planning projects.

•Barry Rempel attended as a delegation to speak about community forest activities, such as fire interface planning, area based tenure, operations and the Society's grant dispersal policies.

•In a memo to council, CAO Sawyer recommends that the Village hire Staples & Company to help with the process that would allow for municipal ticketing in Kaslo. She recommends that the law firm draft the necessary bylaw, and review Kaslo's animal control, noise abatement and business licencing bylaws to determine whether or not they are enforceable. She estimates the cost of this to be less than $800. Council approved her recommendation.

•Four requests from the Kaslo Trailblazer Society were granted. The Village will reimburse the Society $147 for dumping fees incurred by cleaning up part of Village property. Also, the Society was given permission to start construction of the portion of the Kaslo River Trail from the old dam site bridge along the south side of the river and back towards town, and to cross Village land to enter the old dam site access road to facilitate its construction work. The last approval was for the Society to put up a gate at the end of Railroad Avenue, where the trail begins. The gate will allow access for wheelchairs, but not vehicles. However, emergency vehicles will be able to enter. A similar gate is planned for the end of Arena Avenue.

•Allan Law of Clearwater Environmental Services wrote to council to advise that his contract with the Village for water and wastewater treatment plant operations expires March 6, 2006. He states that there will be a rate increase at that time. The letter was referred to the Administration and Finance Committee.

•A letter from Jamie Whitney, project coordinator for the community composting project, was referred to the Public Works Committee. Whitney asks for a letter of support stating the amount of in-kind contributions from the Village in 2006 and if the Village would cover general liability insurance for the project.

•The following resolutions from the September 19 Public Works Committee meeting were passed: building of a brush mower adapted to fit the loader be referred to 2006 budget deliberations; surface repairs to the airport hangar area and runway be done; a load of log firewood be donated to a community group for a fundraiser; two additional aggregate garbage bins for Front Street be referred to 2006 budget deliberations.

•The following resolutions from the October 5 Planning & Development Committee were passed: installation of a permanent electrical panel on the east side of the campground and a demand hot water system be referred to 2006 budget deliberations; calls for proposals to operate the campground be advertised again, eliminating the requirement to clean Moyie public washrooms and amending the park gate locking system; ornamental boulevard trees be ordered this fall for planting in the spring; the municipality make application for Community Tourism funding for $15,000 to put into a tourism reserve.

•A 5-year lease with the tennis club at $125 per year and a three-year lease with the golf club at $4000 per year will be signed.

•The Village will provide a letter of support to Nakusp regarding boat launch facility issues on the Arrow Lake reservoir.

•The Village approved sponsorship of the cost of a Royal Canadian Legion volunteer cemetery committee dinner held October 13.

•A $100 expense from the public education budget to the Kaslo Fire Department for Fire Prevention Week was approved.

•The Village will recommend to the RDCK that it purchase five videos recommended by the Crystal Meth Task Force Strategies Society and make the videos available to schools.

•Bylaw 1023, which re-zones a parcel of Village-owned vacant land to allow the golf course to acquire it for $1, was given two readings. A public hearing will be held November 8 at 4 pm in council chambers.

•Bylaw 1024, Tax Exemption Bylaw, was given three readings.

•Accounts payable in the amount of $44,149.39 was approved.

A personal message from Larry Greenlaw
Your Director for Area "D"

I would appreciate the priviledge of continuing to serve you for another term

My commitment is to the residents of Area "D." I do not have to find a balance of principles between a political party and your welfare. As a non-partisan candidate my loyalties are with you.

Born in Kaslo, I have been a resident of Area "D" most of my life.

I understand your values and expectations from the RDCK.

My years of experience as your Director of Area "D" enable me to get results quickly on projects or problems related to the RDCK.

My commitment is representing all the people of Area "D."

Being a candidate in elections is not a hobby of mine and neither is boasting about accomplishments.

Your questions or concerns are always important. Please contact me at 366-4492.

Thank you fot your continued support.

Please remember to vote on November 19th.

Eric's Meat Market & Deli
" Serving Kaslo and Area since 1942"
• Many Imported Items
• Freezer Packs
• Weekly In-Store Specials
• Domestic Venison & Organic Beef Available
• In-Store Deli Sandwiches To Go
• Awesome Cheese Selection
• Fresh & Smoked Sausage
• Smoked Salmon
• Custom Cutting of Pork & Beef
• Awesome Beef Jerky
425 Front Street, Kaslo
Ph/Fax: (250) 353-2436

Kaslo Skatepark Committee accepts donation from FortisBC

by Jill Braley

The Kaslo Skate Park Committee is well on its way with its plans for a new park, with funds totalling $125,000 and land donated by the village. The latest donation it received was $2,000 from FortisBC.

The committee hopes to hold a ground-breaking ceremony either this fall, or in the early spring.

The land is adjacent to Vimy Park, off the ring-road on a section of the beach. One of the conditions the village placed on the project was to have all the necessary funding in place before construction could begin.

As of August, the Kaslo Skate Park Committee had raised $92,000 in public donations and grant funding. The Kaslo & District Community Forest Society granted $25,000 and this past fall, the team was busy with fund raising activities, cutting and delivering 45 cords of wood to raise an additional $7,000.

The group is now eligible to have its application advanced to the Olympic/Paralympic Live Sites Program for matching funding for final consideration.

Corey Sinclair, Manager - Stakeholder Relations, FortisBC presents a $2,000 donation to members of the Kaslo Skate Park project. Accepting the donation is Seron Beattie, Youth President accompanied by David Wiebe, Adult President (far left) and Don Page, Adult V.P.

New librarian at Kaslo Public Library

by Jan McMurray

Debra Barrett is Kaslo Public Library's new librarian.

Barrett, former librarian at JV Humphries School in Kaslo for 22 years, is a long-time Kaslo resident who has recently been away for four years.

"I'm really happy to be back in Kaslo," she says. "It's a wonderful community. People work together — there's conflict, but they keep working together."

Barrett was hired in mid-August and says that the library is in the process of automating and of renovating the front desk area.

She says she wants to connect with other community services and host events that meet community needs such as seniors workshops, resume writing for people lacking job experience and story time for kids aged 8-11.

A special project now underway at the library is the binding and preservation of the life story of Kathleen Elder, who lived in Kaslo for many years. Elder wrote her story with the help of Selkirk College and donated it to the library before she died.

You Have a Choice For Regional District of Central Kootenay Director.

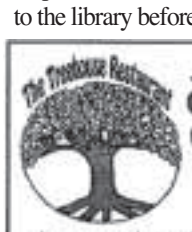
I'm Andy Shadrack and I'm running in Area D.

Why should you elect me?

- I am not afraid to speak up on your behalf
- I want to represent you to help ensure that all issues important to Area D residents are heard and addressed.
- I try to be a good listener. I believe in building bridges, not fences.

Look for me on your doorstep soon! Let's talk.

Authorized by Angus Paton, Financial Agent Elect Andy Shadrack Campaign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8:00 pm
Licensed
Located at the Heart of
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"Best Eggs Benedict Ever"
"Mexican, Salads,
Dinners, Wraps & Stir-Fry"

Get Outta Town!

with Peter Roulston

Fletcher Falls is easy to miss

Last week during one of those particularly rainy days, I couldn't face playing or doing chores outside, and ran out of indoor projects, so decided to screw it all and head over to Ainsworth for a hot soak. Hot springs work better on a foul day, and the day was still mild enough that there'd be no snow on the highway at Fish Lake summit. I took only my boots and umbrella in case there was someplace to walk.

After breakfast in Kaslo I realized that I'd not yet seen the new and improved Kaslo River Trail that leaves from the end of Railway Avenue right beside the creek. It was just a short walk across town to the well-signed trailhead, and this is a wonderful example of an excellent wheelchair-quality trail that follows the creekside and will eventually cross a bridge and loop back downtown. There is a steep spur path that leads up to the highway west of the village, and lots of signage and displays to show how this route will develop in coming months. Take an hour and you'll be most impressed.

En route to Ainsworth, the rain stopped and I remembered how attractive Fletcher Falls recreation site is from lake access, and decided to walk down to it from the highway. This is no secret that I'm exposing to the needy recreationalist, but simply another of our understated wild delights that some of us just haven't seen yet. About nine km south of Kaslo on Hwy 31 you'll see the small sign tacked to the back of an angled stop sign, with good parking in a tiny lot just off the highway under the powerline local access road. Luckily the road down to the lake has been gated, because this is only a ten minute walk and the very narrow road could wreck a lot of cars.

I suspect this steep old goat trail was likely an early access to some landing or dock down on the lake, and there are a few branch trails that depart from it, but realize that there is private land all around this place, and locals deserve their hard-won privacy. The walk down to the falls from the highway is spectacular and allows you to peer right down into the small gorge and cascade of water, but really mind your step, and the kids!! Various braided paths all drop down to the campsite and fine little beach with tables and toilets, firepits and such. This is a tidy and well-kept site with good southern aspects.

There's a sweet wooden bridge over the creek, and a walkway right into the base of the falls, with towering trees and imposing rock faces soaring up on all sides. A beautiful massive fallen cedar leans against the wall of the gorge, and the constant mist and damp have cultivated the usual blanket of mosses and lichens. The whole falls and creek area are quite safe, so restless kids can be given lots of freedom at this point. During the right hour of the day, depending on the time of year, you can get fabulous photos of the sun beaming in on the veil of falling water.

The rain was still generally holding off, so I rambled out along the beach which is pretty expansive at this low water time of the year. Nice views across the lake to Riondel and down to the point by Woodbury with some serious new snow up in the Purcells. There's an amazing open air gallery of stone figures here and improbably perched chunks of angular boulders that seem to defy both gravity and wind. You could easily run off a roll of film getting shots of all these bizarre rock sculptures with the lake as a backdrop in one of its many moods…

Before heading down to Ainsworth I located a good kayak launching access to the lake for future purposes, and then enjoyed the winding and very panoramic drive further down the west side of Kootenay Lake, far above the water with cliffs and rock cuts. The soak at Ainsworth Hot Springs was fine as usual and needs no description; however, there is a great attraction besides the pool to see while you're visiting here. You could leave the car parked where it is and just walk out to the highway and, maybe 100 metres south of the takeout food place, drop down the street that takes you to the historic Ainsworth Pier. Pier or wharf, I know there's a difference but I forget and don't care what. This is a huge concrete ramp that at one time allowed wagons and cars to load freight on and off the paddle-wheelers that travelled the lake in the last century. It has character, fine views, rugged appeal and a feel of somewhat eroded permanence. But the stupid federal government wants to spend vast amounts of money to destroy this possibly-not-safe landmark for the usual inane liability excuses. Luckily there is a group of local folks who are working to preserve this treasure and I saw some fresh concrete curbs and arranged rocks that may indicate some kind of salvation. There's a faded poster on a tree with the name and number of Public Works Canada that may be worth passing your comments on to. Telephone Amelia Weatherbee at 604-775-9374 to ensure that common sense prevails.

Peter Roulston owns the Bicycle Hospital in Nakusp and now lives in New Denver, 358-2133.

When my friend asked me the question, I was prepared for it, but simply didn't grasp the import it entailed. As we are all aware, there are various depths to all answers, and many can be kept to the superficial, constructionist level, while others have a quality that require a much deeper level of cognition and understanding.

I guess the best place to start is at the beginning, and as the question can keep me going round and round in circles, this seems as good as any place to start. "From an economic standpoint, is it better to buy a good used car and expend the money to properly maintain it, or are you better off simply making a down payment on a new one and paying monthly installments?"

Well, I guess you can see right from the get-go that there are a myriad of variables stipulated in the question. For instance, I had to gauge my friend's concept of what a 'good used car' was and how much she was likely to spend to 'properly' maintain it. I also had to analyze what owning a car meant to her. Was it simply for transportation, or was owning a car locked in to the public display of wealth many of us fall prey to?

It was this concept of a vehicle as a public display of wealth (and thereby stature), that made it difficult to give her a quick, definitive answer to her question. It propelled me to look to the difference between wealth and affluence—words we often regard as synonymous, which is in itself a little window that allows us to look at our own thinking and predispositions.

Wealth, of course, is how much money or other tradable means of exchange you have. We regard wealthy people as those that have hefty bank accounts, large investment portfolios and thick wallets. To see the same person as affluent is by no means the same thing, although interestingly, most of us make this erroneous mind flip and regard the two terms as being much the same. Affluence is the profuse ownership of those commodities we hold to be important to us—houses, cars, financial security and the like. From the superficial level, it is easy to see that wealth can equate to affluence, but if the commodities you seek in your personal definition of affluence fall into a different category —clean water to drink, fresh air to breathe, lots of spare time on your hands to do with what you like, social respect, love and companionship—then wealth and affluence diverge somewhat and wealth might not help you obtain these more ephemeral factors of affluence. In fact, wealth might keep you from gaining affluence in these areas.

Wealth can easily be traded for a new car if your concept of affluence includes new car ownership and all the social stature factors that are associated with this. If however, your concept of affluence denigrates these factors and gives precedence to things such as debt-free status, more free time and the like, then going in hock to the bank to purchase a new car would probably be a bad move on your part—better to use your wealth in other ways that more accurately reflect your own concept of affluence.

There is little doubt that it is cheaper to buy a good used vehicle and maintain it until the price of repairs outstrips the cost of replacing it with something similar, rather than making payments on a new one.

It is also fair to note that a new vehicle is less likely to leave you stranded on the side of the road, have its brakes fail, or pack up when you have an important engagement. Whether you want to exchange your wealth for these imponderables is as much a philosophical problem as it is an economic one. It takes clear judgement and a firm grasp of your own ideas of affluence to make the correct choice.

Cool Eateries of the West Kootenays

with Andrew Rhodes

I had a "food moment" last week. I was hitchhiking out of Nakusp, and Janet Spicer picked me up. She's the one that grows (in large quantities) all that top-notch organic produce. She asked whose parsley was sticking out of my grocery bag. I said, "you grew it." We had a laugh, she dropped me off, and that, my friends, is a Slocan Valley Food Moment!

Watch for them.

Meanwhile, your intrepid food editor, moi, had the pleasure of driving over Hwy. 31-A the other day to far-away Kaslo to my own favorite bakery-coffee shop Rudolph's Pastry, also known as The Landmark Bakery. It's right in the middle of Kaslo's main drag. Owned and operated by Rob Abbey, whose ancestors come from Kaslo, the place has a very solid and warm good vibe to it. The second you walk in you can smell all that fresh bread and those sweet pastry treats. Rob makes the best Sticky Buns on earth, and the coffee (Kicking Horse) is so good that I sometimes drink a cup of it instead of the green tea I am prone to. Rob has all the fancy coffees and flavored coffees (I think about 18 of 'em) that you can imagine, and many flavours of Italian ice cream are also on offer.

But how 'bout the bread?? Baked from scratch in the traditional German style there are about three dozen kinds available, fifteen of which are sitting on wooden racks behind the counter. Whole wheat, French, sour-dough, sovital, flax bread, and many many more help give the place its homey aroma, and if you are iron-willed enough to pass up the sticky-buns, you will more than likely fall pray to the huckleberry-apple turnovers or the many kinds of outrageous tarts (gotta love 'em) or the chocolate florintinos, not to mention blueberry-cheese Danish and a host of other mouth-watering delights. But the Landmark Bakery (Rudolph's Pastry) is also a restaurant, so you don't have to wait 'till you get home to devour your delectables. You can have them right there at one of the half-dozen tables. Why not have a bowl of soup? There are also sandwiches and subs and sausage rolls and a variety of pop and fruit drinks to choose from, and amid all this fine food you NEVER HAVE TO LOOK AT A MENU! What's there to eat is sitting there right in front of you with a price on it so there's no menu involved, and I like that because that means NO MENU STRESS.

But Rob Abbey, it turns out, has way more than a bakery and a restaurant going. He also rents seasonal sports gear! He offers skis and snowshoes in the winter and biking gear (including helmets) in the summer, and as if that isn't enough, the place is also an internet café with high-speed wireless service so you can bring your lap-top with your wireless modem and go to town. Amid all this, Rob and his staff are unflaggingly friendly and helpful. The Landmark Bakery aka Rudolphs Pastry, is a great place to go. Try it out. You will not experience menu stress, and you might just have a Kootenay Food Moment with a Sticky bun. Best in the world!!!

The Landmark Bakery is also wheelchair-accessible.

Want your Cool Eatery featured in the Valley Voice?
Call 358-7218 for details.

VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER - 2005 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

DECLARATION OF ELECTION BY ACCLAMATION

I, Carol Gordon, Chief Elections Officer for the Village of New Denver, do hereby declare elected by acclamation, the following candidates:

Mayor: Gary L. Wright

Councillors (4): Gordon Brookfield
Ann Bunka
Katrine Campbell
Bonnie Greensword

Given under my hand this 24th day of October, 2005

Carol Gordon, Chief Elections Officer

"The Best Sticky Buns on Earth!"
• Internet Cafe
• Seasonal Sports Gear Rentals
• Friendly and helpful staff

• Kicking Horse Coffee & Italian Ice Cream
• Delicious Baked Goods

Landmark Bakery

416 Front Street 353-2250

AUTOMOTIVE

4-DOOR front wheel drive Tempo GL 1985 model, mechanically sound, body in good shape. Asking $1500. 265-4914.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

GOT A GREAT BUSINESS IDEA? Have you always dreamed of starting your own business but weren't too sure how to go about it? Community Futures is now offering appointments in Nakusp and New Denver on Thursdays (by appointment). Please contact Farhana at the Nakusp Outreach on 265 3674 x 311 or email nakusp@futures.bc.ca.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Call for submissions for the **"ALFA" Guild Gallery in Nakusp** B.C. Visual artists are invited to submit proposals for exhibitions. Submission requirements - description of proposed exhibit, CV or Biography, min. of 10 slides or photos which are labelled with artist's name, title of work, medium, dimensions and date made, and an artist's statement. The Gallery will not show any works previously shown in this venue. Please include a SASE for a return of submission package. Deadline is March 1, 2006. Mail to: Selection Committee, ALFA Guild Society, Box 155, Nakusp B.C. V0G 1R0 Call Betty for more info, 250-265-4636.

CARD OF THANKS

How can I thank the **Slocan Lake Garden Society**? What a wonderful surprise! This year I was the lucky recipient of the their annual work party draw. Never were SLUGS made so welcome in my garden. Such a great sight — happy smiling elves all over my yard cutting back, digging up, splitting clumps and chasing weeds till the place was unrecognizably beautiful. It was a job well done and GREATLY appreciated. Thank you, thank you one and all.

Sheila Harrop

Cor and Sylvia at the **Glacier View cabins** want to thank the people of New Denver for helping to make this a good year. We appreciate it that you send your friends and family to stay with us.

Cor and Sylvia Vandenbos

COMING EVENTS

THE WINLAW HALL is hosting their annual Fall Supper Nov. 6/05, two seatings, 5-6pm second 6:30-7:30 pm. advance tickets preferred, $12.00 adults $6.00 12 and under. For info call Lorna 226-6779 or Carey 226-7702

X-MAS CRAFT FAIR Winlaw Hall, Sat. Dec. 10/05 9-3 pm Kitchen will be open. To book tables, call Ruth 505-4885

ST. ANTHONY'S 32nd annual CHRISTMAS FLEA MARKET. Saturday, November 26. Knox Hall: 9-2pm; Bosun: 10-2:30. Table rentals: phone Bev at 358-7771 or Gail at 358-2397.

THE MAYSON FAMILY invite you to a drop-in tea to celebrate their mother Brenda's 90th birthday. Nov. 5/05 from 2:00 pm-4:00 pm at the Nakusp Seniors' Hall. No gifts - best wishes only.

HALLOWE'EN BOOGIE The Toques with guests Cilantro Sound. All ages fun-raiser for Vallican Whole School. Sat. Oct. 29th. Doors open 7:30 pm. Music starts 8:00 pm sharp. Tix. $10.00/advance. $12.00/door, available at Evergreen, Eddy's Music, Sleep is for Sissies, Slocan Park Service. 12 & under free, costume prizes, bonfire, kids fun.

Le BIBLIOBUS s'arrêtera bientôt à Nakusp pour sa dernière visite de l'année! La bibliothèque mobile de l'AFKO sera à l'auberge internationale le jeudi 10 novembre entre 17h et 19h (potluck). Info: Philippe, 265-3069.

SLOCAN CURLING CLUB 2005-06 Season: Mixed league starts mid November, first bonspiel Remembrance Day weekend, Men's league Friday nights. Open House November 6, 2pm. Call Mike at 355-0023 or email sockeye@telus.net to register or for more information

EDUCATION

THE HOME SCHOOL in Slocan Park has room for several students. Individualized instruction, all grades, certified. Safe, happy, affordable. 226-6702.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

INTERESTED IN EXTRA XMAS $$? Avon offers more than you can imagine. Join our Avon Team - Call now. Peggy Tanner. 1-250-417-4043.

FOR RENT

ONE BEDROOM APARTMENT, utilities included. $500/month. Phone 358-2165. Available immediately.

COZY ONE-BEDROOM COTTAGE in New Denver, newly rebuilt kitchen and bathroom. No pets. $425 plus utilities. Call 358-2119 between noon to 6 pm.

APARTMENT FOR RENT in New Denver. Large 3-bedroom apt. available Oct 1. $650/month. 306-536-0112.

INSIDE STORAGE SPACE available for the winter. Phone Jamie@ 358-7269.

3-BEDROOM TRIPLEX UNIT for rent. One mile from Nakusp, on acreage, appliances, privacy. $600 per month. Available August 1. 250-860-0736.

HOUSE FOR RENT in New Denver. 2 1/2 bedroom, w/d, car port, electric heat, $520 per month. Call 358-2689.

2-BDR HOUSE in Silverton with washer, dryer and fridge, stove. Electric and wood heat. $425 per month. Call 358-2266.

NEW DENVER, Nov. 1. Charming one-bedroom home near lake. Washer/dryer. NS, NP. $375/month. 1-778-322-7108 to view 358-7770.

FOR SALE

CLEAR BIRCH FLOORING - 2" x 3/4" planed, unfinished, 850 sq. ft., dried, ready to lay $2.50/sq. ft. Phone 250-269-7503 (LD? Call collect)

WOODSTOVE. Cheap if you move. Don 265-9070.

HEALTH

FULL SPECTRUM BODY WORK offers deep tissue and stress reduction treatments in the privacy of your own home. For additional info and to book appointments please call 358-6808.

COYOTE SPRINGS IS UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT! Email medicinewaters@telus.net. An Intentional Healing Centre. Certified in teaching Touch for Health and Reiki and Bodywork Techniques. Private sessions by appointment. Natural lithium hotspring retreats. Rustic lodging is available. 250-265-2155.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

GROCERY • HEALTH FOOD

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e-mail: s.v.coop@Telus.net

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- Greeting Cards
- New Age Products

320 BROADWAY ST. NAKUSP 265-3188

Ann's Natural Foods
Ann Bunka
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805 Kildare St., New Denver

BOTTLE DEPOT

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Slocan City • 355-2245
Open MON - SAT 9-5
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Water Testing • Flow Measurements
CAEAL certified to test drinking water
We're in the Valley at: 1-250-226-7339
Jennifer & Tony Yeow passlab4@netidea.com

FLORIST

Fern's Flowers & .....
We now deliver to New Denver & Silverton on Saturdays!
Call me and we can arrange anything!
KASLO: Phone/Fax: 1-250-353 7474

RESTAURANT/WINE & BEER

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NAKUSP: 265-4077

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BEGINNER DRIVER TRAINING, in-class Nov. 13, 20;
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THE FRIDAY FILES, COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY IN YOUR BUSINESS, Nov. 25, Dec. 2;
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TRANSLATOR NEEDED: Turkish to English. Min. university degree in English. Previous experience a must. Fax resume (604) 463-4049.

NOTICES

FREE POOL always at the Silverton Heritage Country Inn.

Any non-profit organization wanting to apply for a Grant-in-Aid from Slocan Lake Recreation Commission #6 should submit applications to Box 293, New Denver, B. C. V0G 1S0. Application forms are available at:Village of New Denver, Village of Silverton, Lucerne School and My Aunt's Place. Deadline for application is October 30th, 2005.

FOR INFORMATION ON AA MEETINGS in New Denver and adjacent towns, call Dave at 358-7265.

The Silverton Heritage Country Inn now has a Foosball table.

Personal Classified ads start at $8.00 in the Valley Voice

OBITUARY

John Greenan passed away peacefully at the age of 97, on October 15, 2005, after a brief stay in the respite room at the Slocan Community Health Centre in New Denver.

John was born on March 24, 1908, in Vancouver, B.C. His parents, Jack and Grace Greenan, had four children-John, Clarence, Arthur and Grace. After going to school and working a variety of jobs in and around Vancouver, John, his wife, Helen, and their sons, Dougal and Ross moved to New Denver in 1953. He owned and operated the Glacier View Auto Court and Café and later built and ran Glacier View Service now known as Petro-Can. John helped to establish the New Denver branch of the Kootenay Savings Credit Union with a core group of local friends. He served as a councillor in the village for one year. Just a few years ago, John was honoured as the Citizen of Year in New Denver at a ceremony on Victoria Day.

John had a wide variety of interests that included woodworking, mechanics, gardening, canoeing, hiking, singing, playing the violin, and collecting beautiful arts and crafts. In his later years, John could be seen walking the streets of New Denver, wearing his favorite old straw hat, bedecked with a variety of feathers. He was always smiling, always friendly, always positive, always appreciative. He never hesitated to tell anyone how much he loved living in New Denver. He was an inspiration to everyone who knew him. He will be sadly missed by his family, his friends, his neighbours, and everyone fortunate enough to have had the pleasure of meeting him. He was a kind, gentle, peace-loving, caring person whose memory will live on in our hearts.

John is survived by his son Dougal and wife, Leona, his grandsons, Daryl and Chad, and several nieces and nephews. John's family would like to thank all those who helped John especially during the last few months of his life - Linda Rolfe, Dr. Burkholder, Dr. Kelland, the home care givers, the nurses and staff, Sue Davies and all the hospice volunteers. John's family and friends invite everyone to attend a celebration of his life at the Bosun Hall, in New Denver on November 8th, 2005, starting at 1:00 P.M. Please bring your memories of John to share with everyone. Refreshments will be served. Donations will be gratefully accepted in John's memory for the scholarship fund at Kootenay Savings Credit Union, Valhalla Wilderness Society, and New Denver Hospice Society.

Anne Perepolkin Sr.

Funeral services for Anne Perepolkin Sr. (nee Poznikoff) were held at the Valley Funeral Home, in Nakusp on Friday October 14th and burial took place at the Hills Cemetery on Saturday October 15th.

Anne Perepolkin was born on December 4, 1912 and passed away peacefully on October 12th, 2005 at the Arrow Lakes Hospital at the age of 92 years.

She will be lovingly remembered by her children Vera Aura of Revelstoke, Joe (& Anne) Perepolkin of Nakusp, Ely (& Sylvia) Perepolkin of Salmo, Edward Perepolkin and Alex (& Louise) Perepolkin from Hills and Linda (& Lloyd) Dennis of Nakusp. She was blessed with 18 grandchildren and 29 great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank all of their relatives and friends for their kindness and support. They would also like to offer a special thank you to the doctors, nurses and staff of the Arrow Lakes Hospital for their care over the years. Thank you to Bill Makortoff, the staff of the Valley Funeral Home, the gravediggers, pallbearers and Debbie Guest Catering for assisting with the funeral service.

God bless her and may she rest in peace.

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REPORTS FROM THE RCMP

THESE REPORTS ARE FROM PRESS RELEASES AND MAY HAVE BEEN EDITED

Nakusp Detachment

• Somebody was really hungry: overnight on October 14/15, unknown suspect(s) threw a rock through the front door of the Bon Marche Dollar store and stole some food from a hamper on display in the window. The hamper was being raffled off. During the course of the break-in, the culprit was cut and left blood at the scene.

Slocan Lake Detachment

• Parishioners of St. Anthony's Catholic Church discovered that some time during the night of September 20, someone broke in to the church and destroyed statues and other items. The suspect(s) rummaged through two vehicles a block away, damaging items in the vehicles, then stole a car which was later recovered in the Passmore area.

Kaslo Detachment

• Kaslo RCMP are investigating two unsuccessful break-ins the night of October 12. Someone broke the locks on two sheds—one behind the Mohawk on Fourth St., the other behind Kaslo Drugs on Front St.—but nothing was stolen.

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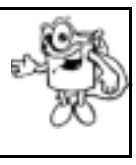
Dispose of your leftover **PAINT, OIL & FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS** in an environmental friendly manner **AT NO CHARGE.**
Call the Recycling Council of British Columbia at
1-800-667-4321
for the nearest disposal facility in your area.

TIPS for leftover paint:
- Apply an extra coat of paint for more protection
- Store it safely for later touch-ups
- Give it to a friend or neighbour



protect yourself and those around you — get your flu shot — Interior Health

FLU CLINICS

Flu shots are safe, effective, and free for the following:
- People 65 years and older
- Children and adults with chronic health conditions and their household contacts
- Health care workers and emergency responders
- Healthy children aged 6 - 23 months
- Household contacts and caregivers of infants aged 0 - 23 months
- Pregnant women in their 3rd trimester
- Residents of nursing homes and other chronic care facilities

NAKUSP		
Nakusp Seniors' Hall (Drop-In)	Nov. 2	9:00 am - 12:00 noon 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Health Unit (611 Broadway) (Phone 265-3608 to book appt.)	Nov. 8	9:00 am - 12:00 noon 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
	Nov. 15	9:00 am - 12:00 noon 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
NEW DENVER		
Slocan Community Health Centre (Phone 358-7911 to book appt.)	Nov. 3	10:00 am - 12:00 noon 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Slocan Community Health Centre Activity Room (Drop-In)	Nov. 4	9:00 am - 12:00 noon 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm
EDGEWOOD		
Red Cross Outpost Hospital (Drop-In)	Nov. 7	9:00 am - 12:00 noon
FAUQUIER		
Fauquier Community Center (Drop-In)	Nov. 7	1:00 pm - 4:30 pm
SLOCAN PARK		
Slocan Park Community Hall (Drop-In)	Nov. 4	10:00 am - 2:00 pm
SLOCAN CITY		
Women's Institute Hall (Drop-In)	Nov. 14	10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Clients for the flu clinics should wear short sleeves and bring their glasses and Care Card. If you need more information about the flu vaccine or the clinics, please call the Nakusp Health Unit at 265-3608.

NOTICE OF EXCLUSION APPLICATION REGARDING LAND IN THE AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE

Helen Morrish and Linda Louise, of SS #1, S. 29, C. 2, Fruitvale, BC V0G 1L0, intend on making an application pursuant to Section 30 (1) of the Agricultural Land Commission Act to exclude from the Agricultural Land Reserve the following property which is legally described as, Lot 2, D.L. 12304 Kootenay District Plan NEP 23567 except Plan NEP 65781 and located at 4440 Passmore Upper Road, Passmore, BC.

Any person wishing to express an interest in the application may do so by forwarding their comments in writing to The Regional District of Central Kootenay, Box 590, Nelson, BC V1L 5R4 by October 26, 2005.

Casual and Relief Opportunities Arrow Lakes & Nakusp

Long Term Care Aides

Competition # KB-COM-05-036
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Competition # KB-FAC-05-104
To be considered for this casual position, you will be a Graduate from a recognized program for Practical Nurses. Current full practicing licensure with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of British Columbia (CLPNBC) is required.

Apply online to www.interiorhealth.ca or submit your resume to:

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Interior Health

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SLOCAN VALLEY RECREATION

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SWIM LESSONS TO CASTLEGAR - You provide the child,we provide the bus. Nov.8th-Dec.1st(Tues/Thurs.)REGISTER TODAY!

SAVE THAT CHILD - First-Aid training for those with preschoolers. Fri.Nov.4th Crescent Valley Hall.

BEGINNERS LUCK CHESS TOURNAMENT - For all school ages kids. Sat. Nov. 5th. Slocan Park Hall.

WORKING WITH DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS -With Maureen McEwen.Nov.1st-15th(Tuesdays).

FITNESS CLASSES - Every Monday and Thursday evening 6:30 p.m. Brent Kennedy School

EDITING YOUR HOME MOVIES - Nov. 23rd & 30th at MSSS. With Jacy Schindel

226-0008

Kasper Denture Clinic

Oley Kasper, Denturist, coming to Nakusp Sunday October 29th. Will be at the Kuskanax Lodge for appointments please call
1-888-907-7776.

Oley Kasper is a member of the British Columbia Denturist Association. He has over 35 years denture experience starting at the age of 15 as an assistant to a denturist. He is licensed to work in all areas of denturism, including partial dentures.

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