The Valley VOICE
Free!
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"Your independently owned regional community newspaper serving the Arrow Lakes, Slocan & North Kootenay Lake Valleys."

A breath of fresh air at climate change conference

by Laurie Page

Alysia Garmulewicz, 19-year-old from Hills, stole the show at a climate change conference put on by Nelson-Creston NDP May 5. Garmulewicz has been advocating for climate change mitigation locally, nationally and internationally since she was 15 years old.

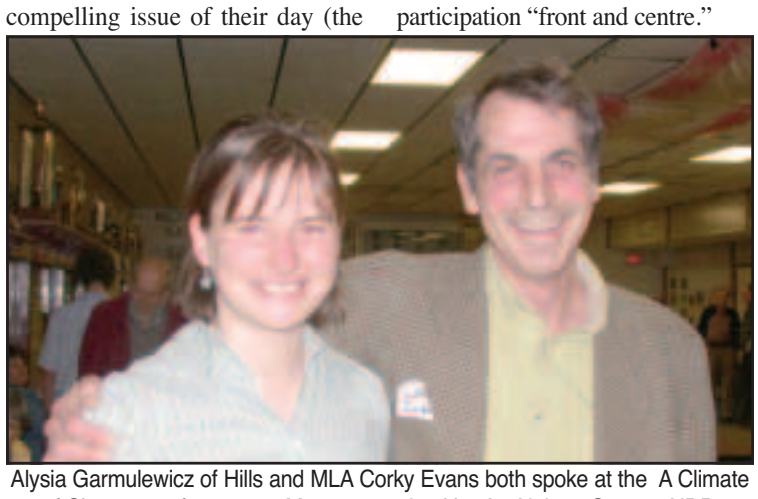
The high point of the conference for many was Garmulewicz's presentation, which took the holistic view that action to deal with climate change must cross all sectors and engage all disciplines. The young expert was engaging, articulate and optimistic, recommending that we as a society must plan for a sustainable future rather than fearing the unknown.

According to Garmulewicz, "In order to mitigate climate change, we need large systemic action, inspired by a positive guiding vision, that sees climate change as an opportunity to redesign society."

The afternoon included a political panel with NDP MLAs Claire Trevena from North Island, Shane Simpson from Vancouver Hastings, and Gregor Robertson from Vancouver Fairview, and local MP Alex Atamanenko. In a refreshingly frank discussion, the politicians talked about the challenges of holding government to account. All agreed with Garmulewicz that the "lens of sustainability" must be applied to decisions we make as a society and as politicians representing that society. The visiting MLAs commented on the high calibre of participant engagement at the conference.

There was particularly interesting debate about individual versus systemic action: which is more important? Garmulewicz made the point that individuals, by becoming informed and taking collective action, create systemic change. Corky Evans, local MLA, made the comment that provincial or federal policy sometimes makes appropriate action illegal. He used the protection of agricultural land as an example, as it could be threatened under the Trade Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) between BC and Alberta. Evan's point was that engagement in politics is not optional if systemic change is to be addressed.

At the close of the conference, Corky Evans spoke about the openness of this political event. "Such an event in politics, where everyone is welcome, is not something new. It harkens back to the early days of the CCF, when folks gathered to discuss ways to solve the compelling issue of their day (the drought and depression of the '30s)." He also thanked the visiting MLAs for giving up their weekends to attend, and commended conference organizers for putting youth participation "front and centre."



Alysia Garmulewicz of Hills and MLA Corky Evans both spoke at the A Climate of Change conference on May 5, organized by the Nelson-Creston NDP.

High-speed internet to reach Slocan Valley by the fall of 2007

After five years of research, planning and negotiations, the Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission (SVEDC) will bring community-owned high-speed internet service to the valley this fall.

The service will be wireless, giving valley residents the equivalent speed and quality they would receive in other communities in the area such as Nelson.

The business plan has the system paying for itself, resulting in no increase in taxes. It will be rolled out incrementally over 8 months with the hope to eventually have all valley residents and businesses connected.

The project will proceed when a loan is received from the Municipal Finance Authority (MFA). The RDCK will be the guarantor of the loan, and in order to do that public approval is required this summer from affected residents.

"It's important that residents understand that this loan guarantee will not increase taxes," says SVEDC chair Derek Murphy. "The RDCK is just asking your approval to guarantee the loan. The project itself will generate enough funds from those using the service to pay back the loan."

The commission is also awaiting a late June decision on additional funding from the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) to create what Murphy calls "the Cadillac version." Regardless of whether the project receives this additional funding, it will still roll out a version in the fall with the funds from the MFA loan.

"The additional MRIF funding will allow us to create a more robust system, gives us more choice in service providers and is a better long-term solution for residents," says Murphy, "but either way, once the public approves the RDCK to guarantee the loan from the MFA, we're moving ahead."

For more information, check out the regular monthly updates on page 3 of the *Valley Voice* or call Derek Murphy at 250-359-5998.

Area sees highway upgrades

by Jan McMurray

Improvements to the area's highways this season include the recent culvert work at Summit Lake on Hwy 6, finishing off Hwy 31A paving, and replacing Enterprise Creek Bridge.

YRB has installed a new, larger culvert at the Summit Lake area of Hwy 6 since another slide came down on Easter Monday, plugging three culverts. Surface runoff has been re-channelled to flow through the new pipe and into the natural drainage channel.

Ministry of Transportation spokesperson Jeff Knight reports that the larger pipe should accommodate any future small debris events, thereby preventing the blocking of the culvert and having debris and water flowing across the highway. Last July, a slide at this same location closed the road overnight.

Knight also reports that the final 15-km section of Hwy 31A into Kaslo will be paved this season. The Ministry is about to tender the project, which will include paving several sideroads in the Kaslo, Balfour, Harrop and Proctor areas. This project is scheduled to begin this summer and be finished by the end of September.

Another big project for our area this summer is the replacement of the Enterprise Creek bridge on Hwy 6. The work is expected to start in early July and finish by the end of October. Knight reported that the project will be tendered within the next two weeks. The new, two-lane bridge will be slightly downstream from the existing bridge.

Slocan Valley trash art competition

Winlaw trash art competition organizer Leslie Mayfield announces that the jury has completed its deliberations. And the winners are: Wearable category: first prize 'Helgi' by JoAnn Chatten; Useable category: first prize 'Bird House' by Pam Sims; second prize 'Oval Rug' by Netty Soukeroff. In the Just Plain Art category, the criteria for entry were that things had to be made from recycled materials. The winners are: first prize *Blissfully Oblivious* by Carl Schlichting; second prize *When all the Snow is Gone* by Carter Maloff; third prize *Peace Dove* by Laura Spear.

The People's Choice ballots have been tallied and the Best in Show category winner goes to Carter Maloff, for *When all the Snow is Gone*. The ballots revealed that A. Berland's *Goodbye Stupid Job*, and Maureen McEwen's *Muffled* were also quite popular.

"We had hoped that this event would draw out people who don't normally consider themselves to be 'artists,' but who have a very creative approach to the use of materials," says Mayfield. "It worked, but we are sure there are many more of you out there!"

Hundreds of entry forms were taken but only 19 entries made it to completion, enough to make an interesting show. Entries were judged on creativity, craftsmanship, and overall effect. A big thank you to our jurors, Peter Perepolkin of Castlegar BizNet, and Grigg Stone of Gaia Tree Whole Foods.

The Slocan Valley Arts Council organized this show as part of BC Arts and Culture Week April 22-28, with funding from the BC Government through the BC Arts Council and Assembly of BC Arts Councils. If you would like to see this event again, or have comments to offer, contact Donna Gole, at dgole@telus.net.

The next event for the Slocan Valley Arts Council (serving Crescent Valley to Slocan) is our annual Art and Garden Tour on June 24. Contact Laura Tiberti at 226-7347 if you are either an artist or a gardener who would like to participate.

Carter Maloff won second place in the 'Just Plain Art' category of the Slocan Valley Arts Council's trash art competition, with the self-explanatory title, When all the Snow is Gone.

Stream of Consciousness

Collect rain water in an old barrel or other large container that is outfitted with a spigot and a suitable cover, and use the water on your garden. Use this water as an alternative to turning on the hose for newly transplanted material, window boxes, flower pots and container gardens. Rain water is actually better for your plants as it does not contain any chlorine and is at ambient temperature. Keep your rain barrel covered to prevent mosquitos breeding and for safety reasons.

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Climate Change conference in Nelson consults the world for solutions

by Art Joyce

Scientists at Climate Change: Exploring Regional Solutions, a two-day conference held in Nelson April 23 and 24, made it crystal clear: Climate change is a reality and humans have played a critical role. More importantly, scientists present were there to spearhead the move to create local solutions. Conference registration surpassed the hopes of EcoSociety organizers, at between 150-160 delegates, including members of local, regional and provincial governments.

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Dr. Lori Daniels led the morning panel, discussing the role of climate change in the forest fire history of BC. Daniels, a professor of Biogeography at the University of British Columbia, said there has been an increase in the intensity and size of forest fires in the Pacific Northwest in recent decades.

Dr. Jeremy Littell, a research scientist with the CSES Climate Impacts Group at the University of Washington, said that except for minor downward adjustments in temperature during the mid-20th century, the vast majority of the 824 weather stations in the US Pacific Northwest have recorded a pattern of temperature increases. He said the annual average temperature will increase by 1.5 degrees centrigrade by the 2020s and is expected to double that by the 2040s. Already temperature increases are causing the peak of spring runoff from snowmelt to move 10-30 days earlier in our region. This will affect slope stability, resulting in more landslides, and temperature increases in streams that will impact fish populations. "Planning for climate change is a requisite for regional management," he concluded.

The EcoSociety's Matt Lowe introduced Amy Seabrooke by saying that while political leaders have lagged behind, communities have been leading the way on sustainability. Seabrooke works with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) as a Capacity Building Officer for its Partners for Climate Protection Program (PCP), which has access to $550 million in funding to help communities reach sustainability goals. She said there are currently 145 communities in Canada using the program to address climate change.

A video link was made to Güssing, Austria for a presentation by Mayor Peter Vadasz on its European Centre for Renewable Energy. Vadasz explained how Güssing had formerly been one of the poorest areas of Austria, with a 40% unemployment rate. Since establishing its biofuels plant in 2000, it has managed to create 1,000 jobs in a community of only 4,000. To supply the city's power plant, forests are thinned of wood waste and farmers on less arable land grow biofuels. Because the energy created is not exported, the local economy is strongly supported. Güssing's goal is to create total energy independence by 2011 – already the village supplies 99% of its own heating and electricity needs. Greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) have been reduced by thousands of tonnes per year.

"I simply cannot understand the thinking of your federal minister when he says meeting your Kyoto obligations will hurt the economy," Vadasz said. "That has not been the case here at all."

Whistler Councillor Tim Wake was there to explain how the city has become one of only three communities in Canada to reach milestone 4 of 5 in the FCM's Partners for Climate Protection Program. Its public transit strategy has resulted in a higher ridership per capita than even Vancouver and Victoria, and it has capped its landfill, substantially reducing GHGs. "Instead of asking, 'How will we cope with all the cars we'll have here in 2020,' we asked, 'How many cars do we want here in 2020?' It's never too late to start planning."

Ray Green of the Nakusp Energy Corporation provided an update on the project to replace Nakusp Secondary School's outdated heating system with an Austrian-made biofuels system known as Energy Cabin. Green said most leftover wood material in BC is wastefully burned as slash and could be used to create energy. He said two kilograms of wood chips produce 25,000 BTUs of energy – the same as a one-litre canister of propane. Green hopes to have the Nakusp system operational by fall this year.

Angus Graeme, Dean of Selkirk College's School of Renewable Resources, spoke about the college's renewed vision for 2011 including carbon budgeting, creating green campuses and other initiatives. This includes the creation of the bachelor's degree program in GIS technology and the Renewable Energy certificate program. Graeme said the Mir Centre for Peace uses geo-exchange heating, and the Geospatial Research Centre can create regional watershed and fire interface mapping.

Al Dawson, RDCK Area F director, and Andy Shadrack, Area D director, were introduced as the "odd couple," who are "politically opposite" yet working together to create climate solutions. Dawson showed maps that reveal the West Kootenay is sitting on one of the hottest geothermal zones in the world. Shadrack explained how he'd helped get funding for the Lardeau Valley Community Hall's new geothermal heating system, reducing the January/February heating bill from $3,500 in 2006 to $700 this year. He estimates this has reduced carbon emissions by 6.25 tonnes in the two-month period.

Richard Quail, Municipal Manager for Okotoks, Alberta, addressed delegates through video conferencing to explain its Sustainable Okotoks initiative. The community has had to struggle with the impact of a population that has grown from 11,000 to over 17,000 in the past five years. Water conservation has been top of the list, along with recycling, which has saved $1.5 million in landfill costs. Its new subdivision will be 90% solar energy powered. Quail said Sustainable Okotoks isn't just a project, "it's a way of doing business." The balance of the afternoon was devoted to 'breakout groups' focused on brainstorming sustainability solutions within the region.

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Correction

Oops – we may have offended the Mayors of New Denver and Silverton! In our last issue, we printed that Mayor of Silverton Gary Wright would speak at the Kohan Garden plaque unveiling ceremony. The Mayor of Silverton was confused with the Mayor of New Denver and the Mayor of New Denver was mistaken for the Mayor of Silverton! It was the Mayor of New Denver, not Silverton, who spoke at the ceremony. And of course the Mayor of Silverton is not Gary Wright. The Mayor of New Denver, not Silverton, is Gary Wright and the Mayor of Silverton, not New Denver, is John Everett. We promise to be clear about this in the future.

Inspiring Youth for Change delivers Declaration for Change to Ottawa

The situation of our planet is urgent and now is the time for humanity to evolve out of its present self-serving, consumer society. That was part of the message delivered by Inspiring Youth for Change (IYC) spokespersons Katelyn Jmaeff and Molly MacKinnon to government leaders in Ottawa May 1.

MP Alex Atamanenko presented the IYC Declaration during Question Period in the House of Commons and copies were sent out to all MPs in French and English. IYC youth met with federal NDP leader Jack Layton as well as opposition leader Stephane Dion on May 1. IYC also tried unsuccessfully to arrange meetings with Prime Minister Harper as well as Environment Minister Mr. Baird.

Inspiring Youth for Change delegates Molly MacKinnon and Katelyn Jmaeff present the IYC's Declaration to federal NDP leader Jack Layton. MP Alex Atamenenko stands at the left.

MLA Corky Evans is presented with an honourary degree in forestry by Brent Tremblay, vice-chair of the Selkirk College Board of Governors. Evans was honoured for his contributions to forestry practices in the West Kootenay Boundary Region and throughout BC. In his acceptance speech to graduates he advised them to "question everything...even me."

Mt. Sentinel Secondary students Jmaeff and MacKinnon are part of a team of youth who organized and held an Environment, Peace and Social Justice Conference in Castlegar last November. Approximately 800 youth from the Columbia Basin Region attended this CBT-funded youth event. As a result of the conference the IYC team along with other inspired youth wrote a declaration about problems and issues affecting their future. The declaration focuses on the youth vision for tomorrow and suggestions to build a peaceful and sustainable world.

At a media conference with MP Alex Atamanenko and NDP Environment Critic MP Nathan Cullen, Jmaeff and MacKinnon issued a broad appeal.

"We feel it is critical that our government, CEOs of corporations and other people in decision-making roles hear our message," Jmaeff told the media.. "Youth today recognize that the present way of doing things is not working. We want change and are willing to make the necessary commitments and sacrifices to our current lifestyle and social structure to ensure a sustainable future."

Jmaeff encouraged the youth of Canada to get passionate and get involved by letting governments and corporate CEOs know what they think and want.

MacKinnon followed with her message on behalf of youth and the IYC.

"We have come to a point in history where the decisions we make directly affect the future of this planet. It seems strange that in light of this the government does not put issues such as global warming on the very top of their list. As part of the Declaration, Inspiring Youth for Change demands that the government look to the future before decisions are made and legislation is passed. There is nothing that could be more important at this time. This is our earth to inherit – let's just make sure that our children's children have something to inherit."

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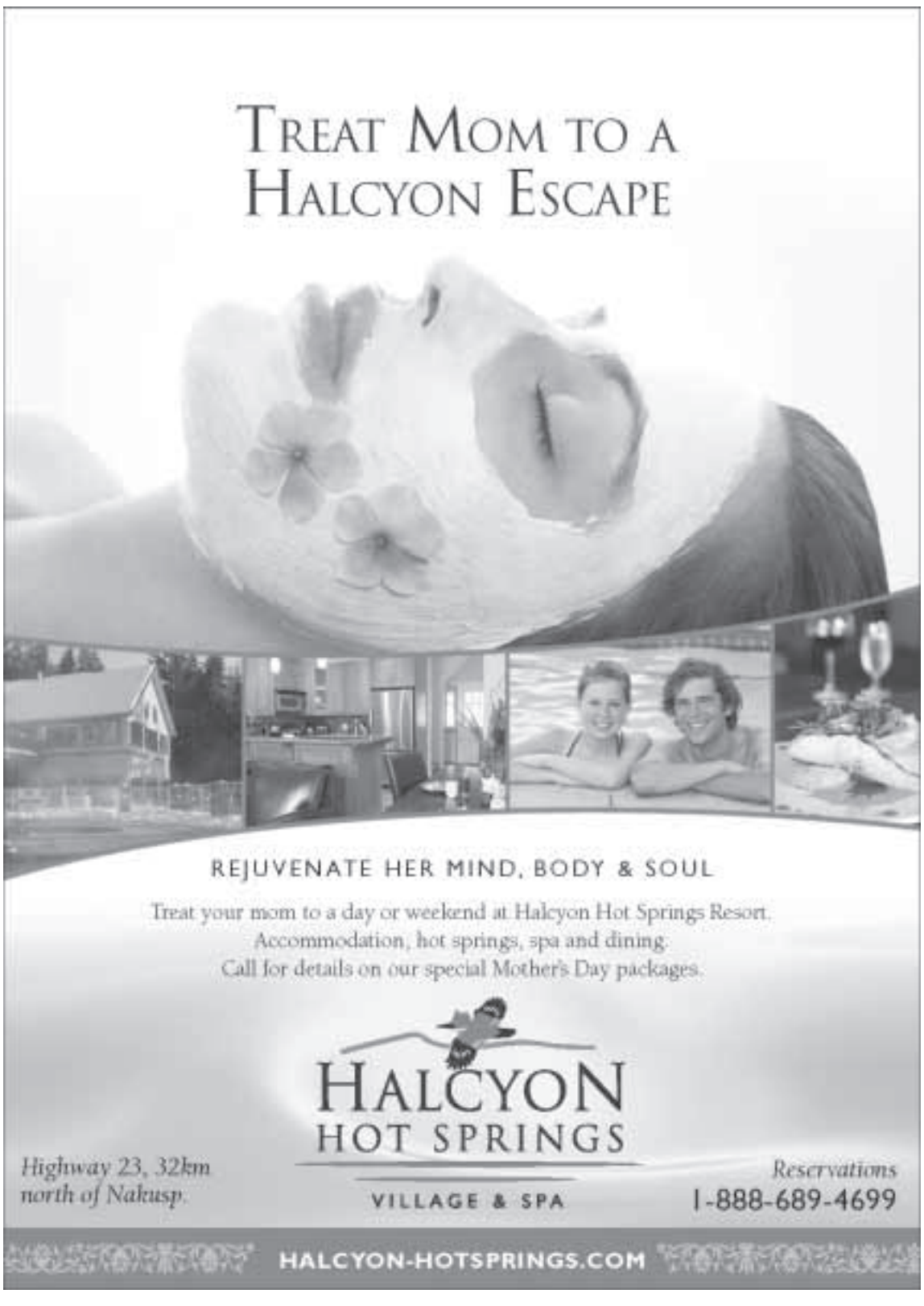

Columbia Shuswap Regional District

The Columbia Shuswap Regional District has engaged True Consultants to draft a new Official Community Plan (OCP) for Electoral Area 'B'. We have been assisted in the drafting of the OCP by the Trout Lake and Rural Revelstoke Advisory Committees. An OCP is used to guide decisions to be made by the CSRD Board of Directors when considering applications for various types of development. Public meetings are now scheduled to present the plan and to collect community feedback. The Community meetings will include a presentation of proposed plan policies. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

The CSRD values your input. Please plan to attend to learn more about planning for the future of Electoral Area 'B'. To view the draft plan, visit www.csrd.bc.ca and follow the links to the CSRD Area 'B' Draft Plan.

The meetings are scheduled as follows:

ELECTORAL AREA 'B'

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN

SCHEDULE OF COMMUNITY MEETINGS ON THE DRAFT PLAN

Wednesday, May 16th, 2007
in the
Revelstoke Community Centre
600 Campbell Avenue
Revelstoke BC

Meeting – 6:00 to 9:30 pm
Presentation – 7:00 pm
Question & Answer – 8:00 to 9:30 pm

Thursday, May 17th, 2007
in the
Trout Lake Community Hall
544 Westside Road
Trout Lake BC

Meeting - 12:00 to 3:30 pm
Presentation - 1:00 pm
Question & Answer - 2:00 to 3:30 pm

Voices from the Valleys

Isn't BC beautiful

We can afford to give our MLAs, many of whom are quite wealthy to begin with, a 29 per cent pay hike but we can't afford to provide the disabled in the province with a decent living income.

If by 'Supernatural British Columbia' we mean 'beyond nature' as in 'heartless,' then I guess we are a supernatural province.

Will Webster
Kaslo

It's a sad world

Recently, the residents of the Lardeau and Duncan River areas received a mailing from Kootenay Lake Forest District telling us that horses are not authorized to graze on crown land and they are subject to seizure and sale. Is this a late April Fool's joke or what? It would be laughable if it weren't so sad.

This is a valley where every possible mountainside gets logged, thousands of hectares of beautiful valley are flooded by a dam, people in power are planning to turn pristine mountaintops into a mega-ski resort in spite of strong local opposition, entrepreneurs want to divert creeks into pipelines to make more power, and money-hungry developers want to turn every lakeside property into playgrounds for rich people and their noisy toys – and our government is concerned about a few horses on crown land?

Ulrich Holtkamp
Argenta

Misguided leadership in Canadian military

I am appalled that, although we are supposedly living in a democratic country, reports such as the one from the Foreign Affairs department regarding transfer of Afghan prisoners was censored so that any reference to mistreatment of prisoners was blacked out. Not only does this show that our government was aware of this situation, it is a black mark (excuse the pun) on our reputation as an open and democratic society. The Harper government is taking a step in the right direction by investigating the treatment of prisoners, but it is only a baby step. The only way for our country to absolve themselves of this situation is for Hillier and O'Connor to resign. They are putting our brave soldiers in the awful position of being part of possible war crimes. The torture and mistreatment of prisoners of war is a crime. The people in charge who made the decision to hand the prisoners over to Afghan officials had to be aware of how they were going to be treated; therefore, they need to be held responsible.

I am proud of the dedicated men and women who serve in the Canadian military and am saddened to see their reputation sullied by misguided leadership and am confident that our government will act quickly to rectify this situation.

I would like to thank the editors of the *Globe and Mail* for bringing this story out in the open and encourage them to continue.

Linda Portman
Kaslo

Thanks for the climate change conference

I would like to thank the West Kootenay EcoSociety for putting on a fantastic conference addressing one of the most important issues facing our planet – climate change. This conference is a great first step in making this region a leader in environmental stewardship to protect this planet from devastating climate change.

Although I was unable to attend the conference due to parliamentary business, two of my staff members, Ann Harvey and Jayme Hadikin, attended the event on my behalf and have discussed with me the all the presentations and workshops that took place. Both were very impressed with the entire event. While learning a great deal, they enjoyed the opportunity to meet with all the speakers and participants who showed an obvious and deep commitment to address climate change.

The federal government has a very important role to play when it comes to climate change and the environment. We have an opportunity to pass legislation to meet our Kyoto commitments. The newly amended Bill C-30, the Clean Air and Climate Change Act, does just that. However, the federal Environment Minister, John Baird, has said that the cost of meeting Canada's Kyoto commitments would send Canada into a recession.

During a live video link at the conference, the Mayor of Güssing, Austria, Mr. Peter Vadasz, talked about how his community was suffering because of the unemployment rate and the out migration of the young people. That is when the community decided to reach for self-sufficiency and renewable energy. In the last ten years, because of the renewable energy sector, there are 1,000 new jobs in a town with a population of 4,000.

When Mayor Vadasz was asked by a conference delegate what he thought of Minister Baird's comments about sending Canada into a recession, he replied, "Moving to self-sufficiency and renewable energy creates jobs, it doesn't kill them. Why would you pay for imported energy, when you can pay for local energy so that the jobs and money stays local? Self-sufficiency should be at the top of your country's agenda."

In my opinion, Mayor Vadasz has it right.

Alex Atamanenko, MP
BC Southern Interior

Coastal crony wrong on Jumbo

At the RDEK meeting last March when the RDEK voted 13-2 to keep the final decision on Jumbo local, Mr. Ian Mackenzie of Ladysmith was placed on the stand by the Jumbo proponents for some unfathomable reason to extoll the virtues of said real estate proposal.

Mr. Mackenzie started out by explaining that he tried unsuccessfully to support his family by working at Panorama, and was driven to work in the forest industry, and subsequently fled to the coast when the going got tough.

Yet Mr. Mackenzie repeatedly offers Kootenay residents his advice to support a real estate development that would create 100s of minimum-wage, ski industry jobs of the same type he was unable to support his family on. And these McJobs would not be next to an existing community with schools, shops, and facilities, instead these workers would travel 55 rough kilometres each way to get to their place of employment. If this is such a good deal for us Kootenay folks, it makes one wonder why Mr. Mackenzie quit his lucrative Panorama gig in the first place?

Anyone in business these days knows that low-paying, service jobs are not what will compete with triple-digit oilpatch salaries next door. Not only do the Kootenays not need or want 100s of service jobs, we could not fill them even if they were created.

Secondly, if 1.4% of the Kootenays opposed the Jumbo resort during the Provincial Environmental Assessment (EA) Process, this means that just over 0.1% of the Kootenays actually supported this European-style, unsustainable real estate scheme in the EA process. Not a really overwhelming show of support, considering there are high profile business owners (Kicking Horse Coffee), professional athletes (Scott Neidermeyer and Becky Scott), politicians, doctors, lawyers, teachers, hunters, trappers - who have all come out against Jumbo. For 20 years.

Backcountry developments like the proposed Jumbo City (which would be the same size as Kimberley - 6,400 people) are permanent and irreversible. We need an East/West Kootenay referendum to finally hear the real story of what the Kootenays envisions for our future. Europe? Or the Kootenays?

Dave Quinn
Kimberley

Allow grazing in the Lardeau

For 14 years I have been trying to get grazing permits for the area surrounding my land. The answer has varied from: "You fail to have enough stock," (30 sheep), to "We do not give out grazing permits in this area."

All over BC livestock graze, fenced. Fenced grazing is much harder on land than letting livestock wander fenceless, following where the grass grows. You mow the lawn, it grows back. It is a God-given renewable resource (so far). Animals are happiest free, not shod, following their noses and my life's joy is evolving with the horses I have bred, in a natural environment. Or as natural a one as we have left after the boys and their toys have had their way. Horses wandering the mountains have an historical precedent.

My life with horses has left me some more gibbled up than I used to be, but riding is much better than walking for me and I crave the wild places away from quads. I would like to see more young people in the area enjoying fossil fuel free recreation. A blanket decision to create the Duncan as a fenceless community pasture with people and horses etc. entitled to crop the grass that runs for miles along roads or in maturing plantations would be a great step in the right direction. There is no huge population involved.

I had been given verbal permission by a kindly MoF employee to graze the bottom of the lake before flooding. Horses do no harm here. There is so much feed being uneaten in the vast Duncan reservoir area that a few grazing horses and riders and young loose stock are not even noticeable except for their calling cards, which are gratefully received by the birds.

The threat of seizure and sale of my stock, which are my only transport at this point, is excessive. How far are horses allowed to be transported? Can they round up newborns and safely stick them in a liner and take them out of one of the worst logging roads around? I doubt it – they are very fragile. These are my family and I have no wish for harm to come to them. I just want to be able to enjoy the outdoors when I can escape bureaucracy and not worry I am breaking some law. Those who destroy the forests get permits, we who enjoy them do not. There's something wrong with this picture, folks. It needs voices to change it.

Looking for filmmakers and outriders,

Gabriela 'Storm' Grabowsky
Glacier Creek

Horses are a part of life

My life began on a horse, riding on this land. I am a horse person. It is just the way life has to flow for me. For 30 years I have travelled the Monashee, Selkirks, Bugaboo and Purcells by horse.

In the Monashee, the government fenced the land and took the water tanks that protected the water away. Then they dug pits so the cattle could soil them and you could eventually smell the water from a mile away. They gave the big land owners a piece of paper that said they could use this land, then said I could not ride there. Since there was no drinking water left, I rode to the Kootenay. There the water is drinkable and there are no fences. There are meadows of grass and forests of trees full of game herds and berries. The rivers flow full of fish. I raised a family and rode my horses.

Some people came with a piece of paper that said they could take the trees. They built roads. With roads more people came so I moved further away. Then the government came and said this is now a park and you don't have a piece of paper that says you can ride a horse here so you have to go.

So I took my horses and left the forests and went on the roads and clear-cuts. I wandered with my horses 15 more years. I have seen the people with pieces of paper take more trees and build more roads so that game is scarce, rivers do not flow as they should. The fish are small and few and still they give pieces of paper to people called corporates to cut more trees, build more roads, stop rivers from flowing, build fancy palaces so the rich can fly in to ski and destroy the serenity that wilderness offers.

The government told me yesterday that I could not go on crown land with my horses because I did not have a piece of paper. Roads and road allowances are considered crown land. I, a Canadian, would be trespassing on crown land when horses are my mode of transportation.

So I say to the government: my father, my grandfather, and my great grandfather did not have pieces of paper to ride a horse, but if it makes you feel good for me to have one, then okay I will take your paper. I will be like everyone else, but I will not cut trees, stop rivers flowing, build roads or fancy houses. I will only ride my horses like always. But the government says no! I cannot have that piece of paper. If I go on the land or on the grass they will take my horses. That is not right. Maybe you do not want to ride a horse on our land, but your children or grandchildren might want to.

Mick, Glacier Creek

LETTERS POLICY

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Letters should be no longer than 500 words. Letters may be edited. Please email your letter if possible.

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

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Voices from the Valleys

Silence of the Lambs

Have you seen the agenda for the Kaslo & District Community Forest Society? Andy (Robert's Rules) Shadrack is going to change the bylaws for you. Yep, the same Andy who misled you in his bid to gain the RDCK seat and gutted the Society the very second he got there. The same Andy who disrupted the 2005 AGM with cries of Robert's Rules, waving his little red book, even though Robert's Rules did not apply and motions from the floor contravene the Society Act. The same Andy who, time and again, has stood against your right to vote in advance polls.

Here's how this will work and why. Andy and his cronies know damn well people don't like meetings. They also know that you know how nasty it is to stand against them at a meeting, what with the snickering and catcalls and commotion and disruption. Therefore, they know that this meeting will be thinly attended and it will be loaded with 'members' ready to be on his little 5-person committee. This committee will consult widely, with their friends, or send out a questionnaire with loaded questions and return a 'report' to the board, which will put the changes to another General Meeting, which will be very thinly attended because they will have had at least one other 'joke of an information' meeting in between – just to be certain you are suitably burned out. Then the bylaws of the Society will be changed and they will say, "oh well, if you don't show up you don't have any rights." This is a disgusting and dangerous premise but you'd be surprised how many people would gladly strip you of your rights using this as justification.

Look at the record of the current board and compare it with the record of the previous two boards, since September 2004.

They have not logged one stick since September 27, 2006. That's eight months!!

Why? Not because there were no permits in place, but because it didn't occur to them they couldn't log without a logging supervisor until after they fired theirs.

They have embroiled the Society in an unnecessary lawsuit.

The process they set up for finding a new manager was, I'm sure, very proper, especially for people who don't know what they're doing, whoopee. But at the end of the day their replacement 'management team' or whatever they are calling it, is, in no way, an improvement over what they had in September 2006.

The new 'manager' is apparently from Fruitvale or somewhere.

In fact they turned down proposals from local people and one proposal that virtually guaranteed the Society one million dollars more, over the next 5 years, than was realized in the previous 5 years!!!

All of these results flow from the actions of two people: Andy Shadrack and Jim Holland, with the help of a few very vocal hangers on and the silence of the lambs.

Yes, you may say, okay, okay but at least there hasn't been as much strife and contention. And you'd be right. So now you know who the troublemakers really were and are. Just bleat quietly and kiss their butts and they'll take care of the rest.

Gary Cockrell
Kaslo

More Jumbo mumbles

Cranbrook was the place. April 15 was the time. Jumbo/Glacier/Howser Wild Forever was the reason. Representatives from the west and east sides of the Jumbo Pass communities were the whos. Bill 11, Sections 14, 15 and 16 were the motivation.

Of course, it's always fun to get together with old friends who share a common interest (for some of us over 20 years now) to engage in small talk, mere meaningless blatherings, like our present government's creative and innovative legislative manipulations to safeguard the use of our crown resources by our ever transparent and trustworthy elected officials together with the controlling agents of the corporate world.

On the agenda were such inconsequential items as:

1) How do we feel when our government once again erodes our democratic rights by taking more and more power from local decision making to centralize it in Victoria (Bill 11, Sections 14, 15 and 16)?

2) What possible connection could the proposed Jumbo mega development and the proposed mega Glacier/Howser Hydro project (the one the tradesmen call the Jumbo Electric Project) have with one another - back-to-back across the Purcells?

3) Will the government care about the news that a noted bear biologist recently confirmed that there are only half as many grizzly bears in the Central and South Purcells as the official numbers indicate?

4) Given that grizzly bears are under provincial protected status and much of their home range is exactly where these two proposed developments would be located, will we now see conservation of wild habitat?

5) Can there be any further doubt that the quoted costs of the resort have greatly escalated since first calculated and now will reach at least a billion dollars, most of which will fall to the taxpayers, like infrastructure upkeep and road maintenance which includes over 50 avalanche paths – all of which to serve only the wealthy of the world at the resort?

6) What about skiing on shrinking and soon to be non-existent glaciers - and - what about the glacial sources for Glacier and Howser Creeks which are visibly shrinking as fast as watching weeds grow in the spring?

7) Could it be a concern for locals when all the water in Glacier and Howser and Jumbo Creeks are used for corporate development like electric consumers in the USA? We know the parent company, AXOR, is in Eastern Canada. We also know that a couple of the Jumbo investors are water exporters from Eastern Canada. Could all this glacier takeover be interconnected? Will there be any water left for us and the animals, downstream?

8) Does the provincial electric consuming public care that when all these so called small, green hydro projects feed the grid our rates will skyrocket while the corporations concentrate on profits?

9) Is there a bloomin' thing that any of us can do, or might we as well pick up the remote and crack another cold one?

10) YO TRIUMPHY! Sit down at your computer or pick up your pen. Exercise your democratic writes! Express that you will only accept local decision making regarding land use matters! Simply say NO TO THE JUMBO RESORT! - and- NO TO THE GLACIER/HOWSER ELECTRIC PROJECT!

Premier Gordon Campbell
PO Box 9041 - Stn. Prov. Gov.
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1
premier@gov.bc.ca

Rowena Eloise Argenta

Slocan Lake needs motorboats

As a recreational boater on Slocan Lake and the current commodore of the marina in New Denver, I get concerned each time I hear suggestions that power boats should be abolished from these waters. I spend an equal amount of time in either of my small boats or one of my various paddled craft.

This is a large and uncrowded lake that may indeed see increased use from all craft in coming years. According to the booklet *New Denver – Eldorado of the Past*, there were at one time some 140 small motor launches on the lake (prior to highways) and local races and regattas were frequently held.

Chris Berger of Passmore has written twice to this newspaper in the last year denouncing all power boat operation, voicing concerns that Slocan Lake will end up like Okanagan Lake, "smelling of gas, with an oily film on top." Last year I spent some fine days kayaking both Okanagan and Kalamalka Lakes at Vernon and found the experience to be quite delightful, not at all oily, and most scenic. There is a level of traffic there and also on Shuswap Lake that I'd rather not see here, but none of these lakes seemed too polluted despite heavy local populations and considerable agricultural activities.

Ms. Berger suggests that it might be acceptable to have electric motors on the lake which are clean and silent running. And absolutely gutless if you have to get home in a headwind and the battery goes dead. This wild mountain lake can quickly blow up, capsize boats and kill people who can't cope with storm conditions.

In my kayak or canoe I stay super aware of changing weather and water conditions. In any size of boat you must be humble, careful and ever alert. Power boats passing by can put up waves and odd wind squalls will rage down onto the lake from steep side valleys. These various watercraft must mingle out there the same way trucks, cars, bicycles and walkers share our roadways.

So the boat I keep at the marina is an older 16-footer with a 50-horsepower Mercury motor that isn't super-duper efficient. I keep the engine tuned well and run as lean an oil mix as I dare. But if I get a bigger boat, it can be safer out in storm conditions and will actually get better gas mileage and cause less pollution, even with 135 horsepower. Well-built big new boats are cleaner than older small ones. Bigger inboard motorboats not only can be fuel efficient but are quieter than some of the smaller older outboards like what I now own.

Remember that the villages of Slocan, Silverton and New Denver all supported the idea of a large diesel powered tourist boat just two years ago, which to me seems like the pinnacle of stupidity and poor business planning.

I agree with anyone who gets mad at idiots buzzing around close to shore. I believe that the behaviour of boaters is what annoys folks more than whether they have a large or small boat. Basically, it would be nice if everyone could just launch, get underway and be off to their chosen destination.

Slocan Lake is a wonderful body of water and the centrepiece of the upper valley. We're the ones in favour of the OCP process and some control over continuing growth. But except for maybe four busy long weekends in the summer, Slocan Lake remains a blissful place and I drink its water with no doubts whatsoever.

Peter Roulston
New Denver

Open letter to Kaslo ratepayers and council from Kaslo mayor

Re: the recent approval by the electorate, and subsequent adoption of a bylaw to borrow $122,000 to purchase the provincial courthouse building.

I am very concerned that council was unable to provide any correct financial information to the public prior to the referendum, or address the issues of due diligence as noted by our solicitor, auditor, environmental consultant, and building inspector. I feel it is now necessary for council to meet the requirements of due diligence and provide this information to the ratepayers of Kaslo before finalizing the purchase of the building. (The obligations of due diligence are listed below.) I also have concerns about this purchase being subsidized, through the taxation of local businesses, for the reason that this purchase may ultimately provide commercial rental and lease space in direct competition with business and building owners in the Village of Kaslo.

Over the course of negotiations with the Province the circumstances and issues regarding the purchase of this building have dramatically changed. Additional factors have come to light that were beyond the ability of council to reasonably and adequately address before the referendum. In my opinion, and on behalf of the ratepayers of Kaslo, I am now compelled to do my best to bring this information to light.

The costs, including the free 10-year Take-Back Lease with the Province, create a major impact on the Village of Kaslo's budgets for the term. Our solicitor has several issues that we are still trying to sort out with the Province that dramatically affect the Village, as landlord of the provincial building. Our auditor has stated clearly that in order for council to maintain due diligence a minimum of information must be supplied to the public. This requirement has not been met to date. The environmental assessment has warned of potentially significant costs required to utilize the property, whether it is sold, subdivided or developed. The building inspection report has warned of extremely high cost maintenance and retro-fitting that needs to be addressed, some immediately and some in the near future. None of these issues have been resolved by council.

Here is what needs to be done according to reports received by the Village, to fulfill the obligation of due diligence: state the reason for purchasing the building; state the proposed use of the building; address the issues of due diligence; negotiate a reasonable Take-Back Lease with the Province; negotiate an Offer to Purchase agreement; set a realistic operating and maintenance budget for the building that includes the absolutely essential upgrades and ultimate restoration of the building; and finally, council needs to take a position on whether it supports this acquisition or not.

I have studied the financial impacts to the very best of my abilities. With regards to budget, I can make a very reasonable claim that the total, minimum, realistic dollar outlay for the provincial building over the next 10 years will be in excess of $1,000,000. There are a great number of variables which could reasonably escalate this cost. If council is to be fiscally responsible, I would suggest that the council start with a budget of $100,000 per year for the next 10 years; this would include repayment of the loan. I would also like to suggest that loan repayment, operation, and maintenance of the building be separated in our budgeting and accounting, similar to our water and sewer services, so these expenses are completely transparent and not buried in general revenues and expenses of the Village.

I would also like to request that council budget the full $100,000 for the 2007 budget, so there will be funds to address the immediate needs of the building and cover unforeseen costs. If the Village is going to own two large and expensive heritage buildings, let's not make the same mistake with the second building that we have made with the first one – remember the Kaslo City Hall is in dire straits also.

In addition, I would request that council budget for this item from increased taxes, rather than take funds away from existing services and programs to cover the cost of purchase, operation and maintenance of the provincial building, should the Offer to Purchase be made and accepted.

Thank you.

Jim Holland
Kaslo

Remove chip trucks from Hwy 6

A number of persons have voiced their objections to me about chip truck traffic since my letter on the subject was published the *Valley Voice*. Evidently, not much is known about the actual background technical studies, the Task Force, the community meetings, which preceded the chip trucks using Highway 6. The position of industry and government at that time was that the highways are open to the entire public; that the chip truck traffic should not be singled out and prohibited. This was and is a gravely misleading representation of the issue. Chip trucks are not equal to public traffic and industry has never paid equally in the cost of accommodating them on our highway. Initially, ours was a rural highway completely inappropriate to chip truck traffic – $100 million or more had to be provided in taxpayer funds to straighten curves on Highway 6, remake Cape Horn for high speed traffic and improve the Castlegar turn-off. This was a subsidy to industry, but it didn't even begin to include the huge cost of the wear and tear on our highways night and day, which continues to be paid by the taxpayers. If the mill and its carriers were charged these costs then, or maintenance cost now, the barge route would not only seem attractive but unavoidable.

The Ministry of Transportation analysis used at the Task Force hearings was based on US figures that one heavy axle truck weighing 80,000 pounds has the same impact on the highway as 9,600 cars. The ministry said the US roads used in the study were rigid concrete and the impact would be lessened with our asphalt roads. However, each chip truck on Highway 6 has a gross vehicle weight of some 53,500 kg (or

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117,700 lbs). By extension, one chip truck would easily have an impact similar to 10,000 cars – astounding.

Consider this major fact: the government's Task Force, after three stages of report, concluded that the least cost alternative, at $162 million over a period of 20 years, was the lake barge route. The trucks on public roads cost the most, $217.8 million, except that the major cost, if the highway route was chosen, would be borne by the public. The public has since paid more than taxes and gross inconvenience; there's been substantial danger. There is a list of chip truck accidents, some fatal, that is substantial and depressing.

Strangely enough, at the beginning of the studies the government felt that transportation of chips by barge was the best solution. It recognized that problems existed with reservoir drawdown at Shelter Bay but compared to the expenditures required to rehabilitate Highway 6, this should not have proved an obstacle. The report by government consultants made in 1993 found that the barge service is possible, that icing could be prevented by an aerator and that any depth of water problem had previously been solved by dredging. In addition, the report found that the trucks on the highway would decrease property values, raise pollution emission and sound impact consequences, enlarge safety/accident concerns, especially with summer tourist increase in vehicles and bicycles and a host of other concerns. Celgar, contrarily, took the position that transport by truck was most economical to its interests.

When it comes to space problems on the ferry system, the government report also stated that "assuming that each chip truck is equivalent to 5 vehicles, 28 trucks is the same as 140 automobiles." Besides displacement of cars, the increase in chip trucks means still longer delays for other vehicles and increased operating costs of $300,000 for the ferries. Previous to this report the ferry service had been expanded to carry the trucks and its cost was not included because (the report stated), "the money has already been spent."

The background in this is very discouraging when looked at from the public interest viewpoint. It was known from the beginning that chip truck traffic would more than double and that concerned many residents. The Slocan Valley Watershed Alliance stated in its brief to the Celgar Review Panel (October 1990) that using Highway 6 "poses unacceptable public safety problems and is subsidized by taxpayers through road upgrades and frequent road repairs...If a subsidy must occur, let it be for rail and barge transport of pulp logs and chips. Subsidies for never-ending highway changes and repairs are unacceptable...Industry must pay its fair share of transportation costs."

Despite the open house meetings, forum and the Ward report ,which stated that a majority of residents opposed the use of Highway 6, it was all window-dressing. None of the concerns could alter the fact that the government would allow Celgar to choose the transport options and the mill chose the one which cost it the least and cost us the most.

The problem of our narrow mountainous roads and upgrades was referred to in an engineer report (11 October 1990) that pointed out other problems: that the ferries' tendency was to assemble the chip trucks into convoys; when travelling together they "quadrupled" the length of the vehicles that drivers caught behind would have to pass. In addition, the chip trucks dangerously cut into the left opposite lane on curves. None of this made a difference – not cost, safety, road impact (which was to cost an estimated $7 million yearly), nor pollution through fuel consumption. And what about the noise pollution from these trucks gearing down, using their engine brakes, not only on the small hill going past the Callison/Yeoman property but the subsequent hill right up to the New Denver village limit. Imagine the plight of those who live immediately adjacent to the highway all along the route!

The government stated it had to leave the choice of transportation up to Celgar, claiming that our roads are public and access to them can't be denied. Says who? The government denies access to ATVs, farm tractors, and vehicles which are unsafe in one or another way. A compendium of unsafe, pollutative consequences from chip trucks, given the still present rural aspect of Highway 6, would provide equal grounds for denial.

Why are taxpayers funds used to subsidise the highway usage when less than that huge sum could be used to subsidise the barge route, providing safety and reducing substantive pollution concerns on Highway 6? What about the $16 to $21 million expended for the Brilliant intersection and the bridge over the Columbia achieved solely for Celgar, which the government report admits? This huge sum could have been used to build the docks for the barge and pay for the barge itself. Instead the trucking business as well as Celgar's profits prevailed, not the public interest.

The present yearly cost of highway resurfacing, the impact of chip trucks on Highway 6 travelling in all weather, bringing increased danger to cars and pedestrians especially in the tourist season, the very real accident and pollution history, all demand, however belatedly, a reassessment of the use of taxpayers funds in order to remove this danger to public safety and restructure chip traffic to the barge route. The fact that our funds were flagrantly misused in the past and our interests ignored is no justification for continuing to do so now.

Why are we living with this year after year? If the government refuses to require that the chips move by barge, the only way to achieve any balance and restore equity to the public trust is to require industry to pay the actual cost of doing business. This means paying for the impact on Highway 6. Right now, corporate stockholders, many of whom are foreign investors, fatten with preposterous dividends while CEOs are paid yearly fortunes. And the public gets the abuse and the cost. What's more, slowly the government is turning Highway 6 into an industrial corridor between Highways 1 and 3, and it must be stopped. If Corky Evans really represents us, he should be devoting his political acumen and intensity to removing the chip trucks from Highway 6.

Richard Caniell
New Denver

Off-grid by choice

Glacier Creek is home to many on a 43 acre mine claim that straddles the Glacier Creek. It's owned outright and by choice they enjoy living off-grid. Plans are in the works to dam Glacier Creek and divert the water via an underground tunnel six klicks to a powerhouse on the Duncan Reservoir to generate hydropower, then to be transmitted by towers through the Howser Creek and Horsethief Valleys in the Jumbo area. A numbered company is the major investor. For people who choose to live a life off-grid this is a real threat. To the survival of the natural environment it is even more of a threat, and in terms of global warming these sort of projects must be of most concern.

The Jumbo village proposal would be a big contributor to the global warming that our government says we must work towards reducing. So the decision to develop this resort village would be in direct conflict with global warming reduction orders.

Westfall has been cut blocked to devastating sights and is going to suffer another five-year license to continue this forest rape. Westfall is a snow belt area for migrating large game (animals) that depend on the old growth forest for shelter. The animal trails are under this old growth canopy for protection from the heavy snow so the trails remain open for them. There are natural salt mineral deposits that feed the caribou, elk and grizzly.

This old growth has been cut and the area virtually destroyed. The large game are endangered. I have seen grizzly dens in stumps left in cut forests. A home defeated by a logging war. There are many other species that need homes in this old growth for their survival.

What to do to protect a wilderness, my backyard and choice to be off-grid, and not to be affected by the hydo ... hummm. Does the governing system want to destroy a wilderness ... not really.

Your letters to all governing offices that have power over the decisions of such projects must keep pouring in. They are powerful letters and are what it takes to stop a project from being approved.

Jana Harmon
Argenta

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Silverton OCP meeting seeks residents' vision for the future

by Art Joyce

What do you want your community to look like in 25 years? A dedicated group of about 25-30 people showed up at the Silverton Memorial Hall the evening of April 26 to consider this and other questions in a visioning session for a new Official Community Plan (OCP). SmartGrowth BC community planner Tom Lancaster was there to prod, inspire and guide residents into creating their own community vision.

Other questions posed by Lancaster for Silvertonians to ponder were: "How would you want people to describe Silverton after spending seven days here?" "If you have/had or are going to have kids, what would you want for them in Silverton?" "If someone read about Silverton in a national newspaper, how would you finish the sentence, 'Silverton is…?"

Critical to establishing a vision that reflects the unique makeup of a community, Lancaster explained, is identifying its needs, issues, and priorities. Understanding these helps with the formation of the vision, essentially a statement of the principles and values Silverton holds most dear. The vision statement then becomes the launching pad for creating a list of community objectives that inform policy formation and design guidelines. The result: an OCP of, by, and for the people.

Residents were encouraged to shout out questions, and write their needs, issues and priorities on post-it notes under each category. Several consistent themes emerged. Slowing down large truck traffic was a consistent wish across all categories, though opinions were divided as to exactly how. "Keep the area quaint, clean, safe and pristine as possible," and "restrict jet skis or loud watercraft on the lake," reflect the general vision of most who participated. The idea of a hiking/biking trail from Silverton to New Denver got a hearty cheer from the audience.

Under the 'needs' category, "more families" and "attract full-time residents" was mentioned several times. "A vision for alternate energy," was another. Only one person mentioned promoting the area's natural resources as a means of attracting small mines or light industry to Silverton. One person mentioned boundary expansion but Lancaster cautioned that with more territory comes more responsibility and expense.

By the end of the evening residents were ready to post their vision statements, which reflected an impressive array of values. "Silverton is a vibrant, tolerant, open village made up of innovative, resourceful people." A more concrete vision statement saw Silverton 25 years from now as "a BIT bigger, with a mixture of housing types, green spaces, safe roads and walkways, economic opportunities supported by modern communications and transportation infrastructures." Another one sounded like a new advertising slogan for the village: "Silverton is in the middle of nowhere and the centre of everything."

The issue of stimulating the local economy was of intense concern to many, who see the tourism industry as only part of the picture. "Tourism is good as part of a mixed economy," said one. "If it's the only thing, it's a death trap." Getting high-speed internet was seen by several as critical to attracting businesses and young families here.

Lancaster will be accepting input from residents at tom@smartgrowth.bc.ca. At the next OCP meeting he will be creating community asset mapping. He is applying for funding to help take Silverton's OCP revision beyond the conceptual and into economic development.

North Area H planning update

by Jan McMurray

The Advisory Planning Commission (APC) for the North Slocan Valley OCP process met April 26 at Knox Hall in New Denver.

The group reviewed the draft guiding principles and expects to adopt them at the next meeting.

Dave Wahn of the RDCK planning department reported on the interagency meeting held March 22. He said representatives from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB), and Ministry of Environment were all in attendance and indicated a willingness to assist with the OCP process in any way possible. The group decided to write to DFO requesting that a shoreline inventory be done on Slocan and Summit Lakes this summer. It was also decided to invite Tola Coopper from DFO, who does shoreline inventories, to one of the APC meetings.

The commission will ask the RDCK board to request the ILMB to put a moratorium on crown land applications pertaining to the foreshores of Summit and and Slocan Lakes while the planning process is underway.

The group finalized the questionnaire that will be sent to every property owner in northern Area H and posted on the RDCK website. Property owners can expect to receive the questionnaires by the end of the month, with results to be collated by the end of the summer.

Heritage workshop sets the stage for protecting Slocan's historical treasures

by Don Currie

Residents interested in preserving Village of Slocan heritage met for a workshop led by Bob Inwood at the Silvery Slocan Hall on Saturday, April 28. Inwood is a private consultant who has lived in the area for 35 years and has done heritage planning in Nelson, Kaslo, Rossland, and Revelstoke.

The purpose of Inwood's presentation was to explain the broad scope of heritage work, provide information on how the Village can establish a heritage inventory, and assist in setting up a local heritage committee to liaison with the Heritage Society of BC, which sponsored the workshop.

Inwood said that since the 1980s and '90s, there has been a steady decline in funds at both the federal and provincial levels.

Federally, Heritage Canada and Parks Canada have a heritage mandate. He urged the community to petition council to form a Community Heritage Committee and set it to work compiling a heritage inventory and a local heritage management plan. A tool kit from the Heritage Society is available to local municipalities.

Another important agency is the Heritage Place Initiative (HPI). This established the first-ever national registry of heritage sites, a program that the US and most European countries have had for decades. The Harper Conservatives slashed the HPI budget, resulting in the Statements of Significance program that helps communities compile a heritage inventory – the first step in making a strong case for funding.

Provincially, there is the Heritage Act and a Heritage Trust Fund administered by the Heritage Society of BC. Grants are available for some capital projects, interpretive programs, heritage walking tours, flagging, pendants and education work. Under the program 50% funding is available to successful applicants. Other agencies that dispense funds include the Archives Association of BC, the BC Museums Association and the Columbia Basin Trust.

Village of Slocan Administrator Eunice Ludlow said Heritage BC is now offering communities the opportunity to establish a registry of buildings over 50 years old. Slocan Village Council has registered four: the Village Office, the Silvery Slocan Hall, the Women's Institute Hall, also known as the old fire hall, and the old elementary school. Two local churches also qualify.

Ludlow said work is underway to update records, identify burial plots and properly commemorate former residents interred at the cemetery. The Provincial Inspector of cemeteries will be coming to the Village on May 8 to assist the Village in determining the accuracy of the Village cemetery map. Cemetery records were lost in 1949. A Japanese expert in cemeteries who visited was dismayed at the state of cemetery remains of Japanese Canadians who died while in Slocan area internment camps. Joyce Johnson is leading an effort to assist the Village in correcting records and creating an appropriate memorial at the cemetery.

There was a strong representation at the workshop from members of the St. Andrew's Presbyterian and St. Mary's Catholic churches who are interested in learning how to apply for government funding to preserve and upgrade their churches, both which qualify as heritage sites. Inwood said he will check on the availability of church heritage funding.

At the conclusion of the workshop, Joyce Johnson was designated to represent workshop participants at the May 9 Village council meeting and brief the mayor and council on the information. Delegates also agreed that council should initiate a residents' Community Heritage Committee. The committee's goals would be to develop a heritage strategic plan, create a heritage registry, involve longtime and newly arrived residents in heritage work, and consider establishing a heritage conservancy area.

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Silverton council: Community Club updates on Village Hall painting project

by Art Joyce

Mayor Everett reported that residents continue calling his home number about fire calls and wishes to remind the public that the number to call is 911. Everett reported on his meeting with New Denver regarding the fire department amalgamation that there will be no significant change in the budget this year. The mayor apologized to council that he had not yet had time to draft a resolution regarding TILMA.

Ty Capelle attended as a representative of the Silverton Community Club to update council on plans for painting the Village Hall and shop. The group have done an initial assessment of the buildings' condition and determined that minor repairs will be needed, including trim boards, fascia and air plugs that need replacing. The club would also like to remove the Christmas lights and turn them over to their Christmas on the Lake subcommittee for decorating. The club will cover all paint and supplies and would like to distribute a flyer seeking volunteer support from Silverton residents. Capelle will be supervising the project but assured the mayor and council that if he is away Ron Provan or another member of the Community Club will be available to supervise. CAO Ida said regulations require that the lead content of the paint must be tested before workers can begin. Councillors Provan and Laktin volunteered to be on the committee to choose the paint colours.

Councillor Bell reported on the RDCK general affairs meeting where the service review requested by Nelson and Castlegar was discussed. She said 13 of 20 RDCK members have agreed to sit on the committee. Bell advised council that she sees no point in Silverton having a representative since they are not a community directly or indirectly impacted by hydro dams. Selkirk College Regional Innovation Chair George Penfold is scheduled to make a presentation to the board. Andy Shadrack will represent the RDCK on the regional innovation committee. The RDCK will also be investigating the ramifications of the TILMA agreement. Paul Peterson was appointed the regional district's CBT board representative.

Bell noted from her meeting with the Slocan Valley Economic Development Commission that they are seeking a new chairperson. They are proposing the extension of high-speed internet to Summit Lake.

Bell is working on the conference exhibit for the upcoming Federation of Canadian Municipalities which will include an artists' portfolio of the kind started originally by Rosalie Bird, representing artists from the East and Central Kootenays.

Councillor Laktin reported that the Friends of Silverton Hall were successful in acquiring a $1000 grant. Laktin wanted to commend public works for the excellent job being done on cleaning up the campgrounds, and reported that the bookstore was running smoothly and being kept tidy.

Councillor Provan reported that in order for the $65,000 grant application to the Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund (MRIF) for the Memorial Hall to go forward, the Village must apply on its behalf. A motion to that effect was passed. Provan has invited the mayors of New Denver, Slocan, Nakusp and Silverton to the WWII plaque unveiling ceremony at Memorial Hall June 30 at 11 am.

A letter was received from Dave and Shelley Welch notifying council that they are building a new garden in the southeast corner of their property. They were concerned that approximately 10 feet of the garden would encroach on Village property and requested permission to use the land. In discussion, Mayor Everett said he doubted the land in question does encroach and recommended that CAO Ida send the Welchs a property map.

Mayor Everett will participate in the New Denver May Days Centennial parade.

CAO Ida reported that the campsite attendant contract has been awarded to Bert and Cheryl Bouchard.

A grant-in-aid request from the Last Wishes Society was tabled pending budget discussions.

VILLAGE OF SILVERTON
NOTICE OF ELECTION **BY VOTING**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS **HEREBY** given to the electors of the Village of Silverton that an election by voting is necessary to elect one (1) Councillor, commencing June 2007 and terminating December 2008, and that the persons nominated as candidates and for whom votes will be received are:

Councillor- One (1) to be elected

Surname	Usual Names	Jurisdiction of Residence
Mistretta	Susanne Carol	8473 Red Mountain Road, Area H
Wiseman	Timothy George	115 – 5th Street, Silverton

GENERAL VOTING DAY will be open to qualified electors of the Village of Silverton on Saturday, June 02, 2007 between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm at the following location:
Village of Silverton Council Chambers - 421 Lake Avenue Silverton BC

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

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

Resident electors will also be required to produce **2 pieces of identification** (at least one 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 Elections Officer at the Village of Silverton office during regular office hours prior to 4:00 pm on Thursday, May 31, 2007. 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 Village of Silverton Council Chambers, 421 Lake Avenue, Silverton BC on Wednesday, May 23, 2007 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 Silverton 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.

Ms. Junko Ida
Chief Elections Officer
The Village of Silverton

Two candidates to contend for Silverton council position

Two candidates, Sue Mistretta and Tim Wiseman, have stepped forward to run for the vacant councillor position at the Village of Silverton.

Mistretta is a certified counsellor with a Master of Arts Degree in Counselling Psychology and is business owner of Soulgarden, which offers workshops on creativity, health and healing.

Tim Wiseman has a dentistry office in Silverton and has served as mayor and councillor in the past.

An All Candidates meeting will be held at the Silverton Gallery on May 14 at 7 pm. Bill Roberts will moderate.

The byelection takes place June 2. Advance voting, May 23.

Slocan hosts Emergency Operations course

by Jan McMurray

Emergency Preparedness Week (May 6-12) kicked off with an Emergency Operations course at the Slocan Valley's main Emergency Operations Centre located at the Valhalla unit crew camp in Slocan. About 16 people from Slocan, Silverton, New Denver, Nakusp, Passmore, Castlegar and Nelson attended, with Justice Institute instructor Murray Bertram from Cranbrook.

"We're learning the proper procedures for emergency evacuations in this course," said Terry Warren, Emergency Co-ordinator for Areas H and K.

Other events planned for the week include a Kootenay interface steering committee meeting to look into dealing with wildfires near communities, and presentations at elementary schools by local members of the RCMP, Search and Rescue, fire departments and ambulance stations.

"The most difficult thing is to make sure the public is prepared," said Warren. "Everyone should have a bag packed to be ready for 72 hours away from home. All the information needed for any emergency is found on the Provincial Emergency Program (PEP) website at www.pep.bc.ca."

Warren says all emergency plans in our area are in place, and the EOC in Slocan is equipped with high speed internet, back-up power, phones, and faxes. "The EOC is completely portable," added Warren. "We can run it out of a pick-up or a van if we have to."

Lucerne celebrates the arts

by Jan McMurray

Lucerne School celebrated Arts and Culture Week with an amazing variety of workshops led by community artists. On Friday evening, April 27, the students' work was on display for the community. The entire school, from preschool to grade 12, participated in the workshops.

There was printmaking with Anita Dumins, pottery with Elly Scheepens and Katelyn Murphy, felting with Donna Hicks, mosaic with Penelope Stuart, basket weaving with Eloise Charet, expressive painting with Andrea Subba, fly tying with Mary Fulkco and Karen Forsythe, book binding with Betty Fahlman, body collage with Sue Mistretta, photography with Virginia Boyd, plaster sculpture with Elly Scheepens, and car painting with Jeremy Down.

Lucerne teachers Lila Strand, Shelley Thring and Brighid Bowman organized this Celebration of the Arts, in conjunction with Penelope Stuart and Lorna Obermayr of the Slocan Lake Gallery Society.

Slocan receives two requests for CBT community initiatives funding

by Don Currie

There were two applicants for grants from the Slocan Village allotment of Columbia Basin Trust community initiatives funding.

At a public meeting May 2, Councillor John Gates received presentations from Chris Nichol, seeking funding for the parent-child Mother Goose oral language development program, and Louise Christian and Sheryl Mair representing the West Kootenay Branch of Options for Sexual Health Education.

Chris Nichol requested a $500 grant to continue providing Mother Goose classes to preschool and kindergarten age children accompanied by parents.

Louise Christian, Chair of the West Kootenay Branch of Options for Sexual Health, has conducted clinics in Kaslo, Trail and Castlegar to educate youth about the basics of sexual health, planned pregnancies and to reduce sexually transmitted disease. She was seeking a grant of $550 to conduct three sessions in Slocan.

Councillor Gates thanked the applicants for their presentations and said he would take their requests to council.

New Denver presents first draft of Official Community Plan

by Jan McMurray

The first draft of New Denver's amended OCP was presented to the public on April 23 at a meeting at Knox Hall, attended by about 20 people. Copies of the document are available at the Village office.

The draft will soon be referred out to the various ministries for comment. When those comments come back, probably around the end of June, council will give the OCP bylaw two readings. Then, there will be a public hearing, which will be the last chance for the public to provide input on the document before it is adopted as a bylaw.

A key addition to the OCP document is a vision statement, describing New Denver as "a beautiful, safe, healthy, friendly, and ecologically sound lake-front community." Another addition is an environmental reserve zone around the Village's two well heads to protect the water supply. The document states: "Council's policy is to place the highest priority on water source protection in order to provide pure drinking water with no chemical additives."

The zoning bylaw has been changed to lower building heights. The maximum height of principal buildings has been decreased to 27.9' from 32.8' in all zones except core commercial and public / institutional. Also, the OCP allows for multi-family zoning near the community health centre and the school, but these areas are still zoned residential. Mayor Wright explained the reasoning behind this – anyone who wants to build a multi-family housing development in New Denver will have to apply for re-zoning. This gives council the opportunity to explore low income or rental housing units with the developer.

Another issue addressed in the revised OCP is vacation rentals. Ongoing vacation rentals are allowed in the C3 Residential Commercial zone only. There are four residences in this zone, on the south end of Eldorado Avenue. Short-term rental for tourist accommodation is allowed in the residential zones, for a total of four weeks per year.

The definition of secondary suites was expanded to clarify that they are to be used for long-term residential rentals. This, Administrator Carol Gordon explained, was in response to feedback on vacation rentals, and was intended to protect tenants from being asked to move out temporarily while the unit was being used as a vacation rental.

The lake was identified as an issue of importance to residents at the first public meeting, and in the survey that was made available to all residents and property owners. In the OCP's vision statement, "public ownership and public management of the Slocan Lake foreshore and Carpenter Creek riparian area" is included. Also, an objective of land use is "to encourage the development of a comprehensive management plan for Slocan Lake." A policy for commercial land use is "to encourage limited, quiet commercial use along the Slocan Lake...No rental or sales of houseboats, jet skis, ski boats or other noisy water uses shall be permitted."

A resident noted that the mapping shows the Village boundary extending into the lake, and wanted to know if the Village had jurisdiction over the part of the lake located inside its boundaries. Administrator Gordon explained that the Village has control to the high water mark, and Transport Canada and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) have authority over the lake. Dave Wahn from the planning department at the RDCK, involved in New Denver's OCP review process, added that the Village has the ability to regulate development on the foreshore as long as it meets all the requirements of Transport Canada and DFO. "If someone wanted to put a marina in, zoning would apply. So would DFO and Transport Canada regulations, but zoning counts," he said. In response to a question about how to ban jet skis on the lake, Wahn said the Village would not be able to do this on its own. He reiterated that navigable waters are under the jursidiction of the federal government, and that the Village's authority was limited here. However, he pointed out that the Village had done what it could – the OCP identifies that the foreshore will be used for park purposes, and if there are any commercial activities along the foreshore, the Village will encourage rental of non-motorized vehicles or boats with small outboard motors.

One resident asked if the Village could restrict rentals to four-stroke motors, as two-stroke motors are big polluters. Wahn answered that this restriction could perhaps be stipulated in the lease to the foreshore operator. He indicated that the foreshore management plan for the entire lake, envisioned to be a co-ordinated effort between New Denver, Silverton, Slocan and Area H, would be the best place to explore this issue.

Someone asked if the OCP document could address the issue of seasonal residents. Mayor Wright said a local homeowner grant was being looked into, but there were problems with it. "You can encourage people to live here, but you can't force them," said Wahn, pointing to the statement in the OCP: "To encourage full-time resident ownership of property wherever possible."

The current OCP was adopted 14 years ago, in 1993.

SD10, May 1: Burton's outdoor class in jeopardy

by Jan McMurray

•The outdoor program at Burton Elementary is in jeopardy, with only 10 students registered for next year.

"A decision in regard to discontinuing this program may be considered," states Posnikoff's written report to the board. A public meeting to discuss the future of the program will be held May 16 at 7 pm at either the board office or at the Bonnington.

After such a positive response to the survey sent out to students and staff about the pilot outdoor education program, "this caught most of us off guard," said Superintendent Walter Posnikoff. The district was hoping for an enrolment of 18-24 students for the grades 5/6 class next year.

Posnikoff's report says anticipated enrolment for the K-4 portion of BES for next year is eight or nine.

•School fees can be charged for the band and ski programs without the approval of the School Planning Councils (SPCs). Posnikoff and board chair Pattie Adam clarified the issue of school fees after attending a meeting with the Minister of Education on April 30. SPCs are responsible only for the approval of fees for academies, or year-round specialty courses, which SD10 does not offer. Posnikoff has estimated that the school district will need to find $70-$80 for each Grade 8-12 student in the upcoming budget to offset fees that can no longer be charged to parents for things such as art and fly tying.

•The role of the four new Superintendents of Achievement in the province was also clarified at the April 30 meeting. These people are there to help school districts meet their goals for student achievement, not to interfere with budget or staffing decisions.

Adam said the poor communication around the new legislation was discussed at length at the meeting, and school districts expressed a desire to get involved before legislation is passed.

•Trustee Quinn DeCourcy reported from the Southern Zone PAC meeting that parents feel maintenance work is not being done regularly enough at Edgewood Elementary School. He also spoke about the inconsistent attendance at PAC meetings, because there is only one PAC for both the Burton and Edgewood schools and a large distance between the two schools. It was suggested that DPAC President Lee-Anne Marshall speak with the President of the Southern Zone PAC about the pros and cons of having two separate committees.

Kaslo's housing study results presented

by Jan McMurray

The Kaslo Housing Society was given an 'Oscar' at its AGM on April 30 for a decade of work trying to get a supportive housing project off the ground in Kaslo.

Kate Mancer, seniors' housing consultant, gave the Society the 'virtual award' in her PowerPoint presentation for being so dedicated, raising over $100,000, conducting surveys, obtaining a building site, gathering support of many people, and getting funding for a market survey. Mancer presented the draft of that market survey at the meeting.

Her job was "to find out what the market wants and if it would work economically." Her conclusion was that the cost of new construction would probably be prohibitive given the average incomes of the people in the small target market group.

"The primary market area is Kaslo," she said. She found that not many from outlying areas would move to Kaslo for supportive housing, preferring to move to Nelson when it came time to live in a seniors' housing unit.

The average income of the people 75 and over who completed the questionnaire was between $20,000 and $25,000. Mancer said that 70% of a person's income could go into supportive housing, as meals, housekeeping and laundry services are provided, and estimated that the average Kaslo citizen 75 years and older could afford $1,200 per month. Unfortunately, she said this would not be enough to build a supportive housing development in the current climate of very high construction costs – now $200 per square foot according to a local building designer. "If I were presenting this a couple of years ago, it could be different but with construction costs today..."

The 2001 census counted 90 people in Kaslo over the age of 75. Mancer said a rule of thumb is that 5% of this group would live in supportive housing. That comes out to only four or five units for Kaslo. A group in Maple Ridge that is very experienced with seniors' housing has determined that at least 20-30 units are needed for economic viability. "CMHC (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) would say 50," added Mancer.

Although most focus group participants (42%) expressed that they wanted independent living rather than supportive living, Mancer noted that there was a gap in Kaslo – Abbey Manor provides independent living; the community health centre provides extended care; but there is nothing in between.

Mancer said Kaslo's results showed "a way higher than usual proportion of people saying it was unlikely they would move in the next two years." 73% said it was unlikely; 18% said it was somewhat likely; 8% said it was very likely. However, she said it was common for people to believe they would never be moving. In fact, the grand majority of people move into supportive housing because of a fall or some other health crisis.

Even with the unfavourable study results, Mancer had some ideas for the society. "If Abbey Manor wanted to add some supportive housing features, that would make long-term sense," she said. Some people attending the meeting agreed that working with Abbey Manor made good sense. Mancer also said there was a possibility of creating five or six units in the provincial building, which the Village is soon to purchase. She said she expected a cost estimate on that scenario soon.

Mancer's final report is expected to be delivered to the society soon.

Artists barnstorming for inspiration

Would you be willing to have a small group of artists visit your property to seek inspiration for their art? Barbara Wilson will be guiding a one day Art and Adventure 'paint-out' in the Slocan Valley Saturday June 2. Wilson is looking for both artists and historical barns to be subjects for the one day event co-sponsored by Slocan Valley Recreation. The group will start in the morning in Winlaw and paint until late afternoon, when the artists will review the days' work and have supper together.

Wilson would also like to collect the stories behind the barns and outbuildings. She welcomes any writers who would like to join the artists and help discover the history and background of some of these buildings. For information contact Wilson at 226-0021, www.barbarawilson.ca or www.artandadventure.ca. To register call Slocan Valley Recreation at 226-0008.

Dandelion Energy Ltd. is pleased to announce that it will be holding a Public Open House Meeting in Passmore.

This meeting is part of the requirements of the application process for an Environmental Assessment Certificate for the development of the Koch Creek run-of-river green non-storage hydroelectric power project. The Open House Meeting is intended to inform all members of the public about the Project and to provide a forum under which the public learn first hand about the Project and to provide a forum for comment. Copies of the Application as well as other information will be available for viewing at the Public Open House Meeting.

This meeting will be conducted at the time and location as indicated below. All are welcome to attend:

Public Open House Meeting in Passmore, BC
Saturday, May 26, 2007
5:30 - 8:00 pm
Passmore Hall

New Denver gears up for its centennial May Days celebration

by Jan McMurray

If you've never been to New Denver's May Days celebrations, this would be the year to check it out. 2007 marks New Denver's 100th May Days event!

The theme of the centennial celebration is: 'How the west was fun...'

New this year are a weekend-long scavenger hunt, a basketball exhibition, a volleyball tournament on the beach, a Mountain Madness bike clinic and race, a gold panning demonstration, a home run derby for both kids and adults, and musical entertainment in the park on Monday by the Lucerne school band, choir and guitar class; Slocan Valley Community Choir; Nakusp Youth Orchestra; Faulk Sounds; and Keith Newberry.

The weekend kicks off with the Queen's Pageant on Thursday evening and the Naming of the Queen on Friday evening, followed by the teen dance, at the Bosun Hall.

On Saturday, the action is on the main street, starting with the bike rodeo at 9:30 am. The popular soap box derby begins at 10:30 am – and everyone can join in because there are cars available for those who don't have their own. The fish derby begins at 10 am, with weigh-in on Monday. A men's basketball exhibition will take place in the Lucerne School gym at 1 pm. The Silverton Gallery hosts a Valhalla Fine Arts Society fundraiser concert at 7 pm, and the Young 'Uns will rock Bosun Hall from 9 pm to 1 am. There will be designated drivers on hand.

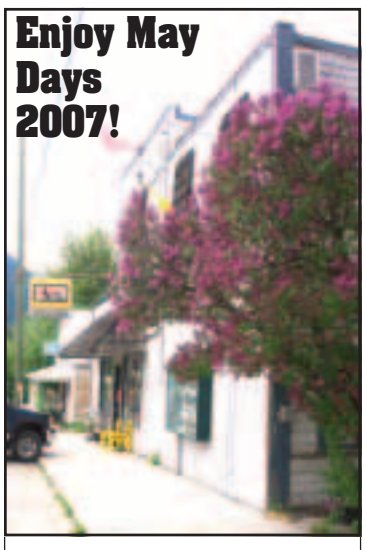
Start your Sunday with a pancake breakfast in the park. The day is packed with activities, including the Summit Lake bike race, bocce and volleyball tournaments, canoe jousting, Mountain Madness bike clinic and home run derby. Try your luck climbing the grease pole for a $100 prize. There will be a pig roast for dinner in the park, and bingo at the Bosun in the evening.

On Monday, the parade starts at 10 am and winds its way from the school to the park. Miss New Denver will be crowned, the Citizens of the Year will be honoured, and the May Days Awards will be announced. The park will be abuzz with the Maypole dance, kids' races, May Day market, volleyball playoffs, canoe jousting playoffs, crib tournament, gold panning demonstration, baking contest, and 'Sounds of the Centennial' with local talent. The fun comes to an end, as always, with the duck race finale.

Winlaw held their annual May Day Festival and Parade on Saturday, May 5.

ENJOY YOUR
MAY DAYS WEEKEND
IN BEAUTIFUL NEW DENVER!
Ann's Natural Foods
805 Kildare
New Denver

Panini Bistro
Open Tues-Sun 9 am - 4 pm
Sorry, we're closed May Day Sunday



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Slocan Lake Hardware
Main Street, New Denver
358-2422

nuru design
"Nature's Hand-Painted Clothing Company"
Coffee Bar & Baked Goodies
July & August - Open 7 Days a Week!
Off-season: Monday-Saturday 8 am - 6 pm
513-6th Avenue, New Denver, BC
www.nurudesign.com

Come have a GAS at New Denver's Annual May Days, May 17-21
GLACIER VIEW SERVICE
PETRO-CANADA
Hwy 6, New Denver
358-2445

May Days Sale
All Childrens Wear - 1/2 price
Adult Clothing - 20% off
Carol's Corner
Main Street • New Denver • 358-2255

The Apple Tree Sandwich Shop
Wishing everyone a Happy May Days Weekend!
We'll be closed Sunday and Monday
- eat at the Hot & Cold Booth

THURSDAY, May 17, 2007

7:00 pm **Queen's Pageant** Bosun Hall

FRIDAY, May 18, 2007

7:00 pm **Naming of the Queen** Bosun Hall

9:00 pm **The Teens' Dance** Bosun Hall
- 1:00 am Music by Good Times Entertainment
Tickets are $10/person. Includes a Pop & Buffet

Transportation Info:
1:00 am departs from Bosun Hall

The ONLY dogs allowed in Centennial Park over the weekend are Hot Dogs!!

SATURDAY, May 19, 2007

9:30 am - 10:30 am **SLGC Golf Tournament**
Slocan Lake Golf Course Tee off
For more info: 358-2408
(Sponsor- Reitmeier Logging & SBS)

9:30 am **Bike Rodeo** Main Street
Biking basics & road etiquette for young bikers. Must have a bike and helmet to participate.
Info: Elaine Maxinuk @ 358-2461

10:00 am **Fish Derby**
Register with the Centennial Park Attendant, Mountainberry or Home Hardware. For more info: Ross McMillan @ 358-7153 $25/person

The Valley's Biggest Chess Game
Main Street – free for anyone to play

Scavenger Hunt Main Street – Registration, pick up list
Info: Shelley @ 358-2456 or Jodi @ 358-2452 $20/team

10:30 am **Soap Box Derby** Main Street
Info: Richard Friedenberger @ 358-2580 $5/entry

Silent Auction – Main Street

1:00 pm **Men's Basketball Exhibition**
Lucerne School Info: Kevin Murphy @ 358-7143

7:00 pm **The Valhalla Fine Arts Society**
presents Sounds in Silverton's 3rd Fundraiser Concert "*A Little Night Music*" Silverton Gallery – admission by donation

9:00 pm - 1:00 am **The Adult Dance**
Bosun Hall
Music by "*The Young 'Uns*"
Tickets are $16/person. Live Music, Buffet & Door Prizes; Dance tickets will be available at: Mountainberry, Eldorado Market & Silverton Building Supplies. Bar costs extra.
Transportation Info:
12:00 & 1:00 am - departs from Bosun Hall.

SUNDAY, May 20, 2007

Fish Derby, Scavenger Hunt & Silent Auction continues.
All events at Centennial Park unless otherwise stated

7:30 am - 10:00 am **Pancake Breakfast**
Host - Chamber of Commerce

9:00 am **23rd Summit Lake Bike Race/Ride**
Start at Summit Lake Day Park Info: Jorg Becker @ 358-7966

9:00 am - 8:00 pm **6th Thomlinson Bocce Tourney**
Register with Debbie @ 358-2749 $25/team
(Host – ND & Area Firemen)

10:00 am **Mixed 4 on 4 Beach Volleyball Tournament**
Info: Paula Shandro @ 358-2774 $20/team

11:00 am **Mountain Madness Bike Clinic**
Registration - $5/person Ages 5 – 15 • WIN a bike!
Info: Jonathan Foulger • JF_dudar@yahoo.com

11:00 am **Hot & Cold Booth opens**

12:00 pm **Bavarian Gardens opens**

Grease Pole - $100 cash on top
(Sponsor - Community Club)

1:00 pm **Canoe Jousting Competition**
Info: Loren Oldham @ 358-2344 • $10/team

3:00 pm **Home Run Derby**
Kids and Adult Divisions Registration - $5/entry
Info: Daniel Hellyer @ 358-2612

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm **Pig Roast BBQ**
Roasted Pork Dinner - $12.50/person
Shelley @ 358-2456 for tickets
Hosted by ND May Day Committee

7:00 pm **Bingo** Bosun Hall *Host SLAS*

Listen for live music during the pig roast!!!

MONDAY, May 21, 2007

Fish Derby, Bocce Tournament, Volleyball Tournament, Scavenger Hunt, Grease Pole & Silent Auction continues ... All events at Centennial Park unless otherwise stated

9:00 am **Hot & Cold Booths open**

9:00 am Parade Line-up @ Lucerne School

10:00 am **The Parade begins**
Scavenger Hunt - closes at KSCU Tent

10:30 am **Miss New Denver Crowning**
Citizens of the Year honoured
May Days 2007 Awards Salute

11:30 pm **Maypole Dance**

12:00-4:00 **May Day Market**
Info: Anita Dumins @ 358-7731 $15/table

12:00-6:00 **Bavarian Gardens**

12:00 pm **Volleyball Playoffs**
Kid's Races - Prizes of $$$ & toys
Dunk Tank & Fish Pond & Games of Chance
Helium Balloons - free

Sounds of the Centennial
12:30 – 1:15 Lucerne School Band, Choir & Guitar Class
1:15 – 2:00 Slocan Valley Community Band
2:00 – 2:45 Nakusp Youth Orchestra
2:45 – 3:30 Faulk Sounds
3:30 – 4:15 Keith Newberry

1:00 pm **Cribbage Tournament**
Info: Rayn Butt @ 358-2232

Canoe Jousting Playoffs

1:30 pm **Gold Panning Demonstration**
By Herman Hiebert – Kids may participate

2:00 pm **Mountain Madness Bike Race**
Win a bike & other great prizes. $5/person or free to all Bike Clinic participates.

Baking Contest
Best Old Fashioned Breads & Fruit Pies
Info: Anita Dumins @ 358-7731

3:00 pm **Silent Auction** - bids end

4:00 pm **Duck Race Finale**

FOR FINAL SCHEDULE & RULES, PLEASE SEE
www.newdenvermaydays.com

Memories fade, but our souvenirs will remind you of the fun you had during the 100th Anniversary
– T-Shirts, Glasses and Coffee Mugs –
Check them out at the Silent Auction Table, the Bavarian Gardens and the Hot Booth

New Denver's reigning royalty, five May Queen candidates, and this year's two flower girls all looked lovely at the annual May Queen's tea at the Bosun Hall on May 6. L to R: Panina Ironi (reigning princess), Eva Shandro-Wictorin, Kate Plaskett, Erika Turner, Jessica Bernhof, Amy Schpakowski and Sawako Yoshida (reigning queen). In front are the two flower girls, Tatyanna Fontaine and Jude Nicholson-Chodat. There were no names submitted for page boy this year.

Kaslo May Queen candidates strike a pose from a dance routine they will be performing at the pageant on May 18. From Left to Right is Erin Sutherland (Drifters Restaurant & Meadow Creek Store), Alysa Addison (Early Bird & Market Place IGA), Grace Carpenter (Pennywise & JB's Restaurant), Kristina Dixson (Boards by George & Hartech Automotive).

Kaslo May Days marks 115th year as the village's premier spring event

submitted

Take part in a historic and highly fun family tradition located in the picturesque downtown of the Village of Kaslo – Kaslo's 115th May Day Celebration. Events include the longest running May Pole Dance in Canadian history, the May Day Parade, Show-n-Shine, Slo-pitch tournament, craft and food vendors, live music, Bavarian Gardens, horse show demonstrations and pony rides, helicopter rides and many more exciting events.

New to this year's event schedule is the Beach to Bay canoe race starting on the beach next to the SS Moyie and ending at Kaslo Bay Resort. So make sure to dust off your canoe and life jackets and register your team for this fun race. For registration and information contact kaslokayaking@gmail.com. Also new this year is the JVH Grad water fight in the Logger Sports area. Come and challenge a few or the whole graduating class to an old fashioned water fight. Make sure to bring a change of clothes!

For the full event schedule, go to www.kaslo.ca or call the Kaslo Visitors Centre at (250) 353-2525. Kaslo May Days is brought to you by the Kaslo and District Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by The Village of Kaslo.

Winlaw's fourth annual May Day Water Festival, Parade and Extravaganza was held on Saturday, May 5. Parade participants march towards the river in this photo.

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MAY DAYS 2007
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Kaslo and District Chamber of Commerce presents:
The Beach to Bay Canoe Race
Sunday May 20th 1 pm start
check in/registration table
10am-12noon
From Moyie Public Beach to Kaslo Bay Resort
info and pre-reg.
kaslokayaking@gmail.com
KDCC 353-9688
after 6pm 353-9640

hosted by Kaslo Bay Resort and Kaslo Kayaking

The Clothes Hanger
Have fun at Kaslo Annual May Days!
441 Front Street
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Kaslo BC V0G 1M0
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SLOCAN VALLEY ADVISORY PLANNING COMMISSION
COMMUNITY INPUT DAY: WATER ISSUES
MAY 12, 2007 - APPLEDALE HALL

Your participation in this community input event is essential - Please come and provide your insights, knowledge and opinions about this topic of great importance to all of us.

10: 00 am	Welcome And Introductions	
	WHAT'S ALREADY IN PLACE	
	DFO Regulations	Bruce MacDonald Department of Fisheries and Oceans
	RDCK Floodplain Management	Dave Wahn RDCK
	Slocan Valley Streamkeepers Initiatives: Riparian Restoration	Jennifer Yeow Slocan Valley Streamkeepers
	Questions and Discussion	
11:00 am	***FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS***	
	Public Access to the river	Shemmaho Slocan Valley Streamkeepers
	Water Stewardship on Private Property: Landowner Responsibility	Phil Larstone Winlaw Watershed Committee
	Questions and Discussion	
12:00	Lunch – please bring your own bag lunch. Beverages, cookies and fruit will be provided.	
12:30 pm	Community Mapping Session: consumptive waterways; public spaces adjacent to the river; areas important to wildlife, special places – beaches and picnicking sites, etc!	
1:00 pm	Discussion session: common issues, conflicts of interest, specific recommendations; next steps, formulation of a sub-committee on water issues.	

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TICKETS HOTLINE (250) 353-7548
Canada

BC Hydro repairs Eagle Creek berm near Edgewood

by Jan McMurray

BC Hydro has repaired the damaged section of the Eagle Creek berm near Edgewood, but has made it clear that the work was done voluntarily. The utility company claims it has no responsibility for the ongoing maintenance and repair of the berm, suggesting this is the responsibility of the Village of Edgewood or RDCK.

Area K Director Paul Peterson begs to differ. "At the time of flooding, BC Hydro relocated many displaced people to Edgewood, which is a floodplain, and now they claim they have no responsibility?"

Peterson wrote to Neal Dermody of BC Hydro to inform him that Edgewood is not an incorporated municipality and cannot raise taxation for projects such as berm repair. He also tells Dermody that the RDCK "does not involve itself in this kind of function."

Peterson points out in his letter that Edgewood and area is on provincial floodplain mapping. Because of this, anyone wanting to obtain a building permit first needs a geotechnical report, which costs about $1,500. Peterson suggests that BC Hydro do the work required on the creek to remove the Edgewood area from the mapping.

"Please look at this as an opportunity to right at least one wrong and feel better about it," concludes Peterson's letter.

BC Hydro installed the Eagle Creek berm in 1986 to protect the Edgewood water system. A March 16 inspection of the site concluded that the damage, along about 25 m of the berm, posed no immediate threat to other infrastructure on the banks or to BC Hydro pumphouses. The inspection recognized, however, that multi-year erosion at this site could impact adjacent property owners.

Computer Problem?
Call Ron at the Old Grey Barn
250-265-2163

Leon Pendleton wins NDP nomination for Kootenay-Columbia

Leon Pendleton has won the NDP nomination for Kootenay-Columbia, a constituency that covers the entire Arrow Lakes area and the Lardeau Valley from Meadow Creek to Trout Lake. Pendleton said the main priorities of his campaign will be fighting for tough action against climate change and fairness for families struggling with the high cost of long-term care and tuition fees.

"Instead of a $9 billion corporate tax cut, it's time the government invested in ordinary people by putting money back into education and skills training for our children and long-term care for our seniors," he said.

Pendleton also criticized the Harper government for being too cozy with US President George Bush on Afghanistan and softwood lumber. A passionate advocate for the environment, Pendleton believes Stephen Harper and the Conservatives won't stand up to the oil companies and big polluters.

Pendleton, 58, and his wife Goica own a 17 acre farm near Edgewood where they live close to the land, making a subsistence living from an organic market garden and small apiary.

Leon Pendleton, NDP candidate for Kootenay Columbia

Spirit of Writing Festival in Nakusp offers workshops and readings

by Art Joyce

Whether you've just had the itch to write or have years of writing under your belt, you'll find something inspiring at the Spirit of Writing Festival in Nakusp June 1-3. The Federation of BC Writers and the Arrow Lakes Writers Group are presenting an engaging array of workshops and readings at the Selkirk College Nakusp campus on Broadway.

The festival will consist of two days of diverse writing workshops, plus Friday night readings by featured writers and the Saturday night dinner and open mic, all covered by registration fees. BC Fed members, $65, non-members, $75 for both days. Festival co-organizer Linda Crossfield will be hosting a Roving Book Table for registered festival attendees who have books to sell. Pre-registration is recommended, but registration at the door will be accepted. Sunday is the festival wind-up, with a no-host breakfast at 9 am (not included in festival fees – location to be announced). Then enjoy an end-of-festival soak in the Nakusp Hot Springs. The public is welcome to attend evening reading events, which feature coffee, tea, and desserts – cover charge $5 for unregistered guests.

This year's workshop presenters have something for every writer. Alan Twigg of *BC BookWorld* will host a lecture/workshop called *The Writing Scene, BC Style*, speaking on BC's contemporary writing scene and literary history. Susan Andrews Grace, author of the award-winning book, *Ferry Woman's History of the World*, will teach the workshop *Poetry: Acts of Courage*. Harold Rhenisch is best known as a poet but embraces all disciplines of writing, including natural history, literary criticism and translation, family history, and novels. He will give two workshops: *Opening the Work: Opening Paragraphs, Stanzas, Sentences and Words*; and *Say the Word: How to Present Your Work to an Audience*. Deanna Kawatski hosts *Writing on the Wild Side*, a series of unique writing exercises exploring the creative territory of the right brain. Kawatski explores wilderness in a literal and metaphorical sense and will discuss the current publishing climate in Canada.

Rhenisch will also offer 'blue pencil' sessions for a dollar a minute, in 10, 15, or 30 minute segments. First come, first serve, sign up and pay when you register to get his undivided attention on your poem or fiction/non-fiction sample.

Out-of-town festival guests seeking accommodation can find Nakusp area hotels, motels, B&Bs and a hostel through www.nakusparrowlakes.com www.kootenays-bc.com/Accommodations/Nakusp/.

Brochures are available at the Nakusp Public Library. For more information, check www.spiritofwriting.blogspot.com or contact Anne Strachan at 265-3192 or sisinwriting@hotmail.com. The festival is sponsored by Selkirk College Nakusp, Nakusp Public Library, Meritxell Books, Nose-in-Book Publishing, and the Federation of BC Writers (www.bcwriters.com).

This will be the third time Nakusp has hosted the Spirit of Writing Festival, says co-organizer Anne Strachan. The last event was held here in 2004 and attracted 50 writers over two days. Strachan, who is the Federation's southeast regional representative, estimates there are 50 members within that region.

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225 Granby Drive Edgewood $225,000
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9344 Highway 6 $469,900
Huge family home with 6 beds, 2 1/2 baths, a rec room for the kids and one for dad. This home could also be B&B. 1200 ft of fertile highway frontage, with fruit trees, domed green house, and only minutes from Whatsan and Arrow Lakes. MLS# 9158842 CALL DARLINE SCOTT

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101 Burton Street Burton BC $478,000
This general store offers a gas bar, video rentals, and a 3 bedroom home. Liquor store and post office(must qualify), all located close to the Arrow Lakes Provincial Park and Campground. This is a super opportunity for a young family or energetic retirees. Located in the heart of the Burton Community. MLS# 9166595 or 9166592 CALL DARLINE SCOTT

NAKUSP AND AREA COMMUNITY FOREST (NACFOR)

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING

May 23, 2007 at 6:30 pm

Nakusp Legion Hall

Presentation by NACFOR committee at 7 pm

Review: Draft Maps, Management Plan & Business Plan

Opportunity for questions and comments

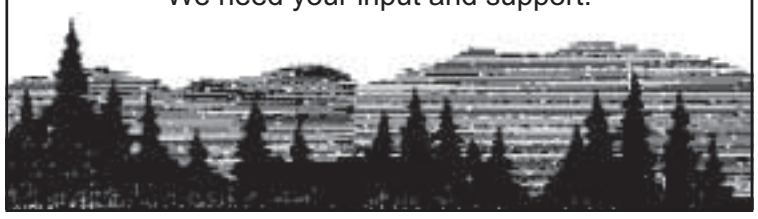
Opportunity for written comments

Letter of support templates

To optimize the benefit you receive from this meeting, visit our website in advance:

www.nakuspcommunityforest.com

We need your input and support.



Spirit of Writing Festival

Friday, June 1 and Saturday, June 2
Selkirk College, 411 Broadway Street, Nakusp, BC

Fees:
Members of The Federation of BC Writers: $65 /both days, $40/one day
Non-members: $75/both days, $45/one day

Contact Person:
Anne Strachan
Box 867, Nakusp, BC V0G 1R0
sisinwriting@hotmail.com
www.spiritofwriting.blogspot.com

Workshops:

Poetry: Acts of Courage
Susan Andrews Grace, visual artist, creative writing teacher and poet (*Flesh, A Naked Dress*)

Writing on the Wild Side
Deanna Kawatski, author of *Clara and Me* and *Wilderness Mother*

Opening the Work and Say the Word
Two different workshops by Harold Rhenisch, author of 20 books including *The Wolves at Evelyn*, BC Book Prize finalist

The Writing Scene: BC Style
Alan Twigg, literary historian, publisher of *BC BookWorld*, Shadbolt Fellow (SFU)

Friday evening: Coffee House and readings by invited authors
Saturday evening: Dinner and Open Mic

Project assistance provided with the generous assistance of:
The Federation of BC Writers
Selkirk College Nakusp
Nakusp Public Library

Nakusp council, April 24: Park concession not for lease

by Jan McMurray

•Council decided not to lease the park concession. Mayor Hamling commented on the inconvenience of a lessee having to move out during the times that the concession is committed to non-profit groups. Council members generally supported the idea of having street vendors in the park and beach area, although there was some concern that this would create competition for existing businesses. CAO Lafleur will bring forward information on street vendors from other municipalities to the next meeting.

•Arena / Parks Manager Jason Chernoff was appointed as the Village representative on the design team for the community park proposal put forward by the Nakusp Music Festival. The design committee's first task will be to consult with 10th Ave. residents and other members of the public about the proposal. Council agreed that the new campground will be developed in two phases. In the first phase, 20 campsites and the infrastructure for all 40 sites will be put in. The second phase will see the 20 remaining sites completed.

•Councillor Mueller reported on the written comments from the hot springs questionnaire that was sent out to residents. She said many people indicated they would appreciate regular financial updates, and many raised questions about the governance model. "Many feel the Village should not be in the business of running a business," she said. There were also questions about piping the hot springs water to a pool downtown.

•The new Village website (www.nakusp.com) went live April 23.

•CAO Bob Lafleur brought forward information about a grant that would be suitable for the disabled washroom project at the arena. A non-profit organization must be the applicant. Council members suggested a few groups that would be appropriate. Lafleur was authorized to pursue this and complete the application.

•Council moved to proceed with drafting a bylaw for Development Cost Charges (DCCs). DCCs are charged to developers to offset some of the infrastructure expenditures involved in servicing new developments.

Lafleur reported that there have been many requests about development and subdivision.

•Klaus Magenau, owner of the ambulance / old government agent building applied to rezone the building from Institutional to Commercial C-1, but with a site-specific stipulation to allow office or retail use only. The offices in this building have been vacant since the government agent moved out in 2003 because the institutional zoning designation restricts use. The owners of this property applied for rezoning in 2005, but were turned down because of complaints that they might use the premise for a restaurant or other commercial endeavour. Council decided the best way to proceed would be to create a new Institutional/Mixed zoning for that block. The Village will inform Magenau of this decision and reimburse his $500 application fee.

•Council decided to enter the Village of Nakusp in BC Hydro's 'Turn It Off Challenge,' a competition between local governments to become "the top conservation leader," with a Power Smart makeover for one of the Village's facilities as the grand prize. Councillor Mueller is the Village's designate, and was authorized to attend a workshop on May 24 in Vancouver.

•Council received an invitation from the Friends of the Silverton Memorial Hall Society to an unveiling of a bronze war memorial plaque event on June 30. Mayor Hamling will attend.

•Two people were authorized to attend a local government leadership forum June 13-15 in Richmond.

Nakusp 2007 budget: taxes go up by four percent

by Jan McMurray

Nakusp council has decided to raise municipal taxes by 4% this year. The Village will collect $734,898 in taxes in 2007. Last year, municipal taxes totalled $706,000.

Residential assessments have risen much more briskly than have business assessments. This makes for a scenario where some businesses may pay less this year than they did last year.

Residential assessments have increased by an average of 45%. So, a home that was worth $100,000 last year is probably worth about $145,000 this year. Taxes on that house will be $581 this year, up from $516 last year.

Business assessments went up by an average of only 12%. A business assessed at $100,000 last year would have paid $1,409 in taxes. This year, that same business would likely be assessed at about $112,000 and will be taxed $1,225 – a savings of $184 over last year. The mill rate for residential properties is $4.01 per $1,000, down from $5.16 per $1,000 last year. For business properties, the mill rate is $10.94 per $1,000 this year, compared to $14.09 per $1,000 last year.

Total assessments, including residential, business and all categories, increased by an average of 39%.

The budget for 2007 shows total revenues at $4,015,334. This figure includes $1,012,999 in taxation collected for other levels of government. More than $50,000 of this is the new police tax. Revenue for the hot springs for 2007 shows as $492,295; hot springs operating expenses are estimated at $422,903. Capital expenditures for Phase II of the hot springs project and for the planned major upgrades to the water and sewer systems are not showing up in 2007. Treasurer Richard Mahoney informed that these will appear in the 2008 and 2009 budgets.

the Beadloft

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Boat launch public meetings

BC Hydro is hosting two public meetings to present the findings of a boat ramp feasibility study and gather input from residents regarding study recommendations.
We hope that you can attend and we look forward to hearing your feedback.

The geographic scope of the study was from MacDonald Creek Park to Edgewood.
The feasibility study investigated the options suggested by the communities at the public meetings held in June 2006.

Burton and Fauquier Community Boat Launch meetings	Edgewood Community Boat Launch meeting
Tuesday May 15	Wednesday May 16
Burton Community Hall meeting begins at 7 p.m.	Edgewood Royal Canadian Legion
Burton boat launch discussions: 7 p.m.	234 Granby Drive, Edgewood
Fauquier boat launch discussions: 8 p.m.	Meeting begins at 7 p.m.

BC Hydro is committed to working with stakeholders across the region to better understand and address issues resulting from reservoir operations.

For more information regarding these meetings, please contact Jennifer Walker-Larsen at 250 814-6645 or jennifer.walker-larsen@bchydro.com.

www.bchydro.com

BC hydro FOR GENERATIONS

Slip away to the first annual

Celebration of Wellness

May 12 & 13 (Mothers day weekend)

Guest Speakers

speaking on "Mind, Body, & Spirit"
Dr. Larry Zaleski — Mind — *The Dawn of Healing*
Rose Vasile — Body — *Nutrition with Raw Food*
Dr Bryan Skrenes — Spirit — *Spiritual Role in Health and Wellness*

Saturday, May 12, 7:00 pm at the Bonnington theatre

Arrive at 6:30 to hear the *Seniors Serenaders*
$12 at the door
$10 pre-register Nakusp Selkirk College or at the event

Additional speaker

Charles Holmes — *Causes and Removal of Disease*
From Living Harvest Hemp Protein
Lunch time talk in the Nakusp Arena 12 noon

Have a relaxing session, gain a little knowledge, And have a lot of fun!

You are invited to a meeting

Arrow Lakes Reservoir and Columbia River 2006 Operations Review and Projected Operations for 2007

June 19, 2007 in Nakusp

BC Hydro invites the public to an information and discussion meeting regarding:

- 2006 Arrow Lakes Reservoir and Columbia River operations
- Columbia Basin reservoir levels and fish operations
- Projected Arrow Lakes Reservoir and Columbia River operations for 2007
- Columbia River Treaty overview

Time: doors open at 6 p.m., presentation from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Location: Nakusp Senior's Centre, 210 8th Avenue NW, Nakusp

For more information, please contact Amy White at 250 365-4565.

www.bchydro.com

BC hydro FOR GENERATIONS

Lardeau Valley livestock owners issued a warning

by Jan McMurray

Residents of the Lardeau and Duncan Rivers area were recently sent a notice warning them that livestock in trespass on crown land would be subject to seizure and sale. The notice was from the Kootenay Lake Forest District.

The notice informs residents that horses have been observed at large on crown land in the Duncan Lake and Glacier Creek areas for a number of years, and that there have been several complaints about it recently. The notice warns residents that if they do not have the appropriate permits and/or licences authorizing their animals to graze on crown land, their livestock will be subject to seizure and sale under the Forest and Range Practices Act.

Garth Wiggill, operations manager for the Kootenay Lake Forest District, said most of the complaints were from people encountering the livestock on the Duncan Forest Service Road. "The horses are ranging free on the roads, and people don't want to hit them," explained Wiggill. "There is a public safety factor here."

He said complaints had also come in from people who comply with the legislation. "It's a matter of fairness." He added that the Ministry has an environmental concern around the spreading of seeds of certain weeds.

Wiggill described the process of obtaining a permit. First, an area has to be approved as a range use area, which involves a full review and assessment to determine if the area is suitable, taking into consideration environmental factors, public safety and other uses of the forest. "We do not have many range use tenures in this district," informed Wiggill. He said there was so little range area in the district that "it doesn't warrant staff in our area" and all applications are referred to the Cranbrook office.

A resident from the Glacier Creek area, Gabriela Grabowsky, claims she has tried for 14 years to get grazing permits. Wiggill said he did not know full details, as her application would have gone through the Cranbrook office. However, he said he believed her application was declined because of an environmental concern. He said he had met with Grabowsky and suggests she re-submit her application. "Maybe it can be re-visited. We hope to resolve this one way or another."

Grabowsky also claims she was given verbal permission from a Ministry employee. Wiggill said the employee in question no longer works there, so he has no way of verifying her claim. He added, "If the employee said he didn't see a problem with it, that doesn't legitimize it."

A Ministry statement on this says, "Our preference is to obtain compliance. We see seizing the horses as a last resort, but it may be necessary if the activity continues." Wiggill explained that the regulations are in place "to manage and control any use on crown land, be it logging, grazing, or any other use. The land is subject to some form of regulation so it doesn't get abused."

Brenda Lewis of Nelson's Monumental Stoneworks was on hand to unveil a new interpretive plaque at New Denver's Kohan Garden, April 29.

BC Hydro recently contributed $2,000 to the Cultural Community of Nakusp and Area Society for electrical upgrades as part of the Nakusp Auditorium Revitalization Project. From left to right is Larry Parkes, Carole Moroz, Marilyn Massey (President), Rosemary Parent, Beth McLeod, Marilyn Boxwell, Janet Royko, and BC Hydro's Jennifer Walker-Larsen.

Nakusp's CBT funding announced

by Jan McMurray

On May 6, 256 votes were counted to determine which Nakusp projects would receive Columbia Basin Trust community initiatives and affected area funding.

The largest number of votes (206) went to the Nakusp Volunteer Fire Brigade's request for $20,000 for the purchase of a road rescue truck. The two other organizations successful in their bids for $20,000 were the Cultural Community of Nakusp and Area Society for its arena auditorium revitalization project (120 votes) and the Nakusp Roots Music Society for its community park project (98 votes).

In the $10,000 or under category, Arrow Lakes Search & Rescue will receive $5,000 for the purchase of a command vehicle (197 votes); PALS will receive $10,000 for an animal rescue program (158 votes); and Arrow Lakes Ridge Riders will receive $10,000 for a rescue snowmobile (94 votes).

This left two projects without, and $4,881 for distribution. Of the two remaining projects, Bayview Residents Association (BRA) got the most votes (80) for its request for $20,000 for a fire caddy storage building. BRA has been offered the $4,881, and have until May 11 to confirm whether or not they will go ahead with the project. The money must be spent in a year. If BRA forfeits, the Celebration of Wellness, which came in with the least number of votes (55) for its request for $4,500 for festival expenses, will receive the money.

Asbestos found in Kaslo's Village Hall

by Jan McMurray

At the end of April, asbestos was discovered in Kaslo's Village Hall.

Chief Administrative Officer Rae Sawyer reported that the linoleum flooring in the main office, building inspector's office and bathrooms on the main level of the building was beginning to break down, so staff shipped off a sample for testing. The results came back on April 30.

WorkSafe representatives inspected the premises on May 4. They took air samples, and expect to have the results back late this week. Sawyer said that an asbestos remediation company would also come soon to have a look.

In the meantime, two Village office employees, Carol Hughes and Suzan Van Zandt, have chosen not to go to work.

Sawyer said the workplace had not been declared a health hazard, and it would be up to WorkSafe to determine this. She expects that WorkSafe will come up with recommendations on how to handle the situation.

VILLAGE OF Nakusp HOME OF NAKUSP HOT SPRINGS

Village of Nakusp
CELEBRATES
PRIDE WEEK
MAY 6TH TO 13TH

Date	Event	Location
May 6 – 13	Emergency Preparedness Week (Fire/Police/ Ambulance at Nakusp Elementary School)	
May 9 7 pm	Arrow Lakes Queen's Tea & Silent Auction	Auditorium
May 9 all day	Special $3 Wednesday	Nakusp Hot Springs
May 9 7 – 9 pm	Nakusp Elementary School Spring Concert	NES
May 10 6 – 9 pm	Nakusp Legion Bingo	Legion
May 12 Noon	West Kootenay Junior Golf Tournament	Nakusp Golf Course
May 12 10 am – 6 pm	Celebration of Wellness Festival	Sports Complex
May 12 7 pm	Celebration of Wellness Guest Speakers	Bonnington Centre
May 13 10 am – 4 pm	Celebration of Wellness Festival	Sports Complex
Continuous	Downtown Merchants' "Adopt-a-Tree"	

Village Council and Staff are proud to represent the Community of Nakusp

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MAY 26 - FINAL DAY

Thanks for your patronage.
Please claim your gas tickets by May 26

BCAA CAA **TOWING**
will continue at the same number.

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COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST

APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST'S COLLEGE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

The Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) is offering twenty, $2,000 awards for students who plan on attending Selkirk College or College of the Rockies.

The College Community Service Awards are based on active and significant volunteer service, not on academic achievement. The awards are designed to acknowledge students who have been volunteers in their communities.

Applicants must be twenty years of age or older to apply, and the deadline is May 31, 2007. Applications and guidelines are available at any CBT office or at www.cbt.org. Applicants planning to attend Selkirk College can also visit www.selkirk.ca, while those planning to attend College of the Rockies should visit www.cotr.bc.ca.

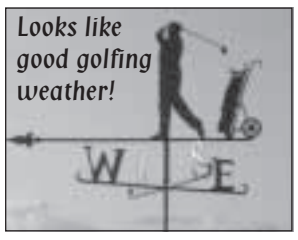
For more information on the Columbia Basin Trust or to sign up for **BasinLink**, our email newsletter, please visit www.cbt.org or call 1-800-505-8998.

1.800.505.8998 info@cbt.org www.cbt.org

GOLF COURSES

• Slocan Lake Golf Course,

New Denver **Phone: (250) 358-2408**
9-HOLE GOLF COURSE , OPEN 7 AM TO DARK
GREEN FEES: **$16.00**/9-holes, **$25.00**/18-holes,
Day Pass: **$35.00,** Weekly Rate: **$160.00**
RENTALS: Clubs and Pull carts available.
Power cart: **$15.00**/9-holes **$25.00**/18-holes. *All prices include tax*
RESTAURANT: 8 AM TO 8 PM (LICENSED)
2006 TOURNAMENTS:
• May Day Open, Sat. May 19: $15 members / $25 non-members
• VSA (Private), Sat. June 9: $15
• Johnny Tier, Sat. June 9: $15
• Club Open, Sun. Aug. 12: $40 members / $45 non-members*
• Bushwackers, Sat. Sept. 8: $20/couple
• Club Closing, Sun. Sept. 23: $15
(* fee includes dinner)



• Valley View Golf Club

***Winlaw* phone: 226-7241;**
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Discover golfing at its finest at Valley View. Licensed lounge & restaurant open 7 days a week. Catering and dinner meetings available on request. Everyone welcome.
GREEN FEES: $20 / 9 holes (including GST), $25 / 18 holes
RENTALS: Power and pull-cars available
Juniors' Night Mondays at 4:00 • Seniors' Morning Mondays • Mens' Night Thursdays • Two-for-one golf Fridays after 2:00 pm plus WING NIGHT!

Open Scramble, May 27th.
Three holes-in-one. #3, is sponsored by Investor's Group, the prize is a Calloway Driver. #7 is sponsored by Nelson Home Hardware and the prize is a Table saw, and #9 is sponsored by Nelson Ford and the prize is $5,000.00.
There are many other prizes that can be won by even the newest golfer And we are also having a silent auction that day!

NOTICE TO VALLEY VISITORS:

Stop in at *The Valley Voice* office in New Denver (across from the Credit Union on Main St.) to pick up a copy of *THE SILVERY SLOCAN HERITAGE TOUR GUIDEBOOK*, or a *SANDON PAYSTREAK* newspaper, and maybe even some helpful advice and handy tips about things to do in the area!

SLOCAN DISTRICT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

slocanlake.com
Employment Opportunities

Visitor Centre Counsellor

Summer student position. Applicant must be returning to full-time school next year. Four days per week, July and August. Must be able to attend a training session. Experience in Customer Service, excellent communication skills and some proficiency in WORD and EXCEL.

Volunteer VC Counsellor

A chance to meet visitors to our valley in June and September. Training course (2-3 days) is provided.

Part-Time Manager

Self-motivated individual with excellent communication and organizational skills. Must record and keep all records of Chamber activities including financial, and make most available on-line. Manage Tourism Visitor Centre in summer. Skills in graphic design and web site maintenance are desirable.

Apply to: chamber @ slocanlake.com

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• Kaslo Municipal Campground (250) 353-2662 kaslocampground@yahoo.ca

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• Centennial Campground

On the lake in New Denver, 44 sites, 8 with electricity & water hook-up, sani-dump, showers & toilets, boat launch, firewood, pets must be leashed.

• Three Island Resort Campground (250) 265-3023

65 sites, full/semi hook-ups, tenting, boat launch, paddle boats & canoes, pets welcome, children's playground, firewood, fishing, hiking trail, confectionery, sani-station, showers, laundry facilities, large gazebo with BBQ pits.

• Springer Creek RV Park & Campground (250) 355-2266 springr@telus.net

Open May 18 to Sept. 30. Located at 1020 Giffin Rd., Slocan. Turn right immediately off of Highway 6 entrance to Village of Slocan. Full hook-ups, partial hook-ups, tenting sites, sani-dump, pets on leash and seasonal Tourist/Information Booth.

• Silverton Municipal Campground (250) 358-2472

Situated on Slocan Lake at Leadville & Turner Streets. Lakeshore and Creekside Tent and Trailer Sites. Fire pits and firewood.

• West Kootenay Park Management Inc. 1-866-937-5734 www.westkootenayparks.com

WKPM
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McDonald Creek Provincial Park
Shores of Upper Arrow Lake 16 km south of Naksup on Hwy #6. 46 spacious campsites. Half with direct access to an extensive sandy beach waterfront, boat launch. Reservations 1-800-689-9025 www.discovercamping.ca.

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ACCOMMODATIONS & RESTAURANTS

• William Hunter Cabins (250) 358-2844 www.williamhuntercabins.com

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• Silverton Lakeshore Inn (250) 358-7929

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• Selkirk Inn Ph: 1-800-661-8007 / (250) 265-3666 Fax: (250) 265-4799

Selkirk Inn
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• O'Brien's on the Lake, 1710 Hwy 6 Nakusp, Ph: (250) 265-4575 www.obriens.kootenays.com

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• Oldham's Lakefront Cottages ph. 358-2415 oldhamslakefrontcottages.com

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GIFT SHOPS

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MUSEUMS

• Sandon Museum & Visitors' Centre (250) 358-7920 www.slocanlake.com/sandon

Open 10:00 to 5:00. Located 13 km east of New Denver on Hwy. 31A in historic silver mining ghost town. Collections of stunning photographs and fascinating artifacts including the famous "two story mousetrap." Admission: 18 & over, $4.00 •12-17 yrs. $3.00 • Under 12, free.

• Nikkei Internment Memorial Centre (250) 358-7288

The only historic site in Canada dedicated to telling the WWII internment story. Located in *The Orchard* in New Denver, open 7-days-a-week 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

• Arrow Lakes Historical Society Ph/Fax: (250) 265-0110 265-3323 alhs@netidea.com

e-mail: alhs@columbiacable.net Location: 92B - 7th Avenue NW (BC Hydro building). Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 - 3:00. Archives and publications. Best source for area history and family research.

Kaslo council, April 24: Loggers Sports cancelled this year

by Jill Braley

•Jim Archer, President of Kaslo & Area Chamber of Commerce, advised that the 2007 Loggers Sports event planned for Sunday, May 20 had been cancelled. He said this was mainly because of a lack of commitment this year from the regular supporters in the local logging industry, as well as lost props from last year's flooding of the loggers sports site. Archer said every effort would be made to restore this event for May Days 2008, and that the Chamber and others were making plans to replace the event with other fun, family oriented activities for this year.

Council voted to express its regret, and support in principle for the event continuing in the future, with the understanding Kaslo's status on the international logging sports circuit is not jeopardized by this cancellation.

•Bruce Freeman of the Kaslo Curling Club asked permission to hold a beer garden for three days at the Vimy Park picnic shelter during May Days. There would be an 8' fence around the beer garden, with checkpoints for entry and exit that would be patrolled by the RCMP. Freeman said this would be a very important fundraiser, as the curling club is in need of a $30,000 - $35,000 piece of equipment (chiller). This request was referred to the April 30 Planning & Development committee meeting, where a recommendation was made to allow the club to operate a beer garden on Sunday, May 20 and Monday, May 21 at a location to be determined with the May Days Co-ordinator.

•The RDCK sent the Village a draft of an information household mailer regarding the proposed new fire protection service for Kaslo and Area D. The service would extend from Coffee Creek to Schroeder Creek and would consist of the Kaslo fire department (including a new fire hall) and a new fire department at Woodbury. This proposal will be discussed at a public meeting on May 24 at 6:30 pm at the JVH Lighthouse Theatre. Council approved the content of the mailer, which includes taxation information.

•Council received correspondence regarding the provincial building from ARES, Lynch Building Inspection Services, and lawyers Staples & Co. Lynch Building Inspection Services was to be contacted to provide a list of urgently needed repairs to the building prior to a special meeting of the Administration & Finance committee. The email from Staples on the Offer to Purchase and take-back lease was referred to a May 3 meeting of Administration and Finance, for recommendation to the May 8 council meeting.

•Two FortisBC representatives returned as a delegation in regards to the company's $850,000 project to improve the substation at Arena Avenue. To carry out the project, an encroachment on Village right-of-way will be necessary. They suggested a land for right-of-way trade in the area of the substation, with all costs to be borne by FortisBC. Council referred this to the April 30 Planning & Development committee meeting, where it was decided to send a letter of agreement to Fortis.

•The Mayor and CAO were authorized to sign a lease with the Kaslo Area Youth Council for land and improvements at the Scout Hall for a period of three years, with rental in each year of the lease to be $99. The lease will include a requirement for a building inspection report within one year of signing, and no compensation for leasehold improvements. Councillor Vass was opposed.

•The Mayor and CAO were authorized to sign a lease with North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society for the community garden, for a term of three years at $1 per year.

•The Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer were authorized to sign a lease with the Kaslo Boat Club and the Kaslo Bay Marine Club for a period of five years effective December 2006, with rental in the first year to be $910 for each club.

•Helen Woolgar wrote to council voicing her concerns about a Development Variance Permit application made by Peter and Melanie Bryce, who would like to replace the existing building at the corner of Centre and Front Streets with a duplex. The letter was referred to the Planning & Development committee.

•Council received an email from Jill Braley regarding dirt bikes on the pedestrian trail on the north side of Kaslo River. Braley cited concern for public safety and the increased trail maintenance caused by skid marks. Council will advise that if persons can be identified, action through the RCMP might be possible. Council referred the matter of motorized vehicles using pedestrian trails to the Community Services committee for recommendation to council.

•Jo Brown, transit co-ordinator, informed council that because ridership numbers on the Kaslo bus service have been low, a draft of possible scheduling changes has been prepared to get feedback from Kaslo and area residents. She asked council to circulate the draft schedule and to provide feedback. Council voted to receive the correspondence only.

•A special meeting was scheduled for April 26 with Tom Lancaster to determine the composition of a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) for the OCP review process.

•A letter of thanks will be sent to Barry McLean, RDCK treasurer, for providing additional information as requested on McDonald Creek finances. Councillor Jones asked for and received clarification from council that this was only a thank you letter, and the McDonald Creek financial issue had not been resolved.

•Mayor Holland reported on the RDCK meeting of April 21. The board passed a resolution to support the Village of Kaslo in its efforts to be recognized by the Province as a municipality that is impacted by the operations of the Kootenay Lake Reservoir, and thus entitled to receive BC Hydro grants in lieu of taxes. This same resolution was advanced for inclusion in the service review of the general administration function.

•The Ministry of Transportation will pave to the school bus turnaround on Kaslo Road South and to the airport.

•Eight additional picnic tables and six fire pits for the 2007 campground season will be purchased with the Phase 11 Community Tourism funds.

•Bylaw enforcement and a review of business licence rates was referred to the Administration & Finance committee for recommendation to council.

•Council received a letter from the Ministry of Community Services regarding the small community grant program. These grants will increase again this year, as per the 2005 commitment of the premier to double the grant over four years. Kaslo will receive $262,776 under the program this year.

•Bylaw #1043, 2007 Water Frontage Bylaw, was read three times. The annual rate for 2007 is $1.93 per foot of taxable frontage.

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Management team hired for Kaslo and District Community Forest

by Jan McMurray

The position of woodlands manager for the Kaslo and District Community Forest has been filled by a team of four. Team members are Rainer Muenter, Maureen Muenter and Dave Karassowitsch of Monticola Forest Ltd., and Richard Marchand of Osprey Resource Management. All four currently live in Nelson, with the Muenters soon to move to Fruitvale. They plan to have a strong presence in Kaslo, working regularly in the KDCFS office.

The three men are Registered Professional Foresters. Dave and Richard will be involved in the operations of the community forest, and Rainer will oversee the team. Maureen will handle the administrative and accounting work.

Richard says Rainer is well known for his innovative views on forestry. "He finds solutions other than the industrial model. We are all open minded, and try to figure out what's best for the land and forest, not for the shareholders of the company. This is positive for the community forest."

Monticola currently manages a salvage licence on Kootenay Lake and licences on several pieces of private land, including two large properties in the Salmo and Fruitvale areas.

Richard Marchand started up his own forestry consulting company, Osprey Resource Management, about seven years ago. For the last three years, he has been working with Monticola on different projects. "When KDCFS had an opening for the manager position, we decided to team up to make a stronger proposal," he explained.

Richard will be the one to write the Forest Stewardship Plan and finish up the Probationary Community Forest Agreement application.

Dave Karassowitsch, prior to joining Monticola, worked for a company out of Kamloops that helps woodlot and ranch owners with all kinds of management issues, including marketing their timber. "As a result of working with them, I spent a lot of my time marketing timber in the Nelson area," he said.

Rainer and Maureen have lived in the Kootenays since 1990, primarily managing large parcels of private forest land. Rainer is originally from Germany, and holds a Master's Degree in Resource Science. When asked how they felt about stepping into an organization that has experienced a lot of controversy, Maureen said they had the sense that this is the right team for this time in the development of the organization. "We have a lot of enthusiasm for working in the community there and we think we can really help them move forward."

To Nicole,
Thank you for making my dreams come true with our business.
You are an incredible mom, and a superwoman!
Love, Tyler
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KDCFS to hold spring AGM

by Jan McMurray

The Kaslo and District Community Forest Society has called an AGM for May 16 at 7 pm at JV Humphries School. The community forest's new management team, hired at the end of April, will be in attendance.

Several resolutions will be on the agenda, addressing such issues as the society's constitution and bylaws, society membership, establishing a legacy fund, a public comment period for the revised PCFA application, and special projects.

There are three vacancies on the board. Don Scarlett, society secretary, reported that the nomination committee approached many people to ask them to serve on the board, and was only able to find two: Patrick Mackle and Brody Whitney.

These two will be acclaimed, as the society's bylaws do not allow nominations from the floor at the AGM. However, there will be an All Candidates meeting with Mackle and Whitney, as per the bylaws, just before the AGM. Scarlett says he imagines the new board will discuss appointing someone to the one remaining vacant seat shortly after the AGM.

Retiring board members are Steve Anderson and Kelly Abby. The other vacancy was made when Erika Bird resigned in December. Continuing board members are Don Scarlett (secretary), Rob Mitchell (chair and Village appointee), Dave Russell (vice chair and RDCK appointee), Suzan Hewat (treasurer), Stan Baker and Donna Cormie.

Get Outta Town!

with Peter Roulston

Avoiding trails and hoisting sails

This rain has really gotten pretty out of hand. Cycling has been sporadic, the golf course remains sadly quiet and my new neighbours Wilf and Louise must sure be wishing they had their new roof up and things closed in... Dry days allow for some good road riding, but the trails barely get a chance to dry out between deluges and remain too soft and wet to endure heavy bicycle traffic just yet. Except for that great Easter weekend, there really haven't been many consistently sunny days.

All it takes is a half clear day to make the lake inviting though, and I've had some stellar afternoons out on Slocan Lake. Just a few hours of sun and breeze can make the lake and shoreline very attractive so that even while the lake remains frigid at only 6 degrees Centigrade, it otherwise can feel pretty fine for at least a few hours. Meanwhile the forest remains damp and shady on the same given day...

I've got this little 14-foot fiberglass boat that I bought in Winlaw a couple of years ago for about the price of a used canoe. It had an old 45-horsepower Chrysler that I sold to a guy in Nakusp for his houseboat but I kept the hull and trailer for development. Got a sweet little Honda 5-horsepower in Castlegar and put it on the boat and even got the steering set up to work neat as can be. The original windshield was long gone but speed was not going to be a factor in this case.

This little outfit proved to be functional and incredibly economical to use and I did some pleasant day trips launching from Silverton and Slocan City, mainly sightseeing and beachcombing. Maybe someday I'll even try fishing the creek mouths. I yanked out the folding seats which opened up the floor space enough that I can pitch my small tent on the level carpeted floor and have a makeshift houseboat – well, a tent boat anyway!

I took things a step further and abused the old boat a bit more by boring a hole through the small front deck area so that I could stick in a mast and sail. Well, the mast and sail are actually parts of an unsafe hang glider that I had but never had the courage to try flying anywhere. The struts and fabric cut up very neatly to become simple and easy to mount and unfurl for use.

The resulting nautical novelty is essentially an underpowered cruiser with no place to sit and auxiliary sail power when breezes appear. There are sailors who may scorn this abomination and in fact Dave Harley called it a "strange duck" but he meant it nicely. I'll likely never bother with all the fuss and rigging of a real sailboat however this arrangement seems to meet that indefinable primal need...

On a fine day I can sail with the wind at about a good paddling speed and also to the left or right to some extent using the rudder, which is a lengthened oar off the stern in a rear-mounted oarlock. When I want to return to port I either wait for the wind to shift about (unlikely) or fire up the motor and putter on home (likely).

Oftentimes around the Kootenays you can see where someone has redone an old bus or done a crazy reno on some shacky house or made some strange custom bicycle or motorcycle. With a little input from both left and right sides of the brain and application of imagination, practical experience and hope you can sometimes depart from the original purpose of a thing and come up with a satisfying and fulfilling reversion.

As I wrap this up and gaze out the window across the lake I can see the snowline low in Valhalla Park with heavy new snow and now it seems certain that some serious runoff and flood damage will occur later this month. The melt is so much delayed this year so let's hope that our trails, roads and homes don't get hit too hard when things let go.

Peter Roulston owns the Bicycle Hospital in New Denver, serving the entire northwest Kootenays. 358-2133.

Financial Forum

with Collin Ludwar

The Big Screen Television

I have recently been thinking about replacing my 19" television set with a new 46" flat screen model. The question is: do I really need 46 inches of LCD flat screen high definition technology? Probably not, but I certainly would enjoy it!

I was recently discussing flat screen options with one of my associates when he brought the conversation back to business by telling me about one of his clients. A few years ago the client had taken out a Critical Illness insurance policy and then last year the client was diagnosed with cancer. A claim went in after he was diagnosed then he received a cheque 31 days after. Unfortunately, a number of months later the client passed away.

The advisor went to the client's home to help the widow fill out the death claim on the life insurance. When he entered the house he noticed a very large plasma TV. During their discussion it was revealed by the widow that her late husband had decided to take some of the money received from the Critical Illness insurance and purchase the TV. She stated that there was little else he could do besides watch TV and decided he was going to enjoy it the best he could.

I have been recommending people look at purchasing Critical Illness insurance since I first found out about the product. The concept of them receiving a tax-free lump sum if they were diagnosed with cancer, had a heart attack or stroke, plus a long list of other life threatening illnesses was a huge benefit. But in all that time I never thought to tell them that with a Critical Illness insurance settlement they could go out a buy a big screen TV. But that is exactly what makes this product unique – you can choose to spend the money any way you like.

Many people have Long and/or Short Term Disability insurance through their group plan at work. If they were diagnosed with cancer, had a stroke or heart attack they most likely would take time off of work and start collecting their disability insurance. Many people believe they will be well taken care of during this time of need. I urge everyone to take a very close look at the benefit entitlement under their group plan and ensure it would be enough to live on. In many cases income is reduced by 50% and most plans put a ceiling on the amount you would receive (many of the common plans found in this area cap the amount at $1,800/month. If you are currently making $5,000/month could you live off of only $1,800/month taxable? Would your spouse take time off work if you were diagnosed with cancer and had to start treatment in Vancouver? How will this further reduction in family income be handled? Remember if you are the bread earner in the family and your spouse becomes ill and you take time off to be with them, your own disability will do nothing for you.

Some people have the financial means to weather these storms to take care of these expenses themselves. Other people's financial situation is different and there would definitely be financial hardship involved. With Critical Illness insurance you are provided with a lump sum benefit and you choose to spend it any way you feel is best. Critical Illness will not be reduced because you are working or receiving income from any other source nor will it reduce payments you might receive from LTD, CPP or WCB.

Talk to the administrator on your LTD plan to get the details of your group disability plan. Your financial planner can help you assess your financial situation to determine the potential hardships you may face if an illness or injury happens to you.

Collin Ludwar, B.Comm CFP, is an associate financial planner with The Affolter Financial Group Inc. specializing in financial and risk management.

Cool Eateries of the West Kootenays

with Andrew Rhodes

Halcyon Hot Springs sets Standards of Excellence

I've been wanting to visit Halcyon Hot Springs for several years. I've driven past their sign many times but I've always thought I was in a hurry to get to someplace else I've now forgotten. Halcyon Hot Springs, though, is one more very good reason to not to be in a hurry; especially in this part of the world. The lucky day came in the middle of last week when the fearless editor of the Valley Voice called me and told me I must go to Halcyon Hot Springs and have lunch RIGHT NOW. So I grabbed the company chariot and headed north with pen, paper and little tape recorder and a smile on my face. The highway alongside Arrow Lake is a lovely drive. Just this side of the ferry is a large sign on the left to let you know you've arrived at Halcyon Hot Springs.

I pulled in, got out, and headed into the lodge. Behind the desk was Theresa, head of guest services. I told her that Sabine, one of the owners, was expecting me. Theresa headed me towards the dining room and turned me over to Leticia, my server, who was expecting me. Leticia ushered me into the dining room where I stopped short and realized that indeed there was something special going on here. The dining room is the kind of room I could live in. It's a big, open rectangular room lit mainly by huge windows on three sides looking out over the forest canopy and further to Arrow Lake and the mountains on its far side. The view is breathtaking.

There are sixteen tables, yet the room is un-cluttered. A double see-through fire place towards the back of the room borders on a classy bar that seats twenty-four. Out the north windows you can see the patio which seats thirty and has the same view as the dining room. To me, the entire dining area and bar exude an understated elegance—'high-end' but casual. I loved just sitting there sipping my tea, perusing the menu, looking out over the lake and feeling relaxed. It's so darned comfortable! Then Sabine appeared, casually dressed and sincerely friendly. I told her how much I was already enjoying the place, and she replied: "Well, if you are going to build something, why not make it beautiful, and if you are going to serve food, why not make it the very best!"

Breakfasters can chose from Homemade Swiss Bircher Muesli, fruit smoothies, Belgian Waffles, French toast, and eggs with whatever you like. There is also Eggs Benedict, various side orders and a kids menu. Then there are soups and salads including wild mushroom soup, Caesar Salad, Spinach Salad or Thai Salad. You can add chicken or prawns to any of these. Onward to lighter selections and appies. The first one listed is Porcini-Garlic Bruschetta: A crisp baguette topped with Porcini mushrooms, garlic rosemary, tomatoes and olive oil, oven baked with Parmesan cheese. My word! Also on offer is a chilled prawn cocktail. How 'bout AAA Beef Carpaccio (thin sliced tenderloin) with Truffle Oil topped with pieces of parmesan cheese? Or maybe you want Dry Garlic Pork Ribs. The next page of the menu reveals that yes, there are burgers, sandwiches and pizza. There is a Chicken Club that caught my eye, but there is also a broiled Salmon Burger, a Bison burger with Emmenthal cheese, a veggie burger, pasta selections and a pizza of the day. Now we get down to business with the dinner menu. There are various stir-frys including pork or black tiger prawns. Next come various pasta entrees. Maybe you like chicken. In that case try supreme breast of chicken stuffed with sun-dried toms, basil, olives and Mascarpone cheese. NewZealand Lamb Sirloin anyone? Plenty of high-end beef: AAA Canadian Strip Loin or AAA Filet Mignon. But here in order of appearance, is what I had: Clam Chowder (New England style—the only way to do it) and a Caesar salad. The chowder was rich, smooth, creamy and very full of clams. The Caesar was also creamy, but had a world class tang to it. Lots of garlic! For a main course I had something called "Union of Halibut and Salmon": Grilled filets of halibut and salmon with flambèed blueberries served with garlic mashed potatoes and fresh veggies. Absolutely TO DIE FOR!!! The flambéed blueberries were under the fish fillets-not on top—so each diner can choose how much sauce goes on each bite of perfectly gilled fish. I don't know if I'll ever recover. Sabine ordered the Halcyon Chicken Club Sandwich. When I saw it arrive I knew I'd have to come back soon to try one myself, but I must say my meal was amazing. Sabine had ordered me a glass of white wine, but I was so involved in my food I didn't touch it—that is not until I was done. Then I had the pleasure of drinking the wine as a course in itself. Our chef was Katrina. Thank you Katrina and Leticia.

It is a simply wonderful place with excellent food.

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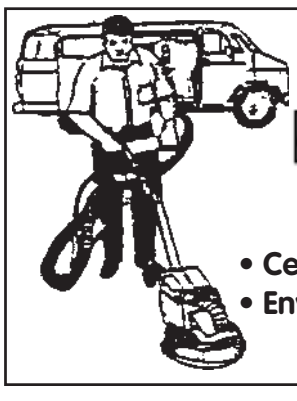
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CARD OF THANKS

THE FAMILY OF DON CAMPBELL would like to express our heartfelt thanks: to the staff of the Slocan Lake Hospital, who cared for our husband and father, and to those in the community who offered prayers, words of encouragement, gave hugs, cards and food. And for your offers of assistance at our time of need. You are terrific. Your Community Spirit shone through. Thank you for all your work in making the Celebration of Don's Life occur.

Donna, Judy, Dan

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK all my friends for their condolences by phone, by mail and by person – by embraces and handshakes. It was all so very comforting, and helped over the loss of my brother Dan (to me) – Don to others!

I knew I didn't just love New Denver and area because it was so beautiful! Thank you all.

Marguerite

COMING EVENTS

YOGA AT THE DOMES - Monday, Thursday and Saturday 9 to 10:30 am. All levels, all ages. Affordable.

PARENT SUPPORT GROUP offered in New Denver. Wednesdays 6-8 pm. Those interested phone New Denver Nursery School 358-7768 or Andrea Wright 358-7995.

SOCIAL BALLROOM DANCE Playmor Hall, South Slocan. Saturday May 12, 2007. Mini lesson 7:30 pm. Night Club 2 Step Dancing 8-11pm. $8.00 non members. www.dancingbeat.org.

THE KASLO SATURDAY MARKETS start June 16 and we are looking for performers and vendors! This year our market is open to all vendors. So no matter what you sell: local crafts, produce, imports or pre-loved items, we would love to have you at the markets! Spaces are limited so book ahead. Jen: kaslomarkets@shaw.ca 353-7592.

DES KENNEDY opens the **6TH ANNUAL NELSON GARDEN FESTIVAL**. Friday, MAY 11, Best Western Motel-Baker Street, 7:30 pm. FESTIVAL BEGINS SATURDAY, MAY 12, 10 AM-3 PM, 40 vendors. Everything for your garden! Info: 825-9372.

8TH ANNUAL VALLICAN WHOLE SCHOOL SPRING MARKET AND BAZAAR. Sat. May 12th, 10-3. Fun for the Whole family. Giant Plant Sale, Craft Vendors, Penny Raffle. Puppet Show at 12, Clown, balloons and face-painting, horse rides, kids games and fun sports. At the Vallican Whole, 3762 Little Slocan River Rd. More info/table booking/donations. Rachel 226-7737

NAKUSP FARMER'S MARKET opening Saturday, May 19, 8:30-1:00. All vendors welcome. For information, phone Lynn at 265-4432, Joanne 355-2531, Phoebe 265-4325.

SLOCAN PARK HALL SOCIETY Annual General Meeting May 16, 2007 at 7:00 pm.

NEW DENVER MAY DAY MARKET, Monday May 21. For info - Anita 358-7731. $15/space.

SLOCAN VALLEY HERITAGE TRAIL SOCIETY AGM - Annual General Meeting for the Slocan Valley Rail Trail. Thursday, May 31st, 7:00 p.m. at the Slocan Park Hall. Memberships available at the door. Info? 1-888-683-7878.

SLOCAN VALLEY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 2nd Annual Plant and Garage Sale includes bake sale, concession and live music plus more garage sales throughout the town. Slocan City, Saturday, May 12 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

THE FRIDAY MARKET begins again on 1st June, main street of New Denver. Every Friday 10 am to 2 pm for local produce, flowers, herbs and Kootenay artisan's wares. Ph 358-7733 email: fridaymarket@netidea.com.

PASSMORE SENIORS MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST, featuring home-made pancakes. May 13, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. 3656 Old Passmore Road. Adults $7.00.

ADAM SHAIKH with guests PURE BLEND are ready to shake down the Vallican Whole on May 26th. Doors open 7:30 tickets at the door $10.00. 12 and under free. All ages fundraiser for the school.

FOR RENT

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WANTED: DISHWASHER, Thursday-Sunday evenings. Must have restaurant experience and FoodSafe certificate. Please call Lilliana at the Wild Rose Restaurant, 358-7744.

ELEMENTARY TEACHER for Rural Alternative Independent school seeks BC certified intermediate teacher, small class size, starting Sept 2007. Background in multi-grade and experiential learning preferred. Outdoor education, fine arts, and second language are all assets. Send resume c/o School Coordinator at S16A C14 RR#1, Winlaw, BC, V0G 2J0 / Fax (250) 226-0041 / vallicanwhole@netidea.com. Call 226-7737 for info. Closing Date May 25th, 2007.

DO YOU LIKE TO CLEAN? Casual help needed to clean cabins. Please phone Karin at 358-2362.

COMMUNITY COUNSELLING POSITION: Permanent: 32-37.5 hours per week in beautiful Kaslo and the East Shore of Kootenay Lake. Recent clinical Child Youth Mental Health experience as well as Family Support Counselling is required. A Masters in Social Work or a related field is preferred or a BSW with extensive experience considered. Training or skill in expressive therapies is desirable. The position includes benefits, professional development, clinical supervision and teamwork. Please submit resumes to Administrator, North Kootenay Lake Community Services Society office@nklcss.org or fax to 250-353-7694. www.nklcss.org. Position will be open until suitable candidate is found.

SILVERY SLOCAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY is now accepting applications for a Curatorial Assistant for summer employment 2007. Eligible applicant must be a registered full-time student during the preceding academic year and intending to return to full-time studies in the fall. Eligible applicant must be reliable, have good communication, public relation and organizational skills, have computer experience, and work independently with minimal supervision. Position subject to pending approval from HRDC.

Send resume to Silvery Slocan Historical Society, PO Box 301, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0. All applications must be received by Friday, May 25.

ECE TEACHER REQUIRED: General daycare/preschool duties. BC ECE certificate

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required with 500 hours completed. Full-time/ Part-time employment for Maternity Leave: September 2007-June 2008 Wage: $12.50 - $15.00 an hour. Send resumes to: Stepping Stones Children's Centre, Attn: Nancy Bone, Box 285 Nakusp, BC V0G 1R0. Email: nccs@telus.net. Closing date for application is May 18/2007.

LOST

WOULD THE PERSON(S) who took the bench from the corner of Kootenay and 8th (New Denver) please return it.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MEMORIAL SERVICE for GLADYS NIXON, May 20, 11 am, Slocan Legion Hall. No flowers. Everyone welcome.

BENNY LISTER

The family of the late Benny Lister invite friends to attend a memorial service to be held Saturday, May 19, 2007 at 1:00 pm in the Legion Hall, Slocan.

NOTICES

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

OBITUARIES

DON (DAN) CAMPBELL

Mr. Donald Archibald Nesmith Campbell of New Denver, BC passed away peacefully on Monday, April 23, 2007 at the age of 71. Born on the family farm near Fairlight, Saskatchewan, he was raised in New Denver, British Columbia, where he played hockey, golf, baseball and saxophone for the New Denver Rhythm Boys, developing a life long love of family, friends, music and sports.

Don moved to Ontario in the mid '50s and began his career with Bell Canada, working thoughout northwestern Ontario. He also played sax for Hector Tremblay and his band. He enjoyed the challenges and friends he met along the way, but his greatest joy came from Sioux lookout where he met and married the love of his life, Donna. Don went on to raise his family, enjoying golf, curling, hunting and fishing, and sharing his passions with family and friends. The past president of the Sioux Lookout Lions Club, Geraldton Curling Club, Kenogamisis Golf Club, Past Master of the Kenogamisis Masonic Lodge 656, Royal Arch Mason Shunia, Rhodes Preceptory 23 Knights Templar and member of Kartum Temple.

Don is survived by his wife of 48 years, Donna; children Judy Campbell and Dan (Donna) Campbell; grandchildren Caitlin, Dana and Shelley-Anne of Thunder Bay, Ontario; sister Marguerite Thring of New Denver, BC; and brother Murdie (Olga) Campbell of Barrie, Ontario. And many nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews who enjoyed their Uncle Dan's fishing trips. Predeceased by his daughter Colleen, parents Hazel and Leslie Campbell and brother Collin John Campbell.

Don left this world as he lived life – with his wife Donna by his side, the support and caring of family and friends, comforted by their love and kindness.

A Celebration of Life was held Sunday, April 29 at 2 pm at the Bosun Hall in New Denver, BC. Don will then be returning to Geraldton, Ontario in September of this year for internment and a second Celebration of Life, to be announced at a later date.

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OBITUARIES

MEL MANCHESTER of Winlaw, and more recently New Denver, born on February 2, 1922 in West Brook, Maine, passed away peacefully at home with his wife Burgin Jacobs at his side, on April 25, 2007. Mel has enjoyed a full life. He is survived by Vandy Manchester of Oregon, and Brandon Manchester of Winlaw. He immigrated to Canada in 1970 and homesteaded on land in Appledale, BC. He and Burgin lived in Appledale and then moved to New Denver in 1994. Mel was a marine engineer on ocean going ships and loved being out at sea. He learned electrical skills early in his life and was a major contributor to helping many newcomers establish homesteads and install proper electrical hookups. He often taught his friends and neighbours how to wire their homes so they too could be more self-sufficient. Mel was an avid fly fisherman and environmentalist. Mel loved to read books as well. He was a world traveller and often spent months during the winter in far away lands and loved to share his favourite stories and experiences. He fashioned beautiful one-of-a-kind jewelry, enjoyed farm life and gardening, and making delicious homemade chocolate candy. He has many relatives in New England and Canada, including nieces and nephews.

He and Burgin want to extend their heartfelt thank yous to Drs. Skrenes and Burkholder, and staff, and Linda Rolfe and Carolyn Parker for numerous home care visits. They so appreciate the kindness of all of Mel's friends and neighbours. A party in Mel's honour will be held at home on May 26. Phone Burgin for details 358-2241.

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ROBYN'S TRAVEL OFFICE in Nakusp will be closed for general service as of May 31st 2007. To those who have been such dedicated customers, thank you for your support over the years. It has been much appreciated. Please call 265-9948 for any information or assistance until May 31st 2007. Please call 250-386-3311 for future service. Thank you very much and all the best.

WANTED

FOOD AND CRAFT VENDORS WANTED for Kaslo's 115th annual May Day Celebrations May 19, 20, and 21. Download the application from www.kaslo.ca or for more info please email Jen @ kaslomaydays@netidea.com or 250-353-7592.

WANTED: LOCKING STORAGE AREA with easy access to get my tools, etc. New Denver and Silverton. Lance Sage, General Delivery, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0.

CANOE WANTED, 12 to 16 feet long. Lance Sage, General Delivery, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0.

CARPENTER/WOODWORKER/ HANDYMAN wants cabin to rent (work trade) around Silverton/New Denver/Hills. Pleas contact Lance Sage, General Delivery, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0. Wish work also in the area.

LOOKING TO BUY CLEARCUT with good water between Hills and Slocan. Please contact Lance Sage, General Delivery, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0.

MUSICIANS/BANDS WANTED for local compilation CD. Free entry. Entries must be in by May 26th '07. Call or email Serpico Audio for details @ 354-1451 or ohan@serpico.ca.

CARPENTER, FINE WOODWORKER, HANDYMAN looking for work. Please contact Lance Sage, General Delivery, New Denver, BC V0G 1S0.

SLOCAN VALLEY RECREATION

FRIDAY NIGHT SLOWPITCH - Bring your glove and join us every Friday night at Winlaw School. 6 pm to dark. Everyone welcome.

SPRING GOLF LESSONS - Begin Tuesday May 15th at the Valley View Golf Club. Lessons for youth/teen & adult. Instr: Denny McArthur, CPGA.

WINLAW PARK CLEAN-UP DAY - Join us to get the park looking great for the summer. Sat. May 12th 10 am Winlaw Regional & Nature Park.

FELDENKRAIS GARDENERS WORKSHOP - Ease those gardening aches & pains. Instr: Susan Grimble.Sat. May 26th.

FELDENKRAIS BACK WORKSHOP - With Susan Grimble. Sunday, May 27th. Arica Gardens B&B, Winlaw.

SLOCAN VALLEY RAIL TRAIL POKER PEDAL - Enjoy the trail & play a game of cards! Sunday, May 27th. Registration 10:00 am Winlaw Trailhead. Fee: $2 person/$5 family.

EDIBLE VALLEY HIKE - With Micheal Keefer. Sunday. June 3rd.

GOING ON A ROCK WALK - With Lesley Anderton. Saturday, June 9th.

BARNSTORMING - Artists draw & paint the barns of the Slocan Valley. Saturday, June 2nd.

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9:30am - 4:00 pm
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