

HOLIDAY NEWSPAPER DATES

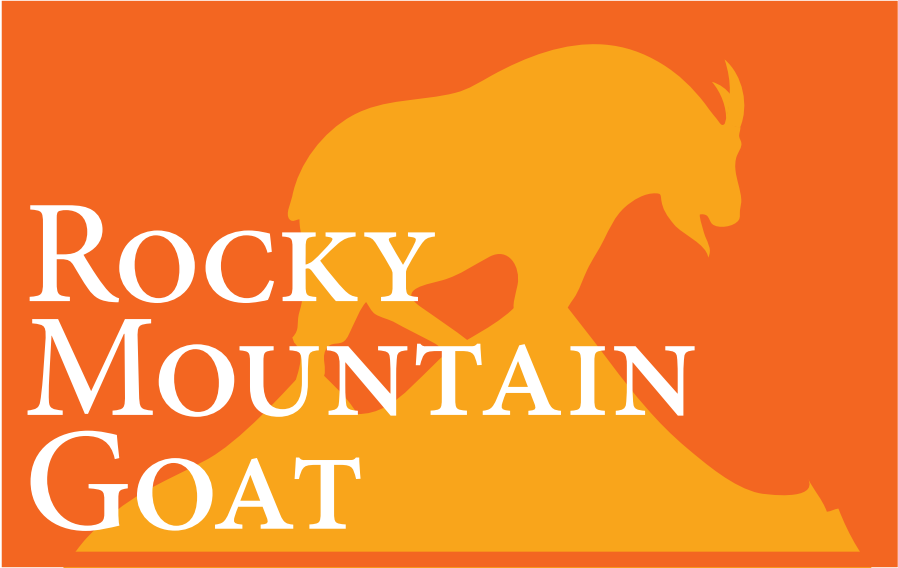
Dec. 23rd - *Includes New Year's section

Dec. 31st - NO Paper

Jan. 7th - NO Paper

Jan. 14th - *1st paper of 2021

RMG Office will be closed Dec. 23rd - Jan. 3rd



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<div> <div>Wednesday December 23rd, 2020</div> <div>Volume 11 Issue 47</div> <div>PM42164515</div> </div>	
<div> <div>\$2.00</div> <div>GST INCLUDED</div> <div>(\$1.30 when you subscribe)</div> </div>	

Snowmobilers arrive en masse, despite COVID measures

BY ANDRU McCracken

Snowmobilers are making their way to Valemount and McBride despite a travel advisory in this province and major restrictions in Alberta.

Alberta’s tough anti-COVID measures have been in place since Dec 13. That province has closed all restaurants, bars, lounges and cafes throughout Alberta to in-person service in order to slow the spread of the virus. At the moment, Alberta currently has more than 20,000 active cases, double BC’s number. But the restaurant and bar rules don’t apply when Albertans cross the border into BC.

Albertans violating a public health order in their own province are subject to a \$1000 fine and can be prosecuted for up to \$100,000 for a first offense. In BC there is a travel advisory stating that all non-essential travel should be avoided.

Essential travel includes travelling locally for work or for medical appointments. The advisory explicitly states: “Do not travel for a vacation.” However there are no associated penalties.

It makes McBride senior Nadine Shovar wonder how long it will take for Valemount and McBride to experience the kind of outbreaks Alberta is seeing.

“Right now, they shouldn’t be allowed to come here,” said Shovar.

Dining out with friends in a restaurant recently, Shovar saw a group of sledders who weren’t wearing masks or social distancing.

At the end of the evening a maskless, inebriated patron held the door open for Shovar’s party. They didn’t welcome the gesture, but proceeded through, potentially exposing themselves to the virus.

Shovar said restaurants and other local businesses sometimes have a hard time getting sledders to follow the local mask protocols and socially distance.

“Enforcing protocols is easy to say, hard to do,” said Shovar.

What ticks her off is that some sledders are neglecting the

CONT'D ON P2



Despite some dissent, local churches comply with gathering ban

MANY WILL HOST CHRISTMAS SERVICES ONLINE

BY FRAN YANOR / LEGISLATIVE REPORTER

Despite some criticism of recent public health orders banning in-person religious gatherings and defiance of the orders by a handful of B.C. churches, local religious organizations have complied with the restrictions, even if not everyone is happy about them.

“Our province has maintained that liquor stores, and pubs, and bars, and restaurants are an essential service to Canadian society, but that gathering for worship is not,” said Pastor Stewart Reimer of the McBride Evangelical Free Church, whose congregation has adhered to the public health orders.

As new cases skyrocketed in November, Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry instituted a halt on all public gatherings and events, and told people to limit their socializing to just people in their immediate household. Schools, restaurants, retail outlets, and most businesses have been allowed to continue operations.

In the past month, hospitalizations reached their highest since the pandemic began. In early December, several COVID-19 patients in the north were flown to other regions for care, as northern hospitals filled up. As of Dec. 18, Northern Health had the second highest per capita rate of COVID-19 cases in B.C.

According to public health officials, all regions have seen ongoing infections stemming from social situations. On Dec. 7, Henry extended the ban on social gatherings until Jan. 8.

“We have, unfortunately, seen transmission happen in a number of faith communities, in churches, in gurdwaras, in temples,” Henry said announcing the restrictions in November. “This is one of those things that we do very reluctantly.”

Reimer called it an “unwarranted over-reaction,” and said while he supports public health and the intent to save lives, the inclusion of churches in

CONT'D P8

Irene Berndsen

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see LISTINGS ON
PAGE 23



Marsh SKATING

With most indoor sports and activities shut down, lots of community members have taken to the outdoors where Mother Nature has provided lots of opportunities. Many thanks go to the volunteers who have shovelled and maintained the ice surface for skaters. /PHOTO WENDY DYSON

Snowmobilers...

Cont'd from A1

rules and putting locals in peril, while many elderly residents won't even see their grandkids this Christmas—a sacrifice they make for the wider good. “While COVID is raging, please stay home,” asks Shovar. “It will be an absolute miracle if it isn't widespread between the two communities.” The pandemic is serious enough to warrant a shutdown, despite the impact to local businesses, she said. “We have one lab tech and x-ray technician; if they get sick we have nobody.” Not all sledders are disrespectful or flaunting the rules, though. Linda Fry said the Grizzly Pub hasn't had much difficulty with visitors as late as December 15. When they opened for family dining though, they did have some trouble with “kids running amok.” She said that sledders are greeted, asked to provide their contact info and instructed to wear a mask unless they are at their table. She said they have some burly folks on staff who could intervene in a pinch, but so far that hasn't been necessary. She said her staff know how to stay way ahead of any issues. “We seem to have created a culture that works in our favor,” she said. Acting Mayor Lucille Green said the Village of McBride has discussed whether they should remain open to visitors to the community. “There is no official restriction that prevents travel, but the hope is that common sense will prevail,” she said. Green said if visitors were advised of the provincial directives, they would follow them. “There is no legal reason why visitors cannot come to our community. Each business will be responsible for their own risk assessment to determine whether they will accept visitors to their business.” Green said that McBride is famous for being welcoming. “Council encourages the community to be respectful to any visitors that we see, and we are confident that they will be respectful in return,” she said.

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This year has looked a little different, but our wishes for you remain the same: peace, happiness and time with those who matter most.

Happy Holidays from your Duncan FCC team.

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: January 21st 2021
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Submit to goatnewspaper@gmail.com with the subject line **WINTER STORY**. Attach the story as a word document. Do not indent paragraphs or put spaces between lines. Give your submission a title and write the word count at the top.

The RMG's 2nd Annual Winter Stories

EDITION

THIS YEAR'S THEME: **HOT AND COLD**

DESPERATELY SEEKING LOST DOG - VALEMOUNT

All we want for Christmas is our JACK back! **16 year old Springer spaniel. Liver (brown) and white. Hard of hearing and blind,** but we love him. Sadly missed by his parents and 2 small children. He escaped through our gate when the wind caught it early Dec 6th morning. **Please keep your eyes open for him in your yard including under porches and when you're out and about. If you have security cameras perhaps you can take a peek for us.** Anything to bring our JACK home.

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Columbia Basin **trust**

Carol Hammar assisted Santa as he drew the winners of the McBride Hospital Auxiliary Christmas Food Hamper raffle on December 17th. The Auxiliary would like to thank everyone who donated time, space or product to this year's hamper. The organization was gifted a few additional prizes, so four names were drawn:
 Christmas Hamper and Turkey: Arlene Haugen
 Turkey: Gail Mason
 Roasted Bean Coffee: Robert Johnson
 Roasted Bean Coffee: June Vandermark
 /ANDEA ARNOLD

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1022 9th Avenue VALEMOUNT

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Mount Robson

Perfect Vacation Retreat bordering Mt Robson Park. Gorgeous main chalet/open concept/ custom cabinets & counters, stainless appliances. Separate log cabin great for guests or large family.

\$60,000

1022 6th Avenue VALEMOUNT

SOLD!

Good sized town lot on a very quiet street, just a short walk to the downtown area. Fully serviced with a few nice trees. Convenient location.

Editorial

Urgent **LIGHT** in the **DARK**



By Laura Keil, Publisher

Our Christmas cactus starting flowering last week. Fuschia pedals with translucent styles. I was sitting beside it in our armchair one morning after waking up hours before sunrise and thought what an odd thing—a plant that blossoms when sunlight dwindles.

Some things are like that—they blossom when things get dark and the need arises. They bloom not despite of adversity but because of it. And this year has shown me that shared adversity can do some pretty wondrous things.

The week the first shut-downs were announced in March, I went into shock. I remember spending a good amount of time on my couch crying. I pictured 10 years of newspaper work crumbling before me. I imagined all our advertisers pulling out and our newspaper sales dropping and being forced to make

impossible choices, or simply shut down.

But after the shock wore off, I jotted down some ideas. And I decided we'd keep going as long as we could. I knew other businesses were mulling their choices too. And if one shut down it could cause a cascade of others to shut down too.

So we hung tight and helping hands began to arrive. Community partners and sponsors and our rock solid advertisers who hung in there and have weathered the storm with us. I am immensely grateful to all of the people and businesses who went out of their way to support us or even just asked how we were doing. In turn, we have looked for ways to give back, and you know what? It feels like we're on an upward spin cycle of cooperation, support and solidarity.

If there's one thing I'm holding onto from this period it's that—the urgent support for one another. We know something is on the line. But there's always something on the line. The heart of our community doesn't lie inside us—it lies between us.

At winter solstice, and black sky anchors us morning and night in our separate corners. But I stare out and see the Christmas lights—and it's the brightness I see.

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Gardening with Pete

Live Plant Christmas Tree

In my family, the first week of January has always been the traditional time to take down the Christmas tree and put away the decorations for another year. For the past ten years, I have just had to put away the decorations, as the “tree” stays right where it is until next year!

My “tree” is my large Jade Plant. It is already growing in its large pot next to a window facing the road. I don’t have to move any furniture, track in dirt bringing it into the house, sweep up needles, wipe up spilled water from around the stand or find a way to get rid of it when the season is over. With a string of small lights and some light ornaments and tinsel, it always seems proud of its newfound purpose.

I had always wanted to try potting up an evergreen in the fall and bringing it into the house just before Christmas and then put it out again to be planted the following spring. Everything I have read in the gardening books and magazines points to a really high failure rate with this method. Bringing the tree into the warm house breaks its dormancy and then when you put it out a few weeks later, it is usually dehydrated and goes into shock from its second sudden temperature change in a month.

Another possible candidate for this use would be the Norfolk Island pine, a wonderful houseplant that many people in our area already have in their homes. This little beauty is much more like a traditional Christmas tree in

shape than my jade plant.

In its natural South Pacific home, the Norfolk Island pine grows up to 120 feet (30m) but grows quite slowly as a houseplant at 3-6” per year. They tolerate quite a wide variety of light and heat conditions but thrive with cool nights and daytime temperatures around 70F (20C). It needs to be kept barely moist letting the surface get dry and remain dry for a day or two between waterings. They like a light soil such as an African violet mix with lots of peat in it. During the spring and summer, a light fertilizing every few months will keep it green and healthy. If it is repotted ever three or four years into the next size larger pot, it will grow and be happy. Although the Norfolk Pine prefers filtered sun in the heat of summer, it can thrive in direct winter sun. The main thing to remember is that this tree comes from a small Island in the warm Pacific Ocean and will not tolerate our cold Northern winters! If it grows too large as the years go by, the top can be “air-layered” and a new tree started. Taking cuttings from a branch will not succeed, as the branch cuttings will not grow upright.

If this idea of a live, year-round tree appeals to you, this may be a good time to be on the lookout for a good buy.

Hruby acting mayor in new year

By ANDRU McCracken

The Village of McBride has been working without Mayor Gene Runtz since some time in August due to a health-related leave, and since that time the acting mayor position fell to councillor Lucille Green, but her term will end soon.

“At some point in the new year the next councillor in line will assume those duties,” said councillor Rosemary Hruby. She’s next on the list.

Hruby said that the terms of the acting mayor were determined at the inaugural meeting.

“Each councilor takes a year in alphabetical order,” she said.

Hruby said councillor Alan Frederick has already served his year and that Lucille Green will continue until early in the new year.

Councillor Diane Smith would take on the job if Runtz is not able to return to his post for this council’s final year.

“Gene is, unfortunately, dealing with some health issues. The Council is definitely concerned for his well-being and are supporting him with the time he needs to recover,” said Hruby.

“He will be back to his duties as soon as his physician has declared he is well enough to do so.”

We reached out to Mayor Runtz for comment, but didn’t hear back by press time.

Global Thoughts

BY GWYNNE DYER

Love Jihad

The ‘Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Ordinance’ was passed into law in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh on 28 November, providing jail sentences of up to ten years for Muslim men who marry Hindu women with the intention of converting them. ‘Love Jihad’ must be stopped at all costs, to preserve the Hindu majority in India.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi depends almost exclusively on Hindu votes to win elections, so anything that threatens to reduce the number of Hindu voters is obviously a problem for him. People with mathematical skills, however, may calculate that the threat isn’t really very big.

India’s population is one-and-a-third billion people (1,353,000,000 people, to be precise), and there are currently only 195 million Muslim Indians – 14% of the whole. For Muslims to become the majority by ‘love jihad’ will require Muslim men to marry at least

481 million Hindu girls.

There’s probably no more than 75 million Muslim men of marriageable age in India, and most of them are already married. According to Islam (and to Indian law), Muslim men can have up to four wives, but there’s still not enough Muslim men to marry all those Hindu women without exceeding four wives each.

Moreover, the conspirators behind the love jihad are condemning Muslim women in India to very crowded marriages, or alternatively no marriage at all. They clearly haven’t thought this through properly.

Four more states ruled by Modi’s Hindu-nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) are already planning to pass identical laws against ‘love jihad’, but for the sake of argument let’s assume that they don’t work, and those wicked Muslim boys go on marrying innocent Hindu girls at the current rate. How long would it take for the ‘love jihad’ to create a Muslim-majority India?

Gwynne Dyer is a Canadian-born independent journalist whose column is published in more than 175 papers in 45 countries.



By my calculation, around 200,000 years, give or take a millennium or two. So the disloyal thought occurs that maybe the BJP’s goal in passing laws against an alleged Muslim ‘love jihad’ isn’t really to defend the majority status of the Hindu population and its own voting base.

Maybe it’s to stir up anti-Muslim hatred and paranoia and energise Hindu voters who are getting a bit disillusioned with the BJP.

The BJP won a landslide victory in last year’s national election thanks in large part to a fortuitous military confrontation with Pakistan at just the right time, but its economic performance has been poor and it has been losing state elections even in its traditional strongholds.

Unemployment is high, the BJP’s initial response to the coronavirus was chaotic, the farmers are starting to revolt, and the government lost a mini-war with China in the Himalayas last June. It’s definitely time for a morale-boosting anti-Muslim hate campaign.

Of all the populist leaders that have come to power in democratic countries in the past few years, Modi is the most dangerous. He is cleverer and more disciplined than people like Donald Trump, Boris Johnson and Rodrigo Duterte, and India is the second-biggest country in the world.

Actually, Modi is more like Turkey’s Recep Tayyip Erdogan: also clever, also cynically manipulating religion even though he is genuinely a believer – and seventeen years in power. Indian democracy has quite deep roots, but it probably wouldn’t survive seventeen years of Modi.

Indian journalist Tavleen Singh may have been right when she wrote recently in the Indian Express: “We seem in India to be regressing into a Hindu version of Pakistan.” After 73 years of democracy in India, that would be a very great pity.



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VISIT 1170 5th Avenue, Valemount

VALEMOUNT COUNCIL NOTES

\$1.8 million lift station, zoning changes

BY ANDRU McCracken

Valemount Council held its regular meeting on December 8 and the meeting began with a presentation from Penni Adams of the Northwest Invasive Plant Council.

Mayor Owen Torgerson said council would discuss funding the Northwest Invasive Plant Council's work during its budget deliberations in January.

Supporting seniors

Council decided to write a letter of support to the Valemount Senior Citizens Housing Society in support of their application to BC Housing's Community Housing Fund. Councillor Pete Pearson excused himself for the discussion because of a conflict of interest. Pearson is a member of the society.

Condoms and menstrual products

Councillor Sheri Gee noted a request in the reading file from AccessBC.

“I just wanted to mention the UBCM resolution support about providing access to menstrual products in the washrooms of municipal facilities and condoms in municipal facilities, I'm wondering if we can look into that as how can we be supportive of that going forward,” said Gee.

Gee moved to have staff look into it, Pearson seconded it. The motion passed.

COVID Banners

Council had asked staff to consider purchasing COVID-19 Banners for streetlight standards and placement around town, staff advised against it as being expensive and potentially irrelevant.

“Staff has the ability to perform a robust communications campaign that will be as effective as signs and banners at the gateway to the community and along 5th Ave,” said CAO Wayne Robinson in his report.

Council received the building inspectors report.

Daycare lease

Council chose to renew their lease with the

Valemount Children's Activity Society for a term of five years, and also send them a letter.

Lift station grant or no grant

Council approved funding the entire cost of replacing the Dogwood Lift Station from the Northern Capital Planning Grant. They have applied for a major infrastructure grant worth more than \$1.3 million, but even if that isn't successful, they plan to forge ahead.

“This replacement is essential and planned to begin next spring. In the event the Green Infrastructure – Environmental Quality Sub Stream funding is denied, staff are requesting that council approve the use of the Northern Capital Planning Grant for the remaining cost of the project,” read the staff report.

The entire project is worth \$1,876,940

Council appointed Eugene Jamin, Meg Aspey, Valerie Kerr and Graham Winsor to a two year term on the Columbia Basin Trust Community Initiative Program Adjudication Committee.

Seniors on Ash Street

Council gave the final reading to changes to the Official Community Plan and the Zoning bylaw to allow for a seniors residence on Ash.

Fees and Charges

Council gave final reading to an amendment that will increase water, sewer and garbage rates by 3 percent.

Development Procedures

Council gave first and second reading to an amendment to their Development Procedures Bylaw. The most notable amendments include:

- Advertising public hearings on the village website and notification boards at least 10 days prior to a public hearing. Delivering notifications via mail to all parcels within 100m of the subject property. Having a specific location for notifications and radius of adjacent properties included ensures all notifications of Public Hearings are completed in the same manner.

In-Camera

Council went In-Camera to discuss the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

COVID-19 vaccinations to begin in northern B.C. this week

FRAN YANOR / *LEGISLATIVE REPORTER*

COVID-19 vaccinations will begin this week in nine locations across the province – including the north.

Last week, B.C. received 3,900 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine. As of Dec. 18, more than 2,500 shots had been administered from two locations in the Lower Mainland. The 3,900 doses were B.C.'s portion of Canada's first shipment, which Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said will amount to up to 249,000 doses by the end of December.

“This is momentous news,” said Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry when the vaccines arrived last week. “The first step in our path to protecting people most at risk in our communities and taking the pressure off our health care system.”

More vaccine is expected this week, when vaccination locations will expand to nine across B.C., including the north. New vaccine shipments are expected every week following. When sufficient supplies exist, estimated to be sometime in January, vaccination locations will expand to 30.

The initial batches of Pfizer vaccine doses across the province are being administered by appointment only, to long-term care, acute care, and ICU healthcare workers.

Because of stringent storage and transportation requirements for the Pfizer vaccine, including -70 C storage conditions, the company won't allow transportation of the doses until B.C.'s system is tested and proven reliable.

“It's a very delicate vaccine, it's very unstable once it's been thawed, and has to be used within a very short period of time,” said Henry. “So those logistical constraints make it challenging.”

For the first while, vaccine must be administered from each of the locations where they are delivered and cannot be transported to long-term care facilities, for instance.

The Moderna vaccine, expected to arrive as early as next week, is more easily transportable, requiring only refrigeration.

“As soon as one or the other is available, we'll be looking at how we can move it out to long-term care homes rapidly,” said Henry.

Public health officials estimate that long-term care residents, healthcare workers in long-term care, acute care, ICUs, and those people at highest risk of developing severe illness from COVID-19 (about 400,000 people) will be vaccinated by the end of March.

www.valemount.ca

Village Office Christmas Closure

The Village Office and Visitor Information Centre will close on Wednesday December 23rd, 2020 at 12:00pm and re-open on Monday January 4th, 2021 at 8:30am

Garbage Pick-up:

During this time the garbage pickup schedule will be as follows:

- Friday** December 25th will be picked up on **Monday** December 28th
- Saturday** December 26th will be picked up on **Monday** December 28th
- Friday** January 1st will be picked up on **Monday** January 4th

Regular pickup will resume the first week of January.

Bill Payments:

2020 Taxes and utilities are due December 31, 2020. After this date, outstanding taxes and utilities will transfer to arrears and begin accumulating interest.

While the office is closed over the holiday season, payments can still be made by telephone banking, online banking, or email transfer to dof@valemount.ca.

Payments by cheque can be mailed to the Village of Valemount, PO Box 168, Valemount, BC V0E 2Z0. Any mailed payments must be received by January 1, 2020.

Utility notices for the 2021 year will be mailed out in mid January 2021.

Annual Wes Hudson Light Up Contest Winners

There were many amazing lights around town this year. This year's winners are:

Residential:

- 1st place – 1101 7th Avenue
- 2nd Place – 1380 4th Avenue

Commercial:

- 1st place - Valemount Fire Department for their decorated fire truck.
- 2nd Place - Infinity Office and Health for their window display.

Please contact the Village Office to claim your prize.

There were a few other houses that we wanted to mention. Take a drive by:

- 1123 9th Avenue
- 1166 8th Avenue
- 1426 5th Avenue
- 315 13th Avenue

CBT Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Program

The Columbia Basin Trust Community Initiatives and Affected Areas Program is now accepting Applications.

Guidelines and application information can be found on the Village website at www.valemount.ca/grants.

The deadline for applications is February 19, 2021 at 12 pm

Notice Disposition of Land: Robson Valley Community Services & Valemount Entertainment Society

Pursuant to Sections 26 and 94 of the Community Charter, notice is hereby given that the Village of Valemount intends to lease to **Robson Valley Community Services** at a monthly rate of \$2941.72 plus GST per month, and to the **Valemount Entertainment Society**, at a monthly rate of \$420.09 plus GST.

The building is situated at **Lot 9, District Lot 7354, Cariboo District Plan 21237** (99 Gorse Street) and comprising of office space on the first and second floor, for a term of 1 year from January 1st, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

For more information please contact:

Wayne Robinson
 CAO, Village of Valemount
 735 Cranberry Lake Road
 Valemount, BC V0E 2Z0
 (T) 250.566.4435
 (E) cao@valemount.ca

Reminder- Business licensing requirements for Commercial Kitchens

As per current Village of Valemount Business Licensing Legislation, in order to renew your business license for 2021, you must have had your grease interceptor cleaned in 2020, and be able to provide proof of this cleaning to the Village of Valemount.

735 Cranberry Lake Road
250-566-4435 PO Box 168

BC expands enforcement to crack down on COVID-19 rule breakers



By FRAN YANOR / LEGISLATIVE REPORTER

The Province is authorizing conservation officers, liquor and cannabis inspectors, and others, to “crack down on rule breakers” and help police enforce COVID-19 public health orders throughout the province, announced Premier John Horgan this week.

“There are those who are not prepared to bend a little bit in their personal lives to the benefit of all of us collectively,” Horgan said on Dec. 15. “Consequently, we’re going to be beefing up enforcement on public health orders over the next couple of weeks.”

Workplace safety inspectors, community safety investigators, and others in positions of standards’ compliance, will now be called upon to enforce public health rules and orders as part of their job.

“Anywhere where you have an authority over citizens, we’re going to ask you to be working with law enforcement to ensure that our public health orders are in place and being acted upon,” Horgan said.

These additional ‘enforcement agencies’ have been directed to actively assist police in enforcing COVID-19 rules and orders as they come across violations in the course of their duties, and in public places, said the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Mike Farnworth in a briefing on Dec. 16. “That will be additional support for the police in terms of doing their job.”

WorkSafe BC has also been instructed to step up in-person inspections, focusing on sectors with high virus transmission rates.

British Columbians can also expect an uptick in fines.

So far, since late summer, almost 300 fines have been levied to British Columbians, said Farnworth.

Of those, 224 tickets were issued to individuals who would not comply with law enforcement, 45 tickets were given to

owners or organizers of gatherings against public health orders, and 21 tickets were for violations of the Food and Liquor Serving Premises Order. An additional 72 tickets were given to people who broke quarantine orders, according to the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

Once issued a ticket, individuals have 30 days to appeal. After 30 days, unpaid tickets will go directly to collections. Repeat offenders can be ticketed again. In the rare cases of particularly flagrant behaviour or repeated violations of orders, police can recommend charges that may result in additional penalties, fines or jail time.

“This is serious; this is not a lark; this is not something we do lightly,” Horgan said. “If you’re not prepared to follow the rules, if you’re going to look for loopholes, there’ll be consequences for that.”

After weeks of public health orders restricting social interactions to immediate households only, B.C.’s new cases have finally flatlined. To keep the trend going and dip the numbers into decline, public health orders have been extended through Christmas and into the new year until Jan. 8.

“We’re hopeful if we continue to abide by public health orders over the weeks ahead, getting through the Christmas season, we’ll be in a much better position come January when we all turn the page on this tragic year,” said Horgan, “and start focusing with hope and optimism on a better future in 2021.”

To get to that better future, he said every British Columbian possible should get vaccinated when it’s available to them, and people need to adhere to several simple, now well-known, rules: Keep your distance from other people. Keep your bubbles very tight over the holiday season. Don’t interact with people you normally don’t interact with. And, if you’re in a public place, wear a mask, Horgan said.

“I want you to have a great holiday season,” said Horgan. “But I also want you to be safe and I want you to recognize and understand that your actions can not just save your family members, but they could save other people’s family members as well.”

Fran Yanor / Local Journalism Initiative / Fran@thegoatnews.ca

REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George

NOTICE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION
TEMPORARY USE PERMIT No. 240

What: Consultation regarding Temporary Use Permit No. 240

Owner: Province of British Columbia

Applicant: 1072223 BC Ltd.

Agent: Shawn Fowler

Proposal: The purpose of Temporary Use Permit No. 240 is to permit Preliminary Resource Processing use on the subject land for up to a three-year period. Zoning Bylaw No. 2892 defines Preliminary Resource Processing as the crushing, screening, washing, storing, packaging or other processing of rock, sand, gravel, aggregate or soil, originating on the same site and does not include asphalt plants or concrete plants. The subject land is legally described as Part Of South West ¼, District Lot 7372 And Part Of West ½, District Lot 7373, Cariboo District and located 5km south of the Village of Valemount.

How can I participate and provide comment? Anyone who believes that their interest in land is affected by the proposed Permit shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to submit written comments prior to the Regional District Board considering issuance of the Permit.

Submit written comments: Written comments will be accepted by the Regional District until 12:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, January 13, 2021** by:
Email: developmentsservices@rdffg.bc.ca
Hand/Mail: 155 George Street, Prince George, BC V2L 1P8
Fax: 250-562-8676

Any material received will become public information.

Need more info? A copy of the proposed Permit and any relevant background materials are available for review by the public on the Regional District’s website at <http://www.rdffg.bc.ca/services/development/land-use-planning/current-applications/> or at the Regional District office, by appointment only, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, between December 9, 2020, and January 21, 2021. The Regional District office will be closed on December 25 and 28, 2020 and January 1, 2021. Closing at noon on December 24, 2020 and December 31, 2020. To make an appointment contact the Regional District at developmentsservices@rdffg.bc.ca or at 250-960-4400.

Decision by the Regional District Board: Following the public consultation, the Regional District Board will consider issuance of Temporary Use Permit No. 240 on Thursday, January 21, 2021 during the Regional District Board meeting which starts at 1:30 p.m. in the Regional District Board Room located at 155 George Street, Prince George, BC.

Who can I speak to? Daniel Burke, Planner II, 250-960-4400

REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George

Main Office: 155 George Street, Prince George, BC V2L 1P8
T: 250-960-4400 TF: 1-800-667-1959 F: 250-563-7520 www.rdffg.bc.ca



Up she goes

The Valemount Affordable Rentals Society’s new 13-unit apartment building is making steady progress on Juniper Street just across from the Dogwood track crossing. /COURTESY VIVIAN KENKEL

Keeping the faith in a pandemic is about hope, compassion and prayers-by-Zoom

By GOAT STAFF

The Goat recently sat down – via the internet – for a Q and A with Rev. Kim McNaughton, United Church Diaconal Minister from the Robson Valley Shared Ministry, to learn how she and her parishioners have kept connected during COVID-19 times,, and what keeping the faith in a pandemic has taught them.

How have you changed how you’ve reached out/kept in touch with congregants during the pandemic?

The biggest change has been not being able to visit people in their homes/ residences, particularly seniors. We have written more letters, emails, and had phone call visits—parishioner-to-parishioner, and between myself and congregants. Certainly, the internet has been a blessing.

What are the challenges you’ve encountered trying to keep people connected?

One challenge, is how tired people are of screen time. Many are being inundated with emails, online worship and prayer opportunities, Zoom invitations. The other obvious challenge is that we have members of our faith family who are not online or do not use computers.

Have any interesting innovations sprung up?

Absolutely. Thanks to Michael and Valemount Community TV, in April 2020 we were able to televise and have our services on the internet. Our online

worship “congregation” went from averaging 15 people per week, to 60 people. We found out how technology can keep us connected and expand our circle. The most important information for us has been that online worship and our faith community are more accessible to people when online. The pandemic has made us more willing to try new technology. Although we’ve faced a challenging learning curve, we’ve learned to use the internet to our advantage and been able to carry on as usual with church board meetings, worship services, prayer groups, and bible study group.

How have your parishioners fared under COVID-19?

Parishioners have, for the most part, kept their spirits up and held out hope for others. The Christian faith is all about hope and offering compassion to others. It is about new life when we least expect it and not giving up, even in the face of isolation, illness, and death. It is trusting in the Divine who is always loving with us. So, our faith has helped us in this COVID time. We have found ways to keep serving our wider community as we look after our own faith community. We have created phone trees and mail outs to stay in touch. We’ve cooked and delivered meals. We have worked safely at keeping our thrift sales going, when safe to do so. Not to say that it hasn’t been difficult, especially for those who live alone and who do not have family close by, or are not connected to the internet. We miss each other, we miss being together. It

is the small, everyday conversations we miss and that help us stay connected, the conversations that happen before church, or after, at our coffee hour.

What is your message to your members who are anxious or upset about the public health orders or their own futures related to the pandemic?

My message would be simply this: God is with us, we are not alone. Reach out by telephone to me, or another faith family member, if you want someone to talk to, to pray with, to sit in silence together. We are here for each other even as we keep distancing and work to stay safe and healthy.

What is your view of the public health orders?

We all know this is a complicated, unusual time and that everyone is tired, sad, frustrated, and often discouraged. My view is that we follow public health orders and that we dig deep in order to be graceful and thankful.

Robson Valley Shared Ministry online Christmas services:

- Dec. 21: Christmas carol sing-a-long and the Longest Night “Blue” Christmas on Connectnorth.ca
- Dec. 23, 9:30 AM: Christmas coffee via Zoom
- Dec. 24, 5 PM: Christmas service on Valemount Community TV and VCTV’s YouTube channel
- Dec. 25, 11 AM: Christmas service (repeat) on Valemount Community TV and VCTV’s YouTube channel



Robson Valley Shared Ministry parishioner Robert Bell lights advent candles for the taping of the United Church’s Christmas Service, which will be aired on Valemount Community TV on Dec. 24 and Dec. 25.

“All are invited to join this community of faith. All are welcome, and we hope, feel included,” McNaughton said. “We are a community seeking connection and meaning through faithful living and we are thankful that COVID-19 has not changed that about us!” Call Rev. Kim McNaughton at 250-968-4467 to connect. Answers have been edited for clarity and brevity

Churches comply... Cont’d from A1

the public health order while other businesses remain open, is unequal treatment. “Instead of saying, this is what they did wrong and this is what needs to change, they shut the whole thing down,” Reimer said. Provincial Health Minister Adrian Dix and Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry recently came under fire from a Baptist minister in Victoria who warned that the public health restrictions risked alienating all the British Columbians who practiced religion. Dix responded, saying faith leaders across the province had been consulted and kept informed throughout the pandemic. Recently, three Fraser Valley churches were ticketed by police and fined thousands of dollars combined after repeatedly defying health orders and holding in-person church services. “If they think that somehow their rights are more important than people’s health, they are wrong,” said Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Mike Farnworth Dec. 16. “Charges have been forwarded to the crown prosecutorial service, and we shall see what happens from there.”

People in the healthcare system are working hard to look after all of us and we do them a disservice by not following, as best as we can, the public health orders, said Rev. Kim McNaughton, United Church Diaconal Ministerfor the Robson Valley Shared Ministry. “We all know this is a complicated, unusual time and that everyone is tired, sad, frustrated, and often discouraged,” said McNaughton. “My view is that we follow public health orders and that we dig deep in order to be graceful and thankful.” From the Lower Mainland, Archbishop J. Michael Miller, from the Archdiocese of Vancouver, was pragmatic, calling the public health restrictions “a necessary burden.” “Christmas without Holy Mass, it might not seem like Christmas,” Miller conceded on Dec. 7. “(However) that is the lot that has been put out for us to observe.” The archbishop was hopeful for the new year. “We really can’t afford to allow our hospitals to be overrun, so if we see that’s not happening, and that the numbers are going down, there’s every reason to think that there will be an appropriate lifting of restrictions



Live-streamed Christmas services will be available to all members of the Parishes of North Thompson, including the Good Shepherd in Valemount, St. James in Clearwater, St. George in Barriere, and Our Lady of Snow in Blue River (pictured above).

come January 8,” Miller said. At the Heartland Baptist Church in Prince George, bible study classes have continued online, and services are pre-recorded and offered on the internet at the usual times. Congregants can meet via Zoom before and after the service, and the church has its own YouTube channel, said Stephanie Swan, the church office coordinator, and now, digital content editor. The North Thompson Ecumenical Shared Ministry – the Church of St Paul in Barriere and Trinity Shared Ministry of Clearwater – has a YouTube channel, along with an upbeat message for parishioners on its homepage: “We will still be doing the work in the world we are called to do; we just won’t be doing it together on Sunday morning!” According to an informal survey, most religious

organizations in the Robson Valley, North Thompson, and Prince George areas are following public health orders and offering some form of online services. “I respect the role of faith in people’s lives; faith will help people get through this pandemic,” said Solicitor General Farnworth. “But faith alone will not protect you from this virus.” Live-streamed Christmas services will be available to all members of the Parishes of North Thompson, including the Good Shepherd in Valemount, St. James in Clearwater, St. George in Barriere, and Our Lady of Snow in Blue River.

Fran Yanor / Local Journalism Initiative / Fran@thegoatnews.ca

Pipeline construction shutdown

IN WAKE OF BURNABY ACCIDENT

By Andru McCracken

An accident has caused the 12.4 billion dollar Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion project from Edmonton to Burnaby to shut down until January 4. “Our top priorities remain the safety of our workers and maintaining a safe work environment as we continue to work towards the successful completion of this critical Canadian project. Over the past two months, we have seen safety incidents at our worksites that are unacceptable to Trans Mountain,” said Ian Anderson, President and CEO of Trans Mountain.

Some local workers were due to take off for the Christmas holidays anyways, but a spokesperson for Trans Mountain said that the break will be more than two weeks and project-wide.

Trans Mountain and the Canadian Energy Regulator have not provided details about the incident, other than that a worker was seriously injured in Burnaby on December 15.

Anderson said the company would take the time to ‘review, reset and refocus.’

“We are committed to a strong culture of safety above all else and insist that our Project contractors and subcontractors are equally

committed. This is non-negotiable, we must improve the safety culture and performance on our Project,” said Anderson.

He said temporary stand down would provide a chance for Trans Mountain to engage with contractors, their staff and their own employees.

“We will dedicate this time to ensure all safety management systems are in place, including COVID-19 protocols, to ensure everyone returns to work safely,” he said.

Anderson said that the project is about 20% complete so far.

“Next year, 2021, will see peak construction for the Project, with thousands of people working in hundreds of sites across Alberta and British Columbia. It is during this time when one of the greatest risks to the Project becomes worker safety.”

Gitane De Silva Chief Executive Officer of the Canada Energy Regulator said the occupational health and safety for the Trans Mountain Expansion Project is shared between her organization and WorkSafe BC.

“Any incident is one too many. Every day, on every work site, people have the right to feel and stay safe. This sad occurrence brings home why we must always keep safety as our priority,” said De Silva

A death

On October 27 a worker died after being struck by a piece of equipment on the Trans Mountain pipeline west of Edmonton. The worker was an employee of SA Energy Group, a contractor hired to construct portions of the Trans Mountain pipeline in the greater Edmonton area. The contractor has since been terminated from the project.

COVID Violations

The Canadian Energy Regulator found 37 violations of three COVID protocols during a compliance inspection at the Westridge Marine Terminal and Burnaby Terminal in early December.

“Work at each of these sites is contracted out to Kiewit-Ledcor Trans Mountain Partnership.”

“At each site, workers ... were observed not adhering to the requirements outlined in the COVID protocols, despite the company messaging and signage around sites,” according to a report from the regulator.

SUPPORT LOCAL NEWS

Subscribe today:

CALL 250-566-4606

Local arenas adapt to COVID regs

Our local arenas and amenities inside them are still open. Here are the details as of mid-December.

Robson Valley Rec Centre

The hours for the Recreation Centre Arena and the FitPit are subject to frequent changes as we operate under COVID-19 Provincial Health Orders and WorkSafeBC regulations. Please call the Arena for the latest facility hours.

Use of the Arena and FitPit will require an appointment. To book an appointment please call 250-569-3360.

Please note the following:

Face masks are required in all areas of the facility, except when using exercise equipment.

Adult Team Sports are suspended until further notice, including Adult Hockey, Pond Hockey, Stick Time and Lawn Bowling.

Open ice time is available by appointment. For adults this means leisure skating only. Maximum 6 people on the ice at one time.

If all participants for open ice time are not from the same “bubble”, they must all wear masks – on and off ice.

Child and youth programs, figure skating, minor hockey, open skate (check facility for open skate times), continue.

There are to be no spectators at a program for children or youth unless the presence of a spectator is necessary in order to provide care to a child or youth.

ARENA - Open Skating:

Appointments will take priority over “Walk-Ins.” Maximum of 6

people permitted at one time, for Open Skating. Shower facilities are unavailable at this time. Skate rentals are unavailable at this time Skate sharpening is available in reduced capacity: Drop off Thursday - pick up Monday after 2pm. Drop off Saturday - pick up Wednesday after 2pm

FITNESS FACILITIES:

Walk-ins for the fitness facilities may be permitted provided maximum occupancy (under our COVID-19 Safety Plan) has not been met. Reduced Facility Capacity: Maximum of 2 people in the free-weight room, 1 person in the stretch room, 2 people in the cardio area, for a total of 5 people in the Fit-Pit. You must bring your own water, towels, etc. Showers are unavailable at this time

Canoe Valley Rec Centre

The hours for the Recreation Centre Arena and the Exercise Room are subject to frequent changes as we operate under COVID-19 Provincial Health Orders and WorkSafeBC regulations. Please call the Arena for the latest facility hours.

Use of the Arena and Exercise Room requires an appointment. To book an appointment please call 250-566-4740.

Please note the following:

Face masks are required in all areas of the facility, except when using exercise equipment.

Adult Team Sports are suspended until further notice, including Adult Hockey, Pond Hockey, Stick Time and Lawn Bowling.

Open ice time is available by appointment. For adults this means

leisure skating only. Maximum 6 people on the ice at one time.

If participants for open ice time are not from the same “bubble”, they must all wear masks – on and off ice.

Child and youth programs, figure skating, minor hockey, open skate (check facility for open skate times), continue.

There are to be no spectators at a program for children or youth unless the presence of a spectator is necessary in order to provide care to a child or youth.

Holiday Schedule:

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.

Regular hours

Exercise room 6am-9pm weekdays & Sunday (book time first)

Public skating - call for availability

ARENA:

Appointments will take priority over “Walk-Ins.” Maximum of 6 people permitted at one time, for Open Skating. Shower facilities are unavailable at this time. Skate rentals are unavailable at this time. Skate sharpening is available in reduced capacity:. Drop off Thursday - pick up Monday after 2pm. Drop off Saturday - pick up Wednesday after 2pm

FITNESS FACILITIES:

Walk-ins for the fitness facility may be permitted provided maximum occupancy (under our COVID-19 Safety Plan) has not been met

Reduced Facility Capacity: Maximum of 3 people in the Exercise Room. You must bring your own water, towels, etc. Showers are unavailable at this time

R

M

G

READER

Questionnaire

We want your feedback! We want to know what you think of our newspaper coverage. What do you want more of? Less of? What ideas do you have to improve the newspaper so it better serves the community? Answer this reader survey and return it in one of the following ways: drop it in our drop-box outside our office at 1170 5th ave. Valemount; mail it to Box 21 Valemount, V0E2Z0; fill it out and take a photo or scan it and then email us (goatnewspaper@gmail.com). Thank you for taking the time to give input and help shape our coverage!

How often do you buy the paper? Are you a subscriber?

Why do you buy the paper? (or why do you subscribe)

What parts of the newspaper do you read often?

What parts of the newspaper do you read sometimes?

What parts of the newspaper do you read seldom?

What would you like to see more of?

What would you like to see less of?

What do you think of our local reporting? How could it be improved?

What do you think of our Legislative reporting? How could it be improved?

Any other ideas you have to improve the newspaper so it better serves you?

Socially-distanced SANTA



Everlee got a chance to high-five Santa during her visit. /ANDREA ARNOLD



Santa double checks his list as his elves watch for the next visitor during his stop at the McBride and District Public Library on Saturday December 12, 2020. After each visit with Santa through the building window, the children could select a candy cane off a string, pick and orange and take a craft bag home. 30 kids took the opportunity to visit with the man in red, /ANDREA ARNOLD

Aki wanted to make sure her brother was on the naughty list, but that Santa knew she'd been a good elf this year. /ANDREA ARNOLD

Season's Greetings from Keremeos!

To all my friends in the Robson Valley.
Best Wishes for the Merriest Christmas and Happiest New Year!



A special thank you to Box 421 for the stickers!
From Joan Nordli & family

To our friends,

Since we are unable to hold our New Year's Eve open house this year I wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas in the hopes 2021 will be a little bit easier on all of us and visiting will be in the books again.

Let's not forget we are still so much better off than millions of others. Stay healthy and all the best!

- Maria Lerch and family

Happy Holidays
from all of us
at Columbia Basin Trust.

Request your free 2021
#basinlife calendar:
ourtrust.org/calendar



Happy New Year!

2021



Wishing you and yours a healthy, happy...

2021

Real Tree Wood Products

From Robert and Eleanor Johnson 250-569-2459 / 250-569-7912

Happy Holidays!

Wishing everyone a very healthy and happy New Year

FROM
Sherri Malone & Family

ROYAL LEPAGE
Aspire Realty
Independently Owned and Operated

Happy New Year 2021

LDM LAKES DISTRICT MAINTENANCE INC.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Thank you to all our customers

UNCLE MARK'S
CUSTOM MEAT CUTTING
250 - 569 - 7805

Happy New year!

We hope your New Year is filled with friends, family and good times!

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT

Trish **Deanna** **Jean-Ann**

Laura **Fran** **Andru** **Andrea** **Arthur**

The Rocky Mountain Goat

Wishing you and yours a healthy, happy

2021

From the whole Team

Swift Creek Residence

On behalf of the Residents we would like to wish you a Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year!

Wishing you a bright and happy new year!

Tim Hortons Valemount 250-566-4116

2021

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

All the Best for a Happy and Healthy New Year!

PETRO-CANADA 250-566-4151

A&W 250-566-4104

HAPPY NEW YEAR to our Customers

From Susie & Al Forsyth
WILLOW BURL CABINS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

All the Best for a Happy & Healthy New Year!

Robson Valley Business Services
250 - 569 - 7941

May 2021 be a year of positive opportunities and good health!

cfdc.bc.ca

1-800-661-2055

Community Futures

Fraser Fort George

2021

May each day of the New Year glow with good cheer and happiness for you and your family.

Tete Jaune

LODGE

250-566-9815

All the Best for a Happy & Healthy New Year 2021!

Sun Valley

Painting & Decorating CORP.

The GIANT Family Crossword

IF YOU WANT TO COLLABORATE ON THIS CROSSWORD WITH SOMEONE ELSE REMOTELY, EMAIL US AT GOATNEWSPAPER OR CALL 250-566-5135 AND WE CAN EMAIL THE PERSON A PRINTABLE VERSION!

ACROSS

- 1 Comedian’s repertoire
4 Daily grind
7 Heat measurement
10 Emissions monitors, abbr.
13 Fictional character in the Devil May Cry franchise
18 Welcoming floor covering
21 It runs from trees
24 Filet mignon cut
26 Stocking
27 Part of the eye that holds color
28 Afflicts
30 Capital in SE Asia
31 Cassini of fashion
33 “No ifs, ____ ...”
34 Observe
35 Feed bag contents
36 A Bobbsey twin and namesakes
37 Chew persistently
38 Provide with
39 Oil org.
40 X-ray units
41 Great Lake
42 Kind of thermometer
43 Flaw in the skin
44 Russian river
45 Stairway banisters
46 One of the major leagues, abbr.
47 Slant
48 Southwestern state capital
50 Tennis great, Arthur
52 “Heavens to ____!”
53 Pitching stats
54 Timetable
56 Top of a cooking pot
57 Nursery powder
59 Itinerary info, abbr.
60 Young Darth Vader
61 Yellow ____
62 In favor of
63 Hare’s cousin
67 Small church
69 Artistic masters
72 Absolute essential
74 Wearers of black, maybe
78 Game name
79 To that matter
80 Capital of the Northwest Territories
82 Cockatoo crest
85 Puppy bark

- 86 Become entangled
87 Pop rocker Collins
88 Ballpark arbiter
91 Record company
92 Musical genre related to punk
93 Fruit
95 Salami
97 Center chest protection bone
100 Kitchen stove
103 Indigestion cure
104 Melodic tune
105 Fourposter, e.g.
106 “The jig ____!”
108 Take to court
109 Indiana Jones quest
110 Russian ruler
111 Hurry
115 Exorbitant, as prices
117 Classic Rolls Royce model
123 Summer time wear
125 Summer camp transportation
126 Part of a cornerstone inscription
127 Close one
128 Laughter on the internet, abbreviation
129 Cooked with dry heat
134 “Unforgettable” singer
135 Clothes
136 Car class
138 Fashionable clothing store
139 Stellar musicians
140 Domed homes
143 Luxurious
145 Typical fast-food entree
148 Put a picture in a frame
149 Greek “P”
151 Financial statistics term
156 Rejects
157 Georgia O’Keeffe home
158 Requests
162 Country singer, Bonnie
163 Birds in barns
165 Accommodate
166 Org. in the “Snow Wolf” novel
168 Now Thailand
172 Volunteer
174 Aesthetic movement
176 Cardinal’s title
180 Simpsons’ character
181 Cries of regret
182 Hyperbolic function
185 Seven-day cycle

- 187 Cornerstone abbreviation
189 Loosen
190 Aforementioned
193 Criticizes severely
196 Spring for baseball, late summer for football
198 Sparkler
199 Word in many horror film titles
203 Swiss ____ (dessert)
205 Fun house sounds
206 Philly campus
211 Catches in a trap
212 Skating area
213 Modify
216 Wireless medium
220 Sleeves go here
221 Kodak founder George
222 Spoon bender
223 Philosopher suffix
225 Daddy-o
226 Stuck
227 On-line journal article
229 Broken arm solutions
233 Stock without an assigned value
235 Early garden inhabitants
237 Buccaneers star from their Superbowl win
241 Baby ferret
242 Kind of cross
243 Destiny
244 Bout enders, for short
245 Contents of some barrels
246 Religious leaders
250 Glasgow’s river
252 Hide
254 1984 movie remade in 2011
260 R&B singer who won four Grmmy Awards
261 Car-grille accessory
262 Tour
265 Ref’s call
266 Cross seen in hieroglyphics
267 Promising words
268 Actress, Long
269 Front of the leg
270 Minty cocktail
275 Vacation souvenirs
279 Early course
280 City of civil rights history
282 Door feature
283 Sherlock Holmes’

- mouthpiece
285 Beginning with “dynamic” or “nuclear”
286 Handsome
288 North Pole toymaker
290 Mer contents
291 Time in history
292 “Just ____ thought!”
293 Provo neighbor
294 Campus wall climber,

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Advantage Insurance Services Ltd.

433 Main Street, McBride | 250-569-2264

Happy New Year

2021

Wishing everyone a happy holiday season!

2021

Best Wishes from all of us at the Valemount Learning Centre

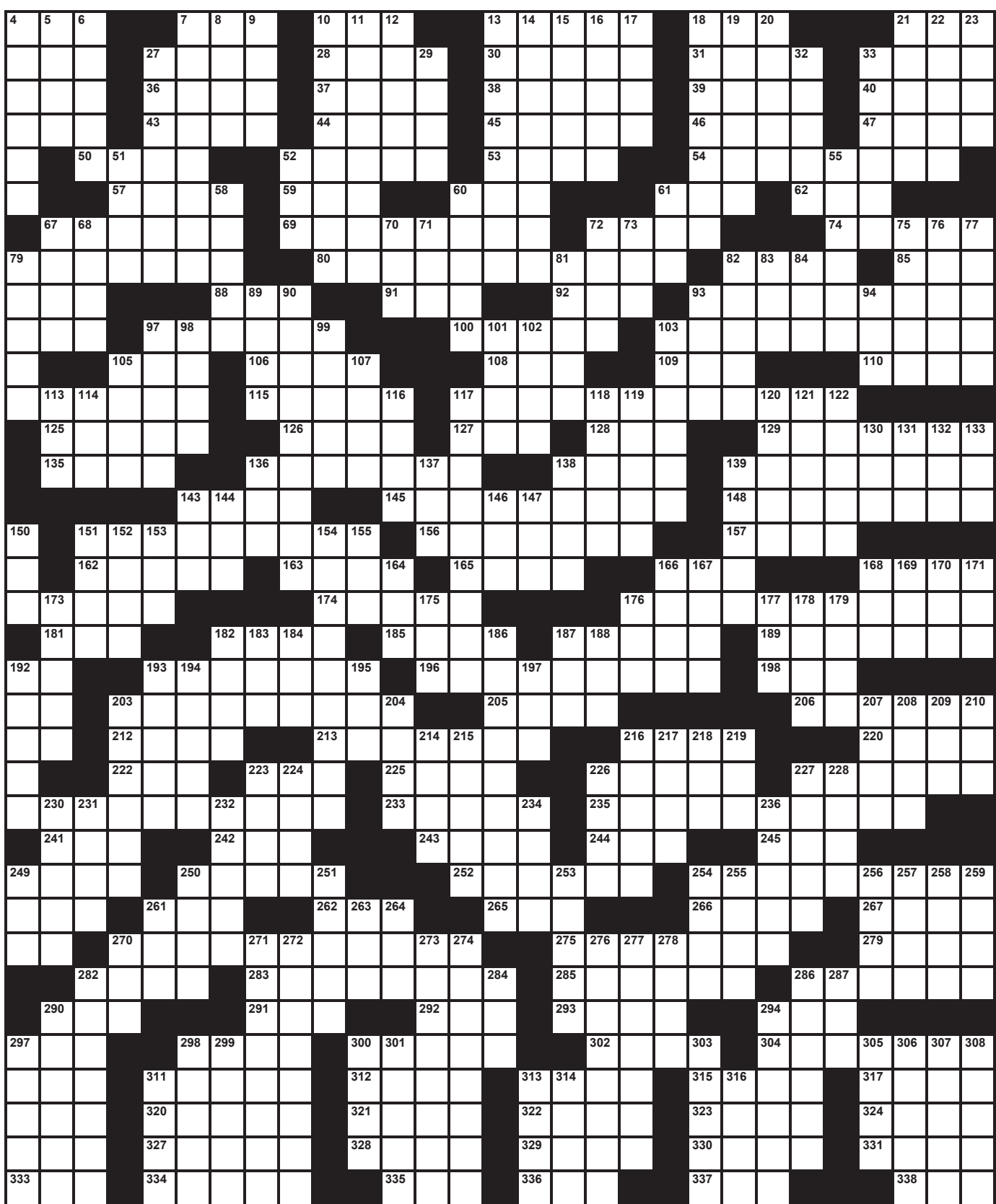
Valemount LEARNING CENTRE

Closed December 21 - January 3, 2021

Re-open Monday, January 4, 2021

99 Gorse St. Valemount, BC V0E 2Z0

Phone: 250-566-4601



perhaps
295 Camp lights
298 Swearing-in highlight
300 Auburn athlete
302 Spirit
304 Sea urchin spines
309 Grey flannel, e.g.
310 Dashboard instrument
311 Void
312 In a muddle

313 Vein contents
315 Australia's gemstone
317 Bring along
318 Major or Minor Bear
319 Pop singer Lambert
320 Type of hot pepper
321 Mercury measure
322 U.S.N. rank
323 Skillful with one's hands
324 Indian city known for

a tomb
325 Wood factory
326 Answer to a señor
327 Macho dude
328 Oscar winner Guinness
329 Runs out of steam
330 Warhol actress
Sedgwick
331 Nicaragua's second-largest city

332 "___ to Joy"
333 Atop (poetic)
334 Clear, as a disk
335 What a sweep will clear out
336 Bering, e.g., abbr.
337 ___-pack
338 They appear before U

CONT'D ON P18

2021

On behalf of Simpcw First Nation
Staff & Chief and Council
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Happy New Year

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Our warmest wishes for a
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2021

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We wish to thank all our
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2021

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Protecting COVID-19 vaccine against potential ‘sabotage’



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau tweeted the arrival of Canada’s first batch of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in Montreal this evening (Dec. 13, 2020). The vaccine will be distributed on a per capita basis. B.C. received 3,900 doses the week of Dec. 13th

By FRAN YANOR /
LEGISLATIVE REPORTER

Guarding against potential sabotage, the first few thousand of

the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine doses arrived in B.C. last week under police protection at two undisclosed healthcare locations in the Lower

Mainland. “We’ve received (information) internationally and from Canadian agencies that there has been a concerted

effort to try and interrupt the cold chain and to sabotage immunization programs,” Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry said on Dec. 10. Typically, vaccines must be carefully packaged and refrigerated to maintain efficacy. The cold chain refers to the process and conditions under which vaccines are stored, transported, and distributed. The Pfizer vaccine requires an unusually stringent storage temperature of about -70 C. “We need to make sure that we are taking appropriate precautions to make sure that it is safe, and it’s not tampered with during that whole process,” said Henry. The initial 3,900 Pfizer shots are the earliest of seven vaccines ordered by Canada. The vaccines will arrive at staggered times

depending on regulatory approvals. The first batches of Pfizer’s vaccine touched down at Mirabel International Airport in Montreal Dec. 13th. As of Dec. 18, 2,592 doses of the Pfizer vaccine had been administered from two yet-to-be identified healthcare facilities in the Fraser Valley and Vancouver Coastal Health. “The RCMP have been involved, and at the national level, the Department of National Defense have been supporting the whole operation across the country,” Henry said. Earlier this month the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) issued a global alert warning of the rise in fake vaccines, false COVID-19 cures, and fraudulent testing kits being marketed on the internet. INTERPOL also identified potential threats to the safe delivery of authentic vaccines and advised law enforcement and health regulatory bodies to work together. “As governments are preparing to roll out vaccines, criminal organizations are planning to infiltrate or disrupt supply chains,” said INTERPOL Secretary General Jürgen Stock in a press release Dec. 1. “It is essential that law enforcement is as prepared as possible for what will be an onslaught of all types of criminal activity linked to the COVID-19 vaccine.” A day after the INTERPOL alert, the cybersecurity branch of IBM revealed its discovery of a sophisticated phishing campaign allegedly intended to interrupt the COVID-19 vaccine supply chain and attack the integrity of vaccines. Phishing is when someone fraudulently assumes the identity of a trusted person, usually via email, in order to trick the recipient into sharing sensitive or personal data. According to the IBM report, a cyber attacker posed as a biomedical executive of a company qualified to transport the COVID-19 vaccine. The imposter then sent phishing emails to other corporations in the cold chain sector attempting to gain employee credentials and other confidential data about the vaccine distribution system. IBM Security, which provides security software programs to corporations, has tracked cyber attacks in Germany, Italy, South Korea, Czech Republic, greater Europe and Taiwan, on biopharmaceutical, IT, and energy companies, along

with a department of the European Commission. The security group wasn’t able to identify the attacker but didn’t think it was an individual. “Cyber criminals typically go after targets that are much easier to monetize,” said Nick Rossman, global lead for X-Force Threat Intelligence at IBM Security, during a December webinar. “We think (it) was likely a nation state, but we don’t have that confirmed.” A nation could gain significant espionage advantage from having access to, knowledge of, and control over, aspects of the cold chain, he said. But the consequences are dire. “Disruption is tantamount to destruction,” said Rossman. “If you’re (interrupting) the network that is running the refrigeration, you’re potentially unfreezing the vaccine and spoiling 10s of 1000s of doses and really undermining the legitimacy and trust that people have in the vaccines around the world.” The efficacy of the Pfizer and Moderna (expected as early as this week) vaccines is reportedly about 95 per cent after the second dose for preventing COVID-19 and reducing the severity of illness. Both vaccines require two doses, no less than 21 days apart, for full efficacy. “This is a breakthrough in terms of the benefit that a vaccine can have,” said Henry, adding public health had anticipated a 50 to 60 per cent effectiveness. “These may revolutionize vaccines for the future for other respiratory illnesses.” More immediately, while Henry is comforted knowing Canadian law enforcement and B.C. public health officials are all communicating to guard against sabotage. More doses are expected in B.C. this week, when vaccine locations will expand to nine across the province, including one in Northern Health. New shipments are anticipated in every health authority each week following and vaccination sites will expand to a total of 30 as additional supplies arrive. Public health estimates receipt of 400,000 doses by April, and millions more over the spring, summer, and fall. “It’s going to be a very complex operation over the next few months,” Henry said. “We’re just really excited to get the vaccine, get it going, get it into the arms of people and start saving lives here in B.C.”

Fran Yanor / Local Journalism Initiative / Fran@thegoatnews.ca


COVID-19 IN BC

Doing your part isn’t easy. But you don’t have to do it alone.

Saying no to visits, avoiding travel and staying close to home isn’t easy — especially at this time of year. If you or someone you know is feeling lonely or needs support, there’s help.

Supports for seniors are available 24/7.

Call or text 2-1-1 to talk to someone or visit www.bc211.ca



BRITISH COLUMBIA



Bringing cheer to seniors



The Adopt a Senior program delivered gifts to 76 seniors in the Valemount area this year. Local families and children helped deliver the gifts to the seniors, many of whom cannot be with family this Christmas. Above: the Joslin family helping to load boxes. Far right: Ryder and Ivy as Santa's little helpers. / PHOTOS COURTESY MARIAN PLUMMER AND SHAY WIED.



Did You Know...

Robson Valley Community Services offers a... Safe Home, Information and Support Program



- Safe Home is for self-identified women and their dependents who reside in or are traveling through the Robson Valley, and are at risk of, or have experienced violence
- Violence can be sexualized, physical, emotional & more
- Resources available for child abuse, elder abuse, date rape, family violence, stalking, cyber-bullying, and sex workers

Confidential. Free. 24 hour Safe Home.

Call 250-566-1847 24/7 (If in immediate danger, call 911)
Or 1-844-324-2004 toll-free

New titles in store!

THE BOREAL FEAST

Featuring prized northern ingredients, like morel mushrooms, birch syrup, coho salmon, spruce tips and blueberries, *The Boreal Feast* is a celebration of boreal food and forest.

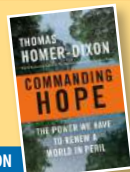
BY MICHELE GENEST



COMMANDING HOPE

In his new book dedicated to his young children, Homer-Dixon explores complexity science, how societies can evolve, and how people handle threats, to show we can shift civilization onto a new path if we mobilize our minds, spirits, imaginations and collective values.

BY THOMAS HOMER-DIXON



FROM THE ASHES

From the Ashes is a remarkable memoir about hope and resilience, and a revelatory look into the life of a Métis-Cree man who refused to give up.

BY JESSE THISTLE



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Located at 1170 5th Avenue, Valemount, B.C.
ACROSS FROM THE IGA DOWNTOWN

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Gary Lorne Wright

It is with the heaviest of hearts that the family of Gary Wright announce the far too soon passing of our beloved husband, father, grandfather, son, brother, son-in-law, brother-in law and friend to so many. Gary leaves to mourn his best friend and love of his life for over 38 years, wife Tracy; son Keaton (Nicole); daughter Karli (Mike); his grandsons Jack and Skye Wright, Luka Daburger, his mom Gail Wright; sister Cindy (Victor), sister Dianne Timmins, brother Kevin Chuipka. In-laws, Bill and Sharon Balcaen, Tanis and Robin Read, Sharmon and Steve Massey, Scott and Laura Balcaen, as well as nieces and nephews and a large extended family. Gary was predeceased by his Father Derek and his brother John.

Gary lived and loved life to the fullest, growing up in McBride. Gary found adventure wherever he went and had the broken bones and scars to prove just how unstoppable he was. Gary started dating Tracy in high school in 1982 and the adventure began with Gary and Tracy always working through life side by side, maybe with Tracy being pulled along by her fingernails on a few of the more hair raising adventures but they always came out the other side together, a little stronger, wiser and always with a whole bunch of new friends. Gary excelled at whatever he did whether it was logging, excavating, and building rock walls. If you are lucky enough to have had landscaping done by Gary you know the true artist he was. Though he loved his work, he also worked so that he could enjoy life. To watch him come down a mountain on skis was a thing of beauty as he taught himself acrobatic moves on skis, bikes, sleds, skates or whatever was under his feet at the time. Gary's dad Derek passed on his passion for flying which cumulated in to Gary and Tracy purchasing their first plane a 1970 Cessna 172 in the 90's and then and then partnering in the purchase of Doctor Geoff Cowburn's 1938 DH Tiger Moth purchased in 2015. Airplanes, the comradery of fellow pilots and all of the adventures that came with the flying family made Gary smile as much as anything he ever did in his life. A world without Gary is a little slower, a little less enthusiastic and missing his genuine kindness and compassion but we will all carry on with a smile and a tear whenever we think of him. Our lives were all made better for having been included in his short but incredibly impactful time on this earth.



**October 25th 1964 –
December 3rd 2020**

Tracy and her family would like to thank all of the staff at Kamloops Hospice Association for the incredible care and devotion to Gary and the whole family during our most difficult time. You all made the journey a bit gentler. In lieu of flowers you can donate to Kamloops Hospice 72 Whiteshield Crescent S, Kamloops, BC V2E 2S9.

Due to the current pandemic we cannot hold a celebration of life for Gary at this time. Once things get back to semi normal there will be a celebration in McBride we will keep everyone posted on the date.

Fund will help forestry companies recoup COVID-19 health and safety costs

By GOAT STAFF

On Jan. 5, small and medium-sized forestry companies can apply for government funding to recoup expenses related to implementing COVID-19 health and safety measures in 2020.

“This \$9.3-million fund will help forestry businesses keep their employees on staff, and their communities safe with the additional costs they’ve already faced related to COVID-19,” said Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

The fund is B.C.’s portion of a \$30-million Forest Sector Safety Measures program announced by the federal government in September and intended to offset a portion of the additional costs expended by forestry sector companies to comply with COVID-19 health and safety protocols.

“Since being designated as an essential service, our members have faced increasing costs associated with ensuring that their employees and families remained safe during these unprecedented times,” said Interior Logging Association General Manager Todd Chamberlain, in a December press release. “We welcome this funding to assist our membership and appreciate that both the federal and provincial governments have come to the table to help the forest industry.”

Approximately 175 B.C. companies are expected to apply, according to the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

The fund is open to companies with less than 500 employees operating in forestry and logging; support activities for forestry; wood product manufacturing, and pulp and paper manufacturing.

Companies that may qualify include, tree planting services, tree seedling nurseries, tree seed orchards, forest product manufacturers, businesses providing services such as, logging, surveying, cruising, engineering for road and block layout, brushing and spacing, and other forest sector operations with eligible tree-planting expenses.

COVID-19 health and safety costs must have been incurred between Apr. 1 and Dec. 31, 2020, and be directly related to implementing health and safety measures.

Eligible expenses include wages, worker training, professional and technical services, contractors, PPE supplies, laboratory and field equipment maintenance, transportation, rentals, upgrade or expansions of facilities, travel expenses, and taxes paid. All expenses must have been incurred at the work site or work camp, such as modifying a structure for isolation, versus the cost of an employee quarantining at home.

Online applications must be completed between Jan. 5 until Feb. 1, with results delivered by Mar. 31, 2021.

For more information, go to, <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/forestry/managing-our-forest-resources/silviculture/working-in-silviculture-sector-covid-19/fssmf>



Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests /BC gov photo

MCBRIDE COUNCIL NOTES

Grants, Snow Removal, COVID Concern

By ANDREA ARNOLD

Deputy Mayor Lucille Green called the McBride Council meeting to order at 7:05pm on Tuesday December 15, 2020. In attendance was Councillors Hruby, Frederick, and Smith.

COVID Visitor Concern

McBride resident Ole Shuflebein addressed council to express concern regarding non essential travel/visitor to the valley. Alberta has the highest per capita COVID case ratio in Canada. His request was that council add their voice in expression of concern for the safety of the community and province.

Tourism Master Plan

Council passed the motion to adopt the Village of McBride Tourism Master Plan as presented.

Community Calendar

Councillor Hruby recused herself as a member of the Chamber of Commerce before Council passed the motion to join into a partnership with the McBride District Chamber of Commerce to continue the Community Calendar for one year. In the partnership, each group would contribute 50%.

Village Statement on Out of Town Visitors

Council requested that Administration reply to Ms. Maureen Brownlee’s letter expressing concern about Alberta slidders in the community by sending her the previously released statement from the village regarding travel.

In a discussion following and also in response to Shufelbeins statements, a decision was made to reissue a public statement stating the need for respect and courteous/cautious behaviour from anyone who does visit the valley at this time. Interprovincial travel restrictions have to be dealt with at a provincial level. Local government does not have the authority to make those decisions.

Snow and Ice Removal Revamped

Council moved to rescind Snow and Ice policy PW-01 and adopt Snow and Ice Policy PW-01.2 as presented. The new policy accounts for emergency response routes, and school route. The discussion that followed indicated that there is room for adjustment if an unforeseen situation arises.

Tax Levy

Council passed the motion to give the Village of McBride Municipal and Regional District Tax Levy Bylaw No. 797,2021 first and second readings. This will be used in an application to DesinationBC to implement the 2% Municipal and Regional District Tax in McBride in 2021.

Grant Writer Support

Council moved to direct Administration to prepare an application to the Northern Development Initiative Trust’s Grant Writing Support program for 2021. In this, Council is also agreeing to support the overall grant management.

Train Restoration Project

Council passed the motion to prepare an application for submission to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - COVID-19 Infrastructure Resiliency Stream for the following project: Train Station Rehabilitation Project. There are other grant/support possibilities out there for the other projects, and at this point the train station is a manageable rehabilitation/restoration whereas if it gets put on the backburner, the cost of the work will increase over time. The priority items that have been identified are as follows:

- Restoration of exterior envelope operational and heritage integrity (roof surface replacement, window and door upgrades)
- Upgrade main floor washroom to highest accessibility standards and install ventilation
- Rehabilitation program for the entire 2nd floor to bring it to building code as a usable space
- Room for more items as the project unfolds.

Meeting Schedule

Council passed the motion to accept the 2021 Council meeting schedule as presented or amended. If meetings are needed between the once a month meetings in the summer, a Special Meeting will be called to handle the issues at hand.

Building Inspection Agreement

Council passed the motion approving the 2021 Building Inspection Services Agreement as presented; and further authorizes Deputy Mayor Green and Interim CAO Sandy Salt to execute the agreement.

Economic Development Coordinator Grant

Council approved directing Administration to apply to NDIT for the Economic Capacity Development Building Grant for \$50,000 to support the Economic Development Coordinator position for the 2021 Operating budget.

Cash for Culvert Repair

Council passed the motion to direct staff to prepare an application for submission to the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program - COVID - 19 Infrastructure Resiliency Stream, Adaptation, Resilience and Disaster Mitigation Program for the 1st, and 2nd Avenue culvert upgrade flood mitigation project.

Council passed the motion to move in to an In-Camera meeting for consideration of matters per section 90 (1) of the Community Charter related to: (a) personal information about and identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality; (c) labour relations or other employee relations, and (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service(s) that are at their preliminary stages, and that, in the view of the Council could reasonably be expected to harm the interest of the municipality if they were held in public, the regular meeting was adjourned at 8:29pm.

Rental Round-up!

WONDERING WHERE YOU CAN RENT WINTER SPORTING GEAR? HERE’S A HANDY GUIDE.



Skis on display at the Canoe Valley Community Association in Valemount. With many indoor sports and activities shut down, people are turning to the outdoors. /LAURA KEIL

By TRISH DUNN

Dunster Schoolhouse

X-Country Ski Rentals: adult and kids sizes. \$5 per set per month. Rental sets can be returned in the spring. Call the Dunster Store at 250-968-4488. Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day.

Canoe Valley Community Association (Located at Valemount Lions hall)

X-Country Ski Rentals \$50 for the season with a \$160 deposit. Sizes Available from 5-7yrs to Adult. Contact Rita at 250-566-1879.

The McBride and District Library - 250-569-2411

The library has 8 pairs of adult snowshoes to rent (3 different adult sizes, depending on weight) and 3 pairs of children’s snowshoes. People just need a library card and they then borrow them just like a book. Holiday Hours: Closed Dec. 24-Jan 1st. Last day before break Dec. 23rd 10:30-5. Re-opens Sat. Jan 2nd 2:30-5. Reg. Hours: Tues 10-5 & 7-9, Wed&Thurs 10-5, Fri 1-8, and Sat 2-5.

Valemount Library 250-566-4367

Rentals are available to library patron card holders, generally for one week loans, and can be picked up and/or dropped off during library hours (currently Tues, Thurs, Fri 12-4, Wed 12-9 and Sat 12-4). Holiday hours: Closing Dec. 24 at 3pm and re-opening Jan 2nd at noon.

Winter sports equipment:

The library has 15 pairs of snowshoes; 6 kids sets up to 100 lbs, 3 adult ones up to 150 lbs, 3 adult sets up to 200 lbs, and 3 adult sets up to 300 lbs.

Non-sporting gear (some items only available starting 2021):

The library recently added a collection of lendable technology; 2 VR headsets, 1 radon detector, 1 drone with camera, 1 new HD Kobo Clara e-Reader, 1 smart telescope, 1 thermal imaging camera, 1 GPS, 4 birding backpacks (2 adult and 2 kids, with binoculars), 1 digital projector, 1 camcorder with tripod, and a children’s collection of LeapPads, LeapReader, and Learning tablets. Musical instrument rentals: so

far they have 1 acoustic guitar, 2 ukuleles, and 1 steel tongue drum. For summer outdoor games they have croquet, badminton, bocce, horseshoes and corn toss.

Canoe Valley Recreation Centre - 250-566-4740

No skate rentals available at this time but skate sharpening is available.

- Drop off Thursday - pick up Monday after 2pm
- Drop off Saturday - pick up Wednesday after 2pm

Robson Valley Rec Centre - 250-569-3360

No skate rentals available at this time. Skate sharpening is available in reduced capacity:

- Drop off Thursday - pick up Monday after 2pm
- Drop off Saturday - pick up Wednesday after 2pm

Recovery Benefit open for applications

By FRAN YANOR / LEGISLATIVE REPORTER

Despite two weeks of grilling from the Opposition about the Recovery Benefit qualification process and roll-out, online applications for the tax-free relief payment began on Dec. 18, with payments expected five days after applying.

The Recovery Benefit, promised by Premier John Horgan during the recent election campaign, is a one-time, tax-free COVID-19 relief payment of up to \$500 for individuals and as much as \$1,000 for families, depending on their income levels.

A family that earned less than \$125,000 in net income in 2019 will receive the full \$1,000. Families with net incomes up to \$175,000 will qualify for a lesser benefit amount.

Individuals who earned less than \$62,500 in 2019 will qualify for the full \$500 benefit, and those with net incomes up to \$87,500 will receive lesser amount.

Debate over the Recovery Benefit dominated Question Periods and debates in the two-week legislative session in December.

On Dec. 17, Liberal Finance Critic Mike Bernier grilled Finance Minister Selina Robinson about how the income ceilings were set, why 2019 tax data was used, and how the payments would be rolled out.

One key criticism on the Opposition side was the government’s decision to base the Recovery Benefit qualifications on people’s income from the previous year.

“I thought the whole point of this exercise was to look at people that were affected by COVID, not to look at what happened in 2019,” Bernier said to Robinson during debate over funding for the Recovery Benefit.

Tax returns were the simplest, fastest and most reliable means by which to determine eligibility, Robinson responded.

Because 2020 tax information hasn’t been filed yet, Canada Revenue was approached to see if the provincial payment could be



Finance Minister Selina Robinson delivers a fiscal update on Dec. 17, 2020. / Government of BC photo

delivered using more current federal data or existing funding mechanisms, she said. “CRA is absolutely swamped and unable to adjust their program to accommodate any changes that we would be making, so it was a given that that was off the table,” said Robinson.

Instead, the provincial government determined 2019 tax data with higher income qualification thresholds – including middle and lower income earners – would be the surest way to capture those most in need in 2020, while also ensuring the lowest levels of fraud.

“With large payment programs like this one, there is always concern about fraudulent claims,” said Robinson. “It would be difficult, once payment was made, to then recover it.”

There have been significant cases of fraud reported related to federal COVID-19 funding programs.

Based on Ministry of Finance modelling, about 90 per cent of British Columbians, or 3.7 million people, will be eligible for the Recovery Benefit, and 85 per cent of those people will be eligible for the full amount.

The Recovery Benefit will not be taxed

federally or provincially and it won’t be used to reduce Employment Insurance, Robinson said, responding to questions from Bernier.

After Dec. 21, applications for the benefit can also be made by phone or in-person at a ServiceBC location. Payment delivered by direct deposit into people’s bank accounts should arrive within five days of applying, Robinson said.

British Columbians have until June 2021 to complete an application.

For those without bank accounts, or for people who are unable to meet eligibility requirements, such as, tax information or a fixed address, a second delivery

system is being developed to enable the disbursement by cheques in the new year.

“Staff are working diligently to develop the parallel system that has all the checks and balances like an online system,” said Robinson. “The goal is to work as quickly as we can to get these resources into people’s hands.”

For more information, visit the following website: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/economic-recovery/recovery-benefit#apply>

Fran Yanor / Local Journalism Initiative / Fran@thegoatnews.ca

the
living arts retreat
house

Tête Jaune Cache, BC

- individual artist residential retreats
- small group retreats
- family vacation rentals
- large multi-use studio space
- fully equipped kitchen
- accommodation/amenities for 10

visit: www.livingartsretreat.com

contact info: livingartsretreat@gmail.com

ROBSON
VALLEY

Community Events



Send us your event to goatevents21@gmail.com or call 250-566-4606. Use 40 WORDS or less and we will publish it FREE up to a month before

Do you have some seeds from this year's garden that you can **donate to the local seed library**? Please drop them into the library, or you can email opengategarden@gmail.com for more details. The seed library is a community resource, offering free seeds to local gardeners. Take some seeds; grow some seeds; return some seeds! Thank you for your support.

VALEMOUNT

WED Dec 30 - **Tech Cafe**. Are you needing a little extra help navigating your laptop or device? Not quite understanding how to set up a program? Want to know how to operate Zoom or Word? Maybe you received a new gadget or phone over the holidays and need some help setting it up? Call Jill at 250-566-9107 to book your 15 minute spot. Masks are required.

TUES Dec. 15 - **Pelvic Floor Physiotherapy Presentation** with Physiotherapist Vanessa McGibbon, from 5-6PM. Join us via ZOOM, for this informative educational session on the importance of the Pelvic floor, strengthening exercises, and when an assessment might be recommended. Contact Sharon Darragh at 250-566-9107 or email sharon@rvcsbc.org to obtain the zoom link.

MCBRIDE

TUES - FRIs. Do you have memories on old slides or home movies that need to be preserved? The Valley Museum & Archives wants to help! Call us at 250-569-3000 to sign up. Or, are you willing to help with the New Horizons Voices from the Past Project? please connect !! Open Tuesday - Friday 11am -4pm

Phone Check In Program Its pretty easy to feel isolated and lonely this time of year. If you are a senior who would like a phone call wellness check, on a schedule that works for you, or you'd like to volunteer to be a caller, please contact Sheri Gee at 778-763-1341, 1-844-324-2004 or sheri@rvcsbc.org

Tech Sessions for Seniors! Are you puzzled by computer terminology? Would you like to learn to make a poster online? How about how to use skype or zoom? Do your grandkids laugh because you don't have an instagram account?! We want to hear from you! We are interested in hearing what technical skills seniors would like to learn so we can offer small group or 1-to-1 training, as part of a New Horizons for Seniors grant. Call us on 569-2411, email library@mcbridebc.org or drop in the library and ask for Abi.

The GIANT

FAMILY

Crossword

CONT'D FROM P13

DOWN

1 Balm ingredients

2 Lethal snake

3 Link

4 Expressed approval, perhaps

5 Court grp.

6 Electric car maker

7 Arm bling

8 Singer Turner

9 Cold-war adversary

10 Winged undersea mollusk hunter

11 A conifer

12 Thicke and Bates

13 Comforting words

14 Ventured

15 Home of Chennai

16 Beings

17 Speeds

18 Astronomical phenomenon

19 Domesticated hoofed mammal

20 Choppers, so to speak

21 Symbol of slowness

22 Become rotten

23 "Hey!"

25 Putin's refusal

26 Walk, slangily

27 Fit

29 Influence

32 Mark on a score sheet

33 Conductor Toscanini

49 "The greatest"

51 A heavenly body

52 Comic word

55 Name holder

58 "Hey hey, you you, get off of my ____" Rolling Stones

60 Deafening

61 Compass point

63 Dudley Do-Right's org.

64 "That's ____!"

65 No-no at the table

66 Alerting message

67 Facial feature

68 Prefix with pad

70 Certain camera, for short

71 R.N. specialty

72 Charade

73 Alien craft

75 Proofers' catches

76 Broom rider of the comics

77 Javelin

79 Rose feature

81 Beersheba locale

82 Chicken ____ masala (Indian dish)

83 Intro to corn

84 Boggy lowland

87 Meddles

89 Hosp. diagnostics

90 Green ice cream

93 Salmon

94 L.A. clock setting

96 Bridge seat

97 Reminders

98 ____ fixe (obsession)

99 Good, in Guadalajara

101 Bangladesh continent

102 Partner of void

103 Cry baby

105 Crooner, first name

107 One of the Ivies

111 Recline

112 Cookie

113 Columbus Day mo.

114 Way of the East

116 Contemptuous exclamation

117 John Le Carre role

118 Poem of lament

119 Court wear

120 One of three sisters created by Chekhov

121 Body trunk

122 Abominates

123 ____ - fi

124 Wild pig

130 South in Spain

131 Crib sheet user

132 Compass point

133 "____ not!"

136 Medium ability, for short

137 Homo sapiens

138 Sitter's headache

139 Curriculum ____ (career summary)

141 Carmina Burana composer

142 "Scram!"

143 Loan figure, abbr.

144 Granola grain

146 "Later"

147 George Washington's dream

150 First hockey defenseman to score over 100 points in a season

151 Ask for divine intervention

152 Can be pointed or drooping

153 Toss out

154 "____ believing in just one mind" Phil Collins

155 Jungfrau or Weisshorn

158 "Peer Gynt" character

159 Norm, abbr.

160 Barbie's beau

161 Resort

164 Visited

166 Hello and so long

167 Library ID

168 Short time period, for short

169 Press

170 Top driver

171 Chess pieces

173 Walks in water

175 Certain theater, for short

176 City map abbr.

177 Chinese food additive

178 "Why should ____ you?"

179 April or May

182 Santa's present carrier

183 Japanese statesman

184 Ice hockey org.

186 Perseveres

187 Cry of mock horror

188 British special forces, for short

short

190 Pound

191 Hearing-related

192 Faerie Queen character

193 Bake eggs in a shallow dish

194 Pointed at the top

195 Canonized mlle.

197 Poker call

199 B follower

200 Genetic letters

201 Double bend shape

202 Worker in a colony

203 Vinegar holders

204 Sports channel

207 Albert of sportscasts

208 ____-dieu

209 K-O connection

210 Guinness Book suffix

214 Horse foot

215 Dismay

216 Heiress, at times

217 Rollover candidates

218 Counterpart of masc.

219 Neighbor of Mont.

223 Words to an old chap

224 Formal accessory

226 Shark

227 Singer Piaf

228 Student grant named for a senator

230 Flock of geese

231 Become weary

232 Statue in Rockefeller Center

234 Smell

236 Secluded places

237 Brief joy rides

238 Golfer Palmer, informally

239 Use a stationary bike

240 Letters on a radial

247 Rock

248 Cry of disgust

249 Prefix for angle or lateral

250 Complain

251 Bypass a big wedding, say

253 Kind of ticket

254 Old MacDonald's place

255 Not duped by

256 River to the Seine

257 Laker, Lamar

258 Genre for Aretha Franklin

259 Lay eyes on

261 Good buddy

263 Gibbon, for one

264 Letter abbr.

270 Wildebeest

271 Pancake flippers

272 Elevated park in NYC

273 Bric-a-brac shelves

274 Delve deeply into

276 Office security device

277 Catwalkers

278 "The Joy of Cooking" author Rombauer

281 Mind related

282 It's between Pakistan and India

284 Peace, in Russia

286 Graceful

287 Smashing Pumpkins song

289 Goat cheeses

290 Surround

294 Stuck

295 Sensational

296 Walkway

297 Cuba Gooding Jr stars in it

298 "____ Majesty's Secret Service"

299 True inner self

300 Goodbye from a Brit.

301 Capri, e.g.

303 Nodules

305 Indian dish made with stewed legumes

306 Bar selection

307 Continental banknotes

308 Point of view

309 Ring sport


311 Have a hankering

313 Watch lights, briefly

314 Skip

316 Prefix with cure

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Full Moon Bookends

The Cancer full moon shone at the year’s start, and shines again at the end, the glowing lunar bookends of the most unusual and memorable year in recent history. On the eve of 2021, the great conjunction of Saturn and Jupiter closes out the year with a lunar opposition and square to the planet of surprises, Uranus. Many feel we’ve had enough surprises in 2020 -- though not of the kind we love. With open hearts, we wait from a safe distance.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Some struggles are unending. Near their resolution, they automatically update so there’s always a fresh fight ahead. If you knew the goal was unattainable, then would you still choose the path? Maybe you did know, but this week will require you to acknowledge your

options and choose more consciously.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Victorian poet Robert Browning suggested, “A minute’s success pays for the failure of years.” Your attitude is better. You know there is no such thing as failure, only early prototypes and experiments with varying degrees of efficacy. Still, this week will bring you a particular kind of satisfying win.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may be secretly ambitious, but that’s not what the world sees now. They experience you as incredibly helpful, skilled and willing to support the group effort. Little do they know that you’ll someday lead. Everything you’re learning now prepares and primes you for a vision grounded in the reality of what the group needs.



CANCER (June 22-July 22). There are those who strive to put forth a polished image, and while you admire those efforts, you’ll get a lot more mileage and love from your very relatable approach. You don’t mind letting people know that you don’t have it all together. You’ll express what you need, and that’s

a big reason why you ultimately get it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). If anyone can be regal and offbeat at the same time, then it’s the royal lion. There’s a time when the leader should be serious, but you’re so powerful now that you get to say when that is. If you feel like using humor instead, trust that

instinct. Your sense for making effective power moves will be right on point.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Maybe you’re existing in the same environment, but make no mistake; this is new territory. As it goes with “foreign land,” you can’t expect to know immediately what you’re doing. It may take a few tries to accomplish effective problem-solving here. At the very least, you’ll need to calibrate your approach.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). To construct an ideal self and then measure yourself to that standard can be an act of ambition, cruelty or, more likely, both. It’s kinder to first take stock of your position, commend the journey, love this stage, and then think about what a 5% improvement would look like. This week, a nudge will be better than a push.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). This week sees you in collaborations, some of

which you’ve no control over. So when you do have options regarding your team, which will also be the case at times, it’s important to shop around and carefully choose partners whose influence you welcome. You will most certainly rub off on one another.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You will walk that line between being assertive and aggressive. Because you haven’t asked for your rightful due, it now may feel, to everyone involved including you, like it’s not actually yours. The change will take effort, but you need to set it right. Stand up for yourself. It will be well worth the risk.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The concept that most applies has to do with fit. When the others need what you offer and vice versa, lives become instantly easier. If the relationship is rough, if you feel self-conscious, if the plans don’t fly, or worse, they get aloft but can’t land, it’s a problem of casting. When the people are right, the rest is easy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Your initial vibes about a person or situation might not be completely accurate, but they are also not completely unfounded. Your ability to take the information that comes from your mind and senses as neutral and log it in an objective mental file is truly remarkable -- a superpower that prompts amazing decisions.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Catch and release; nurture and let go; run to carry the torch and then pass it on. This is the cycle of grace. Without the second part of the cycle, legacy is thwarted. To a great extent, a creation, project, product and even a relationship will only be as potent as your ability to pay it forward and release it to live a life of its own.

THIS WEEK’S BIRTHDAYS: It comes up many times this year, the sneaking suspicion that this life you are living would be the envy of many around the world, that you are blessed beyond measure, and that you very well may be the best possible steward of this good fortune, as you are both grateful and gracious, paying it forward, sideways and basically all around. In spite of the world’s problems, you see beauty, opportunity and connection. You point it out. You move constantly toward solutions. write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com. COPYRIGHT 2020 Creators.com

SUDOKU

					1		6	4
2		5			4		8	3
	9	4						2
		3		2				7
			8	1	7			
7				4		8		
9						3	5	
5	3		9			4		6
4	8		1					

HOW TO PLAY

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: You must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column or 3x3 box.



Answers on P21

1	2	3		4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14		15			
16				17					18			
19			20					21				
22							23			24	25	26
27				28	29	30		31			32	
				33			34			35		
36	37	38	39					40	41	42		
43							44					
45				46	47	48		49			50	51
54				55			56			57		
			58					59	60	61		
62	63	64					65				66	
67							68				69	
70								71			72	

CROSSWORD

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10
11				12					13		
14				15					16		
17			18				19	20			
				21		22	23		24		25
27	28	29						30			
31					32		33				
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		36		37			38		39	40	41
42	43			44	45	46			47		
48				49					50		
51				52					53		



Answers on P21

Across

- Health resort
- Art gallery in London
- River barrier
- Hi there and
- Heroic story
- Roman 3
- Believe it or
- Gothic doorway shape
- No spring chicken
- Dessert
- Your and my
- Prince Charles' sport
- New Delhi dress
- Twitter trend symbol
- Give off
- Chip in a pot
- Modular homes
- Person with outstanding performance
- Home of the lima bean
- "You wanted my attention?"
- Go furtively
- Guitar's "juice" source
- A sparkling wine
- Horse's hue
- Golden Rule conclusion
- Settled down
- Airport abbreviation
- Polish off
- Tease
- Nile biter

Down

- Collaborate
- Deserving a D
- pasto
- What a cozy covers
- Mo. with thirty days
- Quirky trait
- Identical response
- Miniature scene
- To be unwell
- During
- Globe
- Practical
- Scandinavian native
- Folklore fiend
- Cage bone
- Belonging to (pronoun)
- Orders
- Organized insect
- "Don't move!"
- Imitation
- Mark
- Brainstorm
- Marzipan ingredient
- Hill crest
- Word of support
- Kiwi kin
- mode
- Namely

THE TOUGHIE

by Myles Mellor

Answers on P13

Across

- Difficulty
- Specifying article
 - Runs without moving
 - Computer-sharing setup
 - Intense desires
 - Eastern people
 - Words before tear or dare
 - Salon foot treatment, briefly
 - Has no roughness on the surface
 - Large animal
 - Healthy berry
 - Sport

- Chia, e.g.
- Harsh commentary
- Famous triangle
- Big name in credit cards
- Vectra maker
- Tunnel maker
- Rhone river city
- Slangy assents
- "How should I know?"
- Shoulder muscle
- "Fire away!"
- Pills and such, for short
- Corn bread, regionally
- They store food in middens
- Oil source

- Madame, in Mannheim
- Early second-century year
- Completely
- Identifies, as in a Facebook photo
- "Brokeback Mountain" director Lee
- Delta deposits
- LAPD part
- Corral
- Island greetings
- Indy car driver who does ads for GoDaddy
- Even (with)
- Error

- Dickens's Uriah
- Prefix with scope
- Magazine distributor
- Runs out of steam
- Bathroom in Britain
- Compass dir.
- Fig. in identity theft
- Locate
- Anouk of "La Dolce Vita"
- Snapshot
- Message from police HQ
- Kind of platter
- Original garden
- Dissertation
- Crackerjack

- Galahad, for one
- Map abbr.
- Keaton flick: "Mr. _"
- Chilling
- Island of Napoleon's exile
- Poll responses
- Wash process
- Cable channel
- Yonder ship
- Going public letters
- Hollywood setting, for short
- Is suspicious
- Olympian award
- GQ staffers

- Credit card company pitch subject
- Protective covering of a boot
- Surfing the net
- Quit
- Architect's meas.
- Romp
- Orsk's river
- "Othello" bad guy
- Wisconsin Senator Feingold
- U.S.S.R. successor
- Tropical American Cuckoo
- Patriot's org.

Answers on P21

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SUDOKU ANSWERS

3	7	8	2	5	1	9	6	4
2	6	5	7	9	4	1	8	3
1	9	4	3	6	8	5	7	2
8	1	3	5	2	9	6	4	7
6	4	9	8	1	7	2	3	5
7	5	2	6	4	3	8	9	1
9	2	1	4	7	6	3	5	8
5	3	7	9	8	2	4	1	6
4	8	6	1	3	5	7	2	9

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

1	S	P	A	4	T	E	6	D	A	M												
11	Y	O	N	12	E	P	I	C	13	I	I											
14	N	O	T	15	A	R	C	H	16	O	L	D										
17	C	R	I	S	18	P	O	U	R	19	S	A	I	20	I							
21	H	A	S	22	H	T	A	G	23	E	M	I	T	24	I							
25	A	N	T	E	26	P	R	E	F	A	B	S	27	S	T	A	R	28	P	E	R	U
29	Y	E	S	30	S	L	I	N	31	K	32	D	U	N	33	E	T	A	34	S	P	
35	Y	O	U	36	A	L	I	T	37	E	T	A	38	R	A	Z	39	A	S	P		

TOUGHIE ANSWERS

1	A	D	O	2	T	H	E	3	I	D	L	E	S																					
14	L	A	N	15	V	E	N	16	A	S	I	A	N	S																				
17	O	N	A	18	P	E	D	I	19	I	S	E	V	E	N																			
20	H	I	P	21	P	O	P	22	A	M	23	S	A	R	C	A	24	B	E	R	M	U	D	A										
25	E	A	S	26	E	R	N	27	C	H	28	I	29	P	30	M	U	N	K															
31	L	Y	O	N	32	E	R	33	E	P	S	34	B	E	A	T	35	M	E	36	R	O	T	A	T	O	R							
37	A	S	K	38	M	E	D	S	39	P	O	N	E	40	R	E	D	S	41	Q	U	42	I	43	R	E	L	S						
44	C	A	N	45	O	L	A	46	F	R	A	47	U	48	C	I	49	I	50	N	51	F	U	L	L	52	T	A	G	S	53	A	N	G
54	S	I	L	55	T	S	56	L	57	O	S	58	P	E	N																			

Brightening up long-term care—with your photos

for the residents. What they need are your beautiful photos from across the Robson Valley to use as wraps for the long-term care doors in the McBride Hospital.

"In all of the Robson Valley (from Valemount, McBride, and surrounding area), we have beautiful photographic opportunities, and we want to make our environment in long-term care similar to what they are used to seeing in communities," says Krista Cunningham, Clinical Practice Lead at the McBride and District Hospital.

Submit your high resolution photo by email to krista.cunningham@northernhealth.ca and the best two photos will be chosen to be blown up and proudly displayed in the hospital. Deadline for photo submissions is January 4, 2021.

Please send a maximum of four photos per photographer to allow for many participants to offer their photos.

Many thanks to the local Co-op and the Northern Health DementiaAbility program for providing the funding to make this happen for our residents.

By NORTHERN HEALTH

McBride and District Hospital staff want to create a more home-like environment for long-term care residents and they need your help. They want to bring the views of the Robson Valley indoors to create a more familiar and enjoyable space



REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George

TRANSFER STATION HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Please be advised of the following transfer station schedule for the Holidays:

	Dec 23	Dec 24	Dec 25	Dec 26	Dec 27	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30	Dec 31	Jan 1
	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
McBRIDE	Closed	9 - 4	Closed	Closed	10 - 4	9 - 4	Closed	Closed	9 - 4	Closed
VALEMOUNT	Closed	9 - 4	Closed	Closed	10 - 4	9 - 4	Closed	Closed	9 - 4	Closed

As per Provincial Health Regulations, masks are required at all Regional District facilities and for the health and safety of the public and our staff, physical distancing is required.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

RETHINK - REFUSE - REDUCE - REUSE - REPAIR - RECYCLE *this Holiday season*

Christmas is a wonderful time of year to celebrate family traditions, but it is also a time when we generate a lot of waste. It is estimated that Canadians toss out 25% more garbage during the holiday season. Here are a few ways to make your holiday celebrations more sustainable:

Wrapping Gifts

- Create gift wrap from flyers, comics, maps or outdated calendars
- Reuse last year's Christmas cards to make gift tags
- Make the wrapping part of your gift – use fabric a tea towel or reusable bag

Decorations

- Try your hand at simple homemade decorations – reuse old ornaments and repurpose them into centerpieces and wreaths
- Use natural decorations like popcorn and cranberry garland – you can put it out for the birds once the celebrations are over
- Christmas packaging and boxes can be used year after year to store decorations

Meals

- Resist disposable cups, plates and cutlery
- Use cloth napkins, fabric tablecloths rather than the disposable options
- Plan out your shopping list, avoiding impulse buys and excess purchases

TIPS FOR HOLIDAY RECYCLING

Wrapping Paper

Recycle wrapping paper in the mixed paper bins at the Dunster, McBride, and Valemount Transfer Stations. (Foil wrapping paper, plastic bows, and plastic film are not accepted)

Christmas Trees

Live Christmas trees can be dropped off at the Valemount Transfer Station for composting. Please ensure all decorations, lights and tree stands have been removed.

Electronics and Small Appliances

Received a new TV or microwave as a Christmas present? Need to recycle the old ones that do not work anymore? The Valemount Recycling Center accepts electronics and small appliances for recycling. Visit www.return-it.ca for a detailed list of accepted items.

Major Appliances

Fridges, freezers, washers, dryers, stoves, and dishwashers are all accepted for recycling **FREE** of **CHARGE** at the McBride and Valemount Transfer Stations. Ensure that the appliances are clean and empty.

Batteries and Cellphones

Batteries **do not** go in the garbage. Recycle rechargeable and single use batteries at the McBride and Valemount Transfer Stations.

Christmas Lights

Have you replaced your old string lights with more efficient LEDs? Now you need to recycle the old string lights. Visit www.productcare.org to find the Light Recycling depot in Prince George or Kamloops.

For more waste reduction tips visit www.sortsmart.ca



REGIONAL DISTRICT
of Fraser-Fort George

Main Office: 155 George Street, Prince George, BC V2L 1P8
T: 250-960-4400 TF: 1-800-667-1959 F: 250-563-7520 www.rdffg.bc.ca

The Cabbage Field

BY CLAUDE GERMAIN

REVIEW



Many people know Claude Germain as a trapper, musician and the co-owner of Teepee Meadows Guest Cottages, but few know Germain is also a poet.

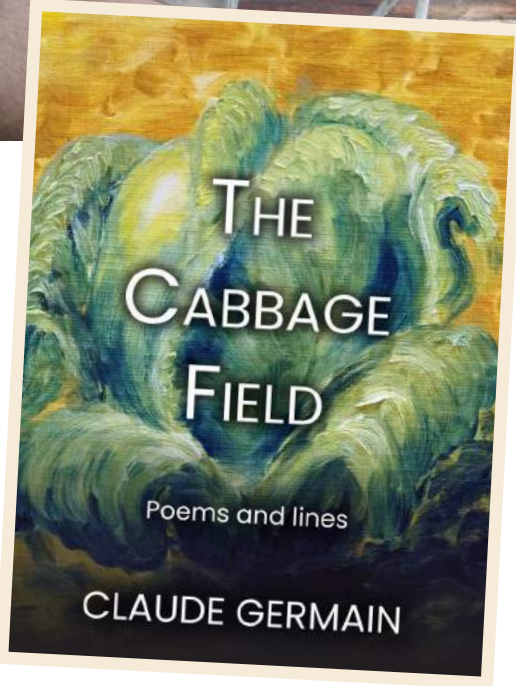
BY LAURA KEIL

Many people know Claude Germain as a trapper, musician and the co-owner of Teepee Meadows Guest Cottages, but few know Germain is also a poet.

Germain's book "The Cabbage Field - Poems and Lines" is now available and contains two dozen poems, some from his university days in the '80s and some he wrote this past decade. He transplants readers to Fort McMurray, B.C.'s Rath Trevor Beach, Baffin Island, Plamondon and to his current home in Valemount.

The poems are accompanied by delightful black and white illustrations by local artist Peggy Hubley as well as paintings by his wife Alke Germain and family photographs.

With playful language (mud hungry, peering tongues), rhythm and inventive spacing (the 12-word poem that spans an entire page and will make you smile), Germain's words entrance, like a song. I

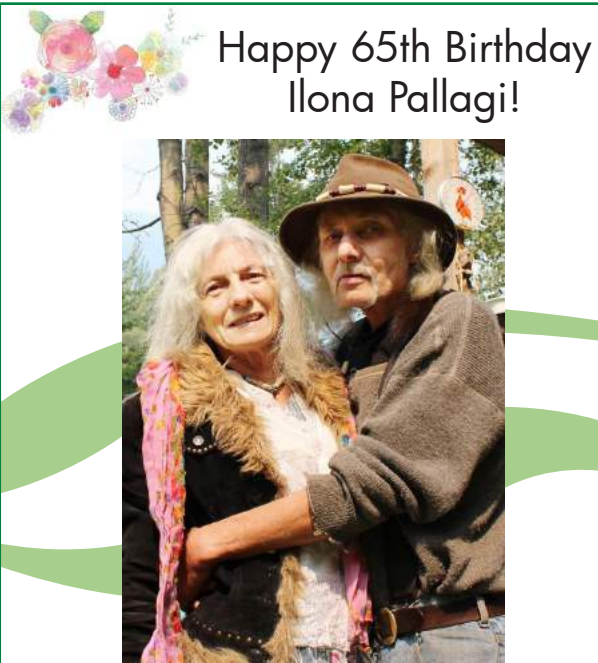


was transported to the world of a young Germain working a summer job at the oil sands, to building sandcastles with his son on Rath Trevor beach, to a man reflecting back on his life.

The nature and environment of northern B.C. and Alberta play heavily. The emotion is levelled through carefully crafted descriptions, hinting at longing, a love of nature, and an ironic view of modern life. It's poetry that transports, and I was left wanting to spend more time in that place.

At the end of the book is a story by Germain's son Noland. Noland's "Existential Mahogany" speaks to an experience many of us have had—a return to the home of our parents or ancestors that is no longer the same. It is a meditation on the passage of time, the power of imagination in memorializing past generations, and the acceptance of the material decay—and ultimate renewal—of our ancestors' lives.

The Cabbage Field book can be purchased at The Goat Bookstore, Infinity Office & Health and Home Hardware in Valemount, The Whistle Stop Gallery in McBride, Books and Company in Prince George and the Book Shop in Kamloops.



Wishing you health and happiness!
Love from all your family and friends

MASTER CRAFTSMAN

Henry Unger



Master craftsman Henry Unger passed away on December 12. He was 87 years old. Unger contributed to Valemount in many ways: his woodwork adorns many local buildings including the Swiss Bakery and the Valemount Hotel. Unger built the Trading Post on Main Street in recent years, an ambitious undertaking for a senior. Many enterprises are currently flourishing there. We will have more on Unger in the New Year. /PHOTO BOB HOSKINS/CEDAR WELLS PHOTOGRAPHY

Regional District launches survey on cell and internet service

By REGIONAL DISTRICT OF FRASER-FORT GEORGE

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George is working together with the District of Mackenzie, Village of McBride and Village of Valemount to get a better understanding of how Internet and cellular service within the region can be improved.

TANEx Engineering Corporation, a BC engineering consulting firm specializing in technology and communications, is carrying out the work.

The first step in the process is to identify the current state of connectivity and residents and business owners in the region are invited to participate in a survey to share what cell and Internet services are being used, where the service gaps are and where people would like to see service improved.

Surveys are 100% confidential and available online and in hard copy.

The online survey for residents is available here: www.surveymonkey.com/r/rdffg-res

The online survey for business operators is available here: www.surveymonkey.com/r/rdffg-bus

Hard copies of the surveys are available in the Mackenzie, McBride and Valemount municipal offices or by contacting the Regional District office at 1-800-667-1959.

People are invited to test the speed and quality of their Internet through this free, confidential link: performance.cira.ca/fraserfortgeorge. Following the surveys, TANEx will provide information to the regional district to set connectivity goals for region, identify gaps and provide a strategy for closing the digital divide.

The Regional District says closing the connectivity gap in our rural and remote areas is critical for not only the immediate need of keeping residents safe and able to participate in an online world but is critical in positioning this region as a viable place to live and do business.

There is currently no end date for the survey.
(Edited for clarity)



CRESCENT SPUR

8985 Crescent Spur Road

- 386 acres rural property
- Large shop, cottage and unique 9700 sq ft home to be finished.- Include fields, pasture and wooded areas - Panoramic views - spectacular Mt. Ryder

\$695,000



AERIAL VIEW



FEILD

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- recent reno's - open living area
- 3 bedrooms
- fully fenced back yard.

\$117,000



MCBRIDE

Hwy 16 West

- approx 320 acres
- approx 12 K W of McBride
- Fraser River frontage
- Good access - power nearby

\$439,000



MCBRIDE

275/295 Horseshoe Lake Rd

- 2 large village lots
- beautiful mountain views
- rural setting
- near bird sanctuary
- great value !

\$49,000



MCBRIDE

3205 Crescent Lake Rd

- Scenic 154 acre rural property - Large 3 bdrm home - 130 acres hay and pasture - Quonset style heated Garage/Shop

\$585,000



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SUMMIT RIVER LODGE



\$1,700,000

RARE RIVERFRONT RESORT OPPORTUNITY! Beautiful fully equipped lodge & 2 private cabins on 39+ pristine acres backing onto a glacier fed creek. Options are endless with this winter & summer recreation property. Located in the heart of sled country-Clemina, Allen and Chapel Creek are at your fingertips. All buildings/grounds are immaculately maintained. Location is unbeatable, surrounded by signature 360-degree mountain views only 20 kms South of Valemount. It is the only property in the Robson Valley with an unobstructed view of the stunning Albreda Glacier. Sellers are motivated.

1934 CRANBERRY PLACE



\$419,500

The perfect family home with a 1000 sqft garage a 0.46 acre yard with gorgeous mountain views, in a quiet family friendly neighborhood. The home has a lot of character with cedar plank walls in the living room, a wood fireplace and a vaulted ceiling den. Downstairs is a cute bedroom with a tiny nook aand bathroom which could easily be transformed into a cozy little suite. The front yard has a great mix of beautiful mature trees and a gorgeous lilac hedge providing privacy. The backyard's view of the mountains is phenomenal!

1233 6TH AVENUE



\$429,000

Every inch of this 2200 sqft, 4 bdrm, 2 bath must-see property is set up for optimal comfort and enjoyment. Natural light abounds throughout this home, notably in the main floor bath with its massive glass block window. Then the picture-perfect kitchen window with its striking views of Canoe Mountain and the true star of the show...the backyard! Featuring a large, immaculately maintained above ground pool and hot tub. Fix yourself a drink at the custom-built wet bar in the dining room and relax on the spacious south facing deck. The super-sized heated shop might sell this place on its own.

2440 PINE ROAD



\$850,000

This immaculate home sits on 40 acres and is only 2 minutes from Valemount. The home was built with efficiency and minimal maintenance in mind. Hardie board on the exterior of the home, triple-pane windows, 10" walls, a wood boiler outside supplying heat to the house by radiant infloor heating. Slate tile and hardwood throughout the main floor with automatic lights in many of the rooms. Basement has suite potential with egress windows, 3 piece bathroom already completed and the kitchen is roughed in. Swift Creek runs along the back of the property, making this acreage incredibly desirable by any outdoor enthusiast.



Shelly
Battensby

REALTOR

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3497 Jeck Road, MCBRIDE



SOLD!

1136 7th Avenue, VALEMOUNT

VALEMOUNT



\$425,000

990 Main Street

This large open retail space is the perfect spot for your new venture. With double washrooms, warehouse space, an interior office and a large, secured yard, this property can host a wide variety of businesses. Located on the Main Street corridor, the property has good visibility and access.

VALEMOUNT



\$345,000

1020 Main Street

This turn-key bakery operation comes with a world-renowned reputation and the benefits of an established business. Whether looking to walk right in or to put your own stamp on it, the location offers you the flexibility to love what you do or even live where you work.

Visit my website to see all of my featured listings. www.valemountmcbridelistings.com
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