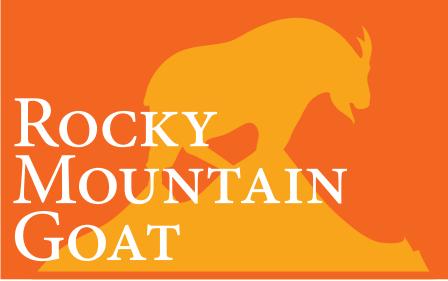


Tempo changes hands



Your weekly source of news, views and entertainment

Tykes' victory "cup" Village staffer training in Czech Republic Young entrepreneurs P10 Legion celebrates members P15

> Thursday March 23rd 2023 Volume 20 Issue 10 PM42164515

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Valemount seeks votes in Strongest **Towns** contest

By Laura Keil

The first round of finalists are out, and Valemount is among the top 16 strongest towns in the annual contest organized by Strong Towns, a U.S.-based non-profit that advocates for better urban planning.

"We know we strive to become a stronger community through the Strong Town principles—now a few more folks know, to," said Valemount Mayor Owen Torgerson. "The Sweet Sixteen is ripe with excellent competitors."

The top 16 contestants will be narrowed down to eight once this round of voting closes March 24th.

Valemount faces off first against Saranac Lake, New York, a village of 4,887 people in Upstate New York.

Anyone can cast a vote once per round (votes are policed via unique emails). A new round with the top eight will open for voting March 27th-31st. The top four will face off in pairs April 3rd-7th, and the final two April 10th-14th, with a special live webcast April 10th. The winner will be announced April 14th.

It's up to the public to vote for their favourites each week and voting is weighted so that votes from Strong Towns members comprise 50 per cent of the tally and nonmember votes make up the other 50 per cent. Anyone can become a member by making a donation to the organization. Strong Towns is a national organization that lobbies for policies that support more resilient and sustainable communities.

The first round of voting is open until March 24th and can cast your vote here: tinyurl.com/valestrongest

Valemount vs. Saranac Lake

Saranac Lake covers parts of three towns (Harrietstown, St. Armand, and North Elba). A long-time tourist destination founded by settlers nearly two centuries ago, the area was known for its treatment facilities for tuberculosis in the late 1800s and early 1900s. It also attracted tourists for its scenic and historic attractions. It was named best small town in New York State and ranked 11th in the United States in the 100 Best Small Towns in America in 1995. In 2006 the village was named one of the "Dozen Distinctive Destinations" by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and 186 buildings in the village are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Valemount is the only Canadian municipality in this year's contest. Compared to Saranac Lake it is relatively new: incorporated in 1962, and now a hot spot for tourists thanks to the glorious mountain setting, developed mountain bike and hiking trails and the proximity to Mt. Robson and Jasper National Park.

Winners of this year's contest will receive accommodations for



CONT'D ON P6

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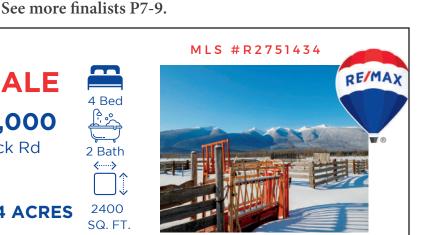
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The Under-7 teams from Valemount and McBride faced off Sunday in Valemount for a final game of the season. No scores were kept and at the end victory was celebrated by all with a honorary "cup" borrowed from Coach Joseph Nusse's kitchen. Hoisting the cup above his head is Valemount Wildcat Bentley Dyck. /LAURA KEIL



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Books of the week!



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Most of us know bits and pieces of our history but would like to be more sure of how it all fits together. The trick is to find a history that is so absorbing you will want to read it from beginning to end.





CABIN PORN

Are you yearning for a simpler existence? Find the rural escape of your dreams in this beautiful book from the creators of the wildly popular tumblr Cabin Porn.





THE GOLDEN SPRUCE

On a winter night in 1997, a British Columbia timber scout named Grant Hadwin committed an act of shocking violence in the mythic Queen Charlotte Islands. His victim was legendary: a unique 300-year-old Sitka spruce tree, fifty metres tall and covered with luminous golden needles.





Mountainside

This book takes young readers on a one-of-a-kind adventure with its adorable illustrations, educational captions, vocabulary words, cut-out accents, and hidden chambers that reveal so much to discover.

BY LENKA CHYTILOVA



CANADA



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Expanded hours for Valemount transfer station

By Laura Keil

Getting rid of garbage will be easier than ever for Valemount-area residents, as the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George has opted to expand summer hours at the transfer station from six to seven days a week in a pilot project, staying open Wednesdays 9am-5pm. The changes will be in effect April 1st to September 30th. Normally, summer hours are 9am-5pm weekdays (closed Wednesdays) and 9am-4pm weekends.

Regional District staff say the expanded hours are justified due to increased

demand for dumping and recycling by pipeline traffic.

"Due to increased pipeline and construction activity in the Robson Valley, the Valemount Regional Transfer Station has seen an increase in usage of the facility, especially in the spring and summer months when construction season peaks and operating seven days a week during these months will help alleviate some of the pressures on the site," a staff report reads.

The increase in use results from more residents and general construction in the area, not pipeline waste, as the

transfer station does not accept camp or pipeline waste at its facilities, says Renee McCloskey, Communications Manager at the Regional District.

"The pilot project allows staff to monitor if changes in hours help relieve some of the pressure these sites are facing," said McCloskey. "Any significant operational changes would require Board approval. In this case, the changes were considered minor and within staff's authority. In receiving the report, the Board expressed no concern with moving forward with the pilot project."

Winter hours will remain at five days a

week.

The staff report said once the pilot project time frame is over, Environmental Services Administration will evaluate the pilot project and bring a report back to board with recommendations for the following year.

The Mackenzie Regional Transfer Station and Cummings Road Regional Transfer Station will also see increased hours.

The staff report said no changes will be made to any current statutory holiday schedules during the pilot project.

propane prices come down. Inside the store, they plan to eventually install

showers for truckers, have an internet cafe,

and house a Pita Pit restaurant. They will be dropping the U-Haul franchise to make

On Mon. March 20th, Singh said he'd

only been in the community for a week, but was already liking it. He recently

more space for parking.

Tempo becoming Canco; new manager discusses plans



By Laura Keil

Valemount's Tempo gas station is already starting to look different under new ownership. Manager Jas Singh (left in photo) and his team have been tidying up the store area and have big plans going forward. The biggest change will be conversion of the gas station into a Canco franchise in the coming months. Canco launched in 2016 as an independent chain of gas stations in Canada, the majority of which are in B.C. and Alberta. The station's owners live in the Okanagan. Singh says they plan to keep gas prices competitive and customers should see

moved from 100 Mile where he managed another gas station. Singh says they are open to ideas from locals and regular highway commuters regarding what they stock.

"We are open to suggestions. If you need something, we can bring it in."

Village staffer heads to Czech Republic with military

By Laura Keil

Valemount's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Eric Depenau is heading to the Czech Republic this weekend to take part in military training with his other role in the Canadian Reserve Forces.

He was selected as a Reserve Forces delegate to the Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers (ICRO) 2023 Young Reserve Officer Seminar in Brno, Czech Republic taking place over four days starting this weekend.

Depenau says only a few Canadians (in the single digits) are selected to attend each year and it is a nationally competitive process. He says the four days will include information sharing and training, including a look at global security and current events. "The situation in Europe would certainly be an area of discussion."

One thing is certain: participants will not be idle.

"The whole event is very condensed and has participants training from morning to night."

Depenau says the training would likely include workshops on negotiation, planning operations, presentations on current events and new technologies, for example.

"The goal of the seminar is to assist in integrating leadership from NATO nations in working with one another, developing understanding of NATO's structure and mission planning as well as honing leadership skills," he says.

The organization hosting the seminar

represents roughly one million reserve soldiers from 36 allied and partner nations making it the worlds largest reserve officer organization.

Presenters and participants from all over the world are expected.

"Thirty six countries participate in the ICRO so the audience will be very diverse," he says.

Depenau, an Infantry Officer in the Canadian Armed Forces Army Reserve and member of The Rocky Mountain Rangers, is the Officer Commanding Bravo Company (The Rocky Mountain Rangers' B company in Prince George).

"In plain terms, I look after the Prince George part of our organization."

Depenau has been with the reserve force for a decade and took part in four named

operations including a tour as a Diplomatic Administration Officer based in Kuwait (OP IMPACT), support to the evacuation of Afghanistan during OP AEGIS (based in Kuwait), a member of OP DISTINCTION in France during Vimy Ridges 100th anniversary, and as part of the domestic response to COVID-19 on OP LASER.

"I am immensely grateful to be able to serve in the Canadian Armed Forces and very thankful to have the support of the Village in continuing to balance the responsibilities of my role as CAO. These are roles that require a great deal of time and attention and I just want to thank my family and the teams of people who I work with in supporting me to pursue these opportunities – look forward to bringing this experience back home."

McBride Council: Community market, code of conduct, retail cannabis zoning

By Andrea Arnold

McBride Mayor Gene Runtz called the March 14, 2023 council meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Community market space

Council approved the use of Steven Kolida Park pavilion for the McBride Community Market. The market is held every Friday from June 23rd - Sept 1st from 11:00am - 2:00pm. The approval is contingent on receipt of a Certificate of Insurance.

Code of Conduct

Council approved the existing Council Code of Conduct Policy AD19 without making any adjustments. The policy covers the expectations that council members must uphold to perform their jobs in an honest, transparent, fair, respectful and collaborative manner, while maintaining no conflict of interest be it perceived or otherwise. The policy was approved by the previous council in January 2022, and the community charter states it must be presented to the new council within six months of their first meeting. Mayor Runtz said that when the policy was presented in 2022 he thought it

was very well done and covered everything it needed to. During the short discussion that followed, the Councillors agreed that the document looked good, and was acceptable as-is. They also agreed with the mayor that it covered all the points needed.

Zoning amendment

Council received the Cannabis Retail Stores update to the planned zoning bylaw amendments report. They approved the first step to amend the bylaw. The amendment adds Cannabis Use Regulations as a subsection under general permitted uses. The subsection states: Cannabis Retail establishments are permitted in Core Commercial (C-1) and Highway Commercial (C-2) zone. However, it also states that no primary public entry to a cannabis retail store shall be located within 150 metres of a parcel boundary of a public elementary or secondary school. Staff will bring the amended bylaw before Council at a future meeting for first and second reading. A public hearing will be scheduled prior to the third and final reading, and adoption.

Signing authority update

Council removed former Counc. Diane Smith and former CAO and current CAO advisor Chris Tupy as signing officers on Scotiabank signing-authority

packages. Tupy was also removed as signing officer for Municipal Finance Authority banking investment purposes and the corporate credit card.

Council authorized that Director of Finance Sandra Salt be added as a signing officer to the corporate credit card in addition to remaining as a signing officer on all Village of McBride Scotiabank signing authority packages and Municipal Finance Authority banking investment purposes.

In-camera

Council proceeded to an in-camera council meeting for the consideration of matters of the community charter related to Section 90 (1): (a) personal information about an 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; and (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stage and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public.

The public portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:27pm.

Editorial

Andrea Arnold
Associate Editor / Reporter
goatnewspaper@gmail.com

Keeping our backcountry accessible

By Andrea Arnold

Another forest service road near McBride is slated for deactivation in 2023. The Prince George Natural Resource District under the Ministry of Forests has announced the deactivation of 0km-9.5km of the East Twin FSR. The Fraser Headwaters Alliance has been working on a hiking trail that would connect the East Twin to the Beaver. If this most recent deactivation proceeds, they will lose vehicle access, drastically hindering trail development.

The Ministry of Forests issued a notice in the March 2nd edition of the Goat announcing the deactivation later this year. In the same notice, they also invited organizations willing to take on the liabilities of the road to contact them.

This is not the first time a local road has been pulled out of service by the Ministry of Forests nor will it be the last.

Road development is not cheap, and once access has been gained to mountain areas not previously accessible to the general public, then why put in extra funds to close it off again? The cost of installing and removing infrastructure like bridges and culverts adds up quickly.

These roads have several purposes once a logging operation moves out. The most obvious and talked about is recreation. A deactivated road drastically limits the number of people able to access the backcountry. A quad or dirt bike may be needed to maneuver the obstacles created by a deactivation during the non-snowy months. In the winter, some access is possible by snowmobile as many of these roads are not plowed for automobile traffic. Not everyone in the valley has these toys available and, as a result, loses out on the ability to enjoy their vast backyard.

Secondly, the expense. Several times, once a road has been deactivated, culverts and bridges removed and obstacles in place, a decision to continue logging a nearby area results in more funds being poured in to reopening the road.

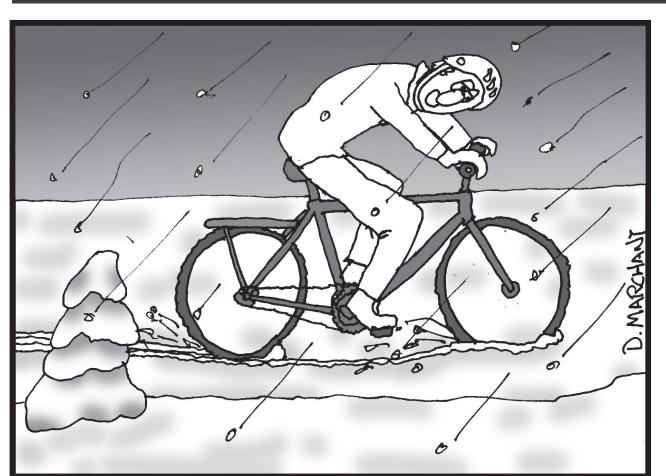
Lastly, a reason that I don't hear talked about often, is the accessibility of the backcountry in case of a fire.

Not many years ago, smoke was seen rising from the valley up the Cottonwood. The area would have been easily accessed by fire crews just a year earlier, but the recent deactivation of the road at the 7km bridge prevented easy access to the area. Fortunately the fire did not become a bigger issue, but the question is, when will one occur that does? With fires becoming a more regular occurrence, I think this should be a more talked about reason and one that holds the most weight.

If roads continue to be deactivated, we will lose access to part of the reason I love living here, the ability to explore beyond the beaten path.

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Valemount RCMP report on past year

Overall cases down; Roughly 20 per cent of files related to TMX workers

By Andrea Arnold

Valemount RCMP Sergeant Robert Dean presented an overview of the detachment's recent activities at the March 14 Council meeting. Corporal Devon Reid was also present.

"We have had a very productive year in regards to initiatives we have done in the community," said Sgt. Dean.

Drug and traffic crack-downs

He spoke specifically about traffic enforcement initiatives. Project Windstorm September 19th-22nd 2022 and Project Hailstorm January 14th-17th 2023. The statistics from Project Windstorm in September were not available for presentation, but Sgt Dean recalled that there were firearm seizures and at least three cars with drugs. He provided more information regarding the January project.

These two initiatives were set forward by the traffic support unit (formerly the roving traffic unit). Specialized individuals are brought in from all over the province: Drug Recognition Experts , Impaired Investigators specializing in detecting impaired drivers, Roving Traffic Unit members utilizing drug detection dogs and members from other BC Highway patrol Units.

The project was a partnership between members from BC Highway Patrol Prince

George (two members worked Highway 16 area), Valemount general duty RCMP, Ledcor Drug Detection Dogs, Ledcor Security and K Division RTU Unit. The Ledcor human and canine teams hit both the Valemount and Blue River camps. Specific statistics for the camps were not released. Weather and road conditions created difficult work conditions and resulted in the Prince George team to only attend one day.

90 tickets and 84 warnings were issued over the four day period. Violation ticketed amount was an estimated \$16,000. Some of the statistics to note were 10 cannabis violations, 18 criminal interdictions and 48 tickets issued for speeding. There were many warnings issued as well as several seizures of cannabis, tobacco, cocaine, methamphetamine, and weapons such as baton and knives where no charges were laid

"During this initiative resourcing was an issue," said Sgt Dean.

Between staffing issues at the time, and weather, they were not able to have as many people involved as they had hoped. The teams have been invited back for another spring/summer initiative and Sgt. Dean hopes they will have more resources available to allow for greater impact.

Valemount detachment

He said that due to the remote locations, filling positions in Valemount is sometimes difficult. The department is now running at full capacity with one member on graduated return to work status, and all six members are settled into force-provided accommodation.

Sgt Dean says Valemount is lucky to have a fully staffed detachment. Many other forces are running short staffed. Cpl Reid commented that there are not as many people coming through training. His son went through training three years ago, and enrollment numbers seem to be declining.

The Valemount crew is a hybrid system, covering both traffic and general duty services. Last year they issued 1772 notices or violation tickets on the highway, 13 of which resulted in impoundment for excessive speed (over 140km/h). Sgt Dean said that this past year, they have seen a decrease in collisions: 28 of these resulted in injuries and damages over \$10,000. 109 collisions with damages under \$10,000. Local RCMP have responded to three fatalities on the highway.

Councillor Pearson asked if the hybrid model is better for the area. Sgt Dean said that Valemount and Stewart BC are the only two detachments that he knows of that operate the hybrid model. He said that he is pleased with the way it is

working in the area. Prior to its inception as a trial model about 12 years ago, there was an issue of "not my job" between the highway patrol officers and the general duty officers, when calls came in for assistance.

The Valemount detachment has opened 1127 files this year, down from 1527 in 2021.

"Roughly 20 per cent of these are directly related to TMX workers," said Sgt Dean.

He has had personal experience with Ledcor, but finds it is a good working relationship.

"If there is an issue with an employee, the employee is let go almost immediately for breaching code of conduct," he said. Sgt Dean knows of 25-28 drug-related instances where employees have been let go. The head of Ledcor security is former RCMP and deals with many issues in-

house without involving the RCMP. Councillor Pete Pearson expressed concern regarding in-town speed issues. He commented that there seems to not be a lot of RCMP visibility in town, and speed is a concern. Sgt Dean acknowledged the concern, and said they will continue to work on that. Cpl Reid reported that all impaired violations were in town, not on the highway.

Sgt Dean said working together with the Village will help them serve the community better.

Global Thoughts BY GWYNNE DYER



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

Freddy and the Ice: Messages from the Future

Two new things on the climate front this week, both bad news. Hurricanes* used to be like drive-by shootings: one pass, one hit and then gone. Now they're starting to come back for a second hit.

And until now scientists only worried about the West Antarctic ice-shelf sliding into the sea (which would add three or four metres to sea level). But they have just discovered that the main ice-sheet that covers Eastern Antarctica, ten times bigger, is also in motion (potentially 52 metres of sea-level rise). Why does the bad news just keep on coming?

"Thirty years of climate science has given us so much understanding, and what I now see very clearly as a red thread during that entire journey is that the more we learn about the Earth System, the more reason for concern we have," Johan Rockström, director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, told me three years ago.

"People think we raise the alarm because human pressures are increasing, but that's not the case at all. It's just that we are learning how the planet works, and the more we learn the more vulnerable she is."

"When humans started this massive global experiment of

putting pressure on the planet, with greenhouse gases and cutting down forests and loading nutrients into the oceans, what did the Earth System do?

"It responded by buffering and buffering and buffering, and dampening the impacts, just shoving our planetary debt under the carpet, because we were so far away from the tipping point that the systems had huge redundant capacity – what we call resilience."

That was largely still true three years ago, but cracks are now appearing in that wall of resilience.

Cyclone Freddy started in the usual place, off northwestern Australia. It followed the usual path across the Indian Ocean to East Africa. It was the biggest cyclone ever to hit Madagascar and the Mozambique coast, but that's not the big deal. Records were made to be broken.

Hurricanes usually lose power soon after they go over land. The big deal is that Freddy went back out to sea, gathered more energy from the warm surface water, and came back for a second bite this week. Hundreds more dead in Mozambique and even in Malawi.

If cyclones in the Indian Ocean can do this, sooner or later so will typhoons in the western Pacific and hurricanes in the North Atlantic. We have crossed some sort of invisible threshold.

The other bad news is the discovery that East Antarctica, which contains 90% of the world's ice, is not tas stable as people thought. Australian scientists now know that in at least two places, Denman and Totten glaciers, megatonnes of ice are sliding into the sea each year.

There may be more glaciers like that, and an urgent search is now underway to determine how imminent the threat of accelerated sea level rise is. But we should have expected this sort of surprises.

"We've followed a 150-year journey since we kicked off the industrial revolution," said Johan Rockström, "and we've gradually been losing resilience, but up until recently the models have been right. Things change linearly when it's resilient, but when you lose resilience...Bang! Things can crack, and you tip over into new states."

Many big changes in natural systems are 'non-linear': abrupt and often irreversible lurches, not smooth transitions. Human beings prefer to think about climate in terms of gradual change, so we will continue to be surprised.



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Valemount Council: RCMP update, Yellow Pluck Duck, & Land encroachment bylaw

By Andrea Arnold

March 23rd 2023

Valemount Mayor, Owen Torgerson began the March 14, 2023 meeting by bringing to order a public hearing.

Public hearing

A temporary use permit (21-05) for 1070 14th Avenue,

Valemount, BC to permit one recreational vehicle to be used as a residence for a period of three years was presented. This request is a renewal for a permit that was issued for a one-year period. The original unit has been in place for a year and there have been no complaints or concerns issued by neighbouring residents or by the village staff thus far. Following initial approval of the application at the Feb 14 meeting, there have not been any submissions from affected residents regarding the application.

With no further questions or comments presented, the public hearing portion was adjourned.

RCMP update on services

Sgt Robert Dean and Cpl Devon Reid present to provide an update on services to council. Sgt Robert Dean presented. He gave details from recent law enforcement initiatives as well as statistics from the past year, April 2022-current. (See separate story in this week's

Yellow Duck Pluck

Council granted permission to Firm Foundations Christian Outreach to use the Valemount Secondary School Property at 201 Ash Street for the 2023 Yellow Duck Pluck Raffle on May 21, 2023.

Northern Health Connections Advisory Committee

Council appointed Mayor Torgerson to the Northern Health Connections Advisory Committee.

Bears Cubs Soccer

Council approved a grant in the amount of \$284 to the Valemount Bear Cubs Soccer organization to cover costs for insurance and

rental of the Valemount Secondary School.

Simpcw application to **Readiness Program**

Council approved a letter of support be granted to the Simpcw First Nation in pursuit of the Community Opportunities Readiness Program administered by the Federal Government under Stream 1 for support to pursue economic opportunities related to the Valemount Airport Expansion Project. Council also confirmed that the Village will match Simpcw's contribution of 10% of the contract value in accordance with the requirements of CORP.

Temporary use permit

Council approved TUP 23-01, the renewal of the existing permit for a recreational vehicle at 1070 14th ave, for a three year term.

Policies & Bylaws

Information access & privacy protection

Council approved the Information Access and Protection Policy No. 90. B.C. public bodies

are required to develop privacy management program. This is an evolving set of policies, procedures and tools developed by a public body to enable systematic privacy protection throughout the personal information lifecycle, and is included in the new policy.

Encroachment on Village Land

Council approved Encroachment onto Village Owned Land Policy No 91. Historic encroachments onto Village owned land such as boulevards, road allowances, or rights-of-ways currently exist and will likely continue to be discovered. In some cases, encroachments are necessary. Policy 91 is an effort to ensure that encroachment applications are handled in a consistent and fair manner. Pearson asked if the policy will affect current encroachments, and if all offending property owners will be approached. His specific area of concern is the Karas Drive area. CAO Depenau said that there have been several arrangements over the years and that the village would like to modernize and bring under this policy. The policy allows the village to have a record of encroachments.

Notice of Motion

Councillor Pearson gave notice that he will be bringing a motion forward to the next meeting that a working group be established to discuss possible solutions to the issues surrounding Karas Drive traffic situations and parking.

In-Camera

Council proceeded to an in-camera meeting for the consideration of three items per Section 90 (1) of the Community Charter to discuss matters related to (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected harm the interest of the municipality if they were held in public.

Thank you to VCTV for providing recordings of Council meetings.

Strongest Towns... CONT'D FROM A1

a local representative to attend the Strong Towns National Gathering in Charlotte, North Carolina, where they'll receive an award and be served as an honoured guest. Strong Towns will also produce a special video about the winning community for a national audience, stronger and more financially

how cities can build their economic resilience from the bottom-up."

To participate in the contest, communities nominate their town or city for embodying the Strongest Town approach to building

"holding them out as an example of resilient communities.

Mayor Torgerson said the contest is not necessarily looking for those communities that have it made, but are more interested in highlighting towns and cities doing the hard work of becoming stronger, putting in place the processes, systems, and promote the village and all it has to Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

commitments that build enduring resilience and long-term prosperity. StrongTowns.

physical and policy items that make Jasper, Indiana; Lockport, Illinois; our community well-positioned to be featured in the contest."

The Village encourages people to

offer on social media by tagging @

"We think Valemount has a mix of Previous winning towns Include Watertown, South Dakota; Pensacola, Fl; Muskegon, Michigan; Traverse City, Michigan; and

www.valemount.ca



Animal Control - Dogs

As you walk your dog during the spring thaw, a reminder that it must be on a leash if it is not in a fenced yard. You are also required to clean up after your dog on both public lands and private properties. This ensures the health and safety for pets, owners, and the public.

After Hours Emergen

Call 1-877-704-2242 to report:

- Water leaks
- Sewage backups
- Flashing lift station lights
- Requests for an emergency water shut off due to frozen pipes
- Any other local emergency that may require public works attention.

WE ARE HIRING!!

The Valemount Visitor Information Centre is hiring seasonal counsellors who are passionate about Valemount and supporting remarkable visitor experiences. If you can recommend a top-notch hiking/biking trail, a good place to eat or to stay, or read a map upside down, we'd love to hear from you!

Starting wage is \$17.00 per hour.

Closing Date: April 6, 2023 Start Date: April 24, 2023

End Date: September 4, 2023 (Subject to change)

Visit: www.valemount.ca/village-office/job-postings/

Update: Bid Opportunity 2023 Valemount Lift Station Projects

(Dogwood and East Area Lift Station)

Reference No.: 0433.0052.03

Tender documents, reference materials and submission for this contract is through the tendering website

at: https://urbansystems.bidsandtenders.ca/.

Tender Closing Time: 02:00:00 Local Time Revised Tender Closing Date: March 30, 2023



Spring is Coming: Be Bear Aware

Garbage is the number one bear attractant in our community. As the weather warms up, please take the time to store your garbage in a garage or shed with a securely closed door, or the interior of your house. Reduce odours by placing smelly food items in a Ziploc bag and freeze until garbage day.

Remember not to put your garbage on the curbside until 7am on garbage day.

Call the RAPP hotline at 1-877-952-7277 if a bear poses a threat or danger to public safety.

Community Wood Smoke Reduction Program

Exchange your old wood stove for a newer model or a cleaner, more efficient option. For information on rebates and eligibility, visit:

www.valemount.ca/services/grants-funding













Get

the skills

to work

here

our trust. our future. it only works with u

we can realize a better future for this incredible region, the #ColumbiaBasin.

Attend a community event or Zoom meeting and win a \$500 gift certificate

Attend an **Open House** and/or a Community Meeting*

Participate in one of 10 **Zoom meetings**

Complete an online survey at ourtrust.org/survey

Complete a self-guided workbook, found online at ourtrust.org/workbook





Columbia trust our trust.
Basin trust our future.

ourtrust.org/future 1.800.505.8998

INVERMERE CANAL FLATS KIMBERLEY LARDEAU VALLEY RIONDEL KASLO JAFFRAY FERNIE ELKFORD SPARWOOD REVELSTOKE CRESTON VALEMOUNT YAHK FAUQUIER NEW DENVER SLOCAN NAKUSP NELSON SALMO CASTLEGAR ROSSLAND FRUITVALE

WorkBC connects people to opportunities and helps people with disabilities overcome barriers.

Get personalized tools and supports to succeed at WorkBC.ca/FindYourPath. Plus, get one-on-one job support at your local WorkBC Centre.



Olson

Sunrise in

cold weather.

Photo: Ann McKirdy Carson

PHOTO CONTEST Finalists



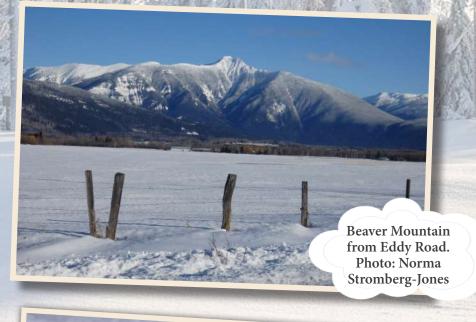














SUNDAY: 10 AM - 4 PM

OPEN DAYS **AWEEK Valemount IDA** 1214 5th Avenue 250-566-4594

atoma



Spring in McBride. Photo: Deanne Beer

Thank you to all contestants in this year's Winter Photo Contest! Finalists will receive a \$30 gift certificate to the Goat store (one per person), and the grand prize winner will receive a gift certificate plus a framed print of their photograph.





Photo: Norma Stromberg-Jones



256 Main St, McBride 250-569-2284

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Sale ends Mar. 31st, 2023!

Join our Foster Caregiver Community!

There are children and youth in your community who need temporary, nurturing homes.

We have an urgent need for foster caregivers who are:

- First Nations, Metis, Inuit
- Interested in providing care for sibling groups
- Passionate about engaging and caring for youth
- Interested in supporting children and youth who identify as LGBTQ2S+
- Skilled in caring for children and youth with complex support needs
- Interested in providing weekend respite care for children and youth

To learn more about becoming a foster caregiver visit FosterNow.ca







McBride Community Forest Corporation
P.O. Box 370, 200 Robson Centre, 855 South West Frontage Road
McBride, B.C. V0J 2E0
T: 250-569-0262 – F: 250-569-0026

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – 2023 Prequalification List

The McBride Community Forest Corporation (MCFC) is establishing and maintaining a Select List of prequalified Contractors and Suppliers specializing in all Forestry Related service areas such as:

- Grading Winter/Summer
- Road Construction/Maintenance/Deactivating
- Sheep Grazing
- Logging- Cable and Conventional
- Log Loading/Unloading/Sorting
- Danger Tree Assessments
- Weighscalers

- Cruising and Layout
- Site Prep
- Tree Planting
- Brushing
- Regen Surveys
- Recreation Site Maintenance
- Log Scaling

This list will establish a Select List of eligible contractors who are most suitable and available to compete and participate in subsequent direct invitation or select invitation solicitations on upcoming contracts and/or projects. Only prequalified contractors will be invited to participate on these contract solicitations.

The MCFC does not guarantee evaluation resulting in short-listing of contractors wishing to compete on issued tenders. The MCFC reserves the right to limit the number of prequalified contractors invited to compete on any subsequent contract, as well as, the right to select contractors to compete on a rotational basis. Contractors submitting responses will receive fair and uniform treatment and submissions will be given due consideration.

New contractors may be added to the Select List at any time throughout the year and will be evaluated in the same manner as contractors already on the list.

Contractors interested in being evaluated for inclusion on the Select List are invited to submit a response with the Desirable Criteria:

- 1. Resume containing education, relevant employment history, skills, designations and references, show that Locally based (within the MCFC footprint), Demonstrate Service Area Expertise
- 2. Hourly OR Daily fee rate(s)
- 3. Limited Liability Insurance (with Forest Fire Endorsement of \$5,000,000 and MCFC as additional insured), Worksafe BC, SAFE Certified. (or demonstrate that these can be obtained if needed).

Please note that this advertisement and the information provided is for viewing purposes only and is not an Official Invitation to Tender. Submissions for this process will be accepted up to April 28, 2022 at 4pm local time. Paper format, fax or email submissions are acceptable.

Email: admin-asst@mcfc.ca

Young Entrepreneur Market

The McBride Centennial Elementary grade 6-7 class hosted an Entrepreneur Market right before spring break. Teacher Kathleen Trembley said the assignment was for the students to learn what is involved in running a business. They had to figure out a marketing plan, create a prototype, and determine feasibility and profitability. The students were allowed to choose their own partners. The groups each chose a local charity to receive 10 percent of their profits. The rest of the money raised will be returned to a trust for future classes to do similar projects

> (Right) Declan had carefully assembled all the edible supplies needed for a sticky smore snack. Only a roasting device is needed to complete the experience. /



VALEMOUNT

COMMUNITY

GARDEN

SUMMER 2023

Plots available at the

Aziz, Wyatt and Camden worked as a team to create not only the knitted items they were selling, but also the company logo and the button attached to each knitted creation. Wyatt did a majority of the knitting, and Aziz contributed some as well. Camden designed the company image and Aziz manufactured the finished pins. / ANDREA ARNOLD

2023 COMMUNITY WOOD STOVE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

PROGRAM REBATES UP TO:

- Non EPA/CSA Stove to Certified Wood Replacement: \$1,300
- Non EPA/CSA Certified Stove to Alternative **Heating Replacement: \$2,750 (electric** heat pump- \$3,000)
- EPA/CSA Certified stove (more than 5 years old) to Alternative Heating Replacement: \$2,750 (electric heat pump- \$3,000)
- Non EPA/CSA Stove to Certified Wood Replacement (secondary heat source): \$1,000

Please visit our website at:

valemount.ca/services/grants-funding for full program details or contact the Grant Clerk to determine eligibility



Phone: 250-566-4435 Email: grantderk@valemount.ca





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VOLUNTEER: 8HR / YEAR

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LEARN NEW SKILLS SHARE YOUR SKILLS PARTICIPATE IN

COMMUNITY

SPEND TIME OUTDOORS

GROW FLOWERS

INCREASE FOOD SECURIT

Pete Amyoony has lived, worked and gardened in the Dunster area for 43 years. He tries to deal with the "down to earth nuts and bolts of organic gardening" in his columns.



Damp off disease

If you see a cold overcast misty spring day and have some little plants started, beware of the worst enemy of gardeners who start their own seedlings. Damp-off disease has to be the most devastating thing that can happen to a seed starter. You have carefully planted the seeds and watered them in well, given them the heat they need to germinate, and nurtured them as they unfurled their first little seed leaves. One morning you go to check on them and many are leaning over with withered stems! You have damp-off!

Damping-off (Rhizoctonia fusarium or pythium) is a fungus that occurs naturally in soils. It really thrives in heavy soils that are wet and rich in nitrogen. It also thrives when plants are growing where there is very little air circulation and the plants are very close together.

Many folks like to use new containers and sterilized potting soil or just plain fine vermiculite to start their seeds. Because the fungus is not in the starting mix, your chances of success are much higher. However I mix my own starting mix and plant in used containers and have very little problem any more. Over the years I have learned to keep a close watch on the conditions around my little seedlings.

My mix is one part peat, one part sandy loam garden soil, and one part compost. It has good moisture retention and at the same time drains very well. I think the greatest success comes from the facts that I only water the containers from the bottom and only in the morning. Watering from the bottom assures that the stems and the soil surface do not get soaked. Watering only in the early part of the day assures that the soil surface is quite dry by the time it cools off in the

Starting seeds in plain vermiculite may seem odd as vermiculite has no nutrients to feed the plants. We need to remember that nature has taken care to give the seed all the nourishment the little plant needs until it gets its first set of true leaves (its second set of leaves). Too rich a starting mix can actually encourage damp-off because the fungus thrives on nitrogen. If you start seedlings in a sterile mix with no nutrients, you will need to transplant the seedlings or begin to feed them with a dilute mixture of nutrients as soon as the true leaves appear. This is the beginning of a very rapid stage of growth for plants and they need lots of light and food to

I always allow my seedlings to dry slightly between

waterings. (Don't allow them to wilt!) Then I soak them well by immersing the whole tray in about an inch (2.5cm) of water in a large tray or the bathtub and let them soak up as much water as they can. This is a good way to water plants at any stage of their life - soak them really well and then let them dry out.

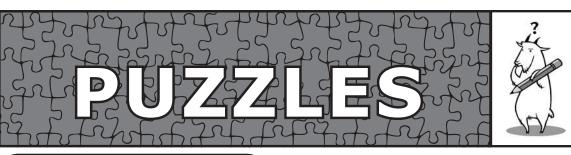
The other important thing to remember is to have the plants in a place where there is good air circulation around the stems where they come out of the soil. This is where damp-off attacks. If your soil surface is not drying fast enough, a small fan a few feet away on very low speed will help.

If you see any sign of damp off, isolate that container as it spreads very quickly.

Once you learn about the conditions in which dampoff thrives, you can prevent it by trying to avoid those

If you would like a copy of my suggested planting times for many vegetables and flowers in the Robson Valley, you can drop in and pick one up or e-mail me and I can e-mail it back to you or call and I will try to get one to you by "Valley Express" (one of my friends). Call anytime at 968-4334 or peteam@telus.net.





ROSSWORD

Answers on P13

Across

- 1 Wind up
- 4 Symbol of happiness
- 8 Metered transport
- 11 Senate declaration
- 12 Latest "in" fashion
- 13 Victorian, e.g.
- 14 Serving of corn
- 15 Mind image
- 16 Beet-colored
- 17 Important prom purchase 2 Intimate
- 19 Fortune
- 21 Heap
- 24 Parade postponer
- 27 Competed against
- **30** Dentist's request
- 31 Decorative plant
- **32** Con
- 34 Kermit's species
- **35** Pool table top
- **36** Shepherd's pie tidbit
- 38 Apart
- 42 Low card
- **44** It may get into a jamb

- 47 Party still celebrated in Boston
- 48 Gives birth
- 49 Communication method
- 50 Partake of
- 51 London's all-seer
- 52 Adjusts, as a clock
- 53 Married woman

Down

- 1 Ogled
- 3 Truth or (slumber party game)
- 4 Kind of center
- 5 Shaver
- 6 Cause of wrinkles
- 7 Spread
- 8 Destined
- 9 "We the World"
- 10 Defective
- 18 Mooch
- 20 Elliptical paths
- 22 Flip pages
- 23 Perimeter

- 30 49 50
- alive!"
- **26** "The __" Sandra
- Bullock film
- 27 Not quite straight
- 28 The "p" of m.p.h.
- 29 Suggest
- 33 Warnings
- 37 Chimes in with
- 39 Romantic pair
- 40 Sweet
- 41 Rest area goodies
- 42 Definite article
- 43 Kind of station
- 45 Vein to mine
- 46 Unavailable

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

Answers on P13

SUDOKU

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 samee line, column or 3x3 box.

The Toughie

by Myles Mellor

Answers on P13

Across

- 1. Senior Smurf
- 5. "Haste makes waste," e.g.
- 10. Meadow sounds 14. NATO member. abbr.
- 15. Cartoon cat
- 16. Threat word 17. Company picnic
- event 20. City whose main **Down**
- street is named Last Chance Gulch 21. Supreme Court
- lady, Sandra
- 22. A small piece
- 25. Cozy homes 26. Fall times, abbr.
- 30. Bit of horseplay 33. Port-au-Prince
- 35. Contradict

locale

- 36. Lucy of "Charlie's computer acronym Angels," 2000
- 39. Bad deeds 42. "Walking on Thin capital Ice" singer
- 43. Nagini, in "Harry Potter"
- 44. Cuddle, in a way
- 45. Spud
- 46. "Black Beauty" author Sewell 47. Big city in Iraq

51. Invitation request surfer

- 54. Gets a GPS out 57. Beaked timekeeper 62. It's close to the
 - clubhouse 65. Kind of tomato
 - 66. Island in the Med.
 - 67. Racer Luyendyk
 - 68. Wild attempt
 - 69. Las Vegas area 70. Can. province

- 1. Substance
- 2. Hanker for 3. Programming language
- 4. Away from the storm, at sea
- 5. Key of Chopin's "Heroic Polonaise"
- 6. Barely passing mark 7. High school subj. 8. "Junk begets junk"
- 9. Firm head, abbr. 10. Switzerland's
- 11. Actors Alda and Ladd 12. Neckwear item
- 13 Wise men 18. Nixon has two
- 19. Braying beasts 23. Enthusiastic 24. Challenge to a
- - 26. Very 27. Normandy battlefield 28. Digital program
 - recorder 29. Abbr. in many Quebec city names 31. Trees
 - 32. Naught 34. Coffee choice
 - 36. Panther rival in the device
- 37. Look
- 38. Annapolis sch. 40. Evidence piece
- 41. Getaway 47. Afrikaners 48. "What
- funny!") 49. Fraternity letter 50. Doctor's order
- 52. TV blocking

53. Pooch

- 55. Gumshoes 56. Election prize
- 58. Prefix in some drinks
- 59. Wood incision !" (How 60. Trompe 1'
 - 61. Having no depth, in brief 63. "Weekend Edition"
 - network 64. Threefold

HOROSCOPES BY HOLIDAY MATHIS A Question for April Fools FOR THE WEEK OF March 26th, 2023 offer and a fun social opportunity.

At its essence, identity is simply a narrative about who you are. You tell a version of this tale to yourself and perhaps a slightly more polished version to the world, but in both cases it's still just a story. Ask any film editor -- the same footage can be cut into a million stories. It is also true of your life. At the end of the week, the Leo moon poses a question for April Fools': Are you still entertained by the story you've chosen?

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Your days will be enhanced by a fresh ritual you stumble upon or create. The repetition will calm and center you, giving you one more thing to be certain about in an uncertain world. Simple rituals are best, like having the same morning, night or exercise routine.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your opinion of yourself will fluctuate quite a lot over the course of the week, but don't let it worry you. Self-esteem doesn't determine self-worth, and it's not necessarily healthier to have high self-esteem either. Your success-move is to get curious about your thoughts and determine which ones help or hinder you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You may feel that someone is humoring you or not taking your work as seriously as they should. However, the joke is on them. They'll catch up to what you're doing eventually. Until then, seek the company and feedback of the like-minded and the openminded. Once you start looking for them, they're everywhere.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Sure, you like to win, but you also know that winning all the time (or acting like you are) is neither useful nor fun. This week, you'll take that pressure off yourself. You find out what you're capable of the same way everyone does: by trying and sometimes missing. You'll progress joyfully.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll be in an existential mood, and you'll think about the kind of person you want to be and what it will take to move toward that. You'll have greater control over your time this week, which allows you to focus where you'd prefer to instead of reacting to the demands of others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). People tend to think that anyone trying too hard is covering something up. The power move is to believe in your own inherent worth so you're not overly concerned with pleasing anyone else. Do what it takes to feel confident. Prove things to yourself so you don't have to prove them to anyone else.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Staying on task and focusing on the priorities of the moment will be your forte this week. Being motivated to tend to the right thing is a gift you don't take lightly. The ability to apply yourself in this way will bring you many rewards, including a lucrative

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Of course it would be weird and boring if everything went the way we wanted it to. While dissatisfaction is a normal part of life, chronic discontent brings everyone down. This week, you'll gravitate to sunny personalities, and you'll add to your network of easygoing types. They're usually more interesting, as they have better things to do than complain.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Making mistakes doesn't mean (SET ITAL) you (END ITAL) are a mistake. Be careful not to overidentify with the things that happen this week. Problems are something you have, not something you are. Whether it's good luck or bad luck, don't assume you earned it, but do take your good fortune and run with it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You've a keen sense of the energy in people, places and things. You'll immediately sense good and bad vibes. You'll spend some of your week making this talent work for you by favorably arranging the elements of your environment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). There are many reasons you might choose to fix a thing -- for instance, a sense of responsibility, to satisfy your curiosity or to prove that you can. Beware of the fear-based reaction of "anxious fixing." Be willing to sit with a circumstance for a moment. You'll find felicitous success on the other side of acceptance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). In life and buffets, your eyes can be bigger than your appetite, and not everything tastes as good as it looks. Processing events is easier when you do it in small bites. Too much too fast can be upsetting. Portion your week modestly. You can always return for more.

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS: Though you'll see new places, not all adventures involve crossing rugged terrain or taking off in a plane. The greatest adventures of this season will be flights of the intellect. You'll leap into new modes of thought. Experience will mature, teach, challenge and shape you. By this time next year, you'll be a person with many more exciting options and a clear direction of which ones are right for you. More highlights: You'll make a change working in a small group. You'll be voted to a position. You'll be embraced by a new family and show up strong at the requisite social events.

Holiday Mathis' debut novel, "How To Fail Epically in Hollywood," is out now! This fast-paced romp about achieving Hollywood stardom is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit http://www. creatorspublishing.com for more information. Write Holiday Mathis at HolidayMathis.com.

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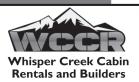


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Station Manager

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14 E	Α	R		¹⁵	D	Е	Α		16 R	Е	D
¹⁷ D	R	Е	¹⁸ S	s			¹⁹ L	²⁰ O	Т		
			²¹ P	Т	²² L	²³ E		²⁴ R	Α	²⁵	²⁶ N
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		³⁶ P	Е	³⁷ A			³⁸ A	s	³⁹ I	⁴⁰D	⁴¹ E
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SUDOKU ANSWERS 5 2 2 0 0 4 4 7

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VALEMOUNT

TUES MAR 28th Dancing for Seniors with Laurel a 3-part series welcomes all skill levels and experiences (no partner needed) from 1-2:30pm this drop-in program at RVCS (99 Gorse St). Registration is required 250-566-9107/ events@ rvcsbc.org.

WED MAR 29 from 12-2pm Seniors Painting Workshop with Leaha seniors are invited to come along and get creative at RVCS (99 Gorse St) All materials provided and registration is required by March 15th. 250-566-9107/ events@rvcsbc.org

WED MAR 29 from 10:30-11:15am our WorkBC team is holding Drop-In Information Sessions where they will share what resources and training opportunities are available FREE to clients. We can help you increase your skillset and gain meaningful employment! Drop by the office (99 Gorse St) and no registration is required. 250-566-9107 for more info.

Valemount Public Library Annual General Meeting WED MAR 29th @ 7pm Downstairs at the library Refreshments provided Everyone welcome! Board positions available.

Valemount Ongoing Events

MONs Family Place Drop-In is on Mondays from 9am-noon with Hannah. Come for the connection with other families, parenting resources and fun for you and your 0-6 year old children at RVCS (99 Gorse St). This month it's Mother Goose 9:30-10:30 am and Craft time.

SATs 10am-11:15am Creative writing group at the Rocky Mountain Goat office. Join us for writing and friendly conversation. Everyone welcome.

SATs 1-3 pm Crafty Stitchers meet downstairs at the Valemount Public Library everyone welcome! 250-566-4367 for more information.

SUNs Pancake breakfast at the Valemount Legion Sundays 8 to 11. By donation!.

MONs Seniors Drop-In is no longer running. Our Seniors Program Coordinator will instead be planning intergenerational programming, crafting workshops, cooking classes, digital literacy courses and more! Call 250-566-9107 or email events@rvcsbc.org for more info.

MON through FRIs the Valemount Seed Library is OPEN during business hours at RVCS (99 Gorse St). Stop on by to share seeds, save money, promote local adaptations, increase genetic diversity and select flavourful diversity. Contact Rebecca at 250-566-9107 or foodsecurity@rvcsbc. org for more information.

MON through FRI Contact the Valemount Office to book your Community Garden Plot. Cost \$25/year, Volunteer 8hr/year, tools provided. Contact us at 250-566-9107 or email events@ rvcsbc.org for more information.

MON through FRIs the Free Food Farm Stand and Pantry are available for anyone who would like some free, fresh produce. We accept donations of unprocessed fruits and veggies also. The stand is accessible in the front lobby at RVCS Valemount (99 Gorse St) and is available to everyonejust help yourself! Emergency top-up food is accessible to our clients and anyone who walks through the door.

WEDs at 7pm the old timers play live music at the Golden Years Lodge. Bring your dancing shoes.

FRIs & SATs Drop-in curling at the Valemount Curling Club. \$10.00 plus a \$10.00 membership fee for the season. 7:00 pm, clean shoes required.

FRIs is open mic at the legion! Looking for a place to perform? Book a Friday spot on the legion stage. Friday, contact Pete Pearson at 250-566-1115.

MON MAR 28 seniors are invited to Dance Exercise with

MCBRIDE

Jodie at the Beaverview Lodge (1084 5th Ave). Drop in and try out some seated dance moves and exercises each week. No registration required. In partnership with RVCS. Call Jodie for more info: 250-230-8035.

THUR MAR 23 from 1-3pm Rock Painting for Seniors from 1-3pm seniors are invited to channel their inner Picasso while painting rocks at RVCS (942 3rd Ave). No artistic experience necessary and all materials are provided. Registration is required by March 14th.

THUR MAR 23 from 4-5pm it's the next Men's Shed Meeting in McBride at 942 3rd Ave. Led by men for men! Let's discuss topics the group is interested in. Snacks provided. No registration required. 250-569-2266 for more

Sat. MAR 25 McBride Farmers Institute Banquet with guest speaker Vanesse Foord, M.Sc. P.Ag. Research Climatologist. Location is the McBride Community Centre 441 Columbia St. 2pm Check out the display booths, 5pm Meet and Greet, 6pm Dinner. Tickets can be purchased at Horseshoe Lake Ventures and Welcome Home. \$25 per adult, and \$1/year for children. Children 0-3 are free. Silent auction, door prizes, product booths and more.

McBride Ongoing Events

MON through THURs, McBride RVCS now has a FREE FOOD PANTRY that's available to all! Emergency top-up food is accessible to our clients, preschool program and anyone who walks through the door. We share and accept donated foods that are safe and fresh for use. Contact RVCS at 250-569-2266 or email foodsecurity@rvcsbc.org. The local Food Bank is also available: 250-569-3186.

THURs & FRIs Weekly Adults' Programs at the McBride

Library: Fibre Artists (Thurs, 10:30am), Writing Group (Fri, 1.30pm). Call 569 2411 for details.

MONs Family Place Drop-In is on Mondays from 9am-noon at RVCS (942 3rd Ave) and 1pm-4pm. Join for connection with other families, parenting resources and fun for you and your 0-6 year old children. No registration required. Call 250-569-2266 for more info

TUESs Chess Club - 5-6pm at the library. All ages and abilities welcome.

TUEs Seniors Physiotherapy Health Series with Vanessa McGibbon the final piece of the 3 part series Tuesday MAR 28th pelvic floor health, from 2:30-3:30pm. RVCS (942 3rd Ave) Registration is not required.

WEDs Seniors Drop-In Coffee House is every second Wednesday from 1-3pm with Sandy. All seniors are invited to come by for some social time, a warm beverage and snacks at RVCS (942 3rd ave). Next date is MAR 29th. Call 250-569-2266 for more information.

MONs & WEDs it's time to Dance during Community Fitness with Jodie at the Elks Hall. Twice weekly from 7:15pm-8pm this drop-in program offers free admission to seniors and youth. Other age groups are invited to pay by donation or pay what you can. Call Jodie at 250-230-8035 for more info.

DUNSTER

SAT MAR 25 The Dunster Schoolhouse Live Auction at the Dunster Schoolhouse Doors open at 7:00 pm Auction starts at 8:00 Local Auctioneer Ken McNaughton Tickets \$20.00 * Hot and Cold Appetizers * Cash Bar Reservations and Payment - email dunsterfass@gmail.com or call 306-734-7545 Over thirty valuable items - watch for details on social media.

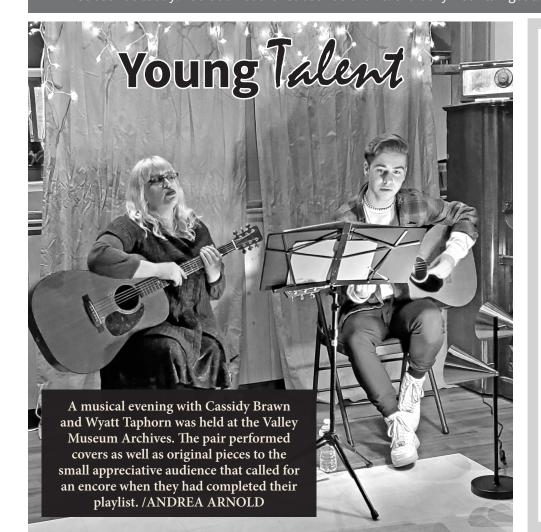
Dunster Schoolhouse auction this weekend

By Goat Staff

This Saturday March 25, the Dunster Schoolhouse will be buzzing as local auctioneer Ken McNaughton calls out prices and bids on dozens of donations from local businesses. The group has collected over 30 donations that range from (but are not exclusive to) items like firewood, gravel, household items, food, tickets, as well as services like skidsteer and grader hours. Doors open at 7pm and McNaughton will start calling at 8pm. This is a ticketed event. Tickets are \$20: E-mail dunsterfass@gmail.com or call 306-734-7545. Event includes cash bar and appetizers. Funds raised through the auction will be put towards Phase 2 of the School house renovation project. The next step is new insulation and siding. A Northern Development Initiative Trust grant is in place to cover 70 per cent so fundraising efforts are in place for the remaining amount.

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Notice of Intent Fort George District Road Closure

Notice is given, pursuant to Section 60(2) of the *Transportation Act*, that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure has received an application to permanently close an unconstructed road right-of-way located approximately 26 kilometres south of Valemount, B.C., near Highway 5, and consolidate it with the following adjacent lot:

Lot A, District Lot 5739, Cariboo District Plan 21779

A copy of the plan showing the proposed road closure can be emailed upon request.

Anyone supporting or objecting to this road closure should submit written comments to the ministry's Fort George District office at 360-1011 4th Avenue, Prince George, B.C., V2L 3H9, or by email to DA.FortGeorge@gov.bc.ca no later than April 9, 2023.

For more information, or to request a copy of the plan, please contact the ministry's Fort George office at 250 565-4410 or at DA.FortGeorge@gov.bc.ca





McBride Figure Skating Club turned 50 years old in 2022 and they finished their 22/23 season by installing shatterproof mirrors thanks to funding from Vanderhoof CO-OP. / **SUBMITTED**

Legion installs executive, honours long-time members



More than 40 members of The Royal Canadian Legion Branch #266 gathered for ceremony, awards and renowned local cooking recently. Long term service pins were awarded to members pins from 5 years membership, all the way up to an impressive 55 years of loyal service in the case of Richard Dehnke. All together just shy of 60 members reached a milestone or earned other recognition since the last presentations were held. Following Branch #266's AGM and Election this fall, the following members officially installed; the Officers of Branch #266 for the year 2023-2024 are: Clayton Gee, President; Jeanne Dennis 1st Vice President; Ken MacKey, 2nd Vice President; Sheri Gee, Secretary / Treasurer; Pete Pearson, Executive Committee Member & Deputy Zone Commander; Executive Committee Members Sharon Ireland, Eric Depenau, Fitz Plamondon. The Legion thanks everyone who put their name forward for a position on the Executive Committee, and a special thank you to our Legionnaire of the Year, Jeanne Dennis, the chef behind our immensely popular Friday Night Dinners and special events. /SUBMITTED

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VALEMOUNT



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Imagine living in a one-of-a-kind property on the edge of the world-tamous Mount Robson Provincial Park. Surrounded by nature, the 4 season, 1 bedroom home and self-contained log guest cabin will not disappoint. The small home is packed with custom details. The upstairs bedroom features an adjoining sitting area and built-in wardrobe, while the compact but efficient styling in the kitchen shows off the live-edge counters and custom cabinetry. The open concept living space is a wonderful space to entertain and opens on to a flagstone patio. Or you can step outside to a private back deck for a quick sauna at the end of the day. Quality craftsmanship is evident everywhere, inside and out. The 2 storey-log cabin is just as much of a gem with slate flooring, bronze accents, a clawfoot tub, wood cookstove, and loft bedroom. Whether looking for a year-round hideaway or a weekend retreat, this is mountain paradise at its very best.



DIFFERENT BETTER



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