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ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT

Your weekly source of news, views and entertainment

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Regional District gets over \$1M for geohazard study

By SPENCER HALL, LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER, ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT

The Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (RDFFG) has received \$1,050,000 in grant funding to conduct a two-part review of natural hazards and risks that could emerge due to climate change in the region.

General manager of development services with the RDFFG, Kenna Jonkman, said the district is partnering with multiple municipalities for the study, including Valemount, McBride, Prince George, Mackenzie, the Lheidli T'enneh, and the McLeod Lake Indian Band for the project.

Also partnering with the district to provide management support for the study is the Fraser Basin Council and BGC Engineering—a consulting firm that specializes in applied earth sciences.

Phase one of the project will include risk mapping, planning and assessments, which according to Jonkman, will pinpoint flood and steep creek geohazards and inform the RDFFG how vulnerable thses areas could be to climate change impacts. Flood hazard mapping will occur in phase two for certain areas that will be identified in phase one of the study.

“We have some idea of areas that might be of interest, but until the technical experts provide us their recommendations, at this point we’ve just built into the project that we want to see some done and it will be based on their recommendations and priorities,” Jonkman said.

The project aims to provide the RDFFG with information regarding where geohazard risks are located and will provide guidance on emergency response planning and what, if any, mitigation work can be done.

The study builds on previous studies completed over 20 years ago in the Robson Valley, ranging from the 1990s to



The most vibrant fall foliage occurs if the end of the summer is dry, autumn days are sunny and the nights are cool. An early turner as in this douglas maple might be because it's nitrogen deficient or is trying to rid itself of insect pests by changing colour. The lack of chlorophyll reveals yellow and orange pigments that were already in the leaves but masked during the warmer summer months. /LEON LORENZ

the early 2000s.

“This project will go in and revitalize that information and provide us a pathway forward starting from 2023 and 2024,” Jonkman explained.

“Our technical experts tell us a study is impacted by development, natural events, and other factors. So a study that was done in 1999, may need to be re-evaluated based on what the ground looks like today,” she continued.

After a landslide in Valemount in 2021 that nearly cut off access to the village’s only source of drinking water and a mudslide in McBride about a year earlier that resulted in at least five families needing to evacuate their homes and over 30 residents trapped on the other side of the slide having to shelter in place, Jonkman said natural disaster mitigation is a high priority for local government officials.

“I think it’s top of mind for all local governments right now is identifying risks, knowing what they are, and then working through that piece around mitigation and preparedness,” she told Rocky Mountain Goat News.

Local real estate agent Shelly Battensby said the previous geohazard studies were also precipitated by environmental events, leading to an overarching study known as the Robson Valley Land Hazard Study.

Battensby said some landowners who’ve had to rely on that old data have bought property only to find they couldn’t build on it.

“What we’ve seen in real estate when someone purchases a property, they’re now kind of in a catchment of whatever category of hazards there are, for various reasons,” Battensby said.

She explained if a buyer wants to develop their land but finds their new property is in a medium to high hazard area, they need to conduct their own individual geotechnical assessment, which she said puts a lot of onus on the landowner.

Battensby said she’d like the new study to be more specific and have a narrower focus, which she believes would take some of the burden off landowners.

“I would love to see more specifics within the study, but I also recognize that

that’s not necessarily logistical,” she said.

Much like our climate, Battensby said real estate is ever-evolving. She believes the new study’s findings will be another tool that will allow the region to respond to climate change.

“The reality is, it’s happening. It’s here. Whether it’s forest fire mitigation or mudslide issues. We are in a mountainous valley—we’ve got trees, we’ve got water, and we’ve got gravity,” she said.

Jonkman said the project is slated to begin this September, with work anticipated to be fully completed by the summer of 2025.

“That will include phase one, and any phase two work that we do and it will have full reporting and mapping will have to be done by July 2025,” Jonkman clarified, adding that the results of the study will be provided to the district as they become available, meaning the RDFFG will have a full report along with recommendations in hand by July of 2025.

Funding for the project came from the UBCM Disaster Risk Reduction-Climate Adaptation program.

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2nd Annual Tour de Read Road

By SPENCER HALL, LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Dunster Fine Arts School Society raised a total of \$1225 at its second-annual Tour De Read Road event last Saturday.

The event, held at the Dunster Community Hall, saw about 49 participants of all ages buckle their helmets and enjoy the sun while riding their bicycles on Read Road, with cyclists having the option of riding four, 10, or 20 kilometres.

Festivities kicked off at 8 a.m. with check in and registration in front of the Dunster Community Hall, where cyclists could purchase a t-shirt to commemorate the event.

The “race,” began at 9 a.m.—results weren’t captured for the race as the event was more of a bike rally meant to give families an activity to do together.

Once the cycling wrapped up, each participant got an opportunity to select a prize from the prize table and the weekly Dunster Farmer’s Market was held at the Hall with burgers being served to raise funds for both the Community Hall and the society.

Executive director of the Dunster Fine Arts School Society, Yann Assemat, estimates that about 110 burgers were sold, adding that funds raised from burger sales were split 50-50.

“It was their biggest market from the season I think. They sold like 110 burgers or something like that. So having them together was definitely a win-win,” Assemat said.

He added that the society couldn’t have asked for better weather for the event.

“People were really happy, and the weather was just perfect. We ordered sunshine and we got sunshine,” Assemat said.

Funds raised at the event will go toward building upgrades at Dunster School, which Assemat said has recently gone through significant renovations.

“It’s been a major renovation—a new roof, windows, insulation, and siding. So this is still going to help pay for the renovations, and then, of course, in the future, help to set up programs and activities [at the school] and get things going,” Assemat explained.

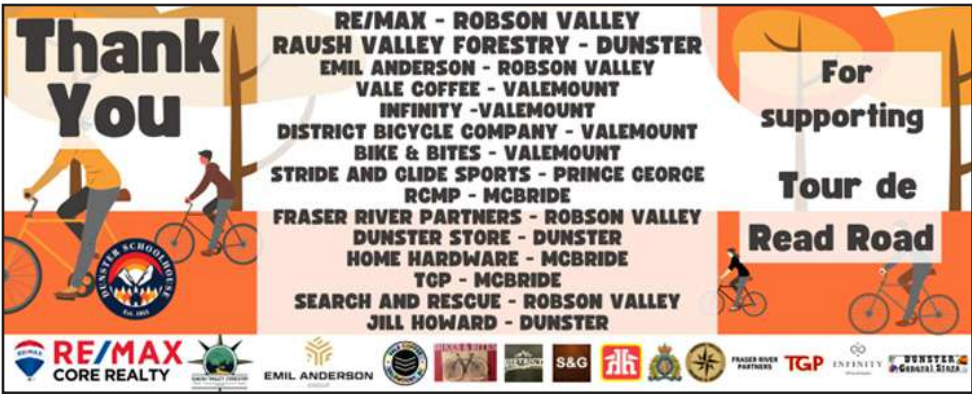
He concluded by thanking those who sponsored the event, which he said helped make it “a great success.”



Rainbow Team: A colourful group took part in this Saturday’s Tour De Read Road event, which aimed to raise funds for the Dunster Fine Arts School Society. Left to right: Susan Umstot, Karen Dubé, Carla Enevold, Ingrid Stengler, Bridget Uhl. /SPENCER HALL



About 49 participants gathered at the starting line, with rally distances ranging from 4km to 20km. /SPENCER HALL



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- Electric Outdoor Equipment electric leaf blowers, electric weed whackers, electric chainsaws, NO GAS-POWERED ITEMS



C3-pee-0 not living up to expectations

By Laura Keil

Out of service, no toilet paper, water all over the floor and toilet, no toilet seat, and the lights shutting off unexpectedly... locals say the new Centennial Park automatic washrooms are not the “automatic” experience they’re hoping for.

Cedar Wilkes, age 9, says the lights often turn off when people are in there and some kids say they’ve gotten stuck. Even on a good day, it takes three minutes for the automatic soap, water and drier to start so a person can wash their hands.

The municipal washrooms officially opened last fall, the \$327,860 price tag covered by grants. They promised a year-round heated facility with self-cleaning abilities, but the result unfortunately has been a mixed bag.

Local parent Tiffany Wheeler says the configuration is absolutely not kid-friendly.

“It’s always wet and blasting water all over the toilet. The toilet is always wet and gross with no seat. I’ve been there three times now when tourists used the washroom and complained about how gross it is.”

She’s highly claustrophobic and can’t lock the door due to her restrictions of panic and dread.

“One day I was trying to change a diaper. I didn’t want to lock the door because just closing it is terrifying enough, and when I didn’t lock it, the bathroom shut the lights off on me and started saying something but I panicked in the blackness.”

She said her young son wouldn’t enter wearing sandals because his feet got wet. As a result he peed behind the bathroom in the grass instead.

“If that toilet at least had a seat.... I’d never place my kids’ bare skin on a wet exposed toilet with who knows how much pee and feces particles all over it with all the splashed toilet water.”

While the Village says the washroom automatically sanitizes the toilet seat, the wet residue gives the impression of uncleanness.

Jessie McKirdy says she was happy Valemount was going to have year-round bathrooms for kids to use at the park but she doesn’t think these bathrooms were worth the cost.

“I hate going in there after it’s been sprayed down,” she says. “The floors get filthy if anybody has dirty shoes in there or if toilet paper gets dropped and then gets hosed all over the place Everything is soaked and requires a wipe down. The only thing available is the toilet paper in the hole in the wall... if you are lucky. Twice it’s been empty, probably because everybody is using it the same as I have to.”

She says it’s impossible to put your child down to use the bathroom yourself when the floor is soaking wet.

“My one year old would love to play in the puddles on the floor so I’ve had to leave without going a couple times for this reason.”

She notes the toilet itself is uncomfortable and the sink is way too long for any child or short person to use comfortably from the front so you have to stand off to the side.

“Having the air dryer right next to the water sensor was an annoying choice. I’ve taken more time than needed

because I’ve accidentally triggered the water while hand drying and then had to start the drying process over again.”

The Goat reached out to Urben Blu, the manufacturer of the washrooms for comment. Alain Bolduc, VP Sales for Urben Blu says, some of the problems noted are not solved because the Village has not had time yet to make repairs.

He says it’s impossible for the cleaning cycle to start when somebody is inside of the restroom, but if it’s the case nobody can be locked inside as the door is equipped with a panic bar.

He says if a person doesn’t lock the door properly, the light can turn off to save energy. The Goat tested not locking the door, and the light went out within 5-10 seconds.

When asked about the operational issues of the washrooms, CAO Eric Depenau says he was not aware of any formal complaints about the services at Centennial Park, and appreciated having issues brought to their attention.

“We would be eager to dispatch staff to look at the issue(s).”

He also said he personally went to the park to test whether he could trigger the washroom to lock him inside, and couldn’t find a way to do so.

“It is a push bar mechanism. We manually started the cleaning function and then used keys to enter the room to verify.”

He says the cleaning cycle is connected to the door mechanism and a motion sensor. He did note, however, that if one kid entered immediately after another, and then stayed still for a long time to trick the motion sensor, the washroom might assume it was empty and begin a cleaning cycle if one was due. However, the washroom would never be locked from the inside.

When asked if the automated nature of the washroom can be shut off, Depenau says the options are highly customizable.

“The washrooms are fully automated and programmable for operating hours, cleaning cycles, occupancy time, heating and lighting and can be controlled and monitored remotely on a computer or mobile device,” he says. “In short, the automated functions can be controlled, but not shut off.”

Currently, he says the system is set to clean the toilet after each use, this includes a blow dryer for the “seat.”

“Locally we are not able to alter this function but staff are working with the manufacturer on additional options through the software.”

Normally, a full cleaning occurs after 10 or 15 uses for 90 seconds, which would include the floor. He says the Village has had this setting restricted to a few times throughout the day, and has now been altered to run only at night.

Depenau says the manufacturer offers a 3-year full warranty (parts and labour) and 10 years on the structure of the building. The Village also opted for one year of software warranty and ongoing technical support line remains available from the manufacturer, Urben Blu.

He says staff shortages and a few incidents of vandalism have caused service interruptions.


“Staff continue to work on tuning the system to produce the best possible result and with the aim of having both units open.”



A wet floor made mucky from dirty shoes, and a wet toilet seat, are two of the big complaints of people using the new automatic washrooms at Centennial Park. /LAURA KEIL



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We appreciate the interest of all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Editorial

Fire restrictions and bans are still in effect



Andrea Arnold
Associate Editor/Reporter
goatnewspaper@gmail.com

Although the ban on campfires, classified as Category 1 fires, was lifted on August 11th for the Prince George Fire Centre, the seriousness of the dry weather and risk of fires is still very real. The regulations state that the allowed size for a fire is no larger than half a metre high by half a metre wide, a minimum of eight litres of water or a hand tool be kept on hand, the area around the fire kept clear of combustibles and that your fire must be fully extinguished - cool to the touch - before leaving the area. Category 2 and Category 3 open burning remains prohibited, which includes fireworks, sky lanterns, burn barrels or burn cages.

Due to extreme dryness and current wildfires, there is still a complete fire ban in effect for the western and northern portion of the area covered by the Prince George Fire Centre (not including the Robson Valley). tinyurl.com/ykcucnx9 shows a map of these areas.

I have been on several camping trips this summer and I understand the draw of huddling near an open fire in the evenings, but until recently, we have not had an open fire warming our nights. My house was one evacuated during the fire in McBride at the start of May, so maybe I have been a little more on edge this year, and I have been pleased to see that most people I have seen during my several camping trips have honoured the ban. But there are always people who think that

the rules do not apply to them. These people can be a hazard to public safety at times like this.

BC Wildfire Services website reports that there have been 2,119 fires, with 408 currently active, seven which have started within the last 24 hours (Monday Sept 11th). Of the total, 1,213 were caused by lightning, 471 were caused by people or people-built infrastructure and the other 135 have an unknown cause, the service says. With more weeks of fire season left to navigate, more than 22,700 square kilometres of land across the province has been consumed by flames so far.

For example, following a long weekend stay at Kinbasket, I saw that a fire had been reported along the shoreline. BC Wildfire listed the cause as human. Fortunately that fire was brought under control quickly. I am unsure if the party responsible was held accountable or not.

Just this week a post on the Valemount discussion board drew attention to individuals who must have had special no spark fireworks to believe their fireworks were not going to cause a fire. Not only did they set them off during the current ban that prohibits anything more than a small campfire, but they left garbage evidence behind (a whole different issue).

Now, as we get into cooler weather, people

maybe forget that we still have regulations around burning. Yard clean up and leaf burning will have to wait a while yet. For residents in Valemount, the Regional Transfer Station site has a centralized composting operation for recycling yard and garden trimmings. However, they do not accept weeds, land clearing debris and industrial sources of wood waste as they are not compostable.

The BC Wildfire Act and Regulation document, tinyurl.com/2p99byra provides detailed information about what is covered in each of the different fire categories as well as a breakdown of financial cost to those caught in violation of the current restrictions. These include a violation ticket for \$1,150, the requirement to pay an administrative penalty of up to \$10,000 or, if convicted in court, a fine of up to \$100,000 and/or sentenced to one year in jail. If the contravention causes or contributes to a wildfire, the person responsible may be ordered to pay all firefighting and associated costs. Violators could also be held responsible for damages to Crown resources, which could be significant.

We have a beautiful but vulnerable valley. Its vulnerability is evident daily to the people of McBride who see the scar left from the May fire slashed across the landscape. Let's work together to prevent any more such scars.

About Letters to the Editor

The Goat welcomes all letters to the editor and values diverse opinions in our newspaper. Letters should address something that appeared in the newspaper or a current event. Recommended letter length is 400 words or less due to space constraints. Longer letters may be rejected or the author asked to reduce the length. The Goat formats letters and grammar according to Canadian Press style. No substantive changes are made without the author's approval. Letters are reviewed for clarity and libel, but are not fact checked and may contain errors or misleading statements. Letters must be submitted with a phone number for verification purposes and the location of the author, but only the name of the author and location will be published. We do not publish anonymous letters. Write to us! goatnewspaper@gmail.com. We ALWAYS confirm receipt of letters. If you have not received a reply from us, please call us at 250-566-4606 so we can make sure we receive it. Our letters deadline is Sunday 5pm the week of publication. Letters received after our deadline may still be included if space is available, otherwise they will be bumped to the following week.



“EVERY TIME I GO TO THE GAS STATION, I GET THE SINKING FEELING THAT THE GOOD TIMES HAVE ENDED.

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Spencer Hall: the Rocky Mountain Goat's new civic reporter



BY GOAT STAFF

The Rocky Mountain Goat has a new civic reporter!

Spencer Hall will be reporting for the Goat under the Local Journalism Initiative Program, a federally-funded program aimed at increasing civic journalism in underserved communities.

After graduating from BCIT's

Radio Arts & Entertainment program, Spencer got his start in media at Moose FM in Fort St. John as a summer cruiser host before transitioning into the station's newsroom, Energeticcity.ca as a daily reporter where he discovered his passion for written storytelling. He found himself wanting to dig deeper into stories shaping the community and

later took on an investigative journalism role with the company before relocating to Valemount. Coming from a radio background, Spencer brings a unique blend of creativity and journalistic expertise to his work. Born and raised in Terrace B.C., Spencer says his upbringing made him aware of the essential role local journalism and independent

media play in fostering informed communities, especially in small rural areas. We're excited to have Spencer on the team. He'll be delving into topics that are funded by, regulated by, or pertaining to any level of government. Feel free to reach out to him anytime with questions or story ideas at goatnewspaper@gmail.com.

Global Thoughts

BY GWYNNE DYER

Culinary Counter-offensive



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

The French government has just published a decree banning the use of terms like 'steak', 'spare ribs' and 'ham' on plant-based foods. Sausages and 'poultry nuggets' will escape the ban so long as the plant protein content is less than 6%.

It's not that the French don't know the difference between meat from dead cattle and 'plant-based steak', a label that has been used in French supermarkets for at least 40 years.

It's about handicapping the fake meat industry: if you can't say 'plant-based steak', how do the customers know what it's meant to be a replacement for?

Well, those customers are vegans, or at least people trying to cut down on the amount of meat in their diets. They deserve to be confused because they are betraying and undermining the meat industry. Let them buy their 'plant-based X', and choke on it.

Governments are playing the same game all over the West. The journal 'One Earth' analysed US and European Union agricultural policies 2014-2020 and found that only one-thousandth of the public money spent on helping the meat and dairy industry went to plant-based alternatives.

But don't people in the meat industry understand that meat production will have to shrink drastically as climate change accelerates? That cattle specifically are responsible for almost one-tenth of all greenhouse-gas emissions, more than all other food production combined?

Of course they do. The average cattle farmer is in denial, but the bosses of 'Big Meat' – the transnationals like Tyson Foods and Cargill (headquartered in the United States), JBS and BRF (Brazil), Vion Food Group (Netherlands) and the WH Group (China) – know exactly what the future holds.

They know that half of the world's agricultural land is devoted just to growing food for cattle. Yes, half. And they know that those cattle burp out enormous quantities of methane, the fastest-acting greenhouse gas.

They know that the pressure to return that half of the farmland to nature ('rewild it') will grow, because it's the last hope for preserving a reasonable range of biodiversity on the planet. When the biodiversity activists get together with the people who are trying to cut emissions, beef and dairy production will go into retreat – but the question is when?

Because Big Meat also knows that Big Oil went on making huge profits for fifty years after it knew the writing was on the wall. Only now, finally, is it being forced into a managed retreat.

Way back in 1977, ExxonMobil's scientists accurately predicted a global temperature rise of 0.2°C per decade if fossil fuel use continued

on its present trajectory. They understood what that meant for the climate. They nevertheless waged a campaign of denial and distraction that prevented any serious action for half a century.

Big Meat's senior execs doubtless think that way too, so stand by for a long campaign of slander against plant-based protein and its far more formidable rival, 'food from the air' or 'farmfree' food. That is based on protein produced by 'precision fermentation', which requires no land beyond the hardstand that the bioreactor sits on.

But Big Meat will lose a lot quicker, because farmfree food is almost infinitely flexible.

This nascent industry may concentrate on animal feed at first to build up volume production and bring the price down, but it's high-quality tasteless protein that can be given any texture and taste cooks can think of. Here comes the Revolution. Again.



Pete Amyoony has lived, worked and gardened in the Dunster area for over 40 years. He tries to deal with the "down to earth nuts and bolts of organic gardening" in his columns.



Fall Harvesting and Storing of Vegetables

With fall fast approaching, I get a lot of questions about harvesting of all the vegetables from the garden. When to harvest, how to trim, how to handle after harvest, where and how to store, what temperature is best, and how long will they last in storage are some of the most common questions. In this column, I will try to review some of the general principles of harvesting vegetables.

The first thing to remember is there are no hard and fast rules as so much depends on the soil, the weather and what storage facilities you have. Some vegetables and fruits are "chill sensitive" and cool nights will stop their growth and do damage. Examples are tomatoes, melons and eggplant. When you harvest these, keep them at room temperature and don't refrigerate. Some moderately chilling sensitive vegetables are beans,

peas, cucumbers, peppers, summer squash, pumpkins, some melons, and potatoes. These should be stored no lower than 40-41F (5-6C). Most other vegetables, such as carrots, turnips, beets, cabbage, etc, should be stored just above freezing for the longest storage.

If you have heavy clay soil with poor drainage and lots of rain late in the season, you will have to get your mature carrots out earlier or they will crack from too much moisture. If your soil drains well and the carrots are not too large, it is best to leave them in until they have had a few light frosts, as they will develop a much sweeter taste. Once harvested, carrots are best kept in a very cool place packed in sand or shavings in pails or boxes. The tops should be removed and about ½ inch (1.3cm) cut off the top of the carrot to prevent sprouting in storage. Many years

ago, a local elder gardener told me of a way to store carrots that has worked for me over twenty years. When you harvest your carrots, cut off the top 1/2 inch of the actual carrot to stop sprouting and wash the carrots really well and lay them out to dry. When totally dry, gently place them in food grade 20 litre pails leaving the top few inches empty. Crinkle up newspaper and cover the carrots and store them in a cool dark place like a root cellar. I am still eating carrots from last year in September!

I have found it best to wait as late as possible to harvest potatoes. If they are harvested before the tops die down, the skins tend to "slip" or rub off and the potato will not store as well. About two weeks after the tops are frozen or die down, I harvest around noon and leave the potatoes out to dry and cure for a few hours before gathering them up for storage. Potatoes keep best if you can store

them around 38-40F (4-6C) in a moist root cellar. Remember, potatoes go into a "sweat" for the first 6-8 weeks after harvest, so it is important to have good air flow in the storage place to get rid of the excess moisture or you will have a lot of rot. Be sure the potatoes get absolutely no light while in storage.

Pumpkins and squash will not grow after the nights become cool. They can usually survive one light frost as the leaves of the vines protect the fruit the first time. Be sure to harvest all the fruit and get it washed or wiped off and dried as soon as possible. Pumpkin and other winter squash need a period of "curing" in a warm dry place. When the skin is too hard to puncture with a fingernail, they can be stored in a cooler but dry place – 40-45F(5-7C).

More tips on storage next week.



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Nous reconnaissons l'appui financier du gouvernement du Canada.

Canada

BY ANDREA ARNOLD

Fire departments up their training on vehicle extrication



By LAURA KEIL

Members of both Valemount and McBride local fire and rescue crews learned how to wield some mega power tools that save lives this past weekend thanks to Chris Chambers, an auto extrication educator from KGC Fire Rescue in Nanaimo. Over the three-day course, held in the yard next to the Valemount Fire Hall, crews practised cutting into 10 wrecks donated by Ptarmigan Towing and Valemount Auto Rescue. Valemount Fire Chief Rick Lalonde says his department receives an average of 100 calls a year, and highway

rescue calls comprise about 60-75 of those. Roughly 15 rescue calls a year require extricating a person or persons from the vehicle, in both summer and winter conditions. He says the pipeline crews will be missed, as they provided aid both in terms of medics and flaggers in a timely way all along the highway corridor. Shown above and below, members of the McBride District Fire Department Denika Lipke, Mitch Lamming, Christian Blixrud, Mel Andrews (Lieutenant) and Courtney Lipke (Deputy Chief). Participating members of the Valemount crew who participated include Billy Davy, Dustin Hammond, Boden Gee, Tobi Gee, and Emma Mintz.

Above: Mel Andrews uses a special saw to cut into the wreck under the supervision of instructor Chris Chambers. /LAURA KEIL

Below left: Members of the McBride District Fire Dept. learned how to use special tools to help free people from vehicle wrecks. /LAURA KEIL



Books of the week!

Wild Edible Mushrooms of British Columbia

This field guide covers the wild edible mushrooms of British Columbia that are most suitable for novice mushroom pickers. Learn how to confidently identify mushrooms based on key characteristics and how to distinguish look-alikes.



A KILLER IN KING'S COVE

It is 1946, and war-weary young ex-intelligence officer Lane Winslow leaves London to look for a fresh start. When she finds herself happily settled into a sleepy hamlet in the interior of British Columbia surrounded by a suitably eclectic cast of small-town characters she feels like she may finally be able to put her past to rest.



COLD CASE BC

In her BC bestseller Cold Case Vancouver, crime historian and reporter Eve Lazarus used investigative skills to shine a light on the city's most baffling unsolved murders. In Cold Case BC, Lazarus casts her gaze more widely on long forgotten and unsolved murder cases throughout British Columbia.



Backyard Farming

Backyard Farming: Growing Herbs for Food and Medicine is your one-stop guide for growing and utilizing herbs in your life. Intended to serve as a comprehensive primer for first-time gardeners, detailed illustrations and informative photographs help to eliminate confusion and ease new homesteaders into the world of backyard farming.



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MCBRIDE HOURS:
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(limited selection of books)
411 Main Street - Unit 102
ACCESS FROM 4TH AVE

New upgrades for Cranberry Lake



The new dock allows swimmers to bypass leeches that linger around the shore. /LAURA KEIL

By LAURA KEIL

Swimming at Cranberry Lake at Cedarside Regional Park south of Valemount will be a little easier going forward, after a new floating dock was installed last month.

After a trip to Scotch Creek in the Shuswap, Ainslie Jackman, President of the Valemount Community Forest (VCF), presented the VCF board with the idea of a dock at Cranberry Lake to make the lake more accessible to the community.

“I saw all the private places including our cabins had those docks and I saw they built them right there in Scotch Creek,” she said. “It looked like a simple, affordable and fun dock. It’s the texture of it I really liked. On a hot day it’s not hot.”

It cost \$25,000 delivered and the cost was donated by local logging and road building contractors. The design is eco-friendly in several ways including the fact that waterfowl can pass underneath the dock.

“I just wanted to make the experience of swimming at cranberry lake a little more

fun and make it easier to get into the water without going through the leeches,” Jackman said.

She says the next step is how to improve the beach.

“It’s so small but it’s our lake, it’s the only thing we’ve got so close to town.”

With the cooperation of the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George, the Community Forest ordered a dock from Triton Docks and the dock was installed on August 9th. It was immediately put to use by area families who took advantage of the remaining hot days of summer.

The local contractors who donated include AAA Logging Ltd, Alpine Country Rentals, Cedar Valley Holdings Ltd, Cliff Jackman Contracting Ltd, Cuddeback Holdings Ltd, Jackpine Construction Ltd, Spaz Logging Ltd and Wayne Reiter.

Jackman says the dock may be removed during the off-season to prevent unnecessary wear-and-tear or may be left in place, depending on recommendations.

Other improvements at Cranberry Lake



Above & below left: Kids quickly made good use of the dock. /SUBMITTED

this summer include new picnic tables and signage and the start of a path around the whole lake.

The tables, signage and new trail are part of ongoing parks maintenance work in the region, says Renee McCloskey, External

Relations Manager for the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George.


“As for the trail clearing we are working to have a trail put in around the whole lake, but at this time there is no estimated completion date.”



Ada's Place

Long Term Affordable (LTA) Housing is now officially accepting applications for review and triaging.


The eligibility criteria is: those who identify as women with or without children who have experienced intimate partner violence/abuse and is otherwise open to community to apply. These units are largely hands off, clients need to be able to live independently and must provide their own furnishings. These tenants must fall under the Housing Income Limits (HILS).



Applicants will be triaged based on immediate risk, vulnerability, and need. We are aiming to start moving tenants in on a staggered basis starting Oct 1, 2023

LTA Housing Program application can be picked up at 99 Gorse St. Valemount, requested by emailing housing@rvcsbc.org, or found on our website.

Applications can be sent to: housing@rvcsbc.org, faxed to (250) 566-0011, or dropped off at 99 Gorse St. Valemount.



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Please visit our website at valemount.ca/services/grants-funding for full program details or contact the grant clerk to determine eligibility.





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Remembering those lost on 9/11



22 years after the events of 9/11, members of McBride EMS once again silently march down mainstreet to honour the memories of those lost, and to help keep these memories alive. The march participants slowly made their way down Main Street to the train station where Fire Chief David Hruby said a few words and they held a moment of silence. The procession then made the return trip down Main Street to the fire hall. TGP owner Bobby Hurry asked that all the store staff come stand along the street as the procession passed by. "It is important to pay respect for those who passed away," he said. "We can't forget. If we don't do thing like this, it may be forgotten. This is also a chance to show respect fo local EMS." /ANDREA ARNOLD



McBride resident Robert Collins Jr. took the opportunitiy following the moment of silence in memory to shake hands with and thank each of the First Responders in attendance. "It is our civic duty to thank these people that serve," he said. /ANDREA ARNOLD

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Michael Peters 250-566-8288 or tv@vctv.ca

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will host its

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, Sept 28, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

Downstairs Hall - Golden Years Lodge

Phone: 250-566-4867
Email: admin@vschs.ca

THE CORPORATION OF THE
VILLAGE OF MCBRIDE

2023 NOTICE OF TAX SALE

Pursuant to Section 645 of the Local Government Act, the following properties, land and improvements, will be offered for sale by public auction to be held at the Council Chambers, Village of McBride, 100 Robson Centre, 855 SW Frontage Road, McBride, BC. on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 10:00 a.m., unless the delinquent taxes plus interest are paid before that date.

Folio	Legal Description	Civic Address
176.000	Lot 21, Block 14 Plan PGP 1373 DL 5316 Cariboo Land District, PID # 010-150-897	1048 4th Avenue
286.060	Parcel 1, Plan PGP 46943, DL 5314 Cariboo Land District PID # 025-078-089	815 Bridge Road
70350.051	MFG Home 26-545-00001.000 Reg #59070	5-151 Columbia St.
70350.104	MFG Home 26-545-00001.000 Reg #78280	10-151 Columbia St.
70350.150	MFG Home 26-545-00001.000 Reg #13662	15-151 Columbia St.
70350.160	MFG Home 26-545-00001.000 Reg #44136	16-151 Columbia St.
70350.170	MFG Home 26-545-00001.000 Reg #88521	17-151 Columbia St.
70350.181	MFG Home 26-545-00001.000 Reg #88521	18-151 Columbia St.
70350.234	MFG Home 26-545-00001.000 Reg #30504	23-151 Columbia St.
70350.270	MFG Home 26-545-00001.000 Reg #20674 MFG Home 26-545-00001.000 Reg #41981	27-151 Columbia St

The sale of properties will be conducted in accordance with the following terms and conditions:

The announced upset price is the minimum price acceptable and will be the starting point of the bidding on each property. The highest bid above the upset price will be accepted.

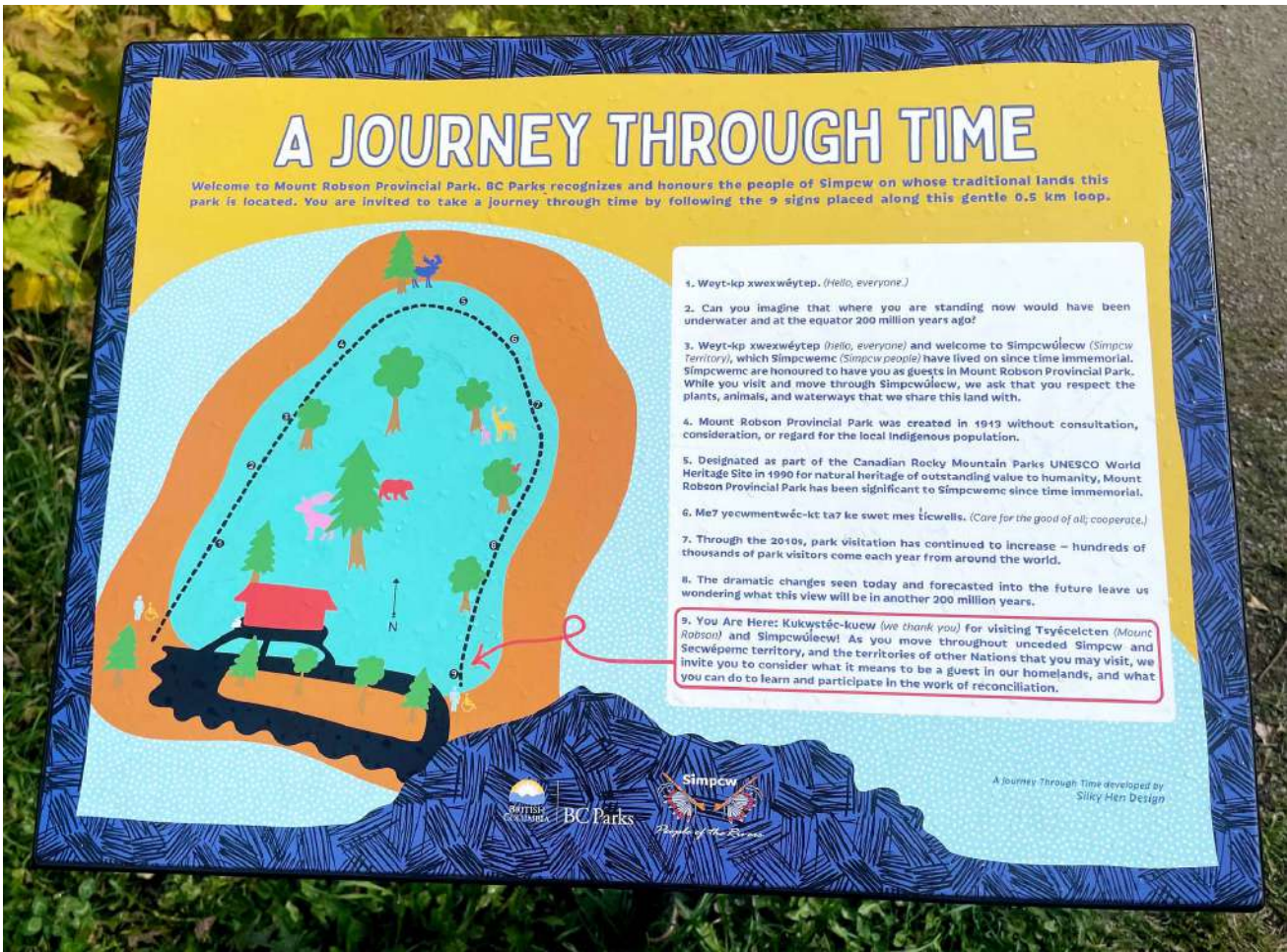
The final determination as to the successful bidder will be made by the Collector who will keep a sales record which shall be conclusive in all respects as to each sale.

Any person upon being declared the successful bidder must provide their name and address and immediately pay by cash, interac, or certified cheque the amount of the successful bid amount. Failure to pay this amount will result in the property being offered for sale again.

The Village of McBride makes no representation express or implied as to the condition or quality of the properties being offered for sale. Prospective purchasers are urged to make all necessary inquiries to applicable government departments and in the case of strata lots to the strata corporation, to determine the existence of any bylaws, restrictions, charges or other conditions which may affect the value or suitability of the properties.

The purchase of a tax sale property that is not redeemed is subject to tax under the Property Transfer Act on the fair market value of the property at the end of the one-year redemption period.

Sandra Salt, Director of Finance



A new project with the Simpcw includes nine interpretive signs like the one shown telling the story of the Simpcw's history in Mount Robson Provincial Park, along a short scenic path bordering the forested area East of the Info Centre. /RACHEL FRASER

Simpcw gathering at Mt Robson this weekend

By RACHEL FRASER

The first annual Simpcw Days event is being held September 14-16 at Mount Robson Provincial Park. According to Shelly Loring, Cultural Liaison for Simpcw First Nation, the event will gather Simpcw community members with Simpcw who live away from the community in a location of historical significance. The weekend's events will be happening in both Mount Robson Provincial Park and Tete Jaune Cache, and organizers request the public use due care when driving in and around those locations. Activities planned for participants include rattle and drum making; crafting medicine bags, lanyards and earrings; canning salmon or moose and deer meat and making moose jerky; guided hikes and canoeing; hunting; and a Sllekmewes (stick games) tournament. Sllekmewes is a traditional tabletop-type guessing or gambling game played with small sticks and bones by teams of six players, seated across from one another.

“This is an opportunity for us to gather on the land, in this beautiful part of Simpcwul’ecw (Simpcw Territory) to reconnect with each other, the land, the water, the culture and to ourselves.”

Another event scheduled for the weekend is the grand opening of an interpretive signage project at the Mount Robson Provincial Park Interpretive Centre. This was a collaboration between Simpcw First Nation and BC Parks and tells a story of the Simpcw’s traditional use of the land currently within Mount Robson Provincial Park. Tete Jaune Cache once included a community of Simpcw residents who, in 1916, were forcibly relocated to the reservation near Barriere, and the area is the subject of a land claim by Simpcw First Nation. Loring says the event gives them the chance to strengthen their ties to this part of their territory. “This is an opportunity for us to gather on the land, in this beautiful part of Simpcwul’ecw (Simpcw Territory) to reconnect with each other, the land, the water, the culture and to ourselves.”

CAREERS



Assistant Administrator Position

Full Time

POSITION OVERVIEW:
Since 2008 the Valemount Community Forest has become known as an efficient and progressive community forest model in British Columbia. The VCF office has a dynamic and fast-paced working environment. The candidate will have training and orientation as required. Wage is competitive and includes benefits. This person does the main organizing of the office and assists manager and staff.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Coordinate office activities, equipment and supplies
- Coordinate office communication; answer phone calls, distribute email, correspondence and memos
- Plan and prepare regularly scheduled meetings, take detailed minutes, prepare documents and reports
- Provide general support to visitors, co-ordinate and schedule public events
- Initiate and plan programs and projects
- Follow legal company requirements, policies and reporting
- Implement the Safety Program and maintain BC Forest Safety Council Certification

REQUIREMENTS:

- Knowledge of office management systems and procedures
- Accounting/book keeping experience is a priority
- Proficient in Excel and Microsoft Office programs
- Independent worker and team worker
- Good language, writing and verbal communication skills
- Ability to plan, prioritize work and manage time effectively
- Ability to meet deadlines
- Handle sensitive information in a confidential manner
- Attention to detail and problem-solving skills
- Willing to learn new tasks on the job, energetic and positive attitude
- Maintain a welcoming environment

Applicants will send a resume, a cover letter with contact details and references, in confidence to: Craig Pryor, Manager, Valemount Community Forest LP c/o P.O. Box 1017, Valemount, BC. V0E 2Z0, cpryor@valemountcommunityforest.ca. Open until filled.

Thank you for your interest; however, only those applicants invited for an interview will be contacted.

SHARE YOUR VIEWS

Provide your input on taxis, ride-hailing, and other services relating to passenger directed vehicles.

Register to speak at a public meeting by September 22 or provide written input to the Committee by November 30.

For full details, visit www.leg.bc.ca/cmt/pdv or call 250-356-2933 or toll-free 1-877-428-8337.



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of BRITISH COLUMBIA
Special Committee to Review
Passenger Directed Vehicles

www.leg.bc.ca/cmt/pdv

PUZZLES



CROSSWORD

Answers on P13

- Across
- 1 Small taste

4 Stamp for a bill

8 Mirror

11 Posting at JFK or LAX

12 Fraction of thrice

13 Route

14 "A Midsummer Night's Dream" disguise

15 Knife and fork, e.g.

17 Smarting

19 Lazily

20 Team

22 Croquet area

25 Awards show request

27 Baseball stat

30 Partook of

31 Add-on

33 Inkling

34 Auxiliary

35 On-screen trash can, for one

38 Carnival follower

40 Waterloo

43 Much worn

46 Lonely

47 Seemingly forever
- 48 Fled

49 Put the first card down

50 Focal point

51 Resort with mineral springs
- Down
- 1 It makes waves

2 Pronoun

3 Inactive

4 Decant

5 Safari animal

6 Age or cube

7 Room

8 Zealous

9 Taken with water

10 "Piece of cake!"

16 Vice

18 Unrefined rock

20 Stew morsel

21 Barbecue botherer

23 Dismayed

24 Itty-bitty

26 Kid

27 Text monitors

28 Clear (of)

29 Fire truck item

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		

- 32 One of the Bobbsey clan
- 33 Stopover place
- 35 Poster subject, maybe
- 36 Traffic director
- 37 Outstanding
- 39 Ultimate word in an ultimatum
- 41 Cooling device
- 42 "Give it ____!"
- 44 NASCAR circuit
- 45 Some trial evidence

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

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 same line, column or 3x3 box.

The Toughie

by Myles Mellor

Answers on P13

- Across
1. Time zone abbr.

4. Soft leather

9. Loading lead-in

14. Tiger

15. Seize by force

16. From China or India

17. Grave

20. Smart-alecky

21. Pro ____

22. Scam that's "pulled"

26. Toy dog

31. Mach 1 breaker

32. Shake up

34. Prepares
35. Saudi neighbor

37. Scruff

38. Noiseless

43. Overdue

44. Cream stuffed pastry

45. Position

48. LPGA star Cristie

49. Urchin

52. Hotel bar

54. E-mail abuser

56. Arch type

58. Prefix with dynamic

59. Antediluvian

66. Potter's apparatus

67. Start
68. Fall flat

69. Chill-inducing

70. Archibald and Thurmond

71. "Keep talking ..."
- Down
1. Supplies with workers

2. Magnetic flux units

3. Proceed no more

4. Captain Nemo's workplace

5. Operate

6. Land east of the Atl.

7. Humdrum

8. British racing town

9. Sweet-talk

10. Tempe sch.

11. Eradicate

12. Carrier

13. A wee hour

18. Cull

19. Pre-med course, abbr.

23. Resort town near Santa Barbara

24. Missive

25. Send

27. Pavarotti, e.g.

28. Isaac's eldest

29. Dines

30. Olympics event

33. Follow

35. Odd

36. Archipelago units

38. Considerably

39. Singer Bareilles with the hit "Love Song"

40. Little swab
41. "The power to make it better" org.

42. "Look!" in Lima

46. Noggin

47. Forum wear

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	
52						53		54			55			
			56				57				58			
59	60	61	62					63	64	65				
66						67					68			
69						70						71		

49. Mrs. Marcos
50. Magician or falcon
51. Wrote in everyday language
53. Quark-plus-antiquark particle
55. Spring time in Paris
57. It towers over Taormina
59. Reverence
60. Any car, affectionately
61. Opposite of 'neath
62. Floral ring
63. D.D.E.'s predecessor
64. Wide shoe width
65. Alts.

HOROSCOPES



BY HOLIDAY MATHIS

New Moon, New You

Your actions make you; you make your actions. In this never-ending circle binding you to your life's work and roles, you are constantly impacting the environment that forms you. When you want things to change, you can start it from the inside out or the outside in. Since there are many effective ways to get where you want to go and be who you want to be, don't bother with anything that doesn't feel right. This message was brought to you by the new moon in Virgo.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Fascinating social prospects come along this week. Those who are curious about you in the ways you most appreciate are excellent people to know and trust. When someone asks you good questions, it's a sign of their intelligence and their capacity for creating a strong relationship with you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You have many kinds of love to give, and you'll be generous and versatile with them this week. Whether it's compassion, friendship, fandom, romance or other, you give freely without requiring they love you back, pay it forward or even be gracious receivers. You simply give, and the more you give, the happier you are.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're socially astute and you have the makings of a great leader. Knowing that people behave as they do, not as you believe they should, you think about the dynamic you would like to create and then work backward, imagining what you could communicate to inspire the sorts of behaviors you'd like to engage.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). The right plan can really concentrate your energy and help you take the next step and the next. But it's not just the plan itself; it's the way it fits into your life. It has to be visible to be effective. To build some accountability into the design, let other people know about it, too.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). To tie your happiness to what someone else does or doesn't do for you puts your mood at the whim of uncontrollable forces. You'll find a less precarious route to happiness, one that's not dependent on circumstance but rather on your ability to react in the curious, amused, energized or other way that keeps your energy high.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). There are many things you want and few that you need. Recognizing the difference between those categories makes you aware of options you wouldn't be able to see if you thought everything was a need or everything was a want. The clever way you take care of yourself this week will be nothing short of inspired.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Good writing is rewriting. Good business

is adapting to the customer's needs. Good relationships change and grow. You're stuck on an issue. The problem isn't where you're at; it's a few steps back. Undo a bit of work and start again and you'll see what has to happen.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You can be right in front of a thing and not see it if your eyes are closed. The same applies to your third eye. All the information you need to make your future better is before you. You only need to be open to receiving it. Declare your intention to improve out loud and affirm your awareness. You're wide awake.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). In romantic comedies, two characters clash in the beginning and end up in love. In reality, such conflicts don't bode well for happy relationships. This week brings compatible people together for business and fun, so there's no need to waste time with the ones who don't hit it off from the start.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're happy to defer to another person who feels very securely in charge. You're also fully aware that feeling in charge isn't (SET ITAL) being (END ITAL) in charge. You hold a fascinating kind of power -- the power that comes with making others feel powerful as they give you just what you want. Is it manipulation or just diplomacy? Does it matter?

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It will take an extra effort to stick to your plan for yourself. The key here is not to give yourself too much time to ponder or wander. Pretend like you're a robot, program yourself, then go. Get the tedious tasks over with first so you can move on to the more human aspects of your week, which will bring you immense satisfaction.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Confident in your own identity, there is no need to pursue social standing. The yardstick of society is too limited to measure what is meaningful, lasting or beautiful to you. It only measures what's popular. Assess outcomes by your own standards, or better yet, move through the week unselfconsciously for the sheer joy of being you.

THIS WEEK'S BIRTHDAYS: Your sparkling communication opens opportunities often and regularly this year. Each month brings a juicy new offering, and you'll also ink a lucrative deal before the end of 2023. Seek circles where your talents are sorely needed because your happiness absolutely depends on finding use and appreciation for the things that make you who you are. More highlights: Your project will cross the finish line and win an award. Family expansion is in store. Your social circle gets interesting and diverse.



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

Community Events

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

VALEMOUNT

THURS SEPT 14 **LIVE CONCERT** Ray Elliott 7:00pm @ Three Ranges Brewing Admission by donation

FRI SEPT 15th, 2023 **Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour film** at the Valemount Community Theatre (high school), Show @ 7:30pm, doors open at 7pm General Admission: \$25, Student/Senior: \$20, At the door for \$5 more.

FRI-SUN SEPT 15-17 **Rise Up - a powerful weekend of Prayer, Prophecy, Praise and Healing.** Free event. For more information call 250-566-1557 or 250-566-3349.

SAT-SUN SEPT 16 at 10am to SEPT 17 AT 1pm **Fall Fest mountain biking event** at the Valemount Bike Park. Shuttles included in ticket price. See VARDA for more info.

TUES Sept. 26th Valemount Entertainment Society AGM 5pm at the VCTV Studio, upstairs at 99 Gorse Street.

WED SEPT 27 **Figure Skating, Minor Hockey and JR Rangers Registration Night** 7:00-8:30pm @ the Arena. Bring proper ID, payment, 2 cheques for hockey reg. Must be 12+ for Jr. Rangers.

THURS SEPT 28th **Valemount Senior Citizens Housing Society Annual General Meeting** 7pm downstairs hall at the Golden Years Lodge.

SAT SEPT 30th **Karaoke** at Scooters restaurant 8pm.

OCT 4&5 BC **Cancer Screening and Prevention mobile mammography coach** is coming to Valemount. Call 1-800-663-9203 to book your free appointment.

Ongoing Valemount 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). For more information call 1-844-324-2004 or email: events@rvcsbc.org. Sept. events listed below:

September — 18 Get together at Roots of Life Child Care Centre (1451 5th Ave)

September —25 Indigenous stories, colouring and resources in honour of Truth and Reconciliation day

September 30 (1451 5th ave)

WEDs **Oldtimers band and music night** at the Golden Years Lodge 7pm. All welcome! Bring an instrument, listen or dance.

THURS Free **Drop-In/Coffee House** at the Golden Years Lodge the 1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month from 10 am until 2 pm. It's open to everyone regardless of your age. If you currently have any 'mobility issues' call Derek 250-613-6905 for a ride in the accessibility bus.

THUR's Senior women are invited to register **Reflections, Repair, Revival** for a guided counselling group for female seniors to speak safely around experiences of violence and trauma, in the company of others with shared experiences June 29th & July 6th from 3-4pm. Registration is required contact the office for more information 1-844-324-2004 or email events@rvcsbc.org.

Most SATs 10am-11:15am **Creative writing group.** Join

us for writing and friendly conversation. Everyone welcome. Contact Laura to confirm dates and times at lauraishere@gmail.com.

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

SATs 10am-1pm the Valemount United Anglican Church have a **thrift store**, on 7th and Cedar!

SATs 3pm **Cribbage tournament** followed by dinner at the legion and kitchen party music 6-8pm. Bring your acoustic instrument and take part in some laid-back sing-a-longs.

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

MON through FRIs the **Valemount Seed Library** is available in our lobby during business hours at RVCS Valemount (99 Gorse St). Office hours: Monday to Wednesday 8am-4pm, Thursday 10am-6pm and Friday 8am-4pm Come take free seeds to grow in your garden this summer. By saving seeds, we can maintain genetic diversity, adapt to changing environmental conditions, and save money by not having to purchase new seeds every year. Made possible with funding from CBT For more info call 1-844-324-2004 or email: events@rvcsbc.org.

MON through FRI Contact the Valemount RVCS 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 or to sign up.

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 everyone- just help yourself! Emergency top-up food is accessible to our clients and anyone who walks through the door. For more information call 1-844-324-2004 or email: events@rvcsbc.org.

MCBRIDE

SAT SEPT 16 Robson Valley Back Country Horsemen of BC Fund Raiser **11th Annual Poker Ride**. Staging at the McIntosh Equine Recreation Site Access 12km west of McBride. Registration 10am, riders out 11-12 noon. Food service @ 3:00pm. For more information contact Dawn bdawnhickerty@gmail.com or Andrea garhammera@gmail.com

SEPT 19th McBride **Figure Skating Club Registration and Skate Sale** @ Robson Valley Recreation Centre lobby and Curling Club lounge. 6-7:30pm Bring skates, CSA approved helmets, skating dresses/outfits, mitts etc that you'd like to sell or donate.

SEPT 20th All adults and seniors is invited to **Drop-In Coffee House** from 1-3pm at RVCS office in McBride (942 3rd Ave) Come socialize, meet new people and enjoy a warm drink and snacks. No Registration required. Funded by CALP, brought to you by McBride Adult Literacy Program. Contact the office for more information 1-844-324-2004 or email events@rvcsbc.org

Ongoing McBride 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.

MONs **Family Place Drop-In** is on Mondays from 9am-noon at RVCS (942 3rd Ave). Join for connection with other families, parenting resources and fun for you and your 0-6 year old children. No registration required. For more information call 1-844-324-2004 or email: events@rvcsbc.org. **Upcoming themes:**

September — 18 Train Safety Awareness Week

September — 25 Truth and Reconciliation Awareness day in honour of National day for Truth and Reconciliation September 30

TUES nights **the Jam** plays music on the porch of the Train Station from 6:30-8:30. It's an open jam - musicians, singers, and onlookers all welcome. If the weather is bad, we play at the McBride Legion Hall. For more information, call David at (250) 569-2569.

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

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 & 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 250-230-8035 for info.

TETE JAUNE

Tete Jaune Community Club meetings the first Tuesday of the month. Contact Garry Wallace for more info.

DUNSTER

Ongoing Dunster Events

SAT **The Dunster Farmers' Market** Saturdays until September 30th. 11am to 1pm No charge for vendors - everyone welcome! Our famous "Buy-Local Burgers" will be back again! Tell all your friends and bring them along! For more information call Pete at 250-968-4334

MT ROBSON

SEPT 14-16 **First Annual Simpcw Days** held at Mt Robson and Tete Jaune. An event for Simpcw community members and those Simpcw who live away to gather in a location of hitorical significance.

DEMENTIA WORKSHOPS

Monday September 25

6:30 pm– 8:30 pm

Navigating the dementia journey - Living well with dementia

~ What is dementia?

~ Responding to a diagnosis

Free for Caregivers and people living with dementia

Tuesday September 26

10 am – 12:30 pm

Understanding behaviour changes / Understanding and adapting to communi-cation changes along the dementia journey.

Free for Caregivers

Where: 201 Gorse Street, Valemount Community Hall

REGISTRATION: Pre-registration is recommended. Please call the First Link® Dementia Helpline at 1-800-936-6033.

This event is being coordinated by the Valemount Elder Collaborative and funded in part by an Age-friendly Communities grant. Age-friendly communities grants are funded by the Ministry of Health (MoH) and delivered by BC Healthy Communities Society in partnership with the MoH.

Other Event Partners: Alzheimer Society of BC and First Link

HAVE AN EVENT?

Let us know!

CALL: 250-566-4606

EMAIL: ads@goatnewsmedia.com

Intrepid bears dip into trash



This bear got into a garbage can at 1:30 am Friday morning, September 8th. He retrieved the bin from inside an open shed, pulled it out and knocked it over. Banging on the window didn't even draw a reaction. After binging on bag number one, he returned to the bin, lifted the lid, and dragged out another. /RACHEL FRASER

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By RACHEL FRASER

Multiple Valemount residents have reported an enterprising large black bear (or possibly different bears) eating out of their garbage bins. His MO is to knock the bin over and lift the lid to pull out bags, according to Amy Braun, who spotted him on 3rd Ave three weeks ago helping himself to a neighbour's bin. She and her partner scared him off and brought their bin inside their fenced yard.

“He reached over our fence and pinned his claws into the bin to try and get it over the fence,” she said. Luckily, he was unsuccessful, and they haven't seen him since.

More recently, Lisa Feldman found her garbage scattered over her driveway, with bear droppings identifying the culprit. She said this happened Saturday and Sunday (September 9th and 10th), but also the week prior.

The Goat reached out to the BC Conservation Officer Service for comment but didn't hear back by press time. Some general reminders of bear safety include keeping garbage inside until the morning of garbage collection day, inside a bear-proof shed or garage, or if available, an airtight or bear-proof bin. Garbage can be frozen inside a plastic bag to manage odor.

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF MCBRIDE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

NOTICE OF ELECTION BY VOTING

An election by voting is to be held to elect one (1) Councillor, and that the following persons are candidates for each office:

COUNCILLOR – One (1) to be elected

Surname	Usual Names	Residential Address
BENNETT	Tina	3 Manson Crescent, Mackenzie, B.C.
VICKERY	Kat	944 4 th Avenue, McBride, B.C.

VOTING DATES AND LOCATIONS

GENERAL VOTING DAY will be:

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2023, between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm
at Council Chambers, 100 Robson Centre
855 SW Frontage Road, McBride, BC

ADVANCE VOTING will be held as follows:

Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2023, between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm
at Council Chambers, 100 Robson Centre
855 SW Frontage Road, McBride, BC

A SPECIAL VOTING OPPORTUNITY will be held for qualified electors who are patients or staff of the McBride & District Hospital, or residents of the Beaverview Lodge in McBride at the time of voting, as follows:

Friday, SEPTMEBER 29TH, 2023

McBride & District Hospital
11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Beaverview Lodge
12:30 pm to 1:30 pm

ELECTOR REGISTRATION

If you are not on the list of electors, you may register at the time of voting by completing the application form available at the voting place and making a declaration that you meet the requirements to be registered as set out below:

RESIDENT ELECTORS:

To register as a resident elector you must:

- be 18 years of age or older on general voting day Saturday, September 30th, 2023;
- be a Canadian citizen;
- be a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration;
- be a resident of the Village of McBride on the day of registration; and
- not be disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment from voting in an election or assent voting and not otherwise disqualified by law.

NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTORS:

To register as a non-resident property elector you must:

- be 18 years of age or older on general voting day Saturday, September 30th, 2023;
- be a Canadian citizen;
- be a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration;
- be a registered owner of real property in the Village of McBride for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration;
- not be entitled to register as a resident elector; and
- not be disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment from voting in an election or assent voting and not otherwise disqualified by law.

In addition, for non-resident property electors:

- The only persons who are registered owners of the property, either as joint tenants or tenants in common, are individuals who are not holding the property in trust for a corporation or another trust.
- If more than one person is registered owner of the property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector.

- In addition, in order to register at time of voting:

To register, resident electors must produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature). Picture identification is not necessary. The identification must prove both residency and identity.

To register, non-resident property electors must produce 2 pieces of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity, proof that they are entitled to register in relation to the property, and, if there is more than one owner of the property, written consent from the other property owners.

Sherri Flynn
Chief Election Officer

